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APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

SC upset at Rijiju remarks, says can name judges if given powers

It came from somebody high enough. Should not have: Judge

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

EXPRESSING DISAPPROVAL at Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju's criticism on Friday of the top court's observations that the government was sitting on files relating to appointment of judges cleared by the Collegium, Supreme Court judge Justice SK Kaul Monday said this "should not have happened".

In an interview at the Times Now Summit 2022, Law Minister

EXPLAINED

Why govt, SC fight

WITH HUGE pendency of cases in all courts, the Supreme Court has been taking the government to task for holding back appointments cleared by its Collegium. The government, on the other hand, not only keeps citing the demands of due diligence, but also keeps questioning the Collegium system of appointment itself, describing it as opaque and alien to the Constitution.

Rijiju had said, "Never say that the government is sitting on the files, then don't send the files to the government, you appoint yourself, you run the show..." Describing the Collegium system as "alien" to the Constitution, he had said, "You tell me under which provision the Collegium system has been prescribed."

When referred to related

news reports on Monday, Justice Kaul, without naming the Union Law Minister, said, "Let them give the power. We have no difficulty... I ignored all press reports, but what he says, that when somebody high enough says let them do it themselves, we will do it ourselves, no difficulty... It came from somebody

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Govt returns 20 files to Collegium on appointment of HC judges

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE CENTRAL government has asked the Supreme Court Collegium to reconsider 20 files related to the appointment of high court judges, including that of Saurabh Kirpal, an openly gay advocate, sources told PTI on Monday.

The government expressed "strong reservations" about the recommended names as it sent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

POLITICAL ECONOMY
OF GUJARAT
PAGE 13

Student calls out professor for 'Kasab' remark; Manipal institute bars teacher

AKRAM M & ALIFIYA KHAN
BENGALURU, PUNE,
NOVEMBER 28

A STUDENT at the Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT) under the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), an Institute of Eminence, objected in the classroom after his teacher

Showpiece Delhi stadium lies unused as ground 'sinks' after track relaying project

Class I facility, but no track event since mid-2019

ANDREW AMSAN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

FOR ALMOST four years now, the iconic Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here — listed as one of India's five Class 1 facilities by World Athletics — hasn't hosted any track-and-field event. The reason: "sinking" of the ground after a botched-up track relaying project.

The project, for which the Sports Authority of India (SAI) had earmarked Rs 6.50 crore, began in the summer of 2019 and was expected to be completed by 2021. It was handed to WAPCOS [Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited], a public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. But, when the project was nearing completion in 2021, a section of the 400 metre track

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



A five-metre patch has been removed over the tunnel, at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, after it sunk in 2021. *Andrew Amsan*

HOW THE PROJECT UNFOLDED OVER THE YEARS

2019: SAI sanctions Rs 6.50 crore for relaying main track; project handed to WAPCOS.

2020: Athletics Federation of India team visits site, flags several issues in its report, including uneven surface of the track, especially the dip above

the tunnel area.

2021: 95% of project completed, but the area above the tunnel starts sinking so the project is halted.

2022: IIT-Guwahati asked to identify reason for ground sinking.

EXPRESS NETWORK



I LET GO OF RAHUL GANDHI YEARS AGO ... HE IS IN YOUR MIND, NOT MINE: RAHUL **P8**

remain "debarred" till the probe is completed.

In the video, the teacher, an assistant professor in the civil engineering department, is seen trying to justify his remark, saying it was a "funny thing". But the student is heard saying, "26/11 was not funny... being a Muslim in this country and facing all of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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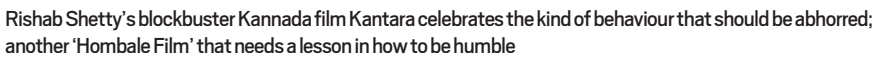
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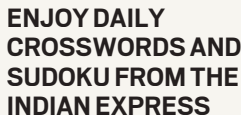
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or to schedule a meeting, scan





PUZZLES AND GAMES



New Delhi

Aaftab’s police van comes under attack from sword-wielding men

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE POLICE vehicle carrying Aaftab Poonawala from the forensic laboratory back to Tihar jail came under attack by sword-wielding men, who attacked the vehicle even as a policeman waved a gun at them. A team of policemen were accompanying Poonawala when the van was stopped on the main road, and the accused created a ruckus.

According to a senior officer, police received information about men claiming to be from the Hindu Sena attacking Poonawala’s vehicle, and sent personnel to the spot. Police are yet to verify if the men are indeed from the Hindu Sena or another outfit.

When contacted, Vishnu Gupta, the Hindu Sena national president, confirmed that the men are activists from his organisation. “Delhi Police told us that Hindu Sena members tried to at-



One of the men carrying a sword speaks to the media while trying to attack the police van. ANI

tack Poonawala. Whatever these activists have done is based on their personal feelings. The whole country is watching how Aaftab cut a Hindu girl to pieces. However, the organisation does not support any such work which is against the Constitution.”

Personnel guarding the van stepped in to defuse the situation and keep the prisoner from harm. One of the person-

nel was seen waving a gun at the men and then pointing it in the air. “Aaftab was unhurt and the van managed to leave,” said an officer. A video of the incident shows one of the armed men managing to open the van’s rear door to find a policeman standing inside. The accused are seen pelting stones as well.

G S Sidhu, DCP Rohini, said two people had been detained. “These men stopped the van and obstructed personnel in their duty. We are questioning them about their identity and motive.”

Sources in the Delhi Police said they are “almost” done with their searches and the investigation work. “We have recovered the weapons used to chop Shradha Walkar’s body. We have found more suspected body parts and evidence,” said an officer. On Monday morning, Poonawala was taken for his polygraph test at FSL, Rohini, after forensic experts said they found his earlier tests “unsatisfactory”.

Was flagging violation by AAP: Arrested ex-Cong MLA

New Delhi: Former Congress MLA Asif Mohammad Khan, arrested for allegedly hurling abuses and manhandling a police officer in Southeast Delhi’s Jamia Nagar, told a court that he was only trying to convince people at a mosque about a model code of conduct (MCC) violation for the MCD

polls for which he was arrested.

Khan’s lawyers made the submissions during his bail hearing. As per his lawyers, the incident took place on November 25 at Shaheen Bagh’s Tayyab masjid when AAP candidate Wajid Khan allegedly gave Rs 50,000 to the Imam of the mosque while his

aides announced that Rs 1 lakh will be handed with a request to vote for them.

Several people objected to this as they said that a place of worship should not be used for political agendas, Khan’s lawyers argued, adding that Khan reached the spot to tell people that what had transpired was a vi-

olation of the MCC as “the place of worship cannot be used for political propaganda and elections as his daughter is also contesting the MCD elections”. His lawyers argued that police violated Supreme Court guidelines while arresting him by “forcibly entering into the house at 2.30 am.”

Indian School evacuated after bomb threat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

STUDENTS OF a prominent private school in South Delhi were evacuated on Monday afternoon after a bomb scare, but a police search did not find any bomb on the school premises.

Tania Joshi, principal of The Indian School on Josip Broz Tito Marg, said that the school’s official email ID received an email from an unrecognised sender at 1.14 pm claiming that a bomb was present on the school premises.

“The local police were informed which reacted promptly. A bomb disposal squad along with the staff of Defence Colony police station reached the spot. The school was evacuated and a thorough search has been made. But no bomb was found. Meanwhile, the email is also being verified by the cyber team,” said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Chandan Choudhary.

According to Joshi, at the time that the email was received, most of the students were already on their way out of the school.

“The students of the morning session were already moving out so we did not face any issues there. There are over 400 students in the second session,” Joshi said.

“As instructed by police, we moved them towards the basketball court and started calling their parents. We also sent a message to all parents explaining to them what happened and telling them that all is safe. We will be back to business as usual from tomorrow,” Joshi added.

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA**
Mahendergarh -123031 (Haryana)

No.: CUH/2022/Estt.Sec./T/1040

Date: 25-11-2022

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk in interview for the posts of Guest Faculty in the Department of Physics& Astrophysics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Computer Science & Engineering will be held on 01-12-2022. Application Form and other related details are available on the University's Website i.e. www.cuh.ac.in. Any further information in this regard shall be uploaded on the University's website only.

Assistant Registrar (Establishment)

**Karnataka Municipal Data Society®**
6th Floor, #1-4, I.T Park, Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560010.


No. E908452/DMA/KMDS/EST(DEPT)/8/2022

Date: 28-11-2022

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for hiring the following posts on Consultancy Contract basis for 6 months.
1) GIS Consultant - 1 Post (Rs.1.50,000/- per month) (Fee Negotiable)
The job description of the post, Qualifications and Experience required will be made available on website www.mrc.gov.in. from **29.11.2022**.
Interested qualified Candidates may submit their applications (in the prescribed format) super scribed as “**Applications for the Post of “_____”** along with the required documents to “The Secretary, Karnataka Municipal Data Society, # 1-4, 6th Floor, IT Park, Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bangalore-560010” on or before **12th Dec 2022 by 05:00 PM** either by hand or by post.
Sd/-
Additional Secretary,
Karnataka Municipal Data Society, Bengaluru.

DIPRI/CP/3270/Zen/2022-23

**Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)**
(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)
P.O. NEW FOREST, DEHRADUN - 248 006


Advt. No. 1-45/2009-ADG (EM)/Project Personal/ICFRE – Part File

Dated: 28.11.2022

Walk in interview for temporary positions under following consultancy projects in the **EM Division** purely on contractual basis will be held on **22.12.2022** in the office chamber of Asst. Director General (EM), ICFRE (Room No. 137, ICFRE H.Q. Building, Forest Research Institute Campus, Dehradun) from **11.00 AM** onwards:

S. No.	Name of Projects	Name & No. of Vacancies	Duration
1.	Environmental Audit and Environmental Performance Index Ranking of 35 open cast coal mines of Coal India Limited.	Project Associate-01	06 Months
2.	Environmental monitoring and evaluation of Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan in Karnataka.	Junior Project Consultant - 01	06 Months
3.	Assessment of reclamation and Rehabilitation Activities carried out for Eco-restoration of mined out and surrounding areas of GOC under Sustainable Development Activities in Telangana.	Project Associate-01	06 Months

Willing candidates may see the details of Ad including requirement of qualification, work experience, terms of conditions of engagement at ICFRE website www.icfre.org –Recruitment (Home page).
Assistant Director General (EM)
ICFRE, Dehradun

**IndusInd Bank**

Registered Office: 2401, Gen. Thimmayya Road, Cantonment, Pune - 411 001.

Website: www.indusind.com | CIN: L65191PN1994PLC076333


Branch Shifting Notice

We have scheduled shifting of the below branch to a new address.

Name of Branch / Code	Noida Sec 18 / 0036
Old Address	Ground & Basement N-10 & N-11, Sector-18, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301
Banking & Locker Services available at old branch till	10 th February, 2023
New Address	Ground Floor, Shop No. 18, 18A, 18B, Ansal's Fortune Arcade, Captain Vijyant Thapar Marg, Pocket-E, Sector-18, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301
Banking & Locker Service commences at new branch address from	13 th February, 2023

Detailed communication will be sent to all branch customers.
For assistance, please contact the below representatives.


Mr. Varun Dhingra (DBM)	8447432779	nogb@indusind.com
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**For IndusInd Bank Limited**

Place: Mumbai

Date: November 29, 2022


Sd/-
Authorised Signatory

**भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्**
(एनॉटॉमिक बॉडी ऑफ मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एनवायरनमेंट, फॉरेस्ट एंड क्लाइमेट चेंज, गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया)
INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248006 (Uttarakhand)


विज्ञप्ति संख्या 32-1 / महानिदेशक / 2022-भा.वा.अ.शि.प.

Advt. No. 32-1/Director General/2022-ICFRE

महानिदेशक, भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् के पद को प्रतिनिधित्व के आधार पर सातवें सी.पी.सी. के वेतन मैट्रिक्स के स्तर-17 पर भरने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। आवेदन प्राप्त करने की अन्तिम तिथि **31.12.2022** है तथा अण्डमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह एवं लक्षद्वीप के अभ्यर्थियों के लिये **15.01.2023** होगी।
उपरोक्त पद हेतु इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी भा0वा0अ0शि0प0 की वेबसाइट <http://www.icfre.org> में दिये गये विस्तृत विज्ञापन के अनुसार आवेदन कर सकते हैं।
Applications are invited for filling up the post of Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education on deputation basis in pay Level of 17 of 7th CPC Pay Matrix. The last date for receipt of application is **31.12.2022** and for candidates residing in Andaman Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep the last date will be **15.01.2023**.
The interested candidates may apply for the aforesaid post as per detailed advertisement available on ICFRE website <http://www.icfre.org>
सचिव, भा.वा.अ.शि.प. / Secretary, ICFRE

**NEHRU MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY**
Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011
(Autonomous Body set up by the Govt. of India)
The Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML), an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, seeks qualified candidates for appointment to various posts.

Eligibility: For details like qualifications and experience required, general instructions etc., please visit NMML website: www.nehrumemorial.nic.in.
Interested candidates may send their applications along with self-attested copies of educational qualifications and experience certificates, etc. to this office address i.e. The Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011 so as to reach latest by 25th December, 2022.
davp 09142/11/0039/2223


**CSIR-CENTRAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
Mahatma Gandhi Avenue, Durgapur - 713 209 (West Bengal)

सं./No. 4/18/2022-Rct

दिनांक/Date: 28.11.2022

Advertisement No. 05/2022
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW
FOR THE POSITION OF PROJECT-JRF / PROJECT ASSOCIATE / PROJECT ASSISTANT

A Walk-in-interview will be conducted at **CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur** during **8th – 9th December, 2022** to select around **16 (Sixteen)** candidates for temporary engagement under different Projects as ‘**Project-JRF/Project Associate/Project Assistant**’ with **Masters/Graduate/Diploma** qualifications in various Engineering and Science disciplines and to provide an opportunity of working experiences in various R&D projects, an avenue of skill development. For detail advertisement and other information such as, disciplines & details of positions, consolidated remuneration, eligibility criteria, age, tenure, application form etc., the interested candidates may log on to the Institute website: www.cmeri.res.in → **Opportunity** → **Career** → **Vacancy** → **Advt. No. 05/2022**.
Controller of Administration
cmeri.res.in | www.cmeri.res.in | www.cmeri.res.in | www.cmeri.res.in | www.cmeri.res.in


**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**
EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME
STATION HQ (ECHS CELL), DELHI CANTT,
Phone : 011 - 25694821, email: oicechscelldelhi@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

1. ECHS invites applications to engage following Medical, Para Medical & Non Medical Staff on contractual basis in 08 x ECHS Polyclinics Delhi Cantt, Shakurbasti, Sohna Road, Dundaheera, Lodhi Road, Timarpur, NOIDA & Greater NOIDA for a period of one year renewable for additional period of one year till attaining the maximum age subject to performance of candidates/other conditions according to the criteria as mentioned against each post.


Appointment	Minimum Qualification	No. of Tentative Vacancies in 2023	Fixed Remuneration
OIC Polyclinic	Graduate. Minimum 05 Years work experience in Health Care Institutions or Managerial positions.	03	₹ 75,000/-
Medical Specialist	MD/MS in Specialty concerned. Minimum 05 years in the specialty after PG.	10	₹ 1,00,000/-
Gynaecologist	-do-	03	₹ 1,00,000/-
Medical Officer	MBBS. Minimum 05 years experience after internship.	34	₹ 75,000/-
Dental Officer	MDS/BDS. Minimum 05 years work experience for BDS. No work experience for MDS.	09	₹ 75,000/-
Lab Technician	B.Sc (Medical Lab Technology) or 10+2 with Science and DMLT. Minimum 03 years work experience.	05	₹ 28,100/-
Lab Assistant	DMLT/Class-I Lab Tech (Armed Forces). Minimum 05 years work experience.	07	₹ 28,100/-
Pharmacist	B Pharma or 10+2 with PCB and Diploma Pharmacy. Minimum 03 years work experience.	16	₹ 28,100/-
Dental Assistant/ Hygienist/Technician	Diploma holder in Dental Hygienist / Class-I DH / DORA. Minimum 05 years work experience.	12	₹ 28,100/-
Nursing Assistant	DMN, Diploma / Class-I (Armed Forces). Minimum 05 years work experience.	09	₹ 28,100/-
Physiotherapist	DMN, Diploma / Class-I (Armed Forces). Minimum 05 years work experience.	02	₹ 28,100/-
IT Network Technician	Diploma/Cert /Equivalent in IT Networking Computer Application. Minimum 2 years experience.	06	₹ 28,100/-
Data Entry Operator	Graduate / Class-I Clerical Trade (Armed Forces). Minimum 05 years work experience.	10	₹ 28,100/-
Clerk	-do-	30	₹ 28,100/-
Receptionist	-do-	02	₹ 16,800/-
Driver	Education-8th Class / Class-I, Driver MT (Armed Forces). Posses a civil driving license (LMV). Minimum 05 years work experience.	04	₹ 19,700/-
Chowkidar	Education - 8th Class. GD trade for Armed Forces Personnel. Minimum 05 years work experience.	06	₹ 16,800/-
Peon	-do-	06	₹ 16,800/-
Female Attendant	Literate. Minimum 05 years work experience.	07	₹ 16,800/-
Safaiwala	Literate. Minimum 05 years work experience.	08	₹ 16,800/-

2. For Terms & Conditions, Application Form & Remuneration. Kindly see our website www.echs.gov.in. For additional details, Please Contact, Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) Delhi Cantt. at Telephone No. 011-25694821, Mobile No. 8448198118 & email ID oicechscelldelhi@gmail.com. Also approach concerned ECHS Polyclinic for details. Preference will be given to Ex-Servicemen.
3. Last date of receipt of application as per format given at our website. Application as per requisite format along with self attested photocopies of testimonials in support of Educational Qualifications and Work Experiences will be submitted to OIC, Stn HQ (ECHS Cell), Delhi Cantt. by **09 January, 2023**. Any application receipt after 09 January, 2023 will not be accepted.
4. Interview Date, Timing & Venue. The same will be intimated to candidates through email and telephonically. Candidates must bring all the original certificate, mark sheets / degree of 10th Matric, 10+2 & Graduation / Post Graduation / Diploma / Course, Work experience and Discharge book, PPO, Service records and 02 PP colour photographs at the time of interview. No TAD/As is admissible. Only candidates meetings the Qualitative Requirement may apply.


**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE**
BANGALORE-560 012

Advertisement No. R(HR)/Recruitment-4/2022

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up the position of Assistant Engineer (Civil/Electrical) on Deputation/Short-Term Contract basis at the Institute. For further details, visit our web site: <https://iisc.ac.in/positions-open/>
Last date of Application: 18.12.2022
Date: 28.11.2022 **Sd/- REGISTRAR**


**गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एण्ड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड**
Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited
(एनएसएससी एन एंड ओएफ इंडिया एंडरटेकिंग), गार्डन रीच रोड, कोलकाता - 700 024
Regd and Corp Office: GRSE BHAVAN, 61, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata - 700 024
Web: www.grse.in, (CIN: L35111WB1934G007891)

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. OS/EXP: 03/2022
ENGAGEMENT OF EXPERTS (ON CONTRACT BASIS)
Opening Date for Online registration: 28 Nov 2022
Closing Date for Online registration: 14 Dec 2022
GRSE Ltd. is one of the premier Defence Shipyards and Mini Ratna Category-I Company. The Company invites applications from qualified, talented and energetic Indian Nationals for the posts of **Experts on contract basis** as below:
(i) Expert / Specialist (Shipbuilding & Shipyard Strategy) - 01 post (On Contract Basis for 2 years)
(ii) Expert (Software Developer- JAVA) - 02 posts (On Contract basis for 3 year)
(iii) Expert (Software Developer- SAP- ABAP) - 02 posts (On Contract basis for 3 year)
The details like General Conditions, eligibility, essential qualification, minimum experience, selection process, how to apply etc. are available in ‘Career section’ of GRSE website www.grse.in or <https://jobapply.in/grse2022>
Candidates are required to apply only through **ONLINE** mode. No other means / mode of submission of applications will be accepted. Any Addendum/Corrigendum will only be published in GRSE website.
“In Pursuit of Excellence and Quality in Shipbuilding”
Visit us at: www.grse.in

**भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान कोषिकोड**
आई आई एम कोषिकोड कैम्पस – पी ओ, कोषिकोड-673570, केरल
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE
IIM Kozhikode Campus P.O, Kozhikode-673 570, Kerala

Advt. No.R-03/2022

Online Applications are invited for the following posts:
Regular Vacancies:
1. Chief Systems Manager (UR-01)
2. Senior Manager (Engineering Operations) (UR-01)
3. Systems Manager (UR-01)
4. Assistant (UR-03, OBC-01)
5. Junior Assistant (UR-01, OBC-01)
6. Junior Executive (UR-02, OBC-01)
Backlog Vacancy:
7. Junior Assistant (ST-01)
On Contract:
1. Project Manager (ERP) (Notification No. C-55/2022)
2. Hostel Supervisor (Female) (Notification No. C-56/2022)
For details and online application, please visit www.iimk.ac.in
Sd/-
Lt. Col. M Julius George (Retd.)
Chief Administrative Officer
Date: 23.11.2022

**JESUS & MARY COLLEGE**
(University of Delhi)
Accredited by NAAC WITH “A+” Grade
Chanakyapuri New Delhi-21
Email - principal@jmc.ac.in, admin@jmc.ac.in

Advt.no.JMC/Admn/Teaching/2022-23

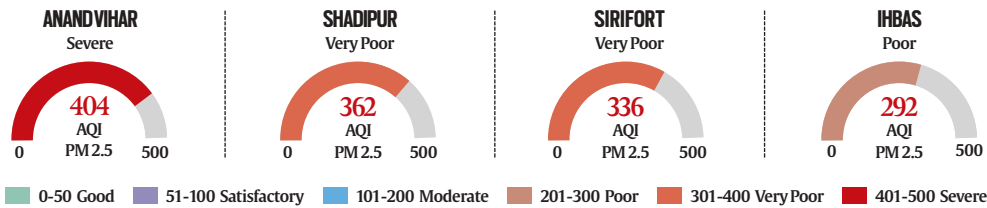
Online applications are invited in the prescribed Application form at web link <https://colrec.uod.ac.in> from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor, in the Academic Pay Level 10 with rationalized entry pay of Rs. 57700/- as per 7th Central Pay Commission Pay Matrix in addition to usual allowances. The last date for receipt of application is 7th January 2023 (Saturday) or two weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News, whichever is later. For details, please visit the college website “www.jmc.ac.in”.
Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the college website.

S.NO.	Department/Subject	Total	UR	PwBD
1.	Economics	5	4	1LD
2.	English	9	9	
3.	Hindi	10	10	
4.	History	4	4	
5.	Mathematics	1	1	
6.	Political Science	5	5	
7.	Psychology	8	7	1VI
8.	Sociology	4	4	
9.	Philosophy	3	3	
10.	Commerce	15	14	1VI(LV)
11.	Computer Science	2	2	
12.	French	2	2	
13.	Elementary Education	6	6	

Important Note:
The details regarding qualification, experience, screening guidelines and indicative proforma etc. are available on the College website www.jmc.ac.in, along with this advertisement. The applicants are required to read these details before filling the form. Persons with Benchmark Disability(PwBD) candidates may approach the Helpdesk set up at the College in case they require any assistance in filling up application form.

Note:UR-Unreserved, LD- Locomotor Disability including Leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy, VI-Visual Impairment including blindness and low vision
PRINCIPAL

New Delhi



S K Y W A T C H
FORECAST: November 29
Partly cloudy sky
Mist in the morning

MAX: 27
1.4°C below normal

MIN: 8
1.9°C below normal

BRIEFLY

No bar on Shah resuming DDCD V-C post, Delhi govt tells HC

New Delhi: Delhi government informed Delhi High Court that it has directed the planning department to rescind orders restricting Jasmine Shah, vice-chairperson of the Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi, from using his office, as well as the order wherein the L-G requested CM Kejriwal to remove Shah from his post.

Am a victim of custodial violence: Khalid Saifi in court

New Delhi : United Against Hate member Khalid Saifi, booked in the 2020 North East Delhi riots "larger conspiracy case", told the Delhi High Court on Monday that he is a "victim of custodial violence with no enquiry conducted by the police till this day".

Man shot at in accidental fire

Gurgaon: A 24-year-old LLM student suffered a gunshot wound after he was allegedly accidentally shot at during a 'Kuan Poojan' ceremony in Sector 10 area in Gurgaon, said police Monday. They said a case has been registered against the accused. **ENS**

POLICE CRACK CASE DATING BACK TO MAY

Man killed by wife and stepson who chopped, refrigerated body parts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

FOR FIVE months, 48-year-old nurse Poonam and her son Deepak (25) kept her husband's murder a secret. The mother-son duo allegedly killed Anjan Das with a knife, chopped his body, and carefully packed the pieces in 10 bags. In less than 48 hours, they allegedly discarded all the bags in East Delhi.

On Sunday, a team of Crime Branch officials arrested them for allegedly killing Das and hiding evidence. Investigators said body parts were allegedly kept in their fridge before being dumped in Pandav Nagar and Trilokpur areas. Amit Goel, DCP (Crime Branch), said, "They sedated him and slit his neck when he fell down. They packed the 10 body parts in polybags and discarded them in June. So far, we have recovered six pieces, including head, thighs and an arm." To remove the stench and blood traces, the duo allegedly used room fresheners, phenyl and even whitewashed their house in July, said police.

The incident allegedly took place on May 30. During interrogation, Poonam said she was "fed up" with Das, who was her third partner. Poonam told police that Das was allegedly "harassing" her daughter and Deepak's wife. She said Deepak was also agitated, and they planned to kill Das, who worked as a lift operator.

Local police had found a severed head and body parts, but



A video grab of CCTV footage showing the duo

the body couldn't be identified because of injuries and decomposition. Speaking at a press conference Monday, DCP Goel said, "On June 5, some body parts were recovered from Ramlila Maidan in the East district. Over the next three days, two legs, two thighs, a skull and a forearm were recovered. Efforts were made to identify the body... Our team checked CCTVs... Several teams worked but nothing was found in the first few months... later doctor analysed... and told us that it was a man's body."

CCTVs were checked again, and it was found that two persons were seen disposing of bags at Ramlila grounds on May 31 and June 1, said police. Records of missing persons were checked in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, and police found that Das was missing but no complaint was filed. A team led by ACP Umesh Barthwal found that locals had pointed out that Das lived with his wife in Trilokpur and was missing.

"There was no missing complaint filed by the family. This created suspicion... and Poonam and Deepak were picked up. They gave conflicting versions to investigators. Later, they confessed to his murder... We found footage of them walking towards different areas," said Goel.

Special Commissioner of Police (Crime) Ravindra Yadav said, "The accused revealed that she got married when was 13-14 years old. Her first husband left her and went to Delhi. She came here looking for him, but then moved in with a man named Kallu. The couple has three children, including Deepak. Kallu later died of liver failure. She then got married to Das in 2017. However, Das had not told her that he was previously married and has eight kids from first marriage. Deepak, meanwhile, complained that Das had ill intentions towards his wife, while Poonam claims he was harassing her daughter, who recently got divorced."

Investigators said the accused allegedly used sleeping pills to spike Das's drink on May 30.

"They stabbed him with the dagger and knife on his neck, chest and abdomen... his body was kept in the room for a day to get all the blood drained out. The accused arranged daggers and cut the body into various pieces, preserved them in a fridge and later kept them in plastic bags. They dumped those bags at Ramlila Ground and near Ganda Nala, New Ashok Nagar. They again cleaned the room and fridge using phenyl" added Goel.

In neighbourhood, some suspicions are confirmed

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

HARDLY A kilometre away from the apartment where Anjan Das was killed allegedly by his wife Poonam and his stepson Deepak, the man's family said they knew something was "wrong" when he went missing.

Deepak, who works as a waiter, meanwhile, alleged that his wife and sister were being "molested" by Das, said police. Special Commissioner of Police (Crime) Ravindra Yadav said, "We have found that Das tried to molest and attempted to rape them. Poonam and Deepak got frustrated and angry and planned this sometime in April."

Following Deepak's arrest, his wife said, "We don't know much. Police came and picked him up. We later found they were being accused of killing Das." She alleged that Das had harassed her in the past and tried to touch her inappropriately. She also claimed Deepak had told her Das was dead but did not share more details.

Deepak's sister too made allegations of being groped by Das and also claimed she had approached police regarding this. Police said they received no formal complaint from the family.

"Everything (the murder and disposing of the body parts) was



The family lived in Trilokpur. Abhinav Saha

done in less than two days because it was summer, and the body was decomposing. The family has a 160-180 litre fridge which they used to store the body," said an officer.

In Trilokpur, Sushila, who lived with her family on the same floor, said, "They moved in 4-5 years ago. We didn't talk much but we had asked about Das when we didn't see him for months. Poonam told us he went back to Bihar, and will stay there. There were issues between the couple but we didn't think much."

Another neighbour, Lala Ram, said, "I remember seeing them carrying something in polybags at odd hours but we thought they were carrying groceries. The couple didn't interact much with others here."



Monday was the sixth day at the country's premier institute when the e-hospital services did not work.

At AIIMS, system still down, patients' lives thrown out of gear

ANKITA UPADHYAY
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

UNENDING QUEUES at the new Rajkumari Amrita Kaur (RAK) OPD, as well as for lab services, diagnostic centres and billing counters have become a norm at the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Delhi, since last Wednesday due to a ransomware attack.

On Monday, while patients waited for their turn at various facilities for extended hours, doctors and employees executed work manually, where they wrote all reports and prepared bills with pen and paper.

One such patient was Sumedha Verma, who had to stand in the queue for hours before she got an appointment with a resident doctor deployed at the ENT clinic at the RAK OPD.

A Ghaziabad resident, Sumedha (30) has been suffering from severe headaches and dizziness for the past week. "I have been coming to AIIMS for three days now, but I could not get an appointment. On Monday, I stood in the OPD queue at 7 am and got the appointment for noon," said Sumedha.

Monday was the sixth day at the country's premier institute when the e-hospital services did not work, and the patient data system and day-to-day activities, including OPD registrations and blood sample reports, remained affected. Last Wednesday, a ransomware attack affected the hospital server. Officers of the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, Delhi Police, Intelligence Bureau and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) are probing the incident and they are yet to find the accused involved in the hack. Delhi Police spokesperson Suman Nalwa said, "No ransom demand has been brought to notice by AIIMS authorities."

The AIIMS e-server contains data of around 4 crore patients, including former Prime Ministers, cabinet ministers and

other political leaders. With the cyber attack, the data is now at risk of being lost or in the wrong hands. "The data restoration and server cleaning is in progress and is taking some time due to the volume of data and a large number of servers..." said AIIMS in a statement.

Meanwhile, patients praised doctors and the staff who were making reports manually. "The resident doctors have been rushing from patient to patient to clear the slot of those who were given appointments and were working overtime because of which I finally got the consultation," said Sumedha.

With the e-server being down for the last five days, computerised registration counters also remained empty.

Similar queues were observed at the lab testing facility where patients queued up to get blood and sample reports which were handwritten by doctors and staff. Doctors were also unable to generate Unique Health Identification and Aadhaar (UHD) for patients.

Rajan Singh, a patient from Gaya who is undergoing treatment for gastro issues, said it took five hours for him to get the same. "The doctor and staff employed were making the reports manually due to which everything got delayed. I was told that the server of the institute is not working," he said.

Meanwhile, doctors and staff said they were overworked due to a lack of internet service, which has been halted due to the e-server hack. "This had to happen as there are no cyber safety norms or data safety norms here in the institute, and the digitisation process is being done when we can not protect the e-server. All patient data is at a major risk," said a doctor.

According to sources, the director of the institute, Dr M Srinivas, is in Rishikesh for an event. When *The Indian Express* reached out seeking a comment on the e-server hack, he was unavailable.

BJP bets on 50 social media influencers for an edge online

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

WITH DAYS left for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi elections, the BJP Monday held a meeting with about 50 "social media influencers" with an aim to strengthen its presence online and reach out to a wider audience by leveraging their popularity.

According to party leaders, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar held a meeting with social media influencers from the national capital and discussed strategies that can help the party online. The aim, sources said, is to get them to write or speak about the Modi

government's initiatives and schemes.

Sources said the ones chosen are like-minded when it comes to sharing the party's ideology. "The 50 include party members with a large number of followers and social media presence, like Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, Vikas Pandey and Kuljeet Singh Chahal. Our party's presence on the ground has gained momentum, with CMs and MPs campaigning and rallying across the city. Similarly, the aim is to reach out to the public as aggressively online," said a party leader.

While the Aam Aadmi Party is known for using social media to amplify its message, often relying on humour and pop culture, the BJP has been trying to

catch up. To this end, the party's handles online have been sharing memes and cartoons – a recent one, for instance, took inspiration from the show Money Heist.

"These influencers will also be expected to target our opposition," said a party leader.

The social media cell of the BJP has also formed a "fact-checking" team with an aim to counter the AAP's campaign of 'Kejriwal ki sarkar, Kejriwal ka parashad'. "The team comprises six members who visit schools, mohalla clinics, etc and show the public how the reality doesn't match AAP's promises."

The MCD polls will be held on December 4 and results will be declared on December 7.



Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar Monday visited Delhi's Patel Nagar to campaign for the BJP, ahead of the Delhi civic body polls. Praveen Khanna

2020 riots cast long shadow on municipal polls in NE Delhi, but for many, civic issues are priority

AISWARYARAJ
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

HIS SON killed in the February 2020 Northeast Delhi riots, Nasim Alam left his Karawal Nagar home to move to Ghaziabad's DLF Rail Vihar in November 2020. On December 4, he intends to pay his old neighbourhood a visit to vote in the elections for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) – the first polls in the capital since the violence.

"My son was the sole breadwinner. One of my children does odd jobs to support the family now. I cannot work owing to poor eyesight. I have to marry off six girls, and I approached many political parties for help, but was turned away," Alam said.

Though Muslims constitute around 13% of Delhi's population, in Northeast Delhi this figure stands at 29.34%, according to 2011 census data.

At Mustafabad, an MCD ward reserved for women, all parties have fielded Muslim candidates. Apart from AAP, BJP and Congress, the AIMIM and the CPI(M) are also in the fray.

At AAP's campaign booth, the mustard-coloured walls flaunt photos of Aafreen Naaz and Haji Taj Mohammad. Haji, a former Congress councillor, is this time endorsing the candidature of his daughter-in-law from the AAP. Aafreen is pitted against BJP's

Nirmala Sharma and Congress's Naziya Khatoun from Brijpuri.

Mohammad Irfan, an AAP worker, reiterated his party's poll promises, "Kooode ke pahaad ko nikalenge (We will get rid of the garbage mountains). Tahir Hussain is in jail, so civic issues continued through his term, but we will make sure AAP performs well this time," he said. Parts of Mustafabad have been merged with Brijpuri this year following the delimitation. Members of AAP claimed the tactic behind clubbing Brijpuri, an area with a sizeable Hindu population, with a predominantly Muslim area could improve BJP's chances.

Nehrū Vihar, the erstwhile ward covering New Mustafabad and Brijpuri, had AAP's Tahir Hussain as the councillor. Hussain was arrested for allegedly playing a role in the riots, and has been in jail since February 2020.

Mohd Afroz (34) moved to Loni after his brother-in-law was killed in the riots. His sister and her four children have been living with him ever since. Though they received Rs 10 lakh from the AAP government as compensation, the party's support wavered later, he said. "I lodged a police complaint, but to no avail. I enquire about the status every now and then, but the police have one answer, 'Probe is ongoing'. We used to stay near Karawal Nagar. Now I don't go there unless absolutely necessary," he said.



At AAP's campaign booth in Mustafabad. Express

Differently abled, Afroz has no steady means of income. Help gushed in after the riots from parties that have little presence in the area. "CPI(M)'s Brinda Karat and Subhasini Ali convened meetings four-five times and have helped to fund the education of my sister's children. Even AIMIM pitched in," he said.

Qayamuddin Malik, a BJP member and husband of Mustafabad candidate Shabnam Malik, said their ward lacked dispensaries and schools, and no programme under the MCD has been in effect here under the Congress councillor. "We distributed sanitisers and masks when the Congress came up short during the pandemic. We know 38,000-40,000 of the total voters (55,000). We have actually

reached out to most voters. The entire pasmanda community is behind the BJP. Hindus and Muslims want to work together, and we live in harmony," he said.

On the riots, Malik said: "Those who want to kill are everywhere. We will make sure this incident never repeats."

Mohammad Ataif (22), a resident of Mustafabad, said that though Pasmanda Muslims are a majority in the wards, it is "AAP that is capable of making a change". "Congress is no longer in the picture and since AAP is emerging as a national party, their winning MCD can amount to some change," Ataif said.

Delhi Congress vice-president Ali Mehdi, meanwhile, asserted that the party is popular in riot-hit areas and will make a come-

back in all minority seats in the elections. "Delhi riots happened after speeches by BJP leaders. No FIR has been filed against them. It was the Congress that stepped in. I contested and lost from the constituency in the 2019 Assembly polls, but we went around and exhorted them to maintain communal harmony. Rahul Gandhi and over 20 MPs visited the area. Even the Delhi CM did not even visit once, AAP failed the people and it will be reflected in these elections. Not a single brick has been added to the roads that Congress paved during Sheila Dikshit's regime," Mehdi said.

Dismissing BJP's focus on Pasmanda Muslims, he said, "Muslims are oppressed everywhere across the country. This campaign is to split Muslim votes and create factions. AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi has also jumped in now. Where was he when riots took place or when Markaz (Nizamuddin) was shut or when they accused minorities of spreading Covid? It was always the Congress fighting for the minorities."

AAP's Dr Nasreen, contesting from Mustafabad, said she would focus on education if voted to power, "Mustafabad is the most backward ward on several counts. We don't have good schools, parks, or community halls. If I win, I would want to make sure our children have a good library to prioritise education. The sew-

ers were rarely cleaned during the term of the Congress over the last 10 years. All diseases in Delhi can be traced to the garbage problem... That is the root cause of all issues and we aim to resolve that."

For many, civic issues trump all else.

Opposite Hussain's old house, now deserted, BJP supporter and autorickshaw driver Raj Sharma said AAP could not clean 'kooode ke pahaad' in seven years but promises to clear it in a year. "Arvind Kejriwal says he gives everything for free. I don't have the subsidy anymore – I had to pay Rs 580 this month for electricity," he said. Mohammad Yameen (60), who owns a blanket shop in New Mustafabad, said: "We have a water pipeline here, but no water. No party has raised this issue. We rely on water tankers and borewells. The corporation vehicle comes to collect waste twice; garbage is strewn everywhere. After Tahir Hussain went to jail, no one has taken on the reins, everything is in shambles."

First-time voter Tarun (19) has not made up his mind about who to vote for. As he rides his autorickshaw through brick-paved roads with countless potholes at Karawal Nagar, he said he would not mind having anyone in power. "Roads have been in this condition for as long as I can remember. No matter who wins, my life hangs on this job," he said.

He always took safety precautions: Kin of cyclist hit by BMW

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, NOVEMBER 28

"WE ARE in a state of shock... never thought this would happen. He was quite an experienced cyclist, and took all safety precautions while cycling. It was his passion," said M G Vinayak, father-in-law of Subhendu Banerjee. Banerjee (50) had died after a BMW had allegedly hit him while he was cycling on the Mahipalpur flyover in Delhi on Sunday morning.

His family had planned to go out to celebrate Vinayak's 80th birthday later that afternoon.

Banerjee ran a garment business in Delhi, and had moved to sector 49 in Gurgaon from Delhi over a decade ago. He is survived by his parents, wife and 20-year-old daughter.

Earlier, he had an advertising business. After business slowed down during the pandemic, he started a thermal wear and garment manufacturing business... he was extremely passionate about cycling. For the past 15 years, he had been active in the cycling circuit and had cycled across tough terrain over long distances. He was a fitness enthusiast... we are still coming to terms with the loss," said Vinayak.

To his friends in the cycling community in Delhi and



The deceased, Subhendu Banerjee, was cycling alone when he was allegedly hit by a car on Sunday

Gurgaon, Banerjee was a mentor and a role model.

His friend, Shilpi Malik, recounted that he would always guide other cyclists in their group.

"I suffered an injury in an accident while cycling last year. Being one of the most experienced cyclists, he was very conscious about safety and would often tell other riders 'Tum aage chalo, mein sambhal lunga' (You proceed ahead, I will ensure safety). He was affable and shared inputs about cycling across long distances," she said.

She added that his daily regimen would involve cycling for over 50-60 km in the morning before returning to his house and getting ready for work.



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Sh. Manohar Lal
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INTERVIEW | GENIBEN THAKOR | CONG MLA

‘Fracture in Thakor votes could be a major factor ... it shouldn’t happen’

RITU SHARMA
BHABHAR, NOVEMBER 28

THE FIREBRAND Congress MLA from Vav constituency in Banaskantha district, Geniben Thakor, 46, is contesting her fourth Assembly election.



Excerpts from an interview:

How is 2022 different from your three previous polls?

I'm the sitting MLA. In the last five years, I've succeeded in fulfilling all promises I had made—be it on water, education or health. It has given me better connect with the public and an established trust factor. That's why I'm sure I'll win with a bigger margin this time.

Worried about division of votes in your community?

A fracture in the community vote could be a major factor this time. I'm reiterating in my campaign because both candidates (BJP and Congress) are of the same caste. In such cases, votes get divided, which should not happen. BJP's candidate (Swarupji Thakor) has no *vajood* (identity). So, I'm alerting voters to vote for the Congress, and not repeat what happened in 2012, when (Thakor) votes got divided between myself and the NCP candidate.

What are the local issues?

I'm stressing upon roads connecting villages, water for irrigation and improved government education, not privatised education. Most rural people can't afford private schools. I'm trying to improve the quality of government schools here.

Unemployment is another big issue here. Youth are educated but unemployed. Households are running only on cattle rearing and agriculture. In the future, I want to bring GIDC (Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation) promoted industries like diamond-cutting, embroidery, etc., to smaller towns, especially for women, so that people can earn from home.

What about low female literacy and empowerment in your community?

I came into politics due to my father. I've been in politics now for 28-29 years, starting at the taluka panchayat, then the zila panchayat and then to the Vidhan Sabha. This is my fourth Assembly election, and eighth

election in total. Women generally contest for smaller positions like taluka, zila panchayat and local bodies. Due to lack of education, they fail even to handle the daily administration in these, and fail to progress in politics. The educated sections should enter politics and contest elections. I'll motivate educated women to contest local body elections.

How can women advance if parties don't let them contest polls?

I can't complain about the Congress. This is my fourth Assembly poll. Parties choose women candidates for seats where women are active, based on survey reports, people's representations and recommendations of party workers. Contesting an election for an Assembly constituency of 2.5-3 lakh voters, that too, independently, is very difficult for a woman. Only women who have independently handled local body elections and administration, can tackle Assembly elections.

Why do parties promise larger representation for women and youth before elections?

The Vidhan Sabha elections are not contested on quotas like youth and women, but on recommendations of local people, caste equations, survey reports, contributions to the party and connectivity with locals.

Problems you have faced as a woman politician ...

Not many. The reason is that my family, who are Congress workers, have always given me support and love. They have never let me feel I'm incapable of some work as a female. No candidate, irrespective of how powerful they are or the caste they belong to, can win such a big election on his/her own, without community leaders supporting them as if they themselves are contesting.

Vote from home: 8 lakh forms distributed but 20K opt for EC initiative

AVINASH NAIR
AHMEDABAD, NOVEMBER 28

SO FAR, only 20,804 electors have opted for the Election Commission's "vote-from-home" initiative — introduced for the first time in Gujarat — where voters above 80 years of age or with disabilities can vote in the forthcoming Assembly polls from their homes.

"Of the 8 lakh forms distributed, we have received only 20,804 forms till the end of last week," said an EC official. That means only around 2.6 per cent of the forms were filled and returned. To encourage people to vote from their homes, the office of the Chief Electoral Officer in Gujarat had distributed close to eight lakh Form 12D. Interested electorates had to fill and submit them to the authorities, if they planned to cast their votes from the comfort of their homes.

There are over 9.87 lakh voters aged over 80 years, and an additional 4.03 lakh voters with disabilities, on Gujarat's electoral rolls. Voters of both these categories, including those adversely affected by Covid-19, have been allowed to avail the facility. Their votes will be considered as postal ballots.

"The process of voting from home has begun, and by the end of last week, 3,300 votes were cast already," the EC official said. This process is expected to continue and finish two days ahead of the polls. "For Phase 1, voting from home will end on November 29. For Phase 2, it will end on December 3," the official added.

Among the first to vote from home was Jamsaheb Shatrushalya Sinhji of Jamnagar, who voted from his residence on November 1, in the presence of the deputy district collector. He was among 442 voters in Jamnagar district who had registered to vote from home. Appreciating the effort, PM Narendra Modi had tweeted: "I commend Jam Saheb Shri Shatrushalyasinhji for this remarkable passion towards the festival of democracy. Inspired by him, I hope Gujarat witnesses a record turnout, particularly among young and first-time voters."

In an official release, the Commission said Suresh Bhatt—a retired government official living in Sector 1 in the state capital Gandhinagar, who turns 85 in December—had voted from home on Sunday, after a Booth Level Officer and other officials visited his residence.

HIGH-DECIBEL CAMPAIGN

(From left) Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal in Surat, Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Naranpura, and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in Behrampura on Monday. Hanif Malek, Twitter & Express

I HEREBY DECLARE

AMIT CHAVDA, 46
Congress candidate from Ankla, Anand district

■ Chavda won the seat in 2012 and 2017. He has listed farming and MLA allowances as income sources.

MOVABLE ASSETS
₹81.39 lakh
(Assets include that of his wife and dependent daughter)

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
₹82 lakh
(including nine agricultural land parcels in Anand)

LIABILITIES
₹15.43 lakh

CRIMINAL CASES: None

ARVIND PATEL, 55
BJP candidate from Dharmpur, Valsad district

■ Patel won the seat in 2017. He has listed farming as his source of income.

MOVABLE ASSETS
₹1.59 crore
(with wife and two dependent daughters)

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
₹1.07 crore
(with wife)

LIABILITIES: None

CRIMINAL CASES: None

BATTLEFRONT GUJARAT

As Congress falters, clues from Viramgam on voters' hopes, fears

It is one of the constituencies where AAP's entry is making it challenging for both BJP and Cong

LIZ MATHEW
VIRAMGAM, NOVEMBER 28

SITTING IN a chair by the roadside in front of his workshop, the man, in his 50s, reluctantly opened up, quickly listing the woes besetting people: price rise, lack of jobs, apathy of political leaders etc. He refused to disclose his name. "Call me Bharat," he said. His assistant was equally guarded, saying "I am Indian" when asked about his name.

A few kilometers away, Hitesh who runs a tea shop in the heart of Viramgam town said "fear" had made people hesitant. He also flagged high prices of daily essentials as a major concern.

But Hitesh and his neighbour Natwar Singh, a pesticide shop owner, attributed the situation to as "one-sided political scene". "There's no Opposition, so there is not much to hope from the current Assembly polls. The Congress has ditched those who pinned their hopes on it," said Singh.

Like Hitesh and Singh, several locals see the emergence of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Gujarat as a "positive sign". "We don't know how AAP is going to do. But we will have an Opposition, we hope," Singh said.

The Viramgam Assembly constituency illustrates to a degree the state of affairs prevailing in the Congress, the principal Opposition, in Gujarat. The party got 39 per cent votes in this seat in the 2012 Assembly polls and 42 per cent in the 2017 polls, winning it both times. Although it had lost the seat to the BJP in 2007, the party had garnered 44.32 per cent votes even then. But like many other constituencies across the state this time, there does not seem to be any enthusiasm in the Congress camp in Viramgam too.

"Congress does not have a strong leader, nor is it doing outreach. The party is like it does not



Cutouts of BJP candidate Hardik Patel and PM Narendra Modi at the local party office. Liz Mathew

want to even fight elections," Sadat, a shop worker, said.

Many local voters, cutting across caste and religious lines, said the BJP government under Narendra Modi had ensured development. "Modi opened up the state for industries, roads were built, farmers started getting water for irrigation," Vijaybhai Rawal, a shopkeeper, said.

But what surprised voters like Sadat is the "way the Congress has given up this time" despite the support it enjoys among minorities and backward communities. The Congress bagged 149 of the state's total 182 seats in the 1985 polls in the wave following the assassination of Indira Gandhi, but went on to face a series of setbacks subsequently.

In the 2017 polls, when it won 77 seats, the Congress had made moves to take advantage of the churning roiling the state due to the disenchantment of the Patidar community, farmers as well as traders towards the ruling BJP. The party had then gone all out to take

on the BJP, deputing its then general secretary Ashok Gehlot to the state well in advance and deploying significant resources in its campaigning. Rahul Gandhi had launched a major outreach, Navsarjan Yatra, crisscrossing the state, reaching out to various sections, meeting students, professionals, farmers, traders and religious leaders. Rahul had then also visited all major temples in the state to woo the Hindu voters.

The Congress had then also roped in a number of young, high-profile leaders, including Hardik Patel, who led the Patel quota agitation, OBC leader Alpesh Thakor, and Dalit leader Jignesh Mevani who emerged as firebrand leaders representing their communities and projecting themselves as Rahul's lieutenants. The state BJP dispensation was also witnessing a vacuum after Modi became PM.

The Congress, however, again started faltering within months after the polls — which the BJP clinched with a sharply reduced majority (99 seats) — with its

MLAs starting to defect to the BJP. In the last five years, 19 Congress MLAs have defected to the BJP.

The Congress does not have a face for the coming polls. Bharatsinh Solanki, one of its prominent leaders, is embroiled in a string of controversies. The demise of both Ahmed Patel and Rajiv Satav, who played key roles during the last elections, has severely hurt the party. Gehlot, the Congress in-charge for the polls, is busy grappling with his arch party rival, Sachin Pilot, in Rajasthan. "We don't have enough resources or people to put up a show like the BJP here," said a senior state party leader.

Hardik Patel, 29, who walked out of the Congress despite being its state working president to join the BJP a few months ago, is now contesting the election from Viramgam on the saffron party's ticket. "The BJP has a strong organisation, the network is robust, the style of working is very different. There is enthusiasm among people for PM Modi and the party

knows how to translate it into votes," he said.

Overseeing the preparation for welcoming Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath who was to address a rally to campaign for him, Hardik sought to list some of the reasons behind the Congress's fall, alleging "Congress leaders kept attacking the Gujaratis—its leaders were singling out Gujarati industrialists to criticise them. They opposed Ram Mandir construction, they opposed the abrogation of Article 370... Gujaratis did not appreciate, it gave the impression that the party is anti-Gujarati."

Suresh Patel, who claims he was a "loyal and selfless worker" for the Congress for decades before he decided to work for the BJP six months ago, said that young Patidars have shifted their loyalty to the BJP.

Patel and his friend Harisinh Vaghela gave a number of reasons why they would vote for the BJP. "The BJP government brought water here, otherwise farmers from this region used to flee to Saurashtra region. This government gives us subsidy to build the house, we get uninterrupted power supply in these houses, there are a number of industry units and we do not have enough workers so our youngsters get jobs," Vaghela said.

Viramgam is one of the seats where the AAP's entry is making it challenging for both the BJP and the Congress. The AAP candidate Kuvari Thakor's volunteers rake up "fear factor" among voters.

Former Gujarat Congress president Amit Chavda said his party may not be in the limelight like the BJP or the AAP, but it still enjoys a "solid support base". A four-time MLA, Chavda also countered the argument that the Congress does not have a face in the polls. "Who is the BJP's face? It's just Modi, who is the Prime Minister. It still needs Modi and Shah (Amit Shah) to win elections."

Cong MLA swims across creek to press bridge demand

Rajula MLA Ambarish Der trying to get it built to reduce distance between two places across the creek by 25 km

GOPAL KATESHIYA
RAJKOT, NOVEMBER 28

CONGRESS MLA Ambarish Der has swum across a creek in his constituency Rajula in Gujarat's Amreli district to highlight the need to construct a bridge.

Der released a video on Sunday in which he said he would be swimming from Victor Port to Chanch Bandar along the Rajula coast to "underscore how the government has not responded to the repeated pleas for a bridge".

"I am doing this so that the state government understands

how much a bridge is needed there. I have been demanding a bridge to connect Victor Port and Chanch Bandar, the biggest village in Rajula, at the mere cost of Rs 50 crore for the last three Assembly sessions. If a 350-metre bridge is built across the Victor Port creek, the distance between the two places will reduce by 25 kilometres," Der said.

Asking why "a Rs 50 crore bridge for villagers of the poor Koli community was not being built," he said that "his efforts have not materialised despite requests to the state government to allot funds for a bridge".

In 2017, Der won his debut



Ambarish Der (in white shirt) swimming on Sunday. Express

Assembly election from Rajula by defeating the saffron party's Hira Solanki by 12,719 votes. Rajula had been a BJP bastion since 1997. Der's victory ensured the Congress's win in all five Assembly constituencies — Amreli, Savarkundla, Lathi and

Dhari — of the district. Solanki is the BJP candidate this time around as well. The AAP has fielded Bharat Baldaniya.

The MLA enjoys influence locally, having been the Rajula municipality president six times. He first contested as a councillor in

2000 on a Samajwadi Party (SP) ticket. He later switched base to the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and went on to become the president of the municipality in 2003 and 2007. He was also with the BJP for a brief period in between. He joined the Congress in 2007. In the past, Der has served as the director of a local cooperative bank called the Rajula Nagrik Sahkari as well as the Rajula Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC).

Known for his oratory skills and outspoken nature, Der was suspended from the Assembly in March 2018 for demanding that the Speaker give fellow MLA Vikram Madam time to speak on a case related to the mysterious deaths of two children in a gurukul run by godman Asaram in Ahmedabad. In June 2021, he sat on a week-long hunger strike, al-

leging that BJP MP from Amreli Naran Kachhadiya was blocking the transfer of a piece of railway land to the Rajula municipality.

Der is a member of the OBC Ahir community. While the Ahirs don't hold the largest number of votes in the seat, another OBC group, the Kolis, command significant electoral influence. Party leaders, however, said that "caste considerations did not get Der votes in 2017".

Praveen Baraiya, a Congress worker from Jafraabad, a town part of the Rajula constituency, said Der's "clean image and readiness to work for all without discriminating on caste and religious grounds helped him win". He added that Der "got a lead of more than 8,500 votes from Rajula town, underlining his popularity in the urban pocket".



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

NAMASTE, SHALOM

TO WELCOME the cast and crew of Israeli TV series *Fauda* at International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa, Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur tweeted in Hebrew on Monday. "I am pleased to welcome @FaudaOfficial stars @liorraz and @issacharoff to #IFFI53 in India! Israel and India share a special relationship," he posted (roughly translated from Hebrew). Thakur also shared a clip of himself and Fauda actor Lior Raz jumping from the bus. In response, Israel's Ambassador to India, Naor Gilon, tweeted: "...You look one of the team and should probably consider joining *Fauda*".

NOTA WORRY NOTED

AMID REPORTS that BJP is in a comfortable position in Gujarat, the party leadership appears to be more worried about voter turnout as the D-day nears. The main topic of discussion in BJP's internal meetings to review preparations is to bring down NOTA votes. Votes for NOTA came third in nearly 115 seats in 2017 elections. There were unsuccessful attempts from the party to shift the category from last position on electronic voting machines (EVMs) because, according to BJP leaders, many people cast their votes on the last line, considering it as number one on the list. Party leaders admit that the biggest task for its cadre and booth-level workers is to get voters out on polling days instead of "being overconfident" about BJP's victory.

GUNS TRAINED ON TRAINS

Even as the government highlights Vande Bharat Express trains as its major achievement, the train seems to invite more Opposition scrutiny. Several MPs, mostly from the Opposition camp, are armed with questions on the Vande Bharat for the ensuing Winter Session of Parliament. The drift of most of these questions, it is learnt, are to catch the government on the wrong foot and to get it revealing something not so complimentary about the celebrated train set.

CAA will be implemented soon: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 28

UNION MINISTER of State for Home Affairs Nisith Pramanik has claimed that the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) would be implemented soon in West Bengal.

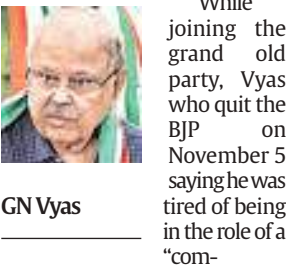
During a public meeting at

Mathabhanga in Cooch Behar district on Sunday, Pramanik said, "Hindus were driven out of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan. CAA was brought in to give citizenship to such people. The law doesn't take away anyone's citizenship. Soon this law will be implemented in the country. This will be implemented in West Bengal as well."

Congress did 75% of Narmada dam work, says ex-BJP minister Vyas as he joins party

AVINASH NAIR
AHMEDABAD, NOVEMBER 28

DAYS AHEAD of the first phase of the Gujarat Assembly elections on December 1, former minister and veteran BJP leader Jay Narayan Vyas along with son Sameer Vyas joined the Congress on Monday, in the presence of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in Ahmedabad.



GN Vyas

While joining the grand old party, Vyas who quit the BJP on November 5 saying he was tired of being in the role of a "com-plainant" in the saffron party despite his seniority, said 75 per cent of the concrete work of the Narmada dam, including the foundation, was done during the Congress regimes. Vyas was a minister with the Gujarat government between 2007 and 2012. Thanking Kharge and Gehlot for his inclusion in the Congress, Vyas said, "All the irrigation schemes in Gujarat, including that of Narmada, were planned before the 1960s."

He said the very narrative of the BJP that the foundation of the Narmada dam was laid by then prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru on April 5, 1962 is flawed.

"The foundation stone that Panditji laid was for the Navagam dam, which was 240 feet high. The Khosla committee was asked to study it and he suggested a dam of 550 feet high. Parts of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh would get submerged and hence dispute happened," said Vyas.

Phase 1 campaign ends today; Modi says Gujarat suffered under Cong's divide & rule

Modi addresses four rallies; Shah, Kejriwal, Kharge among other political heavyweights on campaign trail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, AHMEDABAD, NOVEMBER 28

WITH ONE day to go before campaigning for the first phase of the Gujarat election ends, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge were among a plethora of political heavyweights to address rallies in the state on Monday.

Modi, who held four rallies in the Saurashtra region, said Gujarat had suffered under the Congress's "divide and rule" policy until the people of the state united against "divisive forces" more than 20 years ago.

"Our mantra is peace, unity and harmony. The root cause of Gujarat's progress is the unity here. On the other hand, Congress's core ideology is to divide and rule — making people fight among themselves so that its interests are protected. This was Congress's trick," Modi said at a rally for the BJP at Palitana in



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani (right) at an election rally in Rajkot on Monday. Express

Bhavnagar district. He said that the Congress made Marathas and Gujaratis fight each other before Gujarat became a separate state, and added that after the state was formed, the party caused rifts among various regions, communities and sects.

Shah addressed rallies in Mehsana, Aravalli, Ahmedabad and Vadodara, and accused the

Congress of "disrupting peace". He alleged that during Congress rule, the state saw communal riots and curfews. In Ahmedabad, Shah said the BJP converted it from a city of "badshahs and begums" to "Karnavati". Changing the name of Ahmedabad to Karnavati, after the legendary king Karnadev Solanki, has been on the BJP's agenda since the 1990s.

"They (Congress) orchestrated Hindu-Muslim riots and ensured that there was a curfew for 250 of

the 365 days... Bombs used to be found from homes of their Cabinet ministers and 200 people would get stabbed daily in Ahmedabad jail. In 2001, when Narendrabhai became the chief minister, no one had the courage to cast an evil eye on the rath yatra of Lord Jagannath... The Congress had backed rioters always and so in 2002, they (miscreants) made another attempt to create a riot. But they were taught such a lesson that they never lifted their

heads again," Shah said.

Also appearing at rallies in the state for the BJP on Monday were Union ministers Smriti Irani and Parshottam Rupala, as well as Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, and actor-turned-politician Paresh Rawal.

Kejriwal held a townhall with diamond workers in Surat, and also addressed a roadshow in Katargam, which was hit by stone-pelting, according to the AAP. Kejriwal appealed to the people to vote the AAP to power for five years and said that even to those who pelted stones, he would give "free electricity and education to your children".

The AAP, which is fighting on 182 seats, saw two of its candidates withdraw their nominations, of which the Abdasa candidate Vasant Khetani joined BJP on Monday. Addressing a public rally at Behrampura on Monday, Congress president Kharge targeted the BJP for failing to provide jobs in Gujarat and for paper leaks, while also taking a dig at the party for deploying PM Modi, Union ministers and chief ministers at the Gujarat election campaign.

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

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(*CBDT Circular No. 21/2022 in F.No. 275/25/2022-IT(B) dt. 27/10/2022)

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- Form 16/16A/16B/16C/16D, should mandatorily be generated from **TRACES Portal** <https://www.tdscpc.gov.in> (TDS certificate downloaded only from TRACES Portal is valid). TDS certificate cannot be downloaded from TRACES Portal in case the PAN is incorrect or not specified in the e-filed statement.
- Transaction Based Report (TBR) may be downloaded instead of TDS certificate for deductions made from non-PAN non-residents, and reported in Form No. 27Q.

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Form 16A (on income other than salary) for the quarter ended 30th September, 2022 by 15th December, 2022.

Penalty : Delay in issue of TDS certificate shall result in penalty of Rs.500/- per certificate for each day of default.

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... Facilitated proper credit of tax to deductees?	• Enter your TAN, deductee's PAN and CIN of payment challan correctly in the TDS statement, so that TDS certificate in Form 16/16A can be generated from TRACES (Non - quoting of correct details may lead to levy of penalty).

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Kerala recalls 209 Silverline survey officials, to wait for Centre's nod

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOVEMBER 28

WITH the Union government yet to give its approval for Kerala's proposed semi high-speed rail corridor Silverline project, the state government has recalled the revenue officials who have been deployed to conduct a social impact assessment (SIA) study for land acquisition.

The State Revenue Department on Saturday issued an order calling back 205 officials, who have been deployed for conducting the study with regard to the acquisition of 1,221 hectares of land in 11 districts of the state for the ambitious project also called K-Rail. The order said the staff with SIA units should be redeployed with other essential projects. It said the SIA study will be done once the Railway Board approves the project, the order read.

Opposition Leader V D Satheesan said the decision to redeploy the officials indicated that the government is back-tracking. "The government should have the courage to say that the project is abandoned. The UDF will continue to oppose the project and go for agitation if it is not yet abandoned," Satheesan said.

However, CPI(M) leader and state Finance Minister K N Balagopal said the project was not abandoned. "The survey will resume once the Railway Board gives permission to the project. Until then, we cannot keep the revenue officials idle. Hence, they are being redeployed," the minister said. Laying of boundary stones for conducting the SIA survey had led to violent protests in many parts of Kerala.

Mumbai Port Authority

NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER

Online e-Auction-cum-e-Tender is invited for **allotment of open space for offshore activities viz. storage/cargo operations with or without installation of facilities, cargo handling equipment within the earmarked area at 14 Victoria Dock of Mumbai Port Authority on license basis for 11 months extendable for two more terms of 11 months each at the discretion of Mumbai Port.**

The above tender is available for downloading on MbPA's website <https://www.mumbaiport.gov.in> and also at the e-procurement website <https://eprocure.gov.in> from 1100 hrs. on 02/12/2022 to 1500 hrs. on 26/12/2022.

Last date for online submission of Tender is 26/12/2022 upto 1500 hrs. The Technical bid will be opened at 1530 hrs. on 27/12/2022.

MbPT-16-2022 Traffic Manager (I/C)

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR CLAIM AGAINST TRANSFER OF RIGHTS AND SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Notice is hereby given to public at large about

FLAT BEARING B-123/A8 (Flat Bearing A8 in Building No. 123-A), ADMEASURING AREA 200 SQ. YARDS, ON THE 1ST UPPER FLOOR, SITUATED AT KHASRA NO. 42 OF LAL DORA ABADI OF FREEDOM FIGHTER COLONY, DELHI, BUILT IN AN EXTENT OF 400 SQ. YARDS, BOUNDED BY

NORTH: NEIGHBOUR MR. ALI BHAI EAST: ROAD

SOUTH: NEIGHBOUR MR. VN SINGH WEST: NEIGHBOUR MR. JAGBEER PAWAR

That Mr. B. Sriram and Mrs. B. Annapoorna Devi, has acquired the rights over the Said Property by way of Family Settlement Deed dated 18th October 2021 executed by B. Kanta Rao in favor of B. Sriram and B. Annapurna Devi.

Now, B. Sriram and B. Annapurna Devi along with B. Kanta Rao as transferor intent to transfer the complete right and ownership to the proposed transferee Mr. Ravindra Kumar Nagar and Mr. Deepak Kumar Raghuvanshi and have executed an Agreement for Sale dt. 23.11.2022 for transfer of rights for the abovementioned property.

Any person or any company having or claiming any right, title, claim, mortgage, demand or interest in respect of the said property or to any part thereof by way of sale, exchange, maintenance, license, gift, mortgage, lien, charge, inheritance, share, possession, assignment or encumbrance of whatsoever nature are hereby required to make the claim in writing with documentary evidence call or contact personally at our office, addressed herein below, within 15 days from the date hereof. Failing which, the said Sale/Transfer will be completed without any reference to such claim and the same if any shall be considered as waived.

Place: New Delhi Sd/-, AKSHAY UPPAL (+91-9798715287)

Date: 29-11-2022 B-76, Lower Ground Floor, Sector 2, NOIDA (201301)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Form no INC-26

(Pursuant to rule 30 the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014)

BEFORE THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR, NORTHERN REGION, NEW DELHI

In the matter of sub-section 4 of Section 13 of Companies Act, 2013 and Clause (a) of sub-rule (5) of Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014s (Incorporation) Rules, 2014)

AND

In the matter of Innvolution Healthcare Private Limited (CIN: U74999UP2011PTC109144) (Applicant Company) having its registered office at 324, 3rd Floor, Angel Mega Mall Plot No CK-1, Kaushambhi, Ghaziabad – 201010, Uttar Pradesh

----- Petitioner

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the Company has made application to the Regional Director, Northern Region, New Delhi under section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 18.07.2022 to enable the company to change its Registered office from "State of Uttar Pradesh" (ROC Kanpur) to "State of Karnataka (ROC Bangalore)".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director at the address B-2 wing, 2nd Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110003, within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant company at its registered office at the address mentioned below.

For and on behalf of Innvolution Healthcare Private Limited Sd/- Ashvini Suthar (Director) DIN: 05132549

Registered Office: 324, 3rd Floor, Angel Mega Mall, Plot No CK-1, Kaushambhi, Ghaziabad - 201010 Date: 29-11-2022, Place: Uttar Pradesh

MAINPURI BYPOLL

Adityanath targets SP, calls Shivpal pendulum

LALMANI VERMA
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

CAMPAINING FOR BJP candidate Raghuraj Singh Shakya in Mainpuri, where the Lok Sabha by-election will be held on December 5, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Monday hit out at the rival Samajwadi Party, accusing its leadership of never rising above 'parivarwad' or dynasty.

He mocked Shivpal Yadav, who left SP to form Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) and later joined hands with SP, calling him a “pendulum” and comparing him to a football. Addressing a public meeting in Karhal, represented by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, the BJP leader said: “Who are the people who after coming to power made government a family heirloom. Time has come to show them democracy's strength.”

Etawah, Mainpuri, Firozabad, Agra, Etah, and Kanpur districts have a dominance of Yadav voters and are considered SP strongholds.

SP is fielding Akhilesh's wife and former MP Dimple Yadav from Mainpuri which fell vacant after the death of party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav. With Shivpal burying the hatchet with his nephew Akhilesh and seen campaigning for Dimple, Adityanath said, “His (Shivpal) condition has become like a pendulum. One shouldn't become a pendulum in life because a pendu-



UP CM Yogi Adityanath

Shivpal Yadav's security cover downgraded

Lucknow: UP government downgraded the security cover of SP MLA Shivpal Yadav from Y2 category to Y. The downgrade comes days after the PSP-L leader buried hatchets with his nephew and the SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, and started campaigning for Dimple Yadav in Mainpuri. **ENS**

lumb has no goal,” Shivpal had earlier expressed unhappiness with Akhilesh after Assembly elections.

Referring to the ongoing football World Cup, Adityanath said: “Some people have become football. People must avoid becoming football and work for honour and respect of Mainpuri. To protect honour and respect, BJP fielded Raghuraj Singh Shakya.” Shakya, once Shivpal's close aide, joined BJP in the run-up to the Assembly elections this year.

Centre to SC: Realise menace of forced conversion, will take steps

Right to religious freedom doesn't include right to convert people: MHA affidavit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

STATING THAT the right to freedom of religion does not include a fundamental right to “convert people to a particular religion”, the Centre on Monday told the Supreme Court that it is “cognisant of the menace” of forced conversions and will take “appropriate steps” to deal with it.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in an affidavit, “...it is submitted that reliefs sought in the present petition would be taken up at all seriousness by the Union of India and appropriate steps shall be taken, as the Central government is cognisant of the menace”.

The government said that “un-

doubtedly” the right to freedom of religion, and “more importantly the right to conscience of all citizens of the country, is an extremely cherished and valuable rights which ought to be protected by the Executive and the Legislature”.

The MHA, however, added that “the right to freedom of religion does not include a fundamental right to convert people to a particular religion”, and that the “said right certainly does not include the right to convert an individual through fraud, deception, coercion, allurement or other such means”.

In the affidavit, the government pointed out that the “meaning and purport of the word propagate, falling under Article 25 the Constitution, was discussed and debated in great detail in the Constituent Assembly and the in-

clusion of the said word was passed by the Constituent Assembly only after clarification that the fundamental right under Article 25 would not include the right to convert”....

The MHA stated that in the 1977 decision in Rev Stainislaus vs State of Madhya Pradesh and Others, the apex court had examined the scope of the words “propagate” and “public order”.

In the order, the SC held that “the word propagate does not envisage the right to convert a person, rather (it) is in the nature of the positive right to spread one's religion by exposition of its tenets”, the government stated in the affidavit. “The court further held that fraudulent or induced conversion impinges upon the right to freedom of

conscience of an individual apart from hampering public order and therefore the state was well within its power to regulate/restrict the same”.

MHA said some states already had laws to curb forced conversions and added that these were also upheld by the top court.

The government submitted that “such enactments are necessary for protecting cherished the rights of vulnerable sections of the society, including women and economically and socially backward classes”.

The affidavit was filed in response to a petition by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, who sought steps to stop forced religious conversions. The matter will now be heard on December 5.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with supporters during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Indore district of MP on Monday. PTI

Rahul on Rahul: I let go of Rahul Gandhi years ago...he is in your mind, not mine

MANOJ CG
INDORE, NOVEMBER 28

At a time when the Congress is desperately hoping the Bharat Jodo Yatra will transform people's perception of party leader Rahul Gandhi and contribute to the party's revival, the senior Congress leader turned philosophical on Monday and said “he had let go of Rahul Gandhi many years ago”.

When asked about his learnings from the Yatra, Gandhi said, “Rahul Gandhi ko maine bohot saalon pehle chhod diya. Rahul Gandhi apke dimag mein hai, mere dimag mein hai hi nahin. (I let go of Rahul Gandhi years ago. Rahul Gandhi is in your mind, not mine). Try and understand, this is our country's philosophy.”

His remarks have since been interpreted differently by various leaders. While some saw philosophical undertones in his remarks, others called him “a changed man”.

“He is not impatient anymore. He is not angry anymore,” a leader said. Rahul has also in the past spoken about getting irritated quickly. “I used to get irritated in one or two hours. Now, I don't get irritated even after eight hours. It doesn't matter even if somebody pushes me or pulls me from behind.”

About BJP's personal attacks on him, Rahul said he considered the barbs “his guru and a compass which give him direction”.

“The BJP has spent crores of rupees to sully my image. And they have created an image of me. People think it is damaging for me but actually, it is beneficial for me. Because the truth is with me. And truth cannot be hidden. The more money they spent to sully my image, the more strength it is giving me...they are giving me that much manoeuvrability because truth cannot be hidden or suppressed,” the Congress leader said.

Rahul's remarks also came days after Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma triggered a controversy by saying that the Congress leader's face was turning into that of Saddam Hussien.

“As far as personal attacks against me are concerned, they happen when an individual takes a political position. If you are fighting against big forces, there will be personal attacks. If you are not fighting against any force and you are just floating around there will be no personal attacks,” he said.

Rahul added, “I have started understanding deeply the thought process of BJP and RSS. So, I am moving forward in this battle and everything is fine if I am moving forward.”

As yatra nears Rajasthan, Rahul says both Gehlot and Pilot Cong ‘assets’

MANOJ CG
INDORE (MP), NOVEMBER 28

AS THE tussle over leadership between Chief Minister

Ashok Gehlot and rival Sachin Pilot kept Rajasthan Congress pot simmering, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday tried to strike a balance, calling both leaders “assets” to the party.

His remarks came a day after the party said Gehlot should not have used “certain words” against Pilot. “I don't want to get into who said what. Both leaders are assets to the Congress. But I can say one thing with guarantee that this (feud) will have no impact on the Bharat Jodo Yatra,” Rahul said at a press conference in Indore.

With just days left for Bharat Jodo Yatra to enter Rajasthan, AICC general secretary in charge of organisation, KC Venugopal, Saturday reached Jaipur to review the preparations and ensure that the war-

ring leaders remain on the same page so that their tussle does not overshadow or derail the yatra.

One senior leader considered close to Rahul said that replacing Gehlot is easier said than done given his heft and the number of MLAs backing him. He asserted that Pilot had joined the yatra on November 24 on his own and that Rahul had not called him.

The mixed signals indicate the party is keen to keep both Rajasthan leaders in good humour until the yatra leaves the state.

Congress leadership does not want differences between Gehlot and Pilot to play out in the open, with the yatra in state. Rahul's balancing act is seen in that context.

His remarks came days after Gehlot said that Pilot cannot be made the chief minister, as party MLAs will not accept a “gaddar” (traitor) who had colluded with the BJP to topple the government in 2020. Gehlot had also alleged that the BJP had given Rs 10 crore to bring down his government.

On Sunday, party general secretary in charge of communication, Jairam Ramesh, said “some words used by the chief minister were unexpected” and that he “should not have certain words.”

ANDHRA PRADESH

SC stays HC order to develop Amaravati as capital in 6 months

REENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, NOV 28

THE SUPREME Court on Monday stayed till January 31, 2023, the Andhra Pradesh High Court's March 3 order that asked state government to develop within six months Amaravati as the capital city.

SC also sought response of the Centre, Andhra Pradesh government, and Amravati Rajdhani Rythu Parirakshan Samiti in an appeal filed by AP government challenging the HC order to develop Amaravati as the state capital as per the plan of previous TDP regime.

On March 3, the HC directed the state to develop the

proposed capital Amaravati as envisaged under Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) Act of the previous TDP government, and set a deadline of six months.

Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy, adviser (public affairs) to Andhra Pradesh government, welcomed the SC's order. “We reiterate YSRCP's goal is decentralised development. We will also put this matter before people of Andhra Pradesh and let them decide if decentralisation is the way forward,” he said.

YSRCP government proposed to develop the executive capital at Visakhapatnam, judicial capital at Kurnool, while Amaravati will be the legislative capital.

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Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://etender.up.nic.in> Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/ amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) Re-Tender Work :-

S. No.	Job No.	Name of work	Tender Amount (in Lacs)
1	19/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M(E&M-IV)/2022-23	Providing Lighting arrangement of different Parks of Sector-128, Noida	36.43

The above tenders can be uploaded by date **05.12.2022 up to 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date **06.12.2022 at 11.00 AM**.

B) Fresh Tender Works :-

S. No.	Job No.	Name of work	Tender Amount (in Lacs)
1	21/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M(E&M-IV)/2022-23	Providing of Earthing of Electrical Infrastructure i.e. street light poles, Transformers, Pannels, Highmast's etc. at Various Location in Area of E&M-IV, Noida	56.72

The above tenders can be uploaded by date **12.12.2022 up to 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date **13.12.2022 at 11.00 AM**.

Office: **Dy. General Manager (E&M) Noida**

SECTOR-39

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

SUJIT BISOI
BHUBANESWAR, NOV 28

THE INCOME Tax (I-T) Department on Monday conducted searches at the houses of three local businessmen considered close to senior Bijujanata Dal (BJD) leaders in bypoll-bound Padampur Assembly seat of Odisha's Bargarh district.

The searches, which started early morning in the presence of armed CRPF personnel, are being conducted at the residences of Md Sajid in Hanumanpada, Manabhanjan Sahu in Sahupada and Gaju Agrawal in Shastri Chhak

They are involved in rice mill and transporting business. The three businessmen were supporters of late BJD MLA Bijaya Ranjan Singh Bariha, whose death necessitated the bypoll on December 5. Bariha's daughter Barsha Singh is the BJD candidate in the bypoll.

In an apparent retaliation, the GST authorities of the state government, accompanied by the state police, conducted searches at six places, including a cloth store, petrol pump and pharmaceutical store in Bargarh, Padampur, Paikmal and Jharbandh areas. The businesses owned by Gobardhan Agrawal, Nikhil Agrawal and Sunil Agrawal, who are considered to be

BJP supporters

GST authorities said they are examining various bills and documents of the proprietors to detect if there was any GST evasion.

Sajid's advocate Prasant Mohanty, who tried to enter latter's residence during the raid, was stopped by CRPF, following which he filed a police complaint.

Padampur sub-divisional police officer Bibhuti Bhusan Bhoi told *The Indian Express* that the I-T sleuths informed the local police about the raids in the morning.

The raids have also triggered a political slugfest with ruling dispensation accusing BJP of using central agency to create an atmosphere of fear. Senior BJD leader and former minister Susanta Singh said BJP is using the I-T fearing defeat in the bypoll. BJP leader Prithviraj Harichandan said the central agency conducts searches whenever they receive any credible information and it has nothing to do with the byelection.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER
Grenadier Raghvendra Singh (10 Jul 1989 - 29 Nov 2016)
On this day we salute and pay homage to the gallant soldier who laid down his life for the Nation while fighting against terrorists in Kashmir during a fideyan attack. You made the supreme sacrifice in the finest traditions of the Indian Army and made the 'Triumphant Third' proud. May your soul rest in peace.

Commanding Officer and All Ranks 3 GRENADIERS
LNK NUN BAHADUR RANA, SM
On this day 5043352A Lnk Nun Bahadur Rana, SM and 5045078M Rfn Sher Bahadur GT, SM of 5/1 Gorkha Rifles made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP RAKSHAK' Jammu & Kashmir on 29 Nov 1997 in a true act of valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their courage and valour. To these brave hearts we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirit and make their names proud.

BAHADUR GT, SM
CO AND ALL RANKS, 5/1 GORKHA RIFLES

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
File No-C-IIM-IFB-06/2019 No. 44901 Dtd. 25.11.2022
1st Corrigendum Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-29/2022-23
The following changes are made to the works invited vide Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-29/2022-23 vide letter No.42829 dtd.14.11.2022.
1. The Bid documents will be available in the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in from **10.00 AM of 08.12.2022 to 5.30 PM of 29.12.2022** for online bidding.
2. Bids shall be received only on "on line" on or before **5.30 PM of 29.12.2022**.
3. Bids received on line shall be opened at **11.30 Hours on 30.12.2022** in the office of the Engineer-in-Chief (Civil), Nirmana Saudha, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.
Chief Engineer, DPI & Road, Odisha
OIPR-34111/11/0061/2223

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Email – cs8217@pnrb.co.in

E- Auction Sale Notice

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on “As is where is”, “As is what is”, and “Whatever there is” on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Lot. No	Name of the Branch Name of the Account Name & addresses of the borrower/ Guarantors Account	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name	A) Dt. Of Demand Notice 13(2) B) Outstanding Amount C) Possession Date D) Nature of possession	A) Reserve Price (Rs. in Lacs) B) EMD (last date of Deposit of EMD) C) Bid Increase Amount	Date /Time of E-Auction
1.	PNB Tower Chowk(010800) (A) M/S R P DEVELOPERS Partnership Firm Urmila Sadan, Indira Colony, P- Alalpatti, Darbhanga - 846003. (B) MRS REENA DEVI W/o Kapteshwar, Mandla, Madanpur, Bankers Colony, Rahamganj, P- Laheriasarai, Darbhanga - 846004 (C) MR RAVINDRA KUMAR S/o Gopal Mandal, bela Shankar DARBHANGA 846004	Land and Building situated at Moh: -Rasulpur Khurd, (Indira colony), Pargana- Purab Bhigo, District- Darbhanga, Deed no 10883 Dt-11.07.2011, Thana No- 494, Tauzi No-1722, Khata 83(O),98(N), Khesra, 175(O), 413(N), Area, 14 Dhur, Boundary N-Road(12feet), S-Hasan Imam, E- Shiv Pd Yadav, W- Mohan Kumar, Deed No-11477 Dt-22.07.2011, Tauzi No-1722, Thana No-494, Khata 83(O),88(N), Khesra 175(O),413(N), Area15.25 Dhur, Boundary N-Road(12 Feet), S- Indira Cooperative, E - Nij Mokir, W- Nij Kharihar. (Bank has symbolic possession over property.)	A)01.10.2021. B) Rs. 4443045.34 (Rupees Forty Four Lakh Four Thirty Three Thousand Forty Five and Thirty Four Paisa Only) as on 30.09.2021 with further interest until payment in full and other charges(as per demand notice) C)13.12.2021. D)Symbolic possession	A) Rs 72.28Lakh B) Rs 7.23Lakh (27.12.2022 upto 5.00 pm) C) 0.50Lac	28.12.2022 From 11.00 AM to 4.00PM
2	Darbhanga Tower Chowk (A) M/s Sai Feeds Pvt. Ltd, Donar Industrial Area, Darbhanga Dist- Darbhanga -846003 (B) Sri Rajesh Kumar Choudhary, Managing Director- M/s Sai Feeds Pvt.Ltd, Donar Industrial Area, Darbhanga Dist- Darbhanga -846003 Add-2: Shahganj, Near-Gumti No-22 Beta, Laheriasarai, Ward No-35 Darbhanga -846001 (C) Smt Anju Choudhary Director- M/s Sai Feeds Pvt. Ltd, Donar Industrial Area, Darbhanga Dist- Darbhanga -846003. Add-2: Shahganj, Near-Gumti No-22 Beta, Laheriasarai, Ward No-35 Darbhanga-846001 (D) Smt Poonam Singh W/O Ravi Prasad Singh Shahganj, Near-Gumti No-22 Beta, Laheriasarai, Ward No-35 Darbhanga-846001	Property No. 1: All the piece and parcel of mortgaged land & construction thereon in the name of Smt Poonam Singh (Guarantor) admeasuring 15 Dhur Situated at Mauza Balahadarpur, Distt- Darbhanga, Deed No 4477 Dated 16.03.1988 Khata no, 1227, Khesra No, 2490, Thana No, 534, Tauzi No, 12, Boundaries:- North- Ram Udar Choudhary South- Self Purchaser & Ravindra Prasad Singh East- Railway Land, West-Road All the piece and parcel of mortgaged land & construction thereon in the name of Smt Poonam Singh (Guarantor) admeasuring 1 Katha 03 Dhur 36 Dhurki Situated at Mauza Balahadarpur, Distt- Darbhanga, Deed No 4473 dated 16.03.1988 Khata no, 1227, Khesra No, 2490, Thana No, 534, Tauzi No, 12, Boundaries:- North- Self Purchaser, South- Madan Mohan Jha & Shyam Sundar Jha East- Railway Land, West- Ravindra Prasad Singh. Property No. 2 : All the piece and parcel of mortgaged land & building constructed thereon in the name of Sri Rajesh Kumar Choudhary admeasuring 13 Dhur Situated at Mauza Balahadarpur, Distt- Darbhanga, Deed No 10186 dated 24.05.1989 Khata no, 1227, Khesra No, 2490, Thana No, 534, Tauzi No, 12, Boundaries:- North- Ram Udar Choudhary, South- Ravindra Prasad Singh & Poonam Singh East- Railway Land, West- Road Property No. 3 : All the piece and parcel of mortgaged land & Factory Shed and structure thereon in the name of M/s Sai Feeds Pvt Ltd ad measuring 0.50 Acre Situated at Mauza Rampur Kasim, Industrial Area Donar PS-Sadar Pargana- Purab Bhigo Distt- Darbhanga, Lease Deed No 14687 dated 30.08.2012, Industrial Plot No B15p Survey Plot No 17p, 18p Thana No. 502, Boundaries:- North- Survey Plot No 16, 17p, 18p, 19 South- Survey Plot No 18p Boundary of Belayakub East- Survey Plot No Boundary of Belayakub 175, West- Survey Plot No 17p (Bank has symbolic possession over property.)	A) 18.10.2021 (Published in Newspaper on 16.12.2021). B) Rs. 90.86,155.62 (Rupees Ninety Lakh Eighty Six Thousand One Hundred Fifty Five and Paise Sixty Two Only) as on 30.09.2021 with further interest w.e.f. 01.10.2021 with further interest until payment in full and other charges(as per demand notice) C) 16.03.2022 D) Symbolic possession	Property No. 1 A) Rs 79.83Lac B) Rs 7.99Lac (27.12.2022 upto 5.00 pm) C) 0.50Lac Property No. 2 A) Rs 37.51Lac B) Rs 3.76Lac (27.12.2022 upto 5.00 pm) C) 0.25Lac Property No. 3 A) Rs 87.00Lac B) Rs 8.70 Lac (27.12.2022 upto 5.00 pm) C) 0.50Lac	28.12.2022 From 11.00 AM to 4.00PM
3	PNB EUSI Samastipur(050920) (A) M/S Kalash Enterprises, Prop. Sh.Nirajan Kumar Singh Dharampur Nisama Samastipur-848503 (B) Sh.Nirajan Kumar Singh S/O Late Sachchidanand Singh Vill Chitra, Po Harpur Bochaha Samastipur, Samastipur, Bihar-848101 (C) Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh S/o Late Sachchidanand Singh Vill- Dharampur Nisama Samastipur-848503.	All the piece and parcel of mortgaged land and Building (IP) in the name of Sri Nirajan Kumar Singh and Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh(Guarantor) S/o Late Sachchidanand Singh Admeasuring 11.5 Dhur (2.50 Decimal) alongwith building situated at Mauza- Dharampur Nisama Samastipur, Sale Deed No 11363 Dated 11.09.2007 Thana No 175, Khata No-1 Khesra No- 1268(O) Boundary:- North- Sheikh Massu Babu South- Railway Ahata East- Prabhat Rai West- Umashankar Sah (Bank has symbolic possession over property.)	A)07.10.2021 B)Rs. 266906.45 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Sixty and Forty Five Paisa Only) as on 30.09.2021 with further interest until payment in full and other charges(as per demand notice) C) 28.12.2021 D)SYMBOLIC POSSESSION	A) Rs 26.50 Lac B) Rs 2.65 Lac (27.12.2022 upto 5.00 pm) C) Rs 0.50 Lac	28.12.2022 From 11.00 AM to 4.00PM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions : i) The properties are being sold on “AS IS WHERE IS BASIS” and “AS IS WHAT IS BASIS”. ii) The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. iii) The sale will be done by the undersigned through e- auction platform provided at the website www.msstcecommerce.com on **28.12.2022 at 11.00AM to 4.00PM** for Lot No 1 to 3 respectively. iv.) For detailed term & conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.tenders.gov.in, www.msstcecommerce.com, <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>
Date: 28.11.2022
Place: Darbhanga

Authorized Officer
Punjab National Bank
Secured Creditor

STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

बिहार सरकार

कार्यालय, कार्यपालक अभियंता, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन,
कार्य प्रमंडल-1, नवादा

नोटिस
सूचित किया जाता है कि निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 07 वर्ष 2022-23 E-Tender/LAEO/Nawada कार्या की विवरणी (योजना/शेष/मद का नाम) कब्रिस्तान घेराबंदी योजना के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित निविदा (PR. No. 10340 (Planning) 2022-23 अपरिहार्य कारण से अगले आदेश तक स्थगित की जाती है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन
कार्य प्रमंडल-1, नवादा
PR. No.11137 (Planning) 2022-23

नशामुक्त हो जाए विहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, उत्तर प्रदेश,
(पंचायत एवं नगरीय निकाय)
पी0सी0एफ0 भवन, 32-स्टेशन रोड,
लखनऊ-226001

संख्या: 534 / रा0नि0आ0 अनु0-02 / 2022 दिनांक: 28 नवम्बर, 2022

जेम निविदा सूचना

राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, उ0प्र0 द्वारा प्रदेश के नगरीय निकायों के सामान्य निर्वाचन, 2022 में लगभग 14,000 पदों हेतु 65 G.S.M. सफेद, हरा, गुलाबी एवं नीले रंग के कागज पर अलग-अलग प्रकार के विभिन्न चुनाव चिहनों के लगभग 05 लाख फोटो युक्त (Photographs in black & white) तथा लगभग 3.85 करोड़ फोटोरहित कुल अनुमानित 3.90 करोड़ मतपत्रों के मुद्रण हेतु रिजर्व बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया / भारतीय बैंक संघ में पंजीकृत तथा इस प्रकार के मतपत्रों के मुद्रण का अनुभव रखने वाली निजी सिक्योरिटी प्रिन्टिंग प्रेसों जिन्हें विगत 25 वर्षों (दिनांक 31.03.2022 तक) में किसी भी राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग अथवा भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के लिए किसी भी सामान्य निर्वाचन में मतपत्रों के मुद्रण व वितरण का अनुभव प्राप्त हो तथा जो उ0प्र0 में अथवा उ0प्र0 की सीमा से 100 कि0मी0 की परिधि में स्थित हों, जेम पोर्टल पर निविदा संख्या GeM/2022/B/2787940 दिनांक: 27 नवम्बर, 2022 प्रकाशित करके निविदायें आमंत्रित की गयी हैं, जिसमें निविदादाता द्वारा दिनांक-07.12.2022 को सायं 7:00 बजे तक जेम पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड की जा सकती है। धरोहर धनराशि (EARNEST MONEY) रुपया 22,50,000.00 (बाईस लाख पचास हजार) मात्र का बैंक ड्राफ्ट / FDR/बैंक गारन्टी (राष्ट्रीयकृत / शेड्यूल्ड बैंक द्वारा जारी) को सचिव, राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, उ0प्र0 के पक्ष में देय हो, की स्कैन क्रापी (pdf file) निविदा प्रपत्र के साथ अपलोड की जाएगी तथा भौतिक रूप से बैंक ड्राफ्ट / FDR/बैंक गारन्टी की मूल प्रति निविदा का तकनीकी-भावपत्र जेम पोर्टल पर खुलने के निर्धारित दिनांक से एक घण्टा पूर्व तक आयोग को उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा। इच्छुक निविदादाता निविदा डॉक्यूमेंट्स को जेम पोर्टल पर देख (view), डाउनलोड (download) कर सकते हैं।

हस्ता /—
(सुधा वर्मा)

संयुक्त निर्वाचन आयुक्त एवं विभागाध्यक्ष
राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, उत्तर प्रदेश।

UPID-182341 Date 28/11/2022
www.upgov.nic.in

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EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY

UTTAR PRADESH

Video shows men in 'khaki' beat 'corpse'

Shamli: Shamli police have launched a probe after a video has surfaced on social media, purportedly showing men dressed in khaki beating a man. The individual being beaten in the video was reportedly identified as one Gayur, who had been found dead on November 21. The undated video shows several men dressed in khaki beating the man after he throws an object at a nearby wall, which is caught by one of the uniformed men. Shamli's Additional SP Om Prakash Singh, who is heading the probe, said: "On November 21, Gayur was taken to hospital. The pan-chayatnama was filed in presence of his relatives and autopsy was done with videography. Viscera has been preserved." **ENS**

NEW DELHI

Rs 15 lakh for kin of troopers killed in Gujarat

New Delhi: The EC Monday announced that it had sanctioned Rs 15 lakheach for the next of kin of two Indian Reserve Battalion personnel who died in accidental firing while on election duty in Gujarat last week. "ECI sanctions Rs 15 lakh each as ex gratia to heirs of two jawans of 3rd Indian Reserve Battalion, SAP-1445, killed in accidental firing while on election duty at Porbandar," the EC spokesman tweeted. The duo was allegedly shot by a colleague on November 26. **ENS**

KARNATAKA

Aero India from Feb 13-17 in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: The 14th edition of Aero India will be held from February 13-17 in Bengaluru's Yelahanka Air Force Station. The show, which has been held since 1996, is expected to attract huge crowd as in 2021, it was restricted to few visitors amid pandemic. HAL, nodal agency that organises defence events, will organise the aero show this year. **ENS**

ODISHA

Man held for brandishing knife in court

Bhubaneswar: The police Monday arrested a man for allegedly brandishing a knife in the courtroom of Berhampur Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate during the hearing of a case. Bhagban Sahu, 51, has four criminal cases pending against him and is currently out on bail. According to sources, the incident took place when the SDJM was hearing a different case. Sahu, in inebriated condition, entered the courtroom and went near the SDJM and threatened to kill her. "Her staff and lawyers overpowered and handed Sahu to the police," said Berhampur SP Saravana Vivek M. **ENS**

WEST BENGAL

TMC leader attacked in Domkal, 2 held

Kolkata: A TMC leader and former vice-chairman of the Domkal Municipality was attacked by a group in Domkal town of Murshidabad on Sunday. Police have arrested two persons, while TMC leader Pradip Chaki alleged the attack on him was planned by party's Domkal MLA Jafikul Islam and the local inspector in-charge. **ENS**

Vizhinjam violence: 3k 'identifiable' persons booked

SHAJU PHILIP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOVEMBER 28

A DAY after fishermen protesting against the construction of Adani group's Vizhinjam seaport clashed with police and vandalised a police station, a case was registered against 3,000 'identifiable persons' on Monday.

The Sunday attack on the police station and subsequent clashes had left 36 policemen and around 20 fishermen injured. However, no untoward incident was reported in Vizhinjam on Monday.

An all-party meeting resolved to maintain peace and called for resumption of the work, suspended for over three months now.

Earlier on Sunday, the state police lodged an FIR against at least 15 Latin Catholic priests, including metropolitan Archbishop Thomas J Netto and Perera, over Saturday's violence at Vizhinjam when Adani group tried to resume the work. Action Council convenor Fr Theodosius D'Cruz said there was a conspiracy behind the violence. "We are demanding a judicial probe into the attack which was carried out by elements belonging to the



A police officer walks past rubble after a clash with protesters at a police station near the proposed Vizhinjam Port in Kerala on Monday. Reuters

CPI(M) and the BJP. There is a nexus between both parties. We would continue with our peaceful agitation until our demand is met," he said.

Kerala Catholic Bishops Council, a body of bishops in Kerala, also joined the issue saying that "we cannot agree with the stand of the state and the

Central governments to neglect the demands of the fishermen". Ruling CPI(M) on Monday said certain forces wanted to create unrest in Vizhinjam and its leaders urged the LDF government to take strong action against the culprits while underlining commitment to go ahead with the project. However,

CPI(M) ally Kerala Congress (M) took exception to the view that the attack was pre-planned. The Christian Party said booking bishops for the Saturday's violence was unfortunate and the government should have honoured the promises made to the fishermen.

The FIR stated that around

Will recover Rs 85L losses from protesters, Kerala govt tells HC

Kochi: The Kerala government on Monday informed the High Court that steps will be taken to recover the losses suffered due to the Vizhinjam violence from the protesters.

In the FIR registered in connection with the violence, the police have pegged the losses at Rs 85 lakh.

The HC sought a report from the state government on the steps it had taken to bring

order post-Vizhinjam violence. The court was considering a contempt-of-court petition moved by Adani group against the state government's alleged failure to execute an earlier HC directive to ensure smooth transportation of materials for the construction of the seaport.

Justice Anu Sivaraman said stern action should be taken while posting the matter for Friday. **ENS & PTI**

3,000 people laid a siege to the police station, held the officials hostage for hours, vandalised the furniture and damaged several vehicles. It said people wanted to release five persons who had been taken into custody, and threatened to torch policemen alive if the five men were not released.

Police didn't name anybody in the FIR and made no effort on Monday to nab the culprits as the focus was to restore peace. This is in stark contrast to the naming of the bishops and scores for Saturday's violence.

After an all-party meeting,

Food Supplies Minister G R Anil told the media that all parties have resolved to ensure peace and not to obstruct the construction of the port. "Except the action council (led by Latin Catholic archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram), all parties and religious organisations were against suspending the work. The government is ready to hold talks with the agitating fishermen. So far, we had held six rounds of discussions to end the agitation. We are still ready to hear them. But the project cannot be abandoned," he said.

Policy on seizure of e-evidence after consulting states: Govt to SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

STATING THE CBI manual has detailed Standard Operating Procedure and safeguards regarding the seizure of electronic evidence, the Centre has told the Supreme Court that laying down guidelines at a national level can be done only after consultation with states as law and order is a state subject.

Responding to a plea that sought framing of guidelines regarding search and seizure of electronic devices in tune with international practices, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in an affidavit the "Indian Constitutional position" on the subject "is naturally different from the constitutional position in other jurisdictions".

"While the right to privacy exists in all jurisdictions across the world, the regulation of same through statutory law is permissible and there can be no blanket exclusions," the MHA said.

The affidavit said: "It is the constitutional obligation of the government to ensure law and order.. it is intrinsic in any nation-state to ensure rule of law and investigate and prosecute for crimes... it is a legitimate state interest to implement an honest and strong investigative and prosecutorial process."

The government said: "It is a cardinal rule of the criminal justice system that the state prosecutes and punishes for and on the behalf of the people of the state. This representative form of litigation goes to the root of the social contract between the state and its residents... therefore, the individual rights... are to be counterbalanced with the larger societal rights." The petitioners — Ram Ramaswamy, Sujata Patel, M Madhava Prasad, Mukul Kesavan, and Deepak Malghan — had expressed apprehensions over academic work stored in digital devices when seized by investigative agencies and sought to lay down guidelines in this regard.

SC rejects Tejpal plea for in-camera hearing, says victim didn't seek it

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE SUPREME Court on Monday rejected a plea by Tarun Tejpal, former editor of Tehelka magazine, seeking in-camera hearing in Bombay High Court on the appeal filed by Goa government against his acquittal in a case of rape of his junior colleague in Goa in November 2013.

Hearing Tejpal's plea, a bench of CJ D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha said the objective of CrPC Section 327, which empowers a court to hold its proceedings in camera, is to protect the victim's rights. "The idea is to protect the victim so that she can depose fearlessly. When somebody who is an accused... will they have the remedy when the victim does not demand (in-camera hearing)?"

CJ Chandrachud said the relevant provision in CrPC says "the inquiry leading up to the trial will be in camera. We have



Tarun Tejpal, former editor of Tehelka magazine

crossed that stage. The accused has no right to demand."

Appearing for Tejpal, senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the allegations against his client "are prima facie false". He argued, "My reputation is at stake... WhatsApp messages, etc. will be revealed. Identity of the victim will also be released. It's not in anybody's interest. After K S Puttaswamy (privacy judgment), this has to be considered."

As the bench did not appear inclined to grant the relief, Sibal said HC had said the hearing will be conducted virtually and urged the bench to at least direct that it will be held physically, and not virtually. The SC, however, left it to HC to decide if the hearing should be held physically or not.



ON WALK OUT, WITH SECURITY IN TOW

Elgaar Parishad case accused Gautam Navlakha on morning walk accompanied by security personnel in Navi Mumbai on Monday. The Supreme Court's conditions for his house arrest include permission for walks outside.

Narendra Vaskar

Indian, Indonesian ulemas to discuss ways to counter radicalisation

DIVYA A

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

NATIONAL SECURITY Adviser Ajit Doval will address a group of ulemas (scholars of Islam and Islamic law) from various parts of the country at an event in the national capital on Tuesday.

He will be joined by his Indonesian counterpart Mohammed Mahfud Mahmodin, who is also the country's Deputy PM and Coordinating Minister for Legal, Political and Security Affairs.

The special dialogue between Indian and Indonesian Muslim scholars, which will be hosted by the India Islamic Cultural Centre (IICC), has been convened to focus on countering radicalisation and extremism, said IICC president Sirajuddin Qureshi.

Former Union Minister MJ Akbar will also attend the event, besides Professor Akhtarul Wasey, Maulana Mahmood Madani and Syed Naseeruddin Chishti.

UP boy dies in mishap, FIR names MP's 2 SUVs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

A NINE-YEAR-OLD boy was killed in a hit-and-run incident allegedly involving two SUVs that were part of a convoy of BJP MP Harish Dwivedi in Uttar Pradesh's Basti town on Saturday.

The accident took place around 200 metres from the victim's house in the Badeyban area of the town when the boy, a class 2 student, was returning home from school, said the police.

An FIR was lodged on Sunday against two white-coloured Toyota Fortuners belonging to Harish Dwivedi at the city's Kotwali police station based on a complaint by the victim's father Shatrughan Rajbhar.

No one has been arrested so far. Abhishek was the only son of Shatrughan Rajbhar, 38, who is a

labourer. Shatrughan has three daughters. Basti Circle Officer Alok Prasad said, "The deceased's family alleged that the accident took place with a Fortuner in which a public representative was present. We are trying to trace the driver and the vehicle involved."

Abhishek Rajbhar's uncle Pradeep Kumar Rajbhar accused the police of not taking action against the lawmaker. "In a video, MP Harish Dwivedi and his associates are seen inspecting both the Fortuners. The bumper of the SUV got damaged. We are surprised he did not bother to stop when his vehicle hit the boy."

Dwivedi said, "No accident took place with the vehicle I was in. There were more cars behind me and I don't know how the accident occurred. I have sympathy for the family and we are helping them. Had I been involved in mishap, I wouldn't have run away."

Bajrang Dal leader shot dead in Moradabad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

A 29-YEAR-OLD Bajrang Dal leader was shot dead allegedly over a monetary dispute in Thakurdwara town of Moradabad district on Sunday morning, police said.

The victim, Vishal, who belonged to the Dalit community, was accompanied by his friend when he was attacked.

An FIR has been lodged against three locals — Bilal, Atul Sharma and Golu — on charges of murder, criminal conspiracy, among others. The police also invoked the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) Act against the accused. However, no one has been arrested so far.

Angry over the death, local residents staged a protest at Kashipur Chungi, demanding arrest of the accused. The protest was removed after senior police officers assured

them of swift action.

A video of the purported incident is doing rounds on social media in which a man is seen opening fire at the victim twice.

"Police teams have been formed and raids are being conducted to trace the accused," said Moradabad Circle Officer Arpit Kapoor.

The police said Vishal was heading to the market with his friend Himanshu when Bilal came from behind and opened fire at him. Vishal, who suffered two bullet injuries, collapsed on the road and Bilal fled from the spot, they added.

Locals rushed Vishal to a hospital where he died during treatment. Bajrang Dal's western Uttar Pradesh convenor Gaurav Bhatnagar said Vishal was an office-bearer of the outfit's Thakurdwara area. The victim, who is survived by his wife and a five-year-old son, used to work as a moneylender.

Over 10 lakh applications for 18k police vacancies in Maharashtra

SAGAR RAJPUT

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

WITH TWO more days left for the deadline to submit applications to end, the Maharashtra Police department, which is eyeing to fill 18,331 posts, till Monday has already received applications from over 10.5 lakh aspirants -- making it 57 applicants for one vacancy as of now.

Officials said recruitment is being conducted for the years 2020 and 2021. Posts of police constable, police driver constable and that of the armed force in the SRPF are to be filled. The department had started accepting job applications from November 9. The last day to ap-

ply is on Wednesday.

A senior IPS officer said, "We have opted for centralised collection of applications. The state IT department has created a software, through which we are asking for online applications. It is providing support and collecting applications on our behalf."

"For the initial three to four days, around 2,000 people applied. However, around 4 lakh people applied in the last three days," said a senior police officer.

Officers said that while the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government had decided to only fill vacancies for 2020, the Eknath Shinde-led government directed the department to conduct the recruitment drive for two years.

MAHARASHTRA

Raj Bhavan denies reports that Governor wants to quit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

EVEN AS opposition parties in Maharashtra continued with their demand for removal of Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari from his post over his remarks on Chhattarpati Shivaji Maharaj, the Raj Bhavan on Monday scotched rumours that Koshiyari himself was keen on stepping down.

As reports about Koshiyari's purported request — that he be allowed to step down — made their rounds through the day, a Raj Bhavan spokesperson said, "All these reports are baseless. The Governor has made no such request to anyone".

Sources said the Centre is unlikely to bow before the Opposition's demand to sack Koshiyari. Instead, they said, he will be given an honourable exit to ensure the Opposition does not get the credit for this.

Koshiyari took charge as Maharashtra Governor in September 2019 and has more than two years left in his five-year tenure.

On Monday, Pawar said a person is appointed to the Governor's position by higher-ups and they should take care that such statements are not repeated. "When I met him (Koshiyari), he used to say that he wanted to go back to his home state. The Centre must decide on this immediately..."

HC reserves order on challenge to ASI Gyanvapi survey

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

THE ALLAHABAD High Court on Monday reserved its verdict on a petition challenging a Varanasi court's order for "a comprehensive archaeological physical survey" of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex. The petition challenging the Varanasi court order filed by UP Sunni Waqf Board and Anjumam Intezamia Masjid Varanasi was clubbed with three related pleas.

"Detailed arguments in all matters have already been heard by me on various occasions. In this view of the matter, judgment is reserved in all matters. The interim order granted earlier is extended till the delivery of judgment," said Justice Prakash Padia in his order.

Stating that "the matter pertains to have a connection with our deep history", a Varanasi court had on April 8 ordered the D-G of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to "get a comprehensive archaeological physical survey" done of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex and "find out whether the religious structure standing at present at the disputed site is a superimposition, alteration or addition or there is a structural overlapping of any kind, with or over, any religious structure".

An officer said that after receiving the applications, they will further segregate the same on the basis of the applicant's preference.

As per recruitment rules, the department will initially conduct a written examination of 100 marks. Only if the applicant manages to get 40 per cent marks will he/she be cleared to undergo a physical test.

"This year, we have changed the proportion of marks," said a senior IPS officer. "The written exam is of 100 marks and an applicant needs to get at least 40 marks to clear it. The physical test will be of 50 marks, and the applicant has to score 50 per cent marks to make it to the merit list," the officer added.



WORDLY WISE
ONCE ALL STRUGGLE IS GRASPED,
MIRACLES ARE POSSIBLE.
— MAO ZEDONG

The IndianEXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA
BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

RESTIVE CHINA

Beijing's extended Covid lockdown triggers street protests, tests state resolve

SOMETIMES ALL IT takes is a spark. In China, it was a blaze. Within a month of President Xi Jinping securing an unprecedented third term after seeing off perceived or potential rivals, a challenge to his untrammelled powers and authority has arisen from the unlikelyst quarter — the Chinese street. A fire in an apartment block in the Xinjiang capital Urumqi killed 10 people because the fire services could not access the building locked down by local authorities in line with the state's zero Covid strategy. The awfulness of this incident seems to have touched a raw nerve across the country. Even if only in the hundreds yet, people, mainly youngsters, have been stepping out to protest over the last few days against President Xi's strict anti-Covid policies, with some momentum building up over the weekend as members of the public in major cities like Shanghai and Nanjing and the capital Beijing joined. The numbers at each protest site are not high, still they are unprecedented, organic and innovative — protestors are using blank white A4 sheets to demand freedom of speech.

Since the Tiananmen Square protest was brutally put down in 1989, there has been only one other instance of a large public protest, in 1999 by Falung Gong followers. That ended with a crackdown and the jailing of thousands. In 2020, the realisation that the government ignored a whistleblower doctor's warnings about Covid led to an outpouring of anger on social media, especially after he died of the disease himself, but there were no street protests. This time around, zero Covid has strained national patience with its sudden lockdowns — in an apartment block, or a neighbourhood, even an amusement park with its visitors not allowed to leave. Towns and big cities have not escaped either, making China the only country in the world that is still using this measure to tackle its Covid cases. Travel to and from China has also not normalised yet. The football World Cup in Qatar, with lakhs of people flying in, must have been the last straw for audiences in China.

The expectation that President Xi would use the platform of the Communist Party of China Congress that took place in October to relax zero Covid rules, especially because of the damage the policy has wreaked on the economy, did not come true. In fact, he stressed the opposite — there would be no relaxations to the zero Covid policy. Xi, who has centralised powers in his hands, now personifies the Chinese state. Therefore it is not surprising that some of the anger is being directed at him openly. The long arm of the Chinese state may yet find a way to nip the protests before they turn into anything bigger. The world is watching to see how strongman Xi deals with this new domestic challenge.

EASING THE PRESSURE

Lower crude oil prices could help reduce risks to macroeconomic stability

ON MONDAY, CRUDE oil prices fell to their lowest levels this year as protests across major cities in China against the imposition of stringent Covid restrictions raised concerns over the economic outlook. Brent crude oil is currently trading at around \$81, down from the \$120-130 levels seen after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The volatility in crude prices is unlikely to subside in the near term. The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies are meeting over the weekend to discuss their output level even as the EU countries continue to debate capping the price of Russian oil and the US allows Chevron to restart oil production in Venezuela.

For an oil importing country like India, lower prices could help ease price pressures in the economy and bring down the current account deficit. In January, the average price of crude imported by India stood at \$84.67 per barrel. Thereafter, prices rose to \$112.87 in March, and further to \$116 in June. However, since then, crude oil prices have been on a downward trend. As per latest data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell, the price of the Indian basket has fallen to \$82.14 as on November 25. This price is based on the crude basket comprising of sour grade (Oman and Dubai average) and sweet grade (Brent), which suggests that it perhaps does not take into account the recent discounts received in buying oil from Russia. To the extent that lower crude oil prices are passed on to consumers — retail prices have not been changed since May 22 — it could have a cooling effect on inflation. The RBI's projections which peg inflation at 6.15 per cent in the second half of the year assume crude at around \$100 per barrel. The government should, however, not exert pressure on oil marketing companies to reduce prices, even as it should refrain from raising the excise duty.

Lower crude oil prices will also have a bearing on the country's current account deficit. As per some estimates, every dollar reduction in oil prices lowers the current account deficit by around \$1.4 billion on an annualised basis. Considering that India's petroleum imports have risen by a staggering 60 per cent between April-October this year, exerting pressure on the currency, lower oil prices if sustained could help bring down the import burden, ease the risks to macroeconomic stability.

HELL IS OTHER PEOPLE

A man in France has won the 'right to be boring'. He has struck a blow for all those sick of company-mandated fun

THERE IS A sad, quiet desperation about mandated fun. Companies — well-meaning, perhaps, in their intentions — ask employees to participate in everything from fancy dress competitions (there is invariably an email asking you to dress up during festivals) to office picnics and official unofficial dinners and drinks. For introverts or people who just don't wish to spend their free time with colleagues, this can be an ongoing, prolonged chore. A man in France, though, has struck a great blow for the rights of the cantankerous worker. He has won the "right to be boring" in office in court. And by doing so, he has managed a victory for all those who have rolled their eyes at the exclamation-mark-ridden enthusiasm of an email from HR.

The unnamed worker was reportedly terminated from his job at a consultancy firm because he refused, among other things, to go out for mandated after-work drinks every week. This, according to his employer, flew against the company's culture, which believed in "team-building through fun". His refusal had the company label him boring, tough to work with and a poor listener. The worker sued, arguing that he had a right to "critical behaviour and to refuse company policy based on incitement to partake in various excesses".

Companies, to be fair, are often merely trying to build camaraderie, to try and make the workplace something employees look forward to rather than dread. And they often do so because it makes financial sense — happy workers, study after study has shown, are more productive. The sad fact, though, is that "fun" and friendship cannot be mandated. Organically, after a hard day's work, people may end up at a bar, blowing off steam and complaining about those in-charge who pay them. But, the odd person out has the right to spend her time as she likes. And in France, where philosophers have long recognised that hell is other people, solitude should be a worker's right.



C RAJA MOHAN

THE CURRENT INDIAN focus on the appointment of a new army chief in Pakistan is unfortunately not matched by an interest in far more consequential developments unfolding further west. The anti-regime protests in Iran and the social and economic transformation of Saudi Arabia under Mohammed bin Salman point to the potential restructuring of our western periphery. Of course, the persistent conflict with our western neighbour dominates our mind-space. It also obfuscates the fact that Pakistan has never really been the anchor of the Subcontinent's western marches. Pakistan has often served as a useful instrument for outsiders, and Afghanistan has long been the theatre of contestation. But they do not have the agency to reshape our western frontiers. Iran and Saudi Arabia do.

Given the weight of the army chief in Pakistan's polity, it is certainly worth keeping an eye on what the new general might have in store. But it is unlikely that General Asim Munir can produce or facilitate the structural changes needed to end Pakistan's political dysfunction, rejuvenate its economy, and arrest Islamabad's relative decline.

If Pakistan is in a bad shape, Afghanistan is in worse condition. Last week's public flogging of 14 people, including three women, suggests that the Taliban can't break away from its medievalism, despite the certificates from some of its friends that it has changed. The regime's reluctance to let girls go to school, its violent conflict with other extremist groups, and its inability to win international legitimacy more than a year after regaining Kabul suggest that Afghanistan is stuck in a bad place.

But change is in the air in the Gulf. The continuing protests in Iran have shaken the clerical regime — not the first time they have faced protests. There have been repeated rebellions against the Islamic Republic of Iran after it was proclaimed in 1979. Tehran had easily crushed such protests.

The current movement was triggered by the death of a young woman, Mahsa Amini, in the custody of the religious police in September. She was arrested for not wearing her hijab properly and assaulted. The protests, which are in the third month, now have wider support.

Even if the clerics succeed in putting an

Radical Islam is under challenge in Iran and Saudi Arabia, while it holds sway in Pakistan and Afghanistan

end to the current wave of protests, it is doubtful if they can handle the multiple crises — social, economic, political and foreign policy — confronting Iran today. That Iran's football team refused to sing the national anthem at their opening game in the World Cup last week underlines the declining legitimacy of its regime.

In Saudi Arabia, the impetus for change is coming from the top — the crown prince and prime minister Mohammed bin Salman. Since he took charge of the kingdom in 2015 as the crown prince, MbS has embarked on a series of reforms. These include reducing the role of the clergy in the kingdom's social life, greater freedoms for women, and an ambitious economic agenda to reduce the reliance of the kingdom on oil and turn it into a dynamic modern economy. Equally important has been the effort to strengthen Saudi nationalism distinct from its transcendental Islamic identity.

If there is one historical moment that provides the context for the developments in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Saudi Arabia, it is the watershed year of 1979. Three events that year altered the social and geopolitical landscape of the Middle East and the Subcontinent. One was the attack on the grand mosque in Mecca by zealots claiming that the House of Saud had abandoned Islam and was becoming a subaltern to the West. That drove the Saudis and much of the Arab Gulf towards religious conservatism at home and pushed the militants outwards to pursue their radical agenda abroad. Second, was the overthrow of the Shah of Iran. Although a wide range of forces combined to oust the Shah, they ended up with the Islamists led by Ayatollah Khomeini coming out on top. Among the consequences were the replacement of a secular autocracy with clerical oppression, the tension between the revolutionary Islamic Republic in Tehran and the conservative regimes in the Arab world, and an entrenched conflict between Iran and the West. Third, was the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union setting off the mobilisation of a massive jihad against Russia by the West, Arabs and Pakistan.

Together, the three developments unleashed radical Islam and terrorism in the name of religion that profoundly altered the politics of the Middle East and South Asia.

The current developments on our Western periphery raise questions about the possibility of moving away from the dynamic unleashed by the developments of 1979. Afghanistan and Pakistan induce pessimism about reversing the political consequences of 1979. But developments in Iran and Saudi Arabia generate much optimism. The Western failure to build a modern and moderate state in Kabul despite twenty years of occupation provides a cautionary tale on the difficulty of modernising traditional societies by external forces.

In Pakistan, the military leadership under Ziaul Haq deliberately chose to build an alliance with the mosque, put down the democratic forces at home and promote jihad against Afghanistan and India. There was little interest within the military to modernise Pakistan's economy. Rawalpindi had much rent to collect from leveraging Pakistan's position as the staging post for the Afghan jihad. After the US finally turned its back on Afghanistan last year, the rental value has gone down, but Pakistan has no plan B for its economy.

But developments in the Gulf offer hope. That the people of Iran are defying extreme odds to protest against a regime underlines the enduring popular agency to reclaim control over their lives from the state and religion. Similarly, MbS promises to open up Saudi Arabia to long overdue change.

It is by no means guaranteed that either MbS or the Iranian protests will succeed, but both are trying to move their nations away from the legacy of 1979. MbS is doing this consciously. He told *The New York Times* some years ago, that Saudi Arabia is "returning to where it was" before 1979 — to traditional and moderate Islam. The Iranian women are doing this by challenging the clerical regime that hijacked Iran's democratic revolution in 1979.

There is no question that our western neighbourhood has begun to evolve a little faster — if unevenly and in a non-linear fashion. Delhi must make the best of these opportunities and limit the damage from the lingering effects of 1979.

The writer is a Senior Fellow at the Asia Society Policy Institute, Delhi and a contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express



MANOJ KUMAR JHA

AS ERSTWHILE INDIA and Palestine share a great many commonalities. Both have a colonial history of subjugation and have experienced a wounding severance. Both have been home to multiple religious communities with a complex sense of nationhood. For several decades after independence, India's stance on Israel-Palestine has been of sympathy and support for Palestinians. The leaders of India's anti-colonial struggle vehemently criticised the forceful occupation of Palestine to establish a Jewish homeland. Mahatma Gandhi wrote, "It is wrong and inhuman to impose the Jews on the Arabs. What is going on in Palestine today, cannot be justified by any moral code of conduct."

Similarly, India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru stated, "Palestine is essentially an Arab country and must remain so" and "the right of the Jews for a homeland should not come at the expense of a homeland of the Arab population of Palestine." During the 1947 UN General Assembly Resolutions (UNGA), India submitted that independence for Palestine should be the primary purpose of any plan for the future of the country. India was also among the first countries that recognised the Palestinian state. In 1998, India co-sponsored the draft resolution on "the right of Palestinians to self-determination" in UNGA.

India has now turned its face from Israeli atrocities on Palestinians. Turning a blind eye

STANDING WITH PALESTINE

Ignoring the dispossessed people goes against India's anti-colonial legacy

to the human rights violations in Gaza, India, in 2015 and again in 2021, abstained at the UN Human Rights Council on resolutions relating to war crimes and violence in Palestinian territory. As if to underline this volte-face, in 2017, Narendra Modi became the first Indian prime minister to visit Israel who skipped visiting the Palestinian Authority.

However, India's support for the Palestinian cause still reflects in the work of several Indian civil society, and educational and cultural institutions. The work of the Indian Campaign for the Cultural and Academic Boycott of Israel has underlined the principle that normalising relations at the level of knowledge and cultural exchange with a violent occupier and apartheid state like Israel is deeply unjust and morally repugnant. These actions are in line with the support for Palestinian people through Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) endorsed by a range of institutions across the world.

As Islamophobia has now regrettably become a common phenomenon in India, it is convenient for the State to disregard the cause of Palestinians who are predominantly Muslims. However, not only India, but the world needs to recognise that Palestine is a moral issue. Global support for Palestine is warranted following the universal principle of *Justitia nemini neganda est* — justice is to be denied to none, and not because of people's faiths and beliefs. Further, in the words of

Israeli historian Ilan Pappé, "Israel no longer has any moral dimension for global support" and following suit, India should also acknowledge the moral problems of bolstering Indo-Israeli ties in the face of the forceful and violent Israeli occupation of Palestinian land.

A 2021 report by Human Rights Watch concluded that the "Israeli government has pursued an intent to maintain the domination of Jewish Israelis over Palestinians throughout the territory it controls. In the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including East Jerusalem, that intent has been coupled with systematic oppression of Palestinians and inhumane acts committed against them. When these three elements occur together, they amount to the crime of apartheid". The report recommended that the international community "subject agreements, cooperation schemes, and all forms of trade and dealing with Israel to enhanced due diligence to screen for those directly contributing to the commission of crimes of apartheid and persecution of Palestinians, mitigate the human rights harms and, where not possible, end the activities and funding found to directly contribute to facilitating these serious crimes".

India's reluctance to stand with Palestine is highly regrettable for it takes us away from our own history of anti-colonial humanism.

The writer is a Rajya Sabha MP, RJD



NOVEMBER 29, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

PAK REFUSES F-16

PAKISTAN WAS REPORTED to have refused to take delivery of the first six of the 40 F-16 planes it is acquiring from the United States unless they were equipped with sophisticated electronic gadgets. Islamabad had sought suspension of the delivery programme, which was to begin on November 19, pending assurance that the planes would be so equipped, the Urdu daily Jang said.

AKALI STIR

THE AKALI DAL president, Harchand Singh Longowal, has suspended Harbans Singh

Manchanda, president of the Delhi Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (DGPC), and two executive members of the DGPC — Jaswant Singh Kochar and Joginder Singh — from the Akali Dal for "their anti-party activities." All three have been suspended for having met the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi. Akalis are understood to be preparing for a long agitation for the acceptance of their demands as hopes of an accord with the Centre to resolve the lingering Punjab tangle appear to have completely died out now.

INDIA TRAILS IN ASIAD

INDIA'S RUN OF success was interrupted on

the tenth day of the Asian Games as they could secure only a solitary silver in women's broad jump and two bronze medals in 110 kg weightlifting class and water polo.

MASS MURDER

IN A GHASTLY mass murder, unidentified assailants stabbed three people to death and strangled two children while they were asleep in their house in Abhani town, about 15 km from Badaun. Reports received from Badaun said the police had detained four people in this connection and were interrogating them.

THE IDEAS PAGE

Data does not lie

The authoritative DHS household data for 2005-06, 2015-16, and 2019-21 establishes that the pace of decline in Indian poverty accelerated post 2014



SURJIT S BHALLA AND KARAN BHASIN

A RECENT ARTICLE by Jean Dreze ('Poverty, uncensored', November 24) looks at our commentary on multidimensional poverty decline ('Poverty is down, period', November 4) and concludes that the debate on relative performance towards poverty alleviation during the UPA years and Narendra Modi's tenure as prime minister should continue to be "open" even as his own conclusion is that multidimensional poverty (MPI) declined considerably faster in the Modi years.

The availability of multidimensional poverty data for 2005-06, 2015-16 and 2019-21, (note that poverty is likely biased upward due to the exogenous shock of Covid in the Modi period), means that we now have an estimate of poverty decline during the Modi years. Notwithstanding our inadvertent error in the reporting of 2011-12 values (IHDS not DHS data), the incontrovertible result remains that poverty decline was significantly faster during Modi's tenure (period II, roughly 2015-21) than during the UPA years (hereafter period I, roughly 2005-15). We document this conclusion in detail below. But first, some transparent discussion of definition and measurement.

There are two sets of poverty estimates provided by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) that compile these data across countries, primarily from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The first are uncensored estimates for individual indicators, which correspond to a simple question regarding whether a household is deprived (poor) in a given indicator — for example, nutrition. Alternatively, one can obtain an indicator-specific censored poverty estimate via a two-stage process. The first stage estimates the population that is multidimensionally poor; the second stage estimates the population that is poor in each indicator for the multi-dimensionally (MP) poor. For example, in 2005-06, the MP poor were 55.1 per cent; uncensored nutritionally poor were 57.3 per cent; and 44.3 per cent were censored nutritionally poor. In other words, close to 80 per cent of the nutritionally deprived are also multidimensionally poor. For the DHS India survey years, we had used censored estimates; Dreze uses uncensored estimates. Which definition should one use? The authors of MPI are clear in their preference, and recommendation: They believe that censored estimates are better for analysis and policy design.

The logic for preferring censored estimates: For some individual indicators such as assets, some households may be considered as deprived (poor) even as they are relatively better off in other areas such as nutrition, sanitation, etc. Censored data helps shift the focus onto those who have been (multidimensionally) identified as poor. A higher MPI suggests greater intensity of deprivation while a higher censored poverty rate is an important signal to policymakers to redirect policy focus.

One other advantage of a censored approach is that it allows the capture of interlinkages between several poverty indicators. For example, environmental enteropathy is known to have a key role in nutrition absorption in children. Therefore, investments made towards providing sanitation facilities and piped water connections will have an impact



URVASHI BUTALIA

FOR THE last several days I have not been able to get Shraddha Walkar out of my head. Imagine this: A young woman leaves home to be with the man she loves. The partner she wishes to be with happens to belong to a different religion, which does not matter to her, although it is reason enough to make her family unhappy. Should she choose for herself or for them? She loves the man, she wants to be with him, so that's the choice she makes: She chooses herself. It's her life, her choice.

But sometimes people make wrong choices and then there are consequences. Shraddha's choice went terribly wrong. She thought she was walking into love, instead she walked into what passed for love and soon turned into something sinister: Violence, murder, death, dismemberment.

Imagine what that young woman must have lived through — caught in the cruelty of daily violence and fear, diminished as a human being by the person from whom she sought love, no place to go for support, and unable, even had she wanted to, to go back to her family for then their belief in the "wrongness" of her relationship would become the "truth" our society wants to impose on every woman: Do not make your own decisions, abide by what the family says, we know bet-

HOW IT HAPPENED						
	PERIOD I		PERIOD II		PERFORMANCE RATIO	
INDICATOR	CENSORED		UNCENSORED		5 = 2/1 6 = 4/3	
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Per capita Consumption	3.8	3	3.8	3	0.79	0.79
Headcount ratio (MPI)	6.9	11.6	6.9	11.6	1.69	1.69
HEALTH						
Nutrition	7.4	12.9	4.2	3.9	1.74	0.92
Child Mortality	7.2	8.5	5.8	5.9	1.19	1.01
EDUCATION						
Years of Schooling	7.3	9.1	5.9	4.3	1.25	0.74
School Attendance	12.8	7.6	12	4.3	0.6	0.36
LIVING STANDARDS						
Cooking Fuel	7.1	13.9	2.4	6.4	1.96	2.65
Sanitation	7.3	17.1	3.1	12.1	2.36	3.87
Drinking Water	10.6	16.6	6.7	8.9	1.57	1.33
Electricity	12.2	31.3	10	29.1	2.58	2.93
Housing	6.5	12.2	2	2.2	1.88	1.07
Assets	13.7	11.7	12.1	7.1	0.86	0.58
Average excl. MPI	9.2	14.1	6.4	8.4	1.6	1.55

Source: DHS surveys, various years; Notes: Each cell in columns 1-4 is the CAGR between 2005-15 for Period I and 2015-21 for Period II; The performance ratio is the ratio of rates of change over the two periods; e.g. 1.74 in column 5 for nutrition is the ratio of 12.9 and 7.4

on nutritional absorption.

We come back to our original goal, of analysing whether poverty decline was faster during the UPA than the NDA. Available data for MPI (and most indicators) point to a faster pace of poverty alleviation during the latter period (see table). Annual pace of improvement in the health, education and living standards indicators during 2005-15: 7.3, 10.0 and 9.6 per cent respectively. In the Modi years: 11, 8.4 and an outsized 17.2 per cent annual gain in living standards. What prompted this large improvement? Several policies, but more importantly an efficient redistribution combined with direct fiscal resources targeted specifically to reduce deprivation across individual indicators.

The table reports both uncensored and censored estimates for the average rate of change for all 11 indicators of multidimensional poverty — the master MPI index itself, and two indices (censored and uncensored) for each of the 10 indicators. What is of policy interest is whether the improvement (rate of decline of poverty) was larger in period II (2015-16 to 2020-21) than period I (2005-6 to 2015-16). As we had noted in our earlier article, the inclusive growth belief was that period I would show a greater improvement because the dominant component of poverty decline, growth in per capita consumption, was about 0.8 percentage point higher in period I (annual 3.8 per cent increase vs. 3 per cent in period II). However, and somewhat a priori surprising, the pace of MPI index decline was almost twice the pace in period II relative to period I! This result is strongly indicative of considerably more inclusive (and more efficient and less corrupt) growth in period II compared to period I.

The table also reports a performance index for poverty decline — the index is defined as the ratio of the rate of poverty decline in period II relative to period I. If the ratio is higher than 1, then there was an improvement in performance in period II; less than 1, a slowing of the rate of improvement.

Go down the uncensored list. For nine out of 11 indicators, the pace of poverty decline was faster in the Modi period II. Performance index average for all indicators — 1.6, or approximately a 60 per cent higher rate of decline in poverty. For the uncensored (Dreze's preference), the average rate of improvement

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CR Sasikumar

is only slightly lower at 1.55. Regardless of censored or uncensored poverty measurement, the average pace of poverty reduction was considerably faster during 2015-21.

For only four indicators is the rate of uncensored poverty decline lower in period II. Assets and school attendance are lower in period II for both uncensored and censored poverty. Incidentally, school attendance improvement is expected to be lower as one approaches 100 per cent enrolment — the pace of change from 20 to 25 per cent enrolment is 25 per cent versus a pace of only 1 per cent when enrolment increases from 95 to 96 per cent.

In contrast, Dreze dismisses the considerably faster pace of decline in MPI (from 6.9 per cent in period I to 11.9 per cent in period II) on the grounds that this occurred because of a "low base"! "Multidimensional poverty HCR, it turns out, decline faster in the second [Modi] period. This is not necessarily surprising, since a given percentage decline is easier to achieve from a lower base". MPI poverty moved from 27.7 per cent in 2015-16 to 16.4 per cent in 2019-21 — this was not "acceptable" performance for Dreze. However, change from a considerably smaller base in school attendance (6.4 to 5.3 per cent) during these two years is, according to Dreze, indicative of a great slowdown in the rate of decline of poverty and hence completely acceptable to him!

In our article, we had concluded that the pace of poverty decline in India had accelerated post 2014. Despite Dreze's polemics and obfuscation, there is no evidence to modify the earlier conclusion. One final point — Dreze claims that "most sample households in the 2019-21 NFHS survey were interviewed before the Covid crisis began". Really? According to the sampling distribution reported in table 1.2 of the NFHS 2019-21 report, for slightly more than half of the sample interviews ended between January and April 2021 — or well after Covid had fully set in.

Can India do better on some of the individual MPI indicators? Of course, it can. But that does not mean we do not accept our progress and keep shifting the goalposts.

Bhalla is former executive director, IMF, representing India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Bhutan. Bhasin is pursuing his PhD at SUNY, Albany. Views expressed are personal

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The signal [by the people] is that just as in other professions, politics also needs periodic influx of new ideas and personalities, and that democratic parties cannot be run as fiefs of a handful of leaders."

— THE KATHMANDU POST

What's the hurry for GM mustard?

Long-term ecological, environmental effects of herbicide-tolerant crops haven't been considered



RENEE BORGES, VINOD GAUR, VIDYANAND NANJUNDIAH AND IMRAN SIDDIQI

WE ARE writing to express concern regarding the recent recommendation for approval for the environmental release of genetically engineered (GE) mustard ("DMH-11 hybrid") in India. The recommendation was made by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). Our concern rests on several aspects of the proposal for release. First, the potentially harmful long-term ecological and economic consequences of releasing DMH-11 have not received sufficient consideration. Second, details of the mandatory trials to ensure food and environmental safety, which is a prerequisite before environmental release, have not been made public. Finally, a detailed long-term assessment of the potential social and economic benefits of using DMH-11, vis-à-vis its potential drawbacks, remains to be made. Without minimising the importance of the last two aspects, the present note is restricted to highlighting the first aspect.

A central feature of DMH-11 is that it carries a gene for herbicide resistance (also termed herbicide tolerance or HT). This fact has not received appropriate consideration. The deployment of herbicide-resistant or HT crops has been accompanied by deleterious outcomes in several places including the US, Australia, and Canada (so-called developed countries) as well as Argentina (a developing country). The most well-established harmful consequence has been the spread of herbicide-resistant weeds across large tracts of agricultural land, which can spell disaster for the normal crop.

The developers of DMH-11 stated in their food and environmental safety assessment submission of 2016 that, "Although GE mustard hybrid DMH-11 contains the bar gene conferring resistance to the herbicide Basta (phosphinothricin)... Basta herbicide is required to be used only by seed producer for hybrid seed production ... (and) farmers are not required to spray Basta in the hybrid GEDMH-11 for weed control". The GEAC in its recommendation on October 18 for environmental release of DMH-11 has accepted this position and placed certain conditions for environmental release. One is that, "Usage of any formulation of herbicide is recommended only under controlled and specified conditions exclusively for hybrid seed production ...". Another is, "Usage of any formulation of herbicide is not permitted for cultivation in the farmer's field under any situation and such use would require the necessary permission as per procedures and protocols of safety assessment of insecticides/herbicides by CIB&RC (Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee)." In other words, GEAC assumes that farmers will use DMH-11 without adding herbicide even though they know that it carries a gene for herbi-

cide resistance. It ignores the known fact that there have been numerous recent reports in the Indian media of the illegal use of unapproved herbicide-resistant crops, which has been brought to the notice of the government. There is every likelihood that DMH-11 will also be grown using herbicide if it makes weed control easier, as is expected to be the case. Further, GEAC has considered the possible use of herbicide with DMH-11 merely as a matter of herbicide usage and referred its approval to the CIB&RC, which registers usage of herbicides on a crop-wise basis. However, on multiple counts, HT technology is qualitatively different from the conventional use of herbicides. These include levels of herbicide used, which is much higher than in conventional use; its effect on the crop which is engineered to be resistant to the herbicide and so to tolerate much higher levels of herbicide; and its agro-ecological impact including on agricultural biodiversity and insect populations. The scope of issues connected to use of herbicide with a herbicide-resistant crop places it squarely within the purview of GM regulation (that is, GEAC). It is not enough for GEAC to merely refer it for chemical registration since the CIB&RC is not the competent body for recommending approval of GM crops.

Thus, notwithstanding the statement of the developers and its implicit acceptance by GEAC, DMH-11 does meet the definition of an HT crop. The answers to two questions show this. Is DMH-11 herbicide tolerant? Yes. Is it a crop? Yes. The intent of the developer on how it is meant to be used does not determine how it is actually likely to be used, especially if that usage appears to confer obvious advantages.

We reiterate that HT technology involves the use of a herbicide in far higher amounts than conventional herbicide treatments, high enough to kill all weeds in the field, leaving only the engineered crop to grow. Thereby, it replaces all other weed control measures. This may be effective for a few years. But basic evolutionary considerations, as well as experience in other countries, shows that it imposes strong selective pressure for resistant weeds to emerge. They invariably do so in the course of time and spread rapidly. Once that happens, still higher amounts of herbicide need to be used; the cycle continues progressively. HT offers short-term benefits at the cost of long-term sustainability.

We are aware and appreciate that a great deal of time, effort, and resources have gone into the development and testing of DMH-11 mustard. It is also possible that the safety issues connected with herbicide tolerance were not fully apparent at the time of its design and development. However, the extant investment should not deter us from seriously analysing the risk that HT technology poses. In our view, the risk outweighs any benefit that may accrue from its deployment.

Borges is professor, Centre for Ecological Science, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Gaur is Distinguished Professor, Centre for Mathematical Modeling and Computer Simulation, Bangalore; Nanjundiah is with the Centre for Human Genetics, Bangalore; and Siddiqi, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. Views are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FIXING OUR JAILS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Bail vs jail' (IE, November 28). President Droupadi Murmu has rightly lamented that making new jails for the increasing number of prisoners is at odds with the claim of "vikas". The courts' slow pace in deciding cases needs remedy. Increasing the number of courts along with necessary human resources to match the burgeoning number of undertrials is a measure that can prove effective. CJI DY Chandrachud's observation about the "sense of fear" in the lower judiciary on bail matters is serious. The Supreme Court could ask the states to set up a commission to discharge all the undertrial prisoners who have spent more time imprisoned than they would have had they been held guilty.

L R Murmu, Delhi

AGAINST EQUALITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'EWS quota, a political freebie' (IE, November 28). The EWS quota doesn't qualify for the parameters of reservation elaborated in Nagargaj v Union of India. The amendment came into place with no due diligence — no surveys or studies were conducted. These violate the Doctrine of Basic Structure. The reservation, though it doesn't come under either the goods or services criteria of freebies, has be-

come a political freebie.

H Upadhyay, via email

COVID SURGES

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'China Covid protests spread, Xi faces calls to step down' (IE, November 28). Even though WHO has claimed that the end of the Covid pandemic is near, the disease seems to be back with a vengeance with nearly 40,000 cases being reported daily across China. One of the key reasons for the spread of the virus is the poor vaccination rate in the country. Moreover, experts say the vaccines used in China have a low efficacy rate. For India, the cause for concern is the Omicron BF.7 variant which is more infectious than the previous sub-variants. It has reached the United States, UK, Australia, and Belgium, and was detected in Kerala last month.

Khokan Das, Kolkata

FIGHTING TERRORISM

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'The nation remembers' (IE, November 27). Following the 26/11 attack, India has been consistently highlighting the threat of cross border terrorism. Pakistan must bring the perpetrators of this crime to justice. The world must come together to fight terrorism.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

The writer is publisher, Zubaan

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Ashok Singh Guggari, S/o Shankrappa Guggari, R/O 757, Sec-2B, 2nd Floor, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Ashok Shankrappa Guggari. 0070815032-1

I, Ajay Sharma, S/o Jagdish Raj Sharma, R/O Flat No.-214, DDA MIG-Flat, Metro Apartment, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Ajay Kumar Sharma. 0070815015-1

I, Ajay Kumar Setia S/o Deewan Chand Setia R/O N-36 Dr.Mukherjee Nagar, Model-Town New Delhi-110009,have changed my name to Ajay Setia 0040642815-1

I, Veer Singh S/o Sh. Bhagwant Singh R/O H.No.G-30 WZ-33, G-Block, Gali No.19, Hari Nagar, B-1 Janakpuri, West,Delhi-110058 declares that Correct and exact date of birth of my minor son Yashmeet Singh is 13.01.2010 instead of 13.01.2011. 0040642807-5

I, Suraj S/O, Naresh Kumar R/o 603 Tower 5 Tata Primanti Sector 72 Gurugram 122018 have changed my name to Suraj Ravish for all purposes. 0040642880-1

I, Riya D/o Sh. Rajkumar Kundoo R/O H.No.167, First Floor, Surya Niketan, Anand Vihar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Riya Kundoo for all purposes. 0040642807-1

I, Ramesh S/o Dayal Chand R/o H.No.40, 8 Marla, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 have changed my name to Ramesh Hasija for all purposes. 0040642807-3

I, Pradeep Kumar born on 27.02.1958, S/o Sh. Raghunandan Lal R/o B-578A Sushant Lok Ph.1, Gurgaon-122009, Haryana, declare that PRADEEP KUMAR AND PRADEEP KUMAR PATPATIA is one and the same person 0040642881-1

I, Nirmal W/o Sh. Ramesh Hasija R/O H.No.40, 8 Marla, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 have changed my name to Nirmal Hasija for all purposes. 0040642807-4

I, Mahak Bano D/O Mohd Irshad R/O F-168/11 Abul Fazal Enclave Part II Shaheen Bagh Jamia Nagar Okhla New Delhi, I have changed my name to Mahak Khan for all purposes 0040642879-1

I, Deepak Aggarwal S/o Sh. Rajeev Aggarwal R/O Flat No.90, Tarun Apartments, Sector-13, Rohini, North have changed my name to Deepak Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes. 0040642807-2

I, ZEENAT SIDDIQUI, S/O NYAMAT ULLAH SIDDIQUI, R/O Flat No.1105,Tower-B,Pan Oasis, Sector-70,Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar(UP)-201301, have changed my name to ZEENAT ULLAH SIDDIQUI. 0040642883-5

I, VASHALI W/O ASHISH AGGARWAL R/O A-32 SURAJMAL VIHAR DELHI-110092,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VAISHALI AGGARWAL 0040642897-1

I, SUNHARI LAL, S/O HEMRAJ SINGH, R/O,FLAT.No. 10232,ATS ADVANTAGE, AHINSA-KHAND-1, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR-PRADESH-201014, changed my name to SUNHARI LAL TANK. 0040642897-9

I, Ritesh Kumar Agrawal S/o Akhilesh Kumar Agrawal, R/o 3111,Osimo Tower, Mahagun Mezzaria, Sector-78,Noida-201301,Have Changed My Name To Ritesh Kumar Agarwal. 0040642869-3

I, MOINUDDIN KHAN, S/O GAFOOR AHMAD R/O N-11,HIG, N-Block,Sanjay Nagar, Sector-23,Ghaziabad (UP)-201002 have changed my name to MAINUDDIN KHAN. 0040642883-6

I, Amit Kumar Nagpal, S/o Ashok Nagpal, R/O 135, Shakyapuri, Kankarkhera, Meerut, have changed my name to Amit Nagpal. 0070815038-1

I, Harkishan S/o Kawal Jit Singh, R/O P-35/A-1, Dilshad Garden Delhi-110095,Have changed My Name To Harkishan Singh, For Future. 0040642869-2

I, Neeta Singh W/O, Jitendra Pal Singh R/O Stc-905, 9th Floor, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, UP-201014 have changed my name to Nita Chauhan for all purposes. 0040642885-1

I, Preet Pal, S/o Sukhdev Singh, R/O 3905/14, IInd Floor, Kanhiya Nagar, Tri Nagar, Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Preet Pal Singh for all future purposes. 0070815013-1

I, SUJATA, W/O, NIKHIL BHAKTA, ADD-HOUSE, NO-1600-A SECOND-FLOOR, GALI, NO-13, GOVINDPURI KALKI, NO-13, SOUTH-EAST DELHI-110019, changed my name to SUJATA BHAKTA, for all future Purposes. 0040642883-9

I, SMITA TYAGI, W/o Anil KUMAR TYAGI, ADD- B-114, MAX-HEIGHTS, METRO VIEW APARTMENT, SEC-35, SONIPAT, HAYARNA-131029, changed my name to SMITA ANIL TYAGI. 0040642889-1

I, SAJJAD S/O SUBRATI MIYAN, R/O 9/4929-M-8, GALLINO-3, OLD SEELAMPUR, GANDHI NAGAR, DELHI-110003, have changed my name to SAJJAD ANWAR, permanently. 0040642897-2

I, SAJJAD S/O SUBRATI MIYAN, R/O 9/4929-M-8, GALLINO-3, OLD SEELAMPUR, GANDHI NAGAR, DELHI-110003, have changed my name to SAJJAD ANWAR, permanently. 0040642897-2

I, Rita Jain, W/o Sandeep Kumar Bansal, R/O C-104-105, Sector-C, Haryana Dairy, Bhagwati Vihar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi, have changed my name to Reeta Bansal, for all purposes 0040642889-2

I, Ravi Kumar S/o Ram Krishan R/O-84E Prem Vatika Mission-Compound Saharanpur UP-247001, changed my name to Ravi Pahuja. 0040642869-5

I, RISHIKA, daughter of, NAND KISHORE AHUJA, holder of, Indian Passport. NO 24472942, issued at NEW DELHI on 18/06/2019, Permanent resident of 71/132, Prem-Nagar, Janakpuri New Delhi-110058, and presently, residing at 306, Hamdan-building Al Madam Sharjah UAE do hereby change my name, from RISHIKA TO RISHIKA AHUJA, with immediate-effect. 0040642897-6

I, RAKESH SINGH S/O MAHAVIR SINGH, R/O H.no-21, RUPBAS PACHGHAI DISST BULANDSHAHR P.U.-203131, have CHANGED MY NAME to RAKESH. 0040642889-4

I, RAJESH S/O Gyan Chand R/O RZ-A-80, Second-Floor, Nihal-Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi-110041, Have changed my name from RAJESH to RAJESH VERMA. 0040642882-8

I, RAJANI DEVI, W/O SHRI BHAGWAN DAS NENANI R/O, H.NO-17 J-AND-K BLOCK, LAXMI NAGAR, DELHI-92, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJNI NAINANI, FOR FUTURE. 0040642883-1

I, Pinki W/o Ravi Pahuja R/o-84E Prem Vatika Mission-Compound Saharanpur UP-247001 changed my name to Rinki Pahuja. 0040642869-4

I, Pinke Devi W/o, No.14542154X Rank NK Ramesh Kumar R/O, H/No.T-572/AS Gali-2, Baljeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Delhi-8, have changed my, name to Pinki Devi Vide affidavit date 28.11.22, before, Delhi. 0040642889-6

I, Parsanta Saini W/o Late Aftab Rai Singh S/o, Plot.No-197 Block-A, Sushant Lok Phase-3 Sec-57, Gurgaon HR, have changed my name to Prasanta Saini. 0040642882-3

I, Parminder Pal Singh, S/o- Balkar Singh Vendi, R/o-10 & 11 Kh No.41/13, Upper First Floor, Guri Nanak Vihar, Nilothi Extn, New Delhi-110041, have changed my name Parminder Pal Singh Vendi to Parminder Pal Singh for all future purposes. 0040642895-3

I, Supriya W/o Yojit Anand R/o-72 Block-PU Pitampura Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Supriya Anand. 0040642869-6

I, No.4071465-H.-Ex-Hav. Narinder Singh Rawat, R/o-34-B, GH-2, Paschim-Vihar Delhi-110063, in my military-record my Son's name wrongly-written as Samridh Singh Rawat, his actual/correct-name is Samridh Rawat, both names belong to same-person i.e.my-son. 0040642889-9

I, No.4071465-H.-Ex-Hav. Narinder Singh Rawat, R/o-34-B, GH-2, Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110063, in my military-record my mother's name wrongly-written as Bishambari Devi her actual/correct-name is Bishambri Devi both names belong to same-person i.e.my-mother. 0040642889-8

I, Neha, W/o-Shri Aman Batra, R/o H.No.176-177, Pocket-4, Sector-22, Rohini, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Neha Batra. 0040642895-2

I, Harkishan S/o Kawal Jit Singh, R/O P-35/A-1, Dilshad Garden Delhi-110095,Have changed My Name To Harkishan Singh, For Future. 0040642869-2

I, Neha Gupta Pandey, W/o Ravindra Kumar Pandey, R/o A-155, Phase-2, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-110052, Have Changed My Name to Neha Gupta, for all future Purposes. 0040642883-1

I, Narender Kumar S/o-Deen Dayal Bagai R/O- MIG Flat No-82B, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Narinder Kumar Bagai. 0040642882-4

I, NASEEM KHAN W/O MAINUDDIN KHAN, R/O N-11, HIG, N-Block, Sanjay Nagar, Sector-23, Ghaziabad (UP)-201002 have changed my name to NASIMA BEGAM. 0040642863-7

I, Mohander Kumar Gupta S/O Shri Dina Nath Gupta, R/O House No. RZ-B-45, Subhash Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 Inform that Mohander Kumar Gupta and Mahender Kr Gupta both are One and Same Person. 0040642882-7

I, Meenu Panwar alias Meenu D/o P.K. Pawar W/o Lalit Kumar R/O-287/G/F Block-B, Delhi, Administration Flats Karkardooma, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Meenu Panwar for all purpose. 0040642869-9

I, Mohander Kumar Gupta S/O Shri Dina Nath Gupta, R/O House No. RZ-B-45, Subhash Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 Inform that Mohander Kumar Gupta and Mahender Kr Gupta both are One and Same Person. 0040642882-7

I, Meenu Panwar alias Meenu D/o P.K. Pawar W/o Lalit Kumar R/O-287/G/F Block-B, Delhi, Administration Flats Karkardooma, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Meenu Panwar for all purpose. 0040642869-9

I, Mohander Kumar Gupta S/O Shri Dina Nath Gupta, R/O House No. RZ-B-45, Subhash Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 Inform that Mohander Kumar Gupta and Mahender Kr Gupta both are One and Same Person. 0040642882-7

I, NAREEND KUMAR S/O DEEN DAYAL BAGAI R/O- MIG Flat No-82B, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027, have changed my name to NAREEND KUMAR BAGAI. 0040642882-4

I, NAREEND KUMAR S/O DEEN DAYAL BAGAI R/O- MIG Flat No-82B, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027, have changed my name to NAREEND KUMAR BAGAI. 0040642882-4

I, NAREEND KUMAR S/O DEEN DAYAL BAGAI R/O- MIG Flat No-82B, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027, have changed my name to NAREEND KUMAR BAGAI. 0040642882-4

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I, NAREEND KUMAR S/O DEEN DAYAL BAGAI R/O- MIG Flat No-82B, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027, have changed my name to NAREEND KUMAR BAGAI. 0040642882-4

I, MOHAMMAD SHAUB R/o-D-7 /A, 1st-FLOOR, OLD VILLAGE JASOLA, SOUTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110025, have changed my name to MOHAMMAD SHUAIB, for all future purpose. 0040642889-7

I, MANOJKUMAR SUDESHKUMAR VADHAHA, S/O VADHAHA SUDESHKUMAR JEEVANDAS RESIDENT 1528, SECTOR-17, HUDA COLONY, JAGADHRI, YAMUNANA GAR, HARYANA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MANOJ KUMAR. 0040642882-5

I, LALIT KUMAR AHUJA S/O JIJWAT RAM AHUJA, R/O QD-36-3rd-FLOOR, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO LALIT AHUJA. 0040642882-2

I, Krithika Malya D/o Gokul Kumar R/O E-218 Ram Vihar Apartment Sector-30 Noida(U.P) have changed my name to Krithika Malya Gokul for all future purposes. 0040642881-1

I, Kishan Kumari W/o, No.1187585Ex Rank NK, Late Man Singh R/O F-158B, F-Block, Ganga Vihar, Delhi-9, have changed my name to Krishna Devi Vide affidavit 28.11.22, before, Delhi 0040642889-5

I, Kiran Sajwan alias Kiran Bhandari D/o Sukhdev Singh Sajwan W/o Mahesh Singh Bhandari R/O BB-2, Street, No.3 Badnanti Mandir, West,Vinod, Nagar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Kiran Bhandari for all purpose. 0040642869-8

I, Kiran Sajwan alias Kiran Bhandari D/o Sukhdev Singh Sajwan W/o Mahesh Singh Bhandari R/O BB-2, Street, No.3 Badnanti Mandir, West,Vinod, Nagar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Kiran Bhandari for all purpose. 0040642869-8

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I, TANU SINGH W/o Mahender Singh, R/O C/7303, P/00 Housing Complex, Sec-43, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009, declare that I have changed my name to SANTOSH SINGH for all purposes. 0040642848-1

I, Sweta, D/o Sh Lalit Kumar, R/o 244/77, National Street, Upper Samkhater, PO Mandi, Tehsil Sadar, Dist. Mandi, H.P. 175001, have changed my name to Sweta Sharma. 0070814979-1

I, Suchita Mani, W/o Nikhil Chawla, R/o AA-132, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name from Suchita Mani to Suchita Chawla. 0070814988-1

I, Santeshwar Kumar Singh, S/o Surendra Singh, R/o H917, Gali No 13, Rajnagar Part2, Palam Colony, New Delhi 110077, have changed my name to Santeshwar Singh. 0070815063-1

I, Sandhya Pathak, W/o Amitabh Pathak R/o 322, Siddhi NH 24, Mehroli Mahagun Puram, Ghaziabad U.P.-201002, have changed my name from Sandhya Pathak to SANDHYA PATHAK for all future purposes. 0070815041-1

I, SUDHIR ANANDAN NAIR, S/o K S ANANDAN, R/O F-802, VVIP Apartments, Village Noor Nagar, Raj Nagar Extension, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh -201017, have changed my name to SUDHIR NAIR for all purposes. 0070815009-1

I, Rojudin, S/o Israil Ahmad, R/o 70, Kailash Park Arthala Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad 201007, declare that name of mine wrongly written as Chaudhary Rajuddin in my son's Amir Chaudhary School and College record. The actual name of mine Rojudin which may be amended accordingly. 0070815045-1

I, Rajan S/o Shri Ram R/O 174-182 Ground Floor, Gali-6 and 7, Flat No-101, Joshi Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi have changed my name as Rajan Budhiraja permanently 0040642884-2

I, NIHARIKA, D/O-ASEEM KUMAR, R/O-1918, 12TH AVENUE, GAUR CITY 2, GREATER-NOIDA WEST, GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201306, changed my name to NIHARIKA VERMA. 0040642897-8

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14 THE WORLD

TOPOF THE WORLD



Shenzhou-15 crewed spaceship. Reuters

CHINA

Beijing to launch 3 astronauts to its space station

Beijing: China will be sending a three-person crew to its under-construction space station on Tuesday, and also announced plans for a manned mission to the Moon amid intensifying competition with the US. The Shenzhou-15 crewed spaceship will be launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China, the China Manned Space Agency said. The spaceship will take three astronauts — Fei Junlong, Deng Qingming, and Zhang Lu — to carry out the space-flight mission. Fei will be the commander of the mission, Ji Qiming, assistant to the director of the CMSA, told the media. The launch will be carried out with a Long March-2F carrier rocket, which will be filled with propellant soon. **PTI**

USA

End Assange's prosecution: Media outlets

Washington: The US should end its prosecution of Julian Assange, leading media outlets from the United States and Europe that had collaborated with the WikiLeaks founder said on Monday, citing press freedom concerns. "This indictment sets a dangerous precedent, and threatens to undermine America's First Amendment and the freedom of the press," editors and publishers of the *Guardian*, the *NYT*, *Le Monde*, *Der Spiegel*, and *El País* said in an open letter. Assange is wanted by US authorities on 18 counts, including a spying charge. **REUTERS**

UK

Monkeypox to be called mpox to end stigma

London: The WHO has renamed monkeypox as mpox, citing concerns the original name of the decades-old animal disease could be construed as discriminatory and racist. The UN health agency said on Monday that mpox was its new preferred name for monkeypox, saying that both monkeypox and mpox would be used for the next year while the old name is phased out. WHO said it was concerned by the "racist and stigmatising language" that arose after monkeypox spread to over 100 countries. **AP**

USA

Meta told to pay \$275 mn for EU privacy law breach

London: In the latest penalty against Meta for violating European privacy rules, the tech giant was fined roughly \$275 million on Monday for a data leak discovered last year that led to the personal information of over 500 million Facebook users being published online. The penalty, imposed by Ireland's Data Protection Commission, brings the total fines to more than \$900 million that the regulator has imposed on Meta since last year. In September, the same regulator fined the company roughly \$400 million for its mistreatment of children's data. **NYT**

NUMBER OF NEW CASES RISE TO 40,347

China tightens security after protests against Covid curbs

REUTERS & AP

SHANGHAI/BEIJING, NOV 28

POLICE ON Monday stopped and searched people at the sites of weekend protests in Shanghai and Beijing, after crowds there and in other Chinese cities demonstrated against stringent Covid measures. On Monday, the number of new daily cases rose to 40,347, including 36,525 with no symptoms.

From the streets of several Chinese cities to dozens of university campuses, protesters made a show of civil disobedience unprecedented since leader Xi Jinping assumed power a decade ago. What we object to is these restrictions on people's rights in the name of virus prevention, and the restrictions on individual freedom and people's livelihoods," said Jason Sun, a college student in Shanghai.

There was no sign of new protests on Monday in Beijing or Shanghai, but dozens of police were in the areas where the demonstrations took place.

Police have been asking people for their phones to check if they had virtual private networks (VPNs) and the Telegram app, which has been used by weekend protesters, residents and social media users said.

Asked about widespread anger over China's zero-COVID policy, foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters: "What you mentioned does not reflect what actually happened." "We believe that with the leadership of the Communist Party of China, and cooperation and support of the Chinese people, our fight against Covid-19 will be successful." Abandoning it would mean rolling back a policy championed by Xi.

State media did not mention the protests, instead urging citizens in editorials to stick to Covid rules. Many analysts say China is



Protests in mainland China during a commemoration of the victims of a fire in Urumqi, in Hong Kong. (Below) Protesters detained by policemen in Shanghai. Reuters & AP

unlikely to reopen before March or April, and needs an effective vaccination campaign before that. "The demonstrations do not imminently threaten the existing political order, but they do mean the current Covid policy mix is no longer politically sustainable," analysts at Gavekal Dragonomics wrote in a note. On Monday, authorities blocked some central Shanghai streets



with blue metal barriers to prevent gatherings. Shops and cafes in the area were asked to close. Meanwhile, the US backs the right of people to peacefully protest in China, Washington said on Monday. "We've said everyone has the right to peacefully protest, here in the US and around the world. This includes in the PRC," a White House National Security Council spokesperson said.

BBC says its staff attacked, China denies claim

London, Beijing: The BBC said Chinese police had assaulted one of its journalists covering a protest in Shanghai and detained him for hours, drawing criticism from UK government which described his detention as "shocking". China disputed the account and said the journalist had not identified himself as a reporter.

"The BBC is concerned about the treatment of our journalist Ed Lawrence, who was arrested and handcuffed while covering the protests in Shanghai," the British broadcaster said.

In Beijing, foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said, "As per Shanghai officials, the journalist in question did not reveal his journalist identity, he did not openly show his foreign press card. When the incident happened, law enforcement personnel asked people to leave, and when certain people did not, they were taken away from the scene. **REUTERS**

2 Indian students drown in US lake

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HOUSTON, NOVEMBER 28

TWO INDIAN students from Telangana drowned in the Lake of the Ozarks in the US state of Missouri during the Thanksgiving weekend, according to police.

The victims were identified as 24-year-old Utthej Kunta, and 25-year-old Shiva Kelligari by the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The two students from Telangana drowned in the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri on Saturday. Details of the victims

were not immediately known. Telangana minister KT Rama Rao in a tweet said he has asked his team to assist the victims' families in getting the mortal remains back as soon as possible.

First responders received a call on Saturday at 2.20 pm requesting assistance locating the two, the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Twitter page tweeted on Sunday.

The incident took place when Kunta who went swimming in the lake failed to surface. His friend Kelligari then jumped into the lake to rescue Kunta, but failed to come back up too, police said.

Top leaders in Nepal discuss power-sharing

SHIRISH B PRADHAN
KATHMANDU, NOVEMBER 28

TOP LEADERS of the five-party ruling alliance led by the Nepali Congress on Monday held several rounds of intense meetings on forming a new government and power-sharing mechanism as the results of the November 20 general elections are expected to be announced soon.

The counting of votes is expected to be completed this week. So far results of 158 seats have



The NC led by PM Deuba is leading

been declared. The alliance is moving towards a clear majority, allowing them to form a new government. The five-party alliance, which includes Nepali Congress, CPN-Maoist Centre, CPN-Unified Socialist, Lokatantrik Samajwadi Party, and Rashtriya Janamorchha, has a combined strength of 85

Pak TTP ends truce with govt; orders militants to hold attacks across country

SAJJAD HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD, NOVEMBER 28

THE BANNED Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) on Monday called off an indefinite ceasefire agreed with the government in June and ordered its militants to carry out attacks across the country.

"As military operations are ongoing against mujahideen (militants) in different areas [...] so it is imperative for you to carry out attacks wherever you can in the entire country," the militant group said in a statement.

The statement was issued a day after the English cricket team landed in Pakistan after 17 years to play the first test-series, and day before the new Army chief was set to assume his office.

The TTP was set up as an umbrella group of several militant outfits in 2007. Its main aim is to impose its strict brand of Islam across Pakistan. The banned group said the decision to end the truce was taken after "a series of non-stop attacks were launched by the military organisations" in Bannu and Lakki Marwat areas of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

It also said it had repeatedly warned the people about violation of the ceasefire but showed patience so that the negotiation process was not "sabotaged at least by us". "But the Army and intelligence agencies did not stop and continued the attacks. Now our retaliatory attacks will also start across the country," it read.

There was no immediate reaction from the government and intelligence agencies.

Meanwhile, a high-valued TTP commander was killed along with 10 other militants in a fierce gun battle during an encounter in northwest Pakistan on Monday, security sources said. TTP commander Tipu and ten others were killed in the shootout. The security forces have also reportedly suffered some casualties in the fierce gun battle. **PTI**

GENERAL BAJWA RETIRES TODAY

Army's decision to remain apolitical will shield it from vagaries of politics: Pak's Bajwa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, NOVEMBER 28

A DAY ahead of his retirement, Pakistan's Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa has said his decision to keep the military establishment "apolitical" will shield it from the "vagaries of politics" in the coup-prone country.

General Bajwa, 61, will retire on November 29 after six years in what is normally a three-year post. The Pakistan government on Thursday appointed Gen Asim Munir, a former ISI chief, as the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) to succeed General Bajwa.

General Bajwa admitted that "Pakistan Army has always remained a dominant player in national decision-making. Due to its historic role in politics, the military drew severe criticism." "We have restricted the Army's role to its constitutionally mandated task only by deciding to make it apolitical. This decision, though being viewed negatively, will facilitate reinvigorating and strengthening democratic culture, and assist in supporting state organs to effectively perform and deliver," Gen Bajwa told the *Gulf News*.

Bajwa on Monday paid separate farewell visits to President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. He is scheduled to hand over the "baton of command" to General Asim Munir at a change of command ceremony

EXPLAINED Challenges ahead for Gen Munir

GENERAL MUNIR will inherit the position at an exceedingly challenging moment for Pakistan. The country's economy has been teetering on the brink of collapse, with double-digit inflation. Devastating floods have inundated much of the agricultural belt. He will also have to find a way to mend the divides that Imran Khan's political comeback has created within the military's ranks and restore the public's trust in the military.

on Tuesday at Headquarters in Rawalpindi. The Army chief paid a farewell call on President Alvi at the Aiwan-e-Sadar. President Alvi expressed good wishes for him during their meeting.

General Bajwa also attended a farewell meeting with PM Shehbaz, who organised a luncheon in the honour of the general. "The Army, under the leadership of General Bajwa, has rendered exemplary services during various crises - including the removal of Pakistan from the FATF's grey list, coronavirus pandemic, and floods," Shehbaz said.



VOLCANO ERUPTS IN US

Hawaii's Mauna Loa, the world's largest active volcano, began spewing ash and debris from its summit, prompting civil defence officials to warn residents on Monday to prepare in case the eruption causes lava to flow toward communities. Reuters

China Indian Ocean meet: Maldives and Australia deny their participation

Beijing: China's Foreign Ministry on Monday evaded a direct response to questions on the denials by Australia and the Maldives that their official representatives participated in the first China-Indian Ocean Region Forum as claimed by a Chinese organisation linked to Communist Party.

The China-International Development Cooperation Agency, an organisation part of the CPC Leadership Group, said it held a meeting of the China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation on November 21, in which 19 countries participated, including Sri

Lanka Australia and Maldives. India was reportedly not invited. Subsequently, Australia and the Maldives denied official participation in the meeting. Contrary to media reporting, no Australian government official attended the Kunming China-Indian Ocean Forum, Australian High Commissioner to India Barry O'Farrell tweeted on Sunday.

The foreign ministry of Maldives said, "The Government of Maldives did not participate in the Forum, and communicated its decision not to participate in the Embassy of China to the Maldives on 15 November". **PTI**

GOLD COINS FOUND IN 1713 MAY BE AUTHENTIC: RESEARCH

Roman coins thought for centuries to be fakes get fresh appraisal

APRIL RUBIN
NOVEMBER 28

IN 1713, a medals inspector documented the acquisition of eight gold Roman coins that had been buried in Transylvania. For centuries, experts believed them to be forgeries — and poorly made ones, at that.

The coins featured the image of an otherwise unknown leader and characteristics that differed from other mid-third century Roman coins. But now researchers who have re-examined the coins, which were in a collection at the University of Glasgow, say they may, in fact, be authentic.

The design on the coin was irregular for the time period, and the man depicted on them, Sponsian, was mostly lost to history. The coins included references to "bungled legends and historically mixed motifs," experts said.

Research published on Wednesday in the journal PLOS ONE posited that the coins — and Sponsian, the man depicted — deserved another look.

Using modern imaging technology, the researchers said they found "deep micro-abrasion patterns" that were "typically associated with coins that were in circulation for an extensive period of time." In addition, the researchers analysed earthen de-

posits, finding what they called evidence that the coins had been buried for a long time before being exhumed. The coins are also "uncharacteristic" of the forgeries found around the time they were found, the researchers said.

"If the coins proved to be fakes, they would make a particularly interesting case study in antiquarian forgery," researchers wrote. "If authentic, they would be of clear historical interest."

The name Sponsian would not have been an obvious choice to forgers centuries later, as he was an obscure figure, the research team found. It hoped the research might bring him back into focus as a minor historical



The coin bearing image of a mysterious third-century figure named Sponsian. @paul_n_pearson

figure. On the coin, he is depicted wearing a crown like those worn by emperors.

"Nothing can be known

about him for certain, but the coins themselves, together with the provenance recorded by Heraeus, provide clues as to his possible place in history," researchers wrote in reference to Sponsian and Carl Gustav Heraeus. It was Heraeus, an inspector of medals for the Imperial Collection in Vienna who documented the acquisition of the coins in 1713.

Early writers considered Sponsian a historical usurper, who potentially made a bid for power during civil wars that ended the reign of another emperor, Philip. Now, the researchers hypothesize that Sponsian may have been a com-

manding officer of a province during a period of military strife.

"Our evidence suggests he ruled Roman Dacia, an isolated gold mining outpost, at a time when the empire was beset by civil wars and the borderlands were overrun by plundering invaders," Paul N Pearson, the lead author of the paper, said.

A fraudster in Vienna frequently duped collectors in the 18th century, when the coins were found in Transylvania, or modern-day Romania, the researchers said. Forgers at the time used artificial aging methods, such as abrasion, to make artifacts like coins seem older. Superficial scratches and earthen

deposits led investigators, including Pearson, an earth sciences professor at the University College London, to determine that the treatment seemed natural, prompting them to think the coins were authentic.

Despite the researchers' conclusions, some experts saw holes in the findings.

In her Times Literary Supplement column, Mary Beard, a professor of classics at the University of Cambridge, pointed to the coins' composition among factors that raised questions about their authenticity. "There is still very powerful evidence that they are fakes," she wrote. **NYT**

15 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 62,504.80 ▲ 211.16 (0.34%) NIFTY: 18,562.75 ▲ 50.00 (0.27%) NIKKEI: 28,162.83 ▼ 120.20 HANG SENG: 17,297.94 ▼ 275.64 FTSE: 7,453.82 ▼ 32.85 DAX: 14,408.24 ▼ 133.14

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH
TELECOM5G airwave infra:
What is DoT's
plan for safe flightSOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE AVIATION and telecom departments will shortly roll out a plan to ensure safe flight operations around airports with 5G airwave infrastructure. The plan includes telecom companies setting up infrastructure powering 5G networks in the country away from the flight path around airports, carrying low power signals in such areas and a plan to upgrade the altimeter of all aircraft operating in the country by August 2023, top sources told *The Indian Express*.

These are expected to be part of an operational guidelines that the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is currently preparing, after India's aviation regulator flagged concerns about interference that 5G signals could cause, posing a challenge to safe airline operations.

In June, the US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) announced a plan that involved these aspects to ensure safe airline operations.

What were concerns around 5G interference with flight operations?

In September, the Indian Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) wrote to the telecom department flagging concerns over the likely interference of 5G C-Band spectrum with aircraft radio altimeters. The Indian Express had reported. A radio altimeter is an instrument that provides direct height-above-terrain information to various aircraft systems.

The primary concern of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) emerges from the fact that these altimeters as well as a part of the 5G telecom services operate in the mid C-Band frequency range.

Earlier this year, the 6,000-pilot-strong Federation of Indian Pilots had also written to the Civil Aviation Ministry raising

similar concerns.

For telecom service providers, the C-Band presents a sweet spot for rolling out 5G services, ensuring coverage as well as high bandwidth, resulting in faster internet speeds. For aircraft operations, the use of altimeters in this band ensures highly precise measurements of the plane's altitude. 5G terrestrial signals typically operate at a heavy power level compared to flight altimeters.

What is the DoT expected to recommend?

"The DoT is almost ready with an SOP for 5G networks around airports and has indicated that it will address all of DGCA's concerns," a senior government official told this paper.

"It is expected to include setting up 5G establishments a bit further away from airports and lowering the power of 5G signals emitted by these establishments so that there is no interference with flights' altimeters."

Airlines will also be required to upgrade altimeters used in some aircraft being flown in India. *The Indian Express* has also learnt that the company that manufactures it has sought for time till August 2023 to upgrade.

Has this been an issue globally?

US aviation authorities have reported about 85 cases of 5G waves impacting flight operations near the airport.

The DGCA's issues were in line with concerns raised by the US FAA over the last one year since telecom operators in the US, such as AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile etc, began rolling out 5G services.

In the US, an agreement between the FAA and the telecom operators resulted in a delay in rollout of 5G services in the C-Band near airports that were assessed to be difficult for pilots to make visual approaches.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

WITH BS-VI, AN INCREASING NUMBER OF CARMAKERS ARE DITCHING DIESEL

Agrarian Punjab diesel-driven;
Delhi opts for cleaner options

MIHIR MISHRA

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

IN MUCH of rural Punjab, farmers have traditionally resorted to storing diesel in large barrels in their agricultural outhouses to fuel their tubewell pumps, tractors and cars.

The tradition endures to this day, making Punjab one of the biggest diesel car markets for automakers. The state's fascination for diesel-driven cars has ensured a buoyant market for both new diesel cars and second-hand ones, even as vehicle manufacturers and government regulations increasingly shun this segment. Like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh too is another key market for diesel cars in India.

India's biggest car market, Delhi, which struggles with pollution most times of the year and is subject to stricter government regulation than other parts of the country, exhibits a clear preference for CNG and petrol-fuelled

Key markets of fuel type

CNG
■ Delhi
■ Mumbai
■ PunePETROL
■ Delhi
■ Bangalore
■ HyderabadDIESEL
■ Punjab
■ Uttar Pradesh

TOP STATES/CITIES-SALES

MARUTI SUZUKI
■ Maharashtra
■ UP
■ Gujarat
■ Kerala
■ HaryanaTATA MOTORS
■ Maharashtra
■ Gujarat
■ Uttar Pradesh
■ Karnataka
■ HaryanaAUTOMATIC CARS
■ Pune
■ Chennai

Source: Data based on latest sales numbers shared by companies



Getty Images

cars. When it comes to CNG cars, Mumbai and Pune are the other two big contributors to sales. For petrol cars, Bengaluru and Hyderabad are the two biggest buyers. The country's north-east too favours petrol, attributable to the winding roads and the ease with which smaller petrol-driven cars negotiate these

routes.

"Punjab has always been familiar with diesel since they are an agricultural state and diesel is required for pumping sets, tractors etc. That familiarity with the fuel, may be, leads to people in the state preferring diesel over other fuel," said Tarun Garg, Director (sales) at Hyundai Motor

India Ltd. With the introduction of BS-VI norms, an increasing number of carmakers are ditching their entire diesel range. Market leader Maruti Suzuki, the Volkswagen group companies, including Skoda and Audi, as well as the Renault-Nissan partnership, are leaving diesel ranges behind. Hyundai and sister firm Kia

'PV makers to invest ₹65,000 crore by FY25'

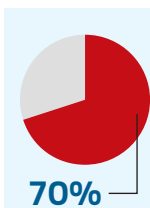
Demand for passenger vehicles has remained healthy since the turn of the calendar year, said rating firm Icra

₹ 65,000 CR

Passenger vehicle makers are expected to invest by FY25 to ramp up production capacities

3.7-3.8 million

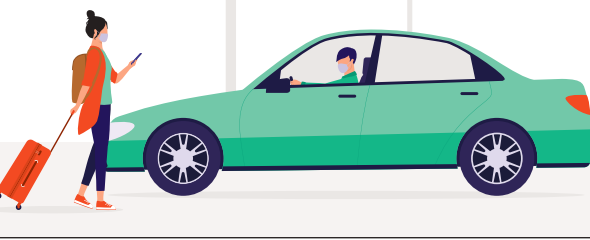
Wholesale volumes are expected to touch an all-time high, a growth of 21-24% over the previous fiscal



The capacity utilisation levels is likely to remain at comfortable levels

₹ 250 billion Multiple OEMs have already announced an aggregate outlay towards capacity expansion for the next few fiscals
■ Capacity utilisation of the OEMs improved to healthy level

Source: ICRA/PTI

Bank credit may expand by 13%
as economy normalises: FitchENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

BANK CREDIT is likely to expand by 13 per cent in the current financial year, up from 11.5 per cent in FY22, as economic activity normalises post Covid-19 pandemic and on high nominal GDP growth, Fitch Ratings said in a report on Monday.

The growth in credit
will be seen despite
higher interest rates

The rating agency has forecast India's real GDP growth at 7 per cent in FY23. It said the growth in bank credit in the fiscal ending March 2023 will be seen despite

the effects of higher interest rates, the agency said. However, the full-year loan growth will represent a modest slowdown from the 17 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) pace in the first half of FY23.

"Strong loan growth should benefit net revenue, particularly as it will be coupled with wider net interest margins," the report said. For FY24, the agency expects credit demand to stay robust.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

S&P GLOBAL Ratings on Monday lowered India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 7 per cent, down from 7.3 per cent it projected in September. However, it said the domestic demand-led economy will be less impacted by the global slowdown.

S&P has also projected the Indian economy to grow 6 per cent in 2023 and 6.9 per cent in 2024.

A host of agencies have recently slashed India's economic growth projections. Global rating agency Moody's Investors Service had recently slashed India's economic growth forecast for 2022 to 7 per cent, from 7.7 per cent estimated earlier, citing monetary policy tightening, higher inflation, uneven distribution of monsoon, and slowing global growth. While the World Bank has pared its growth estimate for India by 100 basis points to 6.5 per cent, IMF has trimmed it to 6.8 per cent from 7.4 per cent. Asian Development Bank too has cut projection to 7

Indian economy to
grow 6 per cent in 2023
and 6.9 per cent in
2024, said S&P Global
Ratings

per cent from 7.5 per cent earlier. The RBI expects economic growth to be at 7 per cent in the current fiscal year.

"The global slowdown will have less impact on domestic demand-led economies such as India, Indonesia and the Philippines. India's output will expand 7 per cent in the fiscal year 2022-2023 (ending in March 2023) and 6 per cent in the next fiscal year, by our estimates," S&P Global Ratings Asia-Pacific chief economist Louis Kuijs said. India's economy grew 8.7 per cent in 2021, S&P said.

S&P said in some countries the domestic demand recovery from COVID has further to go and this should support growth next year in India. It projected inflation to average 6.8 per cent in the current fiscal year and the RBI's benchmark interest rate to rise to 6.25 per cent by March 2023

Suzuki cuts
India 2030
target by
around 30%SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

ON THE back of pandemic-related disruptions and chip shortage, Japan's Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) has revised its 2030 sales target in India downwards by around 30 per cent. Earlier, the company had targeted that its Indian arm, Maruti Suzuki India and the wholly-owned arm, Suzuki Motor Gujarat, would jointly achieve a volume of 5 million passenger vehicles by the turn of the decade.

Now the target has been lowered to 3.5 million units. In FY22, Maruti's total passenger vehicle sales in the domestic market stood at 1.65 million units, and the target is to achieve volumes of 2 million units. In FY22, Suzuki Group sold 2.8 million passenger vehicles all over the world, so at 1.65 million units, India's contribution stood at about 60 per cent. In FY22, total PV sales in the domestic market stood at 3.06 million units and is expected to touch 3.5 million units. **FE**

S&P cuts India's economic
growth to 7% for FY23

and decline to 5 per cent by 2024. The RBI has already hiked interest rate by 1.9 percentage points to a 3-year high of 5.9 per cent. India's wholesale and retail inflation fell in October after remaining high for most part of the year mainly due to supply chain disruptions following the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war in February. Retail or CPI inflation fell to a 3-month low of 6.7 per cent, while wholesale or WPI inflation was at a 19-month low of 8.39 per cent last month.

"The downward revision assumes higher inflation, high interest rates and slowing global growth will dampen economic momentum by more than we had previously expected," Moody's had said with the weakening rupee and oil prices continuing to exert pressure on the inflation front. On the exchange rate, S&P said foreign reserves have fallen in Asian emerging markets, even after adjusting for valuation changes. It pegged the exchange rate at Rs 79.50 to a dollar by March-end, as against the current Rs 81.77 to a dollar.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

BRIEFLY

Adani, NDTV

Bengaluru: New Delhi Television Ltd (NDTV) said on Monday an entity backed by its founders had issued shares to a unit of Adani Group, taking the billionaire Gautam Adani-led conglomerate a step closer to taking over the media firm. The transfer of shares will give Adani control over a 29.18% stake in the news group. Adani is also conducting an open offer running between Nov. 22 and Dec. 5 for a 26% stake in NDTV. The open offer drew bids for 5.3 million shares as of Monday's close, or around 32% the 16.8 million shares on offer, exchange data showed. **REUTERS**

G-20 Sherpa

Udaipur: India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant and several officials of the Ministry of External Affairs on Monday reviewed preparations for the first Sherpa meeting under the country's G-20 presidency to be held here from December 4 to 7. India will assume the yearlong presidency of G20 on December 1 and more than 200 meetings of the bloc will be held across 55 locations in the country. Shika Saxena, Deputy Director-Regional Tourism Office in Udaipur, said Kant and other officials minutely reviewed the arrangements. **PTI**

Tech under work to
detect pesky calls,
messages: TRAIPRESSTRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

TELECOM REGULATOR Trai on Monday said that it is working on various technologies to detect pesky calls and messages along with a joint action plan with other regulators to curb financial frauds. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said that Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC) or pesky communication is a major source of inconvenience to the public and impinges on the privacy of individuals.

"Now complaints are reported against Unregistered Telemarketers (UTMs), where a surge has been seen in pushing various kinds of UCC SMSes. Additionally, UCC calls are also one of the concerns which need to be dealt with equally along with UCC SMSes," it said.

Trai in coordination with various stakeholders is taking necessary steps to check UCC from UTMs also. These steps include implementation of UCC detect system, provision of Digital Consent Acquisition, intelligent scrubbing of the Headers and Message templates, using AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (Machine Language), etc," the statement said. To curb the menace of pesky calls and messages, Trai issued the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 that

TRAi taking necessary
steps to check UCC
from UTMs

created an ecosystem based on blockchain (Distributed Ledger Technology-DLT).

The regulation mandates registration of all commercial promoters and telemarketers to register on DLT platform and seek customer consent for receiving various kinds of promotional messages at time and day of their choice.

Under the framework, about 2.5 lakh principal entities have been registered with more than 6 lakh headers and approximately 55 lakh approved message templates which are being pushed to consumers through registered telemarketers and TSPs using DLT platforms. The regulator said that the framework has resulted in substantial reduction of customer complaints to the extent of 60 per cent for the registered telemarketers. However, non-registered pesky callers continue to spam mobile subscribers. Trai said that it has further taken an initiative to form a Joint Committee of Regulators (JCOR) comprising Reserve Bank of India, Sebi and Ministry of Consumer Affairs (MoCA) to frame a joint action plan to curb financial frauds using telecom resources.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

THE INDIAN stock markets rallied to close at a life-time high on Monday as oil prices declined on hope US government's decision to ease oil sanction on Venezuela may boost supply and also as protests in China against strict zero-Covid policy raised concerns over demand.

Domestically, better corporate earnings during the second quarter, higher tax collections and continued flows from foreign investors aided the momentum.

The 30-share BSE Sensex ended at 62,504.8, up 211.16 points, or 0.34 per cent. The broader NSE Nifty hit a record high of 18,562.75, a gain of 50 points, or 0.27 per cent.

"Despite unfavourable global cues, the domestic market reversed its early losses to trade at

Oil & gas stocks led the
rally in anticipation of
margin gains

record highs. Following the decline in oil prices, oil & gas stocks led the rally in anticipation of margin gains, as ongoing protests in China fuelled demand concerns," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. Brent crude oil declined around 2.5 per cent to \$81.25 a barrel.

The US government granted Chevron Corp, a major US oil company, a license for six months to resume oil production in Venezuela, which has the world's largest oil reserves. The sharp fall in oil prices led to an increase in share prices of oil marketing companies.

While Bharat Petroleum Corporation gained 4.95 per cent, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation

rose 5.39 per cent on BSE. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) share price rose 3.48 per cent to close at Rs 2,708.05 apiece. According to Deepak Jasani, head of retail research, HDFC Securities, "Progressive and prudent macro policies, resilient corporate earnings in Q2FY23, robust tax collections, early signs of recovery in IIP and GDP and first signs of cooling inflation have all excited investors including FPIs to keep pumping money into the markets." Overseas investors have been buying riskier assets on expectation the US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) may moderate its pace of rate hikes.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) net bought Rs 935.88 crore of shares from the domestic capital market, as per the BSE's provisional data. So far in November, foreign investors have put Rs 32,344 crore into domestic equities.

Full report on www.indianexpress.comIndia-EU trade pact: Third
round of talks commencesPRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

SENIOR OFFICIALS of India and the European Union (EU) on Monday commenced the third round of talks on a proposed free trade agreement, which aims at boosting trade and investments between the two regions, an official said.

India's bilateral trade with the EU rose by 43.5 per cent to

\$116.36 billion in 2021-22. The EU is India's second largest trading partner, and the second largest destination for Indian exports.

India and the EU on June 17 formally resumed negotiations on the proposed India-EU Trade and Investment Agreement, including the Geographical Indications (GI).

The EU delegation is here for the third round of talks and the talks will continue till December 9, the official said.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY Yelahanka, Bengaluru – 560 064				
TENDER NOTICE NO. RWF/S/P1/013/2022-23 dt 22.11.2022				
On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Materials Manager invites electronic Tenders from Interested Vendors for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways E-Portal – www Ireps.gov.in . The Tender documents and the Corrigenda to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the Portal only.				
Sl	Tender No	Due date	Short Description	Qty
1	P1221912B	15-12-2022	Magnesium Aluminium silicate granules as per RWF specification (Developmental Tender)	41 kgs
2	P1222313	19-12-2022	Magnesium Gunning Mix as per RWF specification	63 MT
3	P1222277	06-02-2023	HDPE Box N Body Packing as per RWF drawing	101438 Nos
Principal Chief Materials Manager				

भारतीय कंटेनर लिमिटेड CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD. (A NAVRATNA UNDERTAKING OF GOVT. OF INDIA) NSIC New MIDP Building, 2nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, (Opp. NSIC Okhla Metro Station), New Delhi-110020	
TENDER NOTICE (e-Tendering Mode Only)	
Online tender in Single Bid system is invited for below mentioned work, only through e-tendering mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1000/- through online from the website (www.tendervard.com/CCL).	
Tender No.	CON/AREA-1/TC/OTL/2022
Name of Work	e-Tender for Supply of OTLs (Bolt Seal for container/High Security Steel Bolt lock) & Pull Tight Strip Seals at various container terminals of Area-1/C/CONCOR.
Estimated Cost	Rs. 38, 98, 953/- (for total period of two years)
Period of Contract	Two (02) years.
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 79,779/- through e-payment.
Cost of Document	Rs. 1,000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment.
Tender Processing Fee	Rs. 2,354/- inclusive of all taxes & duties (Non-refundable) through e-payment.
Date of Sale (Online)	From 28.11.2022 (15:00 hrs.) to 14.12.2022 (up to 16:00 hrs.)
Pre-Bid Meeting	06.12.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Date & Time of submission of tender	On or before 15.12.2022 upto 15:00 hrs.
Date & Time of opening of tender	16.12.2022 at 15:30 hrs.
Place of Opening & Communication Address of Tender: Office of the Senior General Manager/C & O/Area-1 NSIC New MIDP Building, 2nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, (Opp. NSIC Okhla Metro Station), New Delhi-110020	
*Exempted for MSEs	
CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. For complete details login to www.tendervard.com/CCL .	
Sr. General Manager/C&O/Area-1	

1998 WORLD CUP REDUX

‘Great Satan vs Axil of Evil’

When US and Iran faced each other in the 98 WC tensions boiled off the field

MIHIR VASAVDA
NOVEMBER 28

HANK STEINBRECHER was on a bullet train from Marseille to Paris when he got a call from the White House. “We are going to win this game, aren’t we?” the voice on the other side asked Steinbrecher, then US Soccer Federation’s general secretary. It was 1998. “The news is going around the world.”

Mohammad Khakpour, too, received a call; not from a high-ranking government official but from the family members of those who had lost their children in the war between Iran and Iraq. “Fathers, mothers called and said this game really does matter to us,” the former Iran defender says in the BBC documentary, ‘The Great Game’. “You have to go and win this game for us.” On paper, it was merely a group-stage match but a meeting between two nations who had severed diplomatic relations in 1980 was always going to be much more than a mere game of football.

“Others,” the Iran coach Jalal Talebi says in the documentary, “called it ‘the mother of all games’ and ‘the match of the century.’” Or, the Great Satan ‘taking on ‘the Axis of Evil’.

As the United States and Iran prepare to face each other in a winner-takes-all Group B match in Doha on Tuesday (12.30 am, Wednesday, IST), the backdrop won’t be as politically-charged as it was then. The fire, though, has been lit. Iran is witnessing mass protests since 22-year-old Mahsa Amini died in police custody in September for allegedly violating the country’s hijab laws. The US Soccer Federation removed the emblem from the Iran flag to show its support to the protestors. In retaliation, the Iranians want the USA banned for 10 games, citing FIFA’s rules, for ‘offending the country’s dignity’. In midst of all this, it’s easy to forget what’s at stake for both teams: a spot in the Round of 16 of the World Cup. And yet, the drama is nowhere close to the tensions leading up to their first encounter in Lyon at the 1998 world cup, 14 years ago.

In Iran, students had held more than 50 US citizens hostage for more than a year following the 1979 revolution, which forced the country’s leader Mohammad Reza Shah, seen as a US ally, into exile. Ayatollah Khomeini, seen as an anti-US figure, came into power.

The relations further soured when the US backed Saddam Hussein’s invasion of Iran in 1980, a war that lasted nearly a decade and left, according to Time magazine, ‘at least an estimated 500,000 dead.’ “Just imagine being told for six months that this is the most important game in our history,” Talebi says in the BBC documentary.

There wasn’t the same level of understanding of the historical context among the



USA and Iran to face each other in a winner-takes-all Group B match on Tuesday.

American players. In the podcast American Fiasco, an archival clip is played of a reporter asking forward Eric Wynalda about the hostage crisis. “What year was it in?” Wynalda asks.

Terror threats

But it was apparent to him, and his teammates, that this was much more than football. Twelve days before the World Cup was to begin, on June 10, 1998, the Los Angeles Times reported that a plot to attack the American and English teams during the tournament was uncovered following coordinated police raids in ‘France, Belgium, Italy, Germany and Switzerland’. One of the targets, the reports added, was the USA’s training base just outside Paris.

“We had high security. Osama bin Laden was trying to do something to the team, blow up the team or something like that,” then USA captain Thomas Dooley says in the BBC documentary, adding that security helicopters hovered over the camp and ‘police with machine guns hid behind the trees’ outside their facility. Dooley said when the team was on the train for their opening match against Germany, all they spoke about was ‘when do we blow up, whether it’s now, five seconds or a minute?’ It’s constantly thinking about that kind of stuff,’ US lost that opener.

Refusal to walk up to Team USA

A slight problem emerged a day before. The establishment of Iran, designated as away team, didn’t want to be seen walking up to US to shake hands. USA was willing but FIFA protocols didn’t allow for that. The stalemate was

ended by Swiss referee Urs Meir, who was to officiate in that match. Since June 21 was the ‘Fairplay Day’, he suggested a group photo of both teams; hands were shaken, white roses were exchanged, and a diplomatic storm was averted. But another problem awaited the officials. It was suspected that Mojahedin Khalq, an Iranian political opposition group, were planning to disrupt the match. And so, the match between two geopolitical rivals kicked off with around 150 armed policemen surrounding the stands.

High-octane match

It was a high-octane affair that saw the US making all the early moves, totally dominating Iran and hitting the woodwork a couple of times. But Iran soaked up the early pressure to give a master class in counterattacks.

They were denied a controversial penalty – and a possible red card to the US goalkeeper – but Iran scored two goals – the first by Hamid Estili in the 40th minute and the second by Mehdi Mahdavia in the 84th – a blazing run down the left wing, one-on-one with the goalkeeper and calmly finding the far post; a remarkable achievement for a player who had lost the ability to walk as a child due to a medical condition.

The US pulled one back but that was that. The US headed to a humiliating first-round exit while Iran celebrated their first-ever World Cup win. If they win the rematch on Tuesday, Iran will once again eliminate the US from the World Cup while making it past the group stage for the first time ever. History awaits; will US rewrite it or Iran repeat it?

Gaikwad smashes 43 of an over en route 220 n.o against UP in Vijay Hazare

VENKATA KRISHNA B
CHENNAI, NOVEMBER 28

WHENEVER RUTURAJ Gaikwad dons the Chennai Super Kings jersey, he likes spending time with Mike Hussey. For a player who calls himself an introvert and has a very close circle of friends, it isn’t surprising to see him use Hussey as a sounding board. Gaikwad liked the way Hussey played – technique as well as gameplan.

Over the seasons as Gaikwad transformed from a back-bencher to an Orange Cap-winning opener with the Super Kings, the bonding has strengthened. There are similarities between the two. On Monday, Gaikwad scored his personal best, an unbeaten 220 in Maharashtra’s quarterfinal win over Uttar Pradesh in the Vijay Hazare Trophy at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Gujarat. And en route as he hit seven sixes in an over off left-arm spinner Shivam Singh, there were shades of Hussey taking down Pakistan’s Saeed Ajmal in the World T20 semifinal in the Caribbean in 2010.

None of Gaikwad’s sixes were hit with power, instead they were all just lofted over the boundary rope, relying on timing.

Gaikwad’s explosive hitting took place in the 49th over of Maharashtra’s innings when he took the attack to the left-arm spinner to plunder 43 runs in the over. The over consisted of seven deliveries, as one of them was a no-ball. Each one of them was sent over the rope. It now is the Indian List A record, going past the 35 runs conceded in an over by Hyderabad’s DB Ravi Teja in 2009-10, while bowling to Kerala’s Raiphi Gomes. There has only been one other instance of a bowler conceding 43 runs in an over, when Central Districts’ Willem Ludjck was taken to the cleaners by Northern Districts’ batsmen in New Zealand.

And not one of Gaikwad’s shots was cross-batted. They were hit between mid-off and mid-wicket, as suggested in the coaching manual. There was no anger from being left out of India’s white-ball tours. There were no fist-pumps at the end or any space for curses.

There was just a smile and a hug to his partner at the other end.

Now, Gaikwad hasn’t had to wait as long as Hussey to be picked for the national side. The left-handed Australian waited nearly a decade since his First-Class debut to even get an ODI cap. Gaikwad has already received his T20I and ODI caps and even a Test cap remains a definite possibility when one factors in the transition that is in store from a year from now.

Consider these numbers. Since the last edition of the Vijay Hazare Trophy, Gaikwad’s eight innings have seen him



Gaikwad slammed unbeaten 220.

SEMI-FINAL LINE-UP	
Karnataka vs Saurashtra	
Maharashtra vs Assam	
LIVE: November 30, Hotstar/StarSports	

score 136 (112 balls), 154 n.o. (143), 124 (129), 21 (18), 168 (132), 124 (123), 40 (42) and 220 n.o. (159).

“Score kama padega, Saar (have to score, sir),” Mohan Jadhav, Gaikwad’s personal coach says. “Consistency has always been his strength since age-group cricket. If you take 10 innings, he will perform well in 6-7 innings. The only consistency he needs now is a handful of games when he makes it to the national team. Not one match here or there. Players need to be picked consistently and that is how they will perform. There is no use complaining or feeling sad about not getting a chance. Every match is an opportunity to score, only the level varies. And if you get desperate, there’s a chance of you going further away from it.

RUTURAJ’S SIX SHOW

6 (48.1)	Long on
6 (48.2)	Straight
6 (48.3)	Midwicket
6 (48.4)	Long off
6 (48.5, NB)	Long off
6 (48.5)	Long on
6 (48.6)	Deep midwicket

And the boy is humble and doesn’t complicate,” Jadhav says.

Leadership material

Among his Maharashtra teammates, they are beginning to see a different Gaikwad this season. Be it deciding their practice schedule or gameplan, the 25-year-old is the one planning everything, so much so that some players see him even doubling up as a coach sometimes.

Instead of regular practice sessions, keeping in mind the early start to the matches, Gaikwad changed the timings. Morning sessions would start at 7 am with warm-ups before match simulations from 8.30 am which will run for three hours. An hour-and-a-half-long break will follow before the usual net sessions commence. It is an aspect that players have started to like.

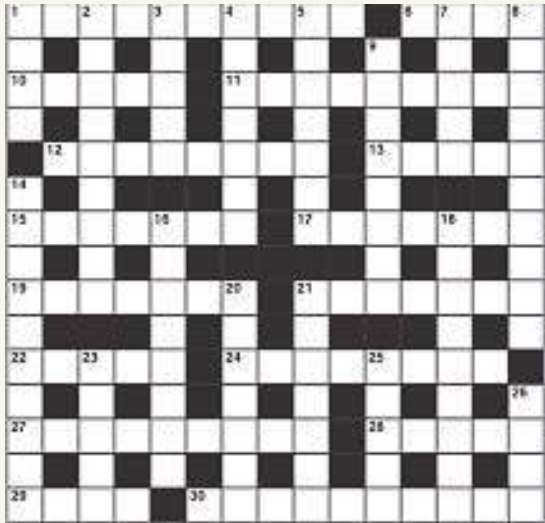
“He has become our everything,” Azim Kazi, Maharashtra’s all-rounder says.

“We are getting to learn new things. He has changed the total set-up and how we prepare ourselves. We are together as a team even in the hotel. For instance, he has left his hotel room open at all times and we can go and seek his help for anything. If a player is struggling, he is the first one to point it out off the field and say how to rectify it. What is more impressive is his gameplan and how he has identified a role for everyone and uses us judiciously,” Kazi adds.

This trait of Gaikwad is what has made those at Chennai Super Kings to rate him highly. There are whispers in the Super Kings camp after Ravindra Jadeja’s unsuccessful stint as captain last season that MS Dhoni is grooming Gaikwad as the heir apparent. And among Maharashtra players’, there is a certain degree of conviction that these days they get to see plenty of Dhoni traits in how Gaikwad operates. Be it remaining calm under pressure or putting across the message silently or backing players who are struggling.

Brief score: Maharashtra 330/5 in 50 overs (R Gaikwad 220 not out, Ankit Bawne 37, Azim Kazi 37; Kartik Tyagi 3 for 66) beat UP 272 all out in 47.4 overs (Aryan Juyal 159, Shivam Sharma 33; Rajvardhan Hangargekar 5 for 53) by 58 runs.

CROSSWORD 4911



ACROSS

- 1 French writer’s pseudonym (3,2,5)
- 6 A stunning performance in The Ring? (4)
- 10 At festive occasions a journalist is treated (5)
- 11 Frank had a meal but hasn’t yet a seat (9)
- 12 A cleaner fuel that draws well (8)
- 13 More than one ghost writer (5)
- 15 Furnish with a soft tip (7)
- 17 Lift most of the secrecy (7)
- 19 A stage between flights (7)
- 21 Gentleman returning with a fish or meat dish (7)
- 22 Excuse offered for absenteeism (5)
- 24 No energy? And no inclination apparently (8)
- 27 Agitated animal that is caught in twisted net (9)
- 28 Give a protracted speech (5)
- 29 The north as it appeared at that time (4)
- 30 Strictly practical restyled Roman tunic (10)

DOWN

- 1 Shows approval although almost asleep (4)
- 2 Ship’s name spoilt by being cooked (9)
- 3 Spanish and German article entitled to respect? (5)
- 4 Anti-labour act? (7)
- 5 Chews up a thousand fishes (7)
- 7 Collect for a service (5)
- 8 Very steep climb for a member of a trio (3,2,5)
- 9 Not always the products of great minds (3,5)
- 14 Family man holds up letters for national assembly (10)
- 16 They make up monograms for people (8)
- 18 Be quick to show pride in appearance (4,5)
- 20 Bitterness associated with age-old craft (7)
- 21 Turn to riots to get food (7)
- 23 Get used to being in old city quarter (5)
- 25 Lady I take out? (5)
- 26 Smart boy (4)

Solutions Crossword 4910: Across: 1 Doormat, 5 Treat, 8 Merciless, 9 Tee, 10 Rite, 12 Repaired, 14 Circus, 15 Solace, 17 Sedition, 18 Grus, 21 Icy, 22 Endeavour, 24 Reset, 25 Ranting, Down: 1 Demur, 2 Oar, 3 Mail, 4 Theses, 5 Testator, 6 Entertain, 7 Treadle, 11 Tired eyes, 13 Quotient, 14 Cashier, 16 Powder, 19 Shrug, 20 Lawn, 23 Obi.

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.

The most difficult ___ for a man to keep is his own ___ of himself.

-Marcel Pagnol (6,...,7)

DEEOR



EITNNT



CNIIO



AMUCPS



SOLUTION: ERODE, JONIC, INTENT, CAPMPS - Marcel Pagnol

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 5033

Difficulty Level 5s

Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 5032



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Someone you have forgotten how to be youthful and young at heart. If you have a celestial task over the next few weeks, it is to rediscover the art of being spontaneous, joyful, and even a little irresponsible. It could feel as if a massive weight has been lifted from your shoulders.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Your planets really can’t decide what they’re doing or where they’re going, which makes your astrologer’s job even more difficult than usual. Let’s just accept that your stars are generally confident, and that you should finish the day odds-on.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It’s because you had the good fortune to be born a Gemini that you have the right to change your mind as often as you wish. As from this month a whole range of decisions and choices are plunged into the melting pot, much to partners’ annoyance. But that’s their problem.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Go over all financial commitments with a fine toothcomb, and try to spot the deliberate error! This is advice, by the way, which you must follow up to at least well into the next month. Another consideration is that romantic expenses are set to spiral.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Certain old ideas, proposals or suggestions are now due to receive a new lease of life. But your biggest weakness over the next two weeks could be complacency, and if a wondrous opportunity should float past, you must grab it firmly with both hands.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You’ve got to do what’s expected of you without sacrificing your own interests. The trick is to perform your daily responsibilities with your usual skill, but avoid being sucked into a mind-numbing routine. There will be a host of little ways in which you can amuse yourself while keeping the authorities happy.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Mars is playing a double game, encouraging you to go behind other people’s backs now, but planning to bring everything into the open very soon. This should surely be sufficient to encourage you to behave according to only the highest standards.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Your romantic predilections and aspirations are already showing a shift back towards pride and vanity, just for a short period. This means that you will expect partners to have sufficient achievements to justify your being seen with them in public.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

The best that you can hope for from several of your current stars is a large windfall, the least is the promise of financial reward some time in the indefinite future. The one qualification is that you must rely on your own efforts: luck doesn’t come into it.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Your adventurous energies may soon have to be put on ice, but as long as time is on your side, you may press ahead with travel plans and improvements to your personal life. However, one way or another, you should check that there is nothing amiss as soon as possible.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You are about to find that close partners or spouses, can be terribly annoying. It now looks as if someone is about to go back on their word, but the twist is that this time they’re likely to be on your side! Hopefully their support will be good for you.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You sometimes tend to forget just how important it is to remain physically fit. Hopefully you will now return to a diet or exercise regime that was abandoned, perhaps before you even started! Some of you may be even tackling a new competitive sport.

