



## "Ganga Jal Aapurti Yojna"

Bihar Government keeps its promise...  
Harnessing the elixir of life.  
Bringing the Ganga to the doorstep

In the cities of Rajgir, Gaya, Bodh Gaya & Nawada

# Har Ghar Ganga Jal

Under **Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali** Abhiyan supply of clean drinking water from the Ganga to every home in Rajgir, Gaya and Bodh Gaya cities from this year and in Nawada city from next year.



### Relief from floods and drinking water crisis

An ambitious endeavour to channelise the excess water from flooded Ganga during the monsoons to water-scarce areas of Rajgir, Bodh Gaya, Gaya and Nawada, to tackle the twin problems of flooding and water crisis, effectively.

### 135 litres of clean drinking water per person, per day

Besides ensuring 135 litres of clean drinking water per person per day, the year round, Bihar Government will also be ensuring clean drinking water supply to organisations of national and international repute.

### Water supply through 151-km long pipeline

The Ganga water flows through an underground steel pipeline and reaches Gaya and Bodh Gaya from Hathidah. Water purification plant has been established at Hathidah, Rajgir, Nawada, Gaya and Bodh Gaya to cater local population!

### Implementation by targeting the population till the year 2051

A visionary thought, Ganga Jal Aapurti Yojana has been envisaged by the Bihar government keeping in mind the expected population growth up till year 2051. It will effectively tackle the acute drinking water crisis, not just for the present generation but for future generations as well.



Efficiently mitigating floods and resolving drinking water crisis

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Bihar has scripted history by turning catastrophe into a blessing. The flood waters of the Ganga, a bane for North Bihar during the monsoons, have been channelised into providing clean, potable drinking water in drought-prone areas of South Bihar. Termed as 'Bhagirath Prayaas', and true to its name, water from the Ganga is being supplied as clean drinking water to households in Rajgir, Gaya and Bodh Gaya, under the Ganga Jal Aapurti Yojana of the Bihar Government. Starting next year, this water supply would reach Nawada as well. Additionally, this water would also be supplied to important institutions of national and international repute, thereby bolstering trade and commerce, tourism, and health. Based on the principle of sustainable development, CM Nitish Kumar's ambitious initiative is set to aid in flood mitigation, while providing relief to water-stressed areas. More importantly, it will reduce dependence on groundwater usage and simultaneously improve the groundwater levels, thereby ensuring ecosystem balance.

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**Office of the Superintending Engineer  
Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Organisation-1,  
Irrigation & Water Resources Department, U.P.  
Ganga Sichaibhawan, Telibagh, Lucknow-226025  
e-TENDER NOTICE NO. EQ-1242/2022-23**

On behalf of the Honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh Online e-Bid for items as mentioned below simultaneously in three parts namely (i) Earnest Money Bid, Part-A; (ii) Technical Bid, Part-B; (iii) Price Bid, Part-C; for minor lift canals of Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Uttar Pradesh are invited by the undersigned only from ISO: 9001 & ISO: 14001 certified Original Manufacturer registered with Director of Industries of the State/ N.S.I.C./Ministry of Industries, Government of India as original manufacturer of Horizontal Split Casing Centrifugal Pumps on firm & fixed prices. Details of eligibility, qualification, technical conditions & specification and method of submission of bids etc. are in the bidding document uploaded on the U P government e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in>. In case of any variation in English and Hindi version of this tender notice, English version shall prevail. The details of different activities are as follows:-

(a)	<b>Manufacture &amp; supply of Horizontal Split Casing Centrifugal Pumps of different discharge capacity and different head with suitable 3 phase Squirrel Cage Induction Motor, Capacitor and Starter, with accessories which include M.S. Base Plate, Coupling, Coupling Guard, Foundation Bolts &amp; Nuts, Foot Valves, etc. as per Departmental Technical specifications.</b>	
(b)	<b>Date &amp; time for Availability of the bid document on website</b>	02.12.2022 from 15.00 Hours onwards
(c)	<b>Period of online bid submission in PDF/XLS format in accordance to bid document.</b>	From 03.12.2022, 10.00 Hours Upto 23.12.2022, 17.00 Hours
(d)	<b>Proof of Online submission of Bid Document fee and Bid Security along with Industries Registration Certificate for exemption from EMD and other supporting documents as per bid document to be deposited in the office concerned.</b>	24.12.2022 Upto 14.00 Hours
(e)	<b>Online opening date &amp; time of Part "A" i.e. Earnest Money Bid.</b>	24.12.2022 at 15.00 Hours
(f)	<b>Online opening date &amp; time of Part "B" i.e. Technical Bid.</b>	02.01.2023 at 15.00 Hours
(g)	<b>Online opening date &amp; time of Part "C" i.e. Financial Bid.</b>	12.01.2023 at 15.00 Hours
(h)	<b>Venue of opening of bid.</b>	Office of The Superintending Engineer, Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Organisation-1, I.D.U.P., Ganga Sichaibhawan, Telibagh, Lucknow (U.P.) -226025. Ph. No. 0522 2441281
(i)	<b>Bid document fee.</b>	Rs. 29,500.00 (Rupees Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred only)
(j)	<b>Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit).</b>	Rs. 3,03,500.00 (Rupees Three Lacs Three Thousand Five Hundred Only).
(k)	<b>Delivery Period</b>	03 (Three) months

**Notes:-**  
1) This Notice is available at Information & Public Relation Department website (<http://Information.up.nic.in>). This notice and Tender Document is available at UP government e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> and Irrigation Department website (<http://idup.gov.in>).  
2) Amendments, if any, regarding this notice shall only be available at U P government e-procurement website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>).  
3) In case the date of opening of bids is declared a holiday then the e-bids shall be opened on the next working day at the same time.

**Superintending Engineer  
Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Organisation-1,  
Irrigation & Water Resources Department, U.P. Lucknow**

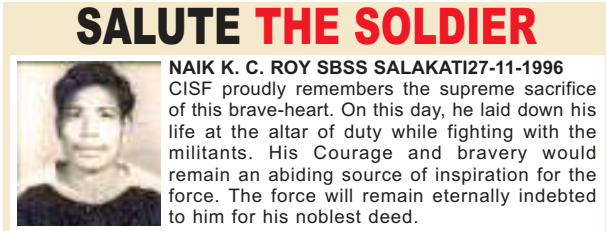
UPID-182185 Dt. 25.11.2022  
www.up.gov.nic.in

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION DIVISION-2, P.W.D AGRA Short Term Notice inviting E-Tender										
Letter No. : 2221 / 10A/2022-23							Date: 19.11.2022			
1. The Executive Engineer Construction Division-2, U.P.P.W.D. on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids online from the eligible and approved registered Contractors. As The work Comprises of specialized Road work, hence contractors bidding for this work must be registered in Road work with UP PWD. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.										
2.										
Sl. No	District	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. In Lac)	Bid Security (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of Document (In Rs.)	Times of Completion	Address of Executive Engineer executing the work	Address of Superintending Engineer	Address of Chief Engineer	Category of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Special Repair works										
1.	Agra	Construction work of road from AJT to Beri Bisalpur road in Beri Nagla Mohana Abad part.	29.70	2.97	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 950.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
2.	Agra	CC construction and repair work on Ala to Khargahh Nagla Dulhe Khan road.	12.60	1.26	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
3.	Agra	Dholpur Bharatpur Marg to Nagla Rundi Road.	18.30	1.83	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
4.	Agra	Nagla Rundi to Nagla Makran Road.	11.80	1.18	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
5.	Agra	Holipura-Jogipura link road from CATK Road.	22.50	2.25	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 950.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
6.	Agra	CC construction work in Nagla Beda population part of Barmal Kala to Nagla Beda Road.	21.70	2.17	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 950.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
7.	Agra	Sankheda to Burj Tak Sampark Road.	10.00	1.00	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
8.	Agra	Vasrana to Bilhari Road via Lalpur.	12.00	1.20	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
9.	Agra	Shamshabad to Naushi Road.	4.00	0.40	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 770.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D, E
10.	Agra	Remaining part of Idhra.	4.00	0.40	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 770.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D, E
11.	Agra	Agra Gwalior Road via SS Public School to Nagla Kail via Deori Road Village Samri.	12.00	1.20	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
12.	Agra	Muri Vihar Gate No-1 to Shivapuram Road.	12.00	1.20	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
13.	Agra	Naya Tanors to Nurpur.	4.00	0.40	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 770.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D, E
14.	Agra	NH-11 to Nagla Akkhey Road.	6.00	0.60	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
15.	Agra	Barhan-Murthar Alipur Road to Chuharpur Via Khushalpur Road.	27.90	2.79	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 950.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
16.	Agra	Connectivity route from NH-2 to Bhatpur via Kuber chauraha to Bhagpur.	24.50	2.45	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 950.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
17.	Agra	Karwan river bridge to Uncha Road.	12.70	1.27	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
18.	Agra	Abdagh to Juraila Road.	8.00	0.80	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
19.	Agra	Khandauli Mallpur to Sanda Dayapura Road.	3.50	0.35	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 770.00	01 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D, E
20.	Agra	Elmadpur Railway Station to Bhikharpur Road.	12.30	1.23	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
21.	Agra	From Km-188 of Agra Hathras Marg to Nagla Methu Road.	16.70	1.67	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
22.	Agra	Road construction from Akbari Cover Janauli Marg to Kharkana Bypass Sakari Godown.	17.00	1.70	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D
23.	Agra	Chirhwal to Nagla Dayali to Dhaura Road.	14.70	1.47	Tender Cost + S.T.C. + G.S.T. = Rs. 860.00	02 Month	Executive Engineer, Construction Division-2, P.W.D., Agra	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C, D

- Time allowed for completion is including Rainy Season.
- Bid document with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on website <http://etender.up.nic.in> and Prahari (<http://wms.upppwd.gov.in/Prahari>) From 30-11-2022 to 06-12-2022. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of <http://etender.up.nic.in> and Prahari App with all documents as per GO No. 14/2020/879(1)/23-7/2020/176(1)/06 Dt. 25-08-2020 on or before 12.30 Hours Dt. 06-12-2022. Technical Bid received online will be opened on 06-12-2022 at 03.30 Hours.
- The prospective bidders who do not possess Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) must get the same issued from approved agencies before submission of bids.
- The defect liability period will be two years calculated from the completion date.
- Contractor should Quote their rates without G.S.T. which shall be paid extra as per applicable at the time of payment.
- Labour Cess @ 1.00% will be Deducted from contractors bill at the time of payment.
- Original MM – 11 forms proof of royalty shall have to be produced at time of every running bill in accordance to Principal Secretary, Directorate of geology & mining Uttar Pradesh letter no. 2146/86-2019-52(IK0)/2019 dt 30-09-2019 G.O. NO.-115(1)/86-2020 dated 15-01-2020 and other relevant government order circulars for all the materials procured from the quarries.
- The bidders are required to submit Original receipt of Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account as per G.O. No.-742/78-2-018-42 I.T./2017 T.C., I.T. & Electronics Section-2 Dated- 03-12-2018 follows as :  
(1) Online Tender Cost towards the cost of bid document (As per Column 6) by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account (Non Refundable).  
(2) Online Bid security (As per Column 5) in favour of designation of Column- 8 by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account.  
(3) Original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B(ii) of ITB as per G.O. No.-3070/78-2-018-42 I.T./2017(22)I.T. and Electronics Section-2 Dated- 03-01-2018.

UPID-182233 DATE 25.11.2022  
WWW.UP.GOV.NIC.IN

**Executive Engineer,  
Construction Division-2,  
P.W.D., Agra**



**SALUTE THE SOLDIER**

NAIK K. C. ROY SBSS SALAKATI27-11-1996  
CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of this brave-heart. On this day, he laid down his life at the altar of duty while fighting with the militants. His Courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to him for his noblest deed.

**कार्यालय आयुक्त, नगर निगम, म्वालियर**

क्रमांक- 160/22x2/10/स.बी.एम./2022-23/216 वारिस दिनांक : 25-11-2022  
ज.स. 80 क्रमांक 456 द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण (एन.आई.टी.) (विज्ञापित) दिनांक : 25/11/2022

एन.आई.टी. क्र.	कार्य का नाम	निविदा का बिल की अंतिम तिथि व समय	कार्य अवधि (दिन/रात)	निविदा मूल्य (रु. में)	ई.एम.डी. राशि
2022_UAD_224706_2	Selection of centralised agency for all four vidhan Sabha constituencies in Gwalior municipal corporation for designing campaigning, media and PR activities under swachh bharat mission.	07/12/2022 05:30 PM	730 Days	1,78,14,900/-	1,00,000/-

1. इच्छुक बोलीदाता वेबसाइट <http://gmc.mptenders.gov.in> पर एनआईटी देख सकते हैं।  
2. एनआईटी में संशोधन यदि कोई होता है तो केवल वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा समाचार पत्र में नहीं।  
3. किसी भी स्पष्टीकरण की आवश्यकता हो तो कृपया कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, म्वालियर में सम्पर्क करें।  
उपायुक्त, स्वच्छ भारत मिशन, नगर निगम म्वालियर

**Govt. of Jharkhand  
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT  
Road Division , Seraikella-Kharsawan  
e-Procurement Notice**

**e-Tender Reference No. RCD/SERAIKELLA/25 Date :- 25.11.2022**

1. Name of the work	Improvement of Riding Quality Work of Chakradharpur-Toklo-Kuchai Road (Ch. 22.170 to Ch. 28.890) (Total Length 6.72 Km.) for the year 2022-23
2. Estimated Cost (Rs.)	₹ 4,71,15,029.14 (Rupees Four Crore Seventy one lakh Fifteen thousand Twenty nine and Paise One four only)
3. Time of Completion	03 (Three) months
4. Last Date /Time for receipt of bids	19.12.2022 (12.00 Noon)
5. Date of Publication of Tender on website	29.11.2022 (10.30 A.M.)
6. Name & Address of office Inviting tender	O/o Executive Engineer , Road Construction Department , Road Division , Seraikella-Kharsawan
7. Contact no. of Procurement Officer	8809347906
8. Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer RCD , Road Division Seraikella-Kharsawan  
PR 283550 Road(22-23)D

**MAHARASHTRA JEEVAN PRADHIKARAN  
e-Tender Notice No. 29 for 2022-2023**

The Executive Engineer, Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran Division No. 2, Pune invites e-Tender for the following work under JAL JEEVAN MISSION from Empanelled Contractors in Category 'A' by State Water and Sanitation Mission.

**Name of Work and Estimated Cost :**  
(1) Group Tender of Koregaon Mul, Alandi Mhatobachi and Aarvi Regional Rural Water "Supply Scheme, Tal. Haveli, Dist. Pune.  
Estimated Cost: Rs. 171.65,65,716/-  
(2) Charholi Khurd and 3 Villages Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme, Tal. Khed, Dist. Pune.  
Estimated Cost: Rs. 91,33,52,422/-

Scheme details are available from 28/11/2022 on [www.mahatenders.gov.in](http://www.mahatenders.gov.in) for detailed information.  
Date 28/11/2022 (Sd/-) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran Division No. 2, Pune-1 (dgipr/2022-2023/4306)

**DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES  
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (UP) India  
Ph: 0522-4918502, 4918510, Fax: 0522-4918508 Website: www.drmlims.ac.in**

Ref. No. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2022-23/3415 Dated: 26.11.2022

**GEM BIDDING NOTICE**

On-line offers are invited through BOQ Based GeM bidding from Manufacturer/Direct Importers/Authorized Distributors/Dealer/ Accredited Agents for the supply & installation of various medical equipments. The Vendors are required to submit their offer on GeM portal only in two bids system i.e. technical & financial bid as per norms of GeM portal.

**Due to insufficient offers, the offers submitted earlier for the listed items by the bidders against tendered advertisement no. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2021-22/5188 dated 21.03.2022, advertisement no. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2022-23/744 dated 25.05.2022, advertisement no. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2022-23/1507 dated 06.07.2022 & RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2022-23/2536 dated 19.09.2022 etc. will be treated as cancelled. Therefore, those who have already submitted their offers against above advertisements are also required to submit fresh offer but they are not required to deposit EMD again but enclose its proof in technical bid as per tender terms & conditions.**

For detailed information like list of items, Date of submission, tender fee and opening of bid etc., you may please visit the GeM portal [www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in). The list of equipments will also be available on our website [www.drmlims.ac.in](http://www.drmlims.ac.in) for reference only. The offer will be accepted On-Line only on GeM portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in GeM bidding documents. **Director**

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE  
APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**

**See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Kamal Varma S/o Gulshan Kumar R/o BE-134, Hari Nagar, New Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 307/2019, U/S 129/55 Gambling Act, P.S. Sagarpur, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Kamal Varma** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Kamal Varma** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Kamal Varma of FIR No. 307/2019, U/S 129/55 Gambling Act, P.S. Sagarpur, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before 28.01.2023.

**By Order  
Ms. Manu Shree,  
Metropolitan Magistrate-03,  
Patiala House Court,  
New Delhi**

DPI/2901/SW/2022(Court Matter)

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ  
E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 22/80 Dt. 25.11.2022**

On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit) invites the following E-Procurement Tenders:

S. No.	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1	40223203	Lead Acid Battery	140 Nos.	16.12.2022
2	64225038	P.B. Bush for measuring Bogie	276 Nos.	19.12.2022
3	64225039	Corner Roller Assembly without Bearing	30	19.12.2022
4	64225040	Connecting Elbow RHS for BCM machine	12	19.12.2022
5	64225041	Bearing Mounting for screen unit	48	21.12.2022
6	64225042	Head Band for wheel support Cylinder	346 Nos.	21.12.2022
7	64225043	Rubber ring, Clamping ring, and Guide rod seal set	1512	21.12.2022
8	64225044	Roller Conveyor Chain for FERM-B3	170	21.12.2022
9	64225045	Semi Finished P B Bush	334 Nos.	23.12.2022
10	64225046	Special cap washer	664 Nos.	23.12.2022
11	64225047	Pinion, Axle Bolt/Long Pin Bolt, Disc Clamp Roller	45	23.12.2022
12	70221101	Spring Tag	129450 Nos.	14.12.2022
13	40225025	Galvanised Copper Canopy	53.645	21.12.2022
		Conductor Wire 85 Sqmm	MT	

**Note:** The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from <http://IREPS.northcentralrailway.co> <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 1593/22 FA

North central railway, Prayagraj

**झारखण्ड सरकार  
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जामताड़**

**शुद्धि पत्र एवं सूचना**

इस कार्यलय के नं० निविदा आमंत्रित सूचना सं०-15/DWSD/JMT/2022-23 जिसका PR No.- 281583, (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 22-23 (D) है में निम्नांकित हद तक संशोधित समझा जाए।

विवरण	पूर्व की तिथि एवं समय	संशोधित तिथि एवं समय
Date of publication of Tender on Web site	14.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.	14.12.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.
Date , Time and Place of Pre Bid meeting	22.11.2022 up to 12.30 P.M.	21.12.2022 up to 12.30 P.M.
Last date /Time for receipt of Bid	26.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.	27.12.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.
Last date for receipt of EMD & cost of BOQ	28.11.2022 up to 1.30 P.M.	28.12.2022 up to 1.30 P.M.
Date of opening of Tender	28.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.	28.12.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.

शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा।

PR 283545 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 22-23 (D)

**Office of the Executive Engineer  
Road Construction Department, Road Division, Seraikella-Kharsawan**

**Short Term e-Procurement Notice**

e-Tender Reference no.- RCD/SERAIKELLA/24 Dated :- 25.11.2022

1	Name of Work	Improvement of Riding Quality Work of Kharsawan Town Road (Total Length 4.55 Km.) for the year 2022-23
2	Estimated Cost (Rs)	Rs.- 2,32,60,285.74 (Rupees Two Crore Thirty two Lakh Sixty thousand Two hundred Eighty five and Paise Seven four) Only
3	Time of Completion	03 (Three) Months
4	Date of Publication of Tender on website	29.11.2022 from 10.30 A.M.
5	Last date / Time for receipt of bids	12.12.2022 upto 12.00 Noon
6	Date & Opening of Place	14.12.2022 at 12.30 PM. Chief Engineer (Com) cum - Model Officer, e - Procurement Cell, RCD , Jharkhand, 1st Floor, Engineer's Hostel No.-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
7	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer, RCD, Road Division, Seraikella-Kharsawan
8	Contact no. of e-Procurement officer	8809347906
9	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651 - 2403007

Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer RCD, Road Division, Seraikella-Kharsawan  
PR 283552 Road (22-23)\_D

**WESTERN RAILWAY-VADODARA DIVISION  
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**E-TENDER NOTICE NO. DRM-BRC 081 to 084 of 2022-23:** Sealed Tenders for and on behalf of The President of India are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (WA/C), Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390 004 for





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ENTERTAINMENT



FILM THAT CHANGED BACHCHAN'S CAREER

*Bombay to Goa helped Amitabh Bachchan find his foot in film industry*

PUZZLES AND GAMES



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EXPRESS AUDIO

## Remembering Abbas Moontasir, the Indian basketball legend

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

On November 16, Gulam Abbas Moontasir died at 80. He was part of the star studded Railways team that won 9 titles out of 10 played domestically in the 60s and 70s

ELGAAR PARISHAD CASE

Anand Teltumbde (right) after leaving Taloja Central Prison in Navi Mumbai on Saturday. Narendra Vaskar

# ‘Sad we spent time in jail in fake case’: Teltumbde walks out after bail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 26

A DAY after the Supreme Court dismissed the National Investigation Agency (NIA)'s plea challenging his bail, Elgaar Parishad case accused Anand Teltumbde was Saturday afternoon released from Taloja Prison in Navi Mumbai.

Speaking to reporters outside the jail, the scholar-activist said: "I am obviously happy to be released after 31 months for which I have been in prison. The sad part, however, is that we had to spend time in jail for years after being booked in a fake case and the way the case was put on us."

Teltumbde was accompanied by wife Rama Ambedkar, who is the granddaughter of Dr

B R Ambedkar. He will have to stay within the jurisdiction of the special NIA court, Mumbai, till the trial concludes.

Senior advocate Mihir Desai had informed the Bombay High Court that while the petitioner's address was mentioned as residing at the Goa Institute of Management, Sanquelim, Goa, due to efflux of time, the contract of Teltumbde with the said institute has come to an end and the residential address of the appellant would be Rajgruha, Hindu Colony, in Dadar. Rajgruha is a residence of the Ambedkar family.

Teltumbde, with co-accused Gautam Navlakha, had surrendered at the NIA office in Mumbai and were formally arrested on April 14, 2020. Incidentally, that day marked Dr Ambedkar's 129th birth anniversary.

PARLIAMENT WINTER SESSION

# Govt may bring Bill to allow NPR updation via birth and death database

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

A BILL that proposes to allow the Registrar General of India to maintain a database on births and deaths and use that to update the National Population Register (NPR) will likely be introduced in the Winter Session of Parliament.

The draft of the Bill — which will amend the Registration of Birth and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969 — was shared by the Ministry of Home Affairs in October last year for public comments and suggestions.

According to the proposed Bill, the data will also be used for updating electoral rolls, the Aadhaar database, ration cards, passports and driving licenses.

The government intends to amend Section 3 of the RBD Act through an insertion of a Section 3A, which says: "The Registrar General, India shall maintain the database of registered births and deaths at national level, that may be used, with the approval of Central Government, to update Population Register prepared under the Citizenship Act, 1955; Electoral Registers or Electoral Rolls prepared under Representation of People Act, 1951; Aadhaar Database prepared under Aadhaar Act, 2016; Ration Card database prepared under National Food Security

Act, 2013 (NFSA); Passport Database prepared under the Passport Act; and Driving Licence database under Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 and other databases at national level subject to proviso of Section 17 (1) of RBD Act, 1969."

For this purpose, the draft Bill has also proposed an amendment in Section 4 to allow the Chief Registrar to take steps to maintain a unified database of civil registration records at state level, and integrate it with the database at the national level maintained by the Registrar General of India.

The government has also proposed amendments in Section 8 which deals with the requirement of citizens and house heads to give information on birth and death. Through an insertion it has said those responsible would also be required to provide "Aadhaar number, if available, of parents and the informant in case of birth, and of the deceased, parents, husband or wife and the informant in case of death".

The draft Bill has also made insertions to accommodate "non-institutional adoption", "child born to a single parent / unwed mother from her womb" and "orphan, abandoned, or surrendered child in child care institution". It has also amended the word "oldest male" in the house for providing information on birth and death to "oldest person".

CORRECTION

ON 26.11.22, PAGE 1

In the report published under the head 'SC notice to Centre on plea to recognise same-sex marriage', the name of Navtej Singh Johar was inadvertently mentioned as Navtej Singh Sarma.

The error is regretted.

# FROM PAGE ONE ‘Won’t cut capacity for coal phase-down’

FULL REPORTS ON  
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not going to compromise on that. I am not going to compromise on the availability of power for this country's development," Singh said.

At last year's climate change conference in Glasgow, the final agreement had called on countries to "phase-down" their coal-based electricity generation because of large amounts of carbon dioxide emissions. An earlier draft had mentioned "phase-out", which India, backed by a few other countries, managed to get changed at the last minute.

The call for a coal "phase-down" has been reiterated in the agreement at this year's climate

meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. But none of the two agreements specify how the phase-down is to be executed, or by when.

About 58 per cent of India's current electricity generation capacity of 407 GW is based on fossil fuels. Coal alone accounts for about 50 per cent of the total capacity. India plans to ramp up its total generation capacity to 865 GW by 2032, according to the recently released draft National Electricity Plan. The share of coal in the fuel mix is expected to decline to just 29 per cent by that time. But that would still mean about 40 GW of capacity addi-

tion in the next ten years. Gas is projected to contribute another 3 per cent.

Singh said this represented an ambitious phase-down, not just for coal but for fossil fuels in general — something that developed countries were not ready to match.

"None of the developed countries are doing this. Some of them restarted coal plants when Russia switched off gas this year. No one is talking about phasing down gas. Why? There is a lot of hypocrisy going around. That is why India has been insisting that the phase-down should be for all fossil fu-

els, not just coal. Why should we single out coal? Coal is not the only fuel that produces carbon dioxide. Oil, gas, shale... all result in carbon dioxide emissions. Let's agree on a phase-down of all of these," he said.

India had raised the issue of phase-down of all fossil fuels at the Sharm el-Sheikh meeting, but despite getting support from the European Union and the United States, the proposal did not make it to the final agreement. Singh, who did not attend the meeting, said he had "heard" that Russia, China and Saudi Arabia were not agreeable to the proposal.

## • NIA to Home: To break nexus, shift gangsters from north to jails in south

prominent persons, with an intention to "strike terror in the minds of the people".

According to sources, the NIA found during its investigation in the case that most of these gangsters were "operating smoothly" from behind bars.

"After observing their operational activity, it was decided by the NIA to find a solution so that they can break the criminal syndicate. It was decided after several rounds of meetings in the NIA that they should first identify such dreaded gangsters and make a proposal to transfer them to prisons in the southern part of India, so they would face at least a language-barrier issue," sources said.

"The Ministry will discuss

with the state governments concerned and after discussions, they will transfer them to those jails. Legal opinion has been taken by the agency and it has also been advised that the National Security Act can be invoked against them. There is a provision in the NSA that they can easily transfer any criminal in any jail across states," sources said.

On Thursday, the NIA had arrested Bishnoi from a jail in Punjab "after it was found that most of the conspiracies were hatched from inside the jail by him and were being executed by an organised network of operatives based in the country and abroad".

"A terrorist, gangster and drug smugglers' syndicate led by

Bishnoi was wanted in many cases, including the conspiracy to carry out targeted and sensational killings in Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi since the last more than a decade," said an NIA spokesperson.

During investigation, sources said, the NIA also found that Pakistan-based gangster and terrorist Harvinder Singh alias Rinda, who reportedly died this month due to drug overdose, had met with Bishnoi while they were in a Punjab jail earlier. Later, sources said, Rinda had allegedly hired Bishnoi's men for several attacks, including the RPG strike on the Punjab Police intelligence headquarters in Mohali in May.

The NIA has also taken over two cases from Delhi Police against Bishnoi and other gangsters Goldy Brar and Vikram Brar as well as their gang-members.

In 2019, over a dozen suspected militants lodged in jails in Jammu and Kathua were shifted to Haryana for security reasons. Also, 26 prisoners booked under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in J&K were transferred to the Agra Central Jail from Srinagar following the abrogation of Article 370.

In 2018, nearly 40 terrorists and alleged sympathisers were shifted from Srinagar to prisons outside the Valley — a step taken after the escape of LeT's Mohammed Naveed Jhatt from a hospital.

## • Auto majors target an emerging segment: 30-minus

to cater to an emerging segment: buyers under the age of 30.

An analysis of information shared by car companies show a quarter of their sales coming from this segment — an increase of about 5 percentage points over about three years. Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai Motor and Tata Motors, which cumulatively constitute about 70 per cent of the total passenger vehicle sales in the country, have all reported a healthy response from buyers below the age of 30.

For Maruti and Hyundai, the contribution from this segment to overall sales is about 23 per cent each while for Tata Motors, nearly 30 per cent of sales come from buyers under 30.

This tilt in buyer profile has

led to an increase in SUV sales — mainly compact SUVs, which are less than 4 metres in length.

For instance, Hyundai has registered a jump in demand for its new compact SUV Venue, with about 30 per cent of sales from those below the age of 30. This segment also bought 40 per cent of the Hyundai Verna sedans sold in 2022.

In the case of Tata Motors, its compact SUV Nexon is in high demand among young people followed by hatchbacks Altroz and Tiago. "SUVs are leading the demand charts across India and the trend is similar for Tata Motors. SUVs contribute nearly over 65%, followed by hatchbacks at around 13% of the total sales," the company said in an

emailed response to queries.

Buyers in this age profile are increasingly driving the feature list, too. For instance, about one in four cars sold in the market currently are connected through one technology or the other — connected car feature availability was in early single digits till a couple of years ago. There is also a greater demand for auto gearboxes, primarily driven by youngsters.

"There are a variety of reasons for people demanding features in their cars. In addition to the change in profile, a lot of people have started to use cars for travel, which means they spend a lot of time in their cars and, hence, demand a lot of these features," said Tarun Garg, director (sales), Hyundai Motor India.

## • 2 CAPF men on Gujarat poll duty shot dead in internal clash

camping, at around 7 pm. They had come to provide security during the election. There was internal firing. Two died and two were injured." A M Sharma, District Collector and District Election Officer for Porbandar told *The Indian Express*.

"I am presently at the hospital, where the two injured persons are being treated. They are safe," Sharma said. The injured were brought to Bhavsinghji hospital at Porbandar. Asked what led to the incident, the official said this was being probed.

## Egypt President likely chief guest for Republic Day celebrations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

INDIA IS learnt to have extended an invitation to Egypt President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi to be the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations in January 2023.

It is learnt that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar extended the formal invitation to Al-Sisi during an official visit to Cairo last month. This would be the first time that Egypt's president would be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations.

However, there has been no confirmation from the Egypt government about the acceptance of the invitation.

An invitation to be the Republic Day chief guest is highly symbolic. India has been weaving a strategy with hospitality to decide its chief guest. The choice every year is dictated by a number of reasons — strategic, diplomatic, business and geo-political.

# ‘Swabhiman in way he lived, worked’

DIPANITA NATH  
PUNE, NOVEMBER 26

THE UNEMPLOYED father of a Muslim hoodlum at a time of communal unrest in 1989 film 'Salim Langde Pe Mat Ro'; a vocalist who has strict ideas about whom his daughter should marry in 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam' (1999); an elderly man whose world comes crashing down when he realises that his wife is dying, in 'Anumati' (2013); the director of ISRO and friend of late scientist and President A P J Abdul Kalam in 'Mission Mangal' (2019).

These are but only a few of the roles Vikram Gokhale had essayed — powerfully — on stage and on screen.

The thespian, who was honoured with the National Award for best actor at 60th National Awards in 2013 for 'Anumati', a Marathi film, died on Saturday at Deenanath Mangeshkar hospital in Pune. He was 77. Gokhale's wife Vrushali and daughters Asavari and Neha survive him.

In hospital for a fortnight, on

VIKRAM GOKHALE  
1945 – 2022

ventilator support, the actor had shown signs of improvement in the last two days and, according to hospital authorities, had opened his eyes and was moving his limbs. "His condition deteriorated on Saturday morning. He passed away at 1.45 pm," close friend Rajesh Damle said.

Condoling his demise, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted: "Vikram Gokhale ji was a creative and versatile actor. He will be remembered for many interesting roles in his long acting career. Saddened by his demise. Condolences to his family, friends and admirers."

Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis, BJP MP Prakash Javadekar, MNS leader Raj Thackeray, cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle and actor Manoj Bajpayee were among hundreds who paid their respects and recalled the legend through posts on social media.

Gokhale had started his acting journey on Marathi stage and was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for acting in theatre in 2011. His big-screen journey began in 1971 with *Parwana*, which also featured Amitabh Bachchan. The two developed a long-lasting friendship, and shared the screen in *Agneepath* (1990), *Khuda Gawah* (1992) and *AB Aani CD* (2020).

Over the decades, Gokhale gave stellar performances in a range of roles in prominent Hindi films such as *Bhool Bhulaiyaa*, *Traffic*, *Hichki* and *Ab Tak Chhappan*. His oeuvre of Marathi films ranged from *Lapandav*, *Aamhi Bolato Marathi* and *Kalat Nakalat to AB Aani CD*, *Prawaas* and *Natsamrat*.

His last film, still in the the-

atres, is *Godavari*, in which he enacted the role of dementia-ridden grandfather of the lead protagonist. Gokhale also acted in and directed the Marathi film *Aaghat*.

Writer-director Gajendra Ahire recalled that he had approached Gokhale with a script in 2011. "I have brought you the National Award," Ahire had said. "He scolded me, saying that I should not talk that way. But after he read the script he agreed there was 'something' in the role. He won the National Award and the Best Actor award in New York for it," he said about *Anumati*.

Off the public eye, Gokhale was also well-known in the artist community for his support to performers and allied workers. When Covid-19 wrought havoc on livelihoods of those who depended on films, television and commercials, Gokhale had donated land worth a few crores for their sustenance. Kore recalled that every Raksha Bandhan, the actor and his family would celebrate with specially-abled jawans in Pune. "There was swabhiman in the way he lived and worked," Kore recalled.

## Remove content glorifying arms within 72 hrs: Punjab govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
AMRITSAR, NOVEMBER 26

THE PUNJAB Police Saturday gave three days to people to remove content that promotes gun culture from their social media handles. The move came a day after it faced flak for booking a 11-year-old over a photograph that his father had shared in 2015 in which the minor was holding a toy gun. The minor's name was later removed from the FIR.

"Chief Minister has directed that no FIRs for glorifying weapons will be registered for the next 3 days in Punjab to allow people to remove content on their own," Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said in a tweet.

The state police have in the past few days registered several FIRs against people for violating orders after the state had banned on November 14 public display of firearms, and songs promoting gun culture and violence.

India Pakistan Bangladesh Sri Lanka Nepal Bhutan Maldives Myanmar Thailand Laos Cambodia Vietnam Philippines Malaysia Singapore Brunei Timor-Leste

SISODIA’S NAME MISSING IN CBI’S CHARGESHEET IN EXCISE CASE

Kejriwal takes aim at PM: ‘Spends 18 hrs thinking of trying to stop my work’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

WITH HIS deputy Manish Sisodia's name missing from the CBI chargesheet in the Delhi excise policy case, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal trained guns at Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday.

"It is being said that an additional supplementary chargesheet may be filed in the case but *hamaari jaanch toh Pradhan Mantri ji zindagi bhar karayenge, jab tak hum zinda hain jaanch chalti rahegi*. Investigation against us has been going on ever since we formed the government in 2015 and all agencies have been put behind us. The investigations will go on but the chargesheet has shown they

have nothing against Sisodia in the case."

"My sources said that the PM was personally monitoring this case and he used to meet CBI-ED and direct them to do anything to find evidence against Sisodia, but they could not. Today, we can proudly say before the country that *'Kejriwal kattar imandar hai aur humari party kattar imandar hai'*," he said.

"This is why they have a problem with us, this is why they are slinging mud at us every day," he said. "I want to appeal to the PM, *'Pradhan Mantri ji, aap kehte hain aap 18 ghante kaam karte hain. 18 ke 18 ghante aap bas yahi sochte hain ki main kis tarah se Kejriwal ko roku kaam karne se? Kis tarah se Kejriwal ke mantriyon ko girافتar karun, kis tarah se keechad fekun? (You say you work for 18 hours. All*



Kejriwal said investigation against them has been going on since 2015

those hours you only think how to block Kejriwal's work, how to arrest his ministers, how to sling mud?). I want to request you that

of the 18 hours, if you give at least two hours for the country, the country will progress, unemployment will end. Don't be so negative, be positive, think a little positive for the people."

On yet another video from jailed minister Satyendar Jain's cell being leaked, Kejriwal said, "I don't need to answer these questions. People of Delhi will answer on December 4. As the MCD elections are getting near, BJP will release more such videos. You place 10 works of Kejriwal on one side and BJP's 10 videos on one side. People will decide, they know and they will give the answer on December 4."

"Only one week is left for elections. They couldn't find anything against Sisodia. They (BJP) spread lies. If they would have found even a small evidence

against him in the case, they would have made it big, but nothing was found. He has been given a clean chit," he said.

Hitting out at the CM, BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said, "Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has got political cataract, that is why he is unable to see the love and response BJP is getting on ground. Instead of the ISI mark, Kejriwal is giving himself the 'Kejriwal scamster institute (KSI)' mark. It is his guarantee to stay in politics and do corruption..."

Bhatia further called Kejriwal's allegations of the "PM monitoring the liquor policy scam behind CBI-ED" false and baseless and said, "Kejriwal's words reflects his mindset, he changes according to the time and situation."

‘Tihar jail officials gave preferential treatment to Jain’: Court junks diet plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

OBSERVING THAT Tihar jail officials gave AAP leader Satyendar Jain preferential treatment in violation of prison rules, a Delhi court rejected his plea seeking a special diet for his religious fast.

Special Judge Vikas Dhull arrived at this conclusion based on the fact that 26 officials of Tihar jail 7 and the superintendent were transferred in November, "which prima facie shows that Tihar jail officials of jail no 7 were providing preferential treatment to the applicant by providing fruits and vegetables".

Jain has been on a diet of fruits, vegetables and nuts in jail and moved court alleging that this special diet was withdrawn by jail authorities which resulted in a 28 kg weight loss. Although fruits and vegetables can only be purchased from the jail canteen, Jain's expenditure details "establish on record that consumption of fruits/vegetables by the applicant was not done after purchasing the same from the jail canteen," the court reasoned.

BJP HITS OUT AT AAP OVER NEW ‘JAIN VIDEO’

New Delhi: BJP Saturday accused the AAP of running a "chaupal" inside Tihar jail after a new video of jailed minister Satyendar Jain allegedly having a conversation with the recently suspended jail superintendent surfaced online during the day. AAP chief and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal hit back, saying "the people will answer them on December 4." In the 1.17-minute purported clip, Jain is seen having a conversation with about three people inside his cell who leave as another man, allegedly the jail superintendent of jail number 7 where he is lodged, arrives. **ENS**

weight of the applicant is on account of his not consuming regular food and Tihar jail administration is not responsible for the same," the court said.

The court observed that when the applicant shows his desire to observe a religious fast, as enjoined by his religion, then he shall inform the jail administration in writing, and thereafter, the administration will decide the request as per the rules under the Delhi Prison Rules, 2018.

The court said since the dry fruits diet was stopped by the medical officer, it cannot be substituted with the advice of the doctor at its own discretion. It noted that this medical officer had advised the stoppage of dry fruits and had further advised the applicant to take regular food available in Tihar jail, but Jain was not following the officer's medical opinion.

48 hours since blaze, firefighting at Chandni Chowk market continues

New Delhi: Over 48 hours since a massive fire broke out at Chandni Chowk's Bhagirath Palace market, the Delhi Fire Service was still continuing with the cooling operations at the site as of 10 pm on Saturday. The fire, which broke out around 9.20 pm on Thursday, has damaged 150 shops and led to the collapse of four buildings, according to Delhi Police, while traders have estimated losses running into crores.

Refuting claims that fire reignited at night, DFS Chief Atul Garg said: "Cooling operations continue. The only difference is that at night, even small flames are visible from far and it gets reported that the fire has re-ignited."

Sources from DFS said the collapsed buildings might mean that cooling operations could go on for several more hours, even into the early hours of Sunday. A source said,

"It is taking longer than usual to douse the fire as whenever the rubble from a collapsed building is removed, the goods underneath get exposed to oxygen and start burning."

Meanwhile, visiting the spot Saturday with senior police and DFS officers, L-G V K Saxena said, "With hanging wires, overloaded circuits, old buildings, water shortage and narrow lanes, such areas are prone to fires. I have constituted a multi-disciplinary committee to look into ways and means of addressing these issues with active involvement of residents and other stakeholders, in areas like Chandni Chowk, Sadar Bazar, Pahar Ganj etc and submit a report in 30 days."

Police have registered an FIR under IPC sections 285 and 336 against unknown persons. As of 10 pm on Saturday, cooling operations were still ongoing. **ENS**

24Seven employee shot at for asking man to stop smoking, escapes unhurt

Gurgaon: Feeling "insulted" over being stopped from smoking inside a Gurgaon convenience store, a man pulled out a gun and allegedly shot at an employee in its parking space on Friday, police said. The staffer escaped unhurt.

Police said the incident took place at a 24SEVEN store in Sector 22. A case has been registered against the assailant, who is yet to be identified, under IPC Section

307 and the Arms Act.

In his complaint, the store's security manager said, "Around 4 am, an unknown person entered the store with a cigarette in his hand. When the guard requested him to stop smoking as it was prohibited inside the store, he hurled abuses at the staff. After purchasing the goods, he asked one of them to accompany him to his car, to help place the goods in his car,

which was parked outside."

The security manager added that as a store associate was placing the goods in his vehicle, the man suddenly loaded his pistol and fired at the employee: "He said he had been insulted on being asked to stop smoking. The store associate managed to escape, and the accused escaped in his car."

Police said they traced the car's registration number. **ENS**

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Nature of the post & likely duration	Temporary / Contract basis for initially One year and to be extended for another year depending upon the performance of the candidate for the first year / completion of assignment / project whichever is earlier.	
Maximum age	30 Years	Not more than 65 years
Essential Qualification	B-Tech in Metallurgy or Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	• B Tech in Metallurgy or Metallurgical & Materials Engineering or Mechanical Engineering • At least 15 years of industrial experience in - Aluminium / Copper / Lead / Zinc sector
Emoluments	Rs. 28,000/-per month	Rs 90,000 / 80,000 / 55,000 per month (Based on experience. Refer website)
Desirable	Industrial experience in relevant field	• At least 5 years, out of total 15 years of industrial experience in the field of Lead / Zinc / Copper recycling sector and waste management. • Shop floor experience of Al, Cu, Pb, Zn primary or recycling or downstream industry. • Strong analytical, writing and communication skills • Demonstrated ability to work with multiple stakeholders and with a multi-disciplinary team environment. • Robust understanding of structure and working of Copper / Lead / Zinc recycling sector in the country.

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Interested candidates are requested to attend the walk-in interview schedule between **11:00 to 12.00 hours** at JNARDDC on **1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2022** along with their **complete bio-data, latest photograph and attested copies of certificate & testimonials** including originals for verification. The Decision of Director, JNARDDC will be final in all matters related to the above recruitment. **Detailed application format** along with terms and conditions can be downloaded from the Centre's website <http://jnarddc.gov.in/en/opportunities/career.aspx> under the sub-head Career.

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## The changing face of management education

*Management education today has moved away from traditional areas of marketing, finance and HR to specialised domains such as environment, sustainability, energy management, social and governance, CSR, infrastructure, and technology*

INDIAN Institutes of Management (IIMs) promise corporate success and aspirants perceive an excellent score on the Common Admission Test (CAT) as a certain way to climb that success ladder. No wonder 200,000 students vie for the 6,000 odd seats in the 20 IIMs across the country every year.

A graduate with more than a 50 per cent score (there is relaxation for reservation candidates) can apply for the CAT exam. This year, the CAT is slated for November 27 and will be conducted in three slots. The exam consists of three sections — Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC), Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR), and Quantitative Ability (QA). The paper comprises 66 questions — 24, 20 and 22 in VARC, DILR and QA sections respectively. Each MCQ question carries +3 marks, with a negative score (-1) for each wrong answer. Non-MCQ questions do not carry any negative marks for wrong answers.

Over the years, a score close to 50 per cent of the total marks gets a 99 percentile (top 1 per cent). Typically, a percentile above 95 can get a general category student call from quite a few items for the next selection stage — a writing ability test, WAT and a personal interview (PI). The top IIMs, Ahmedabad, Calcutta, and Bangalore may require higher percentiles to make it to the next stage.

The second selection stage for these IIMs is based on WAT and PI. The WAT and PI stage is equally important as the written test and in some of the IIMs, the weightage of selection given for the second stage is higher than that for the CAT exam. The WAT consists of writing an essay of 250-300 words on a given topic. The topics are picked from economics, business, social issues, and political issues or sometimes may also have abstract topics. Institutes like IIM Ahmedabad give an argument and expect the students to write an analysis of the argument. The PI is a critical component of the selection process as it probes into the reasons for pursuing an MBA and the student's future. Also, the interviewers expect the student to be aware of current affairs and their opinions.

CAT is a written test not just for the 20 IIMs and their flagship programme (MBA) but also for more than 200 other reputed MBA institutes, including the Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) Delhi, SPIIMR Mumbai, MDI Gurgaon, IMT Ghaziabad and IMI Delhi, among others.

With the number of B-schools increasing and the fees for the two-year MBA going up significantly in the last decade, it has become imperative to choose the right school. Each student may have different cri-



teria for selecting a school. However, one can follow some broad guidelines to ensure admission to the desired school. The parameters on which the ranking of the schools is based include placements, batch strength, batch profile, fees, availability of specialisations, faculty, infrastructure and location.

While the students undeniably look at placements and the average package, the profile of the batch (subject background and work experience) is also essential. Fees (FMS, JBIMS), specialisation XLRI & TISS for HR, NIIE for Supply Chain, MICA for Marketing, IIFT for International Business, IIMA FABM, IIML ABM, IRMA for Rural Management and a preferred location (Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore) are also considered by the students before making a final choice of the school. References of the alumni also matter in the selection in a B-school.

The NIRF ranking of business schools released by the government emphasises the component of published research work at the institute. However, it may be pertinent to note that the students desire better placements and internship opportunities at these schools rather than just the research avenues. Campus life, collaborative projects, exchange programmes, and visiting industry experts are also crucial factors in making the right choices.

The first decade of this century was the boom period for management education. With seven IIMs until 2008, the government announced six more IIMs in 2009 and 2015, one in 2016, taking the total to 20. At the same time, other top B-schools also expanded geographically or increased the batch size. XLRI in Jamshedpur has opened another branch in Delhi-NCR, and IIFT Delhi has now opened in Kolkata and Kakinada. NMIMS has Mumbai, Navi-Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Indore campuses. SIBM has expanded to Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, and Nashik. IMT,

known for its B-school at Ghaziabad, has opened campuses in Nagpur, Hyderabad, and Dubai.

The number of seats available for the students also has grown significantly over the last two decades without diluting the placements of these graduates. The overall placement scenario has been favourable save in the years of recession and COVID. With the Indian economy booming and the government's push to reach the \$5 trillion GDP mark, the MBA sector will continue to attract talented young graduates. The government's focus on rural development, road and telecom infrastructure, housing, agriculture, food processing, smart cities, green energy, and health, will open new avenues for the young MBAs.

Management education has moved from traditional marketing, finance and HR to specialised domains such as environment, sustainability, energy management, social and governance, CSR, infrastructure, and technology. "Technological disruptions have changed the entire facet of management and new-age managers must adapt to these changes," opines Prof (Emeritus) Devendra Pathak, CEO, FORE Academy of Management Education, Gurugram. With more aspirants from art and commerce backgrounds competing with those from science and engineering, the diversity of talent will drive the sector further.

The story of start-up companies in India surpassing the billion-dollar valuation-unicorns is inspiring. Individuals with engineering and MBA backgrounds lead many of them. However, the entire unicorn ecosystem is not about MBAs and IITs. This leads us to conclude that there is a world beyond MBA and an opportunity beyond the glassy-corporate corridors. There is a need to encourage, mentor, fund and bring in gender parity among the graduates beyond metros.

**ARKS Srinivas** is a Consultant CEO, IFACET  
**Ashok Pandey** is a Delhi-based educationist

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The two-year-long programme is meant for both recent graduates as well as experienced professionals with a minimum of five years of experience, looking to elevate their roles to higher leadership roles.

The course involves a blend of theory and practice, internships, field visits as well as project work. The curriculum spans various fields of management such as marketing, operations, organisation behaviour, finance, etc, hence ensuring a holistic, 360-degree leadership development of its students.

**Placements**

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The executive program is customised for mid to senior-level professionals with over five years of work experience. Since its inception, NSB's PGDM (Executive) programme has attracted participation from organisations such as NTPC, Tata Power, BHEL, THDC, NEEPCO and many more. We also have self-sponsored candidates.

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CONFLUENCE OF  
TECHNOLOGY AND VALUE  
SYSTEM IN MANAGEMENT  
EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGICAL innovation and shifts are common to all walks of life, including industry and government. The recent entry of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning complimenting analytics in the decision dispensation has become a new norm, paving the way for further innovations.



**Dr TR Pandey**  
Director, AKGIM

Management institutes have started responding to such technological dynamism by revamping of their curriculum. Therefore, the agility of this response has made an MBA course highly dynamic and relevant in India unlike any other stream of education.

Further, the ongoing, irresponsible materialistic race and declining and degrading natural resources have already started giving a wake-up call for designing and revamping course curriculums, especially in business and management education with a thrust on "Bharatiyata" and moral values. We must understand that the world has a lot of expectations from India for sustainable solutions to recurrent economic and social issues.

AKGIM, Ghaziabad is one such B-School that has created a holistic teaching-learning curriculum by embracing new developments with a thrust on responsible value systems for the industry and society at large. This is bringing laurels to the institute in terms of academic excellence and industry appreciation. Our students have figured in the merit list of the top 10 MBAs, which is released every year by AKTU Uttar Pradesh. Companies recognising the versatility of our students are giving increasing priority to the final placements at AKGIM. Accordingly, industry surveys of 2018, 2019 and 2020 done by AICTE-CII have given a platinum rating to us on the basis of our contribution to the industry interface, which includes final placements and ROI of pursuing an MBA at AKGIM Ghaziabad. The journey, however, shall continue to notch benchmarks until we emerge as the most aspiring destination for MBA in the country.

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**Certifications**

To make MBA worth its mettle, the curriculum offers two certifications in each specialisation by Purdue University, University of Massachusetts Amherst and IIM Bangalore, among others. An industry certification through the Grant Thornton Bharat Campus Adoption programme trains students to be industry-ready.

**Experiential Learning**

Business simulations by Harvard Business Publishing Education, Markstrat Simulation and AIMA BizLab, Live Projects, mentorship by CXOs from more than 40 companies, and summer and winter internships help develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. An MBA from BU brings some inherent advantages, like being part of events like the Global Business Summit, India Economic Conclave, SEBI Global MoneyWeek, etc.

The university has forged several strategic partnerships with many global



academic pioneers, exposing students to a global academic environment. The MBA batch is slated to visit UCSI University, Malaysia early next year for one such visit.

**Placements and Internships**

The highest package offered to MBA students is as high as Rs 20.7 lakh/annum and an average of Rs 7.41 LPA. Some prominent recruiters are KPMG, Tata Power, Tiger Analytics, HCL, Evalueserve, Bain & Company, HDFC Bank and Sutherland, to name a few.

The MBA programme instils a global and industry focus that ensures students take confident steps towards the future.

Experiential learning, global exposure  
crucial to develop business leaders

As part of its curriculum, the Asian Business School, Noida, provides business simulations from AIMA to all its students and a complementary study trip to Oxford in London, UK

AFTER liberalisation, the competition among the business entities intensified, giving rise to the trend of hiring manpower who are already trained and start delivering output right from the onset. However, there are fresh management graduates who lack real-life skills and global exposure. This is where experiential learning in management institutes can come in handy as it has been observed that there is a high degree of correlation between the process of experience and education. Some good educational institutions are already ensuring that their students receive a head start once they graduate.

B-schools need to enable their students to make decisions in an alien environment where they don't know the rules of the game. That is how the students shall get better at critical factors like design thinking, innovation and adaptability. The Asian Business School, Noida has been following that mode of experiential learning and the results, in terms of career opportunities and development of its students, are evident. To enable the students to plan in varying business conditions, ABS has business simulations from AIMA for all its students who plan to achieve the targeted hypothetical business goals under dynamic conditions.

Post-liberalisation, international business has gained a lot of momentum. To provide a better understanding of international business and much-needed global exposure, ABS organises a complementary study trip for all its students to Oxford in London, UK. Along with classroom study, the programme includes participation in project work and onsite visits to historical venues in Oxford and London. This trip culminates in students receiving an Executive Diploma in International Business that shall provide them with a cutting edge over others.

ABS also provides its students with a Certification in Digital Marketing as well as Data Analytics & Business Intelligence from NIIT, Diploma in Media and Entertainment as well as a Certification in Corporate Communication. In addition to this,



there is Certification in Entrepreneurship and more importantly, a seed funding of Rs 5 lakhs to the best business idea of the year wherein the funding is borne entirely by ABS. Summarising, the focus is to ensure that its students are trained in an environment that makes them ready to assume the role of successful business leaders, whether corporate doyens or entrepreneurs and that too with higher levels of success.

**Garima Malhotra**, Assistant Professor, Asian Business School  
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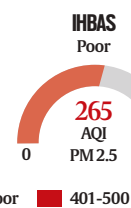
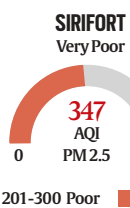
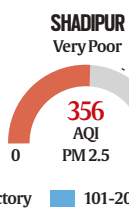
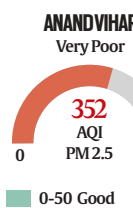
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## SKY WATCH

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**MIN: 8**  
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## DELHI VOTES FOR A NEW CIVIC BODY ON DEC 4



The three candidates (AAP, BJP, Congress) during campaigning for the polls. The ward is reserved for women this time. Photos: Amit Mehra

# The fight for Malviya Nagar

Can a single ward indicate which way the wind is blowing ahead of MCD polls? ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND speaks to residents and contestants to find out

NEW DELHI,  
NOVEMBER 26

A BJP councillor contesting for yet another term in office, an AAP candidate hoping to present an alternative, a turncoat who left AAP for Congress, and local issues of parking and cleanliness taking centre stage — in many ways, the contest for South Delhi's Malviya Nagar ward is a microcosm of the battle for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Much like the BJP's hold over the MCD from 2007 onwards, BJP councillors have held sway over Malviya Nagar for 15 years. This is also true of the neighbouring municipal wards of Safdarjung Enclave (re-named Green Park in the delimitation this year) and Hauz Khas. The three together comprise the Malviya Nagar assembly constituency which, contrary to its loyalty to the BJP in the MCD, had voted for AAP MLA Somnath Bharti in 2015 and 2020.

The ward is reserved for women this time. The BJP has fielded its outgoing BJP councillor Nandani Sharma (51), a homoeopath. Sharma was also the education standing committee chairperson in the erstwhile South MCD. From AAP is Leena Kumar (48), a Hansraj College graduate and a resident of Malviya Nagar for 27 years. The Congress has fielded a former AAP member, Tabassum Fatima Siddiqui (33), a resident of Hauz Rani and a social worker.

In 2017, Malviya Nagar was a smaller ward with a population of 46,302. With the additional areas this year following delimitation, it has a total population of 62,475, including 5,106 from the Scheduled Caste, according to the 2011 census.

## ON THE GROUND

Malviya Nagar has a little bit

of everything — a busy market, upmarket neighbourhoods like Sarvapriya Vihar, Sarvodaya Enclave, Geetanjali Enclave and Navjivan Vihar, and unauthorised colonies in Hauz Rani and Begumpur. In the run up to the polls on December 4, conversations in the locality also have a smattering of everything — whether it's a Modi vs Kejriwal battle, what the local issues are, broader problems of rising expenses, if the AAP can wrest control of the MCD, and prominent leaders campaigning for the BJP.

Ramesh Batra (53), general secretary of the market association in Malviya Nagar, has a shop that's not far from the BJP and AAP election offices in the Malviya Nagar market. For Batra, whose family was allotted a shop in the market after Partition, work on the ground trumps concerns about the party.

"In this election, what matters is that the councillor needs to understand local issues, no matter what the party. *Parshad accha hona chahiye, funds lana chahiye, ilaake ko theek karne ki himmat chahiye.* The current councillor, who is educated and sensible, has been all of this and was able to work," he said.

While some issues in the market have been addressed in the past few years, like making it more pedestrian friendly by placing a tiled pathway beside the shops and making the three toilets in the market more usable, concerns like parking remain, leading to congestion on the road that runs through the market, he added.

At the AAP election office in the Malviya Nagar market on Thursday, there was talk about why the BJP is rolling out senior leaders like Union Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami for rallies ahead of the polls, and what impact the additional areas in the Malviya Nagar ward can have.

## At 18%, AAP has most candidates with criminal backgrounds: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

THE AAP has fielded the maximum candidates — 45 — with criminal records in MCD elections this year while the BJP has 27 such candidates, according to a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

AAP has pitched 250 candidates, out of which 248 self-sworn affidavits were analysed by the ADR and 18% of them (45) have criminal records, the report said. Moreover, at least 8% of AAP candidates have serious criminal cases against them, it stated.

The BJP, which has also pitched 250 candidates, has 27 candidates (11%) with criminal records and the Congress has fielded 25 such candidates.

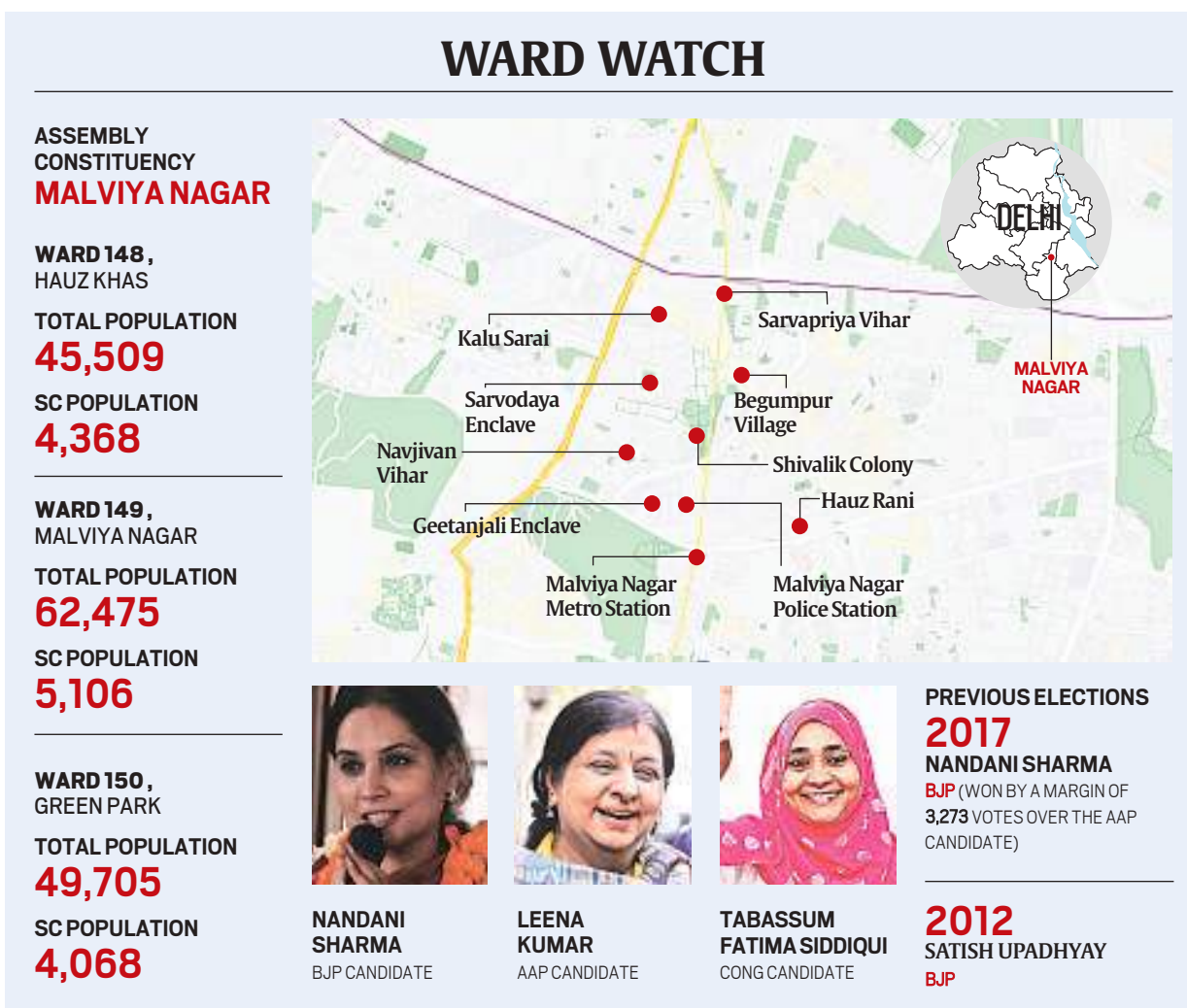
"45 (18%) out of 248 candidates analysed from AAP, 27 (11%) out of 249 candidates

analysed from BJP and 25 (10%) out of 245 candidates analysed from INC have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits," the report mentioned.

"Among the major parties, 19 (8%) out of 248 candidates analysed from AAP, 14 (6%) out of 249 candidates analysed from BJP and 12 (5%) out of 245 candidates analysed from INC have declared serious criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits," the report added.

This year 1,349 candidates are contesting in the MCD elections. Out of 1,349 candidates, self-sworn affidavits of 1,336 candidates were analysed by the ADR and Delhi Election Watch.

The ADR was not able to analyse the remaining 13 candidates as their affidavits were either badly scanned or complete affidavits were not uploaded on the State Election Commission (SEC), Delhi website.



In Begumpur, which has been added to the Malviya Nagar ward in the delimitation exercise this year, Kanchan (42), a housewife, recognises BJP councillor Nandani Sharma's name as one that was being announced in the locality, but does not yet know who is contesting the election from the ward this time. "There's Modi and there's Kejriwal... for those of us who pay rent and live on daily wages, it's about what we get. Everything is more expensive than it used to be and we still have families to feed. At the same time, there are things like a mohalla clinic nearby, which has been useful in case of illnesses," said Kanchan, whose husband works as a driver. Her daughters study in a government school nearby.

Begumpur has its own issues, including waterlogging, mosquitoes, irregular cleaning of roads, and clogged drains, said Rameshri (62), another resident of the colony.

Balmiki Camp, a JJ Basti that lies next to the Begumpur park, has also been added to the ward this year. Rajpal (60), a resident of the camp who sells footwear by the streetside, said, "Gareebon ko jo milna hai, woh milta hain... ration, water, electricity. Medicines are free, children are studying for free."

Another resident makes a mention of BJP's 'jahan jhuggi wahan makaan' campaign, and Rajpal dismisses it as just another promise. His sons have been driving two auto rickshaws

from which announcements are made for the BJP's campaign.

Mohammad Amin, a resident of Balmiki Camp and an emphatic Kejriwal supporter, who has lived in the area since 1993, said, "Free bus rides are being given to women. My (old age) pension comes on time. The government has been working. In the MCD, they (the BJP) didn't do anything in 15 years."

Balmiki Camp has a population of 1,875 voters, of which the Scheduled Caste population is 996, going by State Election Commission data.

For Mohammad Afzal (51), another resident of the camp, who drives an autorickshaw, the election this time is also about having the same party in the

government and the MCD. "If both are the same, then we don't have to hear the excuse that the MCD is not under us (the AAP)... maybe it will become easier to demand more from them. We keep hearing that the MCD is under the BJP, the police is under the Centre," he said.

"It is our *majboori* that we live here. The colony is not clean, the drains are dirty. Making garbage a key issue in this election was a good idea," he added.

Among the areas that have been added to the Malviya Nagar ward this year is Sarvodaya Enclave, which was earlier part of Hauz Khas. Kuldeep Singh (58), vice-president of the Sarvodaya Enclave Residents' Welfare Association, listed issues

that were yet to be resolved, including stray dogs and dog bites, encroachment of pavements, and waste disposal since the dhalao is not managed well.

"The gated communities — Sarvapriya Vihar, Geetanjali, Sarvodaya Enclave — are well taken care of in terms of basic infrastructure like water supply, electricity and roads. Garbage is an issue all across with the main election issue being that of the mountains of garbage," he said.

Singh added: "People have expectations from the unified MCD that problems will be addressed effectively. For the middle class, the AAP is a disappointment... The party made promises in terms of mohalla sabhas and funding, but we have not seen much, even with regard to infrastructure. All of us voted for AAP, we wanted change, but has the city's infrastructure improved?"

In Hauz Rani, Munna Master (69), a resident who runs a grocery store, said, "Basic things are important here, the drains and streets should be clean. The AAP will take this election." Hauz Rani was a separate ward in 2012, from where the Congress won.

In this election, what matters is that the councillor needs to understand local issues, no matter what the party. *Parshad accha hona chahiye, funds lana chahiye, ilaake ko theek karne ki himmat chahiye...*

**RAMESH BATRA**  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE MARKET ASSOCIATION IN MALVIYA NAGAR

"I have worked at the ground level here with the AAP, as the mohalla coordinator and with booth management. The AAP's *vichaardhara* is not what it used to be," she added.

As a social worker, she helps out with EWS admissions to schools, she said. About seven years ago, she raised the area's issues with the AAP and began working with the party.

While Tabassum intended to meet voters around the time of namaz on Friday afternoon in Hauz Rani, AAP's Leena Kumar also said she met voters who had gathered for namaz.

"The issues are different in different areas. Hauz Rani and Begumpur have problems of roads, lights, drainage, garbage is a problem with no proper management. Malviya Nagar also has issues of parking. In posh areas, they don't want encroachments on footpaths. People are not satisfied with the BJP. For 15 years, people had no option, but now there's an option," Kumar said.

Both Kumar and Tabassum said they were involved in relief activities in Malviya Nagar during the pandemic.

On whether she is worried about the AAP's presence in Malviya Nagar, outgoing councillor Nandani Sharma brushed the concern aside. "In places like Kalu Sarai, the water is still dirty. The camp (Balmiki Camp) is in bad shape... they get DUSIB funds but they haven't done anything," she said.

She also points out that Hauz Rani has voted for the Congress in the past. "There, lights were an issue, so was sanitation," she added. In five years, work has been done on parks and in the market, besides improving public toilets, Sharma said.

## AAP expecting 225 seats in polls: Chadha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

THE AAM Aadmi Party is confident of getting over 220 seats out of 250 in the MCD polls, the party's Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha said Saturday.

"We are expecting a sweep in the polls. People are ready to boot out the corrupt, inept and dirty regime of BJP and are looking for the able administration they have experienced in the Delhi government. They want the same in MCD. We think we will get around 225 seats," Chadha told *The Indian Express*.

Asked about allegations that Delhi minister Satyendar Jain — who is in jail in relation to an Enforcement Directorate case regarding alleged money laundering — used his influence to get undue benefits in Tihar jail, Chadha said it was an attempt by BJP to digress from real issues.

"AAP's mantra is 'Kaam Kara hai, kaam karengi'. The BJP's, on the other hand, is 'Badnaam Kia hai badnaam karengi'. These alle-



AAP MP Raghav Chadha at a Jan Samvad in West Patel Nagar, Saturday. Praveen Khanna

gations don't bother people. They want to know when the garbage outside their house will be cleaned, when the roads in their colonies will be fixed and when the park behind their homes will be beautified," he said.

Taking on BJP over unfulfilled promises, Chadha read through the party's promises made in 2017.

"They had promised to clean

up garbage and make sure collection is improved; they proposed a 35% tax hike despite promising that taxes will not go up; they said they would start antyodaya canteens for inexpensive food but not a single canteen has opened. They also promised to start digital services and doorstep delivery of services, which didn't happen. They have also failed the sani-

## Explained: A crucial election

THE MCD elections are crucial for the AAP as, despite forming the government thrice (2013, 2015, 2020), it is yet to come into power in the civic body. The BJP has ruled the MCD since 2007. Polls are scheduled for December 4 and the results will be declared on December 7.

tation workers in the city," he said.

Asked about the challenges that the party is facing, Chadha said the complex governance structure of Delhi, where it may not be clear to some people what each body's responsibilities are, may be one hurdle as people may blame the government for something that is the corporation's responsibility.

## BJP to take 10,000 slum dwellers on trip to EWS flats in Kalkaji

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

AS THE MCD elections near, the Delhi BJP is planning to organise a trip for about 10,000 slum dwellers to the recently inaugurated EWS flats in Kalkaji on Sunday, said party leaders.

Delhi BJP secretary and in-charge of jhuggi jhopri (JJ) cell has confirmed this. According to the information, in a bid to woo the voters, the party has already taken slum dwellers from across the city in batches to the Kalkaji flats.

The 3,024 new flats were inaugurated and allotted to the slum dwellers of Bhoomihreen camp by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 2. These flats were developed and allotted under the in-situ slum rehabilitation scheme of 'jahan



The flats were inaugurated by PM Modi on November 2

jhuggi wahan makaan'.

The scheme is one of the poll promises that are part of the BJP's 12-point manifesto. About 17,000 flats are ready for slum dwellers, said the party.



# 10,000 surgeries, 10,000 kms run in 10 years & One Accord Hospital



Could you share something about your early days?

At the tender age of five, unfortunately, tragedy struck in the young family and I lost my father. But my mother was a strong-willed lady, who bore the loss stoically and sacrificed a lot for us three siblings. She instilled the importance of discipline and fitness and I owe my life's lessons to her which shaped me into an achiever. I went on to do my matriculation from T.K. Ghosh Academy, Patna, which is the alma mater of India's first President, Dr Rajendra Prasad to eventually become the first generation doctor in my family.

**Your journey from MBBS student to an Orthopedic surgeon and the experiences and advancements witnessed in the speciality?**

I am a medical graduate from Nalanda Medical College and Hospital, and MS (Ortho) from Patna Medical College, which dates back to the pre-independence era, in 1927. After completing MS (Ortho) in 2004, I moved to Bombay Hospital, Mumbai, to do my Senior Residency, where I learnt joint replacement till 2006. I then headed to do my fellowship MRCS (I) and FIMS, followed by Joint Replacement Fellowship at DePuy Johnson & Johnson, Stryker Group, Spinal Fellowship at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), all in London and Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (RNOH), Stanmore, UK. I also trained for a number of multi-specialisations from leading international medical institutions such as Lyon in France, and from Germany, Poland, Austria, Australia, USA, Singapore, and Bangkok. During my stay abroad, I not only got good exposure and witnessed the coming-up of super specialities in joint replacement, sports injury, arthroscopy, but also honed my skills in the new techniques in all the sub-specialities of orthopaedics.

**What eventually brought you to Delhi NCR to seriously start practising in the Indian healthcare sector?**

My brother-in-law was based in Faridabad, a boon that paved my way to come to Delhi NCR, which is a hub of medical education and services in the country. In December 2006, I joined Apollo Hospital, Delhi, and during that period I saw immense improvement in orthopaedics and its sub-specialities. I also worked at leading healthcare institutions - Asian Institute of Medical science, QRG Health City & Research Centre and Metro Hospital, all in Faridabad, which further familiarised me to local perceptions, issues and expectations of the patients. Now, I head my speciality at Accord Hospital, of which I am one of the founding members. In nearly two decades of my professional journey, I have seen the entire concept, the recovery process, the mobility in Orthopaedics and its sub-speciality undergoing a 360 degree change because the mind-set of people has changed. They now ask - how early can we get back on our feet and go to work!

**How did the concept of Accord Super-speciality Hospital develop, which is now transforming this semi-urban part of Faridabad?**

About five years ago, 6 doctor friends from different specialities, but with common vision, planned to set-up Accord Hospital because they wished to establish something of their own and create a legacy, and at the same time serve the people as per their choice. We made a conscious choice to build Accord in this cusp of rural-urban settlement because it holds immense potential and would give us the opportunity to offer world-class healthcare services to the underserved area that has no such facility in its vicinity. Factors such as infrastructure development and excellent connectivity spur rapid progress. Since the coming up of the 380 bedded fully operational Accord Hospital, the area is rapidly transforming into a prime locality with real estate prices soaring multi-fold as we are located close to the upcoming Delhi - Mumbai express highway, Jewar airport and KMP high way. We opened Accord Hospital six months ago and are already equipped to serve an estimated 4-5 lac population already residing in the neighbourhood.

**What are the specialities on offer at Accord Hospital?**

Accord is a super multi-speciality hospital where every department has a dedicated team of surgeons and trained paramedical staff who enable us to offer the state-of-the-art treatment to the patient. In Orthopaedic department, we offer a comprehensive programme covering every discipline in the speciality, which is led by me and my team. There is a separate joint replacement suite where patients are kept post operation for observation with dedicated nurses, physiotherapists, pain management team etc., to take care of them.

What differentiates us from the rest is that ours is a totally personalised approach where the focus is about giving care, which is all together a different way of providing treatment that has passion to it and hand holding the patient with care till we achieve our objective of seeing them get independent.

In addition, bone marrow transplant, IVF, stem cell therapy, integrated medicine consisting of Ayurveda, Panchkarma, homeopathy, are all available under



*A man of action and purpose, **Dr Yuvraj Kumar**, is Chairman of the Departments of Orthopaedics, Joint replacement & Sports Injury, Accord Super Speciality Hospital, Faridabad, Delhi NCR. He has gained tremendous fame as a Joint replacement surgeon with exemplary skills in complex joint replacement, hip replacement, arthroscopy surgery of the knee and handling challenging trauma cases.*

*In over 20 years, he has performed over 15,000 successful surgeries to his credit, 10,000 surgeries in the last 10 years! Gifted with a multi-dimensional persona, several organizations have feted him. Also an avid marathon runner, completing over 10,000 kms in 10 years, he motivates everyone with his indefatigable energy. 'Phir se Khelo', is his social initiative to create awareness to play a sport for fitness and health.*



one roof providing comprehensive and affordable treatment to people.

**How did your lasting tryst with marathon begin?**

In 2012-2013, when I was working at Asian Hospital, one of my patients persuaded me to participate in marathons. I gave it a thought. My first marathon was the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon (ADHM) where I ran a stretch of 21 km clocking a little over 2 hours. I enjoyed the experience, I kept practising and never looked back. Half marathon is of 21 kms and a full marathon is 42 km. I have done both. To do a full marathon one has to run roughly 100 kms in a month as part of practice because it's a game of mental strength and endurance. In 10 years, the total adds up to 10,000 kms of running. I have participated in top marathon events of India. In 2015-2016, I opted for Standard Chartered, Mumbai Full Marathon, and also

one at Jim Corbett National Park. Pre Covid, I had also done a marathon in the high reaches of approx. 12,000 ft in Ladakh, a very unique experience because one has to first get acclimatised to the tough weather conditions. Recently, in September this year, I participated in Ladakh Half Marathon. From Accord Hospital 3-4 doctors are marathon runners and we recently participated in Vedanta Half Marathon (VHM), Delhi. I am eagerly looking forward to TATA Mumbai Full Marathon (TMFM) to be held on 15 January, 2023, which will be my 6th full marathon.

**How do you encourage people to wear the running boots and hit the road?**

I am an avid marathon runner and sports lover despite a busy schedule. I educate people, who mostly make lack of time and work stress an excuse, about the advantages of exercise. **I motivate people to run or make any form of exercise an integral**

**routine of their life that would boost health, performance and confidence levels. Choose fitness over sickness! And this should be motivation enough to get into action to earn your fitness.**

**I launched a social initiative "Phir se Khelo", to encourage people, particularly, those above 40 years, who generally stop playing, to take to sports to become active and maintain work-life balance.** Those who have done so have experienced a remarkable difference in their over-all wellness of mind and body. Age is no bar to start exercising, but remember that each one of us has a different body type, so listen to your body and workout accordingly i.e., do not over do or exert too much, which can be counter-productive.

I urge people to run and ask them to encourage people around them to also run. In this very institu-

tion, I have motivated some 20 odd people to run if not take part in a marathon. I also organised a marathon and hosted the event where around 1000 people turned up on this campus, an encouraging panorama. I am also captain of Accord DY 11 cricket team, again entirely my initiative.

**It is said that running can damage the cartilage and wear the joints. How true is this belief?**

This is an absolute myth. Body weight is borne by the lower limbs, so more strong the muscles, less is the load on the knee. If the knee muscles are strong the load transfer would be through the muscles, tendons, and your knee would not be stressed and hence safe. But if the muscles are weak the weight will be transferred through the bones then the wear and tear will be more, which triggers the problem of joint pains.

**What are you doing to spread awareness and to support sports persons?**

Though it is important, musculo- skeletal health is largely ignored. To spread awareness among the youth, I give talks/lectures in educational institutions, sports academies and organizations, and try to touch as many lives as possible encouraging them to exercise. Several academies invite me as chief guest to many of their sports events in different disciplines. If I am able to make an impact on few lives, I think it's worth the effort as it has a multiplier effect.

Haryana leads in the sports category with 20 per cent sportsperson in the country coming from this small state. Accord Hospital has special passion for sports lovers and is committed to help them through a unique gesture of Accord Sports Injury Helpline number - 9354001099. The call of any sports lover seeking help is answered by an expert doctor and the consultancy is absolutely free of cost. We have a dedicated team of doctors for sports injury, besides a super specialised sports physiotherapist, who takes care of rehab of sports persons.

Generally, sports persons have poor paying capacity and if they sustain injured their sporting career and source of livelihood will be at stake. Our duty is to treat them and get them back on their feet to play. My message to sports lovers is that cost should not be a barrier and we will treat them irrespective of their financial status. We are doing this with such passion that the word has spread fast with a lot of people reaching out to us.

**What are the most common Ortho issues that you get to see?**

The most common is knee pain and the back pain that occur due to various reasons such as poor posture, bad seating arrangements, lack of proper exercise, imbalance and poor diet. Another common observation is lack of vitamin D, particularly, in the younger generation, who are not exposed to sunlight, lead a poor lifestyle and eat poor diet such as junk food. Knee pain is more common after turning 50-60 years in the ageing population. 80 percent of the older population suffer from knee pain.

**Can joint pain be reversed and if so, how?**

The disease process which started in the cartilage, which is worn out, then that condition cannot be reversed. Taking a balanced diet can provide you with the required nourishment which can only help in delaying the onset of joint pain. Protein, carbohydrates and fat are energy sources, while minerals and vitamins serve as lubricants. Micro nutrients, antioxidants are equally important which come from fruits. Make it a habit to eat fruits of different colours because the logic behind it is that they have different measures of micro nutrients in them. I advise my patients not to eat after 7 pm and to stop taking salt, sugar, rice and potatoes for maintaining healthy joints.

**Why are women more susceptible to knee problems?**

One is the genetic susceptibility, which is true for any other disease such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiac problem and non-communicable diseases. In India, the male-female population that exercises, the ratio is that out of 10, 7 are men, who exercise regularly, as compared to 2-3 women. In India this is very strange but true that out of 10 patients on whom I do joint replacement, 6-7 of them are women, who generally lead a very normal life with no stress on their joints, yet they develop osteoarthritis. The argument that women do a lot of household work does not hold, because exercise is different for which dedicated time must be allotted in one's daily routine. Another wonderful exercise, rather complete exercise is swimming. I would recommend people to swim if the facility is available. Since aging begins from the legs, which is the foundation of human body, it becomes all the more important to keep them strong and in good shape.

**How do you balance work, life and wife?**

Family is the axis around which my life revolves and so it is a priority. I am fortunate that my wife Dr Sabita, a Senior Gynaecologist and Laparoscopic Surgeon at Accord, inspires me to give my best in different roles of a doctor, a social person, family man and much more. I spend quality time with my wife, my son Aksh, who is an MBBS student at AIIMS, Delhi, and school-going daughter Pankhudi, who are my greatest support system and mean the world to me.

**For Consultation & Appointment, Contact : 9873878469, www.dryuvraj.com**

## 10 DECISION 2022

GUJARAT • HIMACHAL PRADESH



## I HEREBY DECLARE

SHAILESH PARMAR, 53

Congress candidate from Dhanilmda, Ahmedabad district



Parmar won the seat in 2012 and 2017 and is looking to retain it for the party for the third straight term. His sources of income are farming, green loan-rent and construction, while his wife earns as a fashion designer.

## MOVABLE ASSETS

₹1.09 crore

(assets include that of his wife and two dependent children, and those under HUF account)

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹31.54 crore

(Includes two agricultural land parcels, two non-agricultural land parcels, and a residential premise)

## LIABILITIES: None

## CRIMINAL CASES: 2

(One is a criminal complaint of defamation before a Gandhinagar court; second is an FIR in Ahmedabad for alleged unlawful assembly. Trials pending.



MADHUSHRIVASTAV, 70

The six-term BJP MLA from Waghodia is contesting as an Independent this time.



He is a key witness in the Best Bakery riots case. Shrivastav has declared agriculture

as his occupation and holds stakes in Shree Krishna Developers and Hotel Lilaba.

## MOVABLE ASSETS

₹5.67 crore

(assets include that of his wife and two dependent children)

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹3.87 crore

(Several agricultural land parcels in Vadodara and Narmada; non-agricultural land parcels; two commercial premises in Vadodara; and a hotel and residential plots/residences in Vadodara and Gandhinagar. Assets declared include those that belong to his wife and daughter.

LIABILITIES: ₹10.98 lakh

## CRIMINAL CASES:

None declared

## INTERVIEW: JIGNESH MEVANI, VADGAM MLA

## ‘Way forward for Gujarat Cong undoubtedly difficult ... MLAs leaving party huge concern’

‘Attempts they (BJP) have made to bring Dalits to their fold have not worked. There is genuine unrest ...’

## PARIMAL DABHI

VADGAM, NOVEMBER 26

Vadgam in Banaskantha district will be one of the most-watched seats in the coming Gujarat Assembly elections because fighting to retain the constituency will be Jignesh Mevani.

He discusses both his own electoral prospect and that of his party, the Congress. He also speaks about the BJP and the AAP. *Excerpts:*

**You contested as an Independent in 2017. Now, you are a Congress candidate. What is the difference?**

We all know that in Gujarat and across India there is an issue of literacy and for the rural people who are illiterate it is tough finding a symbol (of an Independent candidate). If not more, then 2,000 to 5,000 people must have faced difficulty in finding the sewing machine symbol (Mevani's symbol as an

independent candidate in 2017). So, in that context, I will benefit (as a Congress candidate).

And the Congress is a decades-old party. So, I get an added advantage of its symbol.

**What do you think about the Gujarat government's attitude towards Dalits?**

The attitude of the government towards Dalits is pathetic. They just don't care. 'You die, we don't care.' That is the approach. Despite demands coming from all corners and the issues being raised in the state Assembly, they neither care about the atrocity cases (SC-ST Act) nor do they care about implementing the scholarship scheme. (They are) not concerned about the formulation of the SC/ST Sub Plan Act. They don't want to do anything about landless Dalits. So, the attitude is the same. The attempts they have made to bring Dalits to their fold have not worked. Because there is genuine unrest among Dalits.



Srujanit Day

**In 2017, Hardik Patel, Alpesh Thakor and you were fighting the BJP. Now they are in the BJP. What do you say?**

Let the people of Gujarat judge it.

**The AAP is claiming it will form the government.**

Everybody has the right to live in a fool's paradise.

**Do you see any influence of the AIMIM in Vadgam?**

There is some influence. But the wisdom the Muslim community has shown throughout,

all across India, makes me believe that eventually it will be sorted out.

**Do you see your votes going down this time (due to AIMIM and AAP candidates)?**

No. On the contrary, there is every chance that the (winning) margin may go up because of the Vipul Chaudhary factor (the imprisonment of the Chaudhary community leader has turned the group against the BJP), local issues, and detachment of some committed BJP workers from the Chaudhary community.

## Amit Shah: Discard Cong and AAP, they backed ‘anti-Gujarat’ Patkar

At a rally in Ahmedabad, Union home minister repeats comments about BJP teaching ‘rioters’ a lesson in 2002

## EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

VADODARA, NOVEMBER 26

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Saturday told voters in Gujarat's Saurashtra region to “discard” the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), saying both of them “backed anti-Gujarat” activist Medha Patkar. Shah also asked the crowd to book tickets to Ayodhya for January 1, 2024, to visit the Ram Mandir.

Shah addressed three election rallies — Rajula in Amreli district, and in Mahuva and Talaja in Bhavnagar district. Later in the day, he addressed a rally in Ahmedabad where he hit out at the Congress over 26/11.

In Saurashtra, the Union minister spoke of the “opposition from the Congress” that the BJP faced during the construction of the Narmada dam, which was meant to Narmada water to Saurashtra and Kutch.

“I was born in 1964. In 1961, (Pandit) Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation for the (Sardar Sarovar Dam) project but it could not be completed until Narendrabhai Modi came (as Chief Minister of Gujarat). The Congress, which ruled the state for so many years, had stomach cramps thinking that if the project is complete, then hard-working farmers of Saurashtra and Kutch would get water ... They tried their level best to stall the project. The Sonia (Gandhi)-Manmohan (Singh) government



Union Home Minister Amit Shah holds aloft a mace at a public meeting in Rajula, Amreli district, Saturday. PTI

denied permission to raise the height of the dam in 2005 despite a court order in favour of the same ... And then, Narendrabhai sat on a fast in Gandhinagar with the pledge that he would consume water only when permission was granted to send Narmada water to Saurashtra ... The (UPA) government came down to its knees.”

Shah lashed out at the Congress and the AAP for siding with Medha Patkar. Speaking of the Bharat Jodo Yatra of Rahul Gandhi, the home minister said, “Rahul Baba is doing a padayatra and has taken along Medha Patkar — the biggest liar, anti-Gujarat and anti-Saurashtra person. He has only taken her in the padayatra but the jhaduwalas (reference to AAP) in 2014, gave her a ticket to contest Lok Sabha but their deposit was gone... This woman (Patkar) did not allow

the Narmada waters to reach Saurashtra for 20 years... one party takes her for padayatras and the other party gives her ticket. Will Saurashtra vote for such parties?” Shah said.

At Vejalpur in Ahmedabad, he said, “Today is 26/11. No person can forget a day like 26/11. On this day, Pakistan attacked Mumbai, and 164 people lost their lives. And the government watched this like a mute-spectator. The home minister then used to change clothes thrice a day.” Reiterating his comments on the 2002 riots, Shah said, “In 2002, the people of Gujarat put us in power. When Narendra Modi became the CM, *ramkhalo kaarava wala ne paath bhanavyo, e ghadi ne aaj no divas, Gujarat ma kadi ramkhalo thayi nathi* (rioters were taught a lesson, till this day riots have not occurred again in Gujarat).”

## BATTLEFRONT GUJARAT

## BJP manifesto ‘mirrors’ many of our pledges: Congress, AAP

On inflation, farmer debts, maritime security, the BJP document is ‘silent’



Narendra Modi masks and other election campaign material kept on chairs at the BJP headquarters in Gandhinagar on Saturday ahead of party's manifesto release. Nirmal Harindran

## AVINASH NAIR &amp; KAMAAL SAIYED

AHMEDABAD, SURAT, NOVEMBER 26

WHILE PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has castigated “revdis (freebies)” in the run-up to the Gujarat Assembly elections, the ruling BJP's manifesto released Saturday has drawn sharp criticism from its Opposition rivals, the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), for its “striking commonalities” with the sops and guarantees promised by them.

While unveiling the manifesto, the BJP's national president JP Nadda said, “We have done what was promised and we have also done things which were not talked about. So our words have strength... A lot of political parties are making big announcements. Why won't they do so? They will not come to power and so they can show any type of dreams. But if BJP says something, then it is not said lightly. We make all preparations, do due diligence, make calculations and we recognise the needy and their requirements.” The BJP has also invited “suggestions” from people over its manifesto.

The BJP manifesto titled “Agresar Gujarat Sankalp Patra 2022” pledges to provide free education to girls from kindergarten to post-graduation. This promise mirrors the Congress manifesto released on November 12. The AAP too has promised free education to all children. At a rally at Mahidarpura in Surat's diamond market Saturday, the AAP candidate from Varachha, Alpesh Kathiriya, charged that the BJP manifesto was a “xerox copy” of the AAP guarantees. “This is not your Agresar (progressive) Gujarat but your peechheyhat (retreating) Bharatiya Janata Party,” he alleged.

Targeting the BJP, Gujarat AAP president Gopal Italia told the crowd at the Mahidarpura rally, “When we announce our guarantees, the BJP calculates cost and tells us where will you get the money from.”

The BJP manifesto promises to provide free medical treatment by doubling the cap of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana to Rs 10 lakh from the existing Rs 5 lakh. The Congress has also promised a Rs 10 lakh free medical

health cover to all citizens.

While the BJP has promised two free LPG cylinders annually for women under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, the Congress has pledged subsidised cylinders at Rs 500 per unit. Gujarat Congress spokesman Manish Doshi says, “The Congress manifesto announced well in advance forced the BJP to focus on education and health. Their promises follow ours. In 2012, when we announced the ‘Ghar nu Ghar scheme (promising houses to voters)’ the BJP promised to build 50 lakh houses.”

Doshi pointed out that the BJP manifesto was “silent” on farmer debts, inflation, maritime security and a spurt in economic crimes in Gujarat. The Congress has pledged to write off farmers debt up to Rs 3 lakh each in the state, while the figure promised in this regard by the AAP is Rs 2 lakh. Both the Congress and the AAP have promised electricity to farmers during daytime for irrigation purposes.

As part of their poll pledges, both the Congress and the AAP have promised 300 units of free electricity for people, which the BJP has not done. Similarly, while both the Opposition parties have promised scrapping of the controversial land resurvey carried out by the BJP government, the saffron party's manifesto remains silent on this matter.

The BJP has promised to generate 20 lakh new jobs in the next five years, while the Congress and the AAP have promised to fill 10 lakh vacancies in the state government's departments and PSUs. The Congress pledged to regularise contractual government employees. Both the Congress and the AAP have also promised to provide unemployment allowance to jobless youth, restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and strict action against those involved in leaking papers of government recruitment examinations.

All the three parties have promised assistance for cows and livestock. While the BJP in its manifesto pledges rolling out “Pashu Aadhar cards” and subsidised cattle feed for calves, the Congress has promised Rs 5,000 for every family seeking to buy a cow. The AAP has promised Rs 40 per day for maintenance of each cow in the state.

## CANDIDATE WATCH

## In 2 Surat seats, 37 Independents from minority community

## SOURAV ROY BARMAN

SURAT, NOVEMBER 26

VASIM SHAIKH, who earns his living as a daily-wage worker in a garment unit in Surat city, was made to sign a few documents by some people in his “friend circle” a couple of days ago.

Shaikh's name figures among a list of 30 Muslim candidates contesting as Independents from Surat's Limbayat constituency which will go the polls in the first phase of the Gujarat Assembly polls on December 1.

“Mai toh cutting ka kaam karta hoone idhar, dihai hai mera. Kisine bataya toh maine bhar diya (I am engaged in cutting in a garments unit. Someone told me to fill up forms which I did. I was not aware that I was being made a candidate),” Shaikh claims.

The Limbayat Assembly seat is part of the Navsari Lok Sabha

constituency represented by Gujarat BJP president CR Paatil, from where a total of 44 candidates are contesting — the highest among the state's 89 seats in the first phase — that include altogether 34 Independents. The Muslim community makes up about 30 per cent of voters in Limbayat.

In the neighbouring Surat East Assembly constituency, which is also scheduled for voting on December 1, Minhaj Patel, a delivery boy with a private online food and grocery store, is among seven Muslim faces out of 8 Independents in the fray. “I work with Big Basket company. I felt like contesting, so I filed nomination this time,” he said. A total of 14 candidates are contesting the Surat East seat.

When contacted, the Congress's Surat East candidate Aslam Firozibhai alleged, “Of the 2.15 lakh voters in the seat, 43 per cent are Muslims. Everyone



Hameed Madhavsang Rana campaigning in Limbayat. Express

knows that the BJP has fielded these so-called Independent candidates to split the Opposition votes from the minorities. If CR Paatil was so confident of winning a seat under his constituency, why did he feel the need to resort to such tactics?”

Kher Paresh Anandbhai of

the Shiv Sena (Uddhav), who is also contesting from Surat East as an Independent, also made similar allegations.

A Surat BJP leader, who did not want to be named, rejected these charges, pointing out that the party had a smooth victory from these seats in the 2017 polls.

Apart from Shaikh and Patel, The Indian Express spoke to a slew of Independent candidates in the two constituencies, who have varied backgrounds — from a couple engaged in social work to a scrap dealer, to an autorickshaw driver. Here are excerpts from their responses.

**SAIYAD SURAIYA LATIF (LIMBAYAT):** I work as a domestic help. This time, I thought of contesting the polls to gain experience. Maine socha ye bhi karke dekh lete hain (I thought let me try my hand at this too).

**HAMEED MADHAVSANG RANA (LIMBAYAT):** I work as a commission agent for a tour and travels agency. My wife, Sayarabanu, who is also contesting from Limbayat, and I served people in various ways during Covid. She is a homemaker. The allegations of the Congress regarding BJP setting

us up to split votes is false.

**AIYUB SHAH (LIMBAYAT):** I run an autorickshaw on rent. This time I thought why not contest the polls? At least more people will get to know me. I am campaigning with my family members including in Hindu areas.

**MOHAMMAD SHAIKH (LIMBAYAT):** I am contesting Assembly polls for the first time. I had also contested the local body polls as a BSP candidate in the past. I am contesting as parties discriminate between communities.

**IRFAN PATHAN (SURAT EAST):** I manage the parking lots under flyovers that come under the Surat Municipal Corporation. I was with the BJP 10 years back. Later, I decided to focus on my work. This time, the youth of my area encouraged me to contest.

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## • KEY PLAYERS

**ARVIND KEJRIWAL: I GIVE MONEY TO THE PUBLIC, DON'T STASH IT AWAY IN SWISS BANKS**

PM NARENDRA MODI TO ADDRESS RALLIES IN SURAT TODAY

# Govt & Politics

**AAP has no right to object if Haryana builds new Assembly building: Khattar**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 26

A NEW Vidhan Sabha is needed for Haryana considering the possible increase in the number of members in near future and the Aam Aadmi Party has no right to object if the state constructs a new Assembly building in Chandigarh, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar Saturday said. This came even as a Punjab government official reiterated that "not a single inch of land should be given to Haryana in Chandigarh".

"The Aam Aadmi Party has no right to object if Haryana wants to construct a new Vidhan Sabha in Chandigarh. We are not taking land in Chandigarh for free. If we are taking 10 acres for the Assembly building from Chandigarh administration, then we are also giving it an equal piece of land. There is no problem in this and it is for the Chandigarh administration to decide," said Khattar.



**Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar**

The Haryana CM's remarks came on a day a delegation of the Shiromani Akali Dal, led by party chief Sukhbir Singh Badal, met Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit, who is also Chandigarh administrator, and opposed Haryana's proposed move of setting up an additional building of its Assembly in the Union Territory, which is also the joint capital of the two states.

A spokesperson for Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann said, "We have already cleared our stand. Not a single inch of land should be given to Haryana in Chandigarh". Earlier, the AAP had said that Punjab has the sole right over Chandigarh and Haryana will not be allowed to construct an additional legislative assembly building in the city.

**14 YEARS SINCE 26/11 ATTACK**



**Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari pay their respects at the Police Memorial on the 14th anniversary of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack, on Saturday. Ganesh Shirsekar**

## Fadnavis, Shinde pay tribute: We should ensure such attacks don't take place again

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 26

TAKING A pledge to safeguard Mumbai from terror attacks, Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday offered floral tribute to those who died in the 26/11 terror attack.

"The 26/11 attack on Mumbai was Pakistan-sponsored. It was an attack on the sovereignty of India," Fadnavis, who holds the Home and Finance portfolios, said.

"The Mumbai terror attack, which shook the world, has made us more determined than ever to combat terrorism. Today, as we offer tribute to our courageous police officers and jawans who sacrificed their lives to save Mumbai and the nation, I would like to state that 26/11 was not an attack on Taj Palace or Trident. It was war against India. It was sponsored by Pakistan. They wanted to show the world a weak India. They wanted to shame us. But our policemen



**Naor Gilon, Israel's ambassador to India, visits Chabad House in Mumbai on Saturday to pay tribute to those who died in the 26/11 terror attack. ANI**

and jawans fought bravely and laid down their lives," he said.

"As citizens, government, police and Intelligence, we should all unite and ensure such attacks never take place," Fadnavis said.

Earlier, Fadnavis paid floral tribute at Martyr's Memorial at CP Office to police and army personnel who sacrificed their lives on

26/11. Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, ministers Mangal Prabhat Lodha and Deepak Kesarkar were also present. He also met the families of the martyrs.

Later, Fadnavis also paid tributes to the 26/11 martyrs at Gateway of India and honoured police, BEST and sanitation work-

### GOVERNOR DRAWS FLAK OVER FOOTWEAR

**Mumbai:** Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari drew flak from the Opposition on Saturday for having on footwear while paying homage to those who died in the 26/11 attack. Congress's Sachin Sawant said the Governor disrespected the culture of Maharashtra. Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Vinayak Raut also targeted Koshyari over the issue. **ENS**

ers who fought during the 26/11 attack, at a programme 'Ek Diwas For Police'. "In the operation led by martyr Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan, NSG Commando Sunil Jodha rescued the victims, civilians and guests from Taj Hotel during the 26/11 attack. He took seven bullets," Fadnavis said while honouring Jodha.

## Pointing to undertrial numbers, Murmu asks: Do we need more jails?

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

UNDERLINING THE issue of undertrials languishing in jail, President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday called on the government and the judiciary to find ways to solve the crisis.

"I hear these days that we will have to make new prisons because prisons are overcrowded. If we are moving towards progress as a society, why do we need new jails? We should be closing down existing ones," the President said.

Speaking at the valedictory session of the Law Day celebrations organised by the Supreme Court, Murmu said, "I am leaving this issue to the judges here, and the Law Minister. I am not saying anything more. I hope you understand what I have said and what I refrained from saying."

Stressing that she is proud that 389 members of the Constituent Assembly included 15 women, Murmu also said, "When some of the leading nations in the West were still debating women's rights, women in India were participating in the framing of the Constitution."

Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said the government is committed to social diversity in judicial appointments. "In matters of appointment of judges, the Government of India is committed to social diversity and has been requesting Chief Justices of high courts to provide for the same while sending proposals for appointment of judges," he said.

On representation in the judi-



**President Droupadi Murmu with CJI Justice D Y Chandrachud during Constitution Day celebrations in New Delhi. PTI**

ciary, Rijiju said much more needs to be done by the judiciary.

"Over the last seven decades of India's journey as an independent nation, representation of women as judges has increased. However, much distance needs to be travelled to address the needs of providing diversity in higher judiciary, and to meet the expectation of the cross-section of the people," he said.

Speaking at the event, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud emphasised that the Constitution is uniquely Indian even in its functioning, despite the fact that some of its provisions were inspired from other Constitutions of the world. "There is no better time to recall that India is one of the few nations where the Constitution was written by her people," he said. "Unlike in many countries that achieved independence from the British, we forged our own Constitution."

"The only remnant of colonial past in the court is when the lawyer opens the brief with 'My

Lord'. Thereafter what follows is a truly Indian style of advocacy, largely Hindi, interspersed with a few English words and a few Latin phrases," he said.

Emphasising the constitutional ideal of unity in diversity, CJI Chandrachud said that the Constitution accounts for the rich human tapestry in India. "The Constitution does not force its citizens to choose between their rights and their culture," he said. "Rather, it includes the cultural, social and religious aspects in its journey to the goal of a democratic society."

The CJI said this ideal is what legal scholar Granville Austin would have referred to as the "principle of accommodation." He said, "The principle of accommodation is different from compromise, which involves concessions."

CJI Chandrachud also said that the Supreme Court will soon conduct an audit of its premises to review and ensure its accessibility with persons with disabilities.

**PARTY RELEASES MANIFESTO**

## BJP promises UCC, cell to spot 'anti-India forces'

**AVINASH NAIR**  
GANDHINAGAR, NOVEMBER 26

DAYS AFTER the Gujarat government announced that it would form a committee for the implementation of UCC, the BJP on Saturday released its manifesto for the upcoming Assembly polls, which promises to "ensure complete implementation of the Gujarat Uniform Civil Code committee's recommendations", among others.

The party has also promised to launch a 'Gujarat Olympics Mission' for hosting the Olympic Games in the state in 2036, provide 20 lakh jobs, keep a tab on the Waqf Board and madrasas, and said it will roll out "Pashu aadhaar cards" to monitor health and vaccination status of all livestock, among others.

The creation of an "anti-radicalisation cell" to identify and "eliminate potential threats and sleeper cells of terrorist organisations and anti-India forces" was among the many promises made by BJP president J P Nadda while unveiling the manifesto in Gandhinagar on Saturday.

**EXPLAINED**  
**Back to Hindutva plank**

THE BJP manifesto is testimony to the fact that the party's campaign, which began on the development plank, is taking a detour to the tried-and-tested Hindutva plank. Reflections of this were seen in the rallies addressed by several of the party's star campaigners in Gujarat in the last few days.



The party promised to set up a task force to "scrutinise assets and finances of Waqf Board and conduct surveys of madrasas with regard to their curriculum".

The manifesto mentions enacting the Gujarat Recovery of Damages of Public and Private Properties Act, meant to recover damages to public and private properties by anti-social elements during riots, violent protests and unrest, etc.

Elections to the 182-member Assembly will be held on December 1 and 5.

**Karnataka govt is seriously considering UCC implementation, says Bommai**

**SANATH K PRASAD**  
BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 26

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday said his government is seriously considering implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state to ensure equality.

Speaking to reporters in the state capital on the occasion of Indian Constitution Day, he said, his government was very seriously considering implementing the UCC as it was part of the main manifesto of the BJP at the national level. According to Bommai, the state government is looking at the various committees formed in different states to implement the UCC to study all aspects.

Addressing party workers on Friday, Bommai said serious discussions on the UCC are going on at the state and national level. "We have been talking about the UCC since the time of Deendayal Upadhyay. There is a serious thought going on in the country about UCC at the national and state level. There is also an intention to implement it when the right time comes. We are also discussing how to do it in our state," Bommai said.

## BJP, RSS leaders fold hands before Ambedkar, stab him in back; they want to erase Constitution: Rahul

**MANOJ CGG**  
MHOW(MP), NOVEMBER 26

ACCUSING BJP and RSS of trying to throttle and dismantle the Constitution by "stealth", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said their leaders fold hands before BR Ambedkar but stab him in the back.

He alleged that RSS is doing the same with Mahatma Gandhi's legacy.

Rahul also alleged that the Sangh has penetrated every institution of the country, including the judiciary, the media, and the Army.

On Saturday, the Congress leader, who is in Madhya Pradesh as part of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, addressed a public meeting in Mhow, the birthplace of Ambedkar, on the occasion of the Constitution Day, along with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge. He said the Constitution is not just a book but a living force, thought and voice, and that the RSS wants to "erase" that force.



**Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge with party leaders Rahul Gandhi and Bhupesh Baghel during a public meeting in Mhow on Saturday. PTI**

Arguing that the Tricolour derives its strength from the Constitution, he said RSS did not unfurl the national flag at its headquarters for 52 years.

Midway through his speech, Rahul walked across the stage and paid floral tributes to an Ambedkar portrait. He said, "...they (BJP-RSS) will do this first. They fold hands before Ambedkar and then try to

finish off the Constitution and tear it apart...the making of which Babasaheb devoted his life to..."

"This is their method. They will never be able to insult Ambedkar openly...they are doing the same with Gandhi. What was Gandhi's message? He said don't be afraid and don't indulge in violence. What are the RSS people doing now? Earlier they didn't fold hands

before him (Gandhi). Earlier they used to fold hands before Godse (but) today they are forced to (bow before Gandhi). They fold their hands before Gandhi statue and erase his message of non-violence."

He said RSS and BJP cannot destroy the Constitution openly, as they don't have the courage for that. "The day they try to do that, the voice of India will stop them. So they are doing it by stealth."

Stating that institutions such as Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Assemblies, the judiciary, bureaucracy, the media emerged from the Constitution, Rahul said that today, the "RSS is appointing their people in these institutions — judiciary, media, Army...every institution.... They have only one aim — to finish off the Constitution."

Maintaining that hate and violence in society is an outcome of fear in the hearts of the ruling regime, he said, "My grandmother was shot 32 times. My father was killed in a blast. Violence was constantly perpetrated against me. Yet

there is no fear in my heart; it is filled with love."

Rahul said that while he is taking on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and RSS, he has "no hatred for either Modi or RSS...because there is no fear in my heart. It is fear which creates hatred and division. So I will tell BJP, Modi, Amit Shah, RSS people...brothers, erase the fear; your hatred will disappear; your fear is causing damage to the country."

Kharge, too, was scathing on BJP and RSS, whose leaders, he asserted, are trying to put religion above the country. He argued that everyone should put their religion and caste aside and fight for the country together.

In a statement issued on the occasion of Constitution Day, Kharge tore into the BJP-led government. "The Constitution that has successfully stood the test of time for over seven decades...faces a fundamental crisis, indeed an existential crisis for the spirit behind its text," he stated. **(INPUTS FROM IRAM SIDDIQUE)**

**After row over Tharoor's north Kerala tour, Congress leaders asked to keep party in loop**

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOVEMBER 26

THE CONGRESS' disciplinary committee in Kerala has called on leaders to keep the party informed about the events that they attend. This comes after Congress MP Shashi Tharoor's tour of north Kerala last week created a stir in the party, prompting warnings against party leaders carrying out "parallel" political activities.

Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, the head of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee's disciplinary panel, told reporters that while leaders are free to attend any party programme any-

where in the state, they should inform the concerned party unit — either the district Congress committee or block Congress committee.

"The very thought that such forums were bypassed (by leaders) would erode the strength of the party. So, the leaders should take them (the party units) into confidence and inform them in advance before attending events," he said.

All India Congress Committee general secretary in charge of Kerala, Tariq Anwar, who was in Kozhikode for a party function, also echoed the same view. "All leaders attending the party events should take the respective leadership in that district into confidence," he said.

## Modi model of governance sustainable, graph always upwards, says minister

**HARIKISHAN SHARMA**  
KATRA (J&K), NOVEMBER 26

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi's model of governance is sustainable, as it has defied the principle of diminishing returns, there is no anti-incumbency, and the graph is rising always upwards, Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh said on Saturday.

Since 2014, Modi has given a "new, different kind of model of governance, which is based on a new, different approach, and a different work culture", the MoS for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, and PMO said.

Addressing the inaugural session of 25th e-governance conference in Katra, Singh said, "What is



**Union Minister Jitendra Singh in Katra, Saturday. PTI**

this governance model that I am trying to be boisterous about? Some authors have described it as Modi's model of governance... It is not simply for name-dropping, as some cynics might feel. It is a model that has sustained itself for nearly 20 years, or more than 20 years, with Modi as the longest-

serving head of government in any democracy.

"Therefore, I have the courage and conviction to say this is a sustainable model of governance."

He said, "This is a model which has defied the principle of diminishing returns. On the contrary, with each passing year, the dividends have increased. There is no anti-incumbency.... The graph is always upwards, never down."

This is a model that has "grown stronger with each challenge", because it was always prepared beforehand to face a challenge, Singh said. "As chief minister (of Gujarat), Mr Modi faced the earthquake in Gujarat. As Prime Minister, the pandemic (Covid-19). We were already prepared for it; we could do better."

Singh said it was due to this governance model that the Covid-19 pandemic could be managed. Recently, he said, the Prime Minister of the Netherlands appreciated the way India combated Covid-19. "He said we (Amsterdam) could not manage with such a small population, how could you? I said because we were already prepared. So, this is the governance model (he is referring to)," Singh said the basic mantra of the Modi government is "maximum governance, minimum government".

**FULL REPORT ON**  
**www.indianexpress.com**  
(The reporter was in Katra on invitation from the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions)

**MGNREGS: Centre forms panel to study performance of states, governance issues**

**HARIKISHAN SHARMA**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

THE CENTRE has constituted a committee to study the performance of states and governance issues under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

According to an order issued by the Ministry of Rural Development, the 9-member committee, headed by former rural development department secretary Amarjeet Sinha, has been given three months to complete the study and submit a report.

The order, dated October 31, 2022, was issued with the approval of Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh.

As per the order, the committee will also study/analyse the trends of expenditure across states under the MGNREGS along with reasons for inter-state variations, with specific focus on governance issues.

As per the order, the panel has also been given a mandate to recommend institutional mechanisms, including governance and administrative structures, for more effective utilisation of MGNREGS funds especially for addressing poverty and augmenting livelihoods. The MGNREGS was launched by the then Congress-led UPA government in 200 more backward districts in 2006. It was extended to 130 more districts during 2007-08 and the entire country in 2008-09.

# Man killed in ‘celebratory firing’, BJP leader held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 26

A LOCAL BJP leader was arrested in Kanpur on Saturday in connection with an apparent case of celebratory firing that led to the death of a bouncer at the wedding function of the leader’s brother on Friday, police said.

Police identified the accused as Ramji Gupta and the deceased as Sadiq Qureshi (32), who hailed from Kanpur. Sadiq was taken to hospital where doctors declared him dead, police said.

The incident was reported from ‘Royal Garden’ in Kanpur city during Gupta’s brother Rajat Gupta’s wedding function. A case was registered at the local police station under IPC sections 304 (Punishment for culpable homi-

cide not amounting to murder), and 504 (Intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace). A complaint was filed by Sadiq’s brother, Sajid Qureshi.

Kanpur ADCP (East) Manish Chandra Sonkar said, “On Friday, information was received at the Rail Bazaar police station that a person was shot at and was taken to hospital by his colleagues and family members.” The officer added, “It was found that Ramji Gupta booked the Royal Garden for the wedding function and had brought some bouncers there. In apparent celebratory firing, a bouncer was shot at. Ramji Gupta has been arrested.” BJP’s Kanpur unit Mahanagar president Sunil Bajaj said, “Ramji Gupta doesn’t hold a post at present, but in the past, he was treasurer of the BJYM’s Kanpur unit.”

## OBJECTIONABLE TWEETS AGAINST GORAKHNATH MUTT, SAYS COMPLAINT

# UP: Journalist arrested, police say he ran SP Twitter handle; party denies link with him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 26

POLICE HAVE arrested an independent journalist in connection with a case filed against the Twitter handle of the Samajwadi Party Media Cell for allegedly spreading communal hatred.

Anil Yadav was arrested by Hazratganj police on Friday in connection with a complaint filed by another journalist Manish Pandey on November 23. While the SP said Yadav has nothing to do with its Twitter account, police said he was running the account.

Yadav, who runs a YouTube channel, has been sent to judicial custody.

Lucknow ACP (Hazratganj) Arvind Kumar Verma said, “It

was found during the probe that he (Yadav) uses the Twitter account (of SP). The investigation is underway and hence I can’t reveal more details.”

The complaint lodged by journalist Manish Pandey reads, “On November 20, the Samajwadi Party Media Cell – @MediaCellSP – made a controversial post about the Gorakhnath mutt with a political objective... On repeated occasions, the account attacks the Gorakhnath mutt... The mutt is the centre of religious importance for crores of Hindus. I wrote that the mutt should not be dragged into politics and that (the tweets) should be restricted to 5, Kalidas Marg (CM’s residence)... After that, the said Twitter account started using objectionable words against

me.” “The Twitter account is ruining the peaceful order of the state for political objectives and is spreading hatred and hence action should be taken against the person/persons tweeting from this account,” said the complaint. When contacted by The Indian Express, SP national spokesperson Rajendra Choudhary said, “Anil Yadav has nothing to do with the Twitter handle of SP Media Cell. He is a journalist.”

In a tweet from the same handle, the SP wrote, “Anil Yadav should be released immediately and should be sent home with respect. The BJP government is murdering democracy and disrespect the Constitution... They are trying to stop pro-people journalism with the use of power... Free speech is the con-

stitutional right of every citizen...”

In another tweet, the party wrote, “Through his YouTube channel, journalist Anil Yadav is exposing the atrocities on people. Angered by this, the BJP has used the administration to arrest him in an unconstitutional manner...”

The case against SP Media Cell Twitter account was filed under IPC sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups), 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings), 500 (defamation), 505(2) (statements conducing to public mischief), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace) and under section 66 (sending of fensive messages) of the Information Technology Act.



The PSLV-C54, carrying an Earth observation satellite along with eight other satellites, lifts off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Saturday. PTI

# ISRO places nine satellites in orbit, one from Bhutan

ENS & PTI  
NEW DELHI, SRIHARIKOTA, NOVEMBER 26

THE INDIA Space Research Organisation’s workhorse PSLV Saturday injected into multiple orbits nine satellites — including an Earth observation satellite as well as one jointly developed by India and Bhutan.

The mission, PSLV’s 56th flight, is among the longest ones undertaken by the space agency.

The PSLV-C54 rocket successfully placed the Earth Observation Satellite (Oceansat) and eight other customer satellites into sun-synchronous orbits, ISRO said. Calling the mission “unique”, ISRO chief Somanath said scientists have used two orbit change thrusters in the PSLV rocket to change orbits for the first time.

“I would like to share the happy news of the separation of the remaining eight satellites as expected into the new orbit which is lowered from original orbit of the EOS-06 satellite to perfection that is from 732 kms to 513 kms in a circular sun-synchronous orbit,” he told reporters here.

“PSLV-C54 in its fourth stage has done this orbital change for the very first time using two burn sequences,” he added.

He said among eight satellites, the India-Bhutan satellite was


the last to separate.

“Before that, we had the Astrocast 1-4 from Spaceflight USA, and Thybolt 1 and 2 from Dhruvaspace and Anand satellite from PIXEL India Ltd. So, congratulations to all the satellite teams for having their satellites in perfect orbit. All the best to them,” he added.

Referring to the India-Bhutan satellite, Somanath said: “It is a very important milestone in the history of the joint collaboration of Indian and Bhutan scientists.”

The primary satellite, Earth Observation Satellite, is built by ISRO for use by departments and ministries in the Government of India. The Ministry of External Affairs said India assisted in training Bhutanese engineers in satellite building and testing, as well as on processing and analysing satellite data. “This culminated into the joint development of the customized satellite for Bhutan, launched today. The India-Bhutan SAT will provide high-resolution images to Bhutan for their natural resources management,” it said, in a statement.

The mass of the Earth Observation Satellite is about 1,117 kgs while the India-Bhutan Satellite INS-2B weighs about 18.28 kgs. Satellite ‘Anand’ is about 16.51 kgs while two Thybolt satellites, totally weigh around 1.45 kgs. The four satellites of Astrocast weighs about 17.92 kgs, ISRO said.

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**


E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: 22/179      Dated: 22.11.2022

**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit) invites the following E-Procurement Tenders.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1	30221879C	DISTRIBUTOR VALVE COMPLETE	150 Nos.	19.12.2022
2	30221941C	BODYSIDE ARRANGEMENT COMPLETE	30 Nos.	19.12.2022
3	50225552	Signalling Cable of 6 Core	31 KM	19.12.2022

**Note:** The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from IREPS website i.e. <https://www.ireps.gov.in>.      1574/22 (P)

 [www.nocr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nocr.indianrailways.gov.in)    @nortcentralrailway    @SPRONCR

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General Public is hereby informed that one male person was found dead in front of IG Hospital, Sec. 9 Dwarka Delhi. In this regard a DD NO. 65A dated 23.11.2022 has been lodged in P.S. Dwarka South, Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o-Unknown, Age: about 55 years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Sallow, Face: Round Built: Thin ID Mark: One Old Bandage in Left Leg, Wearing: Dark Blue colour T-Shirt and Black Grey colour Pant.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.



Sd/- SHO  
PS - Dwarka South, New Delhi  
Ph.No.11-25089336  
Mob.8750871023

DPI/3247/DWI/22

**U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.**  
Anpara Thermal power project

**E-Tender Notice**

**1. Short Term E-Tender Notice No: 07/CTD-I/ATPS/2022-23,** Online e-Bids are invited for the “Work of Coal Transportation by Road/RCR mode from various mines of M/s NCL to ATP Kakri Wharf wall and ATP Primary Yard.” E-tender has been uploaded on **26.11.2022** on <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Estimated cost of work: **Rs. 13,85,62,000.00** only. E.M.D cost **Rs. 14,00,000.00**. Last date of tender: **08.12.2022 at 12:00 Hrs.**

Total quality of work/supply, Tender specification and other term & condition is as per tender document available on the E-tender portal. Concerned Officer reserves the right to cancel the e-bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time.

पत्रांक : 2213 /मुआमि(स्तर-1)/अनारथ/कला अनु०      दिनांक 26.11.2022

**"Save Electricity for Nation"**

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**  
**See Section 82 Cr.P.C.**

Where as complaint has been made before me that one accused **Sonu @ Podhi** S/o Sita Ram Paswan, R/o A-750, Budha Marg, Mandawali, Delhi have Committed (or) is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 261/2017 u/s 356/379/34 IPC** has been registered at **P.S.I.P Estate, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sonu @ Podhi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sonu @ Podhi** has absconded (or) is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sonu @ Podhi** of **FIR No. 261/2017 u/s 356/379/34 IPC** has been registered at **P.S.I.P Estate, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.01.2023**.

By Order  
Sh. Vinod Kumar  
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate-03,  
Central Room No-150,  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/3232/CD/2022 (Court Matter)

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER N.R.E.P. KHUNTI**

**Very Short e-Procurement Tender Notice**  
**Two Envelope System (2<sup>nd</sup> Call)**

Tender Reference No. :- NREP/KHUNTI/F-2-6/2022-23  
Date :- 26/11/2022

1.	Name of the work	Construction of Block Public Health Unit and Two Units Doctor's Residence (With Conversation) in Block-Murhu,Dist.-Khunti.
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakh)	Rs. 113.19666 Lakh
3.	Time of Completion	120 Days
4	Date of Publication of Tender on website	28.11.2022 at 2:00 P.M
5.	Last date/Time for Submission of bids	5.12.2022 up to 5:00 P.M
6.	Date of Technical Bid opening of e-Tender	7.12.2022 at 01:00 P.M
7.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer, N.R.E.P. Khunti.
8	Contact no. & e-mail ID of e-Procurement officer	825722844 divisionnrep@gmail.com
9.	Last Date of receipt of bids fee, security and other Documents.	6.12.2022 Up To 3:00 P.M At Office of The Executive Engineer, N.R.E.P., Khunti.

Note:- Only e-Tender will be accepted. Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer  
N.R.E.P., Khunti

PR 283511 NREP (22-23)\_D

**PROVISION OF SECOND ENTRY AND DIRECT CONNECTIVITY TO YARD AND DIESEL SHED**

**Tender Notice No: 07 of 2022-23.**  
Dated: 23-11-2022; Open E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **E-Tender No. N-2022-23-07-SI-DSTE-MLG.**, Name of work: Gueahati-Yard remodelling for 24 Coaches length platform with provision of second entry and direct connectivity to Yard and Diesel Shed. Tender Value: ₹22,01,08,325.45; Bid Security: ₹11,50,600.00; E-tender will be closed at 15.00 hrs. on 25-12-2022 and opened at 16.00 hrs on 26-12-2022. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).  
Sr. DSTE, Maligaon  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
Serving Customers with a smile


**MANIPUR UNIVERSITY**  
CANCHIPUR-IMPHAL-75505  
MANIPUR

**TENDER NOTICE**  
Dated the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**MU/Cash/145/Chartered AC/2019** : Sealed Tenders are invited for engagement of registered Chartered Accountant Firm for Preparation of Annual Accounts for the financial years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Details can be downloaded from the University website [www.manipuruniv.ac.in](http://www.manipuruniv.ac.in)

Sd/-  
Purchase Officer  
Manipur University


**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**

DRM (Electrical) NWR Ajmer on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **1. Tender No.: DRM-Elect-94-22-23. Name of work:** All DIV-Replacemnt of VCB at Ajmer station (All stn.) and Railway Hospital (Rly. Hosp), Ajmer area on age cum condition basis. **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 1477094/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 298600/- **Date of closing E-Tender:** 19.12.2022. **2. Tender No.: DRM-Elect-95-22-23. Name of work:** All DIV: Provision of solar operated water pumping system and solar street lighting system at ABU road-Falna & Marwar-Mavli Sections. **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 2086415/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 41700/- **Date of closing E-Tender:** 19.12.2022. **3. Tender No.: DRM-Elect-96-22-23. Name of work:** All Div: Provision of 02 nos. Lifts at All Station (02 nos. PF-1 & PF- 4/5, both at DOZ side) and Provision of 02 nos. Lifts at ABU Road Station (02 nos.- PF no. 1 & PF-2/3, both at All end). **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 1281622/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 25600/- **Date of closing E-Tender:** 19.12.2022. The details of above tender are available on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **996-AK/22**

Follow us :  /NWRRailways

**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**OPEN TENDER NOTICE**  
(Through e-Tender)  
**E-TENDER NO.: 33225592**  
**DATE : 24.11.2022**

On the behalf of President of India e-Tenders are invited by the Sr. DMM/DSJ NWR, Jodhpur. **Name of item:** 1. Computer Hardware SMC (Station Management Console) Terminal for installation of ATVMs (Thin client, Printer, Card Reader) As per the detailed specification attached. 2. Automatic Ticketing Vending Machine (ATVM) Smart Card Based, Consist of Touch Screen, Embedded client, 4K Rfid Reader/Writer, Thermal Printer 1 KVA UPS, OS and RDBMS license with three years warranty As per the detailed specification attached. **Approximate Cost of items:** RS. 67,83,200.00 (Rs. Sixty Seven Lakh Eighty three thousand two hundred Only). **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 1,35,660.00 (Rs. One Lakh thirty five thousand six hundred sixty only). **Last date and time for Submission of e-tender and Opening of e-tender: 15.12.2022 before 14.25 Hrs. Web site from e-tender forms can be obtained: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) Address of NIT issuing Office.: Office of the Sr. DMM/ DSD, NWR., Jodhpur-342001 (Rajasthan). **Note:** 1.Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be summarily rejected. 2. Cost of tender document & EMD online through e-transfers i.e. through payment gateway facility on the IREPS website. **994-AK/22****

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**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**Tender Notice No.:- Elect/TRD/MB/2022-23/TN-09**  
**Date : 25.11.2022**

Department	Electrical (TRD)
Tender No.	T-13-TRD-MB-22-23
Name of Work	Augmentation of 105 sqmm Jumper with 160 sqmm Jumpers at Isolators over MB Division.
Tender Closing Date & Time	19.12.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Rs. 2,23,33,814.64/- (Including GST @18%)
Bid Security (Rs.)	Rs. 2,61,700/-
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	NIL
Validity of offer (Days)	45 days
Period of completion	18 Months
Website particulars & Address of office	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, Moradabad.
	3165/2022

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER**  
**E-TENDER NO: 34225333**  
**DATE : 25.11.2022**

Sr. DMM, DRM Office, Bikaner, acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 34225333 Closing date 26.12.2022 at 14.25 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original / revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Description of Work :** Supply Installation & Commissioning of Automatic Ticketing Vending Machine (ATVM) Smart Card Based, Consist of Touch Screen Embedded client 4K Rfid Reader/ Writer, Thermal Printer 1 KVA UPS, OS and RDBMS license with three years warranty. **Quantity :** 41 Nos. **Date and time for submission of tender:** Submission of E-Tender up to 26.12.2022 at 14.25 hrs. **Website Particular:** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **992-AK/22**

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**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**  
**Open Tender Notice No.:**  
**SrDTE-TRD-BSB-2022-23-T17**  
**Date:- 25.11.2022**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, North Eastern Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites sealed "Open" E-Tender for the following work: **Name of work:** Replacement of learned mast with new mast in Varanasi Division of NER. **Tender reference no.:** SRDTE-TRD-BSB-2022-23-T17, **Approx. Cost (in ₹):** ₹ 44,15,067.42, **Earnest Money/Bid Security:** ₹ 85,300/-, **Cost of tender documents (in ₹):** Nil. **E-Tender closing date and time:** 19.12.2022 up to 15:00 Hrs. **Completion period :** 6 Months. **Note:** (1) E-Tender Online will be submitted up to 15:00 Hrs on date 19.12.2022, (2) For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the Official website of Indian railway i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/TRD  
**CPRO/Elect-126**      Varanasi  
About any passenger amenity complain  
SMS on Mobile No. 9678404593  
"DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

**AGRA SMART CITY LIMITED**  
**AGRA NAGAR NIGAM, AGRA**  
Advertisement No: 1205/ASCL/2022-23 Date 26.11.2022  
Agra Smart City Limited (ASCL) is seeking suitably qualified people to submit Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for the following vacancy:

S. No.	Designation	No. of Posts	Minimum Qualifications	Minimum Experience	Salary Offered
1.	Urban Designer	01	Urban Planner (Graduate in Planning/ Urban Designing)	05 years' experience in Urban Planning with 2 years' experience in area based planning.	Rs. 60,000/- (Sixty Thousand) per month

**Brief job description:** Ensuring set standards are met in Smart city projects relevant to expertise as well as any other works as maybe assigned by the management.  
**HOW TO APPLY**  
Candidates fulfilling the above-mentioned criteria must:  
1. Fill employment form available of through following link: <http://agrasmartcity.in/careers.aspx>  
2. Send fully filled employment form, complete CV and contact details to: [growthmodeconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:growthmodeconsulting@gmail.com) [kalyani@growthmode.co.in](mailto:kalyani@growthmode.co.in) [mrk@growthmode.co.in](mailto:mrk@growthmode.co.in) [agrasmartcitylimited@gmail.com](mailto:agrasmartcitylimited@gmail.com)

**RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, LUCKNOW**  
**Tender No. RE/LKO/S28225161**  
**OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**  
Closing Dt. 21/12/2022 at 11.00 Hrs.


Open E Tender in single bid system is invited by the Dy. Chief Material Manager, Railway Electrification, Lucknow for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following item:-

T.No. 28225161	i Description
	Supply, Installation, testing & commissioning of Block Proving by Digital Axle Counter using UFSBI for single line operation as per IRS Specification No. IRS- S- 105/2012 ( ver.0) or latest amendment. This consist of (1) UFSBI and Block Panel for single line operation. (2) MODEM compatible with UFSBI system. ( For secondary/backkup media ) (3) Automatic media changeover of modems working on redundant channels for data transmission on OFC/ Quad for UFSBI. Universal Fail Safe Block Inter face (UFSBI) & Block panel for single line operation as per details below: i) Universal fail-safe Block Interface (UFSBI) as per RDSO spn. No. RDSO/SPN/147/2005 or latest amendment ii) SM Panel RDSO Drg. No. RDSO/S/32019 ( Tentative). Iii) Relay rack with due locking and sealing arrangement as per RDSO Drg. No. RDSO/S/32020 including relays for each relays rack ( QN1- 22 Nos., QNA-06 Nos., QL1-02 Nos. & Timer – 1 No.) Qty-02 nos. <b>INFORMATION BY PURCHASER</b> (As per para 15.0 of IRS spn No. IRS-S-105/2012 ver.0) 15.1 Requirement – for SINGLE LINE BLOCK 15.2 Communication media from station to station – OFC & Quad both 15.3 Distance between Block panel & relay rack – 25 to 30 mtrs & Type of cable between them – 6 Quad cable 15.4 Any other information, as deemed fit-nil
ii Qty	04 Pairs
iii Approximate Cost	₹4782879.96
iv Earnest Money	₹95660
v Inspection	RDSO
vi Validity of Offer	90 Days
vii Delivery Schedule	Delivery to commence within 01 Day after issue of contract and to be completed within 60 Days thereafter.

1.The cost of Earnest money deposit through net Banking, debit Card,Credit card or payment gateway only as per payment option available in <http://www.ireps.gov.in> web site. Payment in any other form shall not be accepted. 2.For other details and download the entire Tender Paper, please visit website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 3. Manual offers are not accepted against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. 4. Railway reserve the right to accept/reject any or all tenders without assigning reasons to any or all tenders. 5.IRS Conditions of Contract: The Contract shall be governed by latest version (along with all correction slips) of IRS conditions of Contract, and all other terms and conditions incorporated in the tender documents.

**Dy. Chief Material Manager**  
Railway Electrification, Lucknow  
For & on behalf of the President of India

PR/289/2022 (V)      "Serving Customers with a Smile"      [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

**उ० प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन**  
**कार्पोरेशन लि० ई-निविदा**  
**आमंत्रण सूचना** अनुभवी फर्मों/ठेकेदार / कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत पारेक्षण

मण्डल मेरठ के अन्तर्गत निम्न कार्यो हेतु मोहर बन्द ई-निविदायेँ ई-पोर्टल ([www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in)) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाते है। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, प्रोहर राशि एवं निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क जमा करने तथा अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर लॉग आन करें। निविदा का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:- ई-निविदा संख्या, कार्य का विवरण, निविदा के प्रथम भाग खुलने की दिनांक, प्रोहर राशि एवं निविदा का मूल्य (कर सहित) को क्रम में पढ़ा जाये। 1. टी-64/22-23 (अति अल्पकालिक) :- मे० एन.सी.आर.टी.सी. के अनुग्रेच पर 132 के०वी० मोदीपुरम-सरनहा एवं 132 के०वी० मोदीपुरम-कंकरखेडा ट्रान्समिशन लाईन, एन.सी.आर.टी.सी. के मोदीपुरम डिपो निर्माण में आने के करण उक्त लाइनों के डायवर्जन से सम्बन्धित कार्य। यह कार्य विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड-द्वितीय मेरठ के अन्तर्गत किया जायेगा। दिनांक 03.12.2022,रु. 2,96,000.00 /- ,रु. 2950.00 /- 2. टी-65/22-23 (अति अल्पकालिक) :- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र मोदीपुरम-द्वितीय के परिचालन से सम्बन्धित कार्य। दिनांक 03.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00 /- रु. 590.00 /- 3. टी-66 /22-23 (अति अल्पकालिक) :- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र मोदीपुरम का 02 माह हेतु अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। दिनांक 03.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00/-,रु. 590.00 /- 4. टी-67 /22-23 (अति अल्पकालिक) :- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र कंकरखेडा का 02 माह हेतु अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य दिनांक 03.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00/-, रु. 590.00/- 5. टी-68 /22-23 (अति अल्पकालिक) :- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र पतारुत का 02 माह हेतु अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। दिनांक 03.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00/- रु. 590.00/- 6. टी-69 / 22-23 (अल्पकालिक) :- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र मुण्डाली का 01 माह हेतु परिचालन से सम्बन्धित कार्य दिनांक 13.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00/-, रु. 590.00/- 7. टी-70/22-23 (अल्पकालिक):- विद्युत पारेक्षण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी० नंगली किडौर-मुण्डाली लाईन के विभिन्न लोकेशन के मध्य क्षतिग्रस्त कंडक्टर को बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। दिनांक 13.12.2022, रु. 2,000.00/-, रु. 590.00/- हस्ता./- **अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेक्षण मण्डल, 130-डी, "पारेषण भवन" विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाये" प्रयांक./नं. 3009 वि०ण०म०/ ईंटीसी/मेरठ/एम्पटी/टेंडर दिनांक/ 26/11/2022**

## Remarks on women: Ramdev gets notice

*Mumbai:* Taking a note of Yoga guru and businessman Ramdev’s alleged objectionable statement about women, the Maharashtra State Women Commission on Saturday served a notice to the latter asking him to clarify his stand in three days.

Ramdev at the function in Thane on Friday had said, “Women look good in sarees, women look good in salwar suits too, and in my eyes, they look good even if they wear nothing.” Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis’s wife Amruta and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde’s son and Lok Sabha MP Shrikant Shinde were present when the incident took place.

Opposition NCP protested against the statement made against women . Women workers of the NCP garlanded Ramdev’s photo with chappals.

Maharashtra Legislative Council Deputy Chairperson Neelam Gorhe said that Fadnis and other women who were present there should have protested against the comment. ENS



Website: [pchidambaram.in](http://pchidambaram.in)  
Twitter @Pchidambaram IN

These are questions we must ask. But the voices of those asking them are drowned out by the raucous noise that comes from the other side. As an Indian who remembers well that 'old India' that is slowly disappearing, my favourite memories are of festivals like Diwali and Eid that were celebrated by Hindus and Muslims coming together to eat and rejoice. Festivals should bring people together in fun and festivity. This is what Thanksgiving does.

# 15 SUNDAY STORY

## THE SUNDAY PROFILE

# The long hand of the ED

Under Sanjay Kumar Mishra, the ED has often been called “the new CBI” for the alacrity with which it has moved in political cases and ensnared many in the Opposition. DEEPTIMAN TIWARY tracks the journey of the reclusive officer who began as an immunology researcher in Lucknow

**₹** 65,000 CRORE. That’s an amount that could fund the annual budget of many of the smaller states in the country. It’s also the value of assets attached by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the past four years alone. The figure captures the ferocity with which the agency has been dealing with cases of money laundering under the leadership of its chief, Sanjay Kumar Mishra.

In fact, 65 per cent of all attachments carried out by the ED in the past 17 years — since the central agency began probing money laundering cases — have been made under his signature, with the agency carrying out more than 2,000 raids.

Such is the terror the agency invokes that it is touted as the “new CBI” by Opposition parties, many of whose leaders have been at the receiving end of the ED’s stick. As they cry foul over the agency allegedly being a tool in the hands of the government, they point to its role as a “catalyst” in how political alliances are made and broken.

Earlier this year, as the BJP and a break-away faction of the Shiv Sena joined hands to form the government in Maharashtra, there were chants of “ED, ED” in the Assembly.

Recently, West Bengal BJP chief Dilip Ghosh unwittingly underlined the aggression of the agency when he said the government had to send the ED to raid corrupt TMC leaders as the CBI was dragging its feet in those cases. In October 2021, while addressing a public gathering, BJP’s Sangli MP Sanjay Patil joked that the ED would not chase him since he was a member of the ruling party. He was only echoing Congress turncoat from Maharashtra Harshwardhan Patil, who had earlier said in a lighter vein that he had started sleeping well after joining the BJP.

Critics also point to the successive extensions granted to Mishra to say that he is central to the government’s playbook. Last week, the Centre gave another one-year extension to Mishra, a day before he was to retire on November 18. This is an unprecedented third extension for the ED chief, who will be in office till November 18, 2023 — an executive-mandated tweak that will see him serving for five years, three years more than what was originally fixed when he was appointed to the post on November 19, 2018.

ED officials have brushed aside these as insinuations, saying the agency has only proceeded against the “corrupt”, and maintained that its actions cannot be termed political as it follows cases already registered by other agencies.

For a bureaucrat who has had such an impact, Mishra did not start out to become one.

Born in a middle class family in Lucknow, Mishra has a Master’s degree in Biochemistry from Lucknow University. He then joined the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) as a senior research fellow and is said to have authored several papers on immunology.

It was on his family’s persuasion that Mishra appeared for the civil services exams, clearing it in his first attempt. After joining the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) in 1984, his first posting was in Gorakhpur, UP, as assistant director in the Income Tax department.

Within four years, he had his first stint with the ED when he joined it as an Assistant Director with charges of Agra and Jaipur. Those were the days when the ED only probed cases of foreign exchange violations under the now repealed Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

Sources say it was this stint that helped Mishra learn the ways of the agency. “He was meticulous and a stickler for details. More

importantly, he was a keen learner. He also had the ability to be empathetic without bending rules,” remembers one of Mishra’s colleagues from his early years.

According to the officer, around this time, Mishra carried out a raid in Jaipur on receiving information about a hawala transaction of Rs 20 lakh. During the raids, however, it was revealed that the suspect was a businessman from Sindh province of Pakistan and had to leave the country because of religious persecution. The hawala transaction

money was all of his wealth.

“Mishra felt very sorry for the businessman. Since a raid had been conducted, he did file a case, but some adjustments were made to ensure that the suspect was not judged very harshly,” the colleague said.

In 1994, Mishra came back to his cadre of Income Tax and was posted in Ahmedabad for a nine-year stint. He then moved to Kolhapur in Maharashtra and was back in Delhi in 2006, where he handled international taxation and transfer pricing.

His first exposure to policy formulation came when he was appointed in the Ministry of Finance as a Joint Secretary under Pranab Mukherjee and later, P Chidambaram. Some of his colleagues credit him with generating intelligence on HSBC papers that were brought from France, exposing accounts of the who’s who of India’s business fraternity who held offshore accounts. This was followed by a stint in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

With all this experience, when Mishra

joined the ED in 2018, he was “hands-on”, say his colleagues. “You tell him 10 per cent of a case and he will figure out the rest. He has an elephantine memory and can remember papers he saw six months ago. This forces us to keep everything ready as he can demand anything, any time. He is also a multi-tasker and can discuss multiple cases at the same time. Thanks to a very sound legal mind, our cases seldom falter in the courts,” said one of his junior officers in the ED.

Another official said Mishra’s unassuming personality can be rather misleading. “He is a tough task master,” the official said.

Sources in the ED said working with Mishra is demanding, not just mentally, physically too. “He runs 10 km every day and is a believer in intermittent fasting. Sometimes his meetings last for more than an hour and he keeps standing all through. So we end up standing too,” a senior ED official said.

Despite his high-profile role, Mishra, sources said, finds time to read Urdu poetry by Mirza Ghalib, Qateel Shifai and Faiz Ahmed Faiz. As someone who is known to “detest” social media, Mishra has managed to stay away from publicity. A Google search on him would not throw up more than two photographs, with practically no personal information.



Initially, the government, too, didn’t seem to notice Mishra. When the NDA came to power in 2014, Mishra, then a year into his tenure as a joint secretary in the all-important Ministry of Home Affairs, was among the 50-odd senior bureaucrats who were transferred out from key ministries in the first few months of the Modi government.

As Mishra went back to the Income Tax, he built two cases that caught the attention of the government — one against media house NDTV and the other against Young India, a Gandhi family-run organisation that owns the *National Herald* newspaper. Both cases were then in the realm of tax assessment; Mishra turned them into prosecutable offences.

By November 2018, Mishra was not only appointed the new chief of ED, the government went to great lengths to retain him beyond his two-year tenure. When the first extension granted to him was challenged in the Supreme Court, the government brought an Ordinance and later pushed through a Bill in Parliament to give the directors of ED and CBI conditional five-year tenures.

While the ED has rebutted the Opposition’s charge of being partisan, under Mishra, the agency has indeed gone after many Opposition politicians, including Congress leaders P Chidambaram, D K Shivakumar and Ahmed Patel, NCP leaders Sharad Pawar and Anil Deshmukh, and AAP leaders Satyender Jain and Manish Sisodia. ED has also filed cases against activists Harsh Mander, journalists Siddique Kappan and media houses such as NewsClick.

This expanding scope of the ED probes has created a problem of diffused supervision. In the past three years alone, Mishra has had to remove as many as 300 officials, with sources saying that in many cases, integrity was an issue.

To ensure fingers are not raised at the agency, Mishra has also set standard operating procedures (SoPs) for everything from issuing of summons to conducting searches, interrogations and making arrests. Entry to the new ED office is strictly regulated and officers are frisked even while going from one wing to another.

However, for all that he has done for the ED, the one allegation that Mishra would want to shake off quickly is of ‘political partisanship’.

## TAKE 5

### MEASLES OUTBREAK

**ABDUL RAHMAN ZEEYAI,**  
RELIGIOUS LEADER IN  
GOVANDI, MUMBAI



‘Everybody knows me and listens to me’

## ‘Rumours an issue... I tell people, look, I am alive after taking vaccines’

An outbreak of measles in Mumbai has led to the Brihatmumbai Municipal Corporation carrying out a sensitisation programme to fight vaccine hesitancy, roping in religious leaders. Among them is Abdul Rahman Zeeyai, a maulana from the Darul Uloom Haji Ali Khan in Govandi, who uses loudspeakers to reach out to residents and tell them why they need to get their children vaccinated.

### RUPSA CHAKRABORTY

#### 1 How important is it to vaccinate children?

As children, we have all taken these vaccines... all of us have a mark on our forearms. We never noticed any health complications. We always promote vaccination and believe in its safety. After all, scientists have spent years developing these vaccines.

#### 2 Why is the vaccine hesitancy in Govandi so strong?

There are several reasons. A lot of rumour-mongering happens here — that the vaccine has side-effects, that it kills people. All of this is completely false and I tell them, look, I am still alive after taking vaccines. Also, illiteracy is an issue. People here don’t completely believe the authorities who come for vaccination — some of them believe the vaccines will harm the community.

Also, sometimes after inoculation, children develop fever and rashes, which adds to their suspicion.

But these are issues that have always been around. What happened this time is that during the pandemic, sensitisation programmes got neglected, leading to this outbreak.

#### 3 What do you tell residents about vaccines and their safety?

We have taken up many initiatives. For instance, on Thursday (November 24), madrasa students walked from Rafi Nagar to Shivajinagar, holding placards that said, ‘Yes, we can defeat measles’ — in Marathi, English and Urdu.

After the Friday prayers, we spoke about immunisation and vaccination centres.

#### 4 What are hurdles you have been facing?

Since I live here in Govandi, among these people, everybody knows me and listens to me. But there is still a lot of resistance to the vaccine.

#### 5 What are the issues that people in Govandi face?

Govandi is a slum area with unhygienic living conditions, where families live along open drains. Diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria and dengue are very common here. Since it is near the Deonar dumping yard and the bio-medical waste plant, the air in the area is extremely polluted which affects the health of residents, especially of children. Also, a large number of children in the area have iron deficiency.

# Dark shadows in a village down the road

Last week, Mukroh, on Meghayala’s border, was thrust into the spotlight when a clash with Assam authorities led to the deaths of five villagers. ‘Others take this road too, but we suffer,’ they say

DEBRAJ DEB

IT’S 3 PM on Wednesday and the shadows have already started to lengthen on the road. Personnel of the Meghalaya Police holding automatic rifles patrol the all-weather road that goes all the way to the district headquarters of Jowai.

It’s here, on this road that cuts through Mukroh, a village in Meghayala’s West Jaintia Hills district, that a team of the Assam Police and forest personnel clashed with villagers early morning on November 22, leaving five of them dead. Also among the dead was a Assam forest guard. The incident thrust Mukroh, which sits on the border with Assam, into the uneasy glare of the spotlight and made it the centre of the latest flashpoint between the two states.

Perched atop the lush green hills of Laskein block, Mukroh has about 545 households with a population of around 4,000. Most of the residents are farmers who work on community fields located outside the village. The paddy farms overlook the inter-state boundary, where Assam has a small forest camp. Meghalaya, however, has no camp or check post on its side and a small team of the Meghalaya Police maintain vigil on this fragile boundary.

While the Assam authorities say Tuesday’s incident was over an alleged timber smuggling bid and that they chased down a vehicle with the contraband, villagers allege that they were on their way back from their community paddy fields, around



I am, their vehicle loaded with 3-4 sacks of rice and some fodder, when they were allegedly waylaid by the police.

“Around 3 am, as we were nearing our village, the Assam Police stopped us and pulled me and the others out of the vehicle. The policemen tortured us and thrashed us at a police outpost, calling us smugglers,” says Budky Sumer, 23, one of the farmers from Mukroh, whose arrest, as alleged by the villagers, led to the standoff and the police firing.



The road that cuts through Mukroh village goes right up to the border. Debraj Deb

Villagers claim all those who died in the clash — Thal Shadap, 60, Sik Talang, 53, Shirup Sumer, 39, Tal Nartyang, 42 and Nilkasi Dhar, 60 — were not protesters, but “simple farmers” on their way to their fields.

At her tin-roofed house in Mukroh, Thal’s wife Skhem Sten, 43, says, “We left our house at 7 am to work in the fields. Suddenly, we heard gunshots and we got separated. I hid in a nearby forest. After half-an-hour, I came out and saw my husband lying in a pool of blood.”

Mukroh village head Hamboide Sumer says, “Farmers from the village are falsely accused of being smugglers, whenever the authorities can’t find anyone or when villagers

refuse to pay taxes to forest personnel. The problem is worse during the paddy harvest season, when a lot of us move between the community farms and the village.”

Though Assam and Meghalaya share a 884-km, inter-state border, with both states in talks over resolving a long-pending border dispute at 12 locations, sources say Mukroh doesn’t fall under any of the disputed areas.

However, on Tuesday, soon after the firing, Assam issued a statement, claiming the incident took place “at Mukhrow under Jirikingding PS under (Assam’s) West Karbi Anglong district”.

Meghalaya Deputy Commissioner of

West Jaintia Hills district, Batlang Samuel, contested Assam’s claims and said Mukroh is “well within Meghalaya”, under the jurisdiction of the state’s Nartyang police station. He said Block-I, which is a part of the disputed areas between the two states, is, in fact, further from the village.

The initial flutter caused by Assam’s claims of Mukroh being inside its jurisdiction was put to rest when Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma called the incident a “conflict between Assam Police and the people of a village in Meghalaya”.

Despite not being part of the disputed area, Mukroh and its villagers say they bear the brunt of the boundary disputes — they talk of other incidents of alleged firing and of authorities chasing vehicles down the road. “Such incidents are not uncommon here. The road through Mukroh also connects several other nearby villages — Chanongthymmei, Arborg Phlang, Deinler and others. But because we are so close to the forest camp, we are the ones to suffer,” says village chairman Deibornmi Lamin.

Back at her home, Skhem Sten says her husband’s death brought home another painful memory — of 20 years ago, when her brother Dia Sten was killed, allegedly by militants.

“I have seen two of my own getting killed. The farmlands we work in are not our own; we are labourers. My elder son is a daily-wage worker but he hardly gets any work here. I don’t know what to do. I am hopeless,” says Skhem, who worries for her five children, the youngest seven years old.

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Musk also said Twitter ban on Trump was 'grave mistake'

## USA

## Musk: Will back DeSantis if he runs for President

Washington: Billionaire Elon Musk said on Friday he would support Ron DeSantis in 2024 if the Florida governor were to run for president. DeSantis has cemented himself as the Republican Party's top rising star. Political pundits have been doling out high marks to DeSantis, who is seen as a potential challenger to Donald Trump in the 2024 field of Republican presidential candidates. Trump announced 10 days ago he was running for election again. "My preference is someone sensible and centrist. I had hoped that would be the case for the Biden administration, but have been disappointed," Musk said. "Yes," he replied when asked if he would support DeSantis. **REUTERS**

## ITALY

## Landslide hits island, 1 dead, 10 missing

Milan: A woman was found dead and around 10 people were still missing on the southern Italian holiday island of Ischia after a landslide engulfed buildings during heavy rain on Saturday, a local Italian government official said. Torrential rain hit the port of Casamicciola Terme, one of the six small towns on the island, in the early hours, triggering flooding and bringing down buildings. "Currently the confirmed toll is one, a woman. Eight missing persons have been found, including a child, and there still are around 10 missing," the officials said. **REUTERS**

## CHINA

## Canadian pop star gets 13 yrs jail in rape case

Beijing: A Chinese court on Friday sentenced Chinese-Canadian pop star Kris Wu to 13 years in prison on charges, including rape. Beijing's Chaoyang District Court said Wu was given 11 years and 6 months for a 2020 rape, and 1 year and 10 months for the "crime of assembling a crowd to engage in sexual promiscuity" in a 2018 event in which he and others allegedly assaulted two women they had gotten drunk. It said a combined 13-year sentence was agreed on and Wu would be immediately deported after serving his time. **AP**

## GERMANY

## Govt seeks to ease rules for citizenship

Berlin: Germany's socially liberal government is moving ahead with plans to ease the rules for obtaining citizenship in the EU's most populous country. Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Saturday that Germany has long since become "the country of hope" for many, and it's a good thing when people who have put down roots in the country decide to take citizenship. "Germany needs better rules for the naturalisation of all these great women and men," Scholz said. Interior Ministry said on Friday draft legislation is "as good as ready." **AP**

## AT 35,183, DAILY CASES HIGH FOR THIRD STRAIGHT DAY

## End lockdown: Covid protests erupt in China's Xinjiang after deadly fire

REUTERS  
NOVEMBER 26

PUBLIC ANGER in China towards widening Covid-19 lockdowns across the country erupted into rare protests in China's far western Xinjiang region and the country's capital of Beijing, as nationwide infections set another record.

Crowds took to the streets on Friday night in Xinjiang's capital of Urumqi, chanting "End the lockdown!" and pumping their fists in the air, after a deadly fire on Thursday triggered anger over their prolonged Covid-19 lockdown, according to videos circulated on Chinese social media on Friday night.

Videos showed people in a plaza singing China's national anthem with its lyric, "Rise up, those who refuse to be slaves!" while others shouted that they wanted to be released from lockdowns.

Reuters verified that the footage was published from Urumqi, where many of its 4 million residents have been under



The fire in a high-rise building in Urumqi killed 10 people on Thursday night. AP

some of the country's longest lockdowns, barred from leaving their homes for as long as 100 days.

In Beijing, some residents under lockdown staged small-scale

protests or confronted their local officials over movement restrictions placed on them, with some successfully pressuring them into lifting them ahead of a schedule.

A crucial spark for the public anger was a fire in a high-rise building in Urumqi that killed 10 on Thursday night, whose case went viral on social media as

many internet users surmised that residents could not escape in time because the building was partially locked down.

Urumqi officials abruptly held a news conference in the early hours of Saturday to deny Covid measures had hampered escape and rescue. "The Urumqi fire got everyone in the country upset," said Sean Li, a resident in Beijing.

A planned lockdown for his compound "Berlin Aiyue" was called off on Friday after residents protested to their local leader and convinced him to cancel it. The residents had caught wind of the plan after seeing workers putting barriers on their gates. "That tragedy could have happened to any of us," he said.

By Saturday evening, at least ten other compounds lifted lockdown before the announced end-date after residents complained, according to a Reuters tally of social media posts by residents.

The Beijing government did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Saturday.

## FIRST ADDRESS AFTER ASSASSINATION BID

## Imran calls off march, says party will quit assemblies to push for snap polls

SAJJAD HUSSAIN  
RAWALPINDI, NOVEMBER 26

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan said on Saturday that his party had decided to resign from the provincial assemblies instead of marching on Islamabad to force the Shehbaz Sharif-led government to announce snap polls.

Addressing a massive rally of his PTI party in this garrison city, which houses the headquarters of the Army, Khan also alleged that "three criminals", who were behind the failed assassination attempt on him early this month, are waiting to target him again. Khan, who appeared with plaster on his right leg, has repeatedly alleged that PM Sharif, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and ISI Counter Intelligence Wing head Maj-Gen Faisal Naseer were behind the attack.

"We will not be part of this system. We have decided to quit



Imran Khan (centre) addresses a rally in Rawalpindi on Saturday. AP

all the assemblies and get out of this corrupt system," Khan said. "I will consult all chief ministers and party leaders to leave the assemblies," he said, adding that his party had decided not to go to Islamabad to avert any

destruction or chaos. Khan's party has governments in Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa as well as in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. "The movement of Haqeeqi Azadi will continue until genuine freedom is achieved," he said. During his nearly 80-minute address, he also talked about the sleaze in the country and accused the powerful establishment (Army) of tolerating corruption. **PTI**

## PM Deuba and Prachanda agree to stick together to form new govt in Nepal

SHIRISH B PRADHAN  
KATHMANDU, NOVEMBER 26

NEPAL'S PRIME Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and CPN-Maoist Centre chairman Pushpakamal Dahal Prachanda held a meeting on Saturday and agreed to continue their ruling five-party alliance as part of a new majority government in the country.

As the results of Nepal's parliamentary elections under direct voting come closer to an end, top political parties have intensified efforts for the formation of the new government.

PM Deuba and Prachanda

met at Deuba's residence in Baluwatar, Kathmandu, according to party sources. At the meeting, the two leaders discussed the current political developments and explored possibilities for the formation of the new government, said Ganesh Shah, Standing Committee member of the CPN-Maoist Centre.

"The two leaders have reached an understanding to continue the present ruling alliance," he said, exuding confidence that the five-party alliance will have enough strength in parliament to form a majority government. The five-party ruling alliance has secured 82 seats so far. **PTI**

## Irene Cara, singer-actor who won an Oscar and two Grammys, dies at 63

New York: Oscar, Golden Globe and two-time Grammy winning singer-actor Irene Cara, who starred and sang the title cut from the 1980 hit movie "Fame" and then belted out hit "Flashdance... What a Feeling" from 1983's "Flashdance," has died. She was 63.

Her publicist, Judith A Moose, announced the news on social media, writing that a cause of death was "currently unknown." Cara died at her home in Florida. The exact day of her death was not disclosed. "Irene's family has requested privacy as they process their grief," Moose wrote. "She was a beautifully gifted soul whose legacy will live forever



Cara has also won a Golden Globe award. AP

through her music and films." During her career, Cara had three Top 10 hits on the Billboard Hot 100, including "Breakdance," "Out Here On My Own," "Fame" and "Flashdance... What a Feeling," which spent six weeks at No. 1. Tributes poured in on Saturday, including from Deborah Cox, who called Cara an inspiration. **AP**



Volodymyr Zelenskyy hosts international summit in Kyiv to discuss food security and exports with leaders of Belgium, Poland, Lithuania and Hungary. Reuters

## Russia likely removing nuclear warheads from missiles and firing: UK

## Freezing Ukraine works to restore grid

AGENCIES  
NOVEMBER 26

RUSSIA IS likely removing nuclear warheads from ageing nuclear cruise missiles and firing unarmed munitions at Ukraine, Britain's military intelligence said on Saturday.

The defence ministry said open source imagery shows wreckage of an air launched cruise missile fired at Ukraine, which seem to have been designed in the 1980s as a nuclear delivery system, adding that ballast was probably being substituted for the warheads.

Such a system will still produce damage through the missile's kinetic energy and unspent fuel. However, it is unlikely to achieve reliable effects against intended targets, the ministry added in its daily intelligence update posted on Twitter.

"Whatever Russia's intent, this improvisation highlights the level of depletion in Russia's stock of long range missiles", the ministry said. Meanwhile, the Ukrainian authorities endeavoured on Saturday to restore electricity and water serv-

ices after recent pummelling by Russian military strikes that vastly damaged infrastructure, with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy saying millions have seen their power restored since blackouts swept the war-battered country days earlier.

Skirmishes continued in the east and residents from the southern city of Kherson headed north and west to flee after punishing, deadly bombardments by Russian forces in recent days.

"The key task of today, as well as other days of this week, is energy," Zelenskyy said in his nightly address late on Friday. "From Wednesday to today we have managed to halve the number of people whose electricity is cut off, to stabilise the system."

"In total, more than 6 million subscribers are affected. On Wednesday evening, almost 12 million subscribers were cut off," Zelenskyy added. He allowed himself a rare show of pique about how Kyiv authorities were faring, alluding to "many complaints" with the rollouts of "points of invincibility" in the capital. "Please pay attention: Kyiv residents need more protection," he said.

## China holds first meeting with 19 nations in Indian Ocean region, minus India

K J M VARMA  
BEIJING, NOVEMBER 26

CHINA HELD a meeting this week with 19 countries from the Indian Ocean region in which India was conspicuously absent.

The China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), an organisation connected with the Chinese Foreign Ministry, held a meeting of the China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation on November 21, in which 19 countries took part, according to a press release issued by the organisation.

The meeting was held in a hybrid manner under the theme of "Shared Development: Theory and Practice from the Perspective of the Blue Economy" in Kunming, Yunnan Province, it said.

Representatives of 19 countries, including Indonesia, Pakistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran, Oman, South Africa, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles, Madagascar,

## EXPLAINED A forum to counter India?

THE CHINESE forum apparently is aimed at countering India's strong influence in the Indian Ocean region where India-backed organisations like the Indian Ocean Rim Association, (IORA), which has a membership of 23 countries have taken strong roots.

Mauritius, Djibouti, Australia and representatives of 3 international organisations were present, it said.

India was reportedly not invited, according to informed sources. At the November 21 meeting, China has proposed to establish a marine disaster prevention and mitigation cooperation mechanism between China and countries in the Indian Ocean region, the CIDCA press release said. **PTI**

## SONG HELPED PAVE WAY FOR GLOBAL SUCCESS OF KOREAN POP

## 'Gangnam Style' brought K-Pop to the world, but haunted its creator

JIN YU YOUNG & VICTORIA KIM  
SEOUL, NOVEMBER 26

HE MAY not look it, in a spiffy double-breasted suit and a coiffure secured with enough hair gel to reflect the ceiling lights, but the 45-year-old music executive confides a secret as he rubs his temples: He's hung over.

But he doesn't mind nursing this headache, at well past 2 pm on a Thursday in Seoul. Some of his best songwriting ideas come to him, he said, in the malaise that follows a night of hard drinking.

The man doing the creative suffering is Psy, a onetime global internet sensation whose 2012 vi-

ral music video and earworm of a song, "Gangnam Style," became the first YouTube offering to surpass 1 billion views and had the world galloping along with him.

The outlandish but irresistibly catchy song and accompanying video — which has Psy doing the tune's signature horseback dance move in and around Gangnam, an upscale Seoul neighbourhood — achieved the breakthrough, worldwide success that had mostly eluded Korean pop acts, or K-pop, before then.

The video, which now has some 4.6 billion views, was so culturally pervasive in 2012 that Barack Obama was asked about it on Election Day. NASA astronauts recorded a parody, and a

North Korean state propaganda site evoked the dance move to mock a South Korean politician.

But for several years in the aftermath of all his viral fame, Psy said, the song's success haunted him. Even as he was thrust overnight into a Hollywood existence, getting chased around New York City by paparazzi, signing with Justin Bieber's manager and releasing a single with Snoop Dogg, internally he felt the pressure mounting for another hit.

"Let's make just one more," he said he kept telling himself. He moved to Los Angeles in an effort to get a global career going in earnest, an ocean away from his native South Korea, where he



'Let's make just one more,' Psy said he kept telling himself after the success. NYT

was both a fixture of the music charts and a source of comic relief on silly television variety

shows. But none of the attempts came close to replicating the formula that made "Gangnam Style" a global success.

Psy wasn't alone in trying to figure out how to reproduce the phenomenon. In South Korea, not only the music industry, but government officials and economists, too, were studying just what it was about the tune, the lyrics, the video, the dancing or the man that had vaulted the song to such singular levels of ubiquity.

And in the decade since the song and video first put South Korea's pop music on the map for many around the world, K-pop has become a cultural juggernaut, expanding out from markets in East and Southeast Asia to perme-

ate all corners of the world.

Artists, such as BTS and Blackpink, command devoted fans numbering in the tens of millions, and the bands wield an economic impact that rivals a small nation's gross domestic product. The fervor has spilled over beyond music into politics, education and even Broadway.

Some say Psy deserves much of the credit.

"Psy single-handedly placed K-pop on a different level," said Kim Young-dae, a music critic who has written extensively about the industry.

Now, 10 years on from his lightning-in-a-bottle moment, Psy, whose real name is Park Jae-sang, is back home in South

Korea, where he has started his own music label and management company and is trying to re-create the magic with the next generation of K-pop talent.

"The songs are written by the same person, the dance moves are by the same person and they're performed by the same person. Everything's the same, but what was so special about that one song?" Psy said. "I still don't know, to this day."

In global terms, Psy and his "Gangnam Style" are the epitome of a one-hit wonder. "If another good song comes along and if that thing happens again, great. If not, so be it," he said. "For now, I'll do what I do in my rightful place." **NYT**

# 17 ECONOMY

GOVT STICKS TO FISCAL DEFICIT TARGET OF 6.4% OF GDP FOR FY23

## Fiscal challenges loom as job plan, subsidies drive up expense

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 26

WITH GOVERNMENT expenditure surging beyond the budgeted levels on account of a rise in subsidies and the new recruitment drive, the Centre faces renewed challenges in meeting its fiscal deficit target of 6.4 per cent of the GDP for FY23.

While an upside in GDP calculations in nominal terms due to high inflation will likely help the fiscal arithmetic, additional levies in the form of windfall taxes and excise duties that were expected to potentially boost the government's revenue kitty during the year are now expected to come in at lower than expected levels. Though there is the cushion of incremental tax revenues, the government faces the prospect of walking a tightrope to manage its fiscal arithmetic as it simultaneously grapples with additional expenditure requirements of Rs 2.5-3 lakh crore, officials told *The Indian Express*. Incremental ex-

### EXCISE, CUSTOMS LAG

	Apr 1-Nov 10	Budget Estimate 2022-23
<b>Direct Tax</b>	<b>₹8,71,000</b>	<b>₹14,20,000</b>
(Income tax, Corporate tax)		
	<b>Apr 1-Sep 30</b>	<b>Budget Estimate 2022-23</b>
Central GST	₹3,41,349	₹6,60,000
Customs	₹86,267	₹2,13,000
Excise	₹1,39,874	₹3,35,000

Source: CGA, Finance Ministry

All figures in ₹ cr

penditure include the provisioning being done for the recently announced recruitment drive for 10 lakh personnel and the stepping up in allocations for security and administrative preparations for the G20 summit to be held in India over the course of the next year.

Though overall tax revenues have been boosted by buoyant direct taxes and steady Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections, both customs and excise duties and other indirect tax levies on

items outside of the GST regime are seen lagging behind, alongside windfall taxes on fuel. While windfall taxes are expected to garner around Rs 30,000-35,000 crore this fiscal, revenues from excise duties and customs are expected to fall short by an estimated Rs 90,000 crore from the Budget target, officials said.

Other revenue sources are also not showing a strong uptick with disinvestment yet to show full strength with just 43 per cent of

the overall Budget target of Rs 65,000 crore being collected in the first half of this financial year at Rs 28,382 crore.

The overall tax revenues, however, are seen significantly higher, with a gain of about Rs 3 lakh crore from GST and direct taxes in the form of income and corporate taxes as against the Budget target. Direct taxes are seen higher by 25 per cent from the Budget estimate of Rs 14.2 lakh crore, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman Nitin Gupta said last week. So far, net direct tax collections till November 10 rose 26 per cent from a year ago to Rs 8.71 lakh crore, accounting for 61.3 per cent of the total budget estimate for the fiscal. GST revenues accruing to Centre in the form of Central GST has been at Rs 3.4 lakh crore, nearly 52 per cent of the Budget estimate of Rs 6.6 lakh crore.

"Windfall taxes have not resulted in high revenues as was estimated earlier and the numbers are hardly going to make a big difference in the overall fiscal math. There are challenges for expendi-

ture in form of subsidies, which to an extent will get managed through additional GST and direct tax revenues. Some expenditure cuts could become necessary and we are considering partial borrowings from small savings," a senior government official said.

The government had accounted for Rs 3.18 lakh crore for food, fertiliser and fuel subsidies. Over Rs 2.5 lakh crore is estimated to be additional expenditure for these subsidies, which is unaccounted for in the Budget. Earlier this month, the Union Cabinet approved an additional Rs 51,875 crore for nutrient-based subsidy for fertilizers. In October, the government gave nod to extend the subsidised foodgrains programme beyond the September deadline only for 3 months amid concerns flagged by the Finance Ministry and any other extension beyond December would add to the fiscal stress.

Officials, however, maintain that the government will stick to its fiscal deficit target of 6.4 per cent of the GDP for FY23.

GEORGE MATHEW & SANDEEP SINGH  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 26

ON AUGUST 23, Gautam Adani led Adani Group, a conglomerate with diverse business interests, acquired 29.18 per cent stake in television channel NDTV Ltd, and said it will launch an open offer as required by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to buy another 26 per cent in the company. On November 22, Adani Group launched its open offer to acquire an additional 26 per cent stake in NDTV. The offer will remain open till December 5, 2022.

### What is an open offer?

According to SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) rules an open offer is an offer made by the acquirer to the shareholders of the target company inviting them to tender their shares in the target company at a particular price. The primary purpose of an open offer is to provide an exit option to the shareholders of the target company on account of the change in control or substantial acquisition of shares, occurring in the target company.

So, in the case of NDTV, as Adani Group has emerged as a large shareholder and with 29.18 per cent shareholding and it is likely to change the control structure of the company, it has to make an open offer to buy another 26 per cent stake so that minority shareholders willing to exit the company, may tender their shares.

### When is open offer triggered?

An open offer is triggered if an acquirer holds more than 25 per cent of the public shareholding in the company. Prior to 2011, when the new takeover norms kicked in, open offer got triggered if an acquirer owned more than 15 per cent of the public shareholding in a company. In August, Adani entities had acquired Vishvapradhan Commercial Pvt Ltd (VCPL) which had lent over Rs 403 crore to NDTV founders led by Prannoy Roy. VCPL had lent the amount in 2009-10 in exchange for warrants that allowed it to acquire a stake of 29.18 per cent in NDTV, trigger-



Gautam Adani, Chairman, Adani Group. File

ing the open offer.

### Why is the open offer price of Adani lower than market price?

Adani is offering Rs 294 per share for the acquisition of shares tendered under the open offer, whereas the shares of NDTV closed at Rs 386.8 per share on Friday. While questions are being raised over why the open offer price is lower than market price, Sebi rules say that the open offer price for acquisition of shares under the minimum open offer shall be highest of the 1) the highest negotiated price under the share purchase agreement triggering the offer; 2) the volume-weighted average price of shares acquired by the acquirer during 52-weeks preceding the public announcement; 3) highest price paid for any acquisition by the acquirer during 26 weeks immediately preceding the PA; and 4) volume weighted average market price for sixty trading days preceding the PA.

Since the price was lower prior to the acquisition of 29.18 per cent shares of the company the open offer price has been set in accordance with Sebi SAST regulations. In fact, between January 1, 2022 and Aug 1, 2022, the shares of NDTV traded between Rs 115 and Rs 272. The share prices started rising in August and went on to hit a high of Rs 567 on September 6, post Adani's acquisition of 29.18 per cent stake in the company.

### How many shares have been tendered?

Till Friday, 39.35 lakh shares of

NDTV had already been tendered under the open offer. That represents 6.1 per cent of the 6.44 crore shares of the company.

### Who are the biggest shareholders in NDTV?

The single-largest shareholder of NDTV, besides promoters Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy (32.26%) and the Adani Group (29.18%), is Mauritius-registered foreign portfolio investor (FPI) LTS Investment Fund Ltd with a 9.75% stake. It bought this stake in the quarter ended September 2016.

An analysis of LTS Investment Fund Ltd portfolio reveals that of the Rs 20,710.2 crore value of its shareholding as on June-end 2022 — the most recent quarter for which data is available — 97.78 per cent comes from Adani Group companies. The next big FPI shareholder in NDTV is Mauritius-based Vikasa India ELP Fund with a 4.42% stake in NDTV it acquired in the quarter ending September 2021. Other major shareholders include GRD Securities (2.82%), Adesh Broking House (1.5%), Drolia Agencies (1.48%) and Confirm Rebuild (1.33%). In fact, these four investors have director linkages with each other.

### What's after the open offer?

If the Adanis manage to get the required 26 per cent stake, the group's total stake will go up to 55.18 per cent, enabling it to take management control of the target company (NDTV). The acquirer will be able to bring in their own key management persons. If the Adanis fail to get a 50 per cent stake, they have the option to buy shares from other institutional investors. The Adanis may have to raise the offer price to get the required majority.

### Is there a scope for a counter offer by the Roys?

The Roys have the option to launch a counter offer to the open offer made by the Adanis at a higher price. Such an option depends on the financial muscle of the Roys. However, as they were unable to repay the loan taken from VCPL, it remains to be seen whether they will launch a counter offer. In any case, the Adanis can revise their original offer at a higher price and again counter the Roys.

## SECTOR WATCH ONLINE SERVICES

## Payment aggregator licence: RBI asks Paytm Payments Services to reapply

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 26

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) has asked Paytm Payments Services Ltd's (PPSL), the wholly-owned subsidiary Paytm, to reapply for the authorisation to provide payment aggregator services to online merchants.

PPSL has to resubmit the application within 120 calendar days for the payment aggregator services, as per a regulatory filing on Saturday.

The central bank has also barred PPSL from onboarding new online merchants. The company will seek necessary approval for past downward investment from One97 Communication Ltd (OCL) into it, to comply with FDI guidelines. OCL is the parent company of Paytm.

Last year, Paytm had transferred its online payment aggregation business to PPSL, which had applied to the RBI for authorisation for acting as a payment aggregator under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

Paytm said the action

### NEED TO RESUBMIT IN 120 DAYS

■ PPSL has to resubmit the application within 120 calendar days for the license

■ Paytm said the action will not have any material impact on its business and revenues, since the communication from RBI is applicable only to onboarding of new online merchants

will not have any material impact on its business and revenues, since the communication from RBI is applicable only to onboarding of new online merchants.

"We can continue to onboard new offline merchants and offer them payment services including all-in-one QR, soundbox, card machines, etc," the company said.

PPSL can continue to do business with existing online merchants, for whom the services will remain unaffected, it said.

## 'Biz travel to boost hotel industry revenue by 23%

The Indian hotel industry is likely to witness growth in revenue this fiscal over the pre-pandemic level, Crisil Ratings said in a report

**34%** Higher average room rates (ARRs) and occupancy will help the hotel industry log a strong improvement in profitability this fiscal

**23%** Revenue, on its part, will increase over the pre-pandemic level, due to business travel and continued traction in leisure travel

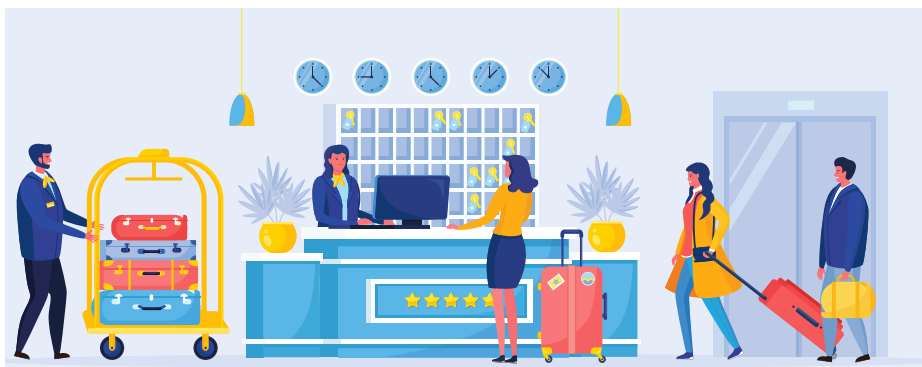
The report said that the gap between demand and supply will aid the improvement in ARR

While the sharp rebound in demand may spur an increase in capex, supply will take a while to catch up

Organised players are increasing their footprint in an asset-light way

They are increasing capacity by entering into hotel management contracts for existing standalone properties

Source: Crisil Ratings/PTI



## Security risk: US bans Huawei, ZTE equipment sales

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 26

THE BIDEN administration has banned approvals of new telecommunications equipment from China's Huawei Technologies and ZTE because they pose "an unacceptable risk" to US national security.

The US Federal Communications Commission said on Friday it had adopted the final rules, which also bar the sale or import of equipment made by Chinese surveillance equipment maker Dahua Technology Co, video surveillance firm Hangzhou Hikvision

### US Federal Communications Commission said on Friday it had adopted the final rules

Digital Technology Co Ltd and telecoms firm Hytera Communications Corp Ltd.

The move represents Washington's latest crackdown on the Chinese tech giants amid fears that Beijing could use them to spy on Americans.

"These new rules are an important part of our ongoing ac-

tions to protect the American people from national security threats involving telecommunications," FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel said in a statement.

Huawei declined to comment. ZTE, Dahua, Hytera and the Chinese embassy in Washington did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Hikvision said in a statement that its products don't threaten US security.

"This decision by the FCC will do nothing to protect US national security, but will do a great deal to make it more harmful and more expensive for US small

businesses, local authorities, school districts, and individual consumers to protect themselves, their homes, businesses and property," Hikvision said, adding that it will continue to serve US customers "in full compliance" with US regulations.

Rosenworcel circulated the proposed measure, which effectively bars the firms from selling new equipment in the United States, to the other three commissioners for final approval last month.

The FCC said in June 2021 it was considering banning all equipment authorizations for all companies on the covered list.

## 'Gear from neighbouring countries need checks'

New Delhi: India is going to record the fastest 5G rollout in the world and it is going to have the biggest success of the next-generation telecom service with the support of the government, a senior Nokia India official said.

While speaking at an event organised by the Foreign Correspondent Club on Friday evening, Nokia India Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Amit Marwah, without naming China expressed concern over 'infiltration equipment' in tele-

com sector from neighbouring countries.

"We (India) are not late, we are at the right time. In the rest of the country compared to other countries where the ecosystem has to develop. We have a 5G-ready ecosystem. We have 10 per cent of smartphones in India which are 5G ready. India is going to witness the fastest rollout of 5G which will be at least three times faster than what we have seen in 4G," Marwah said. **PTI**

## BRIEFLY Trade unions

New Delhi: A joint forum of ten central trade unions has decided to boycott the virtual pre-budget consultation with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on November 28, demanding a physical meeting with reasonable time to speak. Pre-budget consultation is an annual exercise under which representatives of different sectors give suggestions and raise demands to be addressed through the Budget.

### SBI chief

New Delhi: Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) Dinesh Khara on Saturday asserted that analysts and broking houses are praising the financial performance of the bank which reported its highest profits recently. **PTI**

## Strategic buys: Thin Black Friday crowds mark holiday shopping kickoff in the US

REUTERS  
NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 26

THIN CROWDS of inflation-weary consumers hunted for Black Friday deals at stores in big cities including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and other locales, marking the start of a US holiday shopping season crucial to retailers in an uncertain economy.

Many shoppers who opened their wallets said their purchases were strategic, not impulsive or splurges. "We've been waiting" for discounts, said Tulio Rose, 28, who picked up a big-screen TV at a Best Buy store in Los Angeles, while shopping with Barnisha Nill, 35. They saved about \$500 on the 85-inch (2.16-meter) Samsung TV for their new apartment.

About 166 million people were planning to shop from Thursday's



Shoppers at 4th Street at Market Street look for Black Friday deals in San Francisco on Friday. AP

Thanksgiving holiday through this coming "Cyber Monday," according to the National Retail Federation, almost 8 million more than last year. But with sporadic rain in some parts of the country, stores were less busy than usual

on Black Friday.

"Usually at this time of the year you struggle to find parking. This year, I haven't had an issue getting a parking spot," said Marshal Cohen, chief industry adviser of the NPD Group Inc.

"It's a lot of social shopping, everybody is only looking to get what they need. There is no sense of urgency," Cohen added, based on his store checks in New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. Online sales will reach between \$9 billion and \$9.2 billion this Black Friday, a report from Adobe Analytics showed. The projection is slightly ahead of the company's earlier forecast of \$9 billion, which would represent a 1 per cent increase from last year.

According to Adobe, US shoppers spent nearly 3 per cent more online on Thanksgiving Day with purchases made on mobile phones driving the increase. Adobe Analytics, which measures e-commerce by tracking transactions at websites, has access to data covering purchases at 85 per cent of the top 100 internet retailers in the US.

## Foxconn unrest risks shipments of iPhones, weighs on Apple shares

REUTERS  
TAIPEI, NOVEMBER 26

FOXCONN'S FLAGSHIP iPhone plant in China is set to see a further reduction in November shipments after the latest bout of worker unrest this week, a source with direct knowledge of the matter said on Friday, as thousands of employees quit.

The world's largest Apple iPhone factory has been grappling with strict Covid-19 restrictions that have fuelled discontent among workers and disrupted production ahead of Christmas and January's Lunar New Year holiday, as many workers were either put into isolation or fled the plant.

Following Wednesday's escalation that saw workers clash with security personnel, Foxconn could now see more than 30 per cent of the site's November production

### Following an escalation that saw workers clash with security personnel, Foxconn could now see over 30% of the site's November production affected, sources said

affected, the source said. The factory is the only one that makes premium iPhone models, including the iPhone 14 Pro, and the sources said it is unlikely to resume full production by the end of this month. Foxconn, formally known as Hon Hai Precision Industry Co, declined to comment. Apple, which said on Thursday it had staff at the factory, did not respond to a request for comment.

Apple shares were down 1.9 per cent in late morning trade on

Friday, while the benchmark Nasdaq index was down 0.3 per cent. "Apple is still viewed as one of the more resilient stocks in the tech sector... However, Apple continues to hold off from providing official guidance given the macro-economic uncertainty," Scholar added.

US Best Buy Co Inc said on Tuesday it expected high-end iPhones to be in short supply at stores this holiday season. KGI Securities analyst Christine Wang said if the current issue lasts through December, around 10 million units of iPhone production will be lost, which translates to 12 per cent lower iPhone shipment in the last quarter of 2022.

Wedbush Securities estimates many Apple stores now have 25 per cent to 30 per cent fewer iPhone 14 Pros than normal heading into the holiday shopping season.



POINT OF VIEW

Affirming Social Justice

Without an eco-system in our schools that recognises diversity, the foundation of our children's lives will remain shaky

ARTS etc

The Freedom in Surrender

Ahead of the release of his debut film *Qala*, Babil Khan opens up about his intense preparation for the role of a vocalist and the inevitable comparison with his father, Irrfan Khan



PHOTOS COURTESY: USTAD ASAD ALI KHAN FAMILY

As Ustad Asad Ali Khan's rudra veena is put up for sale by his son in a bid to survive, it raises questions on the artiste's legacy, the apathy it is met with, the orthodoxy and unwillingness of artistes to evolve and the complex relationship between talent and support

Suanshu Khurana

WHEN NOT travelling for concerts, Ustad Asad Ali Khan's rudra veena would be carefully placed on one side of his queen-sized bed in his Asiad Village home in the Capital. In 2010, when filmmaker Renuka George was making a documentary, *Ustad Asad Ali Khan – A Portrait*, she was intrigued. In jest, she asked him, "Khan sahab, why does your veena sleep on the bed next to you?" He earnestly replied, "When I sleep on the bed, how can my veena be on the floor." George recalls this conversation as a striking example of the musician's devotion to his instrument.

Khan's son Ali Zaki Hader remembers his father's fastidiousness differently. Besides transporting it with utmost care for concerts, Khan was also particular about the veena while he accepted stage honours, got photographed or made speeches. He'd make sure that Hader did not move away from the veena. "I had to wait upon the instrument till he returned. No one was allowed to touch it. I had to guard it with my life," says Hader, 45.

For Khan, one of the most significant players of the rudra veena, who passed away at 73 in the summer of 2011, the instrument was his inheritance, his prayer, his vocation, and the only commitment in life. Towards the end of George's film, a visibly emotional Khan says, "Many contemporaries said, no one will hear this, (that the) rudra veena belongs to a by-gone age. But, this is an instrument that can contain all else within it. Its purity is unequalled. If there is an instrument, the notes of which have reached god's dwelling, this is one, and the only one."



On October 26, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted that the export of Indian classical instruments had increased 3.5 times in the first six months of this fiscal year. The appreciation in the sale, which was attributed to COVID-19 and people aspiring to learn new pursuits, was also noticed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who retweeted Goyal, adding, "With Indian music gaining popularity worldwide, there is a great opportunity to further grow in this sector."

Only miles away in the Capital, Hader was busy organising a distress sale for his father's instruments, including his life's most significant equity — the rudra veena.

Eleven years after his death, Hader has put up Khan's rudra veena for sale on *VintageSitar.com*, a website that "acquires and restores ancient & vintage instruments to preserve them for future generations". The price is available on request. But the cost of the instrument is estimated to be about Rs 70 lakh. Along with Khan's rudra veena, which is a piece built in the '80s by Murari Adhikari of

the famed Kanailal and Brother in Kolkata, Hader has also made Khan's sitar and surbahar, both manufactured by the popular Kolkata makers, available for acquisition. "It's now a bid to survive," says Hader. There are stories, among the musicians, of him running a small tiffin service to make ends meet, though Hader does not mention it.

"With the rudra veena on auction, we'll lose Asad Ali Khan's lineage of thought. This veena is likely to end up in a museum abroad and we will lose an original Kanailal piece. Years later, we'll ask for it back, like the diamond (Kohinoor)," says Mumbai-based rudra veena player Mohi Bahaudin Dagar.

Hader hopes Khan's veena will get him food on the table and a roof above his head. He has been living in Khan's Asiad Village residence, which was allotted to him in the '80s under the government's eminent artists' quota. However, in 2014, the Central government decided to phase out all the quotas for artistes, journalists and sports persons and refused extensions on these homes. The houses were earmarked for Central government employees. Many artistes, Hader's neighbours in Bakhtawar Singh block, have been evicted in April and May, including dhrupad vocalist Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar, Kathak guru Geetanjali Lal and painter-sculptor Jatin Das.

Hader has been appealing for a transfer of allotment since he is a practising musician and continues a rare tradition of his father. The extension that he got earlier expired on Saturday. "I don't know what is to be done. I have approached the Nirman Bhawan to allow me 10 more days to find a rented accommodation," says Hader, sitting in a crumbling living room with an overpowering odour of dampness. Paint and plaster have peeled off the walls and a large part of the house is in disrepair.

Khan would not have approved. An "extremely exacting musician", he was always particular about how his house was kept. "I held on to the instrument for over a decade for emotional reasons. But when things got worse, no concerts and hardly any students to learn the art, I was left with no choice. In my current state, I am not capable of thinking of ragas or notes and their structures," says Hader, who lives with his sister Shazia. He has two students, who are supporting the family. One is a lawyer, who is also managing the



CARSTEN WICKE

court hearings and the paperwork for the case.

The veena now sits in a case under the living room *diwan*, to protect it from the dampness and plaster falling off the ceiling.



In Hindu mythology, Lord Shiva wanted to measure five notes that emerged from his mouth, for which he created the rudra veena, a micrometre. He was inspired by Parvati, who was resting with her arms across her breasts. This instrument "that looks like the upper body of a woman" also finds mentions in the Sama Veda. In earlier centuries, the rudra veena was a chamber instrument, played only in *Diwan-e-Khas* (hall of private audiences). At the turn of the 20th century, while the sitar and sarod grew popular, the rudra veena, once the king of instruments known for a certain universal purity of tone, lost its sheen. "It's a difficult instrument to play as well as listen to. One has to be brilliant to even be heard," says George.

Khan came from the Jaipur-beenkar (veena performers) *gharana* of the dhrupad tradition that was founded in the 18th century. His was an illustrious family of rudra veena players, beginning with his great-grandfather — the well-known Rajab Ali Khan, his granduncle Musharrarf Khan and his father Sadiq Ali Khan — all royal musicians in the Alwar, Jaipur and Rampur courts. Even in the '50s and '60s, when his father was teaching the instrument, it didn't find many takers.

MADE TO MEASURE

(Top) Ali Zaki

Hader with Ustad Asad Ali Khan at their Asiad Village home; Khan at Cité de la Musique, Paris, in 2003, looking at the rudra veena of his granduncle Ustad Musharrarf Khan

Mainly because it was heavy (about 10 kg), expensive (a veena costs about a lakh), and had to be customised to the player so that it fit the body, while playing which made it tougher than the sitar and sarod. Rudra veena is the only instrument that straddles the human body, when played. "This is an instrument that you wear; you bear the entire weight of it," Khan would often say.

"For the maestro that he was, Khan wasn't playing at important concerts like the Dover Lane Music Conference or at other big classical festivals. It was mostly the smaller concerts," says Carsten Wicke, a Kolkata-based German musician who learnt from Khan. In 1965, on cultural impresario Sumitra Charatram's request, Khan took up an assignment at Bharatiya Kala Kendra, Delhi, to teach the rudra veena. After a long and hard search, he found two students, who also didn't pursue the form. He relinquished the position three years later. In 1971, Delhi University also attempted a revival, but Khan ended up teaching the sitar there. "It takes years to master the rudra veena. It begins with learning vocal music, then the sitar, followed by the rudra veena. I still remember the excitement the day my rudra veena arrived. I could not sit still," says Hader, who was in his teens then.

Khan was often called arrogant for not taking in students. He'd retort that students can't even sit in *vajrasana* — the seated-kneeling posture — for a few hours at a stretch. "It requires everything that other Indian classical instruments do, and then some," he'd say.

Hader, who is Khan's sister's son, was legally adopted by Khan soon after he was born. He learnt *sina-ba-sina* (one-on-one in an oral tradition) from Khan, which meant that he imbibed a way of living, not just the art of playing. But not many opportunities came his way after Khan's passing. Hader didn't find opportunities through Sangeet Natak Akademi, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, or All India Radio. "Probably because either they don't care about the rudra veena or they were concerned about the lack of audiences," says Hader.

George feels that the reason is that Khan didn't promote Hader as much. "I wish Khan sahab had spoken about him or allowed him to play on stage as an accompanying artiste. That would have helped," says George. Dagar

sees a spark in Hader and has been speaking to organisers to help him get concerts. "He needs to hone his skill. That will happen when he gets smaller concerts, which will not only help him sustain himself but also give a certain confidence to try and carry the burden of a very difficult legacy. Also, he is teaching Khan sahab's music, but now he is so disenchanted that he wants to leave it," says Dagar, who always believes that music must be learnt without the pressure of a career for the magic to unfold.

But in Hader's case, the practice needed to find the magic is lacking mainly because life took unexpected turns. "One was Khan's untimely death and Hader not being ready for the stage at the time. Even I wasn't. But being from the West, probably I could be slightly bolder and take steps in learning more and promoting the rudra veena," says Wicke, who also learned from Bhopal-based dhrupad vocalist Ashish Sankrityayan and now manufactures rudra veenas, in collaboration with local craftspeople, in Kolkata.

After Khan's death, Hader moved to Pakistan for a couple of years to live with his family. In the last decade, while Hader did perform sporadically, after COVID everything dried up. Hader was not ready to do online concerts, nor did he want to approach the organisers. "My father gave me this knowledge, this heart of his, with so much love. I don't want to go down on my knees and ask for work, to those who don't know anything about the form," says Hader.

Wicke believes that as a musician in the present day and age, one can't dismiss self-marketing. "Times have changed. Khan sahab provided us with this rich training in this complex artform, but he wasn't training us to live in the real world to make that music heard. For him, the matter of success was orthodox — it was settled if you could master one raga in a lifetime, and that's beautiful, even manageable financially in those days with few concerts. But the generation after needs to evolve in order to survive, to go along with the tradition without letting go of the integrity of the music and yet keep a foot in the real world," says Wicke, and adds that even artistes such as Anisuddin and Nafisuddin Dagar, Ustad Sayeeduddin Dagar's sons, who were trained in dhrupad by their famed father, are unable to find space in many festivals today for similar reasons.

Currently, Hader is hoping for an extension from the court to stay in his father's house. "Since the government has decided to not value our worth, giving away my father's instruments is my only option. Music can only happen when you don't have to worry about a home and basic amenities," says Hader.

While the situation raises questions about the preservation of the artiste's legacy, there are also issues of not attempting to understand entrepreneurship and the unwillingness to adapt to the times. While teaching Hader, Khan would often say that he was the last one to play this style, "And I am not proud of it."



# THE KID STAYS IN THE PICTURE

Ahead of the release of his debut film *Qala*, Babil Khan opens up about his intense preparation for the role of a vocalist and the inevitable comparison with his father, Irrfan Khan

Alaka Sahani

**B**ABIL KHAN had to undergo an intense and immersive process to essay the role of a young vocalist in Anvita Dutt-directed *Qala*, set in pre-Independence India, that is scheduled to release on Netflix on December 1. After the initial readings, he was not allowed to go through changes to the script. Instead, nudged by Dutt, Khan tried to remember details of his character Jagan, use his imagination, and borrow from his own life to build the character.

At 24, Babil has the disarming candour of a newcomer savouring the magic of the silver screen even as he tries to find his feet in the industry. He speaks animatedly and his answers are unrehearsed and expressions unfiltered. "While doing *Qala*, I could feel all my anxieties rushing in when I faced the camera for the first time." Dutt, who has also written *Qala*, stepped in. "She took care of me as one would nurse a broken-winged pigeon that lands on one's balcony. I have grown as an actor since then. I am eagerly waiting for the audience's response and those from Baba's fans. That's part of the journey — to accept, surrender, and let go of your art and craft," he says.

Son of actors Irrfan Khan and Sutapa Sikdar, both National Drama School (NSD) graduates, Khan sounds thoughtful and pragmatic as he talks about the inevitable comparison with his legendary father that will follow the film's release. "That's bound to happen. Since Mamma was not in the lime-light, people don't make that comparison. But I am their son and I have inherited their genes. It's part of my journey to be compared to their legacy."

When Babil bagged the role of Jagan, he was still trying to come to terms with the loss of his father, who passed away on April 29, 2020. Two months later, Babil dropped out of his degree course in films under the University of Westminster to act in *Qala*. Sikdar, his mother, says she was "extremely

nervous" about the decision. "I was afraid that he would be unnecessarily judged for being Irrfan's son. I was also not sure if he was prepared, so soon after Irrfan left us," says Sikdar.

The timing of Babil's decision aside, it was a no-brainer why he chose acting. Since his childhood, he loved performing in front of a gathering. "Letting go of who you are and be totally engrossed where your insecurities have turned into the experiences of another human being... In that surrender to be able to affect someone else's soul is magical. That happened on stage when I was in Class VIII and acted in *The Comedy of Errors*. I didn't know then it's called acting. I just knew that whatever was that feeling, I wanted to explore that," says Babil, who is also passionate about music and writing.

After Babil's stage appearance ignited his desire to act, Irrfan kept feeding him "life lessons" integral to an actor's journey. Still, Irrfan had his concerns. "This art and craft involve a lot of soul torment. One has to put oneself through the discipline of consciousness. It's not just about how to train your body, but also your being," Babil recalls Irrfan telling him.

Sikdar's concerns were different. "The amount of sacrifice it requires to become a public person and to let go of your private life is huge. Everyone is not Irrfan Khan to be able to protect it. Babil is a very sensitive soul. To become an actor in today's time especially is more of a sum total of public perception — how many Instagram followers one has, for instance," she says.

With *Qala*, Babil — who counts among his inspirations his father, Christian Bale, Marlon



PHOTOS: NETFLIX

A STAR IS BORN

(Above) A still from the film *Qala*; Babil Khan

Brando and Dilip Kumar — is already following a path unusual for Hindi cinema. It's not a mainstream film. Babil, though cast in a crucial role, is not the protagonist. However, doing things differently has always been encouraged in the Khan household. "If people said parenting should be done in a certain way, Baba would kick that opinion out of the door. He would say: 'Tumhe khelna hai toh khelo (If you want to play, go play). If you want to break the lights, do that.' He didn't restrict the freedom of the child's soul," says Babil, iterating that Irrfan and he were "best friends".

Babil's social media posts after Irrfan's demise — personal, raw and emotional — were an attempt to show this unique facet of Irrfan's persona. "I was a nightmare. I used to speak my heart and mind. It was cathartic... Baba is one actor who didn't care about the industry and its *taam-jhaam* (showing off). It took him a lot of time to gain acceptance. Apart from his family, it's his fans who were loyal to him. After he passed away, it was important for me to keep him alive and share with his fans things that they can cherish."

How would have Irrfan reacted had he watched *Qala*? "Baba would have been happy. I can imagine the laughter we would have shared after watching it and, also, being cuddly. We were very huggy-buggy types. Then, he would have said: 'Now, let's get back to work'," says Babil, who will be seen in the YRF's web-series *The Railway Man* after this, as well as in a Shoojit Sircar movie. "The most important growth in me since *Qala* has been not to fear the pressure. Finally, I am enjoying acting as I did in Class VIII. Send me to workshops. Make me perform. I will do it," he says.



AMIT MEHRA

COLOUR THEORY

Artist Paresh Maity

## ‘Nature is spontaneous and that defines my work’

Artist Paresh Maity on his biggest multi-city exhibition till date and why he keeps experimenting with mediums

Vandana Kalra

**K**KNOWN FOR a visual vocabulary that spans multiple mediums, in a career of over four decades, artist Paresh Maity, 58, has addressed numerous themes and brought to life cities from across the globe. In his biggest exhibition that travels across four cities (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bengaluru) over five months, he is showing over 450 works that combine paintings, large scale installations, sculptures and soundscapes. The Delhi-based artist on experimenting with mediums and what it is like to belong to a family of painters. Excerpts:

**What drives you to constantly experiment with new mediums?**

The universe, I feel, is *nirakar*, without any shape. Nature is spontaneous and that is something that defines my work. When I begin, I let the form emerge. Each medium has its own texture, suitability. While I find watercolours extremely beautiful, oil offers a range of colours. Though I have worked on a huge scale with both, there is still some limitation to the size. That obsession with size is fulfilled with sculptures. There are certain forms that appear in my dreams that can only be expressed in sculpture. I am not looking for a subject or object, they are looking for me. I have worked with motorbike parts, bells, metal cages, the possibilities are endless. I've also made two short films — *The Magic of Monsoons: Montage, Moments, Memories* (2011) and *The Mystic Melody: A Day in the Golden Desert* (2010). In this exhibition, I have worked with textile for the first time. On the other hand, *Urbanscape* is one of the largest bronze sculptures in India. It is 26-feet long and weighs 7,000 kg.

**You are exhibiting ceramics for the first time, too.**

I still remember, as an MFA student, I had visited the Picasso Museum in Paris where I saw his ceramics and was com-

pletely mesmerised. I have been quietly working in the medium for over a decade and finally decided to exhibit them, as I felt I now had a collection that I wanted to share. Unlike my paintings, here I have worked in monochromes. Also, with ceramics one has to consider that you can never be sure of the colour after it is baked or even how many pieces will come back intact from the kiln — it's also a revelation for the artist.

**Water and light are two important elements in your work.**

In Tamluk (a town in West Bengal), I grew up surrounded by lakes, ponds and rivers. Since then, I have always been attracted to water. The first painting I made had a boat. Water is life itself. Likewise, light is also a source of life. As an artist, understanding light is important to analyse the numerous shades. I only paint during the day and twilight is my favourite time of the day, be it in Venice or Varanasi.

**As a teenager you ran from home to Delhi to pursue art. How is it to be part of a family of artists now?**

When you are young, so many people offer career advice. My father's colleagues insisted that I give the Joint Entrance Examination for medical and engineering, but I wanted to study art. So, I ran away to Delhi till my family finally agreed to let me take admission in Government College of Art and Craft, Kolkata. For six years, I travelled for four hours, since I did not have the money to stay in Kolkata. But when I look back, those were exciting times. I came to Delhi for my post graduation. My parents were, of course, happy after they saw how my career shaped up. My father is no more but my mother is keen to know about my exhibitions. Now, we also have so many artists within the family, my wife (Jayasri), son (Rid), Sakti da (Burman, uncle), his wife (Maite Delteil), their daughter Maya. We often discuss art, but all of us have a distinct vocabulary and don't really influence each other.

## ‘Counter propaganda is also propaganda’

At the recently concluded Marrakech International Film Festival, Anurag Kashyap spoke of his upcoming film, moving away from gangster-*giri*, and emerging from a long funk

Shubhra Gupta

**You say you haven't been yourself for four years. What happened?**

I imploded, *na*. I went into massive depression. But I kept working. My way of dealing with things is to go to films, where I pour out everything. *Maine Mukkabaaz* (2017), *Sacred Games* (2018-2019), *Lust Stories* (2018), *Ghost Stories* (2020) *Kiya, aur yeh (Almost Love With DJ Mohabbat*, his latest, starring Alaya F and Karan Mehta) *bhi kar raha tha*. The film started in London, that was the time I'd left from India.

**Was that after the Bombay Velvet fiasco?**

No, this was the time my daughter started getting trolled, getting rape threats. She started getting anxiety attacks. So, I went off Twitter in August 2019, and went to Portugal. I was shooting in London. When the Jamia Millia thing (In December 2019, Delhi police entered the campus by force for a face-off with students) happened, I came back to India. I was like *yeh mujh se bardasht nahin ho raha, koi kuchh bol nahin raha hai* (I can't bear it, no one's speaking up). I started speaking (on Twitter) again. I was shooting *Almost Love...* in Dalhousie, and the lockdown happened. Film incomplete *reh gayi* (the film remained incomplete). Then this *Taandav* (the 2019 web-series on Amazon which ran into trouble) thing happened, and one of my projects got stalled. I imploded. I went off Twitter. I went into rehab three times, had a heart attack, my health went down, I didn't know how to deal with it. Slowly, I crawled back. I'm myself now. But I still went on mak-

ing films. Unlike others, I don't have the luxury to wait. I don't do massive-budget films which can sustain my people, my team.

**I remember around the time of *Black Friday* (2004) when nothing was going your way, you sounding exactly the same, the depression, the darkness...**

Yes, I was in the same zone, but at that time I had nothing to lose. There were no dependents on me. *Kuchh nahin ho raha tha* (nothing was happening), but I could go on. This time, it was different. My films had stopped, so acting *bhi kar raha tha* (I was acting, too).

**I saw the ads with Shah Rukh Khan (for a Disney Hotstar show)...**

That was fun. I like anything self-deprecating. *Apna mazaak udao toh chalega, uske through hum bahut kuch keh sakte hain* (You can say a lot by poking fun at yourself). I've lived with *Almost Love...* for a long time. It was written with the idea of talking to young people in the process of trying to figure out my relationship with my daughter. My therapist told me, you are a migrant to their world. They are the natives, they're dealing with the consequences of your actions. I wanted to make a film where we see the consequences of the actions of the patriarchy. The villain in the film is patriarchy, the most impact is on the girl, *ladka toh nikal jaata hai* (the boy manages to go scot-free).

**Yes, that last bit is as true even today.**

*Ab toh aur bhi mushkil ho gaya hai* (It's more difficult now). *Ek time jab logon ne inter-caste, inter-religious relationships accept kama*



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LOVE AAJ KAL

(From left) The lead pair of *Almost Love* with DJ Mohabbat, Alaya F and Karan Mehta, with Anurag Kashyap at the film's premiere in Morocco

*shuru kar liya tha* (There was a time when people had started accepting inter-caste, inter-religious relationships), at least in the bigger cities. But I didn't want to make that film. Nagraj (Manjule) has already made it (*Sairat*, 2016) beautifully. My film is about young people finding themselves, finding love, looking for it, being hungry for it. Through that, I wanted to talk about our prejudices, predatory behaviour, homophobia, a complete unwillingness among the older generation to understand.

**So is it still an Anurag film, given that so**

**many people (Vishal Bhardwaj, Imtiaz Ali, Varun Grover) have contributed to it?**

It is. I sought them out for what I needed. For DJ Mohabbat's language, I went to Vishal, Varun. The music (by Amit Trivedi) is very Gen Z, my daughter would sit in on the sessions.

**How much of your daughter is in the film? You keep referencing her.**

A lot. She has her own mind, she thinks about things. She says, why don't you go on a date? I tell her, my generation doesn't date. I call it the mating game. They are not as promis-

cuous as our generation. They actually believe in love. That's the whole point of the film.

**So is this a shift from your dark zone?**

I'm tired of gangster s\*\*t. Wherever I go I'm asked to make a *Gangs Of Wasseyapur* 3, 4 or another gangster movie. *Gangs maine iss liye ki thi, ki I* was amused with these *bevakooof* (silly) characters who live on the same road, and still have been fighting for years. I thought I could also talk about the political history of Bihar in a subtle way. Now, unless I have a story to tell, I won't go there. *Mujhe khud ko explore karna hai* (I want to explore myself).

**Where do you think Bollywood is at today, when so many of its films have failed and some from the South have done so well?**

*Sab kuch regional hone wala hai* (everything is going to be regional) from movies to politics.

**So what's next?**

I'm looking for stories, finding them and writing. And wherever I feel it is Anurag talking on Twitter, I take it out.

**But Anurag is no longer on Twitter, right?**

*Aur ab filmon mein se bhi nikaal raha hoon* (I am taking him out of films, too). Counter propaganda is also propaganda. Now my friends say *baat woh kar jo facts hain*, characters *ko bolne de* (speak the facts, let the characters talk), don't let them mouth AK.

**But still continue to use subversion?**

*Subvert toh karna hi padega* (Of course, I'll have to subvert).

BRIEFLY

J&K pip Kerala, enter Vijay Hazare quarters

Ahmedabad: Jammu and Kashmir extended their dream run in the Vijay Hazare Trophy to the quarterfinals as they knocked Kerala out from the tournament with a seven-wicket win, here on Saturday. In-form Aaquib Nabi led the show with his career-best haul of 4/39, helping J&K skittle out Kerala for a paltry 174 in 47.4 overs after they opted to field in their first-ever Vijay Hazare Trophy knockout match. In reply, J&K cantered home in 37.5 overs with Shubham Khajuria (76) and Qamran Iqbal (51) setting up win with their 113-run opening stand in 21.4 overs.

**Brief scores: Kerala: 174 all out in 47.4 overs (Manoharan 62, Joseph 32; Aaquib Nabi 4/39, Yudhvir 2/16) lost to Jammu and Kashmir 175/3 in 37.5 overs (Khajuria 76, Iqbal 51; Joseph 2/19) by seven wickets. PTI**

India concede late in 4-5 loss to Australia

Adelaide : Akashdeep Singh's hat-trick went in vain as India conceded two late goals to lose 4-5 against Australia in the high-scoring first hockey Test of the five-match series here on Saturday. Akashdeep Singh (10th, 27th, 59th) scored thrice while skipper Harmanpreet Singh (31st) converted a penalty corner for India. Australia's goals were scored by Lachlan Sharp (5th), Nathan Ephraums (21st), Tom Craig (41st) and Blake Govers (57th, 60th) who found the back of the Indian net twice from penalty corners towards the fag end of the match. PTI

Woods to compete with son Charlie

Orlando: Tiger Woods, who has not competed since missing the cut at the British Open in July, has added a third December event to his calendar as he agreed to play with his son Charlie at the PNC Championship in Orlando, tournament organisers said on Friday. The Dec. 17-18 event is a 36-hole tournament with a field comprised of 20 major champions and a family member and sets up what will be a busy finish to the year for Woods. Limited to three events so far this year due to the effects of injuries suffered in a 2021 car crash, Woods has added the Dec. 1-4 Hero World Challenge to his schedule and will play a 12-hole, made-for-TV exhibition dubbed "The Match" on Dec. 10. REUTERS

A seemingly perfect fit

Despite issues with short ball, Shreyas Iyer averages 63 in 12 ODIs at a strike-rate of 96.75; format allows him more time as compared to T20s

ABHISHEK PUROHIT  
NOVEMBER 26

WALKING IN at an extremely comfortable 124 for 1 in the first ODI on Friday, Shreyas Iyer tried something inexplicable. To just his third ball, from the pacy Lockie Ferguson, he backed away from the stumps and tried to play his go-to slash. There was neither the length nor the width for the shot, though, and Iyer was lucky the ball missed the stumps.

It was as if Iyer wanted to make a strong opening statement against what has become opposition teams' default strategy for him as soon as he comes in to bat — go after him with the short ball. But in this case, New Zealand hadn't even tried the ploy properly yet, but Iyer was so sure they would that he even tried to pre-meditate an attacking response.

Of course, New Zealand would test Iyer out with the short ball presently. In fact, his first scoring shot would be a ramp over the wicketkeeper for six off a Ferguson bouncer. To his credit, Iyer settled down and stretched his knock until the very last over to top-score for India with 80 off 76 deliveries, reviving the innings from 160 for 4 despite a few more hiccups along the way.

And despite his well-known issues with the short ball, he is averaging 63 in 12 ODIs this year at a strike-rate of 96.75. Compared to T20s, the 50-over game does allow more space for Iyer to try and battle it out when teams target his shortcoming, and still leaves room for him to accelerate later with his preferred slogs and slashes.

And considering the 2023 World Cup is in India, where batting conditions are more benign usually — although there can be the odd spicy wicket — Iyer could be a useful component of the middle order, given his ability to attack spin in the middle overs. At home, he averages a healthy 56.72 in ODIs and strikes at 97.65.

"There is more time (in ODIs)," Iyer said after India's seven-wicket loss in Auckland. "One can plan his batting looking at the wicket and deciding in his mind what a par score would be. One needs to adapt. Fifty overs can change from time to time. Sometimes there can be sunset, there can be dew at other times and you don't know how the wicket will play."

The wicket wasn't at its best at that point, with the ball holding up and timing hard to find, especially for a new batsman. What also makes the job harder for Iyer in such conditions is that the short ball is invariably on his mind in the early stages of his innings, like it would be at a point for Suresh Raina. That makes him stuck in the crease even when the ball is pitched up, and he is late in getting forward, resulting in inside edges and some



In the last match against New Zealand, Shreyas Iyer scored 80 off 76 deliveries, reviving the innings from 160 for 4. AP

At the Word Cup, Iyer could be a useful component of the middle order, given his ability to attack spin in the middle overs

missed scoring opportunities. A few times at Eden Park, even balls that were there to be driven past the infield, he ended up guiding to cover as he was a touch hesitant and could not fully commit to the stroke.

Meanwhile, the short ball kept posing questions every now and then. Iyer was even put down by the keeper — a not straightforward jumping chance — when he edged an attempted ramp off Adam Milne. However, he would grow in confidence eventually to back away and slash Milne for six over third man, and then went after the slower speeds of Tim Southee at the death with pulls and slogs.

Former New Zealand pacer Simon Doull remarked that he was "disappointed" with the way Iyer had begun, but had fought and found a way to get the runs. "I was really disappointed with the third ball. It's not the Shreyas Iyer I want to see. I want to see him fight through those couple of moments but it is tough, I get it. It's hard. And when you have got the reputation of not playing the short balls well, it is not easy. It's a horrible place to

be in," Doull told Cricbuzz. "But I want to see him fight a bit harder for that."

"But then he just finds a way to score runs and he scores them all around there. He is particularly aggressive against spin and tries to be. But I just like him when he shows a bit more composure. It was a good innings. I thought it was a very good innings after a really rough start."

Iyer has been given a decent run in ODIs under the team management of Rohit Sharma and Rahul Dravid. And while he has found it hard to break into the first-choice T20I side after the rise of Suryakumar Yadav, he is targeting consistency in the 50-over format. That is hard to attain, of course; such is the nature of the modern game that Iyer was in the middle in the New Zealand T20Is after just a couple of net sessions.

But with all the competition around ODI spots — and no question mark over the seniors in the top order unlike in T20Is — reliability is certainly what Iyer will have to keep delivering in the World Cup build-up, even as he tries to tackle his continuing issues with the short ball.

"I want my fitness levels to be good despite the back-to-back games. I want to perform consistently. I want to stay in the present. The players will come and go but consistency will matter," Iyer said.

**Second ODI, 7:00am on DD Sports and Amazon Prime.**

Boxer-turned-tailor's son Suresh shines in the ring

NITIN SHARMA  
CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 26

WHEN VISHWANATH Suresh, 18, became the 48-kilogram World Youth Champion in La Nucia, Spain, he fulfilled not just his dream but his father's too. The teenage boxer's father M Suresh Babu is a former sub-junior champion but didn't his career was cut short as he had to work as a tailor to help his family put food on the table.

Babu still stitches clothes and took loans from money lenders in Perambur, Chennai, to make sure his son didn't have to give up boxing. "I wanted Vishwanath to achieve something bigger than me in life. When I took him to train under my coach (Tiger Devanadan), I wanted him to box for India. I had to quit boxing and work as a tailor to make ends meet. To see Vishwanath achieve what I could not do for the country has been my biggest reward," Babu told *The Indian Express*.

Vishwanath emerged as the champion with a unanimous 5-0 verdict against Ronel Suyom of the Philippines.

Vishwanath could not win a title at the state level and follow in the footsteps of his father who was a five-time state champion. But things started to look up once he joined the Army Sports Institute in Pune in 2018.

The following year, the youngster returned with a gold medal in 46 kg in Asian Junior Championships in Dubai followed by the 2021 youth national gold and a silver medal in Asian Junior Championship in the same year. Over the past year, he has added the Asian Youth Championship gold and also has been crowned winner in the Khelo India Youth Games in Panchkula.

"My father has been my inspiration. He wanted to see me win medals for India. He would work overtime as a tailor to help fund my boxing dream. He would also train me in public parks and the roof of our one-room rented accommodation post his daily work. When I was young, there were times when

**My father has been my inspiration. He wanted to see me win medals for India. He would work overtime as a tailor to help fund my boxing dream. He would also train me in public parks and the roof of our one-room rented accommodation post his daily work."**

VISHWANATH SURESH  
NEWLY-CROWNED YOUTH WORLD CHAMP

we were not sure of getting a full meal. But my father would always spend whatever money he had on my diet," Vishwanath, who idolises Floyd Mayweather, says.

ASI coach and Indian youth coach Vijay Kumar Sharma believes Vishwanath can only improve now. "When he initially came to us, we were impressed by his speed and the will to dominate the ring. He would never hesitate for a training session. He is an agile boxer who has good close range as well as long-range," says Sharma.

Babu, who now earns close to Rs 400-500 per day now, is awaiting Vishwanath's arrival. Post the youth Worlds, I am sure he will win a medal in CWC, Asian games and Olympics," Babu says.

Vishwanath meanwhile dreams of a day when he will get his father a gift. On the top of the list are imported clothes. "My father rarely buys new clothes for himself. Whenever I have the money, I will get him some imported clothes to wear."

Meanwhile, two other Indian men boxers — Vanshaj and Ashish won gold and silver medals respectively. Vanshaj claimed the title in the 63.5 kg category with a 5-0 win over Demur Kajaia of Georgia in the final. In the women's category, Devika Ghorpade won the gold medal in the women's 52 kg final with a 5-0 win over Lauren Mackie of England.



World Youth Champion (48kg) Vishwanath with his proud father Babu Suresh.

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: None

NORTH			
♠	10 8 4		
♥	J 10		
♦	A K 8 4		
♣	A K 9 2		
SOUTH			
♠	A Q 9 7		
♥	K 8 4		
♦	J 10		
♣	Q J 8 5		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1H♥	2H♥	pass	2NT
pass	3NT	pass	pass
pass			

West leads the six of hearts, fourth best, and the jack wins. West seems to be the one with most of the high card points. Given that South now has eight top tricks, should he go after a ninth by finessing spades into the strong hand or should he finesse diamonds instead?

The West Hand: S-K J 2 H-A Q 9 6 5 D-7 6 2 C-10 3  
The East Hand: S-6 5 3 H-7 3 2 D-Q 9 5 3 C-7 6 4

The answer is not. It is easy to reject the diamond finesse. Take the king of diamonds and finesse again in spades. West wins this finesse too but he is still stumped for something good to do. He still can't lead a heart so he tries a second diamond. West does not know it but the hand is over now.

South sees he has his nine tricks and does not wish to see East get in to return a heart, so South just takes his nine tricks. And where is the queen of diamonds? It was with East. If East were to get in his heart return would have set South's 3NT.

Dealer: South Vulnerable: None

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠	J 9 5 3	♣	K 8 7
♥	A J	♥	K Q 10 3
♦	J 9 8 7	♦	Q 10 8
♣	A J 7	♣	K 8 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1S	pass	1NT
pass	3NT	pass	pass
pass			

West leads the four of clubs, a slight surprise to South because that is the suit he opened. Looking at the dummy, South noted that there were four heart tricks, two diamonds eventually, two clubs, and plenty of places to get another. What should South's plan be?

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.

An idea is \_\_\_ by imagination - Frank Lloyd Wright (9)

MRAAO



ANSULT



AALIS



ADETNV



SOLUTION: AROMA, ALIAS, SUTAN, ADVENT  
Answer: An idea is born by imagination - Frank Lloyd Wright

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2401

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Late morning meal (6)
- \_\_\_ out: person or thing different from all others in a group? (3,3)
- Against (4)
- Captivating (10)
- Put into (6)
- One not part of group (8)
- A small dog with a long body (9)
- Shortly (4)
- British peer (4)
- Astronomical unit of length (9)
- Edifice (8)
- Calculate (6)
- Tubular pasta (10)
- Get \_\_\_ writing (2,2)
- Weirder (6)
- Cricket shot (6)

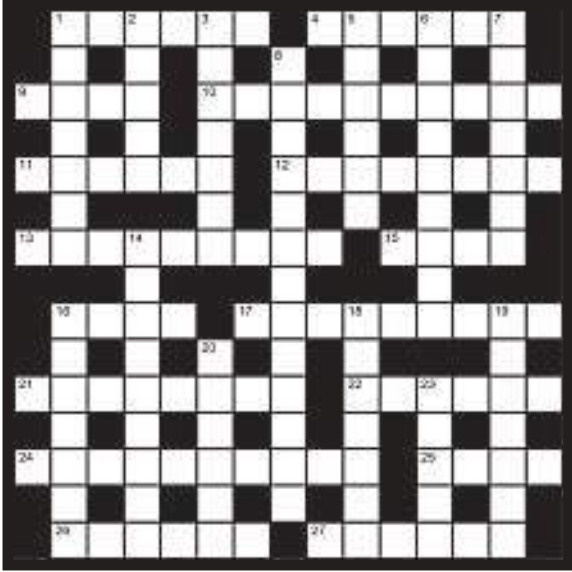
DOWN

- Source of wealth (7)
- Combine (5)
- Fastest cat (7)
- Inducts or designs (6)
- Wedlock (9)
- Chinese cotton cloth (7)
- Explaining the cause of? (10,3)
- Inflexible ideologue (9)
- Teach or train (7)
- Orchestra member (7)
- Torture (7)
- \_\_\_ Langtry: famous actress? (6)
- Capital of Egypt (5)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Have for Cockneys amid the trees (6)
- Seeing many off on board (6)
- Having broken up the spy ring (4)
- W.C. has class in choice of construction materials (10)
- Question an urchin over gun-shot (6)
- Payments subject to approval (8)
- Artistic deviation from the party line (9)
- Take right from scenic highway for seedy bar (4)
- Leaders of Bihar, Afghanistan, Karnataka and England make bread (4)
- The bad example of this promises Reginald makes to pay (9)
- Unruly seadog in Californian



- port (3,5)  
22. Remove from the case (6)  
24. Vague intuition I'd inwardly held back (10)  
25. Place where cubs may be left warm and dry (4)  
26. Second person almost upset basket of curdled food (6)  
27. Unpleasant as comparison can be (6)

DOWN:

- Inability to smell a short bouquet carried by Ms Farrow? (7)
- Bog solver down to a degree (5)
- De-rail? (7)
- Nothing turns up after the fish but apple (6)
- Pasta - cut it fine to cook (9)
- Seeing about making it genuine (8)
- No land for the Baron, by the sound of it (7,6)
- There's a prohibition on goat breeding. It's the truth! (2,7)
- Flattery from a man who's about fifty (7)
- Burst forth from a disturbingly deep rut (7)
- Ancient Chaldee features

- identifying young derelicts (7)  
20. Take a seat and have a half of bitter, perhaps in a tankard (6)  
23. Brief paralysis of one in a game (5)

Solutions to 2400

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Shyest, 4 Spider, 8 Cocaine, 9 Asperse, 11 Thunderous, 12 Mere, 13 Ridge, 14 Distract, 16 Paroxysm, 18 Glibes, 20 Fief, 21 Thereabout, 23 Tenants, 24 Ransack, 25 Saddle, 26 Septet.  
Down: 1 Sloth, 2 Yeamed, 3 Sincerely, 5 Posts, 6 Dreamer, 7 Restricts, 10 Condemned, 13 Readiness, 15 Segregate, 17 Offhand, 19 Baby-sit, 21 Total, 22 Uncut. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Strobe, 4 Sandal, 8 Bedmate, 9 Capsize, 11 Handicaps, 12 Robe, 13 Delta, 14 Caffeine, 16 Aswan dam, 18 Aches, 20 Four, 21 Tuning fork, 23 Revenue, 24 Picardy, 25 Taoist, 26 Eggson. Down: 1 Stela, 2 Remodel, 3 By the way, 5 Amass, 6 Deserve, 7 Lazybones, 10 Catchment, 13 Dishonest, 15 Flaunting, 17 Agree to, 19 He-faals, 21 Thugs, 22 Rodin.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday November 27

There's nothing wrong with your day-dreams. You might conjure up the perfect way to solve your current questions and improve the quality of your life.

Monday November 28

Your stars are at a minor crossroads. You can either give in and go under, or you can meet challenges and obstacles head-on, redouble your efforts and set yourself up for eventual triumph.

Tuesday November 29

If you have any problems to cope with, they will be caused by last month's doubts, rather than this week's. Wednesday is your best day for financial favours.

Wednesday November 30

Close companions may appear to be out of sorts, but they will be doing their best to support you. You should also take the initiative in clearing up matters.

Thursday December 1

If you're dealing with cash, stick to the facts. You seem to have a clear grasp of the figures and can spot a good bargain when you see one. Plus, a family member has some good advice.

Friday December 2

A planetary cycle which has transformed your emotional life is giving way to another, which will find you in a more assertive mood.

Saturday December 3

It will soon be time to take stock, and perhaps go over old ground again. Stay alert and keep an eye on fortune's subtle ebb and flow.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

There will soon be a tie-up between your romantic hopes and worldly ambitions. Perhaps you will be strongly attracted to someone new at work. Or perhaps a new friend will push you towards a new line of experience. Either way, fresh inspiration is around the corner.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

The importance of adventurous regions in your chart indicates that you will be looking further afield for your inspiration. People from overseas will offer the hope that life will become more fulfilling, and this may inspire you to travel, or at least to arrange a holiday in the near future.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It will soon become apparent that an increase in your earnings will be necessary if you are to finance your lifestyle. Some sort of show-down looks almost inevitable, even if the confrontation is nothing more than a personal one in which you face up to your outdated habits and preconceptions.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Each day offers unique, never-to-be-repeated opportunities to create new realities and replace old-fashioned, outmoded attitudes. This is a remarkable phase for all Cancerians of an imaginative bent and a wonderfully creative frame of mind.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Get to the root of the problem and deal with underlying causes rather than with superficial symptoms. It may now become apparent that the most advantageous long-term solution is a change of home. But perhaps you can stay where you are and persuade other people to move.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The emotional cycle dominated by Venus' passage through the zodiac is moulding relationships. From a position in which work and routine cares take first place, you will find yourself being drawn into a social circle which may be rather sober, but will be no less fascinating.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

When you're in the middle of a situation of conflict it may be difficult to imagine that something of permanent value will emerge. Yet there is no doubt that the harder you strive the more you will learn. In particular, you will come closer to discovering the secret of success in your most intimate personal affairs.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Mars' magnetic presence must now be taken into account. This planet is uncontrollable and is tending to push you into confrontations with friends and lovers. It will be best for all concerned if you develop additional tolerance. Partners will admire your increasing energy, though.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

Is there a charitable activity which you can take up? Or perhaps there is another means by which you can feel you are doing your bit to make the world a better place? If so, get on with it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

As the weeks pass you will become less concerned with the minutiae of details at work and increasingly aware that it is your very individual and unique hopes and wishes which must be given the highest priority. It will profit you nothing if you gain a great deal of money but sacrifice your deeper potential.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You will soon find that it is not enough to spout high-minded statements or lecture other people on how to put the world to rights. Before long, you will have to take positive steps to rearrange your work so that it conforms more closely with what you believe, or run the risk of frustration.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

As soon as business decisions have been finalised and your monetary cares resolved, you will be free to contemplate the deeper meaning of your existence. You will achieve a greater level of self-understanding if you are able to get away for a while, exposing yourself to the stimulation of a new environment.

FIFA WORLD CUP

PREVIEW

SHOWCASE GAME IN A NUTSHELL

**GROUP E**  
**Spain vs Germany**  
 12:30 AM IST (Monday), Al Bayt Stadium  
 (LIVE ON SPORTS18 AND JIOCINEMA)

The script

One of the most high-profile group games at the time of the draw, this game has become even bigger after Germany's opening defeat to Japan, making it a must-win game for the 2014 champions. Hansi Flick's side were brilliant on and off the ball for extended periods in that game, but mistakes at the back and a lack of ruthlessness led to a confidence-killing defeat. Anything less than three points could see them out of the tournament. Spain, on the other hand, had a perfect start to their campaign by scoring seven against a lacklustre Costa Rica with positive, possession-based football.

How they line up

**SPAIN: 4-3-3**

Luis Enrique's Spanish team is perplexing. Marco Asensio, normally a winger and even sometimes a wing-back for Real Madrid was in the centre-forward position, while central midfielder Rodri was in the central defensive position in their thumping 7-0 win over Costa Rica. The emphasis is on balance and space, which is what makes it effective.

**Likely XI:** Simon; Azpilicueta, Rodri, Laporte, Alba; Busquets, Pedri, Gavi; Torres, Asensio, Olmo.

**GERMANY: 4-2-3-1**

The fact that Germany lost all control, and the match, against Japan when they made some changes to their team means that they will likely have faith in the same nucleus of players. Hansi Flick likes to keep a hybrid system, usually four defenders out of possession, and three in possession with very advanced wing backs.

**Likely XI:** Neuer; Kimmich, Sule, Rudiger, Raum; Gundogan, Goretzka; Gnabry, Muller, Musiala; Havertz

The schemer

For Germany, Ilkay Gundogan was their best player and source of control against Japan. There will be a lot less comfort in midfield on Sunday, which should open up more space for their forward players, making the role of Jamal Musiala crucial. His ability to find space behind a high line - like the one Spain plays - will make him a threat.

Language of football

■ **Norbremse**  
 ■ **Origin: German**  
 ■ **Translation: Emergency break**  
 It literally means an emergency break and in the football context, it is when a player risks a foul to stop the opponent from breaking away from scoring.

Other Matches

**Japan vs Costa Rica: 3:30 PM**  
**Belgium vs Morocco: 6:30 PM**  
**Croatia vs Canada: 9:30 PM**



**EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP**

**SANDIP G**  
 DOHA, NOVEMBER 26

AT HALF time, the DJ at the 974 Stadium changed his tracks from soft rock to heavy metal. The stadium suddenly reverberated with Iron Maiden's Trooper and Judas Priest's Breaking The Law. Kylian Mbappe, the sweat on his face glistening in the bright floodlights, swung his hands, flexed his biceps and urged the crowd to sing along. The DJ increased the volume and the stadium was transformed to the raucous setting of a heavy metal band concert, with fans head-banging and jumping from their seats, triggering anxious faces from the security-men prowling the gallery.

The match had, in the goalless first half, flowed along more like a soft rock song. It was soon to acquire a heavy metal dimension, with Mbappe pulling the chords in one of his most electrifying World Cup performances. His brace made the decisive difference in France's round-of-16 assuring 2-1 victory of a resilient Denmark who could commiserate believing that they were denied a point by a footballer vaulting into sporting immortality with every passing game.

It was a game where not just Mbappe's supreme skills stood out, but his ruthlessness and desire reigned above all other gifts. The second goal captured the essence of Mbappe. The moment he saw Antoine Griezmann had snatched the ball from just outside the box, he knew he was in business. Even if Griezmann had other intentions, it was worth running for. So Mbappe slipped past Rasmus Kristensen and bullied and bulldozed into the heart of the box. The anticipation of a goal-sniffer, or intuition or footballing divinity.

The ball was not inch-perfect, rather a bit awkward; he could neither head nor toe-poke, so he leapt and mid-air thighed the ball from six yards past a bewildered Kasper Schmeichel, whose reflexes were too slow, and his hands too weak to thwart the power of the ball.

Mbappe, screaming and screeching, leapt over the advertisement board into the edge of the stands, gesturing to the crowd to celebrate. He then kissed the French badge—how silly the doubts that his heart was no longer with the country seemed. He scowled at the camera, flexed his biceps again and



Kylian Mbappe celebrates after scoring a late winner for France against Denmark at the World Cup.

AP

leapt back to the ground, basking in rock star-like adulation, his face twinkling under the light, amidst the rolls of drums and wave of French flags.

It was the concert of Kylian Mbappe. It was not the greatest goal he has ever scored; it would not be the greatest goal he would ever score. But it was probably the goal that let loose his bottled-up emotions. In fact, the first goal was lovelier and classical.

When Mbappe received the ball mid-pitch on his half and sprinted down the inside left channel, Theo Hernandez had already begun his overlapping sprint. The Dane shirts teed off frantically to deny the invariable fate. Without even looking sideways he stroked the ball to Hernandez whose anticipation was telepathic and drifted in. Hernandez veered away, and then cut back like a drunk car, snaked into the edge of the box and served up a well-weighted, no-look ball towards Mbappe, who finished sumptuously, lashing a low diagonal past Schmeichel. It was simple, direct football, yet it was devastatingly beautiful.

The match immediately hit high attacking notes and resulted in a Denmark equaliser just seven minutes later. It was a

goal that embodied the iron will of the Danes, as well as their hunger and purpose, as Andreas Christensen leapt above the French defenders and thundered a header past Hugo Lloris, en route a neat flick-on by Joachim Andersen from Christian Eriksen's in-swinging corner.

A goal was all that did not materialise for the French. France's build-up play was exhilarating, no one was ponderous with the ball, everyone held the shape, filled up spaces, and threaded through the intricate defensive lines Denmark had knotted. The explosive speed they whipped exaggerated the lethargy of the Danish resistance. In particular, Ousmane Dembele, who in the sixth minute seized ball from his own half and ripped in, sprinting three-quarters of the length of the pitch like a prize horse, out-speeding all and sundry. He loop-lashed a delicious pass towards Adrien Rabiot on the left, who instead lined up Mbappe, who slapped the ball of Dembele. The final product was weak, but the sequence demonstrated the unnerving speed of body and thought the French possess.

Denmark were left with no other alternative but to launch a defiant rearguard, an-

chored by Andreas Christensen, who even risked a potential red card when he badgered Mbappe onto the ground. He escaped with a yellow. It, though, was merely a question of how long they could repel the relentless onslaught of the French, invigorated by the 'ale le le' chants from the blue-blanché stands. The particular stat captured their first half—11 attempts, but just two were on target, ruefully for the French. The goalless first-half owed much to the stoutness of the Danish defence. They deployed similar tactics to what they had in the Nation League victory over the world champions, defending the midfield third in a 5-4-1 strangulating the midfield. The flaw is that they leave space on the wings, which the marauding French wingers could harness devastatingly. The first goal was a classic example.

The key to stopping the French, they realised, was to lock Antoine Griezmann, content in his playmaking role behind the attacking trident. Against Australia, several of France's moves originated from the vision and imagination of Griezmann. The Danes held him on a leash, suffocated him for space and crowded him out. But none of it mattered in the heavy metal music that Mbappe whipped up.

THREE-WAY BATTLE

France are through to the R16. Which team joins them will be determined on final match day.

SCORE LINES			
FRANCE	2	DENMARK	1
Mbappe	61', 86'	Christensen	68'

TUNISIA	0	AUSTRALIA	1
		Duke	23'

STANDINGS

GROUP D							
	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts	
France*	2	2	0	0	4	6	
Australia	2	1	1	0	-2	3	
Denmark	2	0	1	1	-1	1	
Tunisia	2	0	1	1	-1	1	

*\*France have qualified for Round of 16*

■ France became only the second defending champions — after Brazil in 2002 — to progress into the knockout rounds since the turn of the century. For the second spot, it'll be a winner-takes-all affair when Denmark take on Australia but the Socceroos have an edge and need just a point to go through if France beat Tunisia, as expected.

MATCH STORIES IN NUMBERS

**7** Number of goals French superstar Kylian Mbappe has scored in the World Cups, as many as Lionel Messi (before the match against Mexico). Mbappe has three now in this campaign, 50 goals for club and country this year. In fact, he is the only player to score 50 goals for club and country in 2021 (51) and 2022.

**48** Number of years after which Australia managed a clean sheet at the World Cup. The last time they didn't conceded a goal was in the 1974 edition, when they held Chile to a goalless draw. The 1-0 on Saturday was also their first win since beating Serbia 2-1 in 2010 World Cup.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

# After high of Argentina win, Poland bring Saudis back to ground

Poland's Man of steel

WOJCIECH SZCZESNY kept out a penalty, stopped the ensuing rebound and pulled off half-a-dozen stunning saves to help Poland beat Saudi Arabia 2-0. All this, while playing with metal rods in both his hands.

Szczesny was a new recruit when, trying to impress then Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, he fractured both his arms while lifting weights as the bar fell on top of him. He underwent surgery on the same day and metal rods were inserted in his arms.

14 years after the accident, the arms still hurt. "Breaking my arms in the gym as a teenager still costs me today. Every save for me is painful. I don't talk about it too much because I'm used to it. If I removed the metal plates from my arms, it might help, but the recovery would take a few months," Szczesny told Kanal Sportowy.

No wonder he celebrated each save like a striker would celebrate a goal.

Lewandowski gets off the mark



Robert Lewandowski scored his first ever WC goal on Saturday.

Reuters

**16 - COMBINED TALLY OF SHOTS ON GOAL LEWANDOWSKI HAD IN THE 2018 AND 2022 WORLD CUPS.**

■ After scoring 76 goals for his national team, and into his second World Cup campaign, Poland forward Robert Lewandowski finally scored his first-ever World Cup goal.

■ Lewandowski stole the ball off the defenders and buried it into the goal in the 82nd minute. He broke down into tears as the ball went past the keeper and his teammates rushed to wish him.

■ Lewandowski, 34, has equalled Pele's international goal tally. The Brazilian legend had 77 goals in 92 appearances while Lewandowski took 136 matches to achieve the feat and be among the top-10 scorers in international men's football.

'Peter Pan Zielinski'



Piotr Zielinski (centre) celebrates scoring his goal.

AP

The Zielinskis used to help children from difficult backgrounds. For 13 years, they looked after children in their own home in Zabkowice Slaskie, 40 miles south of Wroclaw in south-west Poland. Eventually, the young Zielinski made friends with those he had to share his

personal space with.

Cut to the present, the 28-year-old Poland and Napoli midfielder has bought two buildings, renovated them and turned them into children's homes run by the "Peter Pan" foundation, which he founded (Piotr is Peter in Polish).

"He came out with the initiative, he's a golden boy. If he returns to Poland he visits the kids, plays football with them. He also gives away electronic equipment that he does not use: a laptop, a game console or a tablet. At the holy communion of one of the charges, no one from the family appeared. Piotr came from Italy to please the boy. This is what he is," Zielinski's father Boguslaw Zielinski told *The Guardian*.

With three goals and five assists, Zielinski, scorer of Poland's first goal against Saudi Arabia, has played a pivotal role in Napoli's unbeaten run in the Serie A. The 28-year-old is a midfield engine for club and country.

ENS

# Teammates, fans feel the void of Maradona in first WC since his death

**SANDIP G**  
 DOHA, NOVEMBER 26

UNDER THE inky sky on Friday night, a wave of white and blue spilled onto the CONMEBOL fan zone in Central Doha's Msheireb, wearing and waving Argentina's most famous No.10 jersey. The name printed above the No.10 did not belong to its incumbent Lionel Messi but that of his luminous predecessor Diego Maradona, whose second death anniversary was both celebrated and mourned in Doha.

From his former teammates like Jorge Burruchaga, Ricardo Giusti, Sergio Batista, Claudio Borghi, Carlos Tapia and Jorge Valdano to thousands of Argentina fans, from the country and outside, poured into the fan zone to pay him treamy tributes.

The fan zone, the size of a compact cricket stadium was so packed — the queue stretched to the Al Bidda metro station, a mile away, and the police had to barricade the road to Souq Waqif to control the crowd — that fans waited

outside the arena. They carried their drums with the face of Maradona embossed on it, with large flags with the portrait of his face in place of the golden sun. Another flag re-imaged Michelangelo's most-famous as well as parodied fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel The Creation of Adam, in which Maradona, from the clouds reaches his index finger out to Messi, (the interpretation of the original is that God is instilling the spark of life from his own finger to that of Adam, and the Maradona-Messi symbolism can't be missed). Besides Messi is the Copa America trophy.

The words *Mandas en mi corazon* (you are in my heart) is scrawled in the blurred background of the Argentina flag. It's the most common hoarding you find in clusters with high Argentinian density. The day before his anniversary, most Argentines were busy latching the flag on the facade of their apartments. It's long and rectangular, some metres long, and it requires collective effort. "We couldn't find a ladder, and in the end we went to a hardware store and managed a step ladder," says



A re-imaged flag of Michelangelo's most-famous fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, The Creation of Adam.

Sandip G

Valdez Vasquez from Cordoba.

The painting, he says, is the reproduction of a mural drawn by Argentina's most famous artist Santiago Barbeito on the ceiling

of an indoor football court in Buenos Aires. "Every fan has brought one of the flags to Doha, and we will wave it during every match. If Argentina win the World Cup we

will drape the flag over the trophy," he adds. Valdez and his friends could enter the fan zone, but they hung around in the locality, singing songs for Maradona, sharing I-have-talked-to-him anecdotes, chanting Viva Diego to the background music from bombo criolo, a percussion instrument.

"We don't need to show our love for Diego by going to the fan zone, he is forever in our heart, but we went there just to get a community feeling, for togetherness. We laughed and wept. Our entire county did," he says.

There were Diegos everywhere in the city; in the busy central squares of Qatar and in the faraway clusters too. Miniature flags with his face fluttered from cars. He stared from t-shirts and walls; candles were lit in the evening beside his sanctuaries. In a hangar near the Hamad International Airport, a private jet was painted with his portrait and Maradona FanFest too was organised. Thousands flocked to Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum where Maradona's jersey when he scored the famous Hand of God goal is displayed.

"Last year, the entire city gathered at the centre square in our city to pay tributes. This evening I felt I was somewhere in Argentina," he says. The next day, they were encountering Mexico in a must-win game. But no one discussed the game. "It was just for Diego, and among the fans were non-Argentnians too," says Valdez's friend Thiago.

Inside the fan zone, some of Maradona's teammates 1986 World Cup winning side paid touching tributes to him. The ever-elloquent Valdano said: "Like the great masters of painting, he made sketches until completing his most wonderful work against England."

Burruchaga, one of Maradona's best friends, said: "Diego continues to be there and will be there until the end of our lives. Giusti said he cannot imagine that he is not with them physically, but "he is always present with us, where there is football, there is Maradona".

For the Maradona tragic, the night never ended. As did the memories of Maradona, the man they call "Diego". Even the inky sky seemed painted blue and white.