

UTTARAKHAND

Suggestions to limit family size swamp expert panel on UCC

Raising marriage age to registering live-ins among measures looked at

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

FOCUS ON gender equality, raising the marriageable age of women to 21, equal rights for daughters in ancestral properties, legal rights for LGBTQ couples and registration of live-in relationships. These are some of the suggestions an expert committee, constituted by the BJP government in Uttarakhand to examine issues relating to the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), is likely to make in its report, *The Sunday Express* has learnt.

However, the most crucial will be the committee's recommendation on the suggestion for uniformity in the number of children that a couple can have

EXPLAINED
The Centre's stand
THE CENTRE, in an affidavit in the Supreme Court, has underlined that the Constitution obligates the state to have a UCC for citizens. It said citizens belonging to different religions and denominations following different property and matrimonial laws "is an affront to the nation's unity".

— a suggestion being viewed as a backdoor entry for a population control policy.

Seven months into consultations, the five-member

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



EXPRESS NETWORK

3 KILLED IN 'CRUDE BOMB' EXPLOSION AT TMC WORKER'S HOUSE IN BENGAL
PAGE 13



An enlarged replica of the World Cup ball floats in the Enamakal lake in Kettungal village. *Express*

As World Cup fever rises, Kerala's Qatar village cheers 'land that feeds'

NARAYANAN S
THRISSUR, DECEMBER 3

KERALA'S LOVE for football, especially the football World Cup, is well documented. While cutouts of Lionel Messi, Neymar and Cristiano Ronaldo lining the streets, sometimes even rivers, are no longer a novelty in this part of the world, a small village

in Thrissur district has stood out by erecting hoardings honouring the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, along with those of star footballers.

Kettungal, around 20 km from Thrissur town, on the banks of the Enamakal lake, is known as the 'Qatar village'. Local residents say that at least one person from nearly every household in the village works

in Qatar — more than 350 people from Kettungal live in the Gulf nation.

The World Cup being hosted by Qatar has presented the people of the village with an opportunity to show their gratitude to the country that they credit with helping them prosper.

As soon as you cross the Enamavu bridge and enter

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Umar Khalid, Saifi discharged in 2020 Delhi riots case

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

A DELHI COURT on Saturday discharged former JNU student Umar Khalid and United Against Hate member Khalid Saifi in a case connected to the 2020 Northeast Delhi riots.

Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala pronounced the order in the riot case registered at Khajuri Khas police station. The two will, however, continue to remain in judicial custody as they are yet to get bail in an Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) case.

The court also framed charges against former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain, Liyakat Ali, Riyasat Ali, Shah Alam, Mohd Shadab, Mohd Abid, Rashid Saifi, Gulfam, Arshad Qayyum, Irshad Ahmad and Mohd Riham under sections 120B (punishment for criminal conspiracy), 153A (punishment

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Hurrai for Samurai!



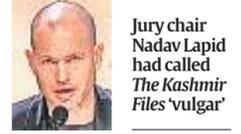
Amul Celebrate blue, eat yellow!

3 other IFFI jurors say they stand by Lapid's 'Kashmir Files' views

ALAKA SAHANI
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 3

BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) winner Jinko Gotoh, who was part of the five-member jury for the International Competition at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Sunday said she and two of her fellow jurors stand by the statement made by jury chairperson Nadav Lapid at the closing ceremony that the *The Kashmir Files* was a "propaganda" movie.

A statement posted by Gotoh on Twitter said, "At the festival's closing ceremony, Nadav Lapid, the jury's president, made a statement on behalf of the jury members stating: 'We were all of us disturbed and shocked by the



Jury chair Nadav Lapid had called *The Kashmir Files* 'vulgar'

15th film, *The Kashmir Files*, that felt to us like a vulgar propaganda movie, inappropriate for an artistic competitive section of such a prestigious film festival.' We stand by his statement. And to clarify we were not taking a political stance on the film's content. We were making an artistic

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ISRAEL ENVOY SAYS GOT ANTI-SEMITIC MESSAGES PAGE 11

Patna HC slams police for bulldozer action: Tamasha bana diya hai

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, DECEMBER 3

FURIOUS WITH officers of a police station in Patna for using a bulldozer to "illegally" demolish the house of a petitioner, Justice Sandeep Kumar of the Patna High Court reprimanded them, saying "yahan bhi bulldozer



Justice Sandeep Kumar

chalne laga... tamasha bana diya ki kisi ka ghar bulldozer se tod

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Among Mumbai children who died of measles, many were unvaccinated

RUPSA CHAKRABORTY
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 3

OVER THE last two months, 16 children, including a five-month-old, lost their lives to measles in Mumbai and nearby areas. While the measles vaccine, given to infants at nine months and 1.5 years and which protects them

against the infection, is covered under the national routine immunisation programme, experts and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation attribute the outbreak, and the subsequent deaths, to a combination of factors — from the pandemic that hit regular vaccination drives to vaccine hesitancy.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RAFALE FOR THE INDIAN NAVY: FORCE MULTIPLIER AT SEA. CELEBRATING NAVY DAY



www.rafale.co.in

OVER 60 YEARS. 6 AIRCRAFT TYPES. 1 NATION
TOOFANI | MYSTERE IV | ALIZE | JAGUAR | MIRAGE 2000 | RAFALE



RAFALE INTERNATIONAL
DASSAULT AVIATION • SAFRAN • THALES

DOWNLOAD APP

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

Indian Express
★★★★ 4.6

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP



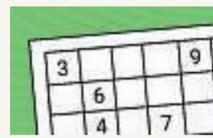
LADY CHATTERLEY'S LOVER MOVIE REVIEW: NETFLIX'S ABSORBING PERIOD EROTICA FINDS EMMA CORRIN AND JACK O'CONNELL IN ELECTRIC FORM

Netflix's absorbing adaptation of DH Lawrence's revolutionary novel is carried by Emma Corrin and Jack O'Connell's performances



SAMSUNG NEO QLED 4K QN95B REVIEW

The TV is a viewing experience, but is that enough to justify price?



ENJOY DAILY CROSSWORDS AND SUDOKU FROM THE INDIAN EXPRESS

EXPRESS AUDIO

Game Time: A World Cup of upsets and lessons from Japan

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Host Rahul Pandey is joined by Mihir Vasavda and Shashank Nayar to discuss Japan's performance in the World Cup

In PoK, Pak army chief says ready for war if attacked

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, DECEMBER 3

PAKISTAN'S NEWLY appointed Army chief General Asim Munir on Saturday said if his country is attacked, the Pakistani armed forces will "not only defend every inch of our motherland, but take the fight back to the enemy."

Munir made these remarks during his first-ever visit to troops in the frontline areas in Rakhchikri Sector of the Line of Control (LoC) in PoK on Saturday.

"We have noticed highly irresponsible statements from Indian leadership on Gilgit Baltistan and Jammu and Kashmir recently. Let me make it categorically clear, Pakistan's Armed forces are ever ready, not only to defend every inch of our motherland, but to take the fight back to the enemy, if ever, war is imposed on us," he said.

During his visit to the frontline areas, Chief of Army Staff Gen Munir was briefed on the latest situation along LoC and operational preparedness of



Munir made the remarks during his first visit to Rakhchikri Sector of the LoC on Saturday. File

the formation. Talking about some recent statements by Indian officials about Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, Munir General said: "Any misconception resulting into a misadventure will always be met with the full might of our armed forces backed by a resilient nation."

On November 24, General Munir replaced General Qamar Javed Bajwa, who retired after serving two consecutive three-year terms as the country's Army chief. **PTI**

Delhi excise scam: TRS leader Kavitha seeks details of complaint

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HYDERABAD, DECEMBER 3

TRS MLC K Kavitha, on Saturday, asked the central agency to provide details, including copies of the complaint, to acquaint herself and answer appropriately "within a reasonable period of time". This comes a day after receiving a questioning notice from the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the alleged Delhi excise policy scam.

"I have gone through the contents of the notice. I would request you to kindly provide me copies of the Complaint vide OM No.14035/06/2022-Delhi-I dated 22/07/22 received from Sri Praveen Kumar Roy, MHA, of India, and RC 53 (A)/2022 of CBI/ACB/Delhi referred to in your notice," Kavitha wrote in the letter.



TRS MLC K Kavitha

In a response to the probe agency's request to intimate her place of residence as per convenience for the 'examination' on that day, Kavitha, in a letter, said the date of her meeting with the agency can be fixed at Hyderabad after the receipt of the said documents.

After her name cropped up in a remand report filed by the Enforcement Directorate in a Delhi court on the alleged kick-backs in the scam, Kavitha had said she was ready to face any probe. The CBI on November 25 filed its first charge sheet in the case against seven accused.

In MP, teacher suspended for attending Rahul's yatra

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, DECEMBER 3

A PRIMARY school teacher from Madhya Pradesh's Barwani district was suspended a day after he attended the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on November 25.

The tribal development department officials said, the 48-year-old teacher, Rajesh Kannoje, was suspended for violating service rules. Kannoje had taken leave citing important work and attended a political event, they said.

Speaking to media, Kannoje said, "I first saw my suspension notice on social media and then was informed by the authorities. I learnt that the action was taken based on a complaint."

Criticising the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government, KK Mishra, chairman of media department of the MP Congress, said, "The BJP government has allowed employees to take park in RSS shakhas, but suspend Rajesh Kannoje for gifting tir-kaman to Rahul Gandhi at a 'non-political march'."

World views India as voice of nations left behind: Om Birla

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE WORLD views India as the voice of nations lagging behind in the changing global order, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said on Saturday.

Delivering the Rajendra Prasad Memorial Lecture on All India Radio, Birla said India has achieved this honour by reaching out to over 150 nations during the Covid-19 pandemic with vaccines and other assistance.

"What can be a bigger example of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the whole world is one family) than this? India not only cared for its own people, but also reached out to (other) nations in their times of need," he said.

"The world calls it India's vaccine diplomacy. But, for us, it is the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' that does not differentiate between us and them," Birla said, adding that the country's G20 Presidency was a testimony to the its rising global stature.

FROM PAGE ONE **FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM**
Suggestions to limit family size swamp UCC panel

committee, led by former Supreme Court judge, Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, has received an "overwhelming suggestion" from a wide range of stakeholders that there should be uniformity in the number of children for a couple, a source said.

"The committee has been flooded with suggestions as people are concerned about the population explosion. They ask what will happen to human rights and how will we ensure equality and rights to children from weaker sections of the society? The committee will take all the suggestions seriously before finalising the report," the source said.

The committee, which has already consulted more than 2.5 lakh people since it was formed in May this year, is expected to submit its report in three months. It was formed immediately after the Pushkar Singh Dhami-led BJP government returned to power earlier this year to fulfill the party's poll promise of introducing UCC in the state.

Suggestions for uniformity in the number of children a couple can have echo the RSS reiteration for a comprehensive population policy. In his annual Vijaydashami speech at the RSS headquarters in Nagpur in October, RSS chief

Mohan Bhagwat flagged the need for a "comprehensive population control policy" that would apply to all "equally", and said it was in the national interest to keep an eye on "population imbalance".

This assumes significance as the implementation of UCC — it has long been a commitment of the BJP and RSS though there have been objections from various sections of society including minorities and tribal communities — has also become an election plank in several states.

Apart from Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, where counting of votes for the Assembly seats will take place December 8, the BJP government in Madhya Pradesh also has announced its decision to form a committee to look at implementation of the UCC in the state.

Last month, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said UCC has been a promise of the BJP since its Bharatiya Jan Sangh days. "Not only the BJP, the Constituent Assembly also advised Parliament and states that UCC should come in the country at an opportune time. For any secular country, laws should not be on the basis of religion. If a nation and states are secular, how can laws be based on religion? For every believer, there

should be one law passed by Parliament or the state assemblies," he said.

The 21st Law Commission, the term of which ran out in August 2018, had said that a UCC "is neither necessary nor desirable at this stage" in the country.

In October this year, the Centre told the Supreme Court that the matter will now be placed before the 22nd Law Commission.

Responding to petitions seeking uniformity in laws governing matters of divorce, succession, inheritance, adoption and guardianship, the Centre, in an affidavit, underlined that the Constitution obligates the state to have a Uniform Civil Code for citizens. It said citizens belonging to different religions and denominations following different property and matrimonial laws "is an affront to the nation's unity".

The Uttarakhand expert panel's recommendations on the implementation of UCC, a source said, would not "be on religious lines" but "to ensure gender equality and the rights of women".

The committee has the mandate to look also into laws regulating personal civil matters such as marriage, divorce, property rights, succession, inheritance, adoption, maintenance, custody and

guardianship for the state residents.

"The committee, however, has no intention to suggest changes in the existing practices, customs, traditions or marriage rituals etc. It is focussing on ensuring equal rights for women who constitute 50 per cent of the population. During consultations, many women complained about not having equal rights in ancestral properties, marriage contracts, etc. At a meeting with Muslim clerics in Haldwani, they also suggested the bad practices that hurt women should be done away with. There is overwhelming support for it," the source said.

There is near unanimity on raising the marriageable age of girls to 21 so that they can at least complete graduation, the source said.

"Many suggestions have come on compulsory registration of marriages to prevent cheating. Another suggestion is to ensure registration of live-in relationships so that cheating and fraud can be avoided. It is also to ensure rights for the children born out of live-in relations. With the Supreme Court decriminalising homosexuality, there is a clamour for legal backing for protecting the rights of LGBTQ couples," the source said.

3 other IFFI jurors say they stand by Lapid's 'Kashmir Files' views

statement, and it saddens us greatly to see the festival platform being used for politics and subsequent personal attacks on Nadav. That was never the intention of the jury."

Besides Gotoh, who is an Oscar-nominated American producer, the statement posted on her twitter handle, was signed by two other jurors of the 53rd IFFI. They were documentary filmmaker, film critic and journalist from France, Javier Angulo Barturen, and French film editor Pascale Chavance. Lapid, Gotoh, Barturen, Chavance and film director Sudipto Sen, who has worked predominantly in Indian cinema, comprised the jury.

When asked why he spoke about a movie that wasn't selected for an award, Lapid told *The Indian Express*, "Yes, basically, the jury does not do that. They are supposed to watch movies, savour them, talk about their merits and select winners. But then basically movies like *The Kashmir Files* shouldn't be part of the competition section at film festivals. I have been part of the jury in dozens of festivals, including the international ones held in Berlin, Cannes, Locarno and Venice. Never ever have I watched a movie like *The Kashmir Files* at these festivals. When you show a movie like this to the jury, you force them to behave differently."

When *The Indian Express* asked Sen, the only Indian on the International Competition jury, to comment on the statement posted by Gotoh, he said: "I shall not change my statement, whatever I said to you and on other platforms. My comments will remain the same. It is true that the said film was rejected on artistic grounds. But I objected (to) his (Lapid) statement — which was not 'artistic'. 'Vulgar' or 'Propaganda' is not any 'artistic' statement." After Lapid described *The Kashmir Files* as a "vulgar propaganda movie", Sen had told the newspaper earlier that Lapid's statement was in his "personal capacity". "Nadav went to speak on

the stage of the IFFI's closing ceremony as the jury chairman of the International Competition. However, the statements he made there were done in his personal capacity. Whatever we had to say as part of the Jury Board about the films in competition, we said in the official presentation made to the festival director and other officials on November 27 and later at a press conference," he said.

Released on March 11 this year, *The Kashmir Files*, directed by Vivek Agnihotri, ran to packed halls across the country but was panned by critics. The film, which was declared tax-free, is based on the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley in the 1990s.

Umar Khalid

for knowingly carrying arms in any procession), 436 (mischievous fire or explosive substance with intent to destroy house, etc), several sections of rioting, and other sections of the IPC. A detailed order in the case is awaited.

Reacting to the discharge order, Umar's father SQR Ilyas said, "It is very good news. After a prolonged time of two years since he has been in jail, we got this good news. This is the result of hard work and perseverance of our legal team. He had got bail in this earlier also. He is in custody for the UAPA case and allegations are similar in both cases. We are hopeful he will be released in the UAPA case as well."

Saifi's wife, Nargis, said, "They filed a false case and after a long time we got victory. It is a slap on the police that the case was discharged. This is a god's gift after such a long time. I can't express my happiness."

The case was registered on the basis of a statement by a constable who was on duty when a mob gathered in the Chand Bagh area on February 24, 2020. When the constable tried to save himself by seeking shelter at a local parking lot, the mob allegedly broke the shutter of the parking lot, assaulted the people inside and set vehicles on fire.

The prosecution had claimed that a building owned by former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain was used by the rioters for stone pelting. Umar and Saifi were alleged to be part of the criminal conspiracy, the prosecution had argued.

Both Umar and Saifi were granted bail in this case in 2021.

Qatar WC: Kerala village cheers 'land that feeds us'

Kettungal, the Qatar World Cup frenzy welcomes you. For at least one kilometre, the compound walls of houses on both sides of the road are painted in maroon and white, the colours of Qatar's national flag. An enlarged replica of the Al Rihla, the ball used in the World Cup, floats in the lake. "Love and thanks to Qatar, the land that feeds us," posters in the village say.

Enamakkal Kettungal Welfare Association, known as EKWA-Qatar, a collective of expats, came up with the idea of celebrating the World Cup being held in the Gulf country, and the people of the village were happy to oblige. A committee was formed, and EKWA-Qatar funded the celebrations, which were inaugurated by Kerala Revenue Minister K Rajan on the opening day of the tournament. The festivities even included a camel being paraded at a rally attended by more than 2,000 people clad in maroon and

white clothes.

All the World Cup matches are livestreamed on a giant screen at the village, and a carnival atmosphere prevails on days when the matches involve teams like Argentina, Brazil and Portugal.

The village's association with Qatar is believed to have begun in 1952, when one Abdul Azeez became the first person from Kettungal to go to Qatar. At the time, the country was still a British protectorate. There is no clarity on how Azeez got to Qatar or what jobs he did there initially. However, many from the village say that Azeez eventually managed to land a job with a British bank.

"Our village was poor, and only had thatched houses. Poverty was real. People were mostly employed in the field of agriculture or fishing. It was Qatar that opened a new avenue for people in the village. After the first person went, and later took his

relatives and friends there, several people realised they could live a better life if they go to Qatar and find a job," says Jalaluddin Haji, who worked for a brief time as a tailor in Qatar in the late 1980s, after the country had become independent.

During those heady days of the Gulf boom, Jalaluddin says, most youngsters in the village tried to learn a trade first, with education becoming a secondary concern.

"I went to a tailoring shop to learn stitching. Similarly, some others learned typewriting. A few joined workshops to learn mechanical works, some learned driving, and others cooking. Everyone's aim, though, was the same — reach Qatar somehow. And by the age of 22-25, if you knew some trade, there was someone to offer you a job in Qatar. There has always been unity among the people here. They want everyone to grow."

Patna HC slams police for bulldozer action: Tamasha bana diya hai, may as well shut courts

personal appearance of the SP, East, Circle Officer and the Agamkuan police station in-charge on December 8.

In a video clip which did the rounds of social media Saturday — the order was dictated on November 24 — Justice Kumar is heard saying: "Yahan bhi bulldozer chalne laga, aisa kaun powerful aadmi hai jo bulldozer lekar tod diye uska (So bulldozer is being run here too. Who are these powerful people for whom you demolished someone's house using

a bulldozer?). Whom do you represent? The state or private persons? Tamasha bana diya ki kisi ka ghar bulldozer se tod denge." (you (administration) have made a spectacle by trying to demolish someone's house?)"

"Has the police station also been given power to sort out matters of land dispute? If someone has an issue, he will go to the police station, pay a bribe and get someone's house demolished. Why don't you close the court, civil court?" he said.

When the petitioner's lawyer said his client was also pressured to vacate the land and a false FIR was also filed, Justice Kumar said, "Bahut achche... I am here to protect you, not trouble you."

"We will get you Rs 5 lakh compensation from the pockets of each (official responsible for the demolition)... police aur CO milkar ghar tudva raha hai ghoos lekar (police and CO are taking bribes to demolish homes)," he said.

The court's order stated: "It

Mumbai measles

The Indian Express tracked down families of nine of the 16 children who died of measles in Mumbai and nearby areas, Nalasopara and Bhiwandi. All of them are inhabitants of slums, with four from Rafi Nagar, a slum in Govandi that's one of the poorest in the city. Only one of the nine children was vaccinated, the vaccination status of three is unclear while six-month-old Sakina Usman Ansari died before she could be eligible for her first dose.

NOORAIN KHAN, 3 years old
Died on October 26 at his home in Rafi Nagar slum, Govandi

Vaccination status: Unknown. Father claims vaccinated, the BMC denies

Father Abdul Rahim Khan said, "Noorain's fever started on October 16 and he later got rashes. He stopped eating and couldn't talk properly. Many told us neem leaves are a cure for this infection, so we made him sleep on a bed of leaves for a week. On October 26, he started gasping for breath. Even before I could take him to hospital, he died," says Khan, insisting that Noorain was vaccinated. "But when our building was demolished, I lost the vaccine certificate."

HASNAIN KHAN, 5 years old
Died on October 27 at Rajawadi Hospital

Vaccination status: Unknown. Father claims vaccinated, BMC denies

Father Abdul Rahim Khan, a resident of Rafi Nagar slum in Govandi, said, "My son Hasnain started complaining of breathlessness. I rushed him to Rajawadi Hospital, where he was admitted in the ICU. Within a few seconds, he had a seizure and he died," said Khan.

FAZAL ALI, 5 years old
Died on October 27 at Rajawadi Hospital

Vaccination status: Unknown. Father claims vaccinated, BMC denies

Father Mohammad Eid Khan, also a resident of Rafi Nagar slum in Govandi, said, "Fazal had a cough and chest congestion, so we took him to hospital. He couldn't breathe on his own, so he was intubated and kept on a ventilator. The next morning, the doctor said he needs to be intubated again, but she struggled as she did so. During her fourth attempt, Fazal died."

ALFA IRFAN KHAN, 1 year old
Died on October 13 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Unvaccinated

Father Irfan Khan, a resident of Baiganwadi in Govandi, said, "My daughter had fever for a day. Then I took her to a local hospital, which referred her to Kasturba Hospital. But within 24 hours of admission, she died." On the child's vaccination status, he said, "I wasn't even aware that there is a vaccine for measles. No vaccinator came to us in the last one year."

HAZI ABBAS, 13 months
Died on October 29 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Unvaccinated

An aunt who spoke for the family that lives in Govandi's Rafi Nagar slum said, "Ghazi was a premature baby and had health issues, so we couldn't get him vaccinated. A few months ago, he was hospitalised for a brain issue. As soon as he got discharged, he developed rashes and was taken to Kasturba Hospital, where he recovered. But before he could be discharged, he developed a seizure and was declared dead."

ADNAN WASI AKHTAR KHAN, 8 months
Died on November 24 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Unvaccinated

Father Wasi Akhtar, a resident of Shivaji Nagar slum in Govandi, said, "Adnan was our first child. Since November 18, he hadn't been eating well and kept crying. On November 20, we took him to Sion Hospital, from where he was referred to Kasturba, where he was admitted in the ICU. He recovered and was supposed to be discharged the next day but he suddenly died."

RAYESH GUPTA, 1 year
Died on November 21 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Unvaccinated

Father Rajendra Gupta, a resident of Nalasoopara (Palghar district), said, "On November 5, Rayesh got discharged from a private hospital after recovering from pneumonia. Within two days, he developed rashes on his face which spread all over. We tried fanning him with neem leaves and followed a satvik diet as advised by our relatives but that didn't help. Then on November 13, he stopped responding and we decided to take him to Kasturba Hospital. Opting for home remedies was a big mistake."

SAKINA USMAN ANSARI, 6 months old
Died on November 17 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Not eligible for first dose

Mother Tabassum Ansari, a resident of Bhiwandi, said, "When Sakina developed rashes, the local doctor referred her to Kasturba Hospital, where she was put on oxygen support. Her condition improved and the oxygen support was removed. But suddenly, her condition worsened."

MOHAMMED HASAN, 1 year
Died on November 14 at Kasturba Hospital

Vaccination status: Vaccinated

Father Abdul Samad, a resident of Mumbadevi, said, "Both my twin children were vaccinated when they were nine months old. We were surprised when both of them contracted measles. Although Mohammed's twin recovered, his condition deteriorated."

has been further submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that a false case has been registered by the police against the petitioner and family members to pressurise them to vacate the land at the instance of the land mafia who are private respondents in this case. The further proceedings of FIR of Agamkuan Police Station... shall remain stayed and the police are restrained from arresting the petitioners and his family members who are accused in the case."

To reduce accidents, safety audit of NH-48 on the cards

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, DECEMBER 3

THE NATIONAL Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to appoint a safety consultant to discuss measures to im-

prove road safety and reduce fatalities on Delhi-Gurgaon expressway. Officials said a proposal for a safety audit of NH-48 is also under consideration.

"We've been consulting with road safety committee officials and traffic police on measures to

improve road safety on NH-48... as part of the process, a safety consultant will be appointed who will advise on measures to curb fatalities, decongestion... A plan for a safety audit of the stretch on the highway is under consideration," said an NHAI official.

The district administration's road safety committee and traffic police had earlier identified 37 black spots where maximum fatalities and accidents had been reported in Gurgaon. The list had also identified at least 18 black spots on NH-48.

Multi-cr heist: Gurgaon court allows ED to quiz accused lodged in Tihar

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, DECEMBER 3

A DISTRICT court in Gurgaon has permitted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to interrogate an accused, lodged in judicial custody in Tihar jail, in a multi-crore burglary case.

The case pertains to a theft from a flat-cum-office in Sector 84 in August 2021. The complainant had initially reported Rs 50 lakh was stolen. Police probe revealed that over Rs 30 crore had been stolen and Rs 5.75 crore, including cash, US dollars and gold, has been recovered by Haryana Special Task Force (STF), which is probing the case. The STF probe had found alleged involvement of gangster Vikas Lagarpuria, his aides, a Delhi Police assistant sub-inspector and two Gurgaon-based doctors, among others. An IPS officer is also accused of allegedly taking a bribe to cover up the case.

The ED had moved an application before the court seeking permission to record the statement of Gurpreet Singh, an accused in the case, in the probe.

In an order Tuesday, Additional Sessions Judge Tarun Singal said the case also falls under the purview of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, which is to be investigated by the Directorate of Enforcement, Zonal Office, Gurgaon, and a case had been registered by the directorate in December 2021 for offences committed under PMLA. "The applicant is permitted to interrogate the above-named accused/suspect in Tihar Jail, jail no. 3 Delhi itself on any working day during working hours," the court said.

Delhi Police के Wise Words

KYC Update के लिए नहीं होती है OTP की जरूरत, रहें सावधान, साइबर जालसाजों की नहीं होती कोई सूरत

Beware of Fraudsters online and offline

Please keep in mind

- KYC is updated only by visiting the bank branch
- Never share your OTP with any caller for updating KYC
- Don't click on any link/ attachments to update the KYC

For reporting cyber/financial fraud, call 1930
cybercrime.gov.in

HC Dinesh Kumar

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112 OR VISIT THE NEAREST POLICE STATION

India's First Line of Defence

Celebrating 58th Raising Day on 4th Dec 2022

Amritsar, Punjab

Chief Guest : Sh. Nityanand Rai
Minister of State for Home Affairs of India

- World's Largest Border Guarding Force
- Safeguarding over 6386 Km of International Boundary with Pakistan and Bangladesh

Live telecast of BSF Raising Day Parade at Amritsar, on DD Punjabi, Live Streaming on DD National And DD Punjabi Youtube Channels, Live Commentary-AIRLiveNews 24x7 on 4th Dec from 09:10 AM onwards

The Indian EXPRESS
JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

BLU SMART MOBILITY

Presents

The Indian EXPRESS AQDA

WHERE NEWSMAKERS DROP IN FOR A CANDID CHAT.

Express Adda hosts

Bhupender Yadav
Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Labour and Employment Government of India

in conversation with

Anant Goenka
Executive Director Indian Express Group

Amitabh Sinha
Resident Editor, Pune The Indian Express

By invitation only

Associate Partners: VISIONIAS, DeVANS
Hospitality Partner: MERIDIEN NEW DELHI

Use #ExpressAdda & join the conversation, live and exclusive on:
Indianexpress.com | twitter.com/IndianExpress | facebook.com/IndianExpress

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 4TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-06 visit us at : <http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE

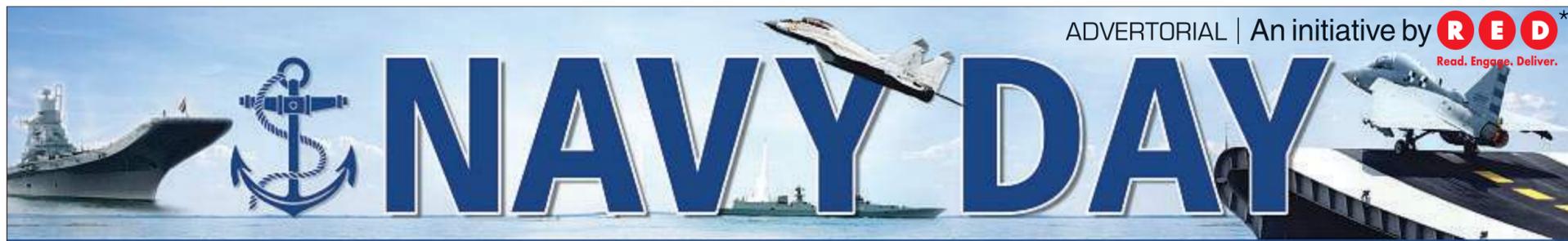
Kind Attention: All the industrial units of Delhi

All industrial units are required to comply with the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act, 1974 and submit the application for Consent to Establish and/or operate on "Online Consent Management & Monitoring System (OCMMS)" online portal of DPCC (<https://dpccocmms.nic.in/>).

Operating the industrial unit without CTE/CTO of DPCC would attract penal action including effective closure of unit, disconnection of electricity and water supply to the unit, as per the provisions of the above said Acts without any further reference.

Please visit the website of Delhi pollution Control Committee (<http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in>) for more details.

Member Secretary, DPCC



The Navy's transformation to be future-ready

THE Indian Navy celebrates Navy Day on December 4 every year to commemorate the successful naval action at Karachi during the 1971 War. The brave naval operations during the 1971 campaign were pivotal in the course of the war and proved how decisive a multi-dimensional naval power could be in modern naval battles. Navy Day is also a good time to reflect on how the Navy is transforming itself into a future-ready force while keeping the nation secure. Over the past year, as part of our celebrations of 75 years of Indian Independence, the Navy showcased the Tricolour across the globe as task forces deployed worldwide engaged in a wide range of missions. These task forces also participated in vital missions, such as the anti-piracy operation in the Gulf of Guinea (West of Africa), multi-national exercises in the West Pacific as well as coordinated patrols and training exercises across the Indian Ocean Region.

As India becomes the fifth-largest economy in the world, the Navy reflects the growing reach and stature of the country. Over the next decade, as the nation forges towards becoming a \$10 trillion economy, it is important to consider how closely aligned our Navy's operational philosophy and modernisation plans are with the larger national outlook. To its credit, the Navy has done a fair job of balancing responses to myriad challenges to security even though the fleet size has grown slower than anticipated. Each man and woman in the Navy has consistently delivered well beyond expectations to establish India as the preferred security partner in the extended maritime neighbourhood. Achieving this status in the face of a global pandemic, compounded by heightened tensions in the region as well as multiple natural disasters, underscores the sheer determination and resolve of Team Navy. The sense of duty reflected by all hands of the Navy is a reflection of the standards which every Indian can embrace to unlock the immense potential of our country.

As the pioneering service in seeking comprehensive self-reliance across its inventory, the Navy's mission to establish itself as a builder's navy is at an advanced stage. With a remarkable range of indigenously constructed platforms including submarines, destroyers,



frigates and strategic platforms being inducted into service in the recent past, the Indian Navy has realised a credible degree of Atmanirbharta. The commissioning of INS Vikrant, an aircraft carrier that was entirely designed and constructed indigenously, was the culmination of a decades-long focused and unyielding journey. It reflects our commitment to and trust in national shipbuilding and local industrial capability. The induction of Vikrant was a historical moment in India's rich maritime history and marked the beginning of a new chapter of transformation.

In the coming months, INS Vikrant, in tandem with India's other aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya, will deploy across the blue expanse of the Indian Ocean, along with their task forces, which comprises several highly potent ships and integral aircraft. These task forces will be able to undertake a wide range of missions, over extended durations, to deter any military threat to India's national interests and establish a high level of maritime security in the region. It will be the lynchpin of India's efforts towards catalysing a period of inclusive growth, prosperity and harmony across the Indian Ocean region. As highlighted during the commissioning of the carrier, the Vikrant project has led to the creation of a sizeable industrial ecosystem, including several small and medium enterprises, which hold the potential for exponential growth in the national mar-

itime industry.

The Navy is also cognisant of the fact that existing capacities may not be adequate to meet the needs of tomorrow's India. A \$10 trillion economy is very likely to have a more comprehensive national security canvas, as well as necessitate perpetual deterrence to ill-intentioned competitors. Accordingly, the plans for naval capability development outline a balanced all-dimensional force, with a mix of manned, unmanned and autonomous capabilities. At the core of these plans, however, is the recognised need to have a persistent and effective capability to deliver credible effects, across the nation's maritime areas of interest.

At present, national shipyards stand at the threshold of immense opportunity. The recently-honed skills in the construction of aircraft carriers and submarines, if harnessed in a timely and cost-effective manner, can deliver capability development in sync with the nation's economic growth. Moreover, the concurrent growth in the nation's other defence manufacturing sectors, such as aviation and drones, has also been factored into these plans, with future platforms being designed to incorporate these technologies/assets. The best example of this would be the ongoing TEDBF project (Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter), which is currently under development. This fighter aircraft will operate from naval carriers. Its com-

pletion will be the crowning glory of India's aviation R&D efforts. This fifth-generation aircraft will feature capabilities at par with its global contemporaries and, if fielded in adequate numbers would significantly enhance naval maritime capabilities. This, however, would only be possible if the Navy's fleet expansion, which has already been aligned with expected budgetary allocations, gets the support of all stakeholders.

Navies across the world take a long time to build or grow. It is, therefore, highly logical that follow-on projects for key platforms such as carriers and submarines be green-flagged early as flag-bearer projects of the Tri-Shakti of modern India, which are aspiration (the continued growth of the Indian shipbuilding ecosystem), re-awakening (of national focus to harnessing the vast potential of the maritime sector) and delivering to the world's expectations (as a strong pillar for peace and security in the region).

The Indian Navy is recognised as among the most professional, competent and effective maritime forces in the world. It has established a high level of mutual trust, interoperability and operational coordination with navies from a number of friendly foreign countries. In all its missions, across the world, the Navy showcases the finest attributes of the nation - unity in diversity, unwavering commitment to global security and mutual respect for all. As India's stature among the comity of nations continues to rise, the Navy's current and future plans seem to be fully harmonised with the nation's growth. As these plans are realised along envisaged timelines, the Indian Navy will be at the vanguard of ensuring the realisation of the national goal of India transforming into a fully developed nation over the next two decades.

The contents of this article are the personal views of the author and do not represent the official position of the Indian Navy or the Government of India.



Capt Arunav Purkayastha
Indian Navy



"NAVY Week is an appropriate time to reflect on the Indian Navy's distinguished operation of Sea King maritime helicopters, while looking ahead to 24 new generation MH-60R SEAHAWK helicopters entering into service," said Hamid Salim, vice president, Sikorsky Maritime & Mission Systems. "With the MH-60R, the Indian Navy is acquiring a proven multi-mission aircraft with unmatched capabilities. Over 40 years of continued H-60 SEAHAWK collaboration and partnership between Sikorsky, Lockheed Martin and the U.S. Navy establishes the foundation on which MH-60R provides transformational capability to meet 21st century security challenges. We offer our congratulations to the Indian Navy on your legacy of achievements and extend our support as you deploy this future-ready helicopter system."

HAMID SALIM
Vice President, Sikorsky Maritime & Mission Systems

• SPEED • PRECISION • POWER • RANGE

BrahMos

Felicitates the Maritime Frontiers of the Indian Navy on the NAVY DAY

BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC CRUISE MISSILE A WORLD LEADER

BrahMos
JOINT VENTURE OF
DRDO, INDIA & NPOM, RUSSIA

BrahMos Aerospace
16, CARIAPPA MARG, KIRBY PLACE, DELHI CANTT.
NEW DELHI-110010. www.brahmos.com

• MULTIPLE PLATFORMS • MULTIPLE MISSIONS • MULTIPLE TARGETS

MQ-9B SkyGuardian: Multi-role Security and Surveillance Solution



GA-ASI has developed the revolutionary MQ-9B SkyGuardian to address most pressing security concerns

SITUATIONAL domain awareness is at the forefront of global security concerns today.

Border violations, ambiguous national territorial limits, and contested areas offland and sea require active surveillance solutions with the capability to protect national interests, if the situation arises. General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) has developed the revolutionary MQ-9B to address today's most pressing security concerns.

Since mid-2018, multiple validation flights have demonstrated the high performance of MQ-9B SkyGuardian for a multitude of critical Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions, including surface and subsurface surveillance, disaster response, search and rescue, and maritime law enforcement.

UNMANNED ADVANTAGE

SkyGuardian is flown by a crew composed of a remote pilot and a sensor operator connected via geostationary satellite link from a cockpit on the ground called a Ground Control Station (GCS). Having the crew on the ground allows the aircraft to carry more fuel and advanced sensors. This combination enables much longer endurance above the area of interest than manned aircraft.

By providing true all-weather capability in a platform built to achieve Type Certification based on STANAG (NATO standard) airworthiness compliance, along with MQ-9B's operationally proven collision-avoidance radar, SkyGuardian enables flexible operations in civil airspace. This means airspace authorities can certify

the MQ-9B SkyGuardian to fly in segregated and non-segregated airspace, just like manned aircraft, which provides greater basing and operating flexibility.

MULTI-SENSOR

MQ-9B SkyGuardian uses high-tech sensors to enhance situational awareness in the operational domain. These sensors include long-range Electro-Optical/Infrared (EO/IR) cameras, wide-area, all-weather, multi-mode radars, and a host of other communication and electronic warfare sensors.

Due to its high performance, the SkyGuardian can be deployed for a multitude of critical ISR missions

INTEGRATED INTELLIGENCE

Operating as a low-cost, complementary capability to Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) - almost five times cheaper to operate than manned surveillance aircraft - the MQ-9B SkyGuardian's GCS can share real-time feeds. It can also share collected intelligence with other agencies and command centers on the ground using the System for Tactical Archival, Retrieval, and Exploitation (STARE), unlike manned ISR aircraft, which require a return to base for data analysis. In a time of limited MPA resources, the ability to visualize, task, and correlate in a timely man-

ner is critical to maintaining effective control of territorial borders and maritime areas.

FLEXIBLE, RELIABLE & COST-EFFECTIVE

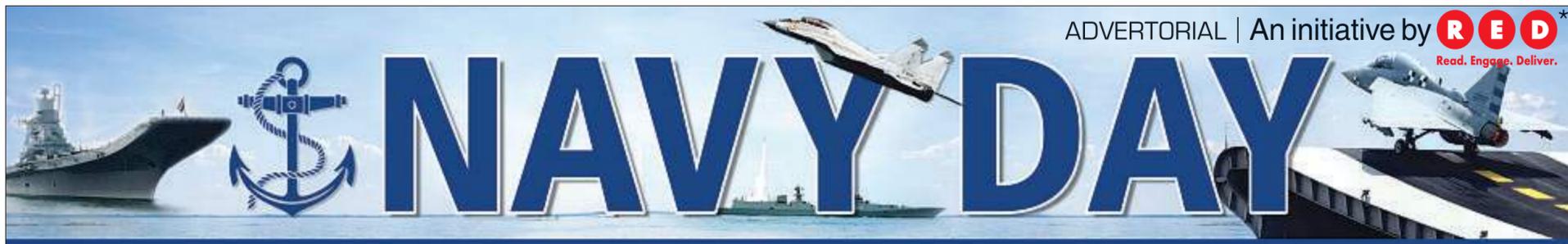
GA-ASI technology developments will continue to bring even more utility to high-altitude, long-endurance (HALE) RPAS. The emergence of this new generation aircraft will satisfy the requirements of persistence, precision, and time-sensitive targeting across the full spectrum of national defence, internal security commitments and homeland cross-domain missions.

With over 90 percent mission availability and using 200 pounds of fuel per hour (instead of 5,000 pounds of fuel per hour used by some patrol aircraft), MQ-9B SkyGuardian and its maritime variant - MQ-9B SeaGuardian, is a cost-effective and complementary asset. The MQ-9B's industry-leading endurance offers "occupation of the airspace" over a target and its environment, with time-station that extends well beyond a single day.

For Indian Armed Forces, the MQ-9B SkyGuardian/SeaGuardian enables a system of Multi-Domain Joint Operations in direct support of Land and Maritime Surveillance, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike, Electronic Warfare (EW) roles and Expeditionary roles.



Pratesh Gandhi,
Director, India Strategic Development General Atomics and Affiliated Companies



Make in India helps defence sector grow

INS Vikrant's commissioning has demonstrated India's technological and industrial skills and changed the Indian Navy's blue water capability and strength worldwide

THE defining event of 2022 for the Indian Navy was the commissioning of INS Vikrant, the country's first indigenously built aircraft carrier, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 2, 2022. As the country's new naval ensign, signifying a break from a colonial legacy and recognising India's rich maritime heritage, was hoisted for the first time that morning, it was more than just a symbolic gesture. It signified the emergence of a young and confident India, proud of its rich and ancient civilisational identity and ready to take its place as a leading global power of the 21st century seeking its rightful position on the global high table. This aspiration will primarily be reflected in the maritime domain as historically, maritime power has been the key to global power and continues to be so in the 21st century. INS Vikrant's commissioning has therefore not only showcased India's technological and industrial skills but has also significantly changed the Indian Navy's blue water capability and its ability to project power in defence of the country's maritime interests and as a force for good across the world.

Aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines are the two most complex naval platforms to build. With the commissioning of INS Vikrant, preceded a few years ago by INS Arihant, the country's first indigenously built nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, India is the sixth nation in the world with this capability, the others being the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. The Indian Navy has been at the forefront of indigenisation in the defence sector; its efforts to indigenise warship construction predate the Prime Minister's 2014 vision of 'Make in India' and the more recent call for 'aatm-nirbharta' or self-reliance in the defence sector, by many decades. From humble beginnings with the commissioning of INS Ajay in 1960 to the present, where 37 of the 39 ships currently on order are being built in Indian shipyards. The 40-odd ships that have been accorded the approval of the Defence Acquisition Committee, will also be constructed indigenously. This is an impressive success story and vindicates the Prime Minister's confidence in the country's ability to rise to the occasion.

India's destiny is firmly anchored in the maritime domain. With the Indo-Pacific and more specifically, the Indian Ocean likely to become the epicentre of the great power rivalry brewing in the region, it is imperative that India retains its pre-eminence as the major maritime power in the region and is able to shape the outcomes in the region, and not allow itself to be shaped by them. The Indian Navy's focus on indigenisation and self-reliance has gone a long way in reducing the country's import dependence and consequent strategic vulnerability, in addressing the wide spectrum of maritime security challenges. As the country celebrates Navy Day on December 4, the Indian Navy has much to be proud of and much to look forward to.

India's destiny is firmly anchored in the maritime domain. With the Indo-Pacific and more specifically, the Indian Ocean likely to become the epicentre of the great power rivalry brewing in the region, it is imperative that India retains its pre-eminence as the major maritime power in the region and is able to shape the outcomes in the region, and not allow itself to be shaped by them. The Indian Navy's focus on indigenisation and self-reliance has gone a long way in reducing the country's import dependence and consequent strategic vulnerability, in addressing the wide spectrum of maritime security challenges. As the country celebrates Navy Day on December 4, the Indian Navy has much to be proud of and much to look forward to.



Commodore Anil Jai Singh (Retd.)
Vice President, Indian Maritime Foundation & Honorary Adjunct Fellow of the National Maritime Foundation

Indian Navy maintains harmonious sea control sans aggression

The naval force, which ranks 7th in the world, defends our vast coastline

NICHOLAS J. SPYKMAN, an American political scientist and professor of international relations at Yale University, stated that Eurasia's rimland, the coastal areas, is the key to controlling the World Island. It was true in the 16th-18th century, which allowed European countries to colonise and dominate the world. The importance of a navy's dominance of the world's oceans is still indispensable to any nation as well as is a guarantor of global trade and security.

India is emerging as a key beneficiary for the world's "China-plus-one" strategy of adding production capacity and our government's ambitious embarkment on a journey of becoming a \$5 trillion economy. Therefore, it is imperative that our shoreline is protected by a powerful Navy. Our vast coastline is defended by the world's finest naval force which ranks seventh in the world.

Indian Navy has proven its fire-power in various operations like Cactus (to support Maldives Government) or provide Tsunami relief. The most notable in recent times has been Operations SAGAR (Sea in Hindi), 'Security and Growth for All in the Region', an acronym used by the Government for India's vision and geopolitical framework of maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region. Mission Sagar saw India's benevolence to assist countries in the Indian Ocean littoral states during the Covid pandemic. Under Mission

Sagar, the Indian Navy has deployed ships to 15 friendly foreign countries. These deployments spanned over 215 days at sea, and have delivered a cumulative assistance of more than 3,000 MT of food aid, over 300 MT of liquid medical oxygen, 900 oxygen concentrators etc.

Indian Navy has envisioned the development of weapons systems and platforms with a year-on-year annual budget of Rs 72,997 crore, including a capital outlay of Rs 47,590 crore that goes in new system/product acquisition. It's a remarkable and steady foray into indigenisation that began over five decades ago with the design and construction of warships in the country. India's private shipbuilding industry is vibrant and is the manifestation of the government's vision of self-reliance in the design, testing and manufacturing of technologically advanced equipment. Of India's 28 shipyards, six are public sector undertakings (PSUs), two are owned by state governments, and the remaining twenty are with the private sector. Today, dozens of its state-of-the-art ships and submarines are under construction in Indian shipyards, a clear reflection of the Indian Navy's support to the indigenous warship-building endeavour. At a whopping cost of Rs 20,000 crore, India is only the sixth country to master the technical know-how and capability to create complex and large warships like Vikrant, an

aircraft carrier, built at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL). In terms of anti-submarine warfare measures, the IN has plans to acquire Garden Reach and Shipbuilders Ltd. (GRSE) indigenously built ASW vessels aimed to replace Russian Abhay-class corvettes. The Nilgiri-class advanced stealth frigate of Project 17A which includes seven ships is being built at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDSL) and GRSE. Project 75, one of the Largest 'Make in India' Projects, intends to build six diesel-electric attack submarines of the 'Kalvari' class that is based on the 'Scorpene' class. It will facilitate faster and more significant absorption of technology and develop a tiered industrial ecosystem for submarine construction in India. Indian Navy plays a very complex role in maintaining harmonious sea control with a non-aggressive attitude with a powerful inventory sending out a powerful message of not daring to provoke conflict.



Suraj Nangia
Partner, Nangia Andersen



Sanjay Shah
Director, Defence Advisory, Nangia Andersen

Indian Navy's new ensign



IN a bid to do away with the colonial past, the Saint George's Cross has been removed from the Indian Navy's new flag. Instead, it now features the national emblem with the Tricolour on the upper canton (top left corner of the flag). The national emblem is encompassed by an octagonal shield and sits atop an anchor. Beneath it is the Navy's motto 'Sam No Varunah'.

The golden border surrounding the national emblem draws inspiration from the seal of Indian emperor Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and depicts steadfastness. The octagonal shape of the national emblem has been designed to represent eight directions, symbolising the multi-directional reach and multi-dimensional operational capability of the Indian Navy.

The new ensign is a successor to the pre-Independence ensign of the Indian Navy, featuring the Saint George's Cross on a white background with the Tricolour in the canton.

The previous ensign carried the Saint George's Cross and was a successor to the pre-Independence ensign which had the red Cross on a white background with the Union Jack of the United Kingdom in the top left corner.

BRAHMOS missile: Indian Navy's mighty formidable asset to its firepower

INDIAN NAVY with its professionalism and outstanding courage, has been playing a stellar role in safeguarding maritime security and protecting the nation's interests in the sea. The Indian Navy is fully geared up with state-of-the-art weapon systems to ensure the sovereignty of the nation by defeating any security challenges which may emerge in the foreseeable future. Indian Navy, to add more firepower to its operational capabilities, has equipped all its frontline warships with the supersonic cruise missile — BRAHMOS. As the world's fastest cruise missile system with unmatched speed, precision and devastating power, BRAHMOS is capable of engaging targets at supersonic speed.

Since 2005, the Indian Navy started arming its frontline surface warfare ships with BRAHMOS as a "prime strike weapon". Today, the missile system has been inducted in a majority of existing naval platforms and will be deployed in other future surface ships. The advanced weapon system, with its versatility, potentiality and striking capability, can carry out littoral as well as surface warfare missions in both land-attack and anti-ship configurations. The 'Pride of India' BRAHMOS Supersonic Cruise Missile with its impeccable strike capability and deadly firepower, has reinforced itself as the world's most formidable weapon system.

The missile is capable of hitting sea-based targets beyond radar horizons. It can be launched in either an inclined or vertical configuration based on the type of the ship. The missile has also showcased its underwater launch capabilities following its test firing in vertical configuration from a submerged platform in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Visakhapatnam. The missile is now ready to arm the new generation of submarines.

BRAHMOS's advanced weapon system has grown from strength to strength over the years and added new capabilities to meet divergent war scenarios. The missile has been successfully inducted into the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force. The Indian Army is the only

armed force in the world to have land-attack supersonic cruise missile capability, with several regiments raised. The missile has also proved its 'salvo' launch capability to knock down single or different targets located in different directions. BRAHMOS-A air-launched cruise missile armed with the Su-30MKI aircraft has also been inducted by the Indian Air Force. The successful induction of BRAHMOS in all three services has made India the first and only country in the world to complete the "supersonic cruise missile triad".

The deployment of the BRAHMOS cruise missile system in the services has given the Indian Armed Forces the much-needed capability to undertake deep surgical strikes in both land and sea, thus protecting its international borders and annihilating enemy assets and installations.

BRAHMOS has also achieved historic milestones in the flagship "Make In India" programme by successfully indigenising major sub-systems taking the Indian contribution to 70 per cent. All launcher systems

for the weapon are being manufactured domestically. 100% of ground support equipment for the weapon complex is also being made in India.

Providing further impetus to Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan in defence production, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has recently signed a contract with BrahMos Aerospace for the acquisition of additional dual-role capable Surface-to-Surface BRAHMOS missiles. The induction of these dual-role capable missiles is going to significantly enhance the operational capability of Indian Navy fleet assets.

Work is also progressing to develop more advanced variants of the versatile BRAHMOS so as to make it even more lethal and flexible to equip a wide range of future naval platforms. The emergence of BRAHMOS has provided India and its Navy with a sharp tactical edge to deter and defeat the enemy and will act as an ultimate force multiplier in future maritime conflicts.

Both the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) of India and JSC MIC NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia has made impressive strides in joint design, development and production of the high-technology BRAHMOS. BrahMos Aerospace also prides itself in possessing a full-fledged design centre, an Industrial Consortium for producing different sub-systems, a world-class integration, and check-out facilities with stringent quality control. BrahMos Missile Industrial Complex comprises more than 200 Indian industries and multiple Russian industries, R&D labs and academic institutions of both countries.

The success story of BRAHMOS has transformed from 'Make In India' to 'Make for the World' when in 2022 BrahMos Aerospace signed a landmark export contract with the Philippines for the delivery of BRAHMOS Shore-Based Anti-Ship Missile system to the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The BRAHMOS missile has therefore completely redefined the new-age military technology and has fortified India's defence and security posture.

BrahMos Aerospace felicitates the Indian Navy on this special occasion of Navy Day.



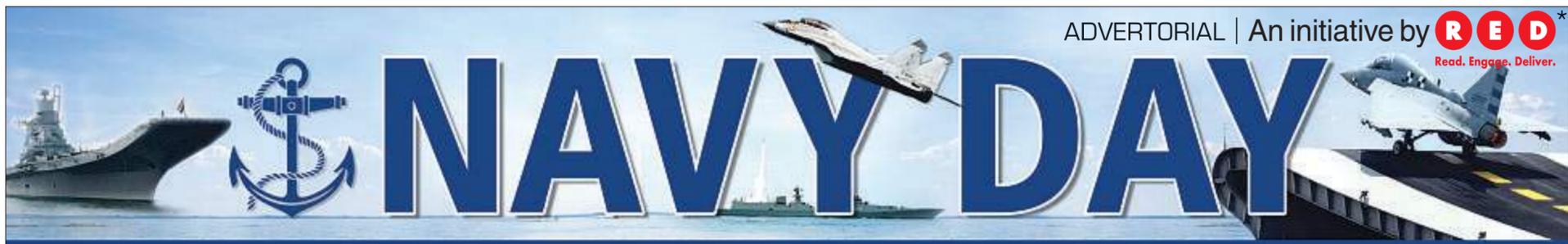
BRAHMOS, the supersonic cruise missile, is capable of hitting sea-based targets beyond radar horizons

HAPPY INDIAN NAVY DAY

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems salutes the Indian Navy on its 51st anniversary.

ga-asi.com
©2022 GENERAL ATOMICS AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS, INC. Enabling Information Dominance

GENERAL ATOMICS AERONAUTICAL



Steadfast guardians of India's maritime security

For India, as a maritime nation, security on land is dependent very much on maintaining supremacy over the seas and the Indian Navy has earned the reputation of being a force to be reckoned with through its tireless service over 75 years of Independence

RECHRISTENED as the Indian Navy after India became a Republic on 26 January 1950, the formidable maritime branch of the Indian Armed Forces and one of the top 10 strongest navies of the world, with a rich and exemplary history, observes Navy Day on December 4 every year. The day is dedicated to recognising and celebrating the valiance of our nation's combat-ready and highly motivated naval personnel and their achievements. It is a day that brings into focus and celebrates the significant role of the Indian Navy for unswervingly defending the 7,516-km-long coastline of the country while safeguarding the nation's maritime interests and effectively dealing with the multifaceted challenges that are an innate part of the complex maritime environment of the century.

With the President of India as the Supreme Commander of the Indian Navy and Admiral R. Hari Kumar serving as the current Chief of the Naval Staff comprising over 67,252 active personnel and 75,000 reserve personnel, the broad spectrum of the country's navy's operations encompasses a seamless amalgamation of its military, diplomatic, constabulary and benign roles. As a blue-water navy, that is capable of operating globally, the Indian Navy carries out significant operations



in the Persian Gulf Region, the Strait of Malacca and the Horn of Africa and routinely partners with other navies of the region, alongside carrying out deployments in the South and East China seas and the western Mediterranean Sea. The Indian Navy, which has the strength of 150 ships and submarines

as well as 300 aircraft, and is in an expansionary phase, is at the forefront of promoting bilateral relations between countries through its conspicuous joint exercises, humanitarian missions and goodwill visits.

With operational and training bases in West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra

Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the Indian Navy has a specialised training command that oversees training at all levels in the naval force of the world's seventh-largest country by area and the second-most populous country. The Marine Commando Force (MCF) or MARCOS, as a Special Operations Forces unit of the Indian Navy, has proved to be an asset time after time, in various operations and wars, including the harrowing 2008 Mumbai attacks.

The mighty sub-surface fleet of the Indian Navy includes nuclear-powered attack submarines, ballistic missile submarines and conventionally powered attack submarines. To bring its enemies to their knees, the Navy has at its disposal powerful submarine-launched ballistic missiles, cruise and anti-ship missiles, ship-launched ballistic missiles, air-to-air missiles, surface-to-air missiles, air-to-air guns, main guns, torpedoes and anti-submarine rocket launchers along with BrahMos — the most advanced missile system adapted by the Indian Navy.

As the first aircraft carrier to be designed and built entirely in India, INS Vikrant, commissioned on September 2, 2022 in a grand ceremony at Cochin Shipyard by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marks an epoch in Indian Naval history. Reportedly, up to 26 MiG-29K fighter jets, four Kamov Ka-31 helicopters or four MH-60R multi-role helicopters or two HAL Dhruv NUH utility helicopters will be able to fly from INS Vikrant. With its motto that translates to "I defeat those who fight against

It is a day that celebrates the significant role of the Navy for unswervingly defending the 7,516-km-long coastline of the country and guarding its maritime interests

3 to 16 of that year. Under S.N. Kohli, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command of the Indian Navy, the Western Fleet of our navy successfully launched a surprise attack on the Port of Karachi on the night of 4 December 1971, inflicting heavy damage to the ill-prepared Pakistan Navy. Code-named "Trident", the attack by the Indian Navy relied on the Soviet-built Osa missile boats, which sank four Pakistani vessels, including the Pakistan Navy's destroyer - PNS Khaibar, its minesweeper - PNS Muhafiz and its submarine - PNS Ghazi.

With PNS Shah Jahan being irreparably damaged and ten smaller vessels being captured along with three merchant navy ships and a total of 1413 servicemen, Pakistani naval sources reported the death of around 1900 personnel and loss of huge volumes of reserve fuel and a significant number of commercial ships. This, along with the unprecedented, colossal damage inflicted on the naval base and the docks of Karachi, acted as a deterrent to the Pakistan Navy's further involvement in the war and bolstered the position of India militarily while paving its way for victory in the war.

A feather in the Indian Navy's cap, this milestone in India's impressive maritime history, provided an added reason to celebrate and see India's Navy Day in a new light. It was decided shortly at the Senior Naval Officer's Conference in May 1972 that thenceforth Navy Day celebration would be observed on 4 December each year to commemorate the actions and the accomplishments of the Indian Navy during the Indo-Pakistan War of 1971 and the week starting from 1 December would be observed as the Navy Week.

In addition to paying tribute to the martyrs of the Indo-Pakistan War, a spectrum of events take place during Navy Week every year, with the celebrations culminating in the finale, on Navy Day. This year too, the Navy Week celebrations will be marked with a slew of activities in accordance with this year's theme, "Indian Navy - Combat Ready, Credible, Cohesive and Future Proof." Naval ships' and aircraft' operational demonstration, musical concert, outreach programmes for Veer Naris and ex-servicemen, philanthropic activities and ship visits will form the core of this year's celebrations.

As the country continues to celebrate Indian Navy Day, the rich maritime history, the victories and achievements of the Indian Navy along with the bolstering of the navy's prowess, the words of Admiral George Anderson of the US Navy ring true - "The Navy has both a tradition and a future and we look with pride and confidence in both directions."

bob
World

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

Baroda MILITARY SALARY PACKAGE FOR INDIAN NAVY



FREE PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR SALARIED PERSONNEL

- ▶ Salary account cover on-duty ₹75 Lakhs and Off-duty ₹60 Lakhs
- ▶ Additional cover ₹10 Lakhs on Debit Card
- ▶ Additional cover ₹20 Lakhs on Credit Card

FREE PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE FOR VETERANS

- ▶ Pension account cover up to ₹40 Lakhs
- ▶ Additional cover ₹10 Lakhs on Debit Card
- ▶ Additional cover ₹20 Lakhs on Credit Card

OTHER BENEFITS

- ▶ **Unlimited Free** Transactions at other Bank ATMs
- ▶ **Free Remittances** - RTGS / NEFT / IMPS (through all modes)

RETAIL LOAN FACILITIES

- ▶ **YODDHA LOANS** - Auto, Home, Two Wheeler, Education and Pension Loans
- ▶ 100% processing charges waiver*
- ▶ ROI independent of slab system linked in CIBIL with attractive offers
- ▶ Scheme benefits extended to Veterans

*Subject to terms and conditions

Trusted bank of the Navy

Bank of Baroda salutes all naval personnel on Navy Day

ON this momentous day, celebrating "Swarnim Vijay Varsh", it is our sincere pleasure to express appreciation for the truly commendable contribution of Indian Naval forces to our country.

Having worked with them as a banking partner, has been one of the highlights of Bank of Baroda's Defence Banking initiatives. Our MoU with Indian Navy for Defence Salary Package and co-branded "Varunah" credit cards encompasses specially curated features to suit the requirements of Indian Navy personnel.

With best in class comprehensive Personal Accidental Insurance Cover (both on-duty and off-duty), value added services like unlimited ATM transactions and seamless digital platform for our Indian Navy personnel, we are confident that Bank of Baroda will stand resiliently with Indian Navy in its pursuit to offer world class financial services.

One of the key highlights of our package includes inclusion of veterans of Defence forces with wide-ranging add-



on covers matching their lifestyle needs.

Again, our gratitude and best of luck to all Indian Navy personnel in this historic year marking 75 years of India's Independence - "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".

ABOUT BANK OF BARODA

Founded on 20th July, 1908 by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, Bank of Baroda is one of the leading commercial banks in India. At 63.97% stake, it is majorly owned

by the Government of India. The Bank serves its global customer base of over 150 million through over 46,000 touchpoints spread across 17 countries in five continents. Through Its state-of-the-art digital banking platforms, it provides all banking products and services in a seamless and hassle-free manner. The recently launched bob World mobile app provides customers with a saving, investing, borrowing, and shopping experience, all under one single app. The app also serves non-customers by enabling account opening through video KYC. The Bank's vision matches its diverse clientele base and instills a sense of trust and security. It is moving well in that direction and bob World is a testimony of its roadmap towards Digital Transformation.

- ▶ Visit us at www.bankofbaroda.in
- ▶ Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bankofbaroda/>
- ▶ Twitter <https://twitter.com/bankofbaroda>
- ▶ Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/officialbankofbaroda/>
- ▶ YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdf14FHPLt7omkE9CmyrVHA>
- ▶ LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bankofbaroda/>

Nation Builders

JK Lakshmi Cement: Walking a Step Ahead to Reduce Carbon Footprint

JK Lakshmi Cement is intrinsic to India's infra-development goals. Could you elaborate on this aspect?

As you know, we are one of the oldest cement brands in India. The history of JK Lakshmi Cement goes back almost 40 years, when we started our operations in India in 1982. We started with 0.5 Million MT, and now, with our expansions going on, we are close to 17 Million MT and if you see the progress of JK Lakshmi Cement, I think we have been at the forefront in building our nation. We have been a part of several of our nation's infrastructure projects, including metros, national highways, big iconic non-commercial buildings, and housing. As a cement supplier, JK Lakshmi Cement has contributed to every element of national building events, including the home building segment, the commercial building segment, the industrial segment, and the infrastructure segment. So, we have been part and parcel of Indian building stories for long.

Cement is among heavy industries and is located for the most part in the hinterland because of the need for space. How many cement plants does JK Lakshmi Cement possess and how are you building the new facilities which are energy-efficient and emit fewer pollutants?

We have been at the forefront in reducing our carbon footprint and operating in an energy-efficient manner. First of all, if you go through CII Benchmarks, we are among the top 5 companies for executing different energy-efficient parameters in our operations.

Secondly, I think we have taken lots of actions to reduce our carbon footprint. For example, we are increasing our blended cement proportion. Blended cement is all about energy efficiency and environmental friendliness, while also being smoother and stronger than OPC.

We produce PPC cement, Slag cement, and Composite cement. So, selling different types of blended cement that have low carbon emissions helps us reduce our carbon footprint.

Third, we are always trying to cut down

JK Lakshmi Cement is a responsible corporation that believes in inclusive growth. Our founders have a vision of giving it back to society.

on how much fossil fuels we use, since fossil fuels are also a major source of carbon emissions. For that, what we do is waste heat recovery (WHR). So, we recover the heat from our integrators, which would generally go to waste otherwise and generate electricity from it. And in this way, we are reducing our fossil energy consumption. We also use AVA, alternate fuel, or alternate raw materials to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. For instance, we are using waste plastic, RDF, and hazardous liquids, which otherwise would be a pollutant to our environment.

Fourth, all equipment is best in class in terms of technology. We are using technology to optimize our operations through AI and ML. And we were the first Indian company in the industry to deploy AI and ML. And that is a unique thing that we are doing to increase the energy efficiency of our operations. Similarly, solar power has huge potential in India. And again, we have aggressively installed solar power plants in our different units. We are also using wind power.

So, by combining all these, including WHR, alternate fuel, solar power, wind power, and AI/ML, we have been able to reduce our carbon footprint to a great extent. And just to tell you, I think our carbon emissions are the best in the industry. Our carbon emission is around 560 kg per tonne of cement production, which is excellent.

First of all, our focus has been on reducing the carbon footprint. Secondly, we are very concerned about handing over the planet to the next generation. I think this is going in the right direction, and that is how we are going to mitigate our carbon footprint. We have also taken the pledge that by 2047, though this is a very stretched target, we will be carbon neutral.

So, you mentioned AI/ML. Everything is kind of automated now. When did the processes become automated? Was this your vision? Why was automation essential in your industry?

I have told you that as an organization, our focus has been on technologies and ways to reduce carbon footprints, even before COP26 and COP27. And we have been among the top brands that started with WHR. WHR was not quite prevalent before

COP26 and COP27. Although right now everyone is doing WHR as it has become a need, we are the ones who started it. In a nutshell, this is what our culture has been. As we have always emphasized the importance of being environmentally responsible and acting accordingly.

We started automating our processes about 3 months ago, and we are doing this in collaboration with the National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCCBM). And we have started working on this process. So, we are making sure that our operations use energy as efficiently as possible, which will reduce our carbon footprint in the long run. As a culture, this is what we have been already practicing, and keeping pace with that, we have also started technology upgrades.

Have you deployed automated systems in all your cement manufacturing plants?

No, we have just started with automated systems in one of our plants in Jaykaypuram, Rajasthan. Our ultimate goal, however, is to install automated systems in all of our plants.

What changes have you noticed in your Jaykaypuram plant with an automated system and other plants across the nation?

The difference, of course, is in the yield value per tonne. One of the indicators that tell you whether what you've deployed is working is the yield value. And yes, the yield value is improving.

We have always heard your company's name first before discussing sustainable development and empowering local communities. Therefore, what efforts do you make toward sustainable development and empowering local communities to participate in the mainstream economic growth of the nation?

Thank you so much. I think we are proud of what we are doing. JK Lakshmi Cement is a responsible corporation that believes in inclusive growth. Our founders have a vision of giving back to society. We are carrying on this value of our founders. And wherever we are working, we ensure that communities around us are growing inclusively.

If you look around our provinces, we are really running a lot of initiatives on education, skill development, health and sanitation, and child and women's health. We are empowering and vetting societies to support themselves. So, we are taking care of a lot of initiatives around our provinces. And I would like to invite all your readers to visit one of our plants and see what we are really doing.

How many people do you have in your organization across all horizontal and verticals?

The number of our own people is probably around 2000.

How many plants do you have across the nation?

We have seven plants of our own. And we have also outsourced five plants. So, the total number of plants would be 12.

Which is the plant that gives you maximum production?

Our plants in Rajasthan give us the maximum output. The plant in Jaykaypuram, Rajasthan, has the highest capacity. In fact, the Jaykaypuram plant, the integrated plant in Udaipur, and the integrated unit in Chhattisgarh are three of our biggest plants. We have grinding stations in Ahmedabad and Surat in Gujarat, one in Haryana, and one in Cuttack, Orissa. So, that makes 7 plants owned by ourselves.

In addition, we have outsourced plants in Amethi, Secunderabad in Uttar Pradesh, Rajpura in Punjab, Kathua & Samba in Jammu & Kashmir. So, we have 12 plants



*JK Lakshmi Cement is one of the chief players in the cement manufacturing industry and has a lot going on in their plants. We have **Arun Shukla**, the President and Director of JK Lakshmi Cement, with us today. Let us get more insight into what is happening in the cement industry in general and particularly, at JK Lakshmi Cement.*

from where we supply cement to our customers.

Has there been a time when the demands were increasing and you couldn't meet them?

The cement industry is cyclical in nature. So, we typically have good demand in the months from January to June. And the season is not so good for the cement industry from July to September.

We have always been able to meet our demands. However, in the months of July, August, and September, the production capacity is usually not fully utilized.

So, what are your future plans? Do you have any plans to expand your production units to other states, as well? Or are you planning to be fully invested in the 12 plants you

have now?

In terms of development, I believe that India has a lot to offer. If you look at the consumption per capita in India, it is less than 300 kg per year. And if you compare this with China, that is 2000 kg per annum. That is a huge difference!

And to my mind, we are really not technofascinated. With a lot of things happening, like the infra push, I think we are ultimately going to follow the trajectory of China. Although we are less than 300 Kg per capita in consumption and it seems a long journey to reach the level of China but we will hopefully attain it. But perhaps the journey to more than 1000 or 1500 is really quite exciting for the cement industry. And I firmly believe in that. Moreover, the kind of development that is happening now in India supports my findings.

So, in line with what is happening in and

around us and in line with the growth of the cement industry, we are quite excited about the cement industry. And for this reason, we have plans to grow ourselves. As I told you, after our ongoing project, we will be close to 17 Million MT capacity and our target is to reach 30 Million MT by 2030. We will almost be doubling our capacity by 2030. And yeah, we have already started working towards achieving our goal.

And you think the nation would provide you room to achieve your goal to double production by 2030?

Yes, I think the demand is going to be very good, seeing the nation's upcoming infrastructure development projects and the investments made in the infrastructure sector. So, we have started with our goal of 30 Million MT by 2030, and I think we probably will accomplish this even before 2030.

Did the pollution problems and construction ban in Delhi, NCR push you a little back?

Yes, I think it had an impact on us. There's no denying it. As you know, Delhi-NCR is one of our major markets. And it had an effect on us to some extent. And because it coincided with our low-demand season, the impact was magnified. Moreover, the impact was not limited to July, August, and September. It was there in October and November as well.

So, what do you basically do to tackle such issues?

I think we should support all these kinds of restrictions because that is very important. As I told you, we are a responsible corporation. And we know that the motto of all these restrictions is to improve the livelihood of people. Usually, we try to mitigate the loss in this zone from other zones. But unfortunately, the situation was not good this time in other zones either, as there were festivals like Dussehra and Diwali around the corner in October. So that also impacted us a little bit.

JK Lakshmi Cement has empowered the industry and made India as a hub of cement production. How has the journey been so far?

As I told you, we started our journey in the cement industry with 0.5 Million MT of production in Jaykaypuram, Rajasthan. And now we are close to reaching 17 Million MT of production. And through the journey of JK Lakshmi Cement, we have been a part of the puzzle of our nation's developmental journey. Through home-building projects, we have fulfilled the dreams of millions of individuals. Also, we have been able to contribute to the infrastructural development of the country.

We could also give back to the communities in which we operate. And also, through different initiatives we have taken, I think we could impact the lives of millions of people associated with us directly or indirectly. So, our journey so far has been quite exciting.

In addition, the kind of response we get from our customers and stakeholders has propelled us and given us the conviction that there is a lot more to be done. And that is



what is giving us the confidence to achieve 30 Million MT of production by 2030.

Do you ensure that working conditions are safe for your people?

Health and safety are two of our top priorities. And it is clear in our culture that people come first, and business comes second. So, we are the best in terms of safety management, and we have implemented best-in-class SOPs and processes in our plants. And because of that, we've gotten a lot of rewards for making sure our plants have the best safety management.

To tell more about safety management, we are aware that safety is not just about implementing processes and SOPs; it is actually about acting proactively to avoid incidents. For that, we are encouraging our people to report near-miss incidents. If you don't address near misses today, that will lead to an accident in the near future.

Before performing any higher-risk jobs, experts conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify risks, mitigate risks, and communicate risks to the entire stakeholder group. So, we have a comprehensive system in place for safety management.

The last quarter's profit has been down by 25%. How has it affected your operations and what are your plans for coming out of it?

We are in our low-demand cycle now. On top of that, the construction ban, monsoon, and festivals also impacted our demand in the last quarter. Along with fuel prices going through the roof, production costs have also been affected. So, the combination of these factors, along with the low demand, also hurt the profitability of all cement companies. However, if you look at other companies in the industry, we have done relatively better. And yeah, we have beaten the expectations. In short, our performance has been better compared to that of our peers. But nonetheless, the profitability of our company has also decreased due to cyclic changes and all the other factors mentioned earlier.

Now going forward, we can't do much about fuel prices. And our geopolitical situation is not that great. For example, the Russia-

I think our carbon emissions are the best in the industry. Our carbon emission is around 560 kg per tonne of cement production, which is excellent.

Ukraine war and supply chain disruptions will affect the availability and cost of raw materials, particularly fuel, with respect to the cement industry. Fuel has a major role in the overall cost of cement production.

As we can't do much about these factors, going forward we plan to work on efficiency. The second goal of the plan is to focus on some of our premium products. And of course, the third plan on the list optimizes our geomix.

So, our focus is inward rather than outward, as factors outside are beyond our control.

You also have pledged that you are going to spend 140 million to ensure that you are increasing your capacity. So, where is your investment going to be?

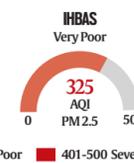
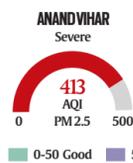
One expansion project is going on in Udaipur. We are increasing our clinker capacity by 1.5 Million MT and cement by 2.5 Million MT. After expansion, the clinking capacity will be 3 Million MT, and the cement capacity will be 4.7 Million MT. This is one major aspect we are working on.

We have also acquired limestone mines in Rajasthan. There we are planning to put up our plants, and their initial activities are in full swing. We have also acquired a limestone mine in Kutch, Gujarat. Also, we are planning to put up a plant.

What message do you have for the individuals you are taking care of?

We are committed to adding value for our shareholders and other stakeholders. And one thing I can assure them of is that JK Lakshmi Cement has a lot to offer, and you might have already witnessed that in the last few years. Our commitment to our individual home builders is that we have brought some of the best products into our portfolio, which are going to fulfill their dream of building a home. We are also committed to our nation's development and growth. Also, we plan to treat our workers, dealers, and others with respect and give them safe places to work. We promise that our dedication to the country, environment and our stakeholders and shareholders will not change.





1 LAKH STAFF ON THE GROUND, 13,665 BOOTHS

Stage set for high-stakes MCD election

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

DEPLOYING NEARLY 1 lakh staff across 13,665 (approx) polling stations, the State Election Commission of Delhi has made elaborate arrangements for the high-stakes MCD election on Sunday. Polls for the 250 MCD wards will be held from 8 am to 5.30 pm. Votes will be counted on December 7 and the results will be announced on the same day.

According to officials, 1.46 crore voters are eligible to cast their vote. "A total of 68 model polling station and 68 pink stations have been set up across all constituencies. Arrangements for deployment of security forces has been done. The commission has made elaborate arrangements for a safe, secure and pleasant voting experience," said State Election Commissioner Vijay Dev.

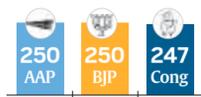
The Commission has also deployed 493 micro-observers at sensitive/hyper-sensitive polling locations. They will remain stationed at these locations throughout the day and keep a close watch on proceedings at the booths. It has also issued instructions for web casting at these sensitive/hyper-sensitive polling locations.

Delhi Police has also made arrangements for law and order. About 40,000 police personnel,

POLL DAY

1,349

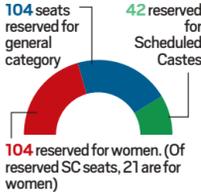
CANDIDATES IN THE FRAY



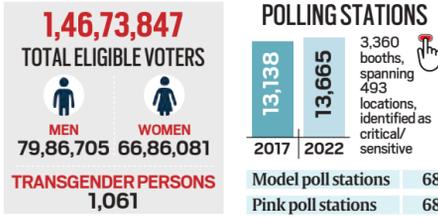
■ Polling will be held from 8 am to 5.30 pm

■ Votes will be counted on December 7

250 WARDS



At an EVM centre in Gole Market, Saturday. Amit Mehra



KEEPING AN EYE

District Election Officers (DEOs)	11	Expenditure Observers	68
General Observers	68	Polling staff	1 lakh (approx.)
Returning Officers (ROs)	68	Delhi Police personnel	40,000
Assistant Returning Officers (AROs)	250	Home guards	20,000
Sector Officers (approx.)	2,000	CAPF, SAP companies	108

FACILITIES AT MODEL/PINK STATIONS: WAITING AREA, CRECHE, FEEDING ROOM FOR LACTATING MOTHERS

SEC TO LOOK INTO 'POLL VIOLATION' BY AAP AT YOGA EVENT

New Delhi: Following a complaint from the Delhi BJP against AAP, over alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct by distributing "honorarium" to yoga instructors at an event on Friday, an official from the election office said they are examining it. "We received the complaint and it is being examined. We are taking necessary action and looking into the matter," said the official. The event, Dilli ki Yogshala: Yog Prashikon ko Samman Rashi Ka Vitran, was held Friday at the Constitution Club of India and was attended by CM Arvind Kejriwal and his Deputy Manish Sisodia. **ENS**

20,000 home guards and 108 companies of CAPF and SAP will be deployed at all polling stations and booths, said a senior official.

The SEC has issued instructions to ensure that as far as practicable, all polling stations are on the ground floor and sturdy ramps

are in place for differently abled voters. Officials said the commission has also upgraded status of facilities at polling stations from the earlier concept of Basic Minimum Facilities (BMF) to Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF). "Instructions have been issued to MCD Commissioner and other agencies concerned to ensure every polling station is equipped with assured minimum facilities like drinking water, shed, toilet, ramp for physically challenged voters, a standard voting compartment etc," said officials.

Further, the commission will be using M-2 model of ECIL-make EVMs. "Arrangements have been made to ensure availability of adequate number of EVMs. A first level check with respect to all 55,389 EVMs has already been completed by the Commission with help of ECIL," they added.

Officials said a mock poll will be conducted on Sunday by presiding officers at each polling station, before commencement of actual polling, in the presence of polling agents appointed by contesting candidates. A certificate of successful conduct of the mock poll will be made by the presiding officer concerned in each case.

Further, to help voters identify candidates, the SEC has decided to print photos of the candidates on the ballot paper that will be displayed on the EVM.

Revisiting Town Hall, once seat of local governance in the capital



The local government in Delhi functioned out of the Town Hall in Chandni Chowk till around 2009. Archive

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

"IT IS A rare privilege for a person to find himself in the position of a municipal councillor..." reads a line by Mahatma Gandhi that is up on one of the outer walls of the Town Hall in Chandni Chowk, a building which was once the office of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

The engraving that lies beneath a portrait of Gandhi, unveiled by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in 1950, adds: "...but let me note down for you as a man with some experience in public life that one indispensable condition of that privilege is that municipal councillors dare not approach their office from interested or selfish motives. They must approach their sacred task in a spirit of service."

The lines are engraved on the wall in English, Urdu and Hindi outside what was a meeting hall of the Delhi Municipal Committee, inaugurated in 1947.

Before it became the seat of local governance, the Town Hall building, constructed in the 1860s, housed what was known as the Lawrence Institute.

"In the 1860s, after the revolt of 1857, there was a sort of rebuilding in the city, even in cultural terms. One important centre for cultural and modern intellectual pursuits had been the Delhi College, which was destroyed due to the revolt. Then came the Lawrence Institute, which was a place that had a museum, a reading room, a municipal library," said Swapna Liddle, historian and author.

The Town Hall building predates local self-governance in Delhi. "Local governance itself came not too much but some time later," Liddle said.

After the municipality was born, the Town Hall was bought by the municipality in 1866, according to Liddle's book *Chandni Chowk: The Mughal City of Old Delhi*.

The Delhi Municipal Corporation came into being through the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act of 1957, which was passed with the intention of meeting "a need to have a unified body to administer the mu-

nicipal government of Delhi", according to the Act.

The Act specified the number of councillors to be 80 at the corporation's establishment. The MCD will now have 250 councillors.

The local government in Delhi functioned out of the Town Hall till around 2009. The MCD's Civic Centre building was inaugurated in 2010.

Mira Aggarwal, former Mayor of the erstwhile North Delhi Municipal Corporation, who was also the Deputy Mayor of the unified MCD in 1998, said, "It's a beautiful building. The old municipality began from here. It was fairly spacious, but the meeting hall was too small for 250 or 270 councillors. For the growing needs of the city, it was not enough. The departments grew and there weren't enough rooms. There was also the issue of traffic in the area, and getting to the building itself was a hassle. Sitting in the old hall had a royal feeling... the new office is more of an office."

The Town Hall building, stuck in time, lies in the midst of what is a recently revamped Chandni Chowk.

The yellow of the walls is now peeling and the windows are partly broken. While the front facade faces the main road and a statue of Swami Shradhdhanand, the entry into the building is now from its behind, close to what is now the Mahatma Gandhi park. A firetruck stands in the courtyard along with security personnel who said the building was now being used for "election-related" work.

The area in front of the Town Hall has been a place for protests, Liddle added. The clock tower, which once stood nearby, was also a centre of protests during the freedom struggle, while protests were held in the area later as well, since it was where the local government was.

"It's time we thought about reinventing Town Hall. Maybe it's time to think back to what it was as a place for cultural and intellectual activities, and a museum. It is protected under the heritage clause of the Delhi Building Byelaws. So, it's a protected heritage building," Liddle added.

Backlash over Tytler campaign, Cong says not fielded by party

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

BEING PILLORIED over 1984 riots accused Jagdish Tytler campaigning for the party ahead of the MCD polls, the Congress is trying to distance itself from him, with senior leaders suggesting his actions are his alone.

BJP leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa tweeted a video of Tytler campaigning for the Congress, and said the party was trying to "scare the Sikhs" by getting him to address an election sabha. "Now the situation has changed. The Sikhs of new India are not afraid of the Congress and will respond to this misbehaviour of the Congress on December 4..." Sirsa tweeted on December 2.

In the video he shared, Tytler is seen addressing a gathering. "People are having to think... lies are placed before us, attempts are made to induce fights... Congress does not believe in such things," Tytler is heard saying. "Attempts are being made to weaken the country, to create fights among

Hindus and Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus... we have not seen such a tamasha before," he adds.

While admitting that Tytler had been invited by local leaders to campaign for the polls, a senior Congress leader said from the party's perspective, Congress had not put him on any programme. "The local candidates would have called him. But I have another perspective..." was he charge-sheeted? Was he punished? The party didn't ask him to campaign for sure. But Jagdish Tytler is a non-issue and BJP continues to manufacture non-issues to divert (attention)... MCD issues are those of health and corruption. The BJP is showing manufactured outrage for diversion," said the Congress leader, who was aware of Tytler having campaigned for the polls.

Another senior Congress leader also said Tytler had not been placed on the list of star campaigners for the party in the MCD

polls, but would have campaigned at the local level for a candidate. "He is a politician... this issue has been raised before as well. The BJP keeps raising this over and over again. This is not the question. The BJP should answer about its own ministers. You have Ajay Mishra Teni and Lakhimpur Kheri," he said.

On the issue over Tytler campaigning for the election, BJP leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga said, "Jagdish Tytler is not some sort of mass leader that a crowd gathers to listen to him. He is also not the sort of meta who will go to a locality and get a few thousand votes in the party's favour. They (the Congress) are sending a message to the Sikhs that we are still standing with people like Tytler. This is not the first time."

BJP leaders had attacked Congress last month as well over Tytler's inclusion in the party's state election committee for the MCD polls.

AAP introduced 'Lalu model' in Delhi, bungled crs in name of workers' welfare: Thakur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE BJP Saturday alleged the AAP government introduced the "Lalu model" in a new avatar in Delhi and bungled crores of rupees by enlisting fake names as beneficiaries under the construction workers' welfare board.

It is "Delhi's Lalu model," alleged Union minister Anurag Thakur at a press conference, an immediate reaction was not available from the AAP on the issue.

Rashtriya Janta Dal supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav was convicted in the fodder scam of Bihar and was in jail in cases related to it.

"There (Bihar), cattle feed was gobbled up, here (Delhi) labourers' rights were denied," Thakur claimed and alleged that Kejriwal and "his friends" bungled crores in the name of welfare of construction workers in Delhi.

In 2018, the Anti-Corruption



Union minister & BJP leader Anurag Thakur. Amit Mehra

Branch (ACB) of the Delhi government had registered a case after they found bogus registration of employees under the Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. Official sources had earlier claimed that a preliminary inquiry by the ACB found "fraudulent disbursement" of funds to the tune of Rs 900 crore to "bogus and ghost" workers by the labour department of the Delhi government.

and Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital.

However, forensic experts say they aren't entirely satisfied with his tests. "As per our records, he has been giving the same answers he gave during the police interrogation... but none of his statements have led to a recovery in the case. Police have been conducting searches independently," said an officer.

The Delhi Police are also planning to get a second opinion from a psychologist to assess his mental health and behaviour.

"The FSL psychologists and doctors have already examined him but we need a second opinion," said an officer.

According to police, Poonawala claims to have killed Walkar in a fit of rage at their rented apartment in Chattarpur Pahadi area in May. He then allegedly chopped the body into multiple small pieces and discarded them over the next few months in a forested area nearby. Poonawala was arrested by the Delhi Police in November and is currently in judicial custody.

BRIEFLY

Delhi zoo to strengthen boundary wall after deer attacked by stray dogs

New Delhi: With three deer having died at the Delhi zoo last month after being attacked by dogs, zoo officials said the old boundary wall, which may have provided access to dogs, is now being strengthened. "We have given orders to construct a new boundary wall. This boundary wall is damaged and we need a higher wall so they (dogs) can't jump... The whole boundary wall is likely to take around 3-4 months to complete," said Akanksha Mahajan, director of the zoo.

Boy trapped in lift rescued

Noida: In the second such incident in Delhi-NCR in a week, a child got stuck inside an elevator for several minutes in a Greater Noida society Friday evening before he was rescued. While police are looking into the matter, no complaint or FIR has been registered yet. **ENS**

Aaftab given Paul Theroux's travelogue to read in jail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

AAFTAB POONAWALA, who is accused of killing his live-in partner Shradhdha Walkar and chopping her body into more than 30 pieces, has asked officials in Tihar jail for English novels and some other books.

Tihar officials said the 28-year-old is being kept under close watch ever since he was sent to the central jail this week, since he is involved in a high-

profile case. "We are taking care of the inmate as per protocol. He has now asked for English novels and other books. He said he wants to read more and indulge in literary activities. For now, we are providing him a book named *The Great Railway Bazaar* by (American novelist) Paul Theroux. It's from our library. He'll be provided with more books later," said a Tihar Jail spokesperson.

Over the past week, Poonawala has undergone a



Aaftab Poonawala

polygraph test and narco analysis test at the forensic science lab

Man impaled by rod in train: This level of negligence is 'akin to murder', say kin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

ON FRIDAY morning, Harikesh Dubey (32) was on his way to Lucknow to attend a wedding in his sister's household but never arrived. He was sitting near the window on board the Neelachal Express when an iron rod smashed through the moving train's window as it passed through a station in Aligarh district and pierced his neck, killing him on the spot.

His family has been left to pick up the pieces in the wake of the tragedy. Speaking to *The Indian Express* on Saturday evening, his cousin Gaurav Tripathi said, "He is survived by his wife, six-year-



Harikesh Dubey

old daughter and four-year-old son. He worked in Delhi as a mobile tower technician, while his family lives in Gopinathpur village in Uttar Pradesh's Sultanpur. He was the sole breadwinner."

Members of his family claimed the initial compensation offered was Rs 15,000. Gaurav said, "We want to make sure the

future of his children should not be affected. They offered Rs 15,000. We told them to keep the amount. His father came today to take his body back to the village, but we have decided not to perform the last rites until proper action is taken and our family gets justice."

Harikesh's brother concurred. Speaking to the media, he said, "I am not satisfied. We want action against workers who were negligent, along with compensation for his wife and children. Railways should arrange a job for his wife."

Gaurav added, "The way he died, that an iron rod could kill him while he was sitting in the window seat... this level of negligence is akin to murder." Later in the evening, a

spokesperson for North Central Railways tweeted that the compensation would be enhanced. "Railway Minister Mr Ashwini Vaishnav announced a compensation amount of Rs 5 lakh to family members of the passenger, Harikesh Kumar Dubey, who lost his life..." it said.

An official of the Government Railway Police had said on Friday: "Some work was going on in the neighbouring track and it appears that due to a machine which is used to raise and lower tracks, along with the speed of the moving train, the rod broke the window and caused the victim's death." An FIR has been registered against unknown persons under Section 304A (causing death by negligence).

IN TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT CASE

Raleigh vs Rallies bicycles: HC rules in favour of Swiss firm

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE DELHI High Court recently restrained two Ludhiana-based companies from manufacturing and advertising bicycles under the 'Rallies' mark after a Switzerland-based cycle manufacturer claimed infringement of its 125-year-old 'Raleigh' trademark.

A single judge bench of Justice Prathiba Singh in its November 29 order granted an "interim injunction" in favour of Switzerland-based Swiss Bike Vertries GMBH, a subsidiary of ACCELL Group, and ordered, "Defendants shall cease manufacture as well as advertising in physical shops and through on-

line platforms, including e-commerce platforms, of all such goods mentioned above, under the mark 'RALLIES' or any other mark which is identical/deceptively similar mark to the plaintiff's mark 'RALEIGH'."

The HC, however, allowed the defendants, Imperial Cycle Mfg Co and Rocket Cycles Private Limited, time till November 15, 2023, to dispose of its existing stock. The court, however, made it clear that no fresh manufacturing of products under the 'Rallies' mark will be allowed beyond the given date. "After the said date, none of the products under the mark 'Rallies' shall be made available in physical stores or on e-commerce platforms. The defendants shall also shut down their

website that is, <http://www.rallies-bikes.com>, within one week from today," the court said.

The Swiss company claimed that use of 'Rallies' mark by the Ludhiana companies is violative of their statutory and common law rights as 'Rallies' is phonetically similar to 'Raleigh'. They claimed the defendants were not "merely copying the mark" but also various other attributes, such as colour combination used on bikes, images of Raleigh bicycles and even their advertisement poster. "The said poster is also available on the defendants' website," they claimed. The company argued that "there is bound to be confusion between the two marks as the products and business of the parties are identical".

2 diamond firms in Surat under radar after cash, jewellery worth Rs 8 crore seized

Urban voter apathy from Shimla to Surat: EC appeals for large turnout in phase two

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

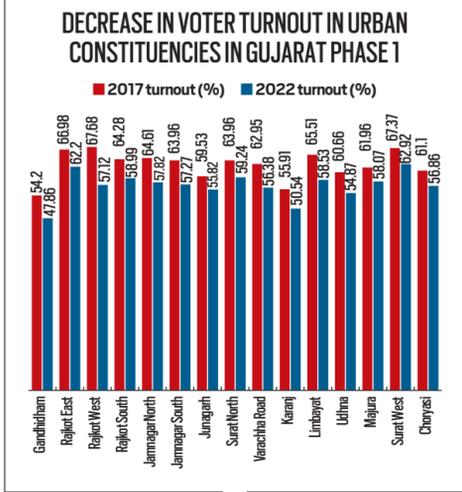
OBSERVING THAT urban voter "apathy" continues across the country, as evidenced from Shimla to Surat, the key cities in two states that went to the Assembly polls in this round, the Election Commission of India (EC) on Saturday appealed voters of Gujarat to come out in large numbers in the second phase of polling on Monday to compensate for low voting in the first phase.

The EC's appeal came in the wake of low turnout in urban constituencies of 89 seats that voted in the first phase on Thursday — 93 constituencies will vote in the second phase on Monday.

In a statement, the poll panel said, "Major cities/urban areas of Gujarat have not only recorded decline in voting percentage as compared to 2017 but have also voted much less than the state average of 63.3%. Decline in Rajkot West is very sharp at 10.56%."

Noting that 2017 Gujarat elections recorded 66.79% voting in first phase, EC stated, "Had the voting percentage in these constituencies been even equal to the level of even their own voting percentage in 2017, the state average would have been more than 65%."

The panel noted that Surat, Rajkot and Jamnagar recorded turnout lower than the state average in the first phase. "While voting percentage increased in many constituencies,



the average turnout figure is dampened by urban apathy, just as during recently concluded election to the Assembly of Himachal Pradesh, the urban constituency of Shimla recorded the lowest (turnout) at 62.53% (down by 13 percentage points) as against the state average of 75.6%," the EC stated. "Gujarat cities have shown a similar urban apathy trend (in first phase)."

According to the Commission, at 47.86%, Gandhidham seat in Kuchchh district, which has industrial establishments, recorded the lowest voting percentage — a decline of 6.34% over 2017. The second lowest voting was Karanj in

Surat, 5.37% down from its own low of 55.91% in 2017, it stated.

Noting the voter "turnout figures with concern", EC stated, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar has appealed to the voters of Gujarat to come out in large numbers during the second phase to compensate for low voting in the first phase. "The possibility of surpassing 2017 voting percentage now lies in their increased participation only," the statement said.

The EC also highlighted the gap in rural and urban turnout: "There is a conspicuous gap in voting turnout between rural and urban constituencies. The gap of voter turnout is as wide as

34.85% if it is compared in the rural constituency of Dediapada in Narmada district, which recorded 82.71%, and that in urban Gandhidham in Kuchchh district, which witnessed 47.86% voter turnout. Also, average turnout in important urban areas is lower than turnout in rural constituencies."

"Within many districts, rural constituencies have voted much more than urban constituencies of the same district. For example, in Rajkot, there is a decline in all urban constituencies," the panel stated. Similarly, it stated, voting percentage was more in Surat rural constituencies than urban ones. It noted that the difference between the urban seat with the lowest turnout in Surat and that of the rural constituency with highest voting is as much as 25%. The EC stated that all 26 seats that recorded more than 65% voting were in rural Gujarat, and not one urban constituency crossed the mark of 65% voting.

To address this trend of urban voter apathy, the panel stated, the Commission has directed all chief electoral officers to identify constituencies and polling stations that recorded low turnout to ensure "targeted awareness interventions".

To overcome this apathy, CEC Kumar and EC Anup Chandra Pandey had held interaction with nodal officers of more than 200 voter awareness forums from industrial units in Pune, which recorded one of the lowest voting percentages among Parliamentary constituencies in 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

ON LAST DAY OF CAMPAIGN

Adityanath calls for 'hanging' Cong, AAP

Says bulldozer effective tool against 'professional rioters'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 3

ON THE last day of campaigning for the Gujarat polls, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Saturday said that the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party "should be hanged" as they are hurdles to the country's security and development.

Adityanath was speaking at Dholka in Ahmedabad. The campaigning for the second phase of the elections ended at 5 pm Saturday. The CM also said Mahatma Gandhi wanted the Congress to be "dissolved" after Independence and that the time has now come "to fulfil Bapu's dream".

At another public meeting in Kheda, he said that only the BJP can guarantee security to citizens and hailed his measure of using bulldozers against "professional rioters" in Uttar Pradesh.

"After the country got Independence, he (Gandhi) said 'India has become independent, there is no need for Congress anymore, it must be dissolved... Congress ko visarjan ka jo sapna Bapu ka hai, us sapne ko saakaar karme ka waqt aa gaya hai (It is time to dissolve the



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Dholka Assembly constituency of Ahmedabad on Saturday.

Congress and fulfil Gandhi's dream)," the BJP leader said in Dholka.



"The Congress and AAP, which are hurdles to the country's security and development, hang them to death and end their existence (usko phaansi par daal dijiye, samapt kar dijiye)," Adityanath added.

He later headed to Kheda, where he was accompanied by Gordhan Zadafia, vice-president of Gujarat BJP and former minister of state for home affairs. "Now we don't have communal riots in UP also. Everyone has become quiet. Otherwise, there would be a riot every other day... We print

the photos of rioters. We took the properties of rioters in our possession, and wherever necessary, professional rioters who accumulated inexhaustible wealth during the Opposition's rule, we did not hesitate to run bulldozers as well."

Adityanath also addressed a third public gathering at Khambhat in Anand later in the day, broadly repeating his speech from Dholka and Kheda. He added that "to proceed with the development in Gujarat at the speed of bullet train, a double engine government is necessary in Gujarat".

Gujarat will vote in the second phase of the Assembly polls on Monday. The results will be announced on December 8.

Capt daughter among 5 ex-Cong leaders named vice-president in Punjab BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 3

THE BJP Saturday announced a revamp of its Punjab unit, appointing 11 vice-presidents that include five former Congress leaders, the most prominent being Jai Inder Kaur, the daughter of former chief minister Capt

Amarinder Singh. The appointment of new office bearers has been approved by the BJP president J.P. Nadda. The party has retained its Pathankot MLA Ashwani Sharma as state unit chief.

Former Congress leaders Raj Kumar Verka, Kewal Singh Dhillon, Fatehjang Bajwa, and Arvind Khanna who had joined

the BJP in the recent past have been appointed as state vice-presidents.

The other vice-presidents are party leaders Dr Subhash Sharma, Rakesh Rathore, Dyal Singh Sodhi, Jagmohan Singh Raju, Lakhwinder Kaur Garcha, and former Akali MLA Jagdeep Singh Nakai.

Former Congress minister



Jai Inder Kaur, daughter of Captain Amarinder Singh

Gurpreet Singh Kangar has been appointed as state general secretary along with four others who include Jiwan Gupta, Bikramjit Cheema, Rajesh Bagha and Mona Jaiswal.

Kanwarpeet Singh Tohra, who is the grandson of former Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee chief Gurucharan Singh Tohra, has

been given the charge of the party's youth wing. He had unsuccessfully contested the 2022 Assembly polls on the BJP ticket.

Prominent among 11 new state secretaries include former Congress MLA Harjot Kamal Singh, and party leaders Anil Sachar, Rajesh Honey, Parminder Singh Brar, Sunita Garg, Jasmeen Sandhwalia, Jasraj Singh Longia

(Jassi Jasraj), Shivraj Chaudhary, Sukhwinder Kaur Naulakha, Sanjeev Khanna and Daaman Thind Bajwa.

On Friday, the BJP had appointed Capt Amarinder Singh and former Punjab Congress chief Sunil Jakhar as members of its national executive. The party also inducted Jaiveer Shergill as its national spokesperson.



YOURS WOULD BE A STORY OF GLORY AND PRIDE, AS YOU TAKE BIGGER STRIDES

JOIN THE INDIAN AIR FORCE TO BE A CUT ABOVE.



Online registration through careerairforce.nic.in and afcat.cdac.in

ENTRY	AFCAT Entry	NCC Special Entry
BRANCHES	Flying/ Technical/ Weapon Systems/ Administration/ Logistics/ Accounts/ Education/ Meteorology	Flying branch (Air Wing 'C' certificate is mandatory)

- Online test only for AFCAT entry
- Aadhaar card is mandatory for online registration
- Registration starts from 01 December 2022 till 30 December 2022
- For more details, refer to Employment News dated 03 December 2022 and for detailed notification visit our website careerairforce.nic.in and afcat.cdac.in

For updates, follow us on [f](#) [i](#) [in](#) DISHA by Indian Air Force [i](#) [t](#) [g](#) [y](#) [t](#) [h](#) [e](#) [c](#) [o](#) [m](#) [m](#) [e](#) [n](#) [t](#) [s](#) [t](#) [i](#) [o](#) [n](#) [c](#) [a](#) [r](#) [e](#) [e](#) [r](#) [i](#) [n](#) [i](#) [a](#) [f](#) [c](#) [o](#) [m](#) [m](#) [e](#) [n](#) [t](#) [s](#) [t](#) [i](#) [o](#) [n](#) [c](#) [a](#) [r](#) [e](#) [e](#) [r](#) [i](#) [n](#) [i](#) [a](#) [f](#)

'DISHA' Cell, Air Headquarters, Vayu Bhawan, Motilal Nehru Marg, New Delhi - 110106 Tel: 011-23013690 | Toll-free No.: 1800-11-2448 | E-mail: career.iaf@nic.in



CBC 10801/130015/2223



AND, IT'S A WRAP! On Saturday, the last day of campaigning for the second and final phase of the 2022 Gujarat Assembly elections, the BJP, Aam Aadmi Party and Congress (from left) take out rallies, respectively, in Ghatlodiya constituency of Ahmedabad, Mehsana in north Gujarat, and Dariyapur seat in Ahmedabad. A total of 93 seats will vote in the second phase. The first phase, which saw voting in 89 seats, saw a 3% fall in turnout from 2017, to 63.31%. *Nirmal Harindran/Express*

I HEREBY DECLARE



CHHOTUBHAI VASAVA, 77
Seven-time MLA, founder of Bharatiya Tribal Party, contesting as an Independent from Jhagadia, against own son; listed agriculture for income

MOVABLE ASSETS

₹14.35 lakh, including two tractors

IMMOVABLE ASSETS (in wife's name)

₹1.60 crore including land

LIABILITIES: None

CRIMINAL CASES 25, ranging from charges of murder, and under Arms Act. Held innocent in all 25 cases

EDUCATION:

Class 10 pass



DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY, 56,
Congress candidate from Khedbrahma, ex-Union MoS for tribal affairs; lists income from construction, agriculture

MOVABLE ASSETS (including wife's and two daughters),

₹1.85 crore including of his wife and two children

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹5.89 crore (including wife's)

LIABILITIES: ₹3 lakh

CRIMINAL CASES: No

EDUCATION:

MBBS

ROW OVER PARESH RAWAL REMARKS

Ahmedabad's Bengali migrants have a bigger worry: Disturbed Areas Act that ties them down

Generations of artisans from Bengal work in city's gold units, in dinghy, crowded spaces, ignored as most are not voters

SOHINI GHOSH

AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 3

COMMENTS MADE by actor and BJP leader Paresh Rawal regarding Bengalis and fish have stirred barely a whiff in the narrow lanes of Manek Chowk in Ahmedabad, known for its night food market, jewellery units and their generations of Bengali artisans.

A 32-year-old explains why, the irony of his words dying in the loud sounds of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow, his last for this campaign, passing by just 700 metres away. "See, us Muslim Bengalis, we do not face any opposition as far as non-vegetarian food goes, because the Disturbed Areas Act ensures that we remain restricted to living with Muslim neighbours," he says, in a mix of Gujarati and Bengali.

As for Bengali Hindus, the jewellery unit owner, who does not want to identify himself, gives the example of a friend of his father's: "He would come to our house to cook meat and fish, and then take it back to his home to eat."

Rawal's remarks are just "poll noise" for Manek Chowk, troubled by other pressing issues. Addressing a rally in Valsad Tuesday, Rawal, a former MP from Ahmedabad East, said jobs and gas cylinder prices were not the real issues: "What will you do if Rohingya migrants and Bangladeshis start living around you?.. Cook fish for the Bengalis?" Following an uproar, and an FIR, Rawal said his remark was targeted purely at illegal immigrants, and offered an apology.

However, Rawal isn't the first to throw the "illegal" insinuation at them, or will be the last, say the residents of Manek Chowk, who complain of abysmal living



The backside of the KT Plaza building (left), which holds nearly 40 gold units on its third floor, with 200 labourers of Bengali origins on their rolls. *Sohini Ghosh*

and working conditions, and frequent police harassment. And, above all, of the Disturbed Areas Act — which ensures there is no breaking away for them from the vicious circle.

Under the Act, a district collector can notify a particular area as "disturbed", citing incidents of communal tension, after which transfer of any immovable property between two parties can only take place with the collector's nod. A third party can raise objections to stop the sale, and this is often the hurdle when the deal is between two parties of different religions.

K T Plaza, a decrepit four-storey building with a narrow staircase, holding nearly 40 gold manufacturing and casting units on the third floor, employing around 200 labourers of Bengali origins, is one of many in Manek

Chowk. There is one bathroom for the 200, who work for an average 10-12 hours a day in windowless rooms, squatting on the floor, working on gold or silver pieces. Many units employ children. Most of them struggle with fumes of sulphuric acid, used for refining gold.

The owners of the units are referred to euphemistically as "seths (moneybags)". The 32-year-old, a fourth-generation migrant to Ahmedabad, is a "seth" too, owning two units with his father. They have nine people on their rolls, and every day is getting more difficult, he says. The demand for jewellery has fallen due to high gold prices and lower purchasing power, while the family struggles to expand or move out due to lack of options.

With no drinking water facility, says the 32-year-old, he has

to even purchase water, apart from food, for his workers. "It costs me around Rs 1,500 per month for five employees. I pay another Rs 12,000-Rs 15,000 to each as salary per month."

Outside his Jain Silver Shop foundry, a 34-year-old says he first came to Ahmedabad from Bengal as a child of 12. "My family is still in Midnapore. How can I bring them here when expenses are so high?"

Like him, many of the labourers here are from West Midnapore in Bengal, apart from Hooghly, Purba Burdwan and Howrah districts. Apart from Manek Chowk, they are the life-line of other commercial areas in the neighbourhood where jewellery foundries abound, such as Sheth ni Pole, Ratan Pol and Pir Mohammad Shah Road. Several buildings here have signages in

Bengali language.

"All over India, Bengalis make the best jewellery artisans and Marwaris do the best meena work," says one worker.

Complaining of police harassment, which is why most of them do not want to be identified, the 32-year-old says it is a tactic to extort money. "Ease of doing business should be easy for all communities, not any particular one," he says, adding: "I will keep that in mind while voting."

At Sahjanand Market at Sheth ni Pole, a 41-year-old Muslim Bengali seth, operating a gold unit with 35 labourers, also talks of police harassment as the "biggest issue". "Police come in suddenly and frequently, and this has been on for decades," the 41-year-old says, adding that leaders are not bothered about them as "most of the people working here are not voters".

A college dropout, the 41-year-old is a first-generation migrant. Running his business and living in Danilimda for 16 years, delivering finished goods to bigger jewellery showrooms, he says he is not sure if he will vote this time. "Where I work and where I live, both Assembly seats are held by the Congress. But our lives have hardly changed."

The situation is worse for the Bengali settlers living in hutments around a dried-up Chandola lake, in Danilimda constituency. Despite voter ID cards, they say, they are often accused of being illegal Bangladeshis.

Incumbent MLA Shailesh Parmar of the Congress says: "I have raised this in the Assembly several times that the government should conduct a survey, rehabilitate those residing here and develop the lake. But the BJP government has no interest because this area is Muslim-dom-

inated... They want to keep this issue alive for polarisation." Parmar adds that about 400-500 *jhuggis* in the constituency have Bengalis, most of them Muslims, "who have been staying here for years, even decades".

The Jamalpur-Khadia Assembly constituency under which Manek Chowk falls is held by the Congress's Imran Khedawala. The Lok Sabha seat, Ahmedabad West, is held by the BJP's Kirit Solanki.

While Khedawala could not be reached, BJP candidate Bhushan Bhatt says his estimate is that "700-800 Bengalis" who work in the constituency are voters. He has never been told about police harassment by them, Bhatt says. "If we receive representation regarding this, we will surely work on the same."

The Aam Aadmi Party's Jamalpur-Khadia candidate, Harun Nagori, refuses to comment on issues such as the Disturbed Areas Act, police harassment and accusations faced by settlers of being illegal immigrants. "We only want to talk about schools, hospitals," he says.

The worst part, the 32-year-old unit owner of K T Plaza says, is that there seems no change in sight. The Disturbed Areas Act keeps them bound, to both these places and their migrant identities. "While we don't want to move out because we have everything here, the raw materials, purchasers, we cannot even if we wish to. The Act means no Hindu is going to sell a shop to us. Even if they do, the collector's office asks for an NOC from all the neighbouring shops and that is practically impossible," says the 32-year-old, who lives in Maninagar, an Assembly seat represented by Modi for 12 years as Chief Minister.

Turnout %age lower but 10 lakh more votes, will gain: BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 3

GUJARAT BJP president CR Paatil Saturday said that during Phase-1 of the Assembly polls, 10 lakh more votes were cast compared to 2017, and that the increased voting will favour the BJP.

"In Phase-1 of polling, 1.51 crore votes were cast. In the same 89 seats in 2017, 1.41 crore votes were cast. This means an increase of 10 lakh in the votes," Paatil said.

In this five-year period, the total number of voters in Gujarat rose by 55 lakh, from 4.35 crore to 4.9 crore, a rise of 13%.

"In percentage terms, the voting looks less... But the total votes have increased," he said, addressing reporters. The Election Commission has put the December 1 Phase-1 voting figures at 63.31%, lower than the 66.79% in 2017.

On Saturday, the EC attributed the decline partly to urban voter apathy.

Claiming that the rise in number of voters will benefit the BJP, Paatil said the party will create three records this time: most seats, the largest lead by candidates, and record vote share for the party.

On the Opposition's claims that the whole top brass of the BJP being pressed into campaigning showed the party's nervousness, Paatil said it was natural for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to participate as Gujarat was their "home".

He urged people that on December 5, the second phase of the polls, they should "convert their trust in PM Modi into votes".

Campaigning for the 93 seats that will vote in Phase-2 ended on Saturday.

BATTLEGROUND UNJHA

In spice capital, Patidar quota hot seat, AAP stirs BJP pot

BJP fields RSS heavyweight vs Cong grassroots worker, but New Zealand returned AAP tyro promises surprise

PARIMAL DABHI
GANDHINAGAR, DECEMBER 3

THE SMALL, nondescript town of Unjha in Mehsana district of north Gujarat is popularly known as the spice capital of Asia. A bastion of the BJP for decades, it turned away from the party in the 2017 Assembly polls, as it was one of the hot spots of the Hardik Patel-led Patidar quota agitation of 2015.

This time, with the pendulum seemingly swinging back towards the BJP, the constituency

is set to witness a three-pronged battle, with the entry of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

Unjha is pivotal to the politics of North Gujarat, and particularly, to the narrative surrounding the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His hometown, Vadnagar, falls under it. With around 2.32 lakh voters, the constituency is dominated by the Patidars, followed by Thakors, Muslims and Dalits. Umiyadhham, the top religious centre of Kadva Patidars, a sub-caste of the Patidars, is situated in Unjha. Predictably, all three

THE PIVOTAL SEAT OF UNJHA



TOTAL VOTERS:
₹2.32 lakh

2017 WINNER: Asha Patel, Cong; joined BJP, re-won seat in 2019 bypoll, passed away from dengue in December 2021

2017 WINNING MARGIN: 19,000 votes; over BJP runner-up Narayan Patel

parties have fielded Patidars. The BJP candidate is veteran RSS leader Kirit Patel (66). A senior party leader from Mehsana says: "He (Kirit) is the founding trustee of the Vidya Bharati (the education wing of the RSS) in

Gujarat, has been its former state president and heads an organisation for girls' education in Unjha. Kiritbhai also spread the works of Vidya Bharati in the seven sisters (the Northeast). An engineer, Kirit is a builder

who also calls himself a farmer and is seen as close to Modi.

The Congress has fielded Arvind Patel (47), also a "farmer" and businessman, and former councillor of Unjha municipality. A Congress leader says, "Our candidate is not a *bahubali*, but a grassroots worker who knows the issues of Unjha."

The AAP candidate is Urshiv Patel, a 31-year-old who returned from New Zealand around one-and-a-half years ago and is into natural farming.

While BJP leaders predict a win for Kirit by a handsome margin, Congress leaders claim the result could be surprising. "It is difficult to gauge the voters' mind. There are a number of issues — inflation, the poor condition of a number of Patidar busi-

nessmen in the region... So, you never know whom will they vote for," a Congress leader says.

Others point out that the surprise in the mix is the spirited fight put up by the young AAP candidate. "The BJP may win the election, but it certainly won't win easily," says an observer.

While former BJP minister Narayan Patel had won Unjha five times, in 2017, Congress leader Asha Patel, 44, an associate of Hardik Patel, had defeated him.

The political picture of Unjha, however, has since changed rapidly. Asha Patel herself resigned from the Congress, joined the BJP, and got elected as a BJP MLA from Unjha in a by-election in 2019. She died last year of dengue, and the seat has been lying vacant since.

HASHTAG POLITICS

• Modi's one final pitch: 'Development of 2 decades'



AS CANVASSING FOR the 2022 Gujarat Assembly elections drew to a close, PM Narendra Modi tweeted a video of his visits to the state, saying: "Wherever I went, I received tremendous affection. People have seen the development in the last two decades and want this trajectory to continue."

THE HIGHLIGHT of the Congress social media posts on the last day was a video speech of party president Mallikarjun Kharge, who found himself under BJP attack in the last stretch over his Ravan remark in connection with Modi. AAP put out a video of Arvind Kejriwal reiterating his party's message of free electricity, education and health.

Kharge will continue as Opp leader in RS, hints Congress

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE will continue as Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha for some more time, the Congress signalled Saturday for the first time. On September 30, Kharge had sent in his resignation after filing his nomination for the post of Congress president to the then party chief Sonia Gandhi. This was in line with the party's 'one person, one post' principle, adopted at the Udaipur

Chintan Shivir. The party is yet to choose a successor to Kharge, with several leaders said to be lobbying for the post of Rajya Sabha Opposition leader. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said there was no discussion on the issue at the Congress meeting on Saturday. Signalling that he will hold two positions, Ramesh said Kharge, as Congress president and in his "capacity" as LoP, will hold discussions with other Opposition parties.



Mallikarjun Kharge

Cong tweaks plan, to seek govt rethink on EWS quota in House

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

FURTHER NUANCING its position on reservation for economically weaker sections, the Congress leadership on Saturday decided to ask the government to have a "rethink" on the issue in Parliament. In the Winter Session, which will begin next week, the party will also seek discussions on three issues: the border standoff with China, the economic situation and the government's "interference" in the functioning of constitutional authorities.

The Congress had initially welcomed the Supreme Court judgement upholding 10 per cent EWS reservation in the general category. It had argued that the 103rd Constitutional Amendment, which provided a 10 per cent EWS quota, was the result of a process initiated by the Manmohan Singh government in 2005-06 with the appointment of the Sinho Commission that submitted its report in July 2010.

It tweaked its position after several leaders, especially those from Tamil Nadu, told the leadership that it should not have rushed to welcome the judgement. The party was reminded that it had been in favour of reservation for



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accompanied by people with disabilities on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities during Bharat Jodo Yatra in MP on Saturday. PTI

economically weaker sections of "all communities" without "affecting existing reservations for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and Other Backward Classes".

The party then said it was "studying" the issues raised by the five judges "in detail".

After a meeting of the Congress's Parliamentary strategy group, AICC general secretary in-charge of communication Jairam Ramesh said the party will seek a discussion on the EWS quota in the light of the top court's judgement and ask the government to

"rethink" the issue. The meeting was chaired by Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi and attended by party president Mallikarjun Kharge and leaders including Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and P Chidambaram.

The meeting was also attended by K C Venugopal, Manish Tewari and floor managers Manickam Tagore and Kodikunnil Suresh. Ramesh said the Congress was not opposed to EWS reservation.

"We had supported the Constitution Amendment Bill in

Parliament but had raised several questions... Then the matter went to the Supreme Court. In the Supreme Court, three judges ruled in its favour but two including the Chief Justice of India had raised several questions. Our speakers had raised these same questions in Parliament... there should be a discussion in Parliament... and there should be a rethink," Ramesh said.

He asked why the BJP was silent on the issue of a caste census. While the meeting at the 10, Janpath residence of Gandhi saw Kharge flagging several issues on which discussions should be sought, the party has decided to focus broadly on three topics — the continuing border standoff, the economic situation including unemployment, price rise, and the weakening of the rupee, and the government's "interference" in the functioning of constitutional authorities including with the tension with the higher judiciary.

Ramesh alleged that the government is trying to make independent constitutional authorities like an arm of the Prime Minister's Office. Ramesh said Kharge will reach out to other Opposition parties to arrive at a consensus on seeking discussion on these issues.

Mamata to attend CMs' meeting called by PM on Dec 5

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA DECEMBER 3

CHIEF MINISTER Mamata Banerjee is scheduled to leave for Delhi on December 4 to attend a meeting of all chief ministers called by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 5 to discuss the preparatory process for the G20 Summit in 2023.

According to Nabanna sources, the chief minister may also hold a one-to-one meeting with PM Modi where she will discuss issues related to West Bengal. Besides, the Trinamool Congress supremo will hold a meeting with party MPs to discuss strategy for the winter session in Parliament.

"The CM will attend a meeting of all CMs called by the PM on the G20 Summit. She will also hold a meeting with all our MPs and give us guidelines for the winter session of the Parliament," confirmed a senior TMC leader.

"Banerjee will guide give us on the issues we have to raise against the Centre and how we will coordinate with other like-minded parties in Parliament," said a senior TMC MP. On December 6, Banerjee is scheduled to visit Pushkar and Ajmer Sharif in Rajasthan.

ROW OVER KASHMIR FILES COMMENTS AT IFFI
Israeli envoy receives anti-Semitic messages after Lapid's remarks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

DAYS AFTER Israeli filmmaker and jury chief of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa Nadav Lapid described *The Kashmir Files* as a "propaganda" and "vulgar" film, Israel's ambassador to India Naor Gilon Saturday disclosed that he received hate-filled anti-Semitic messages praising Hitler and justifying the Holocaust following the controversy.

Israeli government had distanced itself from Lapid's remarks, but the Israeli filmmaker stood by them unfazed by the widespread criticism.

On Saturday, the Israeli ambassador tweeted: "Just wanted to share one of a few DMs (direct messages) I got in this direction. According to his profile, this guy has a PhD. Even though he doesn't deserve my protection, I decided to delete his identifying information."

Gilon posted a screenshot of a message he received on Twitter that read: "Hitler was great when he burned down scums like you". "Hitler was a great person," said another mes-



Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon

sage from the same account. Hours after posting the message, Gilon, son of a Holocaust survivor, said that he was touched by the support he received to his latest post.

"I'm touched by your support. The mentioned DM is in no way reflective of the friendship we enjoy in India, including on social media. Just wanted this to be a reminder that anti-Semitism sentiments exist, we need to oppose it jointly and maintain a civilized level of discussion," Gilon said.

Gilon had slammed the Israeli filmmaker and said he was "extremely hurt to see reactions in India" (to Lapid's remarks) "that are doubting *Schindler's List*, the Holocaust and worse". Taking to Twitter to post an "open letter" to Lapid, Gilon had said, "You should be ashamed". Gilon's tweets were retweeted by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur.



Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Union minister Meenakshi Lekhi with artists at International Lusophone Festival in New Delhi on Saturday. Twitter

New Delhi prioritises engaging Lusophone world to tap potential

SHUBHAJIT ROY & DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

IN A NOVEL diplomatic step, India is moving in to strategically engage with a new geopolitical grouping: the Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking countries) as Delhi wants to leverage the untapped potential and the historical connect.

The Lusophone world is spread in nine countries across four continents, and Portuguese is the most widely-spoken language in the Southern Hemisphere. Officials feel that from Vasco da Gama onwards, India's Portuguese connection has not been diplomatically leveraged.

With this realisation, to further India's engagement with the Lusophone world, India is hosting a four-day cultural extravaganza in Goa. The International Lusophone Festival kicked off on Saturday evening at the Raj Bhavan, in the presence of Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, and MoS Culture and External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi.

Portuguese is one of the official languages of the continental organisations: African Union, Organization of American States, European Union and of multiple regional organisations, as well as official language of UNESCO General Conference. More than 265-million speakers worldwide; most widely spoken language in the Southern Hemisphere; regarded as the language of the first globalisation in the modern era.

There is huge potential to expand and strengthen trade and economic collaboration between India and Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) countries, officials said.

Officials said that India's engagement in the CPLP could be a substantial force multiplier for expanded cooperation in cutting-edge fields of technology, such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, and materials science for post-Covid recovery and resilience. "This offers significant opportunities for Indian start-ups and other innovation-focused private enterprises to access the CPLP home markets and offer their solutions, which could benefit the local popu-

EXPLAINED
Emerging economies

Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking countries) economies are among the fastest-growing in the world, with Brazil, Angola, Portugal, Mozambique being some of them. India's trade with the Lusophone world has grown six-fold in the last decade. The Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) or Lusophone Commonwealth, was founded in 1996. These countries comprise approximately 300-million people across four continents (Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe). India joined CPLP as an associate observer only in July 2021.

lace," the official said.

"There is ample scope for win-win partnerships — Portugal's extraordinary experience in the development sector in Lusophone Africa; Brazil's new capabilities there; and India's willingness to become a collaborative player in the sector, offers great potential for triangular assistance and setting up collaborative projects and also scaling up bilateral development cooperation projects," the official said. The future of CPLP cooperation lies in strategic areas like the blue economy, renewable energy, defence, connectivity, mobility and trade, which are also focus areas for the Indian economy, the official said. In regard to cooperation with India, the official said that several areas can be considered as avenues for cooperation, including food security, infrastructure and energy.

India already offers training to all CPLP member states, except Portugal, under the ITEC and IAPS frameworks. Providing technical expertise and capacity building assistance to CPLP countries will enhance people-to-people connect, the official said. India's technological advancements in e-commerce, digital payment systems and e-governance could also be shared with CPLP countries for mutual benefit.

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION - DELHI
MCD GENERAL ELECTION - 2022

"NIGAM CHUNAV DELHI" MOBILE APP

Voter's Search

Locate Polling Station

Know Your Candidate

Results

Voter's Complaint

Contacts

The "Nigam Chunav Delhi" Mobile App offers the voters of Delhi to search their names in the electoral roll, Information about polling booth, its location on the map, information about the candidates and their affidavits. "Nigam Chunav Delhi" App also provides election results. Citizens can file complaints through this app. Information related to the election process and official contact detail is available on this app. Web version of the mobile App is also available at www.sec.delhi.gov.in

GET IT ON
Google Play

Available on the
App Store

9807980779 - To get instant Votor Slip through WhatsApp.

Type Hi than <your Ten digit EPIC No.>

7738299899 - To get instant Polling Location through SMS.

Type < SEC Space your Ten digit EPIC No.>

Helpline - 011-23999999

@secdelhi

@secdelhi

@secdelhi

@secdelhi

www.sec.delhi.gov.in

Thane boy dies in school mishap

Thane: A four-year-old boy died in Bhiwandi, in Maharashtra's Thane district, on Saturday after a marble slab of a school's compound wall fell on him, a police official said.

The child was identified as Anand Kushwaha, who was playing at the time near the school in Tawre Compound area, he said. He was declared dead on arrival at a nearby hospital, the official said.

He said the child and his family had come to reside in the area nine weeks ago. **PTI**

Gujarat opposes bail pleas of some Godhra convicts in top court

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE GUJARAT government has opposed in the Supreme Court the bail pleas of some convicts of the 2002 Godhra train burning case, saying they were not mere stone-pelters and their acts prevented people from escaping the burning coach.

On February 27, 2002, 59 people were killed when the S-6 coach of Sabarmati Express was burnt at Godhra, triggering the riots in the state.

The matter came up for hearing on Friday before a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice PS Narasimha.

The apex court, while asking the state to specify the individual roles of the convicts, observed that bail pleas of those who were accused of stone pelting could be considered as they have already spent 17-18 years in jail.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the state of Gujarat, said these convicts threw stones on the train which prevented people from escaping the burning coach.

"It is not a case of mere stone pelting," he told the bench.

Mehta told the bench that ap-

peals filed by the convicts in the top court against the October 2017 verdict of the Gujarat High Court, which had upheld their conviction in the case, could be listed for hearing.

He told the bench that he would examine the individual roles of these convicts and apprise the bench about it.

The bench has posted the matter for further hearing on December 15. In its October 2017 judgement, the high court had commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence awarded to 11 convicts in the Godhra train burning case. It had upheld the life sentence awarded to 20 other convicts in the case.

On November 11, the apex court had extended the period of interim bail granted to one of the convicts until March 31, 2023.

It had noted that on May 13, the top court had granted him interim bail for six months on the ground that his wife was suffering from terminal stage cancer and his daughters were differently-abled. In its November 11 order, the bench had noted that having due regard to the situation which continues to subsist, "we extend the period of interim bail until March 31, 2023 on the same terms and conditions".

Probing server attack, CERT-In finds holes in AIIMS cyber security

Four servers infected, no measures were implemented by computer faculty to secure the network, finds agency

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

PROBING INTO the cyberattack on some servers at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has found that no measures were implemented by AIIMS computer faculty for securing the network; that no policies were defined on their firewall and in their network; and most of the switches were unmanaged.

CERT-In, the country's premier cyber-security agency, has also found that all files and data in the infected servers of AIIMS displays the message, "free decryption as a guarantee, you can send us upto three free decrypted files before payment".

Delhi Police has registered an FIR under IPC Section 385 (putting a person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion), 66 and 66-FIT Act after receiving a complaint from one Naresh Kumar Yadav, an assistant security officer at AIIMS.

"Initial analysis of CERT-In has found that four servers — two application servers, one database server and one backup server — were found infected," a source said. "A team of CERT-In found that the encryption was triggered by one of the Windows servers attached in the same network, but files of this server were not encrypted."

Yadav told the police in his



The ransomware attack took place on AIIMS's servers on November 23. File

complaint that he received information from one Dr Pooja Gupta, professor-in-charge, computer faculty, AIIMS, on ransomware attack on the premier institution's e-hospital servers on November 23. The FIR stated that after two encrypted mails, there was a message: "what happened, your files are encrypted, all files are protected by strong encryption with RSA-2048, there is no public decryption software, what is the price to repair, the price depends on how fast you can pay to us, after receiving money, we will send program and private keys to your IT department right now, do not attempt to decrypt your data after using third party software, this may result in permanent data loss, our program can repair all files in few minutes and all servers will work perfectly same as before, free decryption as guarantee, you can send us upto three free decrypted files before payment."

A source said that CERT-In

UP hotel blaze: HC grants bail to 3 accused

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 3

THE ALLAHABAD High Court has granted bail to two owners and the manager of Levana hotel in Lucknow's Hazratganj, where a fire resulted in the death of four people and injuries to seven on September 5. The three accused who were granted bail by the court on November 28, were lodged in jail after being arrested on September 5 and 6.

The fire was suspected to have originated as a result of a short circuit in the control room where computers were installed on the ground floor.

Bail was granted by the High Court to owners of the hotel Rahul Agarwal, Rohit Agarwal and manager Sagar Srivastava.

While granting bail to the accused, Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh on November 28 said, "I find a little substance in the submission of learned counsel for the accused-applicants that it may be difficult for the prosecution to sustain the charge under Sections 304 and 308 IPC. There may have been some infraction of regulatory requirements to run a hotel, but that would not amount that the accused-applicants have been negligent or they failed to take due care of their guests or they had knowledge of the fire accident, which would result in death/injuries to the guests."

The court added, "To attract the provisions of Section 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) IPC, there has to be knowledge of an accused that his act would likely cause death."

The court also said that "offence under Section 308 (attempt to commit culpable homicide) IPC may also not get attracted in the facts and circumstances of the case."

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Ashutosh Mehta S/o Dr. VK Mehta R/o C-3/76, 1st Floor, Janakpuri, Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **CC No. 1894/2016 U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Ashutosh Mehta** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ashutosh Mehta** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ashutosh Mehta of CC No. 1894/2016 U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **04.01.2023**.

By Order
Sh. Mayank Goyal
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate (NI Act)
Room No. 101
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/3333/Wd/2022(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person, **Namely**: Unknown, **S/o**: Unknown, **R/o**: Unknown, **Age**: about 35 years, **Height**: 5'3", **Complexion**: Shallow, **Face**: Long, **Built**: Normal, **Hair**: Short Black, **Wearing**: Red colour T-Shirt and Black colour jeans has been found dead at Footpath, Humdard Building, Asaf Ali Road, Delhi on 01.12.2022. In this regard a case vide DD No. 20-A Dated 01.12.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours in MAMC Mortuary, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this dead person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO:
P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi
Central Distt., Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23230623, 23233743

DP/3468/CD/2022

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Tannu D/o Vikas, R/o H.No. F-10/114, Sec-15, Rohini, Delhi** has been Missing/Kidnapped from her house since 30.11.2022 at 01.25 PM the area of **PD. K.N.K. Marg, Delhi**. In this regard a **DD No.53A Dt: 01.12.2022** has been lodged at **PS, K.N.K. Marg, Delhi**. The description of Missing girl is as under:

Name: Tannu, **Father's Name**: Vikas, **Age**: 21 years, **Height**: 5 Feet, **Complexion**: Shallow, **Built**: Normal, **Face**: Long, **Wearing**: Pink Color Stripe Shirt & Black Color lower and Slippers in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

SHO:
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/3451/RD/2022

P.S., K.N.K. Marg, Delhi
Ph : 011-27571162
8750870327

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Tannu D/o Vikas, R/o H.No. F-10/114, Sec-15, Rohini, Delhi** has been Missing/Kidnapped from her house since 30.11.2022 at 01.25 PM the area of **PD. K.N.K. Marg, Delhi**. In this regard a **DD No.53A Dt: 01.12.2022** has been lodged at **PS, K.N.K. Marg, Delhi**. The description of Missing girl is as under:

Name: Tannu, **Father's Name**: Vikas, **Age**: 21 years, **Height**: 5 Feet, **Complexion**: Shallow, **Built**: Normal, **Face**: Long, **Wearing**: Pink Color Stripe Shirt & Black Color lower and Slippers in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

SHO:
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/3451/RD/2022

P.S., K.N.K. Marg, Delhi
Ph : 011-27571162
8750870327

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE, CIVIL ENGINEERING (KOTA DIVISION)

Sr. Divisional Engineer(Coordination), West Central Railway, Kota for and on behalf of President of Union of India invites following open E. tenders.

Tender No.: 216/2022, **Description of Work:** KOTA-MAKHOLI Section - Replacement of Wornout Switches and X-ings with 60 Kg 1 in 12 & 1 in 8.5 = 62 Sets. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 1,75,56,741.01, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,37,800.00

Last date & Time of submission of tender: 15.30 Hrs. On date 20.12.2022

Tender No.: 217/2022, **Description of Work:** DEN (E)'s Section- Welding of 60Kg 90UTS/R-260 & 52 KG 90UTS rails in-situ with single shot crucible fitted in connection with various sanctioned track works, **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 43,07,920.30, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 86,200.00.

Tender No.: 218/2022R, **Description of Work:** KOTA WRS: Improvement to infrastructure of stores depots kota under CMM store WRS., **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 34,06,557.61, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 68,100.00.

Tender No.: 219/2022, **Description of Work:** 1. Balance work of Laban:- LBN- Provision of FOB with steps, cover and lightning at 3.05 m wide including divyang facility at km 973.90. 2. Balance work of Ghat Ka Barana:- GKB- Provision of FOB with steps, cover and lightning at GHAT KABARANA including divyang facility at km 964.54, **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 2,12,15,189.60, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,56,100.00.

Tender No.: 220/2022, **Description of Work:** Balance work of Kota- Upgradation by conversion of type I into type II quarters by providing basic amenities for Kota old and new colony (40 unit type I into 20 unit type II), **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 32,52,375.73, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 65,100.00.

Tender No.: 221/2022, **Description of Work:** KOTA-MAKHOLI Section - Subsidiary work with deep screening by BCM-11.230 kms (UP/DN), **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 36,26,889.32, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 72,500.00.

Tender No.: 222/2022, **Description of Work:** DEN/C's Section- CTR(S) with 60 Kg (SH)/90UTS rails & 60 Kg PSC sleepers including deep screening manual with subsidiary work. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 90,19,086.89, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,80,400.00.

Tender No.: 223/2022, **Description of Work:** DEN (North) Kota Section:- Welding of 60Kg 90UTS & 60Kg R-260 rails in-situ with single shot crucible fitted in connection with various sanctioned track works., **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 1,16,05,322.45, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,08,000.00.

Tender No.: 224/2022, **Description of Work:** MAKHOLI-MATHURA Section:- Replacement of Wornout Switches and X-ings with 60 Kg 1 in 12 & 1 in 8.5 = 60 Sets, **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 2,03,90,024.19, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,52,000.00.

Tender No.: 225/2022R, **Description of Work:** TUGHLAKABAD :- Cleaning of Manhole, inspection chamber, dug well, septic tank and sewage line Railway colony & ELS TKD at (For Three Years) , **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 7,68,703.08, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 15,400.00.

Tender No.: 226/2022, **Description of Work:** TUGHLAKABAD :- Balance work of repair and alignment of existing gantry (E.O.T) Crane in EL Shed Tughlakabad. , **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 14,50,121.36, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 29,000.00.

Tender No.: 227/2022, **Description of Work:** 1. Balance Work of ADEN Shamgarh Sec - Repair to drain in Suvasara railway colony. 2. Balance Work of ADEN Shamgarh Sec - Repair to approach road for goods platform at Mehidpur road., **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 46,86,263.45, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 93,700.00.

Tender No.: 228/2022, **Description of Work:** Improvement to drainage arrangement at LHS in lieu of LC No: 02.06, 09 & 13 by providing cover shed, sump & drain under the jurisdiction of ADEN-SGZ., **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 1,75,49,267.27, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,37,800.00.

Last date & Time of submission of tender: 15.30 Hrs. On date 23.12.2022

Complete details are available in the E-tender notice uploaded on the railway website www.irps.gov.in and also placed on the notice board of the Sr. Divisional Engineer (Coordination), DRM Office, West Central Railway, Kota's office.

Sr. Divisional Engineer (Coordination)/WCR/Kota

कोरोना की गमना है. मास्क एवं वैकसीन लगाना है।

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on www.scrindianrailways.gov.in
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C.Railway can be seen on our website: www.scrindianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through <https://irps.gov.in>)

CAO (Construction), S.C. Railway, Secunderabad invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following work:

S.No. 01 NIT No.: PSS-01-CAO-C-SC-2022 Date: 07.11.2022 **Name of work:** Providing Project Supervision Services (PSS) at various construction sites/sections in the jurisdiction of CE/C-III/SC in S.C Railway. **Estimated Cost (₹):** 2,93,18,324.50 **EMD (₹):** 1,46,600.00 **Completion Period:** 24 (Twenty Four) Months **Date of Opening:** 23.12.2022 15:00hrs

S.No. 02 NIT No.: 93-CAO-C-SC-2022 Date: 24.11.2022 **Name of work:** SCR Construction Organization- Final Location Survey for proposed construction of 3rd line between Wadi and Secunderabad stations (183 Kms approx.) on Wadi - Secunderabad section - Fixing of alignment, pegging out centre line, taking levels, finalization of land requirement (survey number wise), soil investigations, geotechnical investigations for bridges by drilling bore holes, collecting samples, calculation of water way requirement for all the proposed bridges and preparation of GADs for bridges, station yards, project sheets and preparation of detailed estimate and all other connected drawings etc. with different survey works requiring to be carried out using Li DAR Technology. **Estimated Cost (₹):** 3,33,87,729.07 **EMD (₹):** 3,16,900.00 **Completion Period:** 02(Two) Months **Date of Opening:** 16.12.2022 15:00hrs

S.No. 03 NIT No.: 94-CAO-C-SC-2022 Date: 25.11.2022 **Name of work:** SCR Construction Organization- Final location survey for new BG line between Dornakal and Miryalaguda stations (120.00 Kms) - Fixing of alignment, pegging out centre line, taking levels, finalization of land requirement survey number wise, Calculation of water way requirement for all the proposed bridges, soil investigation for Bridges, preparation of GADs for bridges, station yards, project sheets, submission of detailed estimate including traffic survey report i.e. DPR with ROR calculations complete in all respects. **Estimated Cost (₹):** 2,20,68,341.15 **EMD (₹):** 2,60,400.00 **Completion Period:** 04(Four) Months **Date of Opening:** 19.12.2022 15:00hrs

S.No. 04 NIT No.: 95-CAO-C-SC-2022 Date: 30.11.2022 **Name of work:** SCR Construction Organisation: Kazipet - Balharshah Section - Proposed Construction of Superstructure Portion of ROB in lieu of LC No.14 at Km 342/19-21 at 1x54.00m (RDSO Standard Span) Bow String Steel Girder + 1x24.00m (RDSO Standard Span) Composite Girder for 4-lanes between Uppal and Jammikunta stations. **Estimated Cost (₹):** 18,84,97,691.46 **EMD (₹):** 10,92,500.00 **Completion Period:** 18(Eighteen) Months **Date of Opening:** 23.12.2022 15:00hrs

S.No. 05 NIT No.: PMS-04-CAO-C-SC-2022 Date: 30.11.2022 **Name of work:** Appointment of Authority Engineer for providing Project Management Services for Construction of 3rd line between Nekonda (excluding) and Dornakal Junction (excluding) (52.30 Km) including electrification and Signaling works. **Estimated Cost (₹):** 4,94,57,992.00 **EMD (₹):** 3,97,300.00 **Completion Period:** 18(Eighteen) Months **Date of Opening:** 13.01.2023 15:00hrs

1. For bid document and other details, please login to website <https://irps.gov.in>.

2. Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the Fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.

3. Tenderers should watch for any corrigendum (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

Chief Administrative Officer, Const., Secunderabad

TENDER NOTICE No.173/2022 Dt.02.12.2022 SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS e-Procurement Tender Notice

The following tenders have been floated online. Tenderers are requested to visit the website www.irps.gov.in and submit their offers online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD may be seen in website. Offers submitted manually will not be accepted. Offers by post will not be entertained. Tender Closing time is 14.30 hrs of the Due date of the Tender. For all indigenous offers, EMD will be accepted only via online system as available on www.irps.gov.in.

Tender No.	BRIEF DESC.
82.22.5010A	Digital Anaesthesia Work Station with High end Monitor
84.22.5001	Natural and Artificial Fibre Thermoset
45.22.1386A	70Ah,110V VRLA Maintenance free battery
77.22.1030	Paint Enamel Synthetic Exterior Finishing
95.22.1490	Seal Wear Ring suitable to CTRB class E
60.22.9005	Rate contract for manufacture and supply of curved switches
60.22.5304	Procurement of Pneumatic Oil Transfer Pump
77.22.1105B	PU Paint (Two pack)
33.22.5006	Supply & installation of electro Pneumatic
77.22.1011	Paint enamel signal red brushing
60.22.9006	Rate contract for Fabrication and supply of assembly
30.22.1494B	Brake Beam complete

Note: Due dates of Tender Opening:
SL.No.01&02 on dt.21.12.2022.SL.No.03 & 04 on dt.27.12.2022.SL.No.05 & 06 on dt.29.12.2022.SL.No.07 & 08 on dt.02.01.2023.SL.No.09 on dt.03.01.2023.SL.No.10 on dt.04.01.2023.SL.No.11 on dt.05.01.2023.SL.No.12 on dt.10.01.2023.

CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No.169/2022 Dt. 04.11.2022. Tender No. 60.22.5001TP. Brief Description: Main Line Sleepers Due on 06.12.2022. The Tender No.60.22.5001TP, Brief Description Procurement of Wider PSC Sleepers RT-8746. may be read as **Due on 16.12.2022** Instead of existing. Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Below Rs.25 Lakhs

For Details, Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager/Secunderabad

TENDER NOTICE No.70-DRM-W-HYB dt.01.12.2022

On behalf of the President of India, Divisional Railway Manager/Works, Hyderabad Division, South Central Railway, Secunderabad invites Open Tenders for the following works through e-procurement up to 15.00 hours of 23.12.2022.

Tender No.: 70-DRM-W-HYB **Name of the work:** Hyderabad Division : Renovation of Track machine, Track procurement cell at VI th floor and Flood section in RAIL Nilayam. **Approx Value (₹):** 18475440/- **EMD (₹):** 242400/-

For further details visit the website www.irps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager, Works, Hyderabad, A1416

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <https://www.irps.gov.in> or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

उत्तर प्रदेश शासन आवास एवं शहरी नियोजन अनुभाग-3

संख्या - 2993/आठ-3-2022
लखनऊ: दिनांक 03 दिसम्बर, 2022
सूचना

चूँकि राज्य सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश नगर नियोजन एवं विकास अधिनियम, 1973 के अधीन लागू महायोजनाओं के जोनिंग रेगुलेशन में यातायात एवं परिवहन भू-उपयोग में "सार्वजनिक-निजी सहभागिता (पी.पी.पी.) के आधार पर विकसित किए जाने वाले बस स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत क्रियाओं की अनुमन्यता के सम्बन्ध में पूर्व निर्गत अधिसूचना संख्या - 2304 / 8-3-13-04एल. यू.सी. / 2010 दिनांक 31 अक्टूबर, 2013 में संशोधन जैसा कि नीचे अनुसूची में अंकित है, करना चाहती है, अतएव अब उत्तर प्रदेश राष्ट्रपति अधिनियम (परिष्कारों सहित पुनः अधिनियमित) - 1974 द्वारा परिष्कारों सहित यथा पुनः अधिनियमित उत्तर प्रदेश नगर योजना एवं विकास अधिनियम, 1973 (राष्ट्रपति अधिनियम संख्या - 11 सन् 1973) की धारा-13 की उपधारा (3) के उपबन्धों के अनुसरण में एतद्वारा यह सूचना जनता से प्रस्तावित संशोधनों के सम्बंध में आपत्तियाँ एवं सुझाव आमंत्रित करने की दृष्टि से प्रकाशित की जाती है। सभी आपत्तियाँ एवं सुझाव निदेशक, आवास बन्धु उत्तर प्रदेश जनघर मार्केट, लखनऊ को संबोधित और लिखित रूप से 03 प्रति्यों में प्रेषित किये जाने चाहिए। केवल उन्हीं आपत्तियों एवं सुझावों पर विचार किया जायेगा जो इस सूचना के समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन की तिथि से 30 दिन के अन्दर प्राप्त होंगे। 1

अनुसूची

अधिसूचना संख्या-2304/8-3-13-	प्रस्तावित संशोधन
04एल.यू.सी./2010 दिनांक 31.10.2013 का पैरा संख्या एवं वर्तमान प्राविधान	
1	2
पैरा-4	पैरा-4
"सार्वजनिक-निजी सहभागिता (पी.पी.पी.) के आधार पर विकसित किए जाने वाले बस स्टेशन हेतु अनुमन्य बसिक एफ. ए. आर. के 55 प्रतिशत के अन्तर्गत निम्न क्रियाएँ अनुमन्य होंगी-	"सार्वजनिक-निजी सहभागिता (पी.पी.पी.) के आधार पर विकसित किए जाने वाले बस स्टेशन हेतु अनुमन्य बसिक एफ. ए. आर. के 55 प्रतिशत के अन्तर्गत निम्न क्रियाएँ अनुमन्य होंगी-
(1) बस और यात्रियों से सम्बन्धित सुविधाएँ यथा-टिकट बुकिंग काउंटर, प्रतीक्षाघर, विश्रामालय, जलपात्र नष्ट हुजु / स्केट, बुक स्टाल, पी.सी.ओ. ए.टी.एम. फर्स्ट एड सुविधा, ए.टी.एम. फर्स्ट एड सुविधा / क्लीनिंग (केवल बस यात्रियों के प्रयोजन हेतु) सामान कक्ष (स्वतंत्र रूप), औचालय एवं लान्नाह, बस से सम्बन्धित प्रशासनिक एवं अन्य कार्यालय, बसट श्रेणी होटल / डर्मिटेरी / गेस्ट हाउस, पार्किंग, गार्ड रूम आदि क्रियाएँ सामान्यतः अनुमन्य होंगी, (बस स्टेशन में अनुमन्य स्टाल्स का क्षेत्रफल अधिकतम 15 वर्ग मीटर होगा) जिसके लिए प्रभाव शुल्क देय नहीं होगा।	(1) बस और यात्रियों से सम्बन्धित सुविधाएँ यथा-टिकट बुकिंग काउंटर, प्रतीक्षाघर, विश्रामालय, जलपात्र नष्ट हुजु / स्केट, बुक स्टाल, पी.सी.ओ. ए.टी.एम. फर्स्ट एड सुविधा, ए.टी.एम. फर्स्ट एड सुविधा / क्लीनिंग (केवल बस यात्रियों के प्रयोजन हेतु) सामान कक्ष (स्वतंत्र रूप), औचालय एवं लान्नाह, बस से सम्बन्धित प्रशासनिक एवं अन्य कार्यालय, बसट श्रेणी होटल / डर्मिटेरी / गेस्ट हाउस, पार्किंग, गार्ड रूम आदि क्रियाएँ सामान्यतः अनुमन्य होंगी, (बस स्टेशन में अनुमन्य स्टाल्स का क्षेत्रफल अधिकतम 15 वर्ग मीटर होगा) जिसके लिए प्रभाव शुल्क देय नहीं होगा।
(2) पी.पी.पी. मॉडल के आधार पर विकसित किए जाने वाले बस स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत वाणिज्यिक उद्योग हेतु अनुमन्य बसिक एफ. ए. आर. के न्यूनतम 45 प्रतिशत के अन्तर्गत निम्न क्रियाएँ अनुमन्य की जानी होंगी:-	(2) पी.पी.पी. मॉडल के आधार पर विकसित किए जाने वाले बस स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत वाणिज्यिक उद्योग हेतु अनुमन्य बसिक एफ. ए. आर. के न्यूनतम 45 प्रतिशत के अन्तर्गत निम्न क्रियाएँ अनुमन्य की जानी होंगी:-
1) बस स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत कार्यालय होटल (श्री स्टार तक) रेस्टोरेंट, दैनिक उपयोग की दुकाने इस शर्त के अधीन अनुमन्य होंगे कि निर्मित / विकसित क्षेत्र में भूखण्ड हेतु पहुँच मार्ग की न्यूनतम चौड़ाई 18 मीटर तथा नये / अतिक्रमण क्षेत्र में 24 मीटर होगी। उक्त क्रियाओं हेतु प्रभाव शुल्क देय नहीं होगा।	(1) बस स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत कार्यालय यथा निजी एवं कॉर्पोरेट कार्यालय, बैंक, वाणिज्यिक एवं व्यापारिक कार्यालय, होटल, रेस्टोरेंट, क्लीनिंग (केवल बस यात्रियों के प्रयोजन हेतु), ए.टी.एम. दैनिक उपयोग की दुकाने इस शर्त के अधीन अनुमन्य होंगे कि निर्मित / विकसित क्षेत्र में भूखण्ड हेतु पहुँच मार्ग की न्यूनतम चौड़ाई 18 मीटर तथा नये / अतिक्रमण क्षेत्र में 24 मीटर होगी। उक्त क्रियाओं हेतु प्रभाव शुल्क देय नहीं होगा।
(iii) प्रभाव शुल्क की धनराशि उपरोक्त प्रस्त- (ii) में उल्लिखित मॉडल्लेस के अन्तर्गत सिमेना हॉल्स तथा उसकी अनुषांगिक क्रियाओं य	

13 EXPRESS NETWORK

Targeting Koshyari, Uddhav seeks criteria for selecting Governors

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 3

DEMANDING THAT criteria be fixed for the selection of persons for the post of state Governors, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said his party will soon announce a programme against those insulting the state and its icons.

Speaking to mediapersons at Matoshree in Mumbai, Thackeray said Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari has been insulting revered figures like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and social reformers Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule. He added that a state minister (BJP leader Mangal Singh Lodha) has also compared Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's "betrayal" (rebellion in June that brought down the MVA government) to the warrior king's escape from Agra and "such peo-



Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray

ple continue to remain in office". "Governors are the representative of the President of India. There must be a set criteria to appoint a Governor. I demand framing of such rules. It should not happen that just because someone is closer to the party ruling at the Centre, the person is appointed as Governor even if he or she is not eligible," he added.

Reiterating his appeal to the people to join hands against those insulting the state and its icons, Thackeray said, "We will announce a programme in the coming days. Talks have been held with other parties too. We don't want to just limit ourselves to a Maharashtra bandh."

JHARKHAND

Rights group alleges forces assaulted locals, molested girl; SP says no such info

ABHISHEK ANGAD
CHHAIBASA, DECEMBER 3

A JHARKHAND-BASED rights organisation has released a report alleging that security forces in West Singhbhum district had "brutally" beat up people from the tribal community and allegedly molested with "intention to rape" an adolescent girl. A senior police official said no such incident was brought to his notice.

Jharkhand Janadhikar Mahasabha, in the report released Friday, said the incident took place on November 11 during a search operation in a West Singhbhum district village.

Chhaibasa Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Sherkar said, "It is the same release which Maoists [the banned CPI(Maoist) outfit] had issued and we came to know (about it). Now the Mahasabha is contending the same. We brief our personnel regularly on their conduct and this has not come to

my notice so far."

He added: "Some villagers were beaten up by Maoists a few days ago, and the security personnel gave them medicines and helped them. Anyway, we will look into the allegations."

Founded in 2018, Jharkhand Janadhikar Mahasabha is a coalition of several groups and activists, including development economist Jean Dreze and activist-journalist Dayamani Barla. Its report stated: "...the team found that during search operation, security forces beat up Adivasis (including women), abused a girl with the intention of raping her, and destroyed people's belongings. The forces entered the house an elderly widow... Then two jawans held her adolescent daughter's hands and a third jawan molested her."

Deputy Commissioner Ananya Mittal said: "We have received the fact-finding report. We will act accordingly after verifying the allegations."



The damaged house following a bomb blast at Bhupati Nagar in Purba Medinipur district of West Bengal on Saturday. Express

Bengal: 3 die in 'crude bomb' blast at TMC worker's house

ATRI MITRA
BHUPATI NAGAR (EAST MIDNAPORE) DECEMBER 3

THREE PERSONS, including a TMC booth president, were killed in an explosion at the house of one of the victims in Nariabila village of East Midnapore district around 11pm on Friday night. Police said preliminary investigations suggest that the explosion happened during "making of crude socket bomb".

Those killed have been identified as Rajkumar Manna (55), booth president of TMC, his brother Debkumar Manna (46), and one Biswajit Gayen (35). Police said the blast occurred at Rajkumar's house, which is about a kilometre from where TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee addressed a rally on Saturday.

The incident led to a war of words between the BJP and the ruling TMC. The BJP accused the ruling party of promoting "bomb-making industry" in the state,

while the TMC said the blast was an attempt at spoiling Banerjee's Saturday rally at Contai.

According to eyewitnesses and police, the explosion was so powerful that it ripped off the concrete wall and the roof of the house.

An officer of Bhupati Nagar police station said, "Our team went to the blast site last night. We found no one in the house that was totally damaged. On Saturday morning, villagers informed us of bodies a few kilometres away from the blast site. We sent the bodies for post-mortem."

When this correspondent visited the Bhupati Nagar police station on Saturday he was informed that no complaint or FIR was lodged. Even the blast site was not cordoned.

Monoj Mahapatra of Bhupati Nagar police station said on Saturday, "We are busy with VVIP movement in view of Abhishek Banerjee's rally at Kanthi... half of our personnel are engaged there. We think, the post-mortem will be conducted

on Sunday and an FIR will also be registered."

Rajkumar's daughter Mayna Bera said police failed to cordon the area. "When I came here in the morning, I found no police personnel. I collected some documents but many things I am yet to find."

Nariabila resident Mampa Das, 26, said, "For three-four months, we have been hearing explosions. It was much louder yesterday... it shook our houses." Another villager Kshudiram Das said, "Many times, we informed the police [about frequent explosions] but nobody bothered to conduct a search."

BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh held the TMC responsible for the incident, adding "bomb-making industry is flourishing in the state". The party also sought NIA investigation into the matter.

TMC, however, denied all allegations, saying the party has no connection with the explosion.

Leader of Opposition Suwendu Adhikari tweeted, "3 dead & 2 others grievously injured as TMC leader's house

blows up in explosion at Bhupatinagar, Bhagabanpur ii Block, Purba Medinipur district. TMC leader Rajkumar Manna was making bombs at his home when this high intensity explosion happened. I demand @NIA_India Investigation."

BJP state president Sukanta Majumder said, "In @MamataOfficial's rule, bomb making is their [TMC workers] favourite business. Many of the TMC leaders are threat to the security of Bengal and nation."

According to the BJP/MLA from Bhagabanpur constituency, Rabinranath Maiti, the blast took place because of the explosives stocked at Rajkumar's house, meant for manufacturing bombs. "There is an attempt on part of the local administration to hush up the entire incident," Maiti alleged.

TMC MP Shantanu Sen, however, claimed, "BJP attacked this house last night. They basically wanted to spoil Abhishek Banerjee's meeting because they knew if this rally will be successful, then they will be finished in East Midnapore."

Abhishek, Suwendu face off in each other's turf ahead of panchayat polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 3

TARGETING EACH other ahead of panchayat polls in West Bengal, TMC all-India general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari both held rallies in the other's home turf on Saturday.

Banerjee alleged that Adhikari, the Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly, had won the election to the Nandigram Assembly seat against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in 2021 by resorting to unfair means. He also claimed that fresh elections would see Adhikari "befittingly" defeated.

"He (Adhikari) claims to have defeated the CM. He calls her a compartmental CM. Before calling Mamata Banerjee, he must realise that he is an RAC (a reference to the 'reservation against cancellation' status of some railway tickets) opposition leader. He is the only MLA in India, whose victory is still under trial," Abhishek Banerjee said, addressing a party rally in Purba Medinipur district's Contai, only a few metres away from Adhikari's residence 'Shantikunj'.

Adhikari, speaking at a rally in South 24 Parganas district's Diamond Harbour, the Lok Sabha constituency of Banerjee, said a TMC leader would be arrested this month.

"I will come here once again in December. I will bring a truckload of sweets because a top leader will be arrested this month. Just wait and trust me," he said.

"Since 2016 no one has been allowed to cast his vote here. Not in the 2018 panchayat polls, not even in 2021 (Assembly polls). In the 2018 panchayat polls, they did not allow nominations to be submitted. But this time, it will be a different game altogether. You all prepare the candidates' list and I assure you that nominations will be filed this time," Adhikari said.

Challenging Adhikari to put him in jail, Banerjee said, "He had said that he would put me in jail. Come if you have guts and put



TMC's Abhishek Banerjee; BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari

me in jail. He will give a lesson to Bengal by stopping the Centre's money. We don't need your money. As long as Mamata Banerjee is there, we will not beg before Delhi."

Targeting Adhikari over his switch to the BJP from the TMC, Banerjee said, "Medinipur's honour was destroyed in December 2020 by one man who in order to save his skin from the clutches of CBI and ED backstabbed the people of Medinipur and joined the BJP. May I remind him, the people will never forget your treachery? In December 2020, the people of Medinipur witnessed the betrayal when a man went and touched Amit Shah's feet to save himself. Such people have no place in our society. Such people have insulted the people of Bengal with their treachery."

Talking about the 'courtesy' meeting he had with Mamata last week, Adhikari said, "At the Assembly, you wanted to get hold of me? You thought I would come alone (to the meeting). You thought there would be a setting with me. But I took three MLAs with me. I have defeated you and I will drive you out."

He also alleged that the stage erected for his rally was forcibly dismantled the previous night.

"Finally, a public meeting is happening here despite terror tactics by Trinamool Congress. Last night, miscreants forced the decorator to dismantle the stage which was erected. I had to call a decorator in Howrah at midnight who came in the morning and rebuilt this stage," he said, adding, "They forcibly stopped 222 vehicles carrying BJP workers from reaching the rally venue... Twenty thousand workers were not allowed to come."

Adani port protests: CPM hopes wind changing after violence, priest's remarks

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOVEMBER 3

THE ATTACK on a police station last week by fisherfolk protesting against the construction of the Vizhinjam port in Kerala, and the comments made against a Muslim minister by a Catholic priest who is at the forefront of the agitation, have provided the ruling CPI(M) an opportunity to spin a communal angle to the protests.

Fishermen in the region have been protesting against the Adani Group port project for the past four months, alleging that its construction is causing massive erosion and may take away their livelihoods. Following demands of an impact study, among others, the project was suspended for more than three months. A Kerala High Court or-



Police in Vizhinjam after the attack on the police station. PTI/File

der resumed the construction last week, sparking the standoff that led to the violence at the police station.

On Monday, Fisheries Minister V Abdurahiman called the protests "treason". Responding to the remark, Father

Theodacious D'Cruz, convener of the anti-seaport project committee of the Latin Catholic Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram, said there was "a terrorist in the minister's name". D'Cruz apologised but Abdurahiman rejected it.

The ruling CPI(M) is hoping that the violence, coupled with the controversial remark by the priest, would dent popular support for the fishermen's cause. The party has ensured that both the issues stay alive since.

CPI(M) state secretary and Politburo member MV Govindan accused D'Cruz of having "a perverted mindset of communalism". Minister P A Mohammed Riyas said: "The priest is trying to create an environment to promote the interests of the Sangh Parivar."

While the BJP has been trying to woo the Christian vote in Kerala, on the back of their fears regarding Muslim fundamentalism, on the seaport project, both the BJP and CPI(M) are on the same side. Leaders from the two parties recently shared a venue demanding completion of the project. Weakening of the protest suits both parties.

TN govt hopeful of Governor nod for Bill curbing online gambling

Ruling DMK had criticised R N Ravi for delay in signing Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, DECEMBER 3

SOFTENING ITS stance towards Governor R N Ravi, the Tamil Nadu government on Saturday expressed hope that Ravi would quickly sign the Bill prohibiting online gambling and regulating online games.

This comes after the DMK-led government had initially criticised Ravi over the delay in giving the Bill his assent.

The Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Bill, 2022, is expected to be signed into law by the Governor "very soon," state Law Minister S Regupathy said on Saturday.

Regupathy, who led a government delegation on



Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi

Thursday to meet Ravi to clarify issues the Governor brought up, also said, "We weren't blaming the Governor. All we asked was that he not put off giving the bill his assent."

The minister added, "We have clarified all his questions and explained our position."

Regupathy said the government received the Governor's approval for the Ordinance on October 4, and after formulating the rules and regulations, a Government Order (GO) was issued. "However, on October 5, it was decided in the Assembly

that we will pass a Bill and submit it for the Governor's approval. We did publish the Ordinance in the government gazette," he said.

The Bill, drafted in response to recommendations from a committee led by retired judge, Justice K Chandru, states that no online games provider will offer online gambling services, permit playing of any online game of chance specified with money or other stakes, or allow playing of any other online game in violation of the rules, in any form.

Tamil Nadu is taking action against online rummy for the second time. In 2021, the then AIADMK government did so through a law that was later overturned by Madras High Court on the grounds that it lacked sufficient evidence and justification.

INTERNATIONAL CHEETAH DAY TODAY: OFFICIALS NOW LOOK TO INCREASE NILGAI AND CHEETAH NUMBERS

Female Kuno cheetah kills nilgai calf in sign of diversifying prey base

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, DECEMBER 3

BREAKING THE pattern of Namibian cheetahs killing only cheetahs, a female cheetah, Asha, preyed on a nilgai (Asian antelope) calf in her third hunt at the Kuno National Park, on Saturday morning.

According to Madhya Pradesh forest officials, Asha killed the nilgai calf estimated to weigh 25-30 kg, giving credence to the belief that the African big cats will eventually diversify their kill base.

Speaking to The Indian

Express, Chief Wildlife Warden S Chauhan said, "Before translocating cheetahs to Kuno-Palpur, discussions were held around their prey base. It was believed that these African cheetahs may not be able to kill a cheetah or a nilgai. But Asha, who is the smallest among the lot, managing to hunt down a nilgai calf is a very encouraging sign."

He said that they will now work towards increasing nilgai and cheetah numbers to widen prey base for the cheetahs.

With the International Cheetah Day falling on December 4, forest officials at the Kuno are organising awareness



Asha is the smallest among the eight cheetahs in Kuno

drives among the villagers.

All the eight African cheetahs translocated from Namibia on

September 17 were released into a larger enclosure on November 28. The release was done in a staggered manner starting with male brothers Freddie and Elton on November 5. Three female cheetahs — Savana, Sasha and Sayyaya — were the last to be released on November 28, completing the first phase of acclimatisation period of cheetahs into their new habitat.

Savana, Sasha and Sayyaya are being closely monitored as since November 28 as they have not made a single big kill yet. They are surviving on small kills such as hare. At their quarantine bomas, all cheetahs were fed

buffalo meat.

Forest officials pointed out that unlike the five other cheetahs, these three female cheetahs were born in the wild but raised in semi-wild conditions under constant care and protection of wildlife experts at Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) in Namibia.

"Such animals take a little longer to adjust and make kills in the new environment. We will have to wait and watch," said a senior forest official, requesting anonymity.

The three female cheetahs have been kept in a 1.5-sq-km grassland enclosure having a

good prey base. "It is true that these three female cats will have to learn to hunt but they are making constant efforts. We are hopeful that we will soon get to hear of their first hunt," said Chauhan.

Meanwhile, with the Environment Minister signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in South African for another 12 cheetahs, the translocation is expected to take place as early as by mid-December.

Once these 12 cheetahs arrive, the eight at Kuno will have to be released into the wild to create space for the new guests once their month-long quaran-

tine period ends.

"Considering that these 12 cheetahs have been quarantined in South Africa for long, it wouldn't be wise to prolong their quarantine beyond what is necessary," said another forest official. Officials said Elton and Freddie were doing extremely well, while Oban, too, was showing encouraging results. The officials described Oban a "habitual hunter".

However, Chauhan said, "These eight Namibian cheetahs will not be released into the free range until we are absolutely sure that they have become ace hunters."

BRIEFLY

UTTAR PRADESH
2 held for rape,
murder of teen
in Mathura

Lucknow: The Mathura police on Saturday arrested two men for allegedly murdering a 14-year-old Dalit girl after they gang-raped her. The alleged incident occurred when the victim had gone to a farm to relieve herself, police said. "The two arrested accused, who are in their 20s, have been booked on charges of gangrape and murder. The role of another person — who is also named in the FIR — is being probed," said a senior police officer. The accused are also Dalit, the officer added. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA
Man ends life;
wife, her partner,
4 others booked

Nagpur: Six persons were booked for abetment of suicide after a 40-year-old man ended his life in Maharashtra's Nagpur district, a police official said on Saturday. The man, a resident of Makardhokda area, had consumed poison on November 27 in his house, the official said. "He learnt about the illicit relationship of his wife and was beaten up by her partner and the latter's associates when he caught them together at an eatery. The distressed man later ended his life," the official said. Based on the suicide note found in his house, six persons, including his wife and her partner, were charged under IPC section 306 (abetment of suicide), the official said. **PTI**

KERALA
4 arrested after
violence at govt
polytechnic

Wayanad: Four persons were arrested on Saturday for allegedly unleashing violence and attacking several students, including a woman leader of the Students Federation of India (SFI), and police officers after the union election at the government polytechnic college at Meppadi near Wayanad. Police arrested Kiran Raj, Atul, Shibli and Abin for allegedly assaulting and grievously injuring Aparna Gowri, the district joint secretary of SFI in Wayanad and the Station House Officer (SHO) of Meppadi police station, Vbin A B, during the violence on December 2. **PTI**

TELANGANA
Professor held
for molesting
foreign student

Hyderabad: A University of Hyderabad professor was taken into custody for allegedly trying to misbehave with a foreign student, police said on Saturday. The 62-year-old man was booked for allegedly attempting to outrage the woman's modesty and for sexual harassment. The professor has been suspended by the university. **PTI**

MADHYA PRADESH
One dead, 7 hurt
as car crashes
into divider

Jabalpur: A driver was killed and seven others were injured after a car carrying a police team from Chhattisgarh hit a road divider in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur district on Saturday, police said. Akash Rajwade (26), the driver of the private vehicle, died on the spot, said Bhedaghat police station in-charge Rajesh Dhurve. A police team from Chhattisgarh was returning after arresting an accused from Madhya Pradesh when the incident took place, police said. The accused too suffered minor injuries. **PTI**

Gangster shot by rivals, man who came for daughter's admission killed in crossfire

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, DECEMBER 3

A GANGSTER was shot dead in an apparent act of revenge in Rajasthan's Sikar district Saturday morning, police said. A man from Nagaur district too died in the crossfire, said officials.

"There has been an incident of firing. The man who was shot has been identified as Raju Theth, whose name has been associated with the crime world for a long time. Theth has died," Sikar SP Kunwar Rastradeep told reporters on Saturday.

Theth was a rival of gangster Anandpal Singh who was killed in an encounter by the Rajasthan police in 2017. Both Theth and Singh were dreaded criminals active in the Shekhawati region and frequent skirmishes between their supporters resulted in several gang wars in the area.

Police personnel outside Raju Theth's residence in Rajasthan's Sikar district on Saturday. **PTI**

In CCTV footage, purportedly of the firing, Theth is seen being shot by the assailants near his home in Sikar district, after which the men flee. "From the footage we collected from nearby cameras, it seems some of the assailants were known to Theth because one of them is seen talking to him for some time," the SP said.

Police said that the other man who died has been identified as Tarachand Kadwasra, a resident of Khathu in Nagaur district.

"Kadwasra had gone to Sikar with his brother and daughter for the latter's admission in a coaching institute. The accused escaped after taking Kadwasra's car and it appears that when Kadwasra

started filming them, they shot him," said sub inspector Ganesh Ram of Khathu police station.

He added Kadwasra's body has been kept in Sikar at present. Shortly after the murder, a social media post by one Rohit Godara was widely shared in which he takes responsibility for killing Theth and identifies himself as a member of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. It added that Theth was killed in an act of revenge on behalf of Anandpal Singh and Balbir.

Balbir Banuda was a close associate of gangster Anandpal Singh. The two men were attacked inside a jail in Bikaner 2014, allegedly by associates of Theth. While Banuda died in the attack, Singh managed to kill two of the assailants.

The SP added, "What you are saying about the social media post of a person called Rohit Godara, we are checking the validity of

whether this person is involved or the post was made without any reason."

Theth had several cases of serious nature registered against him. Starting from the mid-2000s, the gangs of Singh and Theth, which were involved in extortion and illegal liquor trade, terrorised people in districts in the Shekhawati region, including Sikar and Churu. Till Saturday evening, Theth's followers had refused to take his body, demanding arrest of the accused.

After the incident, the Rajasthan police deployed multiple teams to track the accused. DGP Umesh Mishra said that four of the five accused have been identified and barricading was being done in the entire state.

The opposition BJP and the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party slammed the Congress government in the state over the incident.

JD(U) leader campaigns for Dimple, 'bearing message of Nitish, Opp unity'

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, DECEMBER 3

JD(U) LEADER KCTYagi Thursday campaigned for Dimple Yadav, contesting on the Samajwadi Party ticket from the late Mulayam Singh Yadav's Mainpuri constituency in Uttar Pradesh, saying he had come bearing the message of party leader Nitish Kumar and of "Opposition unity".

Since ditching the BJP to align with the RJD in August, and making clear his ambitions for a national role, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has met several leaders across parties, including Rahul Gandhi and Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao. He had also met Mulayam before his death, and has been trying hard to win over his heir apparent and SP president, Akhilesh Yadav.

Sources said Nitish will restart his bid to gather Opposition parties on a common platform soon. Speaking at Jaswant Nagar, an Assembly segment under the

Mainpuri Lok Sabha seat, Thursday, Tyagi, the JD(U) principal national general secretary, said: "I am carrying the message of Nitish Kumar. We can see a great sample of Opposition unity here as no regional party or national party (barring the BJP) has fielded a candidate against Dimple Yadav."

He also called upon the people to strengthen Akhilesh's hands, since they had denied him power in the recent Assembly elections. "Remember, how after Mulayam Singh Yadav lost the Assembly polls in the mid-1990s, he moved to the Centre and became the Union defence minister," Tyagi said.

Speaking to The Indian Express, the JD(U) leader said: "What I said is part of our 'Mission Nitish 2024'. Akhilesh surely has a big role to play in national politics in 2024."

Tyagi also said Opposition unity seemed to be taking shape not only in the Mainpuri Lok Sabha bypoll in UP, but also the Ramnagar and Khatauli by-elections, where SP-RLD candidates

are the only ones in the fray against the BJP. The JD(U) leader added that Nitish, who had met Akhilesh and his family after Mulayam's death, had also done his bit to repair the friction within the larger Yadav clan.

Similarly, Nitish had counselled former Haryana CM and INLD leader Om Prakash Chautala to bring family members, some of whom are aligned with the BJP, together. "We are looking at family unity, party unity and national unity," Tyagi said.

A Bihar JD(U) leader repeated that there was no question of raising who the Opposition face would be, at this stage. "Even if Nitish is playing an important role in stitching together Opposition parties, it is not about pitching any individual. First, we want a strong anti-BJP forum, with the Congress at its core."

Having Akhilesh on his side is also politically beneficial for Nitish, given the contiguity between neighbours UP and Bihar.

Samajwadi Party candidate Dimple Yadav on the last day of campaigning for the bypoll in Mainpuri, on Saturday. **PTI**

Another case against Azam Khan, now for 'inflammatory' speech

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 3

POLICE IN Uttar Pradesh's Rampur have yet again booked senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan, this time for delivering an allegedly inflammatory speech while campaigning for the party's bypoll candidate, Asim Raja.

This is the second case against the disqualified MLA in the last two days. On Thursday, he was booked for making a statement that was "hurtful" to women.

The latest case stems from a speech Khan delivered on December 1. He allegedly used derogatory words against the Election Commission.

A senior police officer said this case was lodged late Friday in Rampur on a complaint from election official Sujesh Kumar Sagar. Police invoked Sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups) and 505 (1)(B) (intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public) of the IPC, and Section 125 of the Representation of People Act.

The complaint reads: "On December 1, Azam Khan gave a

speech in support of Samajwadi

Party candidate Asim Raja during which used words against the police, Election Commissioner, and the Election Commission, which is a Constitutional body. These words have incited the common people and could be dangerous to public harmony... He gave an inflammatory speech and said that 'today, you are few but the police uniform is more...'

The said speech was quoted in the complaint as: "Congratulations to those running the country, and those threatening the innocent and using canes against those wearing the burqa..."

As per the complaint, Khan said that "the khaki uniform's honour has been taken away".

The complaint quoted Khan as saying: "We are asked about our dress. We are asked which face we are covering and where the loudspeaker is and what its volume is. The cleric is made weak and helpless... So helpless that Jama Masjid and Eidgah clerics are saying that people should offer Friday namaz at home... Those running India have made the mosques empty, Allah's home is deserted..."

Is Sidhu ready for another comeback? Aides suggest so, wary Cong takes guard

KANCHAN VASDEV
CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 3

FORMER PUNJAB Congress chief Navjot Singh Sidhu will be in jail for at least two more months, even if he manages to get all three remissions. But already, his possible release and speculation that he may be given an important role in the party are making senior Congress leaders uncomfortable.

The disquiet has arisen from the reports that AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi had recently sent a communique to Sidhu in jail through an aide. The Congress camp is abuzz that Sidhu may be given an important role within the party after his release.

'MAKE IN ODISHA' CONCLAVE CONCLUDES

Got investment proposals worth Rs 10 lakh cr: Naveen

SUJIT BISOI
BHUBANESWAR, DECEMBER 3

THE ODISHA government claimed to have bagged investment proposals valued at over Rs 10.50 lakh crore during the third edition of the 'Make in Odisha' conclave that ended on Saturday.

The investment proposals have the potential to generate



Navjot Singh Sidhu will be in jail for at least 2 more months

The fuel to this fire came from none other than Sidhu's media advisor Surinder Dalia, who tweeted two days ago, "After Sidhu's return from jail, Mission 2024 would be unveiled and a fight for the rights of Punjab would start. Punjab is still at the same point from where Sidhu wanted to pull it out with the help of his Punjab Model. Punjab's engine needs to change."

Sidhu's 13-point 'Punjab Model', which he had posted on

Twitter in the run up to the February Assembly polls, focuses on governance reforms, income generation, women's empowerment, healthcare, teacher's issues, industry, law and order, entrepreneurship, digital governance, environment, farmer's issues and social issues, including NRI welfare.

Former Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa was quick to say that the Congress was doomed in Punjab even before the 2022 elections, "Do we need more by giving responsibility to Sidhu?"

An aide of Sidhu told The Sunday Express that the former cricketer was not interested in contesting the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, but he would certainly work

for the party and strengthen it after his release. "You will see Sidhu as a completely changed man, who will display immense patience. The conviction has changed him to a large extent. Just wait and watch," said a Congress leader.

"He will be stronger as the opposition. The party needs a strong leader. He will prove to be one," said a Congress leader supporting Sidhu.

However, there are many others who are wary. "What did Sidhu do when he was made the PPCC chief? The Congress had a golden opportunity for re-election. But there was so much of infighting, and Sidhu was forever opposing his own party's government," said a senior Congress leader.

over 10 lakh direct and indirect employment.

"It's heartening to see the huge response we received, especially in the post-Covid scenario. Let us all work hard to implement these investment proposals on the ground and take Odisha to a new era of development," said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at the valedictory function of the conclave that

started on November 30.

Naveen, who said Odisha is destined to be a trillion dollar economy, assured the investors at the summit that his government will walk "the extra mile" for them. "We will walk the talk. It will be a win-win situation for both Odisha and the investors," said the chief minister.

With countries like Japan, Norway and Germany attending

the conclave as country partners, Naveen said the partnership will further strengthen Odisha's relationships with them and create more opportunities for mutual trade, commerce and people-to-people relations.

Envoys and business delegations from various other countries such as Nepal, Singapore, Bangladesh and Indonesia attended the conclave.

Baramati not for taking: Sule seeks to make her point via a Mumbai shop

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 3

NATIONALIST CONGRESS Party MP Supriya Sule last Thursday put out a four-minute-long video on social media showing her rummaging through various food items stocked at a prominent retail chain in Mumbai.

Apart from showcasing Sule's shopping skills, the innocuous video had a political message, as every product the NCP MP picked up in the upmarket shop was manufactured in her Lok Sabha constituency of Baramati.

The optics that Sule was trying to project, that Baramati was a major production centre, coincided with the BJP aggressively going after the Pawar family turf. The ruling party has declared a 'Mission

Baramati' and claimed that it would upset the NCP first family in its stronghold in Baramati, the same way that they did in Amethi in Uttar Pradesh in 2019 by defeating Rahul Gandhi.

The Pawar family, led by supremo Sharad Pawar, has held control of the Baramati bastion for more than three decades. Apart from hurting the Pawars, a defeat there would be a blow to the Opposition's fledgling plans of a united front, given that Pawar will be central to any such formation.

With the BJP expectedly ahead of others in starting the countdown to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Sule's video was seen by many as the start of the pushback by the NCP.

Asked about it, Sule said: "I wouldn't say I did it intentionally. But I just wanted to put things on

Supriya Sule at a Mumbai mall. **Twitter/@supriya_sule**

record. Take any popular product, like a cold drink or a chocolate or dairy product, and check the place of manufacture. You will find either Daund or Indapur or Purandar

or Bhor. All in my constituency. The factories, the industry and all-around development just bust the claim that development is concentrated in only Baramati town."

'Mission Baramati' is part of the BJP's strategy to concentrate on 144 Lok Sabha constituencies where it did not win in the 2019 general elections. Senior party leaders and Union ministers have been deployed to rally the party in these seats, including Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Baramati.

The Lok Sabha seat falling in Pune district has been held without a break by the Pawar family since 1996, when Sharad Pawar won it. After he had won from here till 2004, daughter Sule took over, winning the Baramati Lok Sabha seat in 2009, 2014 and 2019. Pawar had earlier won the seat in 1984

and then 1991 as well.

Out of the six Assembly segments of the constituency, Indapur and Baramati are held by the NCP while ally Congress won Purandar and Bhor in 2019. The BJP won Khadakwasla and Daund, and the urban areas, especially the Khadakwasla belt, may remain out of the NCP's reach.

The wife of Daund winner Rahul Kul, Kanchan, in fact, contested against Sule in the 2019 general elections. Though she lost by a margin of over 1.5 lakh votes, the BJP got more than 5.30 lakh votes, the highest ever for an opponent against the Pawars in Baramati in terms of percentage of total votes.

The BJP's victory in the two Assembly seats of Baramati, Kanchan Kule's 2019 performance, and the NCP's not-so-cordial relationship with Congress leaders, in-

cluding sitting MLAs, in the area are some of the reasons the BJP thinks it has a shot at upsetting Sule.

Apart from being their political base, Baramati also matters to the Pawars as a symbol of what an NCP regime can do. The Lok Sabha seat is a hub of businesses, industries, agriculture and education institutes, and the NCP never misses giving the credit for the same to the Pawar family.

Above all, the sustained targeting of Baramati sends out the message that even the NCP's safest seat could be in danger, and could hurt the party morale.

BJP leader said Sule's actions show that its attempts are paying off. "The BJP functions as per target. We did it in Rahul Gandhi's Amethi, and we will repeat it in Baramati in 2024," says Keshav

INDORE LAW COLLEGE ROW
Hrs after he quit,
principal faces
case for hurting
religious feelingsIRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, DECEMBER 3

HOURS AFTER resigning as the principal of New Government Law College in Indore, Inamul Rahman was booked for promoting enmity and hurting religious feelings, among other charges, along with teacher Mirza Mojib and two others.

Rahman, who was serving as the principal of the law college since 2019, had resigned on Saturday afternoon following a protest by students affiliated to the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) outside his office. ABVP activists had on December 1 submitted a memorandum, alleging "religious fundamentalist thoughts being promoted by four Muslim teachers of the college".

A day later, they cited a book titled "Collective Violence and Criminal Justice System" written by Dr Farhat Khan, highlighting some portions in that showed Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in poor light "without any facts and encouraged anti-national thoughts".

Rahman and three others were booked under sections 153-A (promoting enmity amongst two groups), 295-A (making deliberate and malicious act intended to outrage the religious feeling of a group), 500 (defamation), 504 (intentional insult with an intent to provoke and breach peace), 505 (statements conducting to public mischief), and other sections of the Indian Penal Code.

In a statement issued after the FIR was registered against him, Rahman said that he was being "targeted for his faith".

On Saturday morning, ABVP activists assembled outside Rahman's office and demanded his resignation, while alleging that students were being forced to use this book for reference.

Speaking to The Sunday Express, Rahman said, "I had to resign under pressure with no fault of mine. We had never received any complaint on December 1, and despite ordering an inquiry by a retired district court judge, students raised objectionable and hurtful slogans, demanding my resignation."

On the book in question, Rahman said it was procured by the then principal in 2014 based on the recommendation of the faculty. "One of the old copies in the library was issued by some students," he said, adding that after objections were raised over the content of the book back then, the writer had to apologise and the book was never a part of the curriculum since.

In a written statement, Rahman said he had no knowledge of the book when he took charge in 2019.

The FIR against Rahman and three others has been registered based on a written application submitted by one Lucky Adiwali, an LLM student who allegedly had not paid his fee for the past two years, according to college authorities.

Rahman pointed out that Adiwali and eight others who had signed the December 1 memorandum were being orally told to pay the fee. Rahman said one of them, Dipendra Thakur, was not only a fee defaulter but had failed in exams for both semesters of his first-year course and would repeat the year.

NRI dead after
falling from 10th
floor of Mumbai
service apartmentEXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 3

A 58-YEAR-OLD non-resident of India (NRI) businessman died on Friday after falling from the 10th floor of a luxury service apartment operated by a leading five-star hotel in Colaba.

The Colaba police has registered a case of accidental death report (ADR) and suspect it to be a case of suicide. No suicide note, however, has been found yet.

The deceased, Shahrukh Engineer (58) is a Dubai-based businessman who had come to Mumbai to celebrate his mother's birthday.

The police said that the incident took place around 2.30 pm on Friday at the service apartment. "Engineer was found in an injured condition on the fourth floor balcony of the hotel... We suspect he jumped off the 10th floor. His fall was, however, broken by some object that he hit on the way down and he landed on the fourth floor balcony," said a police officer.

The apartment staff rushed him to a hospital. But the doctors declared him brought dead, said police. "He, along with his wife and children, lived in Dubai. He had come to Mumbai for his mother's birthday," the officer said.

Upadhye, chief spokesperson of the party in Maharashtra.

He adds that visits by Union ministers are just one part of the BJP strategy, and that the party has been working tirelessly on the ground, ensuring Suleistied down to her seat too.

The BJP is targeting the NCP MP on issues such as lack of representation to the Dhargar community by the NCP; dynastic politics and the "terror" of the Pawar family in the area.

Sule counters claims that the NCP failed to support the Dhargar demand for Scheduled Tribe status. "The BJP is in power at the Centre and it is up to the Central government to decide the demand. How can we in the NCP be blamed for it?" Sule asks.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com



भारत 2023 INDIA

वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्

ONE EARTH - ONE FAMILY - ONE FUTURE

भारत गर्वित
सहेजे सर्वहित

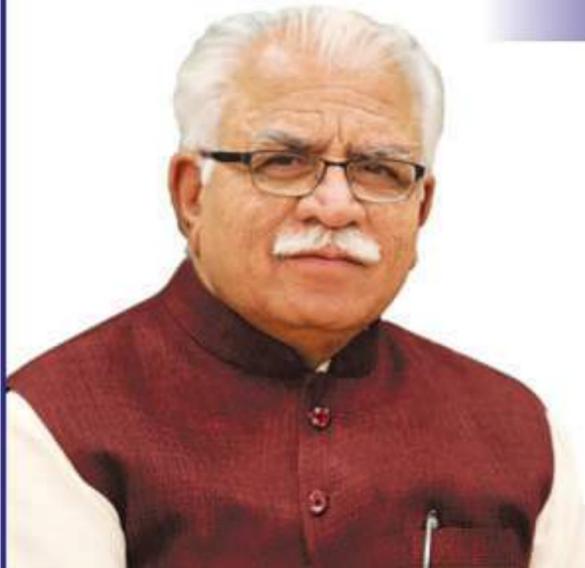
India's experience and knowledge to resolve the Global issues



“India's G20 agenda will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented and decisive. Let us work together to shape a new paradigm-of human-centric globalisation.”

- Narendra Modi

About 100 monuments to be illuminated with G20 logo



“Today, India's stature has scaled new heights in the international fora under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi. In this sequence, hosting the G20 Summit in India will prove to be another milestone.”

- Manohar Lal

ACROSS
THE AISLE

P CHIDAMBARAM

Website: pchidambaram.in
Twitter: @pchidambaram_IN

I believe that the Executive cannot be totally excluded from the process of selecting potential judges. I also believe, given the current state of partisan, vindictive and majoritarian politics, the Executive cannot be entrusted with the sole power to select potential judges. Both Judiciary and Executive must find a place in NJAC 2.0

HERE IS an exchange of views (as reported in the newspapers) between a Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Union Law Minister:

SC: The Centre is frustrating the appointment process of judges in higher judiciary by not clearing names recommended by the Collegium.

LM: 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.

SC: Let them give the power. We have no difficulty... when somebody high enough says let them do it themselves, we will do it ourselves, no difficulty.

There are profound — I hesitate to say bitter — differences between the Supreme Court and the Executive on the interpretation of Article 124(2) and 217(1) of the Constitution of India. Under the original provisions, the power of appointment was vested solely in the Executive to be exercised in consultation with the Supreme Court and the High Court concerned. For 40 years, the practice was that the State government would consult the High Court concerned and recommend names to the Central government that would follow the procedure in Article 217 and appoint judges to the High Court. Similarly, the central government would propose names and, following the procedure in Article 124, appoint judges to the Supreme Court. Many distinguished judges were appointed by the Executive; some bad apples also found a place in the Courts.

Hard talk, hard times

REVERSING
CONSTITUTION

The practice was reversed by *judicial interpretation* in the Second Judges case (1993) and the *Third Judges case* (1998). A new mechanism called the *Collegium* was invented. The Collegium took over the power of selection of judges for the Supreme Court and the High Courts. The central government may accept or return the recommendation. If the recommendation was reiterated, the government was obliged to make the appointment. It cannot be said that the quality of judges who have been appointed under the new procedure has been superior to the quality of judges appointed in the first 40 years. Many distinguished judges were appointed but some bad apples were also selected and appointed.

Every government in office since 1993 has bristled against the altered procedure. However, stalling appointments has become a regular practice under the Narendra Modi government. It has also stalled recommendations reiterated by the Collegium which, as two Hon'ble Judges pointed out, was contrary to the law declared by the Supreme Court. As a result, there are seven vacancies in the Supreme Court and 381 vacancies among the 1,108 sanctioned posts of Judges in the High Courts (as on July 1, 2022). The greater tragedy has been that meritorious lawyers declined to be considered for judgeship or withdrew the name if the appointment

had been stalled for months.

IDEA STILL-BORN

The National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) was created under an Act of Parliament to give equal weight to the Judiciary and the Executive in the matter of appointment of Judges. There were a few wrinkles in the law that could have been easily ironed out but neither side made the effort. On October 16, 2015, the Supreme Court struck down the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and with it the National Judicial Commission Act also perished. (The dissenting judgement of Justice Chelameswar is as important as the majority judgement).

In my column (*The NJAC Conundrum*, *Indian Express*, November 1, 2015), I criticised the judgement vehemently, but also suggested a common ground to make a new law. The strongest arguments on the side of the Executive are that in no other country of the world do judges select new judges and the Executive is best placed to assess the character and suitability of the potential Judge. The strongest argument on the side of the Judiciary is that serving Judges know best about the practising lawyers and serving district judges who alone are qualified to be elevated to the Bench. There is a large dose of truth in both arguments.

If the standoff continues, the situation will only get worse. There will be more va-

cancies. More vacancies will mean more, not less, difficulty in filling them. There will be more 'declines' and 'withdrawals'. The legal system, already under considerable strain, will collapse. None will be sadder than the Judges, none will be happier than the Executive. The losers will be the people of India, especially those knocking on the doors of the Courts seeking justice.

POSSIBLE SOLUTION

I believe that the Executive cannot be totally excluded from the process of selecting potential judges. I also believe, given the current state of partisan, vindictive and majoritarian politics, the Executive cannot be entrusted with the sole power to select potential judges. Both Judiciary and Executive must find a place in NJAC 2.0. In my column, I had suggested that the Collegium may have the exclusive power to propose/nominate candidates; the NJAC may have the power to select and recommend; and the Executive may have the power (coupled with a duty) to appoint. The procedure can be refined further if the task is entrusted to a few non-judge legal luminaries.

The rising number of vacancies in the Courts — and commonsense — requires that the Executive and the Judiciary must display a degree of statesmanship to resolve the issue. Absent statesmanship, hard words will become harsh words, the wounds will continue to fester and justice will be the casualty.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Twitter: @tavleen_singh

The G20
moment

IT WAS in the early, bleary hours of dawn that I arrived back in Mumbai last week and the first thing I noticed was our Prime Minister smiling proudly out of a hoarding that advertised India's leadership of the G20 for the coming year. The next morning came a message on my phone advising me to be proud of this historical moment because the eyes of the world will be on India in the coming year. In case I had neglected to fully register this 'historic moment', I was reminded of it by speeches and articles by high officials and by the Prime Minister himself. In an article that has been widely published he wrote, "As the mother of democracy, India's national consensus is forged not by diktat, but by blending millions of free voices into one harmonious melody."

Words like unity and diversity have been tossed about in the past week, but something else was going on under the surface. Two BJP chief ministers popped up on TV to declare in different ways that Indian Muslims must learn to behave. The Chief Minister of Assam told NDTV that 'love jihad' must be stopped and that Hindus could never be charged with starting riots because Hindus were naturally non-violent people. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh came forward to assert aggressively that it was time for a uniform civil code because nobody should be allowed more than one wife. On the campaign trail the Home Minister made a dangerously ambiguous statement, which could be read as an admission that the violence in Gujarat in 2002 was organized to teach 'some people' a lesson. It was a lesson that had clearly been learned, he said, since there had not been another communal riot in Gujarat since.

Meanwhile, the Israeli film director who described *Kashmir Files* as a vulgar, propaganda film told Karan Thapar that he had been inundated with violent angry messages since he said what he did. The reaction to his daring to criticise a film that the Indian Government has gone out of its way to promote left him worried, he said, about whether it was possible for people in India to speak freely anymore. He said, "The fact that someone gives a critical opinion of the movie, and I immediately started to get thousands of extremely violent messages... is this the society in which you want to live?"

This is a question we should all be asking. But with the eyes of the world on us, as we are constantly being reminded, it is vital that the Prime Minister starts paying more attention to the decline in our human rights record since he took office. International watchdogs like the US Commission on International Religious Freedom have noticed the 'crackdown on civil society and dissent.' The Modi government has a standard response to international criticism, and this is to reject it outright as inaccurate and motivated. It needs to find a better response because the eyes of the world will indeed focus more sharply on India in the coming year.

Narendra Modi understands well that the average Indian voter is thrilled by international approval. It heightens his self-esteem even if he lives in extreme poverty deprived of necessities like clean water and electricity. So, Modi has gone out of his way to organise this huge fuss over India's leadership of the G20 this year. He is in any case seen as an international hero by the average Indian voter. His advice to Vladimir Putin that this was not an era for war has been interpreted by Indians as proof that he is the only world leader who can stop Russia's monstrous war. Most Indians approve of India's 'balanced' stand on the conflict. They do not care that Putin's war is an attempt to crush Ukraine's fight for democracy and freedom.

It is also sad but true that unless you are Muslim or Dalit you probably do not care that these communities have faced more violence and discrimination since the rise of Hindutva. Crimes against members of these two communities usually go unpunished. Figures collated by the National Crimes Bureau show that at the end of last year there were 71,000 crimes against Dalits that were 'pending investigation'. In the case of Muslims, the situation is worse because since Hindutva leaders took charge, ancient, historical grievances have surfaced that have convinced Indians, whose only knowledge of history comes from Twitter, that it is time to 'avenge' the barbaric violence of Islamic invaders by declaring open season on all Muslims.

The fact that *Kashmir Files* has been the most successful film of this year is proof that a rage against Muslims has built up that has deeply disturbed the 'harmony' of India. Whatever Israeli film director, Nadav Lapid, may think of this film matters little because there is no point ever in arguing with the box office. I will say though that I have not met any Indian who has watched this film and not come out with a violent, angry reaction against all Muslims. This is disturbing and it should disturb the Prime Minister. Now that India's record on human rights will be under intense international scrutiny, it is more than time that we rectify some of the disharmony that has been deliberately spread by Modi's supporters and officials. Our dear Bharat Mata does not look so harmonious these days.

inside
TRACK

COOMI KAPOOR



TIME TO GO?

HARYANA CHIEF Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, a former RSS pracharak, invited several RSS functionaries to his house last month for tea and snacks. His RSS friends were full of admiration for his long reign in Haryana. One pracharak noted that after his eight-year tenure, he should aim to break the record of the three legendary Lals of Haryana. The modest Khattar demurred, and said he was not planning to set any record. In fact, he suspected that he would soon be hanging up his boots. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, his yesteryear comrade with whom he once shared a house, met him and inquired solicitously whether he was happy. Khattar assured Modi that he would be ever grateful to the PM for granting him such a tremendous opportunity. Khattar knows Modi well enough to sense that this was Modi's cryptic way of indicating that it may soon be time for a leadership change in the state. Last week's disappointing zilla parishad results in Haryana suggest that Modi perhaps already had an inkling that all is not well with the BJP in the state.

GUJARAT'S
SHAHENSHAH

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel is a political innocent compared to his savvy predecessors. Recently, when a Delhi journalist enquired which leader after Modi was most in demand at Gujarat rallies, Patel innocently responded that Yogi Adityanath was a favourite. BJP Gujarat in-charge, C R Paatil, quickly interjected to avoid any misunderstanding, declaring that the star attraction was undoubtedly Amit Shah. In fact, the Gujarat campaign is totally Shah's show and on his home territory, Shah has no competition. Even RSS workers, BJP president J P Nadda, and organising secretary B L Santosh are not very visible in the state. Shah wants to demonstrate that he can single-handedly ensure a bigger victory than 2017, despite 27 years of incumbency. The targets of the opposition parties, in contrast, are modest. The Congress is hoping for 45 to 50 seats, while AAP's aim is simply to secure a higher vote tally than the Congress, at least in Saurashtra, and get recognised as a national party.

WILL NOT BUDGE

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot

has adopted every trick in the trade to ensure that the Congress cannot replace him, including adopting a scorched earth policy of blowing up most of the annual state revenue so that there will be little left for any successor. The CM has also been happily inaugurating incomplete schemes such as the Mansarovar Park. General secretary Ajay Maken should have known better than to try to nudge Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge into action by resigning as Rajasthan in-charge. The camaraderie and jovial banter between Kharge and Gehlot at several rallies in Gujarat last week indicate that Gehlot certainly does not apprehend disciplinary action against his rebellious aides. K C Venugopal may have triumphantly raised the hands of adversaries Sachin Pilot and Gehlot in a so-called peace pact last Tuesday, but the faces of the two men told a different story.

UNCOMFORTABLE
QUESTIONS

Two young leaders from the MVA alliance accompanied Rahul Gandhi on his Bharat Jodo Yatra in Maharashtra. Their queries were not to Gandhi's liking. One inquisitively inquired why, if the yatra was paying political dividends, the Congress had lost its deposit in the recent Telangana bypoll. He suggested that Gandhi pay a visit to next-door poll-bound Gujarat. Another 'yatri' felt that if the Congress was to retain its premier position in the Opposition, the yatra should have paid more attention to Uttar Pradesh. Irritated by the questions, Gandhi asked one of the yatra organisers that in future they should brief alliance partners before they meet him. They should understand that the yatra was totally de-linked from current politics. The functionary was too timid to explain that he was in no position to instruct senior opposition leaders what to say.

MENTOR PROBLEM

The president of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha is an assured fast-track for going places in the BJP. Past presidents of the BJP's youth wing include Kalraj Mishra, Pramod Mahajan, Rajnath Singh, J P Nadda. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Anurag Thakur and Tejasvi Surya. The sole exception who has never held an elected position is Amit Thaker, BJYM president from 2007 to 2010. Thaker's disadvantage was that he was mentored by the wrong people, most notably Sanjay Joshi. Narendra Modi's longtime foe, Thaker, however, silently soldiered on in the party despite being labelled. With Joshi now out in the cold thanks to Modi, Thaker has finally been reinstated with an Assembly ticket from Vejalpur in Gujarat.

history
HEADLINE

RAHUL MAGAR

rahulmagar512@gmail.com



ON AUGUST 23, 1666, the Fauzdar of Narwar in Central India (now, Madhya Pradesh) petitioned the Mughal court and said: "Siva(ji) walked past the post at Narwar along with five riders around the evening prayer time. When asked to identify himself, he said, 'We are in the employ of Sivaji.' He also showed the bonafide travel document. When asked, he identified himself as Siva (ji)."

Unaware of the massive manhunt ordered to capture the Great Maratha king, the Fauzdar did not realise the import of this disclosure. He had helped the great Maratha leader escape from the mighty Mughal court.

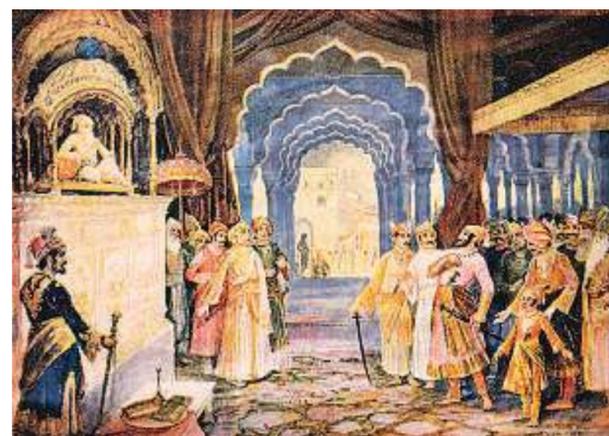
There are multiple narratives surrounding Shivaji's Great Escape from Agra, each with varying degrees of truth. The daily proceedings from the Mughal court (Akhbarat), the reports of the Mughal court proceedings communicated home by the Agra correspondent of the Rajput princes (*Rajasthan Letters*), the Marathi chronicle (*Bakhar*) by Sabhasad, and the Jedhe Family records contain some of these contemporary narratives.

The event has been so deeply etched in popular memory that people still refer to the Great Escape of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as an example of astuteness and the invincible spirit of freedom.

Maharashtra Tourism Minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha probably thought he was doing just that when, last week, he drew parallels between the Great Escape and CM Ekknath Shinde's defection — and drew flak for his remarks.

The visit of the great Maratha leader to the Mughal court was the culmination of political events in Deccan that started from the decisive victory of the Marathas against Sardar Afzal Khan of the Adilshahi dynasty, followed by the unsuccessful military campaign by the Mughal Mansabdar Shaista Khan and the audacious sacking of Surat, the wealthiest port in the Mughal kingdom, by the Marathas.

These events prompted Mughal emperor Aurangzeb to send his most trusted Mansabdar, Mirza Raja Jaisingh, to counter the emerging political authority of the Marathas. The large Mughal army invaded and plundered the Maratha countryside, including a number of forts. The contingent led by Jaisingh besieged the mighty Maratha fortress of Purandar for about two months in 1665. The balance of military power was clearly in favour of the Mughals. As a pragmatic solution, both parties signed the Treaty of Purandar. It

Shivaji's Agra escape &
the many narratives

A painting by M V Dhurandhar shows Shivaji at the court of Aurangzeb. Wikipedia

was customary for any signatory of such a treaty to pay homage to the emperor in a formal Shukrana ritual of thanks.

Hence an invitation was sent to Shivaji to visit the Agra Court, which he accepted only after receiving assurances from Jaisingh. In a Farman sent by Aurangzeb in April 1666, the Emperor assured that Shivaji would be allowed to return home after his visit to Agra. Consequently, Shivaji reached Agra on May 11, 1666.

What followed was perhaps a case of expectation mismatch with the Maratha king considering himself as an independent ruler but being treated like a mere nobleman at the Mughal court.

Upon his arrival in Agra, Shivaji had expected a welcome protocol fit for an independent ruler. However, a common Mughal welcomed him. In the Mughal Durbar, Shivaji was made to stand behind the nobles he had earlier defeated. Unable to bear these insults, he spoke out aloud. This was not taken lightly in the Mughal court.

Guards were posted around Shivaji's camp, keeping him under surveillance. A danger to Shivaji's life meant an existential threat to the newly emerging Maratha state. Three months passed and one day news appeared in the Akhbarat of August 18 that Shivaji had escaped. "Inexplicably, Shivaji has fled. All that we could find in his tent is a headgear, a mirror and a pair of shoes." The emperor was shocked. A massive manhunt was ordered.

Weeks and months passed with spo-

radic news and rumours about Shivaji being sighted across central India. On October 18, 1666, the news of Shivaji's safe return to Deccan reached Jai Singh's camp. This was a massive dent on the reputation of the Mughal court. The dramatic event was bound to be retold in many versions.

The story of Shivaji escaping Agra by hiding in a basket, a widespread and popular tale, is first mentioned in a Rajasthani letter written on September 3, 1666. "After some thought, it was concluded that he had escaped by crouching in the pitaras which used to come in and go out," the letter states.

However, the incident related by the Fauzdar of Narwar seems more plausible.

Historical empathy demands historical literacy. Historically inappropriate comparisons will keep being repeated unless people are aware of the specific conditions in which historical events took place.

Protection of the Swaraja and welfare of his subjects were the motives that pushed Shivaji to escape from Agra. Comparing his love for his subjects with the political exigencies and manoeuvres of present-day politicians will be an injustice to the astuteness of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

The writer is Assistant Professor, Department of History, Savitribai Phule Pune University

she
SAID

YAMINI NAIK

yamini.naik@expressindia.com



THE OTHER day, while chatting with a male friend, I remarked that I am happy in the company of women. Why not men, he asked. I struggled for an answer.

Later, I pondered over it. The real reason wasn't really that men were in short supply but the plenitude of woman power. I have great male friends but my bond with women — starting with the poet and writer Madhavikutty aka Kamala Das and the characters she wove in her stories, to women of courage in real life — is much stronger.

Das's characters, feisty and indomitable, yet compassionate, were my first precious

My gang of girls, my forever friends

companions. I laughed, dreamt and cried as I spent rainy mornings and summer afternoons poring over her books. They brought a sense of solace, assurance and intimacy, and taught me lessons I would never forget. But most importantly, the characters helped find myself.

Eighteen years ago, I underwent an orthodontic procedure. I was put on a liquid diet, which left me extremely weak. One day, a colleague, whom I had known for just a couple of months, walked in with a small box of home-made custard and a big smile. "I thought you would be able to have this, Yami," she said. Homesick in a new city, my eyes welled up to see a girl my age stand so tall. She has stayed as one of my best friends and a pillar of support since then.

At the working women's hostel in Chennai, my roommate, like an extra-protective mother hen, would ensure that the television in the common room was played on low volume so that I could sleep after night shifts. She would fight with the warden to enter the kitchen and make porridge for me when I fell sick. A woman with a spine of steel, she gave me the courage to stand for my rights.

Women. They never cease to amaze me. It's not that men don't care. But it always takes a man to put me down at the most unexpected time. A male friend, a champion of women's rights, once persuaded me to change a sleeveless top to one with sleeves, saying "it doesn't suit you".

On my 40th birthday, in the city I was

vacationing, I went to a pub with a man who has been my friend for nearly two decades. I was upbeat that day. I chose a cocktail with the name "Because I'm happy" to celebrate my day.

On our way back, in the car, my friend, who never fails to remind me that my biological clock is ticking and hence, I need to get married soon, brought up the topic again — "You won't get good guys after a point". I retorted, "Age doesn't matter. Look at Sushmita Sen." I was referring to the actor's relationship with a man who was more than a decade younger to her. To my disbelief, my friend remarked: "That is Sushmita Sen... look at you". I felt shattered. Had it been any of my woman friends, I thought to myself, they would

have cheered my remark with a high five.

My gang of girls have helped me sail through the roughest of seas. School friends who organise a quick get-together whenever I'm in Thiruvananthapuram; the girls who took me for my first night out in my hometown, where I was not allowed to be outside alone after dusk; the cherished trips with my 'travellista' friends; and the long video calls from different corners of the world. As I grow older, I realise they are the ones who'll be my constant companions.

I casually remarked to a colleague recently that evening tea was like Red Bull for me. I'd say my women friends are my go-to Red Bull.

National Editor Shalini Langer curates the 'She Said' column

17 SUNDAY STORY

MON KILLINGS: A YEAR LATER

'Not dead, nor alive... just suffering'

The white truck, the missing thumb, the cool guy who is now a *zinda lash*, the bullet marks — daily reminders in Oting of December 4, 2021, when 13 villagers were killed in an Army ambush followed by a clash. THE SUNDAY EXPRESS goes back to the Nagaland village where it's hard to move on: "If only it was that easy".

Text and photographs by TORA AGARWALA

THE WHITE pick-up truck still stands at the spot — its number plate missing, its windscreen pockmarked with bullet holes, its sides covered with the same fraying yellow tarpaulin from the day of the deadly attack, which killed six of its occupants, and maimed two for life.

On December 4, 2021, the Indian Army's 21 Para Special Force had opened fire at the truck — carrying eight miners from Tiru on their way home to Oting in Nagaland's Mon district — mistaking them for insurgents of the banned National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang-Yung Aung) group.

The operation — executed by a team of 30 and led by an Army Major-rank commander — was based on inputs that cadres of the NSCN-KYA and ULFA were operating in the Tiru-Oting area. Six had died on the spot, while two survived. In the clashes that followed between villagers — mostly men of the Konyak tribe that inhabits this part of Nagaland — and the security personnel, seven more civilians, and one paratrooper, had died.

Overnight, Oting, one of the many *bastis* (villages) that dot the remote hills of eastern Nagaland, reopened the wider debate on the controversial Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the Northeast. It resulted in the Centre partially withdrawing the Act — often criticised for the unbridled power and impunity it gives to the armed forces to operate in the Northeast — from several parts of the region (Nagaland, Manipur, Assam) in the months that followed. The Act, however, is still in place in Mon district, where Oting falls. The incident led the National Human Rights Commission to take suo motu cognisance of the killings, and the Nagaland government to set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to "facilitate free and fair investigation" in the case. In June, based on the SIT's report, the state police filed a damning chargesheet accusing the 30 Army men, including the commander of Major rank, of "attempt to murder". To investigate the incident, the Indian Army, too, set up a separate Court of Inquiry, as per the Army Act, 1950.

A year later, the Centre's Department of Military Affairs is yet to sanction prosecution of the accused, a protocol requirement under AFSPA. In July, the Supreme Court stepped in, responding to a writ petition filed by the wife of one of the accused Army personnel, and stayed further proceedings on the FIR/SIT report. Army sources have confirmed that the Court of Inquiry is complete, but its recommendations are still awaited since the matter is now "sub-judice". Till such a time, the Army personnel involved continue to be on duty.



It is the white pickup truck — a grim reminder of the deadly ambush — that the villagers now hold onto for "justice". "Why should it be removed? Let it be there. Let it be seen by the world... otherwise everyone will forget," says 45-year-old Chongmei Konyak, who suffered a bullet injury on his left foot in the violent aftermath of the shooting. He is a former Army Supply Corps soldier from Oting, who opted for early retirement.

Like Chongmei fears, not many tangible signs of the incident remain in Oting. On the Sunday before the first anniversary of the incident, women hurry back home after attending church service in the morning. At sundown, men drive white pickup trucks — much like the ones the eight miners were in — from the open cast mines in Tiru valley, where they work, to Oting. "On the face of it, life has carried on... it has to. But the grief lingers," says Noklet, a member of the Oting village council.

It is felt most in the homes and hearts of the families who lost their own. And the ones who witnessed it all and survived.

Like Yeihwang Konyak and Sheiwang Konyak. The two survivors of the ambush — and the key witnesses in the SIT investigation — made it back home in February after two months in the hospital. But it has been less than a happy homecoming.

When *The Indian Express* visited his home in late November, Yeihwang, 31, was curled up in a blanket on the floor. Seated on a cane *murha* (stool) beside him, his mother, Kamyen, says, "(He is) Not dead, nor alive... just suffering".

In the year Yeihwang has been home, Kamyen says her son has never spoken about the incident. Asleep for most part of the day, he wakes up only to express primal needs: thirst, hunger, or the pain in the back of his head from the bullet.

Keapwang Konyak, his friend and the president of the Oting Students' Union, remembers Yeihwang as "a cool guy, who had no truck with anyone". "Now," Keapwang says, his friend is no more than "a *zinda lash*", a living corpse. Yeihwang's sister-in-law Angun recalls how they would work together in the fields and eat together. But he has not said a word to her after his return. "What's the point of being alive if there is so much suffering? The world has moved on, but for us, time has really stood still," she says.

While Sheiwang, the other survivor of the ambush, is better off than Yeihwang, much has changed for him too. The bullet marks on his head, hand and stomach serve as physical reminders of the incident. His left eyelid still droops from the laceration of the bullet



Yeihwang Konyak, one of the survivors of the ambush, hasn't been the same since the incident, says his mother Kamyen

that grazed it. But it is the flashes of the shooting, the images of his brother Thakwang's (who was also with him in the truck) body being carried away that revisit him often and keep him awake at night.

Sheiwang now barely speaks, answering in monosyllables, avoiding any eye contact, before finally saying softly: "If we were in the wrong, if we had done something, what happened (to us) can still be justified to some extent. But we had done nothing, we had made no mistake... that is why I still can't make sense of it," he says.

On some days, Sheiwang — homebound, with nothing to keep him busy, and desperate for answers — walks up the hill to visit Yeihwang. "But he does not say anything," he says.

Following the incident, an ex-gratia of Rs 16 lakh and a government job was given to the family of each of the deceased. Those with grievous injuries received compensation of Rs 1 lakh, while those who had minor injuries were paid Rs 50,000. The government also bore all expenses for their treatment.

But for families like Yeihwang's, which subsist on daily wage work, the money is barely enough to make ends meet, especially when one earning member is bound to his bed. "It's been extremely difficult for us to get by — the entire responsibility of caring for the household has fallen on me," says Kumwang, Yeihwang's brother.

Others like Tingshen Konyak, a 32-year-old graduate of History, who was injured in the clashes following the ambush, have found it difficult to "restart" their lives. "I don't hang out with my friends anymore, I don't go to weddings, I feel awkward on social occasions, I don't do any work... for all practical purposes, I am disabled," says Tingshen, whose right thumb had to be amputated because of a gunshot injury.

Chongmei, the Army Supply Corps soldier, says: "Mentally, physically, financially — nothing is right with me."



In June earlier this year, the Oting Citizens' Forum wrote to the Chief Minister of Nagaland requesting government jobs/government-sponsored benefits for the injured. "All the injured have become a burden to their families," the letter said, referring to the "emotional breakdown and

turmoil" of the people of Oting.

Nyawang Wangsha, who is the Mon district president of the BJP, said that these injured survivors "deserved better". "Someone is half blind, someone else doesn't have all his fingers, someone is limping... it is sad that nothing has been done to help them," he says.

A Nagaland government official, who did not want to be named, said the requests were forwarded to the state government but "a decision is yet to be taken".

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Nagaland Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton said that he was personally not aware of such a request. "I have not received any such request — but if they come forward, of course they will be helped. If such a request has indeed come to the CMO, I am certain it will be taken up," he said, adding that the state government had "requested" the Centre to expedite the sanction to prosecute. "The SIT has made its findings clear... the Centre should now give a final decision."

The Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO), a tribal body that represents the six districts of eastern Nagaland, has called for a "black day" on December 4 and 5 to mark one year of the incident.

But on the ground, the seething anger that pervaded in the months after the incident has dissipated to a large extent. There are murmurs that even the most vocal civil society organisations, who mediated with the government on behalf of the villagers, are not pursuing the matter as actively as they had before.

The government official says: "What we thought would happen (in the aftermath of the incident), and what has happened is completely different. Unfortunately, the matter has fallen by the wayside."

As elections approach, other issues like the Naga peace talks, or the demand for a separate state by the eastern Nagaland districts (Mon is among them), has taken centre stage.

A social worker in Nagaland says that all stakeholders — the government, civil society organisations — were to blame for "not pursuing the matter". "We can advise them as much as we want to but it has to be driven from the ground," she says.

From Mon district's Army battalion, an official says the issue has died down "for the betterment of all". "Rather than to hold on to it and keep that wound fresh for everyone, it is better for everyone to forgive and move ahead," he says.

"Moving ahead" is all that Tingshen, the history graduate, wants. "In the morning, when I wake up, I tell myself that today is a new day. I can restart, I can move on." But he looks down, and sees his amputated thumb. "If only it was that easy," he says.

A LETTER FROM
OTING
NAGALAND



Sheiwang Konyak, the other survivor of the ambush, barely speaks; (top) Tingshen Konyak lost his right thumb to a gunshot injury

Army says probe report ready, cites case in court for no action

TORA AGARWALA

MORE THAN six months after the Indian Army said it had completed its Court of Inquiry into the killings in Nagaland's Oting in December 2021, it is yet to decide on the action forward.

A top Army official told *The Sunday Express* that they could not "proceed" on the matter because the case was now "sub-judice". "The Court of Inquiry is complete in all respects but the case is sub-judice now. Unless the (Supreme) Court's decision is finalised, we cannot proceed independently," the official said, adding that the entire team involved in the incident, save one who has since retired, continues to be on duty.

The Army has stuck to the line that the December 4 ambush, where six civilians were gunned down by the security forces, was a case of "mistaken identity". A day after the incident, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said the same in Parliament.

In May, addressing a press conference in Guwahati, the Indian Army's Eastern Command chief Lt General Rana Pratap Kalita had admitted to an "error of judgment". He said, "But that does not give us any leeway to put things under the carpet. The report is being examined. Any lapse which we feel has taken place, requisite disciplinary action will be taken irrespective of his rank or who he is."

Meanwhile, in March, an SIT set up by the Nagaland government submitted its report and filed a chargesheet indicting all 30 Army personnel including the team commander of Major rank under IPC sections related to murder, attempt to murder, and destruction of evidence, among others.

The report accuses the operation team of giving "wrong positive identification without proper application of mind". It further accuses the team commander of "conspiring to kill the occupants of the pick-up vehicle in



The pickup truck, which came under fire from the Army personnel, hasn't been moved from the site of the incident

spite of the fact that the ground sources input was different".

All victims, the SIT concluded, were shot at "with a clear intention to kill".

However, the Department of Military Affairs is yet to give the Nagaland Police sanction to prosecute the Army personnel.

Meanwhile, the team leader's wife approached the Supreme Court in June asking for a stay on the chargesheet citing the non-sanction of prosecution.

In July, the court stayed proceedings on the FIR and the report of the SIT, invoking the immunity the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, offers to the security forces.

An Army source said that while the entire incident was unfortunate, it was unintentional. "The team was following an SOP, they were not acting on their own whims and fancies," said the source. "The Army has acknowledged their mistake and has accepted there was loss of life, but there are other nuances to it too. The whole incident has brought down the morale of the forces, so any step has to be taken sensitively."

The petition by the Major's wife argues that the ambush was not a "whimsical operation, directed without any intelligence, but a bonafide military operation, duly authorised and directed." It also argues that members of the team were experienced combatants, "not a team of novices, or fly by night operators, who were trigger-happy... as projected". It says that the Major has put in "13 years of service as on date, and has been part of numerous successful military combat operations".

The petition accuses the Nagaland Police of "turning a blind eye to the injuries faced by the Army for reasons best known to them". It claims the death of the paratrooper Gautam Lal, who was attacked with a *dah* (machete) on the neck, wasn't investigated by the SIT, despite a registered FIR at Tizit Police Station in Mon district.

On November 1, the Supreme Court heard the matter again and directed the Nagaland state government to file a counter-affidavit. The next hearing is listed for December 27.

Indonesia's Parliament is expected to pass a new criminal code on December 15 that will penalise sex outside marriage with a punishment of up to one year in jail. The legislative overhaul will also ban insulting the President or state institutions and expressing any views counter to Indonesia's state ideology. Cohabitation before marriage is also banned.

TOP OF THE WORLD



Taranjit Singh Sandhu hands over the Padma Bhushan to Pichai. PTI

USA

India is a part of me: Pichai gets Padma Bhushan

Washington: "India is a part of me and I carry it with me wherever I go," Google and Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai said, as he received the prestigious Padma Bhushan from the Indian envoy to the US. Pichai was awarded the Padma Bhushan for 2022 in the Trade and Industry category. He received India's third-highest civilian award in the presence of his close family in San Francisco on Friday. "I am grateful to the Indian government and the people of India for this immense honour. It is incredibly meaningful to be honoured in this way by the country that shaped me," Pichai said while accepting the award from India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu. PTI

ESTONIA

Estonia to buy US rocket artillery system

Helsinki: NATO member and Russia's neighbour Estonia is boosting its defence capabilities by acquiring an advanced US rocket artillery system in the Baltic country's largest arms procurement project ever, defence officials said Saturday. A deal signed Friday for the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System is worth over \$200 million and includes equipment, such as ammunition and rockets and training. The package includes HIMARS rockets with ranges of 70-300 kilometers, the Estonian Center Defence Investment said. Lockheed Martin Corp. is expected to make the first deliveries in 2024. AP

INDONESIA

Strong quake shakes main island

Jakarta: A strong earthquake shook parts of Indonesia's main island of Java on Saturday, causing panic and sending people into the streets, but there were no immediate reports of casualties. Officials said there was no danger of a tsunami. The US Geological Survey measured the quake at magnitude 5.7 and said it was centred about 18 km southeast of Banjar, a city between West and Central Java provinces, at a depth of 112 km. AP

CAP LIKELY TO TAKE EFFECT TOMORROW

Biden not planning to speak to Putin, G7 agrees \$60 per barrel oil price cap

Won't accept oil price cap, preparing response, says Russian official

REUTERS

KYIV, DECEMBER 3

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden does not intend to speak to his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, about ending the Ukraine war as conditions for such discussions currently do not exist, the White House said on Friday.

"We're just not at a point now where talks seem to be a fruitful avenue to approach right now," national security spokesperson John Kirby told reporters.

Meanwhile, Russia said it "will not accept" a price cap on its oil and is analysing how to respond, the Kremlin said in comments reported on Saturday, in response to a deal by Western powers aimed at limiting a key source of funding for its war in Ukraine.

"We will not accept this cap," RIA news agency quoted him as saying. He added that Russia would conduct a rapid analysis of the agreement and respond after that, RIA reported.

Russia has repeatedly said it will not supply oil to countries that implement the cap — a stance reaffirmed by Mikhail Ulyanov, Moscow's ambassador to international organisations in Vienna, in posts on social media on Saturday. "Starting from this year Europe will live without Russian oil," he said.



Russian attacks continue near Bakhmut, Ukraine. Reuters

Russia's reaction came after the Group of Seven (G7) nations and Australia on Friday said they had agreed a \$60 per barrel price cap on Russian seaboard crude oil. The G7 and Australia said in a statement the cap would take effect on December 5 or very soon thereafter. It aims to reduce Russia's income from selling oil, while preventing a spike in global prices. EU governments, which have resolved their differences over the cap, will now need to approve it over the weekend. The G7 price cap will allow non-EU

countries to continue importing seaboard Russian crude oil, but it will prohibit shipping, insurance and re-insurance companies from handling cargoes of Russian crude around the globe, unless it is sold for less than \$60. That could complicate the shipment of Russian crude priced above the cap, even to countries which are not part of the agreement. Russian Urals crude traded at around \$67 a barrel on Friday. US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said the cap will particularly benefit low- and medium-

EXPLAINED Move to cut earnings

THE CAP is a way to limit Russia's earnings while keeping Russian oil flowing to the global economy. The aim: hurt Moscow's finances while avoiding a sharp oil price spike if Russia's oil is suddenly taken off the global market. Insurance companies and other firms needed to ship oil would only be able to deal with Russian crude if the oil is priced at or below the cap.

income countries that have borne the brunt of high energy and food prices. In comments published on Telegram, Russia's embassy in the US criticised what it called the "dangerous" Western move and said Moscow would continue to find buyers for its oil.

"Steps like these will inevitably result in increasing uncertainty and imposing higher costs for raw materials' consumers," it said. "Regardless of the current flirtations, we are confident that Russian oil will continue to be in demand."

Europe not too strong, reliant on US: Marin

REUTERS

HELSINKI, DECEMBER 3

RUSSIA'S INVASION of Ukraine has shown that Europe is too reliant on the US for its own security, Finnish Prime Minister Sanna Marin said on Friday. Speaking at a think tank in Sydney, Australia, Marin advocated boosting Europe's defence capabilities, including arms production.

"I must be brutally honest with you, Europe isn't strong enough right now. We would be in trouble without the US," Marin told an audience at the Lowy Institute. She added she had spoken with many US politicians, who had said they think Europe should be stronger. "The US has given a lot of weapons, financial and humanitarian aids to Ukraine and Europe isn't strong enough yet," Marin said.

"We have to make sure that we are building those capabilities when it comes to European defence, European defence industry," in a recent speech in Helsinki, Marin said Europe was currently too reliant on China for technology and should invest more in fields such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing.

Two Indian Americans at centre of Hunter Biden's censored laptop story

LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 3

TWO INDIAN Americans — Congressman Ro Khanna and Vijaya Gadde — figure in US President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden's laptop story whose full disclosure Twitter CEO Elon Musk has announced would be released on the microblogging site.

Musk said on Friday he would release details about what he characterised as Twitter's "suppression" of a controversial story done by the *New York Post* about Hunter Biden's laptop that was published before the 2020 US election.

He also tweeted that it would be "awesome" and there would be a "live Q&A" on the topic.

The story claimed to contain emails retrieved from a laptop belonging to Hunter. The *New York Post* said it learned of the emails' existence from Trump's ex-White House chief strategist



Musk said he will release details about the story

Steve Bannon, and obtained the emails from Trump's personal lawyer at the time Rudy Giuliani.

Twitter initially limited the distribution of the story, citing concerns that it could be the result of a foreign disinformation campaign. But the social media company quickly backtracked on its response, with then-CEO Jack Dorsey calling the decision to block the link "unacceptable."

Khanna is the Democratic Congressman representing Silicon Valley in the US House of Representatives, while Gadde, an attorney, served as Biden's congressional counsel and the head of legal, policy, and trust at Twitter, before she was fired by new boss and CEO Musk. PTI

Pak govt invites Imran's party for 'unconditional negotiations'

Islamabad: The Pakistan government on Saturday invited Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party for holding "unconditional talks", saying negotiations are part of the political process and complex problems are resolved when two sides hear each other.

Addressing a joint press conference with Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique

said the opposition PTI party should sit down and negotiate to resolve the impasse over holding early general elections. The development comes after PTI chief Khan on Friday warned that he would dissolve the assemblies in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces ruled by his party if the government did not sit down for talks and announce dates for elections. PTI

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM US designates Pak, China and 10 others as nations of concern

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 3

THE UNITED States has designated 12 countries, including China, Pakistan and Myanmar, as "countries of particular concern" for the current status of religious freedom in these nations.

Announcing this on Friday, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, around the world, governments and non-state actors harass, threaten, jail, and even kill individuals on account of their beliefs.

In some instances, they stifle individual freedom of religion or belief to exploit opportunities for political gain. These actions sow division, undermine economic security, and threaten political stability and peace. The US will not stand by in the face of these abuses.

"Today, I am announcing designations against Burma (Myanmar), the People's Republic of China, Cuba, Eritrea, Iran, Nicaragua, the DPRK, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan as Countries of Particular Concern under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 for having engaged in or tolerated particularly severe violations of religious freedom," he said.

Simultaneously, Blinken also placed Algeria, the Central African Republic, Comoros and Vietnam on Special Watch List for engaging or tolerating severe violations of religious freedom.



Protest against China's Covid restrictions in front of the Chinese Embassy in Berlin. Reuters

China's police used phones and faces to track down protesters

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DECEMBER 3

ON SUNDAY, when Zhang went to protest China's strict Covid policies in Beijing, he thought he came prepared to go undetected. He wore a balaclava and goggles to cover his face. When it seemed that plainclothes police officers were following him, he ducked into the bushes and changed into a new jacket. He lost his tail. That night, when Zhang returned home without being arrested, he thought he was in the clear.

But the police called the next day. They knew he had been out because they were able to detect that his phone had been in the area of the protests, they told him. Twenty minutes later three officers knocked at his door.

BEIJING, SHENZHEN LOOSEN COVID CURBS

BEIJING ON Saturday cheered the removal of Covid testing booths while Shenzhen said it would no longer require commuters to present test results to travel. The southern city of Shenzhen announced it would no longer require people to show a negative Covid test result to use public transport or enter parks, following similar moves by Chengdu and Tianjin. REUTERS

Similar stories are being told by protesters across China this week. Police have used faces, phones and informants to identify those who attended protests.

Usually they force those they track down to pledge not to protest again. Often inexperienced with being tracked, protesters expressed bafflement at how they were found out. Out of fear of further repercussions, many have deleted foreign apps like Telegram that have been used to coordinate and spread images of the protests overseas.

Chinese police have assembled one of the world's most sophisticated surveillance systems. They have hung cameras by the millions on street corners and at the entrances to buildings. They have bought powerful facial recognition software and programmed it to identify local citizens who live nearby. Special software crunches the data and images that are scooped up.

The job made Tomasin's first Argentine with Down syndrome to be employed by a national broadcaster. "It was revolutionary, because people with these conditions were largely hidden from public view," said Claudio Canali, who helped produce the program. Tomasin is 58, although, like many other artists, he lowers his age, insisting he is 54. His parents decided to send him to a music school, but they struggled to find one that would accept him.

One day, in 1993, they tried an unassuming place they came across while shopping in their Buenos Aires neighbourhood, the School for the Comprehensive Formation of Musicians.

IRAN STATE BODY SAYS 200 DEAD IN PROTESTS

IN A statement issued by Iran's state-run IRNA news agency on Saturday, the country's national security council announced that some 200 people have been killed during the protests, the body's first official word on the casualties. Last week, Iranian General Amir Ali Hajizadeh tallied the toll at over 300. President Ebrahim Raisi hailed Iran's Islamic Republic as a guarantor of rights and freedoms. "Iran has the most progressive constitution in the world" because it marries "ideals with democracy," Raisi said in a speech to parliamentarians. It also "guarantees fundamental rights and legitimate freedoms, he added. AGENCIES

uranium at 60% purity at the country's underground Fordo nuclear facility. The move is seen as a significant addition to the country's nuclear program.

Enrichment to 60% purity is one short, technical step away from weapons-grade levels of 90%. Non-proliferation experts have warned in recent months that Iran now has enough 60%-enriched uranium to reprocess into fuel for at least one nuclear bomb.

Canada to allow jobs for kin of Open Work Permit holders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA TORONTO, DECEMBER 3

Canada to allow jobs for kin of Open Work Permit holders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

TORONTO, DECEMBER 3

IN A major move that will benefit thousands of Indian professionals and other foreigners in Canada, the North American country will expand its work permit eligibility to the family members of Open Work Permit (OWP) holders from next year to address acute labour shortages.

The OWP allows foreign nationals to work in Canada for any employer and any job.

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Sean Fraser on Friday announced that his department is extending work permits to family members of temporary foreign workers.

"Canada is expanding work permits for family members! Starting in 2023, spouses and children of a principal applicant will be eligible to work in Canada," Fraser tweeted.

"Expanding the eligibility for work permits to family members accompanying the principal applicant to Canada will help address labour shortages by assisting employers in finding the workers they need," he said.

Employers across the country continue to identify a lack of workers as their biggest obstacle, Fraser said. The new measure, he said, will help employers find the workers they need to fill their labour gaps. Prior to this announcement, spouses were only eligible for a work permit if the principal applicant was working in a high-skill occupation.

MIGUEL TOMASÍN HAS BROUGHT ATTENTION TO ARTISTIC VISIONS OF PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

A drummer with down syndrome showing way to 'freest musical universe'

ANATOLY KURMANAEV

BUENOS AIRES, DECEMBER 3

THE CROWD at a recent concert exploded into rapturous cries as the group's frontman walked onto the stage and began setting a drumbeat, launching his band on an improvised journey across musical genres that culminated an hour later in a standing ovation.

Over a 30-year career, Miguel Tomasin has released over 100 albums, helped turn his Argentine band into one of South America's most influential underground acts, and helped hundreds of people with disabilities express their voices through music.

Tomasin has achieved this in part because of a distinctive artistic vision that comes, his family, fellow musicians and friends said, from having been born with Down syndrome. His story, they say, shows how art can help someone overcome social barriers, and what can happen with an effort to elevate a person's talents, rather than focusing on their limitations.

"We make music so that people enjoy it," Tomasin said in an interview at his home in the wind-swept Argentine city of Rio Gallegos, near the country's southern tip. Music is "the best, magical," he added.

Although his prolific output

has not achieved commercial success, it has had a significant impact on how people with disabilities are perceived in Argentina and beyond.

It has also inspired members of his band, Reynolds, to establish long-running music workshops for people with disabilities. And other musicians they have worked with have started more bands whose members include those with developmental disabilities.

"Thanks to Miguel, many people who had never interacted with a person with Down syndrome were able to become aware of their world through music," said Patricio Conlazo, an occasional Reynolds member who, after play-



Over a 30-yr career, Tomasin has released over 100 albums. NYT

ing with Tomasin, started music projects for people with disabilities in southern Argentina.

Reynolds' unconventional approach to music has also inspired

established musicians.

"I was reminded by him that you can play music as you like," said Mitsuru Tabata, a veteran Japanese experimental musician

19 ECONOMY

A LOT IS RIDING ON THIS MERGER STRATEGY, NOT JUST TATA GROUP BUT FOR INDIAN AVIATION

The New Air India Flight Path

Vistara's short legacy may help give wings to Air India to rekindle its lost glory

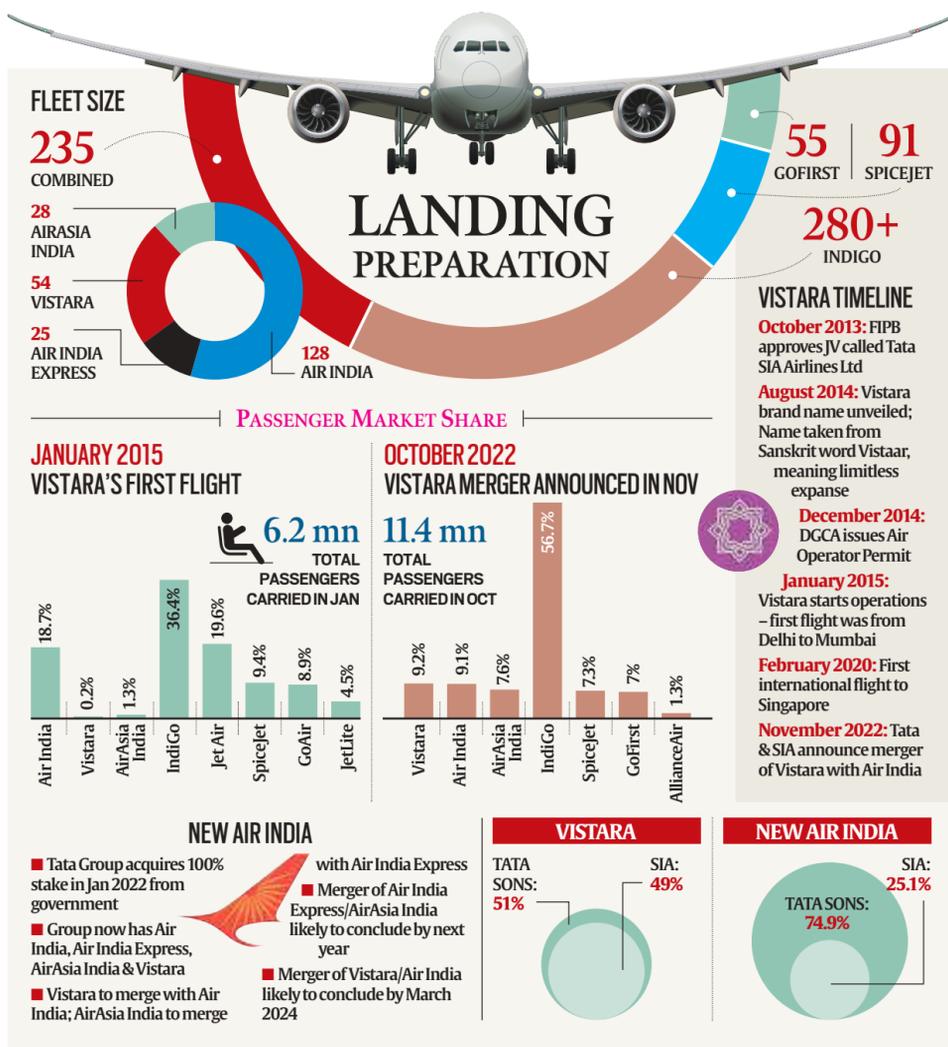
MIHIR MISHRA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

"The genesis of Vistara goes back to years of 1932 and 1947, when Tata Airlines and Malayan Airways each respectively entered the aviation space... their journeys have converged, leading to the formation of Vistara," the cover page article of Vistara's first in-flight magazine published in January 2015 announced. The magazine cover had two flaps—one had JRD Tata's image and the other had a Singapore Airlines' cabin crew member on it, which opened to the picture of a gleaming new Vistara aircraft.

In 2015, Vistara was not just seen as an airline venture for the Tata Group! It was an attempt by the diversified Tata Group to create a product, in partnership with Singapore International Airlines, that carried forward the legacy of J.R.D. Tata. Vistara, the name that came from a Sanskrit word Vistara meaning limitless expanse, was living up to its name and rapidly expanding till the Tata Group won the bid to pick the Indian government's 100% stake in Air India last year. The promoters had put in about Rs 9,400 crore in Vistara till date. The government, after more than one deadline extension and in its second disinvestment attempt, was successfully able to sell the state-owned airline to the Tata Group, which paid Rs 18,000 crore, including Rs 2,700 crore as cash payment, to the government. The airline was formally transferred to the group in January this year.

For the Tata Group, this acquisition was projected as a homecoming of sorts and Air India was then chosen as the member that will carry forward the JRD legacy — JRD was the founder of Tata Airlines that was later renamed Air India and he flew the first Tata Airlines flight between Karachi and Mumbai via Ahmedabad in October 1932. From there on, it was clear that Vistara's days may be numbered, as a merger with Air India was seen as a 'foregone conclusion'.

With the November 30 announcement of SIA getting 25.1 per cent in Air India, the combined group will embark on a journey that would eventually lead to four



airlines shrinking to two — Air India and Vistara as Air India and Air India Express and AirAsia India as a low-fare carrier. The two main challenges are likely to be human resource synergies and network integration.

HR Integration

During the due diligence process of AI, it became clear to the people at the Tata Group that the airline has a lot of staff that are not required for operational purposes. There were far too many people stationed at airports and in departments for coordination purposes. A lot of processes with respect to aircraft spares were not computerised, thus, requiring a lot of people. To be fair to Air India, the airline company did require coordination with the govern-

ment on every major decision since it was owned by them.

It is learnt that the current CEO & MD Campbell Wilson had expressed disappointment with the quality of workforce in Air India and expects Vistara's workforce to set a benchmark and help improve the situation. "The skills, people, systems and processes that have driven Vistara's success will complement, strengthen and accelerate Air India's Vihaan.AI transformation programme, and enable the new Air India to more quickly attain the size, reach and quality befitting of a world class airline proudly representing India around the globe," Wilson was quoted in a statement issued by Air India on Thursday. Vihaan.AI is a five-year plan

of the Tata Group that aims at increasing domestic market share to 30 per cent and considerably increasing international market share. A similar sentiment was echoed by Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan in his email to its employees. A senior executive, in the know, explained that the merger of Air India and Vistara will become much more clear in a year's time, when the airline lays off people through retirements and Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS).

Through retirements, Air India was to see 5,000 of the over 9,000 permanent employees go by 2027 — this has been advanced by the airline seeing about 3,000 people opt for VRS. "Barring pilots, crew and engineering staff, the airline may see people go," said an exec-

utive on a condition of anonymity. To put things in perspective, Vistara has about 4,700 employees. Any integration of two culturally dissimilar organisations is fraught with hurdles, just like the earlier Air India-Indian Airlines merger. Only time will tell whether this strategy could bring back glory days for Air India, but one thing looks certain — Vistara's short legacy could help give wings to Air India's flight for not just its revival, but also for rekindling the brand to its former glory.

Going ahead, the aviation industry in India and across the globe would keenly track the flight path of the Air India and Vistara combine — with a lot riding on this turnaround strategy for not just the Tata Group, but for Indian aviation too.

Network integration: Full service push, synergies with SIA key

ACCORDING TO the plan, the Air India Group will have two airlines by the end of March 2024 — full service carrier under the Air India brand and a low-cost carrier by merging Air India Express and AirAsia India.

"The low-cost carrier under Air India will have a new brand name," said an official source in the know.

The Group has already applied to the government for the merger of AI Express and AirAsia India under one Air Operator's Permit or AOP. Air India Express AOP will be kept and the new low-cost subsidiary will be operated under it. The Indian domestic market has become a low-fare market with 80 per cent of passengers flying low-cost carriers with market leader IndiGo alone ferrying 56.7 per cent of the total market, according to October data released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

The low-cost unit will operate domestic flights on routes that do not require full-service flights and also operate flights on short-haul international routes, which are currently connected by Air India Express that operates profitable flights to the Gulf and southeast Asia.

Air India will focus mainly on long-haul international routes as well as focus on operating flights on routes, where there is a demand for full-service capacity, say Delhi-Mumbai for instance.

"There is clarity: Not all flights routes in India require premium class flights and those routes will be left for the AI Express and AirAsia India combine. On the other routes, Air India will offer premium class capacity," said a source, who did not want to be identified.

On the international routes, Air India is likely to work in tandem with SIA, which would mean focussing more on flights to the west of India that includes Europe and Americas. SIA, on its part, will continue to operate and further strengthen flights to the east of India that includes Australia, Japan and the west coast of the US. Together, these two airlines will provide an alternative for not just people flying out of India but also flying to the west from the east of India — This could well become an alternative to carriers from the Middle East, about 80 per cent of their total passengers out of India fly to Europe and the Americas through their airports.

OYO to cut 600 jobs in tech, corporate verticals

New Delhi: IPO-bound travel tech firm OYO on Saturday announced it will downsize about 10 per cent of its 3,700-employee base by cutting 600 jobs in the technology and corporate verticals and hiring 250 members, primarily in the relationship management teams.

OYO said the move is part of implementing wide ranging changes in its organisational structure. It is downsizing its product & engineering, corporate headquarters, and OYO Vacation Homes teams, while it adds people to the partner relationship management and the business development teams.

"OYO will downsize 10 per cent of its 3,700-employee base, which includes fresh hiring of 250 members and letting go of 600 employees," a statement said.

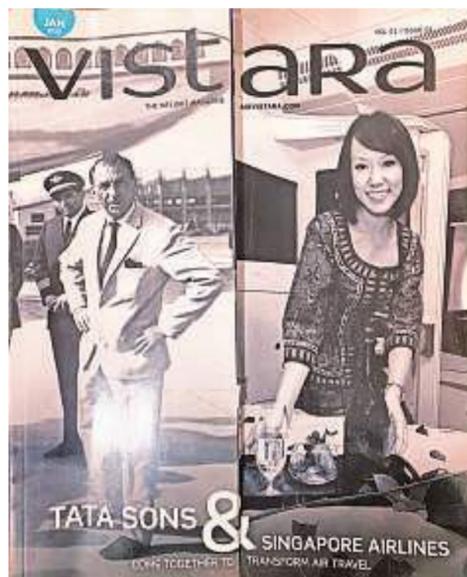
Product and engineering teams are being merged for smoother functioning, it added. Ritesh Agarwal, founder and Group CEO, OYO, said: "We will be doing all that we can to ensure that most of the people we are having to let go, are gainfully employed. Every member of the OYO team and I myself will proactively endorse the strength of each of these employees... It is unfortunate that we are having to part ways with a lot of these talented individuals who have made valuable contributions..." PTI

'Renault and Nissan set to forgo alliance deal'

REUTERS
TOKYO, DECEMBER 3

RENAULT SA and Nissan Motor Co are set to forgo a Wednesday announcement of a deal to restructure their automotive alliance as they struggle to bridge their differences, three people familiar with the matter said.

In their discussions, Renault is looking to Nissan to invest in its electric vehicle business, while Nissan is seeking the sale of part of Renault's 43 per cent stake in Nissan to put the two partners on a more equal footing. The carmakers remained apart on how to share intellectual property, the people, who declined to be named, said. Renault and Nissan declined to comment.



Vistara's first in-flight magazine published in January 2015.

BRIEFLY

RBI Dy Governor

Mumbai: Speculation around fintechs replacing banks is a "misconception", but lenders need to be more diligent in adopting technological changes, Reserve Bank Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar said on Saturday.

SJVN, solar

New Delhi: State-owned SJVN Ltd on Saturday said that its arm SJVN Green Energy has bagged a 200 MW solar project worth Rs 1,200 crore from Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. The tentative cost of this project is around Rs 1,200 crore and the project is expected to generate 455.52 Million Units (MUs) in the 1st year and the cumulative energy generation over a period of 25 years would be about 10,480.82 MUs, it said.

IMF, India

Washington: The IMF "fully supports" the G20 agenda of India, which is planning to use the ongoing global crises as an opportunity to seek consensus on issues that require urgent attention, a senior official from the international financial body has said. India formally assumed the G20 Presidency on Thursday. PTI

Why NPCI has extended UPI market cap deadline by 2 yrs

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE NATIONAL Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has extended the deadline to comply with its 30 per cent cap on the market share of platforms operating on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) by two years. The move is being seen as a major relief for Walmart and Flipkart-backed PhonePe and Google Pay, which command a majority of the UPI market share currently.

Why did NPCI extend the deadline?

NPCI had initially planned to enforce the market cap rules in January 2021, saying it would limit any single payments app from processing more than 30 per cent of UPI transactions in a month, but has postponed the timeline several times since.

In a circular issued Friday, it extended the deadline yet again until December 31, 2024, "taking into account the present usage and future potential of UPI and other relevant factors".

"In view of the significant potential of digital payments and the need for multi-fold penetration from its current state, it is imperative that other existing and new players (banks and non-banks) shall scale-up their consumer outreach for the growth of

RELIEF FOR PHONEPE AND GOOGLE PAY

■ The move is being seen as a major relief for Walmart and Flipkart-backed PhonePe and Google Pay, which command a majority of the UPI market share currently

■ NPCI had initially planned to enforce the market cap rules in January 2021, saying

it would limit any single payments app from processing more than 30 per cent of UPI transactions in a month, but has postponed the timeline several times since

■ In a circular issued Friday, it extended deadline again until December 31, 2024

UPI and achieve overall market equilibrium," read the NPCI circular.

How could it impact UPI platforms?

Industry analysts believe that the move comes as a shot in the arm for PhonePe and Google Pay, which collectively control more than 80 per cent of UPI's market share. For platforms like Paytm and WhatsApp Pay, however, the extension could be seen as a natural loss. As of October, Paytm had a market share of 15 per cent on UPI. In comparison, PhonePe had a 47 per cent market share while Google Pay accounted for around 35 per cent.

"We are obviously relieved to see the UPI market share cap get extended by two years. At PhonePe's scale, to reduce our UPI market share to 30% we would be forced to deny UPI pay-

ment services to crores of Indians, and that would be totally detrimental to the incredible Indian digital payments growth story," Sameer Nigam, CEO and founder of PhonePe said in a statement.

He added that the new regulatory circular "acknowledges that the burden is on other existing and new UPI players to invest more time, effort & money to increase their own UPI market share."

How is UPI performing?

After touching a new high of Rs 12.11 lakh crore in October, UPI transaction value for the month of November came in at Rs 11.90 lakh crore. However, the transaction count at 7.3 billion in October remained the same in November. According to the Reserve Bank of India's Payment Vision 2025, UPI is expected to register an average annualised growth of 50 per cent.

MEETING WITH OVER 40 TELECOM GEAR MAKERS

Will tighten scrutiny of imports: Vaishnaw

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 3

THE GOVERNMENT will come up with a methodology to check imports from neighbouring nations, which are non-compliant to trusted source rules of the telecom sector, Union Minister for Communications and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday.

The minister had a meeting with over 40 CEOs of telecom gear makers that have qualified for production linked incentive scheme and decided to set up 4-5 task forces to provide market support to them as well as streamline their business for value addition in the economy.

Telecom gear makers expressed concern around import of network gear from China, which is being routed through other



Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister for Communications & IT. File

neighbouring countries.

When asked about concerns around such imports, the minister said, "This issue was discussed. Representatives from customs department, finance ministry and other ministries... work will be done on it to devise how to check it in a methodical manner." The minister said that the companies under telecom PLI are close to start export of their gears and India will become an exporting nation very soon. "During the meeting, many new ideas came, for which we have set up 5-6 task forces. A task force has been set up for creating the component ecosystem. Another task force has been set up

for developing 4-5 chips, then taking those chips from design to production. Third task force has been set up to develop highly skilled workers, designers in the telecom sector," Vaishnaw said.

He said that the companies asked for support testing and certification, which is required for exporting products, for which another task force has been set up to optimise the use of test beds in IIT Madras, Telecom Engineering Centre. "From my interaction, industry is confident that they are in good traction and India should become a technology exporter in the coming years in a very sure and certain way," Vaishnaw said.

ARMY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (AIT)
Alandi Road, Dighi Hills, Pune - 411015
Tele: 7249250184 / 185 Website: www.aitpune.com

REQUIRED: REGISTRAR

- Applications are invited from eligible candidate for the post of "Registrar" on contractual basis (On consolidated salary)
- Details of eligibility conditions are available on AIT website www.aitpune.com
- Applications should reach through email to career@aitpune.edu.in by 19 Dec 2022

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 59/22-23/SE/PHC/PKD JIM - 2021-22 - WSS to Thenkara Panchayath - Supplying, Laying, Testing, Commissioning and maintenance of distribution systems with providing FHTCs - 6538 Nos. including road restoration. EMD : Rs. 500000 Tender fee: Rs. 15000 Last Date for submitting Tender: 22-12-2022 03:00pm Phone: 04912544927 Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer PH Circle Palakkad

KWA-JB-GL-6-1168-2022-23

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 60/22-23/SE/PHC/PKD Jal Jeevan Mission - 2020-21- WSS to Karimpuzha Panchayath - Construction, commissioning and maintenance of 3.50 li OHSR at Kariyode and construction of pump house supplying, laying, testing, commissioning and maintenance of Clear Water Pumping main to Kariyode and prombra OHSRS, distribution system with providing FHTCs- 2822 Nos, Supply and erection of RW and CW pump sets, including road restoration, EMD : Rs. 500000 Tender fee: Rs. 15000 Last Date for submitting Tender: 23-12-2022 03:00pm Phone: 04912544927 Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer PH Circle Palakkad

KWA-JB-GL-6-1173-2022-23

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No. RWF/S/010/2022-23 Dated 03/12/2022

TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager invites Electronic Open Tender from experienced Manufacturers for supply of the following item on the Indian Railways e-portal www Ireps.gov. In. The tender documents and the Corrigendum to the Tenders if any, will be available on the portal only.

Sl	Tender No	Item Description	Tender Closing Date and Time	Qty
1	P2225944	Pig Iron	26/12/2022 14:00 Hrs	1200MT

Tender details can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in or www Ireps.gov.in

Superintending Engineer PH Circle Palakkad

KWA-JB-GL-6-1168-2022-23

Principal Chief Materials Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Devkaran, Mr. Divan & Dharamtar acquired Property ID No. 200/17/1029 measuring 135 sq. yds. situated at Ghat of Lal Dora, Village Sarhau, Ghosi and Dist. Gurgaon, Haryana vide Transfer Deed dt. 14.12.2021 executed by Mr. Divan and Dharamtar are the undisputed owners of above said property. OR Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice or to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of the notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.
Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate)
H.No. 20/16, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi-110024

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,Vinod Kumar,S/o Gyan Chand Gupta R/o C-151, DDA-Flats New Ranjeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, Have Changed My Name to Vinod Kumar Gupta, for all, future purposes. 0040643706-2

I,Vikas Singh Sihag, R/o, H.No. 363, Block-C1, Palam Vihar, Sector-3, Gurgaon (Haryana), have changed my name to Vinod Kumar Gupta, for all purposes. 0040643710-3

I,VIVEK KUMAR S/O-RAJ KUMAR KAKAR R/O-183, SECOND FLOOR, KALYAN VIHAR, DELHI-110009 changed my name to VIVEK KUMAR KAKAR for, all purposes. 0040643683-1

I, Taksh Manchanda, s/o Mohit Manchanda, R/o G-11, Ground-Floor, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Taksha Manchanda permanently. 0040643706-1

I, Taksh Manchanda, s/o Mohit Manchanda, R/o G-11, Ground Floor, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Taksha Manchanda, permanently. 0040643706-8

I, Puja Kumari D/o Baij Nath Singh R/o T-176, Old Nangal, Delhi Cantt., Delhi-110010, have changed my name to Puja Singh. 0040643719-5

I, Syed Mohammad Alimuddin, S/o Amnuddin R/o 1641, Gali Takhtawali, Suiwalan, Daryaganj, New Delhi-110002, have changed my name to Alimuddin. 0040643706-9

I, Sunil Rai S/o Guptaeshwar Nath Rai R/o Flat-N-2, P-1601, Tower-B, The Vasudhara, Grand Sector-15 Atal Chowk, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad (U.P) have changed my name to Sunil Kumar Rai for all purposes. 0040643704-3

I, Suman Jain W/o, Manish Jain R/O-D-1004, Park-Vive City-1, Sohna-Road, Sector-48, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, have changed my name to daughter's name Sneha Jain to Saarvi Jain permanently. 0040643719-2

I, Sheshnath, S/O-Shri Kapildev, R/O-C-41/124, Mathura Road, C-Block, Bhairon Mandir, Janta Camp, New Delhi-110001, have changed my name to Sheshnath Kapildev Prajapati. 0040643713-1

I, Riyanka Agrawal W/o Sidhant Jain R/O-115, Arihant Nagar, Punjabi Bagh West, New Delhi-110026, have changed my name to Riyanka Jain for all purposes. 0040643719-3

I, Ravinder kumar s/o sh.vasdev R/O-D-13/108, 2nd-floor sector-7, rohini, delhi-110085, have changed my name to Ravinder kumar Dembla, for all purposes. 0040643706-3

I, Rameshwar Dutt Shukla, S/o Ram Lubhaya Shukla, R/O B-145, Shastri Nagar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-Changed My Name, From Rameshwar Shukla to Rameshwar Dutt Shukla. 0040643706-10

I, RAJESH KUMAR, S/O BALDEV RAJ, R/O H.NO-5 BAHUBALI ENCLAVE KARKARDOOMA, DELHI-110092, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJESH KUMAR KAKKAR. 0040643706-5

I, Priyansu Bandyopadhyay, S/o-Subrata Bandyopadhyay, R/o Plot No. 15, SF-4, Gyan Khand-2, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201014, have changed my name to Priyansu Banerjee for all future purposes. 0040643713-2

I, Pattabiraman Subramanian S/o, Subramanian R/o-Tower-24, Flat-No.1206, Lotus-Boulevard, Sector-100, Noida, Gautam Budha-Nagar, U.P.-201304, declare that R. Subramanian, Subramanian R., Ramachandran Subramanian, Subramanian Ramachandran and Subramanian are one and the same person i.e. my father. 0040643719-6

I, Pattabiraman Subramanian S/o, Subramanian R/o, Tower-24, Flat-No.1206, Lotus Boulevard, Sector-100, Noida, Gautam Budha-Nagar, U.P.-201304, have changed my name to Rishaan to Rishaan Pattabiraman aged-11 years. 0040643719-4

I, Parmjeet Kaur, W/o Manjeet Singh, R/o III-B-87, Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Parmjeet Kaur. 0040643709-3

I, PRATIMA, D/O-SH. DHURAV BHAGAT SINGH R/O RZ-F-1/190, STREET NO.2, MAHAVIR ENCLAVE, PALAM, NEW DELHI-110045, have changed my name to PRATIMA KADYAN for all future purposes. 0040643713-4

I, Rakhi W/o Vikas Chaudhary R/o H.No-171 Chaura Sadatpur, Sector-22 Noida Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name to Rakhi Chaudhary for all future purpose 0070816009-1

I, Poonam Tanwar wife of Mr. Gurudutt, R/O House No. 1861, Kh. No. 140/16, Gali No. 54, B-Block, Hanuman Kunj Sant Nagar Village, Burari, Central, NCT New Delhi-110084 in Passport No. W5153702 Record has been mentioned as Poonam, Poonam Tanwar & Poonam is one and the same person. 0040643669-1

I, MOHD TANVEER ALI/MD TANVEER S/O.SABBIR AHMED, ADD-F-76, ABUL-FAZAL ENCLAVE OKHLA, NEW DELHI-110025, changed my name to MOHD TANVEER, for all, future Purposes. 0040643709-2

I, MANSIMAR WALIA, S/O JITENDER SINGH MALHOTRA, R/O-3-A, DEV PURI, DELHI-ROAD, MEERUT, U.P.250002, have changed my name to MANSIMAR SINGH MALHOTRA, 0040643709-5

I, Lakshaya S/O Parveen Kumar R/O, H.No-777, Sector-6, Bahadurgarh Jhajjar Haryana-124507, have changed my name to Lakshay Batra. 0040643710-1

I, JYOTI, D/O VIJAY NARAYAN VERMA, R/O HOUSE NO.83, BLOCK, NO.26, M.B.ROAD, SAIDULAJAB, SOUTH-DELHI, DELHI-110030, changed my name to JYOTI KUMARI. 0040643709-8

I, JATINDER SINGH MALHOTRA, S/O MANMOHAN SINGH MALHOTRA, R/O 3-A, DEV PURI, DELHI-ROAD, MEERUT, U.P.-250002, changed my name to JITENDER SINGH MALHOTRA. 0040643709-7

I, JINDER PAL SINGH S/O GURBACHAN SINGH BINDRA R/O A-1B/101-C, LIG FLATS, PASCHIM VIHAR, DELHI-110063, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO INDER PAL SINGH BINDRA. 0040643719-9

I, Harshika Beniwal, D/o-Preetam singh and, w/o Deepak Chahal, R/o, K-32F, Second-floor, Saket, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name, from Harshika Beniwal to Tina chahal, for all, future purposes. 0040643709-9

I, Gurmeet Ahuja S/o, Rajiv Ahuja R/O, H.No.37A, Rani-Garden, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110031, that my-mother name is wrongly-written in my educational-documents as Simmi Ahuja instead of correct-name Seema. 0040643719-7

I, Devender Kaur W/o Jagir Singh, R/O E-357 Swami Shradhanand park Bhalwsa Dairy libas pur, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Davinder Kaur 0040643706-4

I, Chaman Singh Chaudhary alias Chaman Chaudhary S/o Raj Singh Singh R/O D-152, Sector-51 Noida (U.P) have changed my name to Chaman Singh for all future purposes. 0040643704-1

I, Bhumika D/o-Bijender Kumar, R/O RZ-86A, Gali no.1, Raj nagar-2 Palam colony New-Delhi-110077, have changed name to Bhoomika Goyal, for all, future purposes. 0040643709-4

I, Balbinder kaur/ Balvinder kaur, W/O. Rajinder Singh R/O, WZ-75A, near Subhash Nagar, metro station, Meenakshi Garden, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Balvinder kaur, for all purposes. 0040643706-7

I, Ashok Tyagi S/o Braham Prakash Tyagi R/O RDC-39, Rajnagar, Ghaziabad (U.P) have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Tyagi for all Purposes. 0040643704-2

I, Amarjit Singh Panesar S/O, Late Nand Singh Panesar R/O, H.No.1172, Deva Ram Park, Tri-Nagar, Onkar Nagar, New-Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Amarjit Singh S/o Nand Singh for all future purpose. 0040643719-8

I, ANMOL RATAN S/O-PREM CHAND JINDAL, R/O-134 2nd.FLOOR STATE BANK-COLONY, GUJRANWALA COLONY G.T.B.NAGAR DELHI-110009, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ANMOL RATAN JINDAL 0040643706-6

I, hitherto known as SHIPRA W/O SAURABH KUMAR residing at Villa No A-219, Amrapali Leisure Valley, Tech Zone-4, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201306, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHIPRA KAYA. 0070816004-1

I, Sushma Kumari W/o Aman Kumar Dhawan R/O G-1704, The Golden Palm Society, Sector-168, Noida, Uttar Pradesh have changed my name as Sushma Dhawan permanently 0040643702-1

I, Shushank S/o Rohtash Kumar R/O Flat No.307 3rd floor Sai Sharanan apartment, Gijhore Sector-53, Noida-201301, Gautam Buddha Nagar- have changed my name to Shushank Patel for all future purposes. 0070816012-1

I, Megha w/o Durgesh Kapoor, R/O-16/672, Geeta colony, sonipat, have changed my name to Megha Kapoor, for all purposes. 0040643710-2

I, Sanjay Kumar S/o Sewa Ram Narang R/O H.No-94, 2nd floor, Pocket-2, Sector-21, Rohini, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to SANJAY NARANG for all future purposes. 0070816003-1

I, Bimleshwari W/o Shyauraj Singh R/o H.No-171 Chaura Sadatpur, Sector-22 Noida Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name to Vekavati for all future purpose. 0070816006-1

I, Swati Malik D/o Sh. Subhash Malik R/O Flat No. 41, Vasant Enclave, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Chehal Venaik to Chehal Malik for all purposes. 0040643665-1

I Surbhi, D/O Hemraj, R/O.121-B DDA-Flat Satyam Enclave Jhimil Colony Delhi-110095, Have changed my name to Surbhi Arya. 0040643719-1

I Md Sarfaraj Hossain S/o Nabi Dafadar R/O Kushmasul, Patharchapri, VTC-Pathar Chhapri, R/O-Patharchapuri, Sub Distt- Suri, Distt- Birbhurm, West Bengal-731126, have changed my name to Md Sarfaraj Dafadar 0070815988-1

I Galaxy Sharma D/o Sh. Pawan Kumar R/O NA-59, Gali No.5, Near Mandir Gurudwara, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Simran Sharma for all purposes. 0040643665-2

I, SONIA KADYAN, D/O-SH D. B SINGH, R/O-RZ-F-1/190, STREET NO.2, MAHAVIRENCLAVE, PALAM, NEW DELHI-110045, have changed my name to SONIA KADYAN for all future purposes. 0040643713-3

I, PRAVEEN ALVI, W/O, MOHD TANVEER ADD-F-76, ABUL-FAZAL-ENCLAVE OKHLA, NEW DELHI-110025, changed my name to PARVEEN ALVI, for all future Purposes. 0040643709-1

I, Priyanshu Saini W/o Mohit Mehta, R/O-F-23/46, Sector-3 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Pranavi Mehta Permanently. 0040643671-2

I, Kamna W/O Ashish Sawhney R/O-116-C/A-2B, M.I.G. Flats Ekta-Appartments, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Kamna Sawhney Permanently. 0040643671-1

I, Harjinder Singh S/o Gurmil Singh R/O D-1536, Jahangirpuri Delhi-110033, have lost my Information Technology Diploma Marksheet, certificate year-2018, finder Contact-9821625031. 0040643710-8

I, have lost Sale-Deed of my-Property No.WZ-256-E/A, Front Side Portion of Second Floor, Inderpuri, Delhi-12, Regd. as no.13076 in Add.book-no.1, volume-no.7397 on pages-75 to 84, dated.26-11-2013. Regd.with SR-IX, Kapashera, New Delhi. I have not mort gaged said deed with any Bank/Financial Institution. Founder kindly contact-Pawan Garg at above-address. 0040643709-11

LOST & FOUND

I, Harjinder Singh S/o Gurmil Singh R/O D-1536, Jahangirpuri Delhi-110033, have lost my Information Technology Diploma Marksheet, certificate year-2018, finder Contact-9821625031. 0040643710-8

I, have lost Sale-Deed of my-Property No.WZ-256-E/A, Front Side Portion of Second Floor, Inderpuri, Delhi-12, Regd. as no.13076 in Add.book-no.1, volume-no.7397 on pages-75 to 84, dated.26-11-2013. Regd.with SR-IX, Kapashera, New Delhi. I have not mort gaged said deed with any Bank/Financial Institution. Founder kindly contact-Pawan Garg at above-address. 0040643709-11

PROPERTY FOR RENT

3BHK, Sector 39 NOIDA for Rent. East Facing 3Washrooms 02Balconies. Drawing & Dining 8724948654/ 8477087438 0050208678-1

RECRUITMENT

SITUATION VACANT

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Required 4 Accountant / Semi-Qualified for CA Firm Located at Daryaganj. Send your CV / Resume at ca.anilrg@gmail.com, Ph. 8130071380, Experience: 2-3 yrs. 0040643502-3

MATRIMONIAL

Looking alliance for our son, aged 30 years, working in MNC Bengalore, 12 - 14 LPA, height 5' 7 1/2" M Tech Bengali, Kayastha, Devari Gon. Contact 9300312520, Email: prdpchowdhary@gmail.com 0050208677-1

OTHERS

Mathur boy well settled in mnc gurgaon mba 18 lpa 28/5 ft 9 n mathur working girl preferred mobile 9814663204 0020449501-1

SIKH / PUNJABI

Jeet. Sikh. Handsome. No brother Sister, 32, 5 8, Chandigarh, Bussiness degree, 100000, Divorced, 8146571424, Caste Religion no bar , Simple Marriage

CASTE NO BAR

A well settled Tamil Senior IAS officer looking for a suitable match for his only daughter a post graduate radiologist, age 28, from a decent family either with a post graduate medicine or An All India Service Officer or a well settled business man. CASTE NO BAR. Interested parties may contact: 9710415880, 9989889137, 9666613436. 0130029979-1

IMPORTANT

What care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify the contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore request that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any notices or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

MATRIMONIAL



GENERAL

Age 37, Vaishyavani, 5'-4", Wheatish, Engineer, SDM-IT, based in USA. Experience - Grad post-grad, Maharashtrian (Vaishyavani, Maratha, Brahman, Sonar, CKP, SKP), age between 37-42, based in USA or with H1B/L1A visa, never married or divorce. Contact: +1984 847 7700 or kshimali@gmail.com 0070814311-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform the Public at large that Smt. Paulina Fernandes, W/o. Sh. Silverste J. Fernandes is the "Title Holder" in possession of "DDA Built Up Freehold Property Bearing Flat No.3029, Ground Floor, Category-III, Sector-B, Pocket - 4, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi", hereinafter referred to as "Schedule Property" vide conveyance deed dated 13.01.2003, registered on 14.01.2003 as Regn. No. 8241, Book 1, Vol.No. 873, pp. 82 to 83 in the Office of Sub Registrar-VII, New Delhi and Rectification dated 13.10.2022. Registration No. 1910.2022 as Regn No. 15722 in Book No.1 Vol No. 8610 on pages 73 to 76. That the Original Documents w.c.t. the Schedule Property (i) Allotment Letter dated 15.01.1988, (ii) 5th and Final Demand Letter dated 23.12.1992, (iii) Offer to Possession Letter dated 24.06.1992, (iv) NOC for Water & Electricity dated 24.06.1992 and (v) Possession Slip dated 02.09.1994, have been lost/misplaced on record as on date and are untraceable, hence unavailable for verification in original. In lieu of which Information Report dated 10.11.2022 is filed with Delhi Police bearing LR No. 967596 / 2022. This notice is issued to Public at Large, i.e. Any Person(s), (Company/ies), Authority/ies, (Institution/ies), (Organizations/ies), (Financial Institution/ies), Bank(s), HUFs etc., having any knowledge, custody or possession of the lost/misplaced/untraceable documents as mentioned herein above or otherwise having any claim, right, title, interest, possession in the Schedule Property, by way of Ownership, Succession, Inheritance, Sale, Mortgage, Exchange, Charge, Lien, Gift, Trust, Encumbrance etc., or objection to the sale of the Schedule Property, may come forward with supporting documents, to be delivered to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this Publication, post expiration of which, any claim(s) or objection(s), if raised or received, shall be treated as null and void and such claims or objection shall be treated as waived and the Title Holder shall proceed to sell the Schedule Property as recently intimated.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE MANISH KUMAR

424 M.C. SETUWAL SUPREME COURT NEW DELHI-110001 MOBILE NO.9899264785

Public Notice

My Client Kiran Girdhar W/o Late Sh. Harish Girdhar R/O 13/119, Second Floor, Geeta colony, Delhi-110031, do hereby disown/debar her son namely Sourabh Girdhar S/o Late Sh. Harish Girdhar, from her all movable and immovable properties & kind of assets or liabilities as her son not in control of my client and my client sever all relations with above named person and anybody dealing with him at their own cost and risk, my client shall not be responsible for any act. TARUN KHANNA, Advocate CHAMBER AT 484 BLOCK-II, DELHI HIGH COURT, DELHI-110033

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that my client, PSHHVI VIJAY KAROL Dio SH. VIJAY KAROL, R/O FIRST FLOOR, BELL VILLA, THE MALL, SHIMLA URBAN (T), H.P. Abotter/Muttee/Owner of DDA SFS FLAT NO.33, FIRST & SECOND FLOOR, CAT-II, PKT-F, SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI, have applied for certified copies of said flat in DDA. The original documents i.e. DEMAND CUM ALLOTMENT LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER, NOC FOR WATER AND ELECTRIC CONNECTION, SITE POSSESSION SLIP & OTHER DOCUMENTS of the above said flat has been lost. An F.I.R./NCR/LR No. 10421932022 dated 02/12/2022 to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Chetan Gyanadas Wadhvani, son of Sh. Gyanadas Gurnuldas Wadhvani, Resident of 101, S-11/155, C.K. Park, ND-19, have entered into an Agreement for purchase of property 11231-32, C-1, Block 4, Roop Nagar, Delhi with the seller Mr. Rajiv Verma; against which our client have paid earnest money for the property to Mr. Rajiv Verma. That our client is having signed document of the said property duly signed and handed over by Mr. Rajiv Verma. Public at large is informed not to deal with the said property as our client is having a substantial claim over the same. Anyone dealing with regard to the said property may do so at their own risks, cost and consequences.

TRITENT LEGAL

Law Firm THROUGH RAKESH MALHOTRA New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is informed that our client Mr. Parveen Ahuja, proprietor of M/s Ahuja Constructions office at K-11/155, C.K. Park, ND-19, have entered into an Agreement for purchase of property 11231-32, C-1, Block 4, Roop Nagar, Delhi with the seller Mr. Rajiv Verma; against which our client have paid earnest money for the property to Mr. Rajiv Verma. That our client is having signed document of the said property duly signed and handed over by Mr. Rajiv Verma. Public at large is informed not to deal with the said property as our client is having a substantial claim over the same. Anyone dealing with regard to the said property may do so at their own risks, cost and consequences.

TRITENT LEGAL

Law Firm THROUGH RAKESH MALHOTRA New Delhi

Government of Karnataka Administrative Training Institute Lalitha Mahal Road, Mysore 570011

File No: AT1/175/EST/EST1/2022-ADMN-ATI Date:30.11.2022 RECRUITMENT ON CONTRACT BASIS FOR YOUNG FELLOWS POSTS

Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Mysore desires to fill up the Young Fellows posts on contract basis in different disciplines/areas.

For further information related to the posts, job description and other details, please visit the below mentioned link. Application can be submitted from 01.12.2022 and Last date to apply is 31.12.2022. Telephone: 0821-2520906/2443835 Web: http://atimysore.gov.in/notification-english-young-fellows/

Sd/- Joint Director (Administration)

DRP/DBMS/MCA/730/2022-23

Office of the Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Rushikulya Bahuda Vansadhara Nagavali Basin, Brahmapur - 760004

e-Procurement Notice No. CEBM-RBVN-07/2022-23

- 1. Type of Work :- Irrigation Work.
- 2. Total No of Works :- 01 (One) No.
- 3. Amount put to tender :- Rs 18000.00 Lakhs
- 4. Period of completion :- 24 (Twenty Four) Calendar months.

Procurement officer	Bid Identification No	Bid Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Availability & Submission of Bid On-line
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, RBVN Basin, Berhampur, Ganjam.	CEBM-RBVN(CCD)-01/2022-23	18000.00	From 05.12.2022, 10.00 A.M. to 19.01.2023, 5.00 P.M.

Date of opening of the Technical Bid 20.01.2023 at 11.00 A.M. Further details can be seen from the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, RBVN Basin, Berhampur

OIPR-32459/11/0009/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

Bid Identification No. C.C.E.J.C (R&B) - 12/2022-23 No. 4637 Date. 28.11.2022

- 1. Nature of the work :- BUILDING & BRIDGE WORKS
- 2. Total No. of Works :- 02 (Two) Nos.
- 3. Estimated cost :- Rs. 114.39 Lakhs to 470.41 Lakhs As per works.
- 4. Period of completion :- 06 (Six) Months to 11 (Eleven) Months
- 5. Cost of Bid Document :- Rs. 10,000/- Each.
- 6. Bid Security (EMD) :- Bid Security Declaration (Schedule-K) & according to works.
- 7. Class of Contractor :- "B" & "A" Class as per cl no. 05 of TCN & according to works.
- 8. Date & time of availability of Bid Document in the portal :- From 10.00 hours of 06.12.2022 to 17.00 hours of 26.12.2022
- 9. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the Portal :- 17.00 hours of 26.12.2022
- 10. Opening date of Bid :- 10.00 hours of 27.12.2022
- 11. Name and address of the Officer

BRIEFLY

Brathwaite fights back for WI in opener

Perth: Marnus Labuschagne hit an unbeaten 104 to add to his first innings of 204 to become the third Australian with single and double centuries in a Test as Australia set the West Indies an unlikely 498 runs to win the opening Test. West Indies reached stumps Saturday at 192-3 in its second innings in 62 overs on the fourth day, needing another 306 runs to win. West Indies skipper Kraigg Brathwaite led the resistance in the second innings with a fighting 101 not out and laid the platform with debutant opener Tegenarine Chandernaul (45) in a 116-run opening stand.
Brief score: Aus 598/4 decl. & 182/2 decl. vs WI 283 & 192/3 (K Brathwaite 101 not out, T Chandernaul 45) need 306 runs more to win. —AP

Pak reaches 499-7, still trails England

Rawalpindi: England struck with four late wickets on Saturday to revive its hopes of victory against Pakistan with two days left in the first cricket Test where seven batters have so far scored centuries. Pakistan reached 499-7 in its first innings on the lifeless wicket and still trailed by 158 runs at stumps on the third day with play again ending early because of fading light. Captain Babar Azam (136), Imam-ul-Haq (121) and Abdullah Shafique (114) all hit out on a run-friendly wicket.
Brief score: England 657 all out vs Pakistan 499/7 (B Azam 136, Imam-ul-Haq 121, Abdullah Shafique 114; Will Jacks 3/132) trail by 158 runs. —AP

Australia bounce back to down India

Adelaide: India made a promising start by taking a first-half lead but its defence fell apart later as the team lost the fourth hockey Test 1-5 to Australia and conceded an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series, here on Saturday. The final match of the series will be played on Sunday. India had won the third match after losing the first two contests. Comeback man Dilpreet Singh (25th) struck early to give India the lead after a resolute defensive display by Harmanpreet and Co. in a goalless first quarter. But India's defence crumbled towards the fag end of second quarter with Jeremy Hayward (29th) and Jake Whetton (30th) scoring in space of 50 seconds. Tom Wickham (34th) extended the Kookaburras lead, before Hayward completed his brace (41st). —PTI

Road to glory starts in Dhaka

India back in subcontinent as countdown begins for 50-over home World Cup

ABHISHEK PUROHIT
DECEMBER 3

SINCE THE combination of captain Rohit Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid took over after the 2021 T20 World Cup, India have played 21 ODIs, the joint-highest for a Test side along with the West Indies in this period. Of course, almost all of these games slipped under the radar in a T20 World Cup year, but not anymore.

After the three-match away series against Bangladesh starting on Sunday, India have at least 12 more ODIs lined up at home, plus potentially half a dozen more in the next Asia Cup in similar conditions, as they build up to the 2023 World Cup which they will host.

After the recent ODI series in New Zealand that was hampered by rain, stand-in skipper for the tour Shikhar Dhawan had said that all these upcoming ODIs in South Asian conditions, starting with the Bangladesh series, would be a more "practical" way to prepare for the World Cup. Dhawan's point is bolstered by India's recent past; of the 21 ODIs they have played under this team management, only six have been at home, and all the rest have in fact been played outside Asia — in South Africa, England, West Indies, Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

Also, the Bangladesh tour is the first time captain Rohit and former captain Virat Kohli will be playing ODI cricket since the England tour in July. Another first-choice player, KL Rahul, hit by one injury or another and workload-managed as well, has played a mere six ODI innings since as far back as March 2021. So it will be after quite some time that India will have at their disposal a more-or-less first-choice ODI batting line-up of Rohit, Dhawan, Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Rahul and Rishabh Pant, with the exception of the rested Hardik Pandya and, arguably, Suryakumar Yadav.

Given this fact, it remains to be seen what kind of opportunities the likes of Ishan Kishan, Rahul Tripathi and Rajat Patidar get. Considering there has been only a three-day gap between the end of the New Zealand tour and the first ODI in Dhaka, there could be a case for giving some of the fringe players a go on Sunday, and the regulars — Dhawan, Iyer and Pant — who have flown in from Christchurch — could play the remaining two matches. It was considering this short interval between the two away series that the selectors had picked a 17-man squad for Bangladesh, as the now-outgoing chief selector Chetan Sharma had informed them.

There will be more opportunities available on the bowling front, with Mohammed Shami's injury now added to the continued absence of Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja. The wrist-spin pair of Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav is not part of this



Rohit Sharma (left) and Bangladesh's skipper Litton Das ahead of 1st ODI. PTI

trip as well, with the finger-spin of Axar Patel and Washington Sundar expected to be effective on the slow pitches in Bangladesh. Again, with pacers Shardul Thakur, Deepak Chahar and Umran Malik flying in from New Zealand, will Kuldeep Sen get an opportunity on Sunday? And if and when he plays, how potent will he be on these surfaces?

The Indian attack is coming off a poor ODI series in New Zealand. They were blown away by Tom Latham and Kane Williamson in Auckland, unable to exert much pressure while defending 306. They had only 219 to work with in Christchurch, but on a helpful track, were again ineffective as New Zealand moved to 104 for 1 in 18 overs before rain ended the match.

No walkover

Conditions will be vastly different in Bangladesh, but the opponents could be no less tricky. Bangladesh do not get enough credit for having built up a formidable ODI record at home over the past decade or so — they have lost just one series since 2014. On India's last trip there, back in 2015, they lost the ODI series 1-2.

Rohit is well aware of the challenge the hosts could pose. "In the last 7-8 years, the Bangladesh team has been a different team, a very challenging team. We have not had easy wins against them. We have had to play good cricket to win against them and every time we played them, it has been a close game. Even in the T20 World Cup, it was a close game," Rohit said ahead of the series opener.

"And we lost the 2015 series last time we

were here. By no means do we come here thinking that it is going to be a cakewalk for us. We know they are a good team, a very improved team in the last few years, so we will have to play good cricket to win this. It is not going to be easy for us."

Even without the presence of the injured Tamim Iqbal and Taskin Ahmed, Bangladesh have the services of veterans Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah in the middle order. Litton Das, who had India worried in the T20 World Cup with a sparkling knock, will lead in Tamim's absence, and the crafty Mustafizur Rahman, who announced himself to the world with a five-for on debut against the Indians in 2015, will lead the bowling attack.

With a series win against the neighbours in their backyard no longer guaranteed, especially in this format, India have some work to do. At the same time, they also have the World Cup at the back of their minds, but Rohit said that it was important not to get too caught up just with the ultimate goal. "The World Cup is still 8-9 months from now. We cannot think so far ahead. We will keep an eye on what we need to do as a team, where we need to improve," he said. "I think it is important for us to not start thinking about too many things — the World Cup, this is the combination, that is the combination, we need to play this guy, that guy. Me and coach have a fair idea as to what we want to do and we will narrow it down once we get closer to the World Cup. But we do want to play good cricket till we come close to the World Cup."

Live: 11:30 AM Sony Sports Network



Brazil fans display a banner with Pele's image during the World Cup. REUTERS

Pele sent to end-of-life care as chemo not having an effect

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
DECEMBER 3

BRAZILIAN LEGEND Pele, who had been in treatment for colon cancer, has now been put in 'palliative care' after chemotherapy was deemed to not have produced the necessary effect for his betterment. Pele was taken to Albert Einstein hospital in Sao Paulo a few days ago by his wife and caretaker due to swelling all over his body, according to ESPN Brazil. The report also said that he was identified with 'decompensated heart failure' when the diagnosis for the swelling was being made.

Cancer diagnosis

Pele has been in and out of hospitals in the past few years due to multiple issues. But the last major visit he had was because of a colon cancer diagnosis. He had to undergo surgery to remove a tumour from his colon in September 2021. He also spent some time in intensive care after the surgery and has been administered chemotherapy post his release from the hospital.

Palliative care

Palliative care refers to the care provided to a patient who has been diagnosed as terminally ill. This means that Pele's treatment has not been successful and the chemotherapy was unable to treat the cancer that the 82-year-old has been dealing with. At this point, doctors and caretakers focus on making patients as comfortable as possible.

Pele's Instagram account had a statement two days ago, thanking a tribute made in

Qatar for his good health. "Friends, I'm at the hospital making my monthly visit. It's always nice to receive positive messages like this. Thanks to Qatar for this tribute, and to everyone who sends me good vibes," said the post.

Past health troubles

In 2012, the former striker underwent hip surgery which was followed by a corrective procedure four years later. He underwent dialysis in his left kidney in 2014. He has also had to go through surgeries on his back as well as his prostate in recent times.

In 2019, he also underwent surgery in Sao Paulo to remove a kidney stone after he was hospitalised in Paris for five days.

His son once revealed that Pele was embarrassed at needing a frame to walk because of his bad hip. Pele later said, "I am good. I continue to accept my physical limitations in the best way possible but I intend to keep the ball rolling. I have good days and bad days. That is normal for people of my age. I am not afraid, I am determined, confident in what I do."

The legend of Pele

The leading goalscorer for Brazil with 77 goals in 92 games, Pele is known for being one of the greatest footballers of all time. He won three World Cups with Brazil in 1958, 1962 and 1970 and scored 12 of his 77 goals for his country at the four World Cups that he participated in.

After he retired, Pele became an ambassador for football, took part in many documentaries and semi-documentaries and also published several autobiographies.

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: None

NORTH				SOUTH			
♠ J953				♣ 10			
♥ AJ				♦ K87			
♦ J987				♠ KQ103			
♣ AJ7				♥ Q108			
				♣ K85			
WEST		NORTH		EAST		SOUTH	
pass	1S	pass					1C
pass	3NT	pass					pass
pass							

West leads the four of clubs, a slight surprise to South because that is the suit he opened. Looking at the dummy, South noted that there were four heart tricks, two diamonds eventually, two clubs, and plenty of places to get another. What should South's plan be?
The West Hand: S-AQ2H-76D-AK2C-109642
The East Hand: S-1064H-98542D-643C-Q3
Trick one is a very good time to consider things. As often happens, you have a chance to do something good at trick one. Or something bad. Do you play the jack of clubs from dummy or the small one?
If you played the jack, East covered with the queen and you went down in 3NT. East-West can set up the club suit and do it in time to keep you from getting a ninth trick in spades. If you duck the club East will have to play the queen and that will give you nine tricks right there. Why is playing low from dummy correct?
It is correct for a variety of reasons. If East has the singleton queen, it is correct to duck at trick one. And very importantly, if West has led fourth best from a holding including the 109xxx, playing low will be the winner. East will have a choice of playing the queen or small and either choice gives you a third club trick.
If you play low and East plays the nine or ten, you have lost nothing because you can always take the club finesse later.
Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South

NORTH		SOUTH					
♠ A7		♥ 84					
♥ A84		♠ KQJ10					
♦ AQ73		♦ K62					
♣ K873		♠ AQ42					
WEST		NORTH		EAST		SOUTH	
2S		6NT		pass			1NT
pass							pass

West led the king of spades and South spotted that if both minors divided nicely there would be thirteen tricks. With that in mind South took the ace and started running his winners, starting with four rounds of hearts. When he finished the hearts he tried the clubs and found that East had a club stopper. No seven, but six was still in the running. South played the diamonds next and found they were divided badly too and so 6NT went down one.
"We dodged a bullet on that one," said West. Did South shoot accurately?

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2402

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Carbonaceous material (8)
- As Fool called Lear (6)
- Management graduates (4)
- Excludes, banishes (10)
- A traditional Japanese drama (6)
- Elastic (8)
- Dwarf (6)
- Return from the Land of Nod (4,2)
- Itching (8)
- Plump (6)
- Freeing or releasing? (10)
- Uses a knife? (4)
- Greek goddess of the hearth (6)
- German physicist (8)

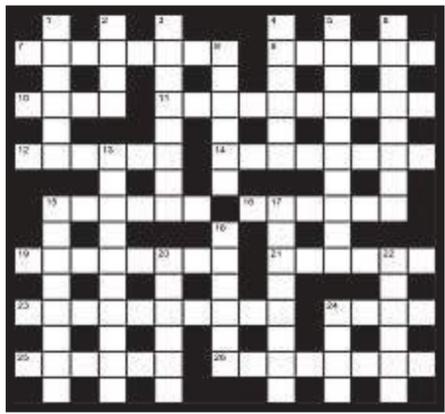
DOWN

- Morbid fear (6)
- Makes mistake (4)
- Magnesium ore (8)
- Not just (6)
- Enrolment (10)
- Reliable (investment) (4,4)
- Most recent? (6)
- Below (10)
- Strict disciplinarian (8)
- Very self-important (8)
- Nurse an ambition (6)
- Jewelled headdresses (6)
- Stupid person (6)
- Refer to (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Topple open coffeepot (8)
- Led far astray by a great chap (6)
- Utterly dismal poet (4)
- Laid in on thick, like prepared toast, perhaps (8,2)
- Old king gets the Boy's Brigade in to mend shoes (6)
- Final pieces of conjuro's magic can be climactic (8)
- Credit laws broken in slow movements (6)
- Arrest Ian and Ted for being riotous (6)
- Lay bare the monstrous expanse of 'glasnost' (8)
- By the end of the evening Edward has got his own back (6)
- Overbearing attitude of one



- surrendering? (10)
- Rolls first ball over mineral spring (4)
- Favourite measure included being shot (6)
- As a penalty, snips one dollar off allowances (8)

- exhausted (4,2)
- Laxest re-grouping elevates another to the highest esteem (6)
- Nothing save this? (6)
- Granted one's free to await a hearing (4)

Solutions to 2401

- QUICK CLUES ACROSS:** 1 Brunch, 4 Oddman, 9 Anti, 10 Enchanting, 11 Insert, 12 Outsider, 13 Dachshund, 15 Soon, 16 Earl, 17 Lightyear, 21 Building, 22 Reeler, 24 Cervellini, 25 Itin, 26 Eerier, 27 Stroke, Down: 1 Bonanza, 2 Unite, 3 Cheetha, 5 Drafts, 6 Matrimony, 7 Nankeen, 8 Accounting for, 14 Hardliner, 16 Educate, 18 Harpist, 19 Agonize, 20 Lillie, 23 Cairo. **CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS:** 1 Arbour, 4 Scoffs, 9 Posy, 10 Fieldstone, 11 Impugn, 12 Tributes, 13 Painterly, 15 Dive, 16 Bake, 17 Egregious, 21 San Diego, 22 Unpack, 24 Indistinct, 25 Lair, 26 Yogurt, 27 Odious. **DOWN:** 1 Anemia, 2 Bayou, 3 Ur fence, 5 Codlin, 6 Fettuccini, 7 Sincere, 8 Fertile ground, 14 No kidding, 16 Blarney, 18 Erupted, 19 Urchins, 20 Pewter, 23 Polio.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday December 4

You can choose whether to follow your heart, or your bank balance. Eventually, you'll learn how to do both at the same time. And that's quite an achievement.

Monday December 5

Today's trends bring out your deeper ambitions. Even when you're being bold and exciting, there are still connections to the past, which is a good thing.

Tuesday December 6

You'd do well to ask the experts and stick to the facts. The emotional climate will soon become more positive, and there is every reason to suppose that now is the time for a major initiative.

Wednesday December 7

It's unclear exactly what you need to be doing next, but that isn't a problem. You can allow the ebb and flow of celestial energies to take you wherever they will.

Thursday December 8

The Moon is now presenting you with possibilities around the home and in all situations which are governed by your heart rather than your head. All will become clear by the end of the week.

Friday December 9

You must find a way to express your desires with honesty and integrity. And if you are criticised, be gracious in your response.

Saturday December 10

Opposing points of view will be put forward over the next three months. Stick with friends and family who are on your side, and not let others slow your progress.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Monetary matters seem to be causing a few problems, although it is difficult to see whether it is partners or you who is to blame. Your long-term celestial influences are very prosperous indeed. Romantic prospects are also set to continue on a high note.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You seem to have been knocked off balance, perhaps by someone who no longer understands your best interests. However, over the next few days you may pull yourself together and assert yourself even more than in the past. You can expect dramatic improvements by the end of the week.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Group events promise to be more satisfying than one-to-one meetings. Perhaps that is because you wish to avoid complications that may arise out of intimate encounters. Money may be off the agenda until the end of the week, when the Moon begins a new role in your financial life.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Your best days should be Thursday and Friday, when the Moon passes through a profoundly sympathetic region of your chart. Even better, other people will genuinely understand your hopes and needs, which should make you feel happier and more confident.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Professional Leos with grand, worldly ambitions will experience some difficulty, mainly a clash between short-term domestic responsibilities and long-term hopes. You must develop your creative talents, rather than blindly submitting to a routine imposed from outside.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Misunderstandings are likely around the middle of the week. Have you by any chance considered making more of an effort to explain yourself? If not, do so now. Also, please see to it that all travel plans are set out clearly and without ambiguity or ambiguity.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You'll have a little support from the Moon at the beginning of the week, which means you'll feel good about your home situation. Yet a financial crisis, hopefully a brief one, is bound to flare up on Wednesday or Thursday, when the Sun and Pluto get into top gear.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

This is no time for weak-kneed compromise. Instead, you must be tough. You will gain an enormous amount of satisfaction from pursuing your own goals, so don't feel guilty about being selfish. Fascinating news may arrive at the end of the week, so that should stir things up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

It's a week for plots, rumours and gossip. You'll also discover increased opportunities for spreading a little goodwill, helping people worse off than you and generally adopting a charitable outlook. You should be liberated from a tight financial corner by the end of the week.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

The Sun continues to help you, which is surely good news. Take a closer look at a number of your engagements, especially social responsibilities and see if there are any that can be safely abandoned. Do what you can to create the right conditions for a more carefree existence.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

The emphasis on close partnerships is still very strong, although it looks as if you'll be communicating at a distance, via letters and telephones, rather than through personal meetings. The one percent of you who have fax machines will be receiving strange messages.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You can be much too ready to accommodate the whims and wishes of other people. Now you may seize the opportunity presented by helpful lunar patterns to push yourself forward and make other people understand just how much you have to offer. There is no turning back, as I am sure you realise perfectly well.

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 ___ known as business looks with austere disfavor upon the business known as ___ - Ambrose Bierce (8, -8) (same word twice)

FRYAI	EERRGM
KRULN	LNOOBG

ANSWER: FAIRY, KURL, MERGER, ORLON
The game playing known as business looks with austere disfavor upon the business known as gambling - Ambrose Bierce

SUDOKU 5038

Difficulty Level 4s
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 5037



Doha: Brazil's forward Gabriel Jesus and defender Alex Telles have both been ruled out of the rest of the World Cup after picking up knee injuries in their final Group game against Cameroon. Telles was substituted in the 54th minute of Brazil's 1-0 defeat by the African side, with Jesus leaving the pitch 10 minutes later. **REUTERS**

In Netherlands' ruthless win over USA, Van Gaal dishes out tactical masterclass

SCORELINE

NETHERLANDS	3	USA	1
Depay	10'	Wright	76'
Blind	45+1'		
Dumfries	81'		

SANDIP G

DOHA, DECEMBER 3

AFTER THE game, Louis van Gaal and Gregg Berhalter exchanged a tight hug, a warm handshake and some words. The day before though Van Gaal was asked whether he remembers the American manager from a match in 1994 when Berhalter's Sparta Rotterdam upset Ajax: "Do you really think I remember? No, I don't remember that match," he said bluntly. Berhalter, when duly put across, was hurt: "I don't think that's true. Being that competitive, he has to remember that," he said, and quipped: "Maybe, after this game he will." It was not intended as a verbal joust, but more like lighthearted banter. But his team,

borrowing heavily from the Dutch ideals, from the formation to passing, did little to leave an impression on Van Gaal. Rather, the ruthless Dutch, flicking gears as the tournament heads to the business end, exposed the vulnerabilities of the US, vindicating the belief that the US are far from a semi-serious footballing nation. In four years, they would be co-hosts of the World Cup, but unless they reboot, their plight would be similar to Qatar. It was also a vindication that, despite billions and resources, only a deep-rooted football culture could take the team deep into a World Cup. The US, for all their athleticism and determination, were technically inept and tactically hollow, outwitted by a master tactician.

His fundamental plan was simple — congest the midfield first, draw the US wingers and midfield into the centre and then like a flower blossoming at the first ray of sun, expand, with sharp, simple passing and exploit the space left behind by the American wingbacks. Not that Daley Blind and Denzel Dumfries were quicker than their American numbers Antonee Robinson and Sergiño Dest, but clever and

UNBEATEN STREAK

U Netherlands have not lost any of their 11 World Cup matches outrightly under Van Gaal, winning 8 and drawing 3 (only 'loss' came in a tiebreaker in 2014). Only Felipe Scolari (12) has had a longer unbeaten start as a manager in World Cup history.

positionally more disciplined. Dumfries was creativity unleashed, setting up two goals and pinching one himself. But beyond the effectiveness of Dumfries, the incompetency of Americans, it was the tactics of Van Gaal that shone the brightest. Once the assigned heir of Johan Cruyff, he has long veered away from the footballing principles that the Dutch keep close to their heart. None more insulting to them than his departure from 4-3-3 to his unflinching commitment to the 3-5-2 and its variations

(he deployed 3-4-1-2 against the US).

Ever an espouser of the 4-3-3, the classical Cruyffian system, in the fag end of his coaching career, Van Gaal turned to a tactic reviled in Holland. An emblem of anti-Dutch football, a pragmatic method that compromises on the Dutch ideals of possession, control and fluidity. His critics crooned that Dutch football was going backwards, adopting anti-football.

Under him, the Dutch have not played the brand of football that the Dutch want their team to play; even some of the players, like his captain Virgil van Dijk, have publicly criticised his coach. But like with any formation that can be tweaked to defend or attack, Van Gaal's side could be thrilling to watch when they attack.

The first goal was classic Van Gaal — irrespective of the systems he is steadfast on quick, simple passing, his players not pondering too long with the ball. Back in Barcelona days, he once sat Romario out for two games because he lingered too long on the ball. Of that 20-pass sequence, 16 were in the Dutch half. With every pass, the USA, a pressing side that swears by the 4-3-3, pushed more men into the Dutch

territory. This was exactly what the Dutch wanted. Depay supplied the ball to Cody Gakpo, a few metres in the US zone, and Gakpo slid an angled ball to the overlapping Denzel Dumfries, who lined up Depay, who by then was just inside the box through the legs of an American defender. The finish was lethal, the passing was sumptuous, but the most glittering aspect of the goal was the movements of the players, sniper-sharp, neither over-running nor under-running. The passing would make you chant Cruyff, but it was appropriate to whistle Van Gaal, who, like Cruyff and Rinus Michael, Pep Guardiola and Carlo Ancelotti, is one of the greatest thinkers of the modern game. Flip through most goals scored under Van Gaal, there are similar notes as you had seen in this game. He has departed from the Dutch ideals, some say he has diluted them, but in reality, he has just experimented with another dimension of the game.

The stability it infuses in defence can't be underrated either. When the US hammered forward, the three-man defence would turn to five, sometimes six or seven. It helps that

among their fullbacks, Blind is adept at defensive duties, so are Frenkie de Jong, and Marten de Roon. So they morphed into an impenetrable orange wall. In the switch from attack to defence, few systems are endowed with such easy transitions, albeit with the right players.

He has refined the formation too. Back in 2014, he used to rely almost entirely on counter-attacking, and for all practical purposes, they were 5-3-2. But the prospering of quality centre-backs like Van Dijk, Nathan Ake, Julien Timber and Matthijs de Ligt bestows him more luxury to wear a more attacking outlook. It's no coincidence that the Dutch have been most successful this century under Van Gaal and playing under his 3-5-2.

He took them to third place in Brazil and now into the quarterfinals. In the interval between his two reigns, the Dutch failed to qualify for successive Euros and the 2018 World Cup. Perhaps, like Van Gaal a decade ago, the Dutch too should rethink their views on their most hated formation. As for Berhalter, it is unlikely that Van Gaal would remember him after the match either.

Three Lions hope to change spots

No other country has suffered so much heartbreak in shootouts as England & Southgate has looked at ways to conquer the demons



PREVIEW

ROUND OF 16

France v Poland

8.30 pm,

Al Thumama Stadium

(LIVE ON SPORTS18 AND JIO CINEMA)

The script

While this has been a World Cup of upsets, it'll be a surprise if France slip up against Poland, and not just because the world champions are unbeaten in last seven meetings against their European opponents. With Kylian Mbappé, Olivier Giroud, Hugo Lloris, Ousmane Dembele and Antoine Griezmann set to return to the starting line-up after being rested against Tunisia, it will be a mammoth task for Poland to contain them. In Wojciech Szczesny, they have a world-class goalkeeper who is in red-hot form, having made 18 saves in the three group stage matches apart from stopping two penalties including one from Lionel Messi. But Poland have been conservative in their approach and will have to find ways to involve Robert Lewandowski if they hope to threaten France.

How they'll line up

France: 4-2-3-1

Likely XI: Lloris; Kounde, Konate, Upamecano, (Theo) Hernandez; Tchouameni, Rabiot; Dembele, Griezmann, Mbappe, Giroud

Poland: 4-4-2

Likely XI: Szczesny; Cash, Glik, Kiwior, Bereszynski; Zielinski, Bielik, Krychowiak, Frankowski; Swiderski, Lewandowski

England v Senegal

12.30 am (Mon),

Al Bayt Stadium

(LIVE ON SPORTS18 AND JIO CINEMA)

The script

Both teams enter the last 16 on the back of impressive performances. However, the challenge for Senegal coach Aliou Cisse will be to rejig his midfield ahead of this crucial tie. His key midfielder has received two yellow cards, which means he'll be suspended for this clash. And midfield is an area where this match could be decided, given how robust England looked in that area against Wales with Jude Bellingham and Declan Rice shining in that role. The question for Gareth Southgate will be whether to drop Phil Foden to accommodate Bukayo Saka. England haven't lost to an African opponent in their previous 20 encounters but in Senegal, they will face their toughest test of the World Cup so far.

How they'll line up

England: 4-2-3-1

Likely XI: Pickford, Trippier, Stones, Maguire, Shaw; Rice, Bellingham; Saka, Mount, Sterling; Kane

Senegal: 4-3-3

Likely XI: (Edouard) Mendy, Sabaly, Koulibaly, Diallo, Jakobs; (Nampalys) Mendy, (Pape) Gueye, Ciss; (Iliman) Ndiaye, Dia, (Ismaila) Sarr



EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP

SANDIP G

DOHA, DECEMBER 3

JUST OUTSIDE the Saoud bin Abdulrahman Stadium in the Al Wakra Sports Complex where England train is the Central Market, a sun-parched grassless scrub of land. Every Thursday, the scantily-populated neighbourhood wakes up to the bleating of a thousand goats ferried in rumbling trucks to be sold in what the locals claim is the largest goat market in the entire Middle East. On some days, buyers even cross the Saudi Arabia border to buy goats. The market, though, has been suspended for the entire duration of the World Cup, so that England can practise undisturbed and the locals could sleep peacefully, without the stench of goats, whirring of trucks and the haggling of traders.

Just outside the ground, whether it is hot or balmy, a few English fans would linger on when the team is practising. Inside, where barely anyone is permitted to watch them train, there is every modern football gadget to hone their skills and accomplish the elusive mission of "bring the World Cup", which the eager fans keep boisterously chanting.

One among their new-age gadgets is the SKLZ Nets. The yellow net with holes in the four corners is spread over the goal-frame and the players must aim to put the ball through the four holes. The first half of the drill is performed without the goalkeepers — as per the advice of psychologists who want them to not see the custodian. It is England's latest endeavour in taming their oldest and bitterest foe, the penalty shootout, the most-dreaded phase of a football match for them.

No other country has endured as much pain as England has in shootouts. One face of that national meltdown is Gareth Southgate himself, who missed the penalty in the 1996 Euros semifinal and took an eternity to exorcise the ghosts, before, as head coach he went on a forensic odyssey to understand the mechanics and science of shootouts.

Seldom have England not cried after World Cup shootouts. They ended their tepid run in the last World Cup, beating Colombia in the Round of 16. But the ghosts resurfaced at the Euros, where they lost to Italy in the Wembley final. Their embarrassing record of seven defeats in nine shootouts in major tournaments — a smudge under 22 per cent win percentage — is the worst of any national team with more



England players warm up before a training session in Doha. Behind closed doors, they have put special emphasis on preparing for penalty shootouts, a situation they could be faced with in case of a tied scoreline in knockout rounds. *Reuters*

than five shootouts contested.

Here, on the verge of the World Cup knockouts, the sword of penalty shootout hangs over them. The sword of history, if one will. It was a question put forth to every England player or support staff who attended press conferences in the last week or so. It was put forth to Marcus Rashford, who missed one against Italy in the

Euros and was put to sword in social mediascape. As were Bukayo Saka and Jadon Sancho. Rashford firmly answered: "No, not at all. They are big moments and, as an individual, I've always been comfortable with them. I enjoy being in big moments so I'm hoping that we get to take another penalty in the tournament. I'm looking forward to it." Brave words after the trauma he went through.

From Declan Rice to Harry Kane, Luke Shaw to Jack Grealish, everyone was sought about their readiness. All of them replied positively and buoyantly that they, to quote Grealish, were "itching to take one and bury the history." But through the answers and questions lurked a national obsession, a fear of reuniting with the old nemesis like Dr No running into James Bond in every covert op-

eration of his. The repetitiveness has not numbed them but made them shrink in terror. England managers of the past have attempted to dive deep into the heart of the tragic flaw. From incompetence and fatalism, from misfortune to competition anxiety and psychological block to lottery, their assumptions ran on the usual tropes.

"You can never recreate on the training ground the circumstances of the shootout," Glenn Hoddle said in 1998. "When it comes to the pressure, we are not good," said Sven-Göran Eriksson in 2006. "You can't reproduce the tired legs. You can't reproduce the pressure and tension," Roy Hodgson observed in 2012, after the Euros.

Learning from experience

But Southgate's approach has been refreshingly different — and it helps the cause that he is the only England manager who has ever missed a penalty. After elaborate research, talking with sports scientists and psychiatrists alike, he arrived at the conclusion that it was science, that it was about performing a skill under extreme pressure, and the only exorcism was practice. He deduced the reason he missed

the penalty. He was hasty, he says in his autobiography: "All I wanted was the ball: put it on the spot, get it over and done with."

So, when he prepared his team for the last World Cup, his support staff would measure the reaction time of players, the psychologists would advise them to take deep breaths, slow down their walk to the spot, and visualise a goalpost without the goalkeeper, eliminate all the historic baggage simmering within them. He even took the "cannot recreate tired legs" observation from Hodgson and simulated it in training sessions. "We practice spot kicks after the end of tiring sessions. Someone would turn on pre-recorded noise from stadiums. We were told to imagine that we are taking a kick in the World Cup final. Those sessions are fun," Harry Maguire recently observed.

Before the 2020 Euros, England roped in Owen Eastwood, a performance coach from New Zealand, who has worked extensively with various rugby teams in his country and Cricket South Africa. Two years before that, the FA hired Rhys Long as head of performance analysis from the Welsh Rugby League. They spent months studying England's penalty shootouts threadbare, the technique, practice, approach and mindset. Before big tournaments, they would dissect the tapes of the potential opponents' goalkeepers and penalty takers, where the strikers are likely to hit, where the goalkeepers are probable to

RECORD IN SHOOTOUTS

WORLD CUPS

1990: West Germany 1-1 England (West Germany won 4-3 on penalties)
1998: Argentina 2-2 England (Argentina won 4-3 on penalties)
2006: England 0-0 Portugal (Portugal won 3-1 on penalties)
2018: Colombia 1-1 England (England won 4-3 on penalties)

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

1996: Spain 0-0 England (QF) (England won 4-2 on penalties); Germany 1-1 England (SF) (Germany won 6-5 on penalties)
2004: Portugal 2-2 England (Portugal won 6-5 on penalties)
2012: England 0-0 Italy (Italy won 4-2 on penalties)
2020: Italy 1-1 England (Italy won 3-2 on penalties)

NATIONS LEAGUE

2019: Switzerland 0-0 England (England won 6-5 on penalties)
** All tied scorelines after extra time*

leap. Also, they arrived at a consensus that the best penalty taker should take the fourth shot, for it's the fourth shy that England's players have missed the most in their history. The team of psychiatrists counselled them to restrain from showing emotion, both joy and agony.

All that is good, but as gnarled professionals would say, platitudinal though they might sound, it is entirely different to recreate in real what you practise in training. There is the burden of history, the fear of the future, the angst of the present. A kick could vault them to the status of a national hero; a kick could push them down into the abyss of shame. Some of them have spilled it and sentenced themselves for a lifetime of guilt. Like Steven Gerrard, who was so disillusioned after the 2006 World Cup miss that he even considered quitting the game.

Southgate is an exception, he went digging to the root of the spot kick he missed, gleaned valuable lessons from it, and is trying to help his wards avoid the hurt he experienced. Under him, it reads 1-1 in World Cup and Euros. Which way the third might swing, if it comes to that point, could go a long way in eliminating a national neurosis, or it could pile on more agony and condemn them to another hundred years of painful solitude. It could, if England crash out in yet another shootout, make him tear all the theories and science of the shootout apart and say, "it's a lottery."

Balkan politics invades football field in Swiss celebrations

such acts cause controversy.

It was a cold Sunday, February 17, 2008. Temperatures had dipped to -10 degrees in the city of Prishtina, the capital of Kosovo, when people were hit by a pleasant surprise: the country had declared itself an independent state after war against Serb-dominated Yugoslav forces in the late 1990s.

There had been whispers for a while and it seemed imminent, but the people weren't sure about the date. Suddenly, they saw their Prime Minister Hashim Thaci appear on television and read out the independence declaration. Euphoria broke out in the country.

It hasn't been smooth sailing though. Forget Serbia, Kosovo isn't deemed an independent country even by India. Russia and China don't recognise it but the USA does — over 100 countries recognise it as a sovereign state but it's not a member of the United Nations. Serbia, of course, has resisted sovereignty.

It's in this context that the celebrations of the two Kosovo Albanian footballers in the Swiss team during the game against Serbia



Xherdan Shaqiri celebrates after scoring against Serbia. *Reuters*

need to be seen.

Their 2018 eagle salute isn't traditionally just restricted to Kosovo. Ethnic Albanians make the sign of pride all over Kosovo, Albania, Macedonia and in the diaspora. A few members of Switzerland's playing XI

have their roots in Kosovo.

Family history

Khaka, whose father was a pro-Kosovo activist and was reportedly tortured in jail in the late 80s by the Serbian regime, was the first to do the eagle salute in 2018 after scoring in the second half.

Khaka's father was imprisoned for seven years and on release, emigrated with his family to Switzerland. Khaka ended up playing for Switzerland while his brother Taulant plays for the Albanian national team.

When Shaqiri was four, his family moved to Switzerland just before war broke out. His father started by washing dishes in a restaurant before getting a job as a construction worker. His mother worked as a cleaner in office buildings. His brothers helped out by cleaning windows, and Shaqiri helped her with the vacuum cleaner. In 2012, when Switzerland played Albania, Shaqiri had flags of Switzerland, Kosovo and Albania on his boots.

Even before the 2018 World Cup, Shaqiri had posted a photo on his Instagram account displaying the boots he would wear. The flag of Switzerland was on the left boot's heel; on the right, there was the flag of Kosovo.

Kosovo's national football team was officially recognised by FIFA in 2016, and it provided an opportunity to Serbian striker Aleksandar Mitrovic to have a dig about Shaqiri's boots. "If he loves Kosovo that much and never misses a chance to flaunt the flag, why did he refuse a chance to play for their team?"

In 2014, in a Euro qualifier between Serbia and Albania, who visited Belgrade for a football match for the first time since 1967, a drone flew above the pitch in the 40th minute of the game. It lowered a flag, bearing an insignia of 'Greater Albania'. The flag was caught by Serbian defender Stefan Mitrovic but two Albanian players — Andi Lila and Taulant Khaka — intervened. Crowd violence followed, and the game had to be abandoned.

eye



SPOTLIGHT
Time's Telescope

Within the artificial caves of Pabhosha lie centuries-old tales of commerce and community



BOOKS

- Review of *Writers in Context* series, Vol I & II
- Review of Janice Parlat's *Everything The Light Touches*
- Review of Sharat Sabharwal's *India's Pakistan Conundrum*

On the 75th anniversary of the Progressive Artists' Group, a look back at how some of India's most well-known artists came together to explore the confluence of tradition and modernity and what their collaboration meant for Indian art

PAINTING A NEW WORLD

Vandana Kalra

A THIS Gurugram home, artist Krishen Khanna recalls one of his earliest interactions with MF Husain in 1948. The latter had seen his work at an exhibition at the Bombay Art Society organised by SB Palsikar and wanted to invite him to exhibit alongside members of the Progressive Artists' Group (PAG) at their upcoming exhibition at the Bombay Art Society salon. A young artist himself, Husain was already making an impression within the art fraternity, as were the other founding members of the PAG — KH Ara, HA Gade, SH Raza, FN Souza and SK Bakre. "It was a small art community then. I had seen their works and met them before," says Khanna. While he was accepted as a member of the group later, his association began soon after the 1948 meeting with Husain at his Churchgate home. "Sab dost the (we were all friends). We discussed everything, from art to family to politics or anything that bothered or interested us. Now, I am the lone survivor of that group, all my friends are gone," says Khanna.

In the month that marks the 75th anniversary of the PAG, Khanna, 97, is cautiously hopeful about the future of Indian art. "One thing about art is that it is not limited to one person. It's multidimensional. It continues to live more than anything else... I don't go around as much but I hope discussions between artists happen because that is what keeps the candle burning," says Khanna.

The most celebrated names of Indian art — who produced some of its most recognised works and continue to lead auction records — could have hardly imagined their global fame when the six young artists came together in December 1947 in Mumbai, with a desire to develop avant-garde art in independent India. They aspired to break away from the revivalist nationalism espoused by the Bengal School of Art as well as the course prescribed by cultural institutions founded by the colonial rulers. The pluralist perspective they nurtured was informed by diverse sources — from Mughal and Pahari miniatures to works of Western masters such as Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Claude Monet and Paul Klee. Its name, inspired by the Progressive Writers' Association which had been producing literature of socialist realism since the 1930s, was telling. In the catalogue for the group's first exhibition in 1949, Souza wrote, "Today we paint with absolute freedom for content and techniques almost anarchic... We have no pretensions of making rapid revivals of any school or movement in art. We have studied the various schools of painting and sculpture to arrive at a vigorous synthesis."

The aesthetics of the group was informed by the crossroads at which art in India found itself at the time. In volume 58 of *Art Journal*, in the essay titled "Modern Indian Art: A Brief Overview" (1999), art historian and curator R Siva Kumar writes, "The 1940s marked a turning point in the Indian attitude to modernism. This decade saw the emergence of artists group... who doubted the wisdom of striving for an indigenous modernism that bypassed modern Western art... The Bombay Progressive Group (1947) was last to be formed but represented the modernist assertion of this generation at its clearest."

Art historian Dr Zehra Jumabhoy, who curated "The Progressive Revolution: Modern Art for a New India", a 2018 exhibition at Asia Society in New York, dedicated to the PAG, notes how the group also posed a "visual counterpoint to founding Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's plea for unity in diversity". "It was a time of great intellectual ferment, and these artists genuinely embodied Nehru's vision of a secular India that was multi-religious and inclusive... For Muslims artists like MF Husain and SH Raza, it is particularly important to consider their commitment to the idea of India. Raza's family moved to Pakistan and his brother, Ali Imam, was vital in the formation of the Lahore Art Circle. Why did they decide to throw their lot in with the Indian national di-



COURTESY: THE RAZA FOUNDATION

ologue, to form an image code for this notion of an inclusive Indian-ness. Is there not something we can learn from them today?" she asks.

It was, perhaps, Raza himself who best described the vision of the founders of PAG in a 1984 interview in *Bombay Magazine*. He said, "What we had in common besides our youth and lack of means was that we hoped for a better understanding of art..."

Belonging to different parts of India and coming from varied backgrounds, the Progressives were unified in their vision for modernism but pursued independent artistic vocabularies. While Gade was one of India's pioneering abstract expressionists, Ara is known for his landscapes and female nudes.

If Souza's bold strokes borrowed from Goan folk, primitivism, cubism and expressionism, Raza's oeuvre included idyllic landscapes, abstracts and geometric forms. The only sculptor-painter in the group, Bakre moved from academic realism to abstraction. Husain's works, meanwhile, were a confluence of his varied interests, from Cubism to symbolism to mythology, folk and tribal art and the very ethos of India. "The group was truly representative of the Indian social fabric. Each one of them had a distinctive aesthetic vision and style but that did not come in the way of their warm-hearted camaraderie. This is remarkable and has not been seen before or after," says Ashok Vajpeyi, managing trustee, The Raza Foundation.

The group's foremost supporters were expats. Mumbai-based German art critic Rudi von Leyden and Austrian painter Walter Langhammer introduced them to the trends in European art, and Austrian connoisseur Emmanuell Schiesinger and German art historian Hermann Goetz were among their earliest patrons. Provided a space to exhibit their works by Kekoo Gandhi at his Chemould framing store that later became an art gallery, the artists were described as the 'heralds of a new dawn in the world of Indian art' by author Mulk Raj Anand. But not everyone was congratulatory. In a 1992 interview with



COURTESY: KIRAN NADAR MUSEUM OF ART

FRIENDS LIKE THESE

(Clockwise from top) Artists (first from left) SH Raza, (second from left) FN Souza; (from right) Tyeb Mehta, MF Husain, Abbasi, KH Ara, VS Gaitonde; untitled artwork by MF Husain; Raza's 1983 *Saraswathi*; Souza's *Crucifixion*, 1961; Krishen Khanna's *Ramuka Dhaba*, 1979



COURTESY: VADEHRA ART GALLERY

Yashodhara Dalmia, Husain recalled: "Some of the professors at the JJ (Sir JJ School of Art) used to tell students 'Don't mix with these fellows. They are destroying Indian art.'" The artists, however, were undeterred. They would meet at regular spots, from the bustling Marine Drive to Bombay Art Society and Chetana Restaurant, where Ara also had his first solo in 1942, and talk for hours.

While the group had held several informal exhibitions, its inaugural show was organised at the Bombay Art Society salon in 1949. Critical acclaim and public interest followed and many artists drifted in and out of their ranks. Some of the better-known ones who formed an enduring association included Khanna, VS Gaitonde, Ram Kumar, Mohan Samant, Tyeb Mehta, Akbar Padamsee, and its only woman member, Bhanu Rajopadhye. There was also a keenness to learn from the world. They would travel across India to explore artistic trends, and by the early '50s, three founding members moved abroad. Souza and Bakre were in London and Raza was in Paris. Husain began shuttling between Mumbai and Delhi. While that meant the gradual decentralisation of the PAG, Khanna asserts it did not imply dissolution. "It meant that people went to different places for jobs, opportunities," says Khanna.

As they worked and exhibited across the world, they invited attention and acclaim not just for themselves but also Indian art. The modernism they sought was realised and the bonds forged only strengthened over time. "We were always in touch, writing letters, staying at each other's houses when we were travelling. Akbar and Husain stayed with me in Delhi and Shimla. When I went to London for my first exhibition in 1959, Raza shared a list of people whom I should interact with. He took me on his scooter and introduced me to

people in Paris. Later, Akbar showed me around Paris. He came to New York when I was on a Rockefeller scholarship in the US, for which I'd recommended him," recalls Khanna.

In its active lifetime, the PAG only had a handful of formal exhibitions but its contribution to Indian art is enormous. "They created a unique Indian modernity that was full of plurality, bearing comradeship with the West, but remaining deeply Indian. No other group produced so many masters and their individual achievements are so astoundingly lofty that Indian art must be grateful," says Vajpeyi.

Like their art, their generosity is also legendary. "They were concerned about the younger generation. Remembering their own younger days, when they had to take up jobs to survive — Husain painted cinema hoardings and Raza did block printing — they wanted to offer assistance to the young," says Vajpeyi. Husain often obliged fans with a quick drawing on a paper bill or a napkin and Raza's home in Paris was always open for young Indian artists. Padamsee and Mehta were never shy of giving honest feedback. As a student at Sir JJ School of Art in Mumbai, Atul Dodiya remembers spending hours with Padamsee and Mehta at their studio and visiting Raza in Paris when he was on a scholarship at École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in the early '90s. "For me they were

superstars who influenced generations of artists... Not just art, Akbar and Tyeb would talk about philosophy, Italian writers, cinema. Whenever Raza would have a show in Mumbai, he always invited young students for the opening. When I was in Paris, he often invited me and (my wife) Anju for dinner. We discussed the Vedas, the Upanishads, and man's relationship with the cosmos," he says.

Though hailed as masters of Indian art, their idea of modernity has been described by some as derivative of the West, while the liberalism the Progressives proposed was also questioned at numerous junctures. In 1954, Padamsee fought a landmark court battle, that ended in acquittal, to defend nudes exhibited at his solo at Mumbai's Jehangir Art Gallery. On a self-imposed exile following persistent death threats from the Hinduva forces for his depiction of Hindu gods and goddesses, Husain died in London as a Qatari citizen in 2011.

Nothing, however, could overshadow the group's artistic achievements. The group continued to reinvent and experiment. While Husain was tapping diverse inspirations, Raza's iconic bindu was born in the '80s as a quest for a deeper understanding of Hindu iconography. In 1969-71, Padamsee set up an inter-art Vision Exchange Workshop, where artists and filmmakers could experiment across disciplines. "As an artist, I learnt one of my greatest lessons from Tyeb, who told me it is important to know what you should do but what is more important is to know what you should not be doing," says Dodiya.

This desire to explore still takes nonagenarian Khanna to his studio. "I work every day and it's hard at times, but I enjoy it," says the artist. Last week, as he interacted with the audience at Vadehra Art Gallery in Delhi, where his works from the '70s and '80s are on view at the exhibition "Beyond the Beginning" alongside Kumar, Husain and Raza, he was also their voice. At home, he treasures the files containing letters they'd exchanged. "There was not a painting that happened among any one of us that wasn't discussed at that time. I was very fortunate that I had such wonderful people with such wonderful insights into art in my life," says Khanna.



COURTESY: KIRAN NADAR MUSEUM OF ART



COURTESY: KIRAN NADAR MUSEUM OF ART



DOWN IN JUNGLELAND

RANJIT LAL Author, environmentalist and bird watcher



RANJIT LAL

PRIME MOVER

Soil keeps the whole of life ticking

The Good Earth

Let's just stop calling soil "dirt"

HOW MANY times have parents yelled at their kids, "Don't track dirt all over the floors!" Or, "Go and change those soiled clothes immediately!" And then, hauled them off for a disinfectant-laced scrub so that they emerge squeaky clean and the very antithesis of childhood? Dirt, mud, soil — well, they're yuck, right?

No right-minded child would agree. It's huge fun to play and splash in a muddy pond. Some adults are getting the idea too, as mud packs and mud-baths are used in spas where they charge thousands for something you can get free by going out after it rains and stomping around in puddles! Animals have known this for eons, be they elephants, hippos, zebras, or even your dog, birds, reptiles: nothing like a mud or dust bath for a glowing pest-free skin and complexion!

But really, we do so disrespect the one medium that keeps the whole of

and the respiration of the living organisms. Heat and humidity increase the rate of decomposition of organic material directly into carbon dioxide, which is why soils in tropical and subtropical regions have less sequestered carbon and are usually less fertile than those in temperate regions. This also happens when the soil is tilled and disturbed and one of the consequences of global warming is that even more carbon dioxide is likely to be released into the atmosphere by the soil.

Soil performs other functions: for one, everything we build has its foundations in the soil, and, of course, plants are supported by it, apart from which, soil provides them with air, water, nutrients, keeps the temperature from fluctuating, and filters out toxins. Living creatures, from the multitude of microbes, to insects, mammals, and reptiles live in the soil, and some, like earthworms, repay the favour, by aerating the soil so increasing the amount of oxygen in it.

It is, perhaps, the greatest recycler of all: processing and reprocessing nutrients so that they can be used over and over again and filters and stores water.

If we cut into soil like

we would into a layer cake, seven layers emerge, which have been labelled, O, A, B, E, C, and R; though most soils only have three: A, B and C. Each of these tells the story of the soil. Right at the top, O stands for the organic material — like dead, decaying leaves that lie right on the top — and which may not be present in all soils. A stands for the topsoil, comprising minerals and organic material; B is subsoil, which is rich in minerals that moved down; C, the deposit from the "parent" material which was deposited on the Earth's surface when the soil began to form and, finally, R, the solid base or bedrock comprising the parent granite, basalt, sandstone, or limestone, on which everything stacks up.

Like everything else, we're busy destroying our soil. We poison it, cut down the forests which hold it in place (and vice versa!) leading to erosion, bury it under our towns and cities, flood it or drain it, and stuff chemical fertilisers, pesticides, and herbicides into it.

But all is not lost. We proudly call farmers "sons of the soil" and our films are replete with thunderous dialogues referring to *iss dharti jis ki mitti se...* etc. But, let's just stop calling soil, dirt.

Soil is the greatest recycler of all: processing and reprocessing nutrients to be used over and over again

life ticking: soil, what many of us also call dirt. (Some scientists maintain that soil is alive, dirt is dead and, hence, different) Not only is soil alive, it keeps every living creature alive. Plants are one obvious example, and every living creature — vegan or carnivore depends on plants, and plants grow in soil, hydroponics notwithstanding.

So, what exactly is in the soil? Organic matter composed basically of potty (I wonder if that's where the term "potted plants" came from!), the remains of dead creatures, minerals, trillions and trillions of living microbes, water, and gas. Soil comprises 50 per cent solid matter (5 per cent organic matter, 45 per cent minerals) and 50 per cent of what are called "voids" — gases and water equally divided. The solid matter is transported, stored, and distributed around by water, microbial enzymes turn minerals and organic matter into nutrients plants need, and oxygen filtering through helps the microbial organisms to live and breathe.

Large amounts of carbon are stored in the organic matter, making soil serve as a magnum carbon sink, though some of this is released into the air as carbon dioxide due to decomposition



FINDING COMMON GROUND

The film highlights the struggle of the transgender community for their basic rights and acceptance in society

COURTESY: EKTARA COLLECTIVE

A Feeling Of Home

Ek Jagah Apni is the story of two transwomen, their search for a house and embracing their identity fearlessly

Alaka Sahani

FOR THE first screening of *Ek Jagah Apni* in October at an auditorium in Bhopal, Muskaan was wary of bringing her family members. While Muskaan, 39, who essays the role of Roshni, one of the film's protagonists, was thrilled to wear a sari and make-up for the screening, she was aware that her family would not be comfortable seeing her dressed as a woman. "My family still hasn't accepted me as a transwoman. Many people, including my relatives, continue to question my choices. Irrespective of that, I was excited that through the film, people would see the story of our community," she says.

Bhopal-based Ektara Collective's second feature film *Ek Jagah Apni* revolves around Laila (Manisha Soni) and Roshni, two transwomen characters, who are looking for a house to rent after they are evicted by their prejudiced landlord. The film, whose India premiere is scheduled for the International Film Festival of Kerala (opening on December 9), highlights the struggle of the transgender community for their basic rights and acceptance in society.

Its script developed from a series of conversations that co-writers Maheen Mirza and Rinchin had with Manisha and Muskaan. "While doing relief work during the pandemic, we met Manisha and she introduced us to Muskaan. During the lockdowns, the transgender community was badly hit," says Mirza. However, the film chose not to set the story during the pandemic as the discrimination they face is a regular occurrence.

Though the story is told from the queer and trans perspective, the search for a space of one's own is eternal. "Looking for a place to call home is also a metaphor, not just to find a safe space for all but also to create a space where stories like this can be told. In fact, everyone on our team connected with the film's title," says Rinchin. *Ek Jagah Apni* shows

Laila being torn between her true self and preserving links with the family she was born into. Meanwhile, Roshni treads a fine line between concealing her identity and living the life that she wants. Together, they overcome their hurdles, forge new friendships and find allies.

Since both Manisha and Muskaan have not completely come out, during the shoot there was always the fear of being targeted and recognised in public places. There were other queer actors in the cast, too. "Even though we had our concerns, the shooting turned out to be an empowering experience. This allowed them to stand their ground and force others to accept them as they are," says Rinchin. After Kerala, the film will feature at Mardi Gras Film Festival in Sydney, in February next year.

As shown in the movie, Manisha, a graduate, has worked as a teacher and counsellor, while Muskaan works as a cook to make a living

Mirza and Rinchin plan to hold more community screenings soon and are hoping for an OTT and theatrical release. The collective's first feature was *Turup (Checkmate, 2017)* tells the story of three women against the backdrop of an increasingly polarised society.

Though the first draft of *Ek Jagah Apni*'s script was ready in December 2020, they started filming around July 2021. The script draws heavily from the experiences of Manisha and Muskaan. Small wonder Mirza was clear about casting Manisha and Muskaan as the lead protagonists from the beginning. The cast, however, had to go through multiple workshops and rehearsals. Like their characters, Manisha and Muskaan share a friendship and have known each other for long. As shown in the movie, Manisha, a

graduate, has worked as a teacher and counsellor, while Muskaan works as a cook. However, unlike Muskaan, Manisha lives away from her family.

Some of the defining moments in the film show the characters embracing their true identity. For instance, Laila — who has a bank account in her previous name, Harish — chooses to let go of that identity even though she stands to lose money. "For us, it was the natural progression of their story," says Rinchin. Though there was a script, the story was not set in stone. It kept evolving. They even reshot a few scenes and added some more as the filming progressed.

One of the most poignant scenes in the film is also the most powerful. Roshni, who dresses as a man when she goes to work for an affluent family, is thrashed by her employer when he gets to know that she is a transgender and belongs to a lower caste. When his wife pleads with Roshni to withdraw her complaint, she refuses. "There was no dilemma or discussion regarding what Roshni should do. We all were in agreement that she shouldn't forgive. Marginalised people are often guilt-tripped into forgiving," says Mirza. This sequence is based on the harassment that Muskaan faced while working at the home of a top bureaucrat in Bhopal, who is a Brahmin.

Working on the film has boosted Muskaan's morale. "Mujhe ek nayi udaan mil gayi (I have found new freedom). I am happy that people are going to watch the film based on our life experiences," says Muskaan, who aspires to work in the social sector and be financially independent. That would help her to live on her own and support her late brother's daughters. Since Muskaan lives with her family, she has to keep up the facade of being a man. "While my immediate family still hasn't come to terms with my trans identity, I've found support in my cousin's daughters. They often suggest what I should wear," she says.

Ektara Collective is an independent group that collaborates with trained and untrained people to make films that are located in their realities. Mirza and Rinchin are part of its core team. While *Ek Jagah Apni* pushes the trans narrative in Indian cinema, they are happy that "so many people are standing up" for Saim Sadiq-directed Pakistani movie *Joyland (2022)*. "Joyland is truly a film reflective of our time. It shows us the way forward. It brings out all our stereotypes even though we think of ourselves as progressive," says Mirza. Their next feature, as a collective, looks at gender justice through a child's perspective.

Time's Telescope

Within the artificial caves of Pabhoshia lie centuries-old tales of commerce and community

Nayanjot Lahiri

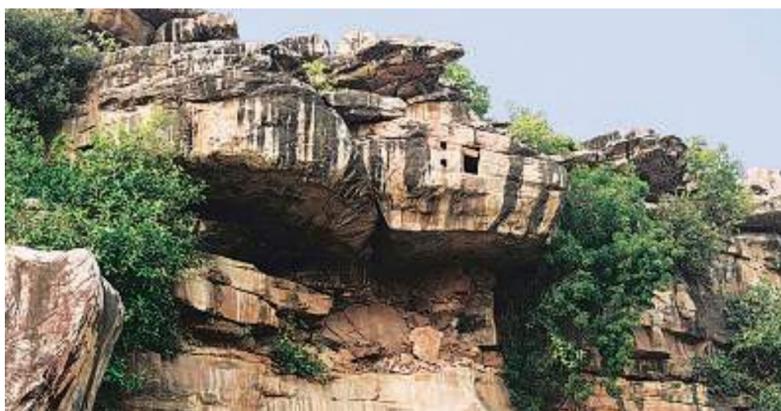
MY PROFESSION has taken me to many places to enjoy the pleasure of discovering something new about old landscapes and places, not always with logical reasons and plans. An overwhelming desire to understand the archaeology of forests was the reason why I began my research on the Bandhavgarh National Park and Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh. Having spent two years in understanding the ancient cave shelters there, several of which were financed by traders and ministers who came from Kausambi, a question that came up constantly in my mind was: Would Kausambi residents have seen caves of this kind in their neighbourhood, of the kind that they decided to create in Bandhavgarh?

Cities in antique north India are spread across a wide geographical arc with some like Taxila situated in the hills near Rawalpindi in Pakistan. There were other cities that were in the alluvial plains, Pataliputra being one of them, located along the river Ganga in Patna. Ancient Kausambi, not far from modern Prayagraj (Allahabad), is another metropolis

along a river, on the eastern bank of the Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh. It is one of the most imposing fortified city sites of India, whose vast brick-built sprawl has historic associations that include the Buddha and Emperor Ashoka. Having been there some years ago, there was nothing in its architecture or natural surroundings that suggested that traders and travellers from here would get caves created in the hills of Bandhavgarh.

What is not visible from the Kausambi ruins, though, is a hill that lies less than 10 kilometres from it, in the vicinity of the same river where the ancient city stands. Known as Pabhoshia, it was said to have the remains of an artificial cave created in the second century BCE. So, in early November, I set out to see it for myself.

The lie of the land here is simple: a spectacular arc of detritus brought down by a big river to create a flat tract, with islands of older rock occasionally rising out of the alluvial flatness. While there are some that lie to the south of the Yamuna, the Pabhoshia hill is perhaps the solitary rocky island which is north of the river, and rises out of the alluvium in the form of a large hilly mass leaning to one



SATYENDRA TIWARI

side. The entrance to the cave can be seen as you climb up the hill and is marked by a second century BCE epigraph along with a stone bed and pillow. This — the presence of a donative epigraph and *in situ* stone furniture in an artificial cave — is similar to what one sees in the Bandhavgarh caves. Unlike those caves, though, the Pabhoshia shelter is presently unreachable because the large rock outcrop below it, which provided access, has fallen. But surely, in ancient times, the residents of Kausambi would have been familiar with this cave and could well have interacted with the community that lived there.

HILL VIEW

Pabhoshia caves perched on a rocky island

As traders from Kausambi travelled towards the Vindhyan hills, they would also have encountered Bhiita, another big city on the plains a nodal route, one branch leading toward the hills. There were rich merchants and traders who lived in Bhiita and the ancient town planning with its streets and houses, excavated more than a century ago, are still visible. What is less known is that as with Kausambi, in the case of Bhiita, rock-cut caves exist in outcrops a couple of kilometres from it. Surely, some of those cave shelters would have been encountered by Kausambi wallahs on their way to Bandhavgarh.

As one studies the geographical expanse that make up the Indo-Gangetic plains, it is sometimes forgotten that hills do not just fringe the alluvial expanses on the north and the south, they can suddenly protrude out of flatlands. Inevitably, such hills have historic markers on them such as the caves that I was looking for. I now know that those from Kausambi who created the second century CE Bandhavgarh caves were acquainted with rock-cut dwellings in their immediate surroundings.

In order to protect the caves and inscriptions, that landscape of awkwardly protruding rocky eminences which has steadily been destroyed, needs to be conserved. In fact, looking at Pabhoshia, one is struck by the fact that while the cave is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), its accessibility has been compromised because the rocky landscape around it remains vulnerable. Modern temple structures have come up on the large hill which has also been subject, till some time ago, to stone quarrying. On the other hand, the Bandhavgarh caves are not protected by the ASI but by the forest department, and those shelters, as also the forested surroundings where they reside, have survived better because they are protected from relentless "development". Surely, if we have to conserve our historic heritage, the areas that surround them need to be proactively preserved.

Nayanjot Lahiri is the author of *Searching for Ashoka — Questing for a Buddhist King from India to Thailand* (Permanent Black)

In Their Tongues

A welcome and timely series that explores texts and contexts in translation and makes accessible the critical corpus of two leading figures in Hindi and Urdu literature in its first two volumes

Mini Chandran

HOW RELEVANT is the context to a text and its writer? Understanding the circumstances that mould a writer is, perhaps, only a supplementary element in the process of literary appreciation, but it undeniably facilitates a comprehensive understanding of the writer and the text.

The Routledge *Writer in Context* series on Indian writers has originated from this perspective. Needless to say, it is a very welcome and timely step in the publishing of Indian-language literature in translation, for what it offers through the anthology, is a combination of the writer's works and their critical appraisal. Although Indian language literatures, or *bhasha* works, are steadily being brought out of their regions through translations, the critical corpus in the *bhashas* is yet to be made accessible to readers in other languages. It is this lacuna that the Routledge series addresses very effectively; what makes these books invaluable to the researcher and the reader are the translations of critical works on the writers by critics in their languages.

The first books in the series are on two feisty writers who were leading figures in the languages they wrote in — Krishna Sobti in Hindi and Joginder Paul in Urdu. Sobti, as the title of the book *Krishna Sobti: A Counter Archive* indicates, was the author of works that challenged and changed the conventional notions of mainstream literature and literary writing. There was nothing normative about her life and work, and they exemplified her statement: "The romance of life is not in a straight line. Things would go stale if that were to happen."

The Krishna Sobti anthology, edited by Sukrita Paul Kumar and Rekha Sethi, consists of five broad sections — translations of Sobti's fiction, her major works of non-fiction, critical perspectives on the writer in English as well as translations from Hindi, interviews with Sobti, and personal reminiscences by other writers. An entire sub-section is very appropriately devoted to what is perhaps the most important in her oeuvre, *Zindaginama*. The critical essays by Priyadarshan and Rekha Sethi (written originally in Hindi) give us an idea of what the writer meant to the Hindi literary world.

Sobti was revolutionary in her writings, boldly exploring the limits of language and sexuality at a time when very few women writers dared to do so, especially in Hindi. The most eloquent work in this respect is her *Mitro Marjani*, published in 1967. But this revolutionary spirit did not fortunately limit her to categories of the woman writer or feminist writer. Rather, what we see in her is an androgynous spirit that prompted her



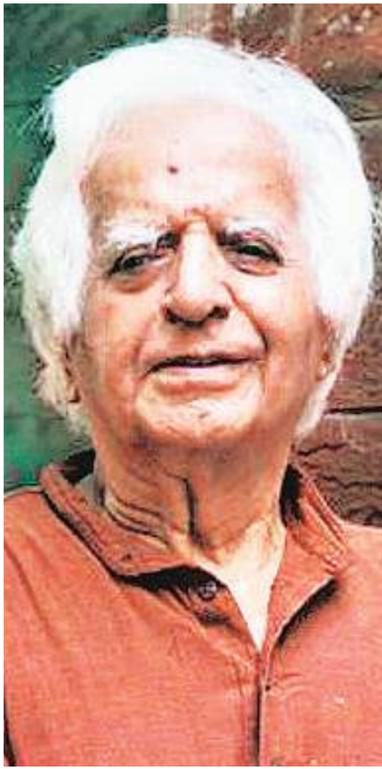
EXPRESS ARCHIVE

to write *Hum Hashmat* in the male voice. As explained by the editors in their Introduction, "she wanted to create within herself an androgynous self; she wanted to have an alter ego or a self that would give her another perspective from within."

It is interesting to note the coincidental similarity of this with Virginia Woolf's concept of the androgynous mind which is "woman-manly" or "man-womanly".

The Joginder Paul anthology titled *Joginder Paul: The Writerly Writer* is edited by Chandana Dutta and is organised around similar lines as the Sobti volume. Borrowing the term from French literary theorist Roland Barthes, the editor in her preface describes Paul as a 'writerly writer' who leaves his texts open-ended, thereby allowing the reader greater freedom in the reading process.

Paul, like his contemporary Sobti, lived through the harrowing experiences of the Partition, which moulded his literary writings to a great extent. His migration to Nairobi in Kenya after marriage added another dimension to his writings, which was of a cosmopolitanism



ROUTLEDGE INDIA

WRITING LIVES

(Left) Krishna Sobti; Joginder Paul

that we rarely find in an Indian language writer. For instance, his anthology *Dharti ki Kaal* is the first Urdu story collection about Africa. Like Franz Kafka, who wrote in German in Czechoslovakia, Paul's decision to write in Urdu about Kenya brings to mind the numerous debates that have arisen with respect to the choice of language, especially in the Indian context. Paul's conscious preference of Urdu over English validates many Indian *bhasha* writers' conviction that only the mother-tongue can convey the depth of emotions.

Paul is the inheritor of the Urdu literary legacy handed down by writers such as Saadat Hasan Manto, Ismat Chughtai and Krishan Chander, and like in the works of most of these Partition writers, the nation is a looming presence in many of his works, too. For instance, the extract "The Story of India" from a longer work of the same name, points to how tradition and a highly developed historical consciousness can be counter-productive: "The pressure of acidity caused by excessive consumption of ancient legacy has rendered our national masters too impatient for bal-

anced movement, so we, whose steps depend entirely on whatever they decide to do, keep following them in their painful acrobatics". The prescience of this observation cannot be lost on us readers in contemporary India.

Another noteworthy contribution of Paul was his championing of the genre called the Urdu *afsanche*, or very short stories. It can be seen as a precursor of the flash fiction of today. Paul went on to author four collections of *afsanche*. As American poet-translator Christopher Merrill observes in his essay, each of these very short stories raises existential doubts that usually "a Zen koan can provoke".

Both volumes maintain a judicious balance between fiction and non-fiction by the writers, supplementing it with critical essays. However, even as we concede that translations of lengthy texts are impossible in a volume of this sort, some of the translated texts appear too sketchy and do not do justice to the creativity of the writer. This is true especially in the Paul anthology.

Some of the critical essays in both volumes are originally written in English. It would have been better if English had been kept out of it altogether, considering that critical material in English is relatively easily accessible. Nonetheless, one advantage of the juxtaposition of English with translated material is that we get a comparative perspective of the writers through the critical lens of their *bhashas* and English. The influence of Western critical idiom is apparent, however, in the titles of both books — Jacques Derrida in "counter archive" and Barthes in "writerly writer".

But these are very minor irritants in what is a stupendous exercise of capturing the essence of two prolific writers in rather slim volumes. The editors Paul Kumar and Sethi (Krishna Sobti) and Dutta (Joginder Paul) have done this commendably. They have also taken care to include personal reminiscences by friends and family, which add a touch of warmth to what would otherwise have become a scholarly but dry critical appraisal. It should also be mentioned that despite the nod to western critical lingo in the titles, the books are in themselves written in critically rigorous language that is refreshingly jargon-free.

One hopes that these volumes have only opened the doors to what will be a long and exhaustive series on Indian language writers, for they provide exactly what researchers and scholars in Indian literatures have long been frustrated about — the fact that there lies beyond the veil of an unknown language, a veritable treasure-house of knowledge. They provide the valuable key to unlock and retrieve the luminaries of the multiple Indian literary worlds.

Mini Chandran is professor of English, department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Kanpur



EVERYTHING THE LIGHT TOUCHES
BY JANICE PARIAT
Harper Collins
512 pages
₹799

World of Wonders

Janice Pariat's new novel is a masterclass in storytelling

Anuradha Vellat

DURING HIS expedition to Lapland in 1732, Carl Linnaeus, the Swedish botanist, writes about the uncertainty upon entering "a cave formed by nature": Not everything the light touches can be seen. A little earlier, he jots down another keeper of a sentence: The starting point must be to marvel at all things, even the most commonplace. In essence, these simple sentences form the crux of Janice Pariat's third and latest novel — *Everything the Light Touches* — that weaves together four stories from different geographies and timelines, bound by a love for the flora, a bone of curiosity and, at the centre of which is a growing concern about the erosion of nature itself.

We are introduced to Shai in the first installment, who lives in the present and returns to Meghalaya after being out of a job in New Delhi. It is evident that she is trying to find herself at home, between a suspicious mother and benign father. She grounds her quest in the remote Jaintia hills, where her old nanny has taken ill, among a tribe of people who resist the invasion of their mountains from the forces of capitalism. Shai finds herself at the cusp of folklore, about angered mountain spirits, taking shape in a modern world.

The second installment brings us to Evelyn, a student of botany from Cambridge who is now sailing to India from England in 1911. Evie, as she is fondly called, is part of the "fishing fleet". She has to pretend to be on the lookout for a suitable husband, from the range of English officers posted in India. Alongside, she has to curtail her curiosity of being deeply interested in an expedition near Assam, in the wettest region of the world. Goethe's philosophy appeals to her, to not categorise things and consider their individuality.

Then comes the German philosopher and writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's expedition to Italy in 1787, which later establishes him to the world, and to himself, as someone with an affinity for plants, for things that take root. Through seasons, changing landscapes and engaging conversations with his peers, Goethe and his narrator urge us to subvert the analytical mind that longs for uniformity.

In the middle comes Carl, the oldest of them all, whose notes during the expedition are presented to us as short verses, sometimes humorous and joyful, sometimes earnest and philosophical.

In each installment, Pariat shifts her writing to suit the vocabulary, geography, ethos and spirit of the historical placement of her characters. It is no coincidence that each story sets sail with the protagonist travelling, especially to find what might be a "root". Pariat also brings to the fore the need for an old-school wisdom that does not violate one's personhood. This is evident in the way the two women protagonists, the only ones who are also fictional, Shai and Evie, seek and speak of Oin and Grandma Grace, respectively. For Shai, Oin, her nanny, is the person that nurtures her and for Evie, Grandma Grace is the person from whom she learnt how to nurture, by looking at how she tends to plants. The wisdom these women impart also reflects the personhood they may have been denied.

It is not surprising that simplicity means the same thing for a writer and a reader: to write structured sentences that explain life's strangest philosophies and tie it together in a story using short, unembellished words; to read lines that connect the dots between one's most complicated lived experiences and the joy of finding them translated into words that fit. To be a simple writer is to also be a simple reader, which Pariat gives us a masterclass in. A deeply therapeutic novel, *Everything the Light Touches* individualises ways of seeing without making the self too important. Additionally, Pariat also looks at parts, including human emotions, not as derivative but as coexisting forces.

Pariat is an interdisciplinary writer with a truly modern approach to her writing and she brings this to her writing without disconcerting her reader. Her approach to this style is also cleverly taken from a non-linear understanding of history thoroughly supported by a set of anomalous characters.

SHELF LIFE

Finding Home

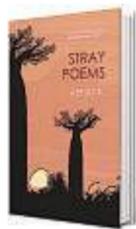
POET-DIPLOMAT Abhay K's latest collection, *Stray Poems*, cannot be categorised into a single theme. There are poems that are descriptions of places, like the ancient Nalanda and the traveller Hiuen Tsang's journey to it and its modern resurgence, as well as the Tiger's Nest Monastery in Bhutan. Along with these, there are poems that are odes to all the planets and more "earthly" matters, such as work and even love.

The Partition of the Indian subcontinent and the accession of Kashmir into India is described in *The Partitioned Land*, inspired by TS Eliot's, *The Waste Land* (1922). The poem begins with: "August is the deadliest month, bringing/hatred out of the ancient land, mixing/partition memo-

ries and hope, stirring/passion with monsoon rains..."

It also describes the history and strategy of "the shrewdest politician in the British Empire, Lord Mountbatten", and ends with the topical — given that this year is the 75th anniversary of the cataclysmic Partition that remains a traumatic and divisive memory even today — lines: "Oh! the colonial masters, they are not your friends, / don't keep them forever, with their beaks/ they will partition the ancient land again/ chanting — Mea culpa, Mea Culpa!"

Abhay continues with the repercussions of conflict and war with two other poems, *The Fire Sermon* and *Diplomacy*, that are inspired by Eliot as well, yet brings his unique style of adapting current sur-



STRAY POEMS
BY ABHAY K
Paperwall
Publishing
106 pages
₹400

roundings to the poems through the power of his imagery. Additionally, the fact that life goes on and people go about with their mundane lives despite the tragedies happening in other parts of the world is brought out in *The Fire Sermon* and reminds one of WH Auden's *Musée de Beaux Arts* (1939).

The other unique set of poems is about the working life of a bureaucrat — an officer *babu*, a topic usually not found in poetry! The poem, *Bureaucrat*, is particularly biting in its humorous satire and descriptions of the power hierarchy that will be familiar to anyone who has dealt with official-babudom in any manner. Consider these lines: "Here comes the bureaucrat/ through the betel-stained corridors of power/ of Kama-Bhawan/ wearing his well-groomed smile.../ Bare Saheb enters office/ (the first kind act of the morning)/ Salam sa-

heb, the lowly peon greets meekly/ good morning Sir, knights the personal assistant/ Sir...Sir...Sir... parrot subordinates..."

Another poem that describes the work routine but with a shift of tone is *Work*. Dedicated to the American poet, Natasha Trethewey, it describes the routine drudgery of a 9-5 job, somewhat like her collection, *Domestic Work* (2000), and its titular poem that describes the life of women as domestic workers.

All in all, the collection makes for an interesting read, and one is glad that these 'strays' got a home after all!

JONAKI RAY

Jonaki Ray is a poet, writer, and editor based in New Delhi. Her poetry collection, *Firefly Memories* (Copper Coin Publishing) and chapbook, *Lessons in Bending* (Sundress Publications) are forthcoming in 2023

Lines that Divide

Former High Commissioner to Pakistan, Sharat Sabharwal's insightful new book explores the nature of the state in Pakistan and how it impacts its relations with India

Rajen Harshé

THE BOOK under review, written by a scholar-diplomat, reflects on the nature of the state in Pakistan and explores intricately complexities between India and Pakistan. As a practising diplomat, Sharat Sabharwal had literally grappled with several intractable problems between the two countries as he served in Pakistan as Deputy High Commissioner (1995-99) and High Commissioner (2009-13) of India. Sabharwal initially unravels the nature of Pakistan's polity, society and economy before dealing with a wide range of bilateral issues in Indo-Pakistan, including border and water disputes, the status of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), cross-border terrorism, hurdles in trade ties as also Pakistan's external ties with the US, China and the Islamic world.

Thanks to its acceptance of the two-nation theory, Pakistan emerged as a religion based, geographically non-contiguous state that was built on the plank of anti-Indianism. The complexities within Islam has prompted Sabharwal to write about Sunni Wahabism, Deobandi seminaries and the status of Shia and Ahmadi sects. Most of the regimes in Pakistan have deployed Islam as an instrument of nation building. Simultaneously, education was equally used as a tool to write history that deliberately created a sense of hatred for India. In essence, Pakistan aggravated the difference with India by playing identity politics that divides people, according to Sabharwal, between "us" and "them".

The army that has functioned like "state within the state" was keen to manage the clerics and the role of the religion because it has been an overwhelmingly powerful state organ. It exercised control over the Inter-

Services Intelligence (ISI), the diverse terrorist outfits including the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), alias Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) and the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) as well as the Taliban regime (1996-2001) in Afghanistan. In essence, Pakistan used terror as an instrument of state policy. The army personnel also showed interest in business through Pakistan's largest business conglomerates like Fauji Foundation Trust and Army Welfare Trust. Since the army's capacity to twist political actors has been self-evident, there is imbalance in civil-military power in Pakistan. The side effects of the army dominance also are perceptible in illicit exchange of drugs for arms, the impact of drug culture causing seven million drug addicts amid the radicalisation of Pakistani society.

Sabharwal has succinctly drawn "ethnic fault lines" in Pakistan where Punjabi ethnicity is playing a dominant role while the pop-



INDIA'S PAKISTAN CONUNDRUM: MANAGING A COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP
BY SHARAT SABHARWAL
Routledge India
228 pages
₹995

ulations belonging to Sindh, Balochistan, Muhajir community, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the erstwhile Bengal (before 1971) were marginalised. Inability to delineate powers between the Centre and units in a federal arrangement has led to continued tensions and even insurgencies in Pakistan.

Pakistan's economy has been characterised by low growth, high inflation, high debt service ratio and inadequate foreign exchange reserves. To bail its economy out, Pakistan has relied on either an external power like the US or funding agency like the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Further, Sabharwal has critically discussed Pakistan's reluctance to grant Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to India and its penchant for blocking transit routes to India. Evidently, neither Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) nor Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline projects have got off the ground.

While Pakistan's ties with the Islamic world are cordial, it has had "transactional" relations with the US in different times. Similarly, owing to Sino-Pak entente, China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is on the anvil as a part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India is opposed to CPEC because China wants to build a road via Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Sabharwal observes

that the status of J&K and the trifurcation of the J&K after the amendment in the Indian Constitution of the Article 370 no longer resonates in the elections in Pakistan.

Sabharwal believes that promoting trade between the two countries can be a game changer but it is harder to arrive at a solution of any bilateral issues because both India and Pakistan are nuclear powers. Besides, attacks from Pakistan based and sponsored terrorist outfits continue to destabilise India. However, due to Sabharwal's intrinsically sober disposition, the book gives clinical treatment to all themes without being critical of either politicians or the governments on either side. Hence the writing, at times, does not have sufficient bite. For instance, critical understanding was required of the events like the release of three terrorists after the hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight IC814 in 1999, Mumbai attacks of 26/11 in 2008, the surprise visit of Modi to Pakistan in 2015 and the Pulwama attack of 2019. On the whole, the work is excellent and an indispensable reading for scholars, diplomats and policy makers.

Rajen Harshé is former vice-chancellor, Central University of Allahabad, and a leading scholar in African and International Affairs

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता
मध्य गंगा नहर निर्माण खण्ड-10
बुलन्दशहर

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या-09/ई0/2022-23

महात्मा गांधी स्मारक चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के वेबसाइट (http://upgov.nic.in) तथा सिंचाई विभाग की वेबसाइट (http://www.irrigation.up.in, http://www.idup.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है। वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड करने के लिए निविदा प्रपत्र के साथ भी सलाम रहेगी, ताकि शासन की मंशा के अनुसार प्रतिक्रिया बनी रहे।

UPID-182466 Date 02/12/2022
www.upgov.nic.in

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता
मध्य गंगा नहर निर्माण खण्ड-10
बुलन्दशहर

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या-07/ई0/2022-23

महात्मा गांधी स्मारक चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के वेबसाइट (http://upgov.nic.in) तथा सिंचाई विभाग की वेबसाइट (http://www.irrigation.up.in, http://www.idup.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है। वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड करने के लिए निविदा प्रपत्र के साथ भी सलाम रहेगी, ताकि शासन की मंशा के अनुसार प्रतिक्रिया बनी रहे।

UPID-182519 Date 02/12/2022
www.upgov.nic.in

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता
मध्य गंगा नहर निर्माण खण्ड-10
बुलन्दशहर

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या-07/ई0/2022-23

महात्मा गांधी स्मारक चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के वेबसाइट (http://upgov.nic.in) तथा सिंचाई विभाग की वेबसाइट (http://www.irrigation.up.in, http://www.idup.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है। वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड करने के लिए निविदा प्रपत्र के साथ भी सलाम रहेगी, ताकि शासन की मंशा के अनुसार प्रतिक्रिया बनी रहे।

UPID-182519 Date 02/12/2022
www.upgov.nic.in

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
(A GOVT. OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
REGIONAL OFFICE, VIBHUTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW-226010
Phone: (0522) 2720566, 2720827, 2720761, 2720866
Website: www.cwacornic.in E-mail: mlko@cwacornic.in

PRESS NOTICE Date: 02.12.2022

CWC invites on-line tender from the contractors for the following work:

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Last Date of On-line Submission
1.	Upgradation & other miscellaneous works at RWC, Yamuna Bridge Agra (NIT_RO-LKO/Engg-Agra/22-23/27T)	1,74,99,166.00 (Inclusive GST)	15.12.2022

Detailed Tender Notice along with conditions of contract and Notice Inviting E-Tender may be seen and downloaded from the CWC website: www.cwacornic.in or e-tender website: www.cwacorpocorp.com or CPP Portal http://eprocure.gov.in/securebidding. Further Clarification/Amendment to this Tender, if any, will be published on above websites only. Press advertisement in Newspapers shall not be issued for the same. REGIONAL MANAGER

UJVN Limited
H.O. :- "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No. 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SG020896, Website: www.ujvnf.com

R.O. No. 879 e-Tender Notice Dt. 03.12.2022

Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G) Dhalpur Power House, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :-

Tender No. :- 10/EE/M&G/DLR/2022-23
Name of services: Supply of one number 132/11 KV 20 MVA Generator Transformer for (3x17 MW) Dhalpur Power Station, Dehradun.
Estimated cost : Rs. 5,55,00,000/- (GST Extra)
Date of availability of bid document on website : 08.12.2022
Last date for submission of tender on website: 27.12.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://tenders.gov.in"
[Executive Engineer]

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

प्रार्थार्य का कार्यालय,
महात्मा गाँधी स्मारक चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, जमशेदपुर।

-: अल्पकालीन ई0-निविदा सूचना :-:
पत्रांक संख्या-एम0सी0/स्वा0/06/2022 दिनांक-03/12/2022

क्र0 सं0	क	ख
1	कार्य का नाम	इस चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के MRU में विभिन्न प्रकार के जॉय एवं अनुसंधान की निरंतरता एवं आवश्यकता अनुसार (DHR) MohFW, New Delhi के मादरदू के अंतर्गत आवश्यक मशीन/उपकरण क्रमांक-HPCL System and CLIA की आपूर्ति एवं अधिष्ठाता हेतु विदेशी वर्ष 2022-23 के लिए निविदाकारों से ई0-निविदा आमंत्रित।
2	ई0-निविदा प्रकाशन कि तिथि	दिनांक- 05.12.2022 को पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे तक
3	Pre-Bid Meeting	दिनांक- 07.12.2022 को अपराह्न 11:30 बजे।
4	ई0-निविदा Online Upload करने की तिथि	दिनांक- 05.12.2022 को पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे तक
5	ई0-निविदा Online Upload करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक- 22.12.2022 को अपराह्न 4:00 बजे तक
6	ई0-निविदा शुल्क अग्रिम राशि (EMD) एवं तकनीकी/वित्तीय निविदा की सौलभ्यता वस्तुविक्रि प्रति (Original) जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि (By Speed Post/Registered Post/By Hand)	दिनांक- 22.12.2022 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
7	ई0-निविदा खोलने की तिथि	दिनांक-24.12.2022 को अपराह्न 11:30 बजे
8	संस्कार /अग्रिम राशि (EMD)	₹0- 50,000.00 (सारे पचास हजार) मात्र बैंक ड्रफ्ट, या राष्ट्रीय बचत प्रमाण-पत्र (Refundable) (EMD) In Favour of Principal, M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur, payable at Jamshedpur
9	ई0-निविदा शुल्क (Tender Fee)	₹0-5,000.00 (सारे पाँच हजार) मात्र का बैंक ड्रफ्ट (Non-Refundable) as a Tender fee In Favour of Principal, M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur, payable at Jamshedpur
10	निविदा जारी करने वाले प्रदाता/कार्य का नाम एवं पता	प्रार्थार्य, एम0सी0एम0 मॉडेल कॉलेज, जम शेदपुर, डिमना रोड, जमशेदपुर, झारखण्ड, 831020 (अधिकारी)
11	संपर्क दूरभाष संख्या (क्रय अधिकारी)	0657-2360859

नोट :-ई0-निविदा केवल ई-टेंडर के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किया जाएगा। संबंधित HPCL System and CLIA मशीन/उपकरण की अतिरिक्त जानकारी महाविद्यालय के सूचना-पट्ट एवं वेबसाइट-<http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर भी उपलब्ध है।

प्रार्थार्य,
महात्मा गाँधी स्मारक चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, जमशेदपुर।
PR 284136 (Health Med Edu and Family Welfare) 22-23 (D)

U.PRAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD
HARDUJANJ THERMAL POWER STATION,
KASIMPUR (ALIGARH)

E-Tender Notice

Superintending Engineer, MMC, Kasimpur.

1. Short Term E-Tender No.: 63/MMC/DTPS/HTPS/2022, Online e-bids for "Supply of spares for Seals for Hot air Gates and Dampers for O&M of Unit No. 8 & 9, DTPS, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 23.11.2022 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost of Rs. 3092756.00. Earnest money is Rs. 52000.00. Last date of tender 08.12.2022 (16:00 Hrs).

2. SET No.: 71/MMC/DTPS/HTPS/2022, Online e-bids for the works of "Supply of Castable Refractory and Pourable Refractory for HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 28.11.2022 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost of work is Rs. 505071.00. Earnest money is Rs. 8500.00. Last date of tender 13.12.2022 (16:00 Hrs).

3. ET No.: 72/MMC/DTPS/HTPS/2022, Online e-bids for the works of "Procurement of I-Beam section for cooling tower of unit No. 8 & 9 DTPS HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh) Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 01.12.2022 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost of work Rs. 920400.00, Earnest money is Rs. 15000.00. Last date of tender 30.12.2022 (16:00 Hrs).

4. E-Tender No.: ET-69/MMC/PD/ETPS/HTPS/2022, Online bids are invited for "Procurement of Dolomite Lime for Effluent Treatment Plant 1x660MW HTPS Kasimpur. E-Tender uploaded on 01.12.2022 on 18:00 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost is Rs. 2,36,000.00, Earnest money is Rs. 4000.00. The last date of tender 26.12.2022 (14:00).

5. E-Tender No.: ET-70/MMC/PD/ETPS/HTPS/2022, Online bids are invited for "Procurement of Log Boks & Log Sheets for W&WWTP, FDPS & IDCT, 1x660MW, & stationary items for DTPS, HTPS, Kasimpur. Tender will be uploaded on 01.12.2022 on 18:00 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost is Rs. 192339.00, Earnest money is Rs. 3200.00. The last date of tender 26.12.2022 (14:00).

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-I, D'TPS., KASIMPUR.

6. E-Tender Notice No. ET-07/O&M-/ICAMD/DTPS/HTPS/2022-23, Online e-bids are invited for "The Routine Maintenance of 5 Nos. air compressors installed at 2x250MW and 2 Nos. air compressors installed at 1x110MW, including assistance in their break down maintenance and AMC at DTPS HTPS Kasimpur (Aligarh)." E-Tender will be uploaded on 01.12.2022 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost of work Rs. 367560.00, Time period: 12 months. E.M.D. cost: Rs. 7200.00 Last date of tender 06.12.2023 at 14:00 Hrs.

note- Tender SET-63/ET-71/ET-69/ET-70/ET-72 Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers/their Authorized Dealer can participate in this tender.

Note- Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal, Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part- I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part-II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website www.uprvnl.org. The contactors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/ Division. Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)
पत्रांक : 47 /अपीअपी(गु) /विज्ञापन/कैम्प-1(40)/22 दिनांक 30.11.2022
"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"

SALUTE THE SOLDIER
BRAVEHEARTS OF 5/1 GORKHA RIFLES
04 DEC



Capt K K Gaur, Lnk Man Bahadur Thapa, Rfn Lok Bahadur Rana, Rfn Jasbir Gurung, Rfn Ran Singh Magar, Rfn Ganga Bahadur Thapa

On this day 55-22338 Capt K K Gaur, 5034235N Lnk Man Bahadur Thapa, 5037372N Rfn Lok Bahadur Rana, 5038440M Rfn Jasbir Gurung, 5038491A Rfn Ran Singh Magar and 4162657N Rfn Ganga Bahadur Thapa of 5/1 Gorkha Rifles made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP CACTUS LILLY-1971' on 04 Dec 1971 during the Battle of DARSANA in a true act of valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their courage and valour. To these bravehearts we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirit and make their names proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 5/1 GORKHA RIFLES

BATTLE HONOUR 'SUADIIH' 04 DEC 1971



Today, 51 Years later, with great humility as well as pride, we remember 2/Lt Bharat Singh Kasana, Vir Chakra (Posthumous) and 13 other gallant sons of 'NINTH THE ULTIMATE' who embraced martyrdom to create our history. The battle cry "Jwala Mata ki Jai" charged the atmosphere at Suadih in erstwhile East Pakistan on 4th December 1971 as launched an attack in broad daylight on a well entrenched enemy. In the bloody battle that followed, 14 gallant sons of the Battalion made the Supreme Sacrifice to ensure the victory for the Battalion. For this valiant action, the battalion was awarded the battle honour 'SUADIIH'.

THEY MADE THE BATTALION PROUD

2/Lt Bharat Singh Kasana, Vir Chakra
Sub Onkar Singh
Hav Janak Singh
Nk Roshan Lal, SM
L/Nk Diwan Chand
L/Nk Deputy Singh, SM
L/Nk Ram Chander, SM

Sep Jagdish Singh
Sep Sher Singh
Sep Janak Raj
Sep Janak Singh
Sep Harman Singh
Sep Paras Ram
Sep Bharat Singh

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Ms. Archana Verma @ Archana, R/o. KID-22, Lilput - Shop No. B-33, Rajouri Garden, Vishal Cinema Road, Block-B, Vishal Enclave, Tagore Garden Extn., Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **CC No. 6998/20 U/s 138 NI Act** registered at P.S. Janakpuri, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Ms. Archana Verma @ Archana** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ms. Archana Verma @ Archana** has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Ms. Archana Verma @ Archana** accused of **CC No. 6998/20 U/s 138 NI Act P.S. Janakpuri, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **02.01.2023**

By Order
Ms. Aakashda,
Metropolitan Magistrate (NI Act)-07,
Room No. 214, 2nd Floor,
South West District,
Dwarka Courts, New Delhi

DP/3433/WD/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Hakim @ Tohir S/o Musobir R/o H.No. Saleem Ka makaan 1st Pusta New Usmanpur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 247/18 u/s 457/380/411/34 IPC at PS: Zafraabad, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Hakim @ Tohir** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Hakim @ Tohir** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person **Hakim @ Tohir of FIR No. 247/18 u/s 457/380/411/34 IPC at PS: Zafraabad, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **05.01.2023**.

By order
Sh. Bharat Aggarwal
Metropolitan Magistrate-05
Room No.: 48,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/3364/NE/2022

WESTERN RAILWAY UNIFIED COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE WORK

Sr. DSTE(Co./J)BCT invites Tender No.: WR-SnT-STTD-23-2022 dated: 02.12.2022. Department: Signal & Telecomm. Name of Work: Implementation of unified communication infrastructure comprising IPMPLS LAN infra, VOIP exchange, IP based control communication and replacement of UTN Over Western Railway. Cost of Work: Rs. 979121179.83. Particular office where E-tender open: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer(CO), 2nd Floor, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008. EMD (Bid Security) : Rs. 5045700. Validity of Offers: 90 Days, from the date of opening. Type of E-Tender: Open E-Tender. Time & Date for Pre Bid Conference: At 10.30 hrs. on 16.12.2022. Time & Date for closure for submission of E-Tender Documents: At 15.00 hrs. on 17.01.2023. Time & Date for opening of E-Tender : After 15.30 hrs. on 17.01.2023. The tender can be viewed at web site <http://www.irops.gov.in>. 0632

Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice no.: 2022-23-06-HRT-M-ABS-FIBA Date:-29.11.2022

For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Hamaut invites open e-tender for the following works as detailed:-

- Name of work with its location : "FIBA Modification of Air Spring LHB Coaches" at Carriage Repair Workshop, Hamaut." 2. Approx. cost of the work : ₹62,53,056/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Fifty Three Thousand Fifty Six only). 3. Cost of Tender Form: Nil. 4. Earnest Money to be deposited : ₹1,25,100.00 (Rupees One Lakh Twenty Five Thousand One Hundred Only). 5. Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of Tender : The tender have to be submitted online on <https://www.irops.gov.in> website up to 11:00 hrs. on 20.12.2022 and will be opened on the same day at 11:15 hrs. 6. Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria & tender documents can be seen from the CRIS website: <https://www.irops.gov.in> & full details of notice can be seen on notice board in the office of Chief Workshop Manager, Administrative Building, Carriage Repair Workshop, Hamaut, Nalanda, Bihar - 803110. All corrigendum will be uploaded on website if required.

Dy. Chief Mech. Engineer/CRW/ECR/Hamaut
PR/01614/HRT/Mech/JT/22-23/44

WESTERN RAILWAY SURVEY & CONSTRUCTION E-TENDER NOTICE

CONSTRUCTION OF BROAD-GAUGE LINE E-TENDER NOTICE No. Dy.CE(CJII/ADI/HMT-KDBM/EPC/01

Construction of Broad-Gauge Line between Himmatnagar (HMT) Kms.01.000 (including) to Kheobratma (KDBM Kms.55.168) (Including) (54.168 Km) covering all Civil Engineering works (i.e. Earthwork, Blanketing, Side Drains, Retaining Wall, Construction of all Important/Major/Minor Bridges, ROB/RUBS/LHS, Level Crossings, Complete Track Works, Ballast Supply and other Civil Engineering works) of Ahmedabad Division on Western Railway in connection with Himmatnagar-Kheobratma Gauge Conversion Project. (2) Approx. Cost of the work: ₹ 333,40,24,734.66 (3) Earnest Money to be deposited : ₹ 1,66,70,100.00 (4) Completion Period : 24 (Twenty-Four) Months (5) Last date of Request for Bid Document: 16-01-2023 at 11:00 Hrs. (6) Bid Due Date : 16-01-2023 at 11:00 Hrs. (7) Physical submission of all documents listed in Clause No.2.11.2 : 20-01-2023 upto 15:00 Hrs. (8) Opening of Technical Bids : 23-01-2023 at 11:00 Hrs. (9) System of Tender : Two Packet System. (10) Website particulars Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen & address of the office: Website: www.irops.gov.in Office of Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction) III, Western Railway, 2nd Floor, Nirman Bhavan, Near DRM's Office, Asarva, Ahmedabad. 36

Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, केन्द्रीय भण्डार, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, जल भवन, 'बी' ब्लॉक, नेहरू कालोनी, देहरादून।

ई-निविदा सूचना दिनांक: 03.12.2022

उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान की ओर से केन्द्रीय भण्डार, देहरादून द्वारा निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा, टूट-बिड रिस्कर (हामकोबी बिड एवं कार्मिथियल बिड) आधार पर निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा सं.	कार्य विवरण	धरोहर धनराशि रु.	ई-निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा अपलोड करने की प्रारम्भिक तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा सूचना क्रमांक एवं प्रारम्भिक तिथि एवं समय	हामकोबी बिड रिस्कर एवं कार्मिथियल बिड की तिथि एवं समय	निविदा की वैधता की तिथि एवं समय	ट्रि-बिड की तिथि एवं समय
11/22-23	वाफिफर प्रपत्र पर, Tamper proof water meters as per standard conforming to IS:779-1994/IS:2373-1981/ISO: 4064 with EEC/MID or ISI certification mark shall be with protection class of IP68 with 2 years warranty anywhere in Uttarakhand की आपूर्ति।	11,00,000.00	06.12.2022 11:00 AM	15.12.2022 11:00 AM	22.12.2022 05:00 PM	23.12.2022 11:00 AM	120 days at 11:00 AM	12.12.2022 at 11:00 AM

अर्हता:- 1. Only manufacturers having EEC/MID or ISI certification mark license for water meters and factory as per standard conforming to IS:779-1994/IS:2373-1981/ISO: 4064 certificate holder or dealers authorized by the manufacturer are allowed to participate in this tender. 2. The preference will be given to the water meter manufacturers. Manufacturer must have supplied minimum 10000 water meters to government/semi govt/WPU in last seven years ie 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.

ई-निविदा से सम्बंधित समस्त जानकारियां व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://ujls.uk.gov.in> पर ऑन लाइन देकर/प्राची की जा सकती है। अधिशासी अभियन्ता

ARMY WAR COLLEGE (AWC), MHOW (M.P) PIN-453441

1. Army War College is undertaking contract for "Outsourcing of services for operation and AMC of the equipment's held in Hub Auditorium, AWC, Mhow (M.P)". Interested Parties may visit the AWC from 1000 hrs to 1300 hrs upto 15 Dec 2022 to visualise the requirements for the contract or call at 9823021933 or 8359986015.

2. The desirous parties are required to submit a detailed quotation for the same contract. This quotation would be utilized for earmarking of benchmark cost of the project. The detailed quotation for the job should be submitted by 1300 hrs on 15 Dec 2022.

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD
PARICHHHA THERMAL POWER PROJECT, PARICHHHA JHANSI

E-Tender Notice

1. E-Tender- N-PAR/C/OMC5/CHD4/6000000766_00 "Repairing, reconditioning and fabrication work of various materials of Coal Handling Plant of 2x210 MW and coal unloading plant of 2x110 MW PTPP, Parihha for a period of One Year." Estimated Cost Rs. 38,75,568.00 EMD Rs. 40,000.00 e-bid Submission dt.: 16-12-2022 up to 04:00 PM.

2. E-Tender- N-PAR/B/MMC1/PD1/6000000739_00 "Portable Inflatable Emergency Lighting Tower System." Estimated Cost Rs. 2,50,000.00 EMD Rs. 3,000.00 e-bid Submission dt.: 19-12-2022 up to 02:00 PM.

NOTE:- Total Quality of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender document available on the e-tender portal our website www.etender.up.nic.in and uprvnl.org. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time.

पत्रांक : 466 /टीएफसीडी-प्र0/पीडीपी/ दिनांक 03.12.2022
"Save Electricity for Nation"

उपग्रह जल विद्युत निगम लि0 शुद्धिप (अच्छ)

पुनः ई-निविदा सूचना :-

एतद्वारा निगम हित में इस कार्यालय द्वारा प्रकाशित ई-निविदा सूचना सं0 टी-09/EGD/MZN/2022-23 जल विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड मुजफ्फरनगर के अन्तर्गत, चित्तौड़ा जल विद्युत गृह की मशीन सं0-02 के अनुसंधान का कार्य एवं टी-10/EGD/MZN/2022-23 सलगा जल विद्युत गृह की मशीन सं0-01 के अनुसंधान का कार्य को अपरिहार्य कारणवश पुनः आमंत्रित किया जाता है। वेबसाइट पर निविदा स्वीकार करने तथा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि/समय 07.12.2022/18:00 बजे तक किया जाता है। तथा निविदा का प्रथम भाग खुलने की तिथि/समय को 08.12.2022/13:00 बजे किया जाता है। अन्य नियम व शर्तें पूर्ववत् ही रहेगी। निविदा से सम्बंधित समस्त सूचनाएं <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध हैं। अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, 195-पुल नगर, नई मण्डी, मुजफ्फरनगर। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव"

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)
पत्रांक : 47 /अपीअपी(गु) /विज्ञापन/कैम्प-1(40)/22 दिनांक 30.11.2022
"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग झारखण्ड, राँची

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा, (तृतीय आमंत्रण)

Tender reference No-DWSD/Cluster/GRIDIH-I/19/2022-23 Dt. 02-12-2022

Sl No	Name of work	Sub Cluster/ Group No	Block	Estimate Cost (in Lac)	Earnest money (in lac)	Cost of Boq (in Rs.)
1	Construction of Solar Based Mini water Supply Scheme (SVS) IN Different Block, comprising of suitable steel structure & HDPE Water Tank / R.C.C./ Framed structure ESR, Distribution Line, Source and FHCT all complete job in the Different block of District Giridih under Drinking Water & Sanitation Division No-1, Giridih for the year 2021-22 (on Turn key basis)	9A	Jamua	844.43	8.45	10000.00
2		9B	Jamua	729.37	7.30	10000.00
3		11C	Deori	853.98	8.54	10000.00
4	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि				09 माह	
5	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि				05-12-2022 at 02:00pm	
6	प्री-बोड बैठक का स्थान एवं तिथि				अभियंता प्रमुख का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची। दिनांक 07-12-2022 at 12:30pm	
7	बिड प्रारंभ के लिए अंतिम तिथि/समय				23-12-2022 at 05:00pm	
8	निविदा की हार्ड कॉपी जमा करने की तिथि/समय/स्थान				24-12-2022 upto 05:00 pm 1. कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्र0 सं0-1, गिरिडीह या 2. अधीक्षण अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता, धनबाद या 3. क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, दुमका प्रखेत्र, दुमका।	
9	बिड खोलने की तिथि/समय				26-12-2022 2:00pm	
10	निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता				कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्र0 सं0-1, गिरिडीह।	
11	प्रोक्वोरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या				7870778158	
12	ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाइन संख्या				0651.2480345	

किसी भी प्रकार का बदलाव <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। अन्य किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। निविदा में प्राकृतिक राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है। तत्पश्चात् अग्रधर की राशि मान्य होगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
PR 284132Drinking Water and Sanitation(22-23)#D पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्र0 सं0-1, गिरिडीह।