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## PROPERTY DAMAGE SC pulls up UP, warns it will quash recovery notices in CAA protests

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

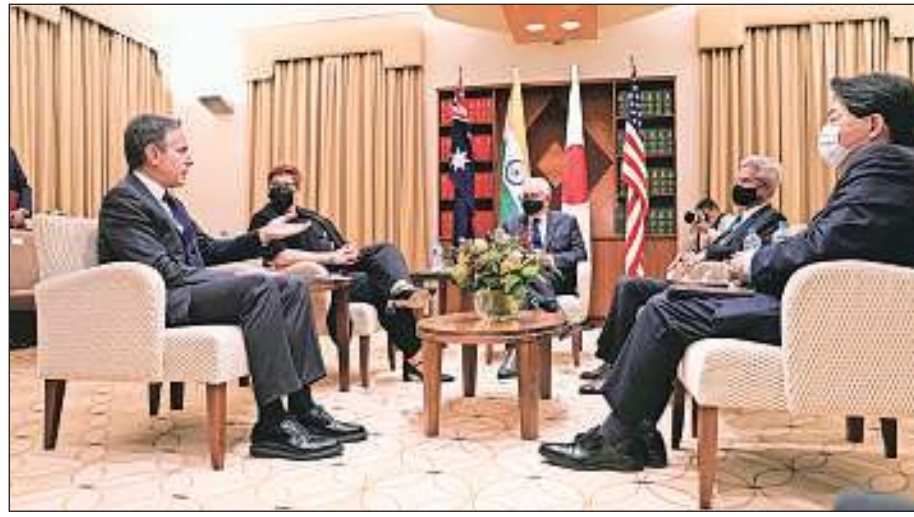
THE SUPREME Court Friday pulled up the UP government over recovery notices to pay damages for destruction caused to public property during protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in December 2019, before it had brought a law on this in 2021, and said that they were in contravention of guidelines laid down by the court.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and Surya Kant took exception to the fact that Additional District Magistrates (ADMs) and not judicial officers, as mandated by the apex court,

had adjudicated these notices. "You have become complainant, you have become adjudicator, and then you are attaching property of the accused," Justice Surya Kant told UP Additional Advocate General Garima Prasad. "When we had directed that adjudication has to be done by a judicial officer, how is ADM conducting proceedings?" asked Justice Chandrachud.

The court's reference was to its 2009 ruling that the claims commissioner who will estimate damages in such cases and investigate liability will be a judge. The apex court had reiterated this in a decision in 2018.

On Friday, the court said that



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison with (from left) Antony Blinken (US), Marise Payne (Australia), S Jaishankar (India) and Yoshimasa Hayashi (Japan) at the Quad meeting of foreign ministers in Melbourne on Friday. AP

## Quad: India tough on China, silent on Ukraine, cautious on Myanmar

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar joined counterparts from US, Japan and host Australia at the meeting of Quad Foreign Ministers in Melbourne Friday to send a clear signal to Beijing, underlining their pursuit

of a "shared vision" to uphold "a rules-based international order, free from coercion — one based on respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty".

But after the meeting, Jaishankar took a slightly nuanced position in public than the three other Foreign Ministers — US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken, Australian Foreign

Minister Marise Payne and Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi — on at least two important issues: the Russia-Ukraine row and the Myanmar issue.

On Myanmar, Jaishankar pointed to the challenge of insurgency along the Indo-Myanmar border, and recalled the recent

## HC SAYS NO RELIGIOUS DRESS Hijab: SC says will step in at appropriate time

Petitioners say HC interim order suspends Art 25; don't spread it to larger levels: CJJ

ANANTHAKRISHNAN & JOHNSON T A  
NEW DELHI, BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 11

ON THE day the Karnataka High Court put its observations on the hijab issue in its interim order, reiterating its call for classes to reopen and students to attend without wearing any religious dress, the Supreme Court declined to grant urgent listing for an appeal against the interim order and asked the petitioners not to "spread" the controversy to "larger levels".

On Friday, responding to Senior Advocate Devadatt Kamat, who requested that a Special Leave Petition filed

EXPRESS NETWORK  
KARNATAKA TO DELAY OPENING OF COLLEGES  
PAGE 12

against the High Court's interim order be taken up urgently, Chief Justice of India NV Ramana said: "I don't want to express anything. Don't spread these things to larger levels... We also know what is happening there in the state as well as in the hearings also. And you also have to think over whether it's proper to bring those things to Delhi, national level issues and all that."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

WORLD



## U.S. TO SPLIT FROZEN AFGHAN FUNDS BETWEEN 9/11 VICTIMS, RELIEF

## Industrial growth fell to 10-month low at 0.4 per cent in December

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT slumped to a 10-month low of 0.4 per cent in December, dragged down by manufacturing, capital goods and consumer durables output along with an unfavourable base, according to data released Friday by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

In absolute terms, the general index level of the Index of

## EXPLAINED Wait until March

IIP GROWTH in Dec 2021 is the lowest in 10 months, with manufacturing continuing to be a major drag. The full impact of the recent curbs may get reflected only in the industrial output data next month.

Industrial Production (IIP) was higher than pre-pandemic levels seen in December 2019, but experts cautioned that the full impact of the restrictions in view of the Omicron variant of the Covid-19 pandemic may get reflected in the industrial output data next month.

The IIP had registered a growth of 1.3 per cent a month ago and 2.2 per cent in December 2020.

The biggest drag for the

EXPRESS NETWORK

KASGANJ CUSTODY DEATH: HC ORDERS EXHUMATION OF BODY, AUTOPSY AT AIIMS-DELHI PAGE 12

## For 2 Gurgaon families, seconds spelt disaster: 'Just went to answer phone'

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA & SUKRITA BARUAH  
GURGAON, FEBRUARY 11

BOTH WOMEN were inside the safety of their homes, with loved ones, when tragedy struck. A large portion of the sixth floor collapsed all the way down to the first floor at Chintels Paradiso

society's tower 'D' in Gurgaon's Sector 109, killing Ekta Bhardwaj (40) on the second floor and Sunita Srivastava (55) on the first floor, on Thursday.

"She had just entered the drawing room to answer the phone. Within seconds, it all came crashing down. It's tragic," said Ekta's husband, Rajesh Bhardwaj, on the basis of whose

complaint police have now filed an FIR against the Chintels MD, Ashok Solomon, under IPC Sections 304-A (causing death by negligence) and 34 (common intention).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REPORTS  
PAGE 4

BUSINESS AS USUAL  
By UNNY  
A cartoon illustration showing a person sitting at a desk with a sign that says "To repay when I'm successful, please pass this paper."

## In run-up to Punjab elections, sons become poster boys for candidates across party lines

MANRAJ GREWAL  
SHARMA  
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 11

WHILE PRIME Minister Narendra Modi may call dynasties the biggest enemies of democracy, some candidates, cutting across party lines, are using the Punjab Assembly polls to not-so-subtly introduce voters to their political heirs.

Enter the industrial town of



Posters of Cong and BJP candidates with their sons. Express

Batala, home to the late poet Shiv Kumar Batalvi, and you will be greeted by big hoardings of

Congress candidate Ashwani Sekhri and his arch opponent, BJP's Fateh Jung Bajwa. One fea-

ture common to both is the picture of their progenies on the posters. While Sekhri's posters have photos of his son Abhinav, Bajwa is joined by his two sons, Kamwar Pratap and Arjun Pratap. In the neighbouring constituency of Fatehgarh Churian,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Bihar eyes 'scan tunnels' at border to check liquor smuggling

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, FEBRUARY 11

WITH AT least 60 people losing their lives after consuming illicit liquor over the last four months and over 1.93 crore litres of alcohol seized in over five years since prohibition was enforced in the state, the Bihar government is considering the use of "scan tunnels" to prevent liquor smuggling from adjoining states of UP, Jharkhand and West Bengal, and from Nepal.

"We will soon put forward a Request for Proposal (RFP) to build a scan tunnel each at border points in Dobhi and Rajauli (Jharkhand to Bihar), Gopalganj and Bhabhua (UP to Bihar) and Dalkhola (Bihar to West Bengal)," a senior Excise department official told *The Indian Express*.

The installation of five scan tunnels is estimated to cost over Rs 100 crore, he said. "Since the UP and Jharkhand routes are used most often for liquor smuggling, the scan tunnels can be of big help. If any vehicle takes a detour to avoid the tunnel, those routes too will have police presence," said the official.

The official said that Excise and prohibition enforcement teams are already using drones to track illegal liquor manufacturers in the state.

"A scan tunnel would be like a large artificial corridor through which a truck or any other vehicle carrying goods will be asked to pass. It will work like the scanning system installed at airports but on a much larger scale since

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### HOW A RARE EARTH DEPOSIT FUELLED TRAVANCORE'S DREAMS OF INDEPENDENCE AND LATER POWERED INDIA'S ATOMIC PLANS

The narrative as presented by the makers of Rocket Boys does shed light on the lesser-known story of Travancore's Thorium reserves and its bid for independence

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India's role in the quest to save them

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In this episode, Aditya Munjal, the CEO of Hero Electric, joins host Nandagopal Rajan to discuss the e-bicycle space in India.

## FROM PAGE ONE

### Quad meeting

incident in which a Colonel and his family that included a child were killed in an ambush by militants. He also stressed that India is against "national sanctions". The US has imposed sanctions on a number of leaders of the Myanmar junta.

He maintained complete diplomatic silence on the Russian threat to invade Ukraine, while Blinken said there are "troubling signs of Russian escalation, including new forces arriving at the Ukrainian border" and that they are "in a window when an invasion could begin at any time, and that includes during the (Winter) Olympics in Beijing".

Australia's Payne expressed "very deep concerns about the Russian military build-up on Ukraine's border" and Australia's "strong support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity".

Japan's Hayashi said Ukraine was discussed during the Quad meeting and "sovereignty and territorial integrity" have consistently been supported by Japan.

Asked to comment on the recent meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping, Jaishankar said: "I would just add that as my colleagues have observed, we are for something, not against somebody." The issue of Ukraine was not part of the Quad Foreign Ministers' joint statement either.

Myanmar, however, figured in the joint statement: "We remain gravely concerned about the crisis in Myanmar and call for an end to violence, the release of all those arbitrarily detained, including foreigners, and unhindered humanitarian access. We reaffirm our support for ASEAN efforts to seek a solution in Myanmar and call on the military regime to urgently implement ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus and swiftly return Myanmar to the path of democracy. We encourage the international community to work together to support an end to the violence."

After the meeting, Blinken said: "I think it is painfully obvious that the developments there are deeply, deeply troubling, and deeply troubling to all of us. We have seen the junta double down on repression, on violence."

Jaishankar, in his response to questions, said: "I think we all agreed on the importance of the democratic transition which was underway in Myanmar. And clearly, the fact that the country has moved in a different direction is something which troubles all of us. We all, I think, also very strongly back the ASEAN position on Myanmar and their efforts to engage."

"But we are concerned, India is concerned as an immediate land-border neighbour. We have some very specific concerns on Myanmar which also guide our thinking, concerns about insurgents operating there who some months ago killed a very senior military officer and his family; concerns about Covid and the lack of vaccination on our common border; concerns about a humanitarian situation which is arising from food shortages."

"So I think those are also concerns which we take into account, and where we are concerned we don't follow a policy of national sanctions," he said, making it clear that it doesn't support US policy on sanctions on Myanmar.

Hayashi confirmed that leaders of the four Quad countries, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be holding a summit in Japan in the first half of this year.

Jaishankar said: "As leading democracies, we pursue our shared vision of upholding a rules-based international order, free from coercion—one based on respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, rule of law, transparency, freedom of navigation in the international seas and peace-

ful resolution of disputes."

The Quad statement also talked about "terrorism and violent extremism" and stated: "We denounce the use of terrorist proxies for cross-border terrorism and urge countries to work together to eliminate terrorist safe havens; disrupt terrorist networks and the infrastructure and financial channels which sustain them; and halt cross-border movement of terrorists. In this context, we call on all countries to ensure that territory under their control is not used to launch terror attacks and to expeditiously bring to justice the perpetrators of such attacks."

"We reiterate our condemnation of terrorist attacks in India, including 26/11 Mumbai and Pathankot attacks," it said, adding that they reaffirmed UNSC Resolution 2593 (2021) that "Afghan territory should not be used to threaten or attack any country, shelter or train terrorists, or plan or finance terrorist acts, with such ungoverned spaces being a direct threat to the safety and security of the Indo-Pacific".

On vaccines, the statement said: "As we enter the third year of the Covid-19 pandemic, Quad partners have collectively provided more than 500 million vaccine doses. Together, we have pledged to donate more than 1.3 billion vaccine doses globally. We are pleased with the Quad Vaccine Partnership's rapid progress in expanding vaccine production at the Biological E Ltd facility in India, which aims to deliver at least 1 billion vaccines by the end of 2022. We look forward to the delivery of the first batch of Quad-supported vaccines in the first half of this year."

### SC warns UP

UP will have to show "how did ADMs supervise these notices prior to the legislation" and added that "you have to show that notices issued before the Act were not in contravention to Supreme Court directions".

"We will quash these notices and then you are at liberty to take action as per the new Act. Proceedings, which are pending, will be under the new law. You tell us next Friday what you want to do and we will close this matter for orders," the bench said.

"You have to follow the due process under the law. Please examine this, we are giving one opportunity till February 18," said the bench.

"This is just a suggestion. This plea concerns only a set of notices sent in December 2019, in relation to one kind of agitation or protest. You can withdraw them with a stroke of a pen...236 notices in a big state like UP is not a big thing. If you are not going to listen, then be ready to face the consequences. We will tell you how Supreme Court judgments need to be followed," said Justice Surya Kant.

The court was hearing a plea by Parwaiz Anif Titu, who had approached it in January 2020 seeking quashing of notices sent to alleged anti-CAA protesters by district administrations for recovering losses caused by damage to public property during the protests. The petition contended that the notice was in violation of the Supreme Court's 2009 and 2018 rulings.

UP Additional Advocate General Prashad cited a 2011 Government Order regarding the setting up of Claim Tribunals. But the Supreme Court bench pointed out that the Allahabad High Court had disapproved this in 2011 following which the state had promised to bring in a law and took eight to nine years to do so.

Prashad told the bench that the state had come up with the Uttar Pradesh Recovery of Damages to Public and Private Property Act in 2021, which had a clause that saves earlier decisions. She said that after the Act, all cases have been sent to tribunals con-

## Hijab row: HC says no religious dress, SC says will step in at appropriate time

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Karnataka, said: "Exactly, that's our purpose...Let us not make it political, let us not make it communal. Let the High Court decide the Constitutional plea."

Kamat is representing students from Udupi against the hijab ban before a full bench of the Karnataka High Court, which is scheduled to take up the matter again on Monday for a full hearing on the legal issues raised.

The Supreme Court proceedings took place before the High Court's interim order was uploaded. However, Kamat urged the apex court to take up the matter since it involved legal issues that it must examine. "Definitely, we will examine. Definitely, if there is something wrong, we will definitely protect. We have to protect the Constitutional rights of everyone," the CJ said.

As Kamat sought to explain the issue involved, the CJ told him that there is "no need to go into the merits". "Let us see. At the appropriate time, definitely we will interfere. Let us see when we have to," the CJ said. Kamat urged the bench to list the SLP for hearing on Monday but CJ Ramana reiterated: "We will take up at appropriate time. Leave it to us."

Earlier, after pointing to the SLP, Kamat said: "I would say it's rather strange. The High Court says none of the students

should disclose any religious identity when they go to school or college. This has far-reaching implications not only for the Muslim community, but also other faiths. For example, Sikhs wear turbans when they go to schools or colleges. The High Court, by an ad-interim order and in the midst of arguments, says that we direct that all the students should go without disclosing any of their religious identity. Our respectful submission is in this effect is a complete suspension of Article 25 (freedom of religion) as far as our clients are concerned. So Lordships may kindly hear us as to what is the interim arrangement."

At this point, the SG said that "the order has not yet come out", prompting the CJ to say "wait, let us see". Kamat contended that the matter "has far-reaching implications" and said "all the colleges have been closed" and that "whatever interim arrangement your Lordships decide will be acceptable to everyone".

The CJ reiterated that the Supreme Court will take up the matter "at an appropriate time".

In the Karnataka High Court, a day after it concluded the previous hearing by expressing its intent to pass an interim order, a full bench said it was "pained" over the agitations for and against the hijab ban and said the "right to free-

dom of religion was not absolute".

In the seven-page interim order, the full bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, Justice Krishna S Dixit and Justice J M Khazi stated: "The interest of students would be better served by their returning to the classes than by the continuation of agitations and consequent closure of institutions. The academic year is coming to an end shortly."

It said: "Elongation of academic terms would be detrimental to the educational career of students especially when the timelines for admission to higher studies/courses are mandatory... In the above circumstances, we request the state government, and all other stakeholders to reopen the educational institutions and allow the students to return to the classes at the earliest."

The full bench said that pending consideration of the petitions, "we restrain all the students regardless of their religion or faith from wearing saffron shawls (bhagwa) scarfs, hijab, religious flags or the like, within the classroom, until further orders".

It said the order "is confined to...institutions wherein the College Development Committees have prescribed the student dress code/uniform."

Referring to protests over

the issue, the High Court said: "Firstly, we are pained by the ongoing agitations and closure of educational institutions since the past few days, especially when this court is seized of this matter and important issues of Constitutional significance and of personal law are being seriously debated."

It said: "It hardly needs to be mentioned that ours is a country of plural cultures, religions and languages. Being a secular state, it does not identify itself with any religion as its own. Every citizen has the right to profess and practice any faith of choice is true."

It also said the right to freedom of religion was not absolute. "However, such a right not being absolute is susceptible to reasonable restrictions as provided by the Constitution of India. Whether wearing of hijab in the classroom is part of the essential religious practice of Islam in the light of Constitutional guarantees, needs a deeper examination," the High Court said.

"Ours being a civilized society, no person in the name of religion, culture or the like can be permitted to do any act that disturbs public peace and tranquility. Endless agitations and closure of educational institutions indefinitely are not happy things to happen. The hearing of these matters on an urgent basis is continuing," the full bench said.

stituted under it, and that these were headed by retired District Judges.

Prashad said proceedings against rioters had been happening since 2011 and that if the court sets aside the notices, all those adjudicated will also seek relief.

But Justice Chandrachud said: "We are not concerned with other proceedings. We are concerned with only the notices, which have been sent in December 2019, during the CAA protests. You cannot bypass our orders. How can you appoint ADMs, when we had said it should be by judicial officers. Whatever proceedings were conducted in December 2019 was contrary to the law laid down by this court."

Last month, The Indian Express in a two-part investigation analysed 46 such recovery orders issued by the Additional District Magistrate (Lucknow East) and found a pattern, which showed the administration played not only prosecutor but judge and jury as well to assess damage, estimate cost, bring charges, and fix liability with many of the accused not even getting a hearing.

In Kanpur, the investigation found 15 families, mostly of daily wagers ranging from a tonga driver to a milkman, who paid Rs 13,476 each to the district administration for their alleged role in the protests. None was aware of how their share of payment was arrived.

Former IPS officer SR Darapuri and Congress leader Sadaf Jafar, who were among those who received recovery orders from the ADM (Lucknow East), welcomed the Supreme Court's remarks. Both of them were among the 46 who were each issued recovery orders with the same amount—Rs 64.37 lakh—as per what the ADM, controversially, said was the "doctrine of joint and several liability". Both of them had denied that they were present at the site of the protests.

Jafar, who is contesting the UP polls from Lucknow (Central), described the notices as "illegal and

unconstitutional". Darapuri said: "The procedure followed by the UP government to serve notices to us was against the apex court guidelines. I am glad the court has established the rule of law, and I am hoping that it will soon quash the proceedings on its own when the matter is heard next."

(WITH ENSLUCKNOW)

### Industrial growth

Industrial output in December came from the 0.1 per cent contraction in manufacturing output, which accounts for 77.6 per cent of the weight of the IIP. Manufacturing output had grown 0.8 per cent in the previous month and 2.7 per cent a year ago.

Weak consumption and investment also weighed on the industrial output. Capital goods, an indicator of investment, contracted 4.6 per cent in December as against a contraction of 2.0 per cent a month ago and 2.2 per cent growth a year ago.

Consumer durables output contracted 2.7 per cent in December as against 5.4 per cent contraction a month ago and 6.5 per cent growth a year ago, while consumer non-durables output contracted 0.6 per cent compared with 0.5 per cent growth a month ago and 1.9 per cent growth a year ago.

Mining output grew 2.6 per cent in December as against a growth of 4.9 per cent a month ago and 3 per cent contraction a year ago. Electricity output recorded a growth of 2.8 per cent in December compared with 2.1 per cent a month ago and 5.1 per cent a year ago.

During April-December this fiscal, the IIP grew 15.2 per cent against a 13.3 per cent contraction in the same period last year.

The short-lived Omicron wave and mobility restrictions could impair industrial output further in January. However, rapid control of new infections, and the removal of activity curbs means the economic recovery could resume from February onward," Rahul Bajoria, Chief India Economist, Barclays said.

Successive monthly data of industrial output is making it abundantly clear that consumption demand will need policy makers' attention much more than hitherto being given if recovery is to become a sustainable one, India Ratings said.

"Also the continued weakness in capital goods does not augur well. Although there are indications that finally private corporate investment is picking up but the same has yet to find a reflection in the IIP data," Sunil Kumar Sinha, Principal Economist, India Ratings and Research said.

Economists said the weakness in industrial output on the back of contraction in capital goods, consumer durables and consumer non-durables add heft to the MPC's decision to remain growth supportive in light of the incomplete recovery.

"Capital goods contracted in YoY terms, as well as relative to the pre-Covid level, highlighting the tentativeness in the investment cycle. In line with our expectation, the recent RBI release indicates a capacity utilisation of 68% in Q2 FY2022, which we expect will improve to 71-72% in the ongoing quarter despite the third wave, but not be enough to trigger a pickup in the private capex cycle," Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA said.

The Reserve Bank of India, in its monetary policy Thursday, had kept the key policy rates unchanged citing "an accommodative stance as long as necessary to revive and sustain growth on a durable basis" and continue to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on the economy, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target going forward.

### Poster boys

Alkali Dal candidate Lakhbir Singh Lodhinagal has also ensured that his son Kanwar Sandeep Singh Sunny, who's returned from Canada to campaign for his father, gets pride of place on his hoardings.

It's the same with his rival, senior Congress minister Tript

Rajinder Singh Bajwa, who has ensured a prominent place for his son, Ravi Nandan Bajwa, on his hoardings. Earlier, in December, there was speculation that Ravi, chairman of Gurdaspur zila parishad, may contest as an Independent from Batala where his father has done a lot of work. But the Congress high command reportedly persuaded him to sit back. Tript is now making sure that Ravi remains in the public gaze through his posters.

At Dera Baba Nanak, home to the Kartarpur Sahib corridor, State Home Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa ensures you cast a look at his only son, Uday Vir Singh Randhawa, who is still studying but occupies a place on the posters. Uday Vir Singh Randhawa, an undergraduate, is the youngest among these poster boys campaigning for their fathers.

Many of these sons have taken baby steps into politics. Pritam Kothbhai, sitting Congress MLA and candidate from Bhuch Mandi near Bathinda, who was booked in a chit fund scam in 2018, reportedly wanted to pass on the mantle to his son, Rupinder Pal Singh, a young advocate and Youth Congress member. Rupinder may not have got the ticket but his father has put him on his hoardings.

Jaspreet Singh Dhillon, sarpanch of Aribhan village near Dera Baba Nanak, says it's a new trend in the state. "They are clearly promoting their sons as their political successors, it was never done so openly in the past," he says.

Bhupinder Pal Singh, member, Subordinate Services Selection Board, who also noticed this phenomenon in the border belt of Majha for the first time, says it's just the candidate's way of saying "there are so many of us to serve you."

Others like Jaspal Sidhu, a journalist at Bhuch Mandi, call it the "AAP effect". "AAP has more following amongst the youth. This is a clever way to attract youngsters among the voters, but it

could backfire as it gives the impression of perpetuating family rule," he says.

Politics runs in the family for the Bajwas of Batala. Satnam Singh Bajwa, father of Fateh Jung Bajwa -- who switched from Congress to BJP after his elder brother Rajya Sabha MP Partap Bajwa was given the family seat of Qadian -- was killed by terrorists in 1987.

"I have been campaigning since I was 10 years old," says Fateh's younger son Arjun Partap, whose social media handles profile him as a supermodel with a business administration degree from Lancaster University (UK). He's also been an actor and director in Bollywood. He took his first step into politics when he fought and won the zila parishad polls from Sri Hargobindpur, at the age of 25, in 2018.

More recently, Arjun was in the eye of the storm when former chief minister Capt Amarinder Singh appointed him an inspector in the Punjab Police in June last year. But the appointment never came through due to strident opposition from within.

Bajwa's elder son Kanwar Partap, a postgraduate in Economics from the London School of Economics, is general secretary of the Youth Congress, and was appointed state chief of the All India Jat Mahasabha's youth wing last year. Kanwar, who was first spotted as a campaigner when he used actor Sunny Deol's dialogues to campaign against him in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls in Gurdaspur, is now seeking votes for his father.

Compared to them, Ashwani Sekhri's son Abhinav, an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin, is a relative newcomer in the field. A serial entrepreneur based out of Delhi, Abhinav is now crisscrossing the grimy Batala on foot to get votes for his father, a three-time MLA who has fought seven Assembly polls.

A leader who did not want to wade into this "unnecessary controversy" said the posters have been put up by his party workers.

A market committee member at Goniara in Bhuch Mandi, who decided not to campaign for Kothbhai, rubbishes this explanation. "Party workers also have political ambitions. By openly flaunting their sons on the hoardings, these leaders are sending a message that the top spot would always be reserved for the family. This is very disheartening, how can you say we are living in a free India."

### 'Scan tunnels'

it has to scan the full body of a truck from the top and sides," an official said.

According to officials, a scan tunnel is based on industrial technology with hi-tech cameras that can take images of a parcel from all sides and software to decode product information in barcodes.

"A team of imaging experts will assess the scan on monitors. It is, in effect, a mass scanner that can see through metal, cardboard and plastic," another official said. He said that while "a normal scanner can detect any liquid", the department is hoping to procure equipment with "advanced technology that can analyse liquids as per viscosity".

On Tuesday, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had conducted a law and order review meeting in which he asked Excise officials to "make best use of technology" to crack down on liquor traders and manufacturers.

Since the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act of 2016, the state police and Excise department have seized 1,93,75,564 litres of alcohol, including 67,92,254 litres of country-made or "desi" liquor, till October 2021. "Between January and October 2021 alone, we seized 5,15,488 litres of liquor. This calls for new ways to check liquor inflow into the state," said a senior police officer.

Official records show that a total of 60 people died in back-to-back hooch tragedies in Gopalganj, West Champaran, Nalanda, Saran and Buxar in the last four months.

### Gurgaon

Rajesh said that around 6.15 pm, his mother and 16-year-old son were in adjacent rooms when they heard a "loud explosion". "My 12-year-old daughter had gone to the park and I was at work. My son called and told me over the phone that the ceiling of some floors had collapsed through the dining area, and my wife had suffered fatal injuries. I rushed home to find that she had died," he said.

Sunita's husband, Arun Srivastava, a bureaucrat posted with the Indian Railway Service of Engineers, also had a brush with death, with rescuers spending 16 hours before pulling him out alive. With the lower half of his body buried under debris, rescuers, at one point, even considered amputating a leg. But they soon put that option aside.

"His entire lower right leg, up to the knee, was caught under the debris. The only way out in that situation is to create a pocket in the debris, just like a foxhole. We first stabilised all the debris above, using shoring material. After that, we made a foxhole to create an approach till his foot. Once we did that, we used specialised equipment called airbags to raise the debris enough to release 60-70% of the leg. For the remaining 30%, we had to use ropes, like those used for lifting or climbing, to cover his body in a harness. We used airbags to lift some more debris and pulled him out," Kuleesh Anand, Deputy Commandant, NDRF, told The Indian Express.

Officials said Arun had returned home from the airport just 10 minutes before the incident. "He and his wife were standing in the living room, next to the kitchen, when the chunk collapsed on them," said a police officer.

Rajesh said Ekta "would often complain about the disturbance caused by repair work during the afternoon". Residents said repairs had been underway on the sixth floor for a while now. "There were complaints of cracks in plaster and walls, and repair work was always going on. Of course, nobody thought the entire structure would collapse," he said.

In his police complaint, Rajesh alleged that the incident occurred due to negligent and substandard construction work.

"One can see from the nature of the collapse that there was no resistance in the structure. From the sixth floor, the slabs collapsed and had a cascading effect," he said. "Some floors on the top were vacant as their residents had gone for a wedding. Otherwise, the casualties would have been higher."

He said his family has moved to his brother's house in Malviya Nagar.

Spread over 12 acres, the society has nine towers. A total of 450 flats out of 532 are occupied. In a tweet on Friday, Prashant Solomon, MD of Chintels, wrote: "Upon preliminary investigations, we have come to know that the mishap occurred during renovation work by a contractor being carried out by a resident in his apartment. We had conducted a structural audit last year when complaints first came. We will be initiating a second structural audit at the earliest. In case any defects are found in the structure, we will duly compensate affected buyers or accommodate affected residents in alternate arrangements while necessary repair work is completed. We are fully cooperating with the authorities and ensuring all support."

# Covid cases in Delhi drop below 1,000 after 44 days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

DELHI REPORTED 977 fresh Covid cases Friday, recording a daily tally of less than 1,000 after a period of 44 days, as per the daily health bulletin released by the Delhi government. The positivity rate also dropped below the 2% mark to 1.73% Friday.

A positivity rate of less than 2% was recorded for the first time in 42 days as per the data. A Covid outbreak is thought to be under control when a positivity rate below 5% is maintained for more than two weeks, according to the World Health Organisation. The number of cases and positivity rate has been steadily declining despite the government lifting restrictions such as weekend curfew, closure of schools, colleges, and gyms.

The current surge of cases, which was the fifth for Delhi and third for the country, waxed and waned quickly in the capital. The number of fresh cases reported each day remained more than 1,000 consecutively for a period of 44 days during the current surge. In comparison, it remained over the 1,000-mark consecutively for 59 days during the previous surge of cases in



The positivity rate also dropped below the 2% mark to 1.73% on Friday. Archive

April-May last year.

"This current surge of cases was for a short duration as I had predicted before. This is because over 95% of Delhi residents have already been exposed to the virus. This was also the reason we saw fewer deaths this time around," said Dr Jugal Kishore, head of the department of community medicine at Safdarjung Hospital.

"It is time for life to go back to normal. We have to treat it just like H1N1, we have it seasonally but no one is too bothered about it," said Dr Kishore.

He added, there was a need to remain prepared for any other variant of Sars-CoV-2 or other viral infections. "We have seen several pathogens jumping from animals to human beings over

the last 20 to 30 years and we will see more and the interactions between humans and animals increase. We have to be prepared. We have to strengthen our sub-centres and primary health centres, create oxygen beds close to people. We have around 1.25 lakh sub-centres across India and 35,000 primary health centres. If all of them were well equipped, people would not rush to hubs such as Delhi where oxygen was in short supply. We have to prepare now so that in case some outbreak happens, the protocols can be activated," he said.

There have been 1,84 million cases and 26,047 Covid deaths in the capital since the pandemic began in 2020.

# Govt to scale down Covid beds after ensuring no surge in cases when schools, colleges reopen

ANONNA DUTT  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

THE DELHI government is likely to start scaling down the number of beds earmarked for the treatment of Covid, according to officials in the know of the matter. At present, there are around 15,000 beds earmarked for Covid patients across government and private hospitals in the capital.

Despite a consistent decline in cases from January third week and a positivity rate of less than 5% over the last 10 days, the government shied away from releasing beds for the treatment of other ailments. "All the restrictions are being lifted now and even schools and colleges are reopening, we want to wait and watch whether there is an uptick in cases. We wanted to be cautious. The de-escalation process will likely begin by next week, but even then it will be in a phased manner just like it was scaled up,"

said a senior government official. There were just over 3,000 beds earmarked for the treatment of the infection in government hospitals and temporary facilities such as the ones being run on Ramlila Maidan by the government. Almost all the beds in private sector hospitals were being used for treatment of other ailments with the hospitals hardly seeing any Covid cases after the massive wave of infections in April-May last year.

When the city saw an increase in dengue cases in October and November last year, 20% out of the 30% of beds officially reserved for Covid in the private sector were diverted for its treatment.

The bed strength in the government sector was increased to 4,300 and private hospitals were asked to reserve 40% of their total beds during the first week of January. The number of beds across hospitals was increased to over 12,000 by January second week and to 14,000 by January-

end by which time the cases had already started going down.

Even at the peak of the current wave, with cases surging to the same level as the previous wave, bed occupancy remained low. The hospitalisations peaked at 2,734 on January 19 for the current wave, with hospital occupancy remaining at less than 20%.

The Delhi health minister said after the delta variant-driven wave, the government had prepared for over 35,000 hospital and step-down health centres. He said, less than 15,000 beds were released because the hospitalisations weren't high.

Even though officially all private hospitals are to keep 40% earmarked for Covid, many have already started using them. "Over the two years, we have learned how to quickly convert wards for Covid so if there is a surge we can go back to treating Covid patients. But for now, there are others in need of treatment," said an official from a private hospital.

# SON WAS AT THE WHEEL, HIT BUSINESSMAN: POLICE

# Law student held, his retd bureaucrat father booked for GK hit-and-run

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

A 27-YEAR-OLD law student has been arrested for allegedly hitting a businessman with his car and dragging him on the bonnet in South Delhi's Greater Kailash 1 on Tuesday. Police said his father, a retired IAS officer, has also been booked for allegedly harbouring his son.

Raj Sundaram, who was allegedly driving the vehicle, a Volkswagen T-Roc, studies at a leading private university in Gurgaon. According to police,

initial probe has revealed he does not have a licence.

The incident took place around 6 pm Tuesday and CCTV footage purportedly shows Raj driving the newly purchased vehicle and dragging the victim on the bonnet for over 100 metres before the man falls to the road and the car drives off.

The family of the man, Anant Vijay Mandelia (37), said he sustained multiple injuries on his head and is admitted at Max Hospital, Saket. He runs a hydroponics business and lives with his family in GK-I.

DCP (South district) Benita

Mary Jaiker said, "Initially, a case under sections of rash driving and causing grievous hurt was registered. New sections have now been added on the basis of facts that emerged during investigation. The accused was arrested outside Le Meridien Hotel in Gurgaon and is facing charges under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder) and 308 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder). We have also arrested Raj's father, Pandyan Kalyan Sundaram, who retired from the post of joint secretary in the petroleum ministry. He was booked under IPC section 212

(harbouring)."

Police said they received a call about the hit-and-run incident and, after talking to witnesses, found that a mustard Volkswagen had hit Mandelia outside his house. Police checked CCTV footage in the locality and traced the vehicle.

"Police reached Raj's house, from where they recovered the vehicle. He and his father were missing. Using technical surveillance, the father and son, who were communicating with their relatives and advocates via WhatsApp, were arrested from Le Meridien Hotel,"

an officer said.

According to police, during questioning, Raj initially told investigators his father was at the wheel. Police, however, claim to have found CCTV footage which shows Raj getting out from the driver's side and his father from the passenger side.

"We have also recovered several video clips from his phone of his car's speedometer... showing a speed of over 120 km/hr. The locations suggest these videos were recorded in different areas of South Delhi," said an officer, adding that the car was purchased by Raj's father.

# Rash driving in area a constant concern: Kin, residents

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

RASH DRIVING has been a constant issue in the Greater Kailash I area where businessman Anant Mandelia (37) was hit by a car and dragged for some distance on its bonnet, his family as well as residents claimed.

A family member, who asked not to be identified, said Mandelia's condition was stable though he has not yet regained consciousness. He claimed Anant was trying to stop the accused from driving rashly when he was hit by the vehicle.

Mandelia runs a hydroponics business, and the family has been living in the area for a long time, according to neighbours.

The section of the road where the incident took place is wide and begins at a three-way

intersection and concludes at a dead-end. It is flanked by homes on both sides, one of them being Mandelia's.

Vinod (35), who goes by his first name and works as a driver at a home close to Mandelia's, was out on the street when the incident happened. "The businessman would walk here sometimes... that evening, he was standing on the road. The car sped past and turned around and I saw Mandelia on the bonnet, holding on to the wiper, even as the driver drove on... He fell off and the car sped away. We have seen it here before," he said.

Nitin Thakur, another driver in the area, said, "I heard somebody shouting and came out to see Mandelia falling and the car driving away immediately. He was bleeding, and the family's driver, who was outside, took him to the hospital."



Police had placed barricades near the dead-end. Abhinav Saha

A day before the incident, Vinod said police barricades had been placed near the dead end. After Tuesday, the barricades were shifted to the intersection, forcing vehicles to slow down. "Vehicles tend to speed here," he added.

A 43-year-old woman who lives nearby, requesting anonymity, claimed she had seen a yellow car speeding on the road a day before the incident and tried to stop it. "They did not stop. It is a wide residential road and rash driving is a

concern here. Residents come here with their children to cycle since it's a dead end. In fact, Mandelia was trying to talk to the RWA to get barricades put up and speed breakers made so that vehicles slow down," she said.

Arun Vohra, president of the GK-I B-Block RWA, claimed they had filed police complaints earlier, but no action was taken. "That stretch of around half a km is a secluded one, and it's a very wide road. Rash driving is a big problem there," he said.

However, a police officer said they had not received any complaints of rash driving or speeding from locals: "The matter came to light only after the incident."

Mandelia has also been associated with the RWA, though he was not a member, and the issue has been brought to the association's notice, Vohra added.

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021 (₹ in Crore)

S.No	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE					CONSOLIDATED				
		QUARTER ENDED		NINE MONTHS ENDED		YEAR ENDED	QUARTER ENDED		NINE MONTHS ENDED		YEAR ENDED
		DECEMBER 31, 2021	DECEMBER 31, 2020	DECEMBER 31, 2021	DECEMBER 31, 2020	MARCH 31, 2021	DECEMBER 31, 2021	DECEMBER 31, 2020	DECEMBER 31, 2020	DECEMBER 31, 2020	MARCH 31, 2021
1	Total income	8,004.90	9,978.45	22,240.89	22,807.12	31,380.47	8,133.30	10,032.61	22,478.30	22,759.08	31,517.09
2	Net Profit for the period before tax (before Exceptional items)	910.69	1,441.82	2,447.92	2,771.26	3,900.38	935.98	1,363.92	2,272.38	2,702.78	3,849.32
3	Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	910.69	1,441.82	2,447.92	2,771.26	3,900.38	935.98	1,363.92	2,272.38	2,702.78	3,849.32
4	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	686.13	1,084.47	1,845.97	2,099.23	2,964.20	704.24	1,029.17	1,708.49	2,050.77	2,938.05
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	680.61	1,076.13	1,829.39	2,074.21	2,943.14	687.41	1,022.39	1,681.90	2,024.40	2,910.18
6	Equity Share Capital (face value Rs. 2/- per share)	39.96	39.95	39.96	39.95	39.96	39.96	39.95	39.96	39.95	39.96
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)					15,158.47					15,376.46
8	Earnings per share on net profit after tax - face value Rs. 2/- each (In Rupees)										
	a) Basic	34.34	54.29	92.39	105.09	148.39	35.23	51.02	85.37	101.97	146.07
	b) Diluted	34.33	54.29	92.37	105.09	148.37	35.21	51.02	85.34	101.96	146.04

Notes:-

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results is available on the Company's website www.heromotocorp.com and also on stock exchange websites, www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com
- Based on the guiding principles given in Ind AS-108 on 'Operating Segments', the Company's business activity fall within a single operating segment, namely automotive segment. Accordingly, the disclosure requirements of Ind AS 108 are not applicable.
- The situation of Covid-19 pandemic is continuously evolving. The impact assessed may be different from the estimates made as at the date of approval of these financial results and management will continue to monitor any material changes arising due to the impact of this pandemic on financial and operational performance of the Company and take necessary measures to address the situation.
- On February 10, 2022, the Board of Directors had considered and approved interim dividend @3000% i.e. Rs. 60 per equity share (face value of Rs. 2 per equity share) for the financial year 2021-22.
- The above results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2021 have been reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors in their respective meetings held on February 10, 2022

For and on behalf of Board of Directors  
**DR. PAWAN MUNJAL**  
Chairman & CEO  
DIN: 00004223

New Delhi,  
Date: February 10, 2022

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DELHI: TOTAL CASES	Total		Vacant	
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
18,49,596	15,375	14,662	4,475	4,175
	HOSPITAL BEDS	15,375	ICU BEDS	4,175
Feb 10	1,104	1,958	12	52,848
Feb 11	977	1,591	12	56,444
Total	4,812	18,18,737	26,047	3,55,18,310

*Total active cases in Delhi*

Noida	Total	
	Feb 10	Feb 11
Cases	168	60
Deaths	0	0
Gurgaon	Cases	413
	Deaths	319

## GURGAON COLLAPSE

## 16-hr op to get bureaucrat out from under the rubble

SUKRITA BARUAH  
GURGAON, FEBRUARY 11

SIXTEEN HOURS after a chunk of the sixth floor collapsed all the way down to the first floor at Chintels Paradiso society in Gurgaon's Sector 109, rescue workers managed to pull out bureaucrat Arun Srivastava (60) who was stuck under the rubble inside his flat. His wife, Sunita (55), died under the debris.

On Thursday evening, the drawing room of an apartment on the sixth floor of Tower D caved and fell through the fifth, fourth, third and second floors, before crashing to the first-floor apartment which belonged to the couple. Srivastava, an Indian Railway Service of Engineers officer, and his wife were in their drawing room at the time. Srivastava was conscious, and his leg (below the knee) was caught under the rubble. Rescue teams took him out alive, with his leg intact.

The rescue operation included personnel from the police, district administration, fire brigade, health department, the State Disaster Response Force and 115 personnel from the National Disaster Response Force.

Said NDRF Commandant P K Tiwari, "We got the information at 7 pm and the RRC Dwarka team got here by 7.30 pm, which was joined later by two teams from the Ghaziabad headquarters... The building is quite unstable and in a dangerous condition; working in that was itself a challenge. While rescuing, the biggest responsibility for us is that no rescuer gets injured... the trapped person was in a very critical position from where we took him out."

According to personnel involved in the operation, reaching Srivastava's leg through the debris in an unstable structure without further destabilising it was a challenge.

"The entire drawing room of the sixth floor had fallen down there, going through the other floors... The entire lower right leg, up to the knee, of the man was caught under the debris. The only way to work in that situation is to create a pocket in the debris, just like a foxhole. We first stabilised all the debris above using shoring



Arun Srivastava, an Indian Railway Service of Engineers officer, and his wife Sunita were in their drawing room at the time. His wife died under the debris. Express

metal. After that, we made a fox-hole to create an approach till his foot. Once we created that, we used specialised equipment called airbags to raise the debris enough to release 60-70% of the leg. For the remaining 30%, we had to use ropes like those used for lifting or climbing to cover his body in a harness. We used airbags to lift some more debris and pulled him out from there," said Deputy Commandant Kuleesh Anand.

The need to amputate Srivastava's leg to release him was a possibility that had been considered both on Thursday night and Friday morning.

"In the morning, the NDRF team again suggesting cutting his leg. The Deputy Commissioner consulted the civil surgeon team, which checked and found that his leg was fine and not even fractured... cutting would have caused too much trauma," said an official in the district administration.

A spokesperson for Max Super Speciality Hospital Gurgaon, where Arun was taken, said, "He was resuscitated and provided first aid at the site. He was then rushed to the emergency of the hospital for further medical management on Friday morning. He was conscious and his vitals were normal. After running essential scans, he has been shifted to a multidisciplinary team of specialists."

Gulshan Kalra, deputy director, fire department, said a relative of the Srivastavas, who was visiting them, escaped injuries as she was in the washroom of their first floor house when the ceiling collapsed.



The first floor flat where Arun Srivastava and his wife Sunita lived. Express

## 'My friend called me and said: Run, the building is collapsing'

SUKRITA BARUAH  
GURGAON, FEBRUARY 11

FOR RESIDENTS of tower D at Chintels Paradiso society in Gurgaon's sector 109, Thursday night was a fearful one, spent at their friends' homes. And, what comes next, is equally uncertain. Shweta Srivastava (36) was in her home on the sixth floor when she heard a loud sound, which she thought might be an earthquake. In fact, the drawing room in another apartment on the same floor had caved in.

"My friend in a neighbouring building saw it happen and she called me and said, 'Shweta, run, the building is collapsing'. I grabbed my children and raced down the stairs... We stayed the night in her house. All our belongings are in my flat; we are still wearing the clothes we were in last night," she said.

She and her husband have been living in the flat on rent — they pay Rs 20,000 a month —



An apartment on the 6th floor of Tower D had caved in. Express

for the last two years. While they will now look at shifting elsewhere, homeowners who have spent savings and taken loans to buy the flats are looking for solutions from the builder.

"For my 3,150 square feet flat, we had to pay Rs 1.8 crore, plus registration charges and overhead expenses. That was Rs 1.9 crore for a raw flat. Huge amounts were spent by everyone to then make the flats habitable. I am nearing 60

now, we spent all our savings on this. Our future looks bleak. If we have to vacate, we don't have funds to shift elsewhere... No one from the top management has come here so far to address anything because they know that they have done wrong," said Lalit Kapur, who lives on the 11th floor of the building.

Vipin Rana (30) was out on the lawn outside the building till 3 am, hoping to see bureaucrat

Arun Srivastava, who was stuck under the rubble, being rescued safely. While Arun made it out alive, his wife Sunita died in the collapse. "I know him quite well. Till the rescue teams arrived, I and other residents had tried to find ways to get him out, but it was impossible. We already knew that his wife had died," he said. Rana and the six members of his family slept at a friend's house on Thursday night, but he has little idea of what the days and weeks ahead will bring.

"We haven't been able to get our belongings from the flat; access has been closed. Even if they open it, I don't think we will have the courage to set foot inside the building. We are trying to find a way to get the builder to give us alternate accommodation. In fact, many of us want the entire building to be demolished and built again with better construction. The entire construction is weak, which is why all this is happening," he said.

## 6 months ago, part of balcony collapsed, audit was conducted

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, FEBRUARY 11

A DAY after a chunk of the sixth floor collapsed in Gurgaon's Chintels Paradiso society, killing two people, residents alleged that they have, in the past, filed complaints on poor quality of construction, structural issues and substandard material being used.

In July 2021, a slab of a roof in a balcony had collapsed at tower H. After complaints by residents, a structural audit was conducted by the developer under the supervision of the Department of Town and Country Planning. One of the conclusions of the audit, conducted by a private consultant, was that the building towers were "safe for human habitation".

Spread over 12 acres, the society has nine towers. A total of 450 flats out of 532 are occupied.

The structural audit report in September 2021 of five towers — E, F, G, H and J — conducted by a private agency, SGR Engineering to check "distresses in structure and structural elements like column beams slabs, brick walls, balconies, etc." concluded that "overall the structural members like columns, beams, lift walls and slabs seem good, which is the main part of building transferring the loads to the foundation".

"Also, there is neither significant settlement of foundation observed nor any major crack in basement floor is observed, which gives reassurance that overall condition of building is good and can be categorised as C2-B (no evacuation), only minor structural repairs. Hence, it is safe for human habitation," the report had stated.

The report mentioned that cracks in balconies are present in several places and leakages were observed at various locations. "Some core cutting test results are giving strength slightly lower than the design strength of concrete, but do not pose a threat to the building," the report added.

Residents said they had written to the district town planner pointing out issues with the audit report and requested another independent structural audit of all nine towers and underground basement by IIT-Delhi.

Sonam Arora, a resident of tower H, alleged: "My son was playing below the building when the roof slab from the balcony fell." She said after the incident, she along with around 50 residents went to the Bajghera police station to try and register an FIR against the builder. "Police said they would not file an FIR as there was no casualty," she alleged.

On why no FIR was registered, Gurgaon Police spokesperson Subhash Boken said, "The matter has been taken into cognizance. If there was any lapse, action would be taken." Gurgaon deputy commissioner Nishant Kumar Yadav said an inquiry committee headed by additional district magistrate had been formed, and it would submit its report in a week to fix accountability.

Vishram Kumar Meena, Additional Deputy Commissioner, who is conducting an enquiry into the collapse, said, "Our first priority was the rescue. The committee will now probe the reasons for the collapse and lapses on part of the builder and contractor. We will look into the complaints of residents and the structural audit report conducted earlier."

As per a preliminary probe into Thursday's incident, repair work related to flooring and changing of tiles was going on and labourers were using drilling and hammer equipment, which may have led to the collapse. Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij said, "An FIR has been registered. Two DSPs are probing the matter... culprits will not be spared."

R S Bhat, district town planner, did not respond to calls seeking comment. Sources said DTP officials had been directed to investigate the previous complaints filed and structural audit report.

BRIEFLY  
HC allows Navneet Kalra to go abroad

New Delhi: Directing the authorities not to take action based on the lookout circular issued against him, the Delhi High Court Friday allowed businessman Navneet Kalra, who is facing a money laundering probe in connection with purchase of oxygen concentrators by his company, to travel to Dubai and Milan.

## Three men who robbed ATMs held

New Delhi: Three members of a gang, who used to allegedly rob bank ATMs, were arrested Friday morning after a brief exchange of fire in Outer-North Delhi's Badli area. "After receiving information that the accused would come to the Badli police station area to rob an ATM, police laid a trap. The accused fired at police and they also fired back. All the three accused were nabbed," a senior police officer said. **ENS**

## Curbs in Noida to be lifted

Noida: With active Covid cases dipping below 1,000 in Gautam Buddha Nagar, the administration Friday announced relaxation in curbs such as reducing night curfew hours and reopening of gyms and swimming pools. **PTI**

## DU to shift to physical exams from May, open book format to continue till then

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

DELHI UNIVERSITY Friday said it would shift to the physical mode of exams only in May and that all exams to be held in March, including for first-year students, will be in the online open book exam (OBE) format. DU had shifted to the OBE format since the pandemic struck in 2020.

Principals had told *The Indian Express* Thursday that several students, especially those in the first-year, had expressed apprehension on returning to campus, when it re-opens on February 17, as their exams will begin shortly after and it would take them time to settle.

A meeting of the Working Group of Examinations was held Friday evening to decide on the matter. In a notification thereafter, Dean Examinations D S Rawat said, "It is hereby in-

## Anganwadi workers take out fresh rally, FIR filed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

CONTINUING THEIR indefinite strike for an increase in honorarium, hundreds of anganwadi workers and helpers Friday took out a 'khabardar' rally against the Delhi government near Vidhan Sabha, threatening to intensify the stir if their demands are not met.

Police said they had filed an FIR in connection with the protest, since it was held without permission. "Legal action has been initiated under IPC Section 188 and Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act. No arrest has been made nor has any



Principals said the decision may slightly ease the burden on students, especially those in the first year. Archive

formed to all concerned that University of Delhi... has decided that all examinations... conducted during... March and April 2022 (odd semester), shall be in Open Book Examination (OBE) mode. Further, all examinations which shall be conducted during... May 2022 and onwards (even semester) shall be in physical mode..."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Rawat said the decision was unanimous: "... from March 10, classes for the first semester will be suspended due to the exams. First-year students have not studied offline, so it would have been too much pressure for them to appear for offline exams. So, we decided to go with online exams."

## UG curriculum framework gets EC final nod, 3 dissent

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

DELHI UNIVERSITY'S Executive Council Friday gave its final approval to the implementation of the Undergraduate Curriculum Framework (UGCF) from the 2022-23 academic session when the university shifts to a four-year UG programme. "The UGCF 2022 was passed with just three dissents. Now that the statutory bodies have all passed it, work will start on preparing the syllabi," said Registrar Vikas Gupta.

In the dissent note Friday, the three dissenting members — advocate Ashok Agarwal, advocate

Principals said the decision may slightly ease the burden on students. "It's difficult to say as of now how this will affect arrival of first-year students... As per the emails we were getting, it seemed like a problem for many to return. So if exams would have started offline while they were settling, it could be problematic. In that respect, this is a wise decision," said Ramjas College principal Manoj Khanna.

Shri Ram College of Commerce Principal Simit Kaur also said one would have to wait and watch if the examination would have any effect on students returning. "We have got a very enthusiastic response from students who want to return, but of course they also have some apprehensions about accommodation etc. In that sense, the decision to continue with online OBE will at least ease some burden for them," she said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

FOUR PERSONS, including a nine-year-old girl, who were out grazing sheep on an empty plot in Outer Delhi's Bawana area died after an old building nearby collapsed and they were buried under the rubble on Friday.

Police identified the victims as Rukaiya Khatoun (55), Shahzad (25), Danish (24) and Afrin (9), who were from the Bawana JJ colony area. Their families alleged there was delay in rescue work — a claim police denied.

According to police, they were informed that a building near the DJB office had collapsed. So far, no FIR has been registered.

"We received a call around 2.45 am about the building collapse in Bawana. On reaching the spot, we found that the said building was built under the Rajiv Ratan Aawas Yojana and had 300-400 rooms/flats. Most of these were vacant. A portion had collapsed. We called three JCBs, a hydra crane and ambulances to the spot. Four-five persons were trapped under the debris. Some were pulled out and fire teams were called to help with rescue operations," said DCP (Outer-North) Brijiendra Yadav.

The Delhi government said it was "pained to learn about this tragic incident". "An immediate departmental enquiry has been initiated into the matter. The government is closely monitoring the whole situation and it has been brought to light that the building was constructed during 2007-2010," a government official said.

The Delhi Fire Service (DFS) said three-four fire tenders were rushed to the spot after they got a call regarding the incident. Senior DFS officer Rajiv Sinha said rescue operations took around four hours and they managed to



Police said the building was built as part of the Rajiv Ratan Aawas Yojana; (left) 9-year-old Afrin was among the victims. Amit Mehra

pull out four people: "There was no problem in reaching the spot. Such operations take time. We managed to rescue four people, but the difficulties due to the rubble created some problems."

The victims had bought sheep in the past few years to supplement their daily income by selling milk. Their families work in the Bawana Industrial area as low-skilled factory workers and earn Rs 300-400 per day for 12 hours of work.

Shehnaz was with her daughter, Afrin, at the spot in the afternoon when she heard a rumbling noise from the building. Her daughter was playing near it when it suddenly crashed down on them. Shehnaz managed to survive and was carried by locals to her home where a white tent, signifying a death in the family, erected outside her home confirmed her worst fears.

"Initially, we did not tell her that her daughter died. It was too much for her to bear. I pulled Shehnaz out of the rubble... She had tried to warn her daughter not to play in the area and as she turned her head, the building

collapsed," said Alam Khan (27), a relative.

Rukaiya had just begun eating lunch when the building collapsed on top of her. Her 16-year-old daughter said, "I asked my mother to sit in the shade of the building to eat. She stood there with her tiffin box and water bottle when she vanished under the rubble before my eyes."

Abdul Haq (56) was inconsolable when he heard that his son, Danish, was dead. He had arrived in Delhi just a few days ago from UP's Amroha after his son called him: "My son had to hand over some money for our expenses. That building could have fallen any time. It was a disaster waiting to happen. We lost a son and a breadwinner of the family."

Shahzad's family, meanwhile, claimed locals had to carry out rescue work for over an hour before police arrived. "We had managed to get some people and a sheep out of the rubble. Police came with the bulldozers an hour later," alleged Anwari, a relative.

Police denied the allegations and said a team reached the spot within minutes after the incident was reported.



श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी  
प्रधानमंत्री

75  
आज़ादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव



मध्यप्रदेश शासन



श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

# प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना

## देश में फसल क्षति की सबसे बड़ी सहायता राशि का वितरण

खरीफ 2020 एवं रबी 2020-21

## 49 लाख दावों का किसानों को ₹7600 करोड़ का भुगतान

- प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि में केन्द्र द्वारा 6 हजार तथा मुख्यमंत्री किसान कल्याण योजना में राज्य द्वारा 4 हजार के साथ 10 हजार रुपये प्रतिवर्ष की सहायता।
- सिंचाई रकबा 15 वर्षों में 7.50 लाख हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर 43 लाख हेक्टेयर।
- किसानों को 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये की बिजली सब्सिडी।
- किसानों को शून्य ब्याज पर इस वर्ष 14,428 करोड़ रुपये के फसल ऋण।
- उपार्जन के लिये 38 हजार करोड़ रुपये किसानों के खातों में सीधे जमा।

मुख्य अतिथि  
श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति  
श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह तोमर  
केन्द्रीय मंत्री, कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय  
(वर्चुअल माध्यम से)

श्री कमल पटेल  
मंत्री, किसान कल्याण एवं कृषि विकास विभाग  
मध्यप्रदेश शासन

12 फरवरी, 2022  
बैतूल  
दोपहर 12.00 बजे



किसान कल्याण एवं कृषि विकास विभाग, मध्यप्रदेश

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## BALLOTIN

## Punjab MLA's flip-flop: Cong, BJP, Cong and back to BJP

**Chandigarh:** The Congress's sitting MLA from Sri Hargobindpur, Balwinder Singh Laddi, on Friday rejoined the BJP after parting ways with the saffron party just last month—a third switch for him in less than 2 months. Laddi first joined the BJP after quitting the Congress on December 28. However, six days later, he returned to the Congress fold. He was denied a Congress ticket from Sri Hargobindpur assembly seat, which falls in Gurdaspur district, after which he quit the party once again. **PTI**

## UP: 4 booked for violating model poll conduct

**Lucknow:** Lalitpur Police on Friday lodged an FIR against candidates of the BJP, SP, BSP and the Congress for allegedly opening their offices without obtaining permission in Talbehata town of the district—in violation of the model code of conduct ahead of elections. Those named in the FIR are BJP's Ram Ratan Kushwaha, BSP's Chandra Bhushan Singh Bundela, SP's Ramesh Prasad and Congress's Balwant Singh were booked. **ENS**

## As 2 women fight on for 'justice', a battle lost: Aman Mani Tripathi gets BSP ticket

To fight from Nautanwa, which he won in 2017; party says it has nothing to do with the cases

**MANISH SAHU**

LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 11

FOR DAYS now, two women have been sending letters and making the rounds of offices of different political parties here with one request: that a ticket not be given to Aman Mani Tripathi. On Thursday, the BSP fielded the murder accused from Nautanwa, in Maharajganj, the seat that the 31-year-old had won as an Independent in 2017.

Nidhi Shukla, 34, and Seema Singh, 65, see it as one more blow to their campaign for justice. While Aman Mani is an accused in the alleged murder in 2015 of his wife and Singh's daughter Sara, and is out on bail, Aman Mani's parents Amar Mani and Madhumani are serving life term for the killing in 2003 of Nidhi's elder sister Madhumita.

Singh says that in the letters to political leaders, "I said that if people like Aman Mani and his parents come to power, they would damage the society and also harm the public."

Shukla says she met senior leaders of the BJP, Samajwadi



Sara Singh's mother Seema (left) and Madhumita Shukla's sister Nidhi protest outside the BSP office in Lucknow on Thursday over Aman Mani Tripathi's poll candidature. **PTI**

Party and NISHAD Party with the request to not field Aman Mani. "But they did not make any promises."

Then, a week ago, she heard that Aman Mani was meeting leaders of the BSP and they had promised him a ticket from Nautanwa. "I have been making efforts to meet BSP leaders since, but failed. Two days back, I came

to know Seema Singh is also raising objections over Aman Mani's ticket, so I contacted her," says Shukla. On Thursday, they both came to the BSP headquarters in Lucknow in the morning. "We requested them to arrange a meeting for us with any senior leader, including Mayawati, Satish Mishra and Mewa Lal Gautam. After people there said they

couldn't help us, we decided to hold a silent protest at the gate of the party office," says Shukla. Later, police asked them to move. The Nautanwa seat goes to polls on March 3. While in 2012, Aman Mani had contested as an SP candidate from Nautanwa and lost, he won in 2017 over his SP rival Kunwar Kaushal Kishore Singh.

"In the last Assembly election, Aman Mani was in jail, like his parents. His family members pleaded with the public to help them. Because of sympathy votes, Aman Mani won," says Veerendra, who is also contesting from Nautanwa as an Independent.

The SP has again fielded Kishore Singh from the seat. BSP spokesperson Faizan Khan said the ticket to Aman Mani was decided by a party committee. "The case of Nidhi Shukla and Seema Singh is their family matter. The party has nothing to do with their case."

In February 2017, in a chargesheet against Aman Mani, the CBI had held him guilty of killing Sara by strangling her in 2015. Sara had been found dead under mysterious circumstances in Firozabad district, with Aman

Mani claiming their car had had an accident on the way to New Delhi. They had been married two years. The probe had found that Sara was subjected to "physical torture and cruelty" by Aman Mani. Madhumita Shukla was shot in Lucknow on April 9, 2003, with investigations showing she was pregnant at the time. She was in a relationship with Aman Mani Tripathi, then a minister in the BSP government.

Tripathi and his wife have spent a long time of their sentence under "treatment" for various ailments at BRD Medical College in Gorakhpur.

Shukla, who has a gunner for security provided by police, says she continues to face threats, but never misses a court date. "I am fighting a powerful family. My personal life is ruined," she says.

Singh also has a police gunner, following threats she received.

While discouraged at Aman Mani getting a ticket, Shukla and Singh say they had no plans to campaign against him. "It would not be safe for me to go to Nautanwa," says Shukla. She hopes a national party will step up to support her, adds Singh.

## Power play behind UP's poll campaigns

**MAULSHREE SETH**

LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 11

ONE OF the big poll topics this election season in Uttar Pradesh is electricity. It keeps coming up in speeches and manifestos, and in what the voters say they expect of the government. As UP inches towards 24 hours supply, the chorus is no more about "chaubisi ghante bijli" but "sasti bijli dar" or "free bijli" (cheap or free electricity).

## The tariff

The state has about 3 crore electricity consumers. Consumer forums say the domestic electricity bill has more than doubled in eight years in the state. A major hike took place under the previous Samajwadi Party regime, but the BJP government has also increased rates. Currently, the tariff for consumers in UP, including fixed charges, is Rs 110 per kilowatt per month, with the rate rising as more power is used, going up to Rs 7 per kWh. The last hike was in the 2018-19 financial year. While the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited can recommend a hike, the decision lies with the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Regulatory Commission. Sources said a hike was recommended in 2020-21 but the commission turned it down. With the commission being an autonomous body, the government must technically get a hike or cut cleared by it.

The demand to reduce tariffs considering the pandemic has been around for a while, but the government acted only in January, just before polls were announced, reducing the tariff by 50% for use of tubewells by farmers.

people to sign up for the scheme under the names on their electricity bills or using Aadhaar cards if they were new or probable consumers. The promise was part of the SP's manifesto released this week, along with the guarantee of "free electricity" for farm irrigation. While the SP also promised 24 hours electricity earlier, its leaders are focusing more on the promise of 300 free units now.

The BJP also released its manifesto this week, with the very first 'sankalpa' on its paper being 'free electricity to farmers for irrigation for next 5 years'. While in 2017, the BJP had promised 24-hour electricity to every household, this time it did not mention this, though the party has been claiming that the Yogi Adityanath government has been able

to ensure 18-hour supply to rural and 24 hours to city areas. The party appears to have given up another 2017 promise: of subsidised electricity to the poor at the rate of Rs 3 per unit for the first 100 units. The Congress, like 2017, has taken the middle path, promising to reduce electricity bills by half. It has also promised to "waive off pending arrears from the Covid period".

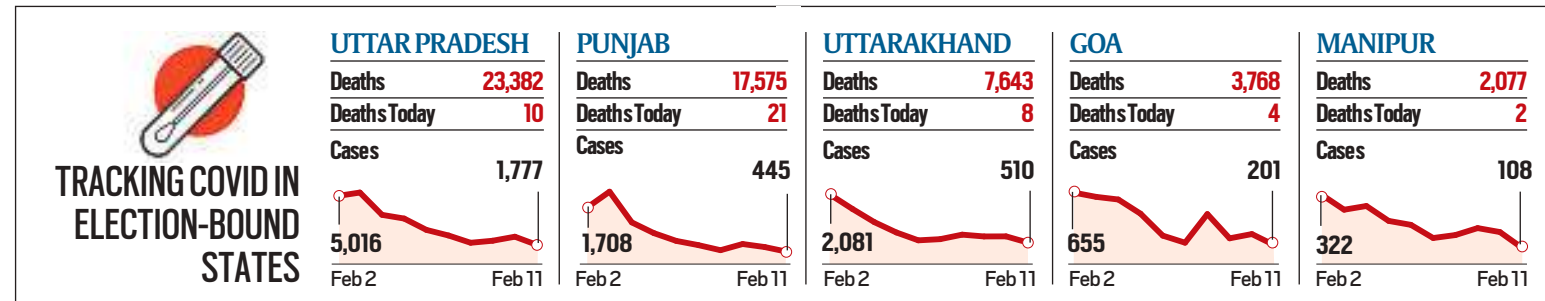
## The fallout

As per experts, the SP's promise of free electricity up to 300 units, along with free electricity to farmers, would cost the exchequer over Rs 25,000 crore per annum. Awadhesh Verma, President of the Uttar Pradesh State Power Consumer Forum, who has been fighting for reducing electricity rates for years, says, "In the recent past, Uttar Pradesh domestic electricity consumers have seen the maximum hike in electricity tariffs."

Verma feels any government would find it hard to write off the charge given the amount involved. According to him, a better solution would be reduced rates. Free power to farmers was a more practical promise, he adds. "It would cost the exchequer no more than Rs 1,800 crore, and would not be a problem."

## The promise

The SP was the first to vow 300 units of "free electricity" to domestic consumers if its government came to power. SP chief Akhilesh Yadav even launched a "registration campaign", asking



## In a first, Kejriwal's family hits AAP campaign trail in Punjab

**RAAKHI JAGGA**

LUDHIANA, FEBRUARY 11

THE SLOGANS, "Ek mauka Kejriwal nu" (one chance to Kejriwal) and "Ek mauka AAP nu" (one chance to AAP), resonated through the venue of an "all-women AAP rally" at Dhuri in Sangrur district Friday. AAP supremo and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita Kejriwal and their daughter Harshita came to address the rally to boost the campaign of the AAP's Dhuri candidate Bhagwant Mann, the Sangrur MP who is also the party's CM face in the February 20 Punjab Assembly polls.

This was the first time that Kejriwal's family hit the election campaign trail in Punjab.

Hundreds of women attended the rally called "Lekha Maawan Dhiyan da" (conversation between mothers and daughters), where Sunita and Harshita were joined by Mann's mother Harpal Kaur and his sister Manpreet Kaur. Many women had come to attend the rally by their two wheelers, cars or tractor-trolleys.

Addressing the rally, Sunita said, "My husband considers Mann as his younger brother and I am seeking votes for my 'devar



Family members of Bhagwant Mann, and Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita (3rd from left) and daughter Harshita at a public meeting in Punjab's Dhuri on Friday. **Courtesy: AAP/Twitter**

(brother-in-law) who has a passion to do something good for Punjab. Your MLA will be the CM of Punjab, do remember that. He was the only one in Parliament two days back who raised the issues of farmers..." The backdrop of the stage was formed by a hoarding emblazoned with a slogan: "Hun nahi khawange dhokha, Bhagwant Mann te Kejriwal nu de wange mauka (We will not get cheated anymore, will give one chance to Bhagwant Mann and Kejriwal)".

Sunita highlighted the AAP's pledge for giving Rs 1,000 per month to women. "I used to be an IT officer and was earning good

salary, but still the Rs 100 from my mother when I visited her place was very important for me... Similarly, this Rs 1,000 amount will be equally important for all the mothers, daughters... Koi suit le lena, beti ko de dena... maze aayenge." Harshita, while declaring her ignorance on how to deliver a speech, said, "I have come here to seek votes for my chacha-jiji... This time, vote for your children's future. You can see how Delhi is giving very good results in government schools. I studied from IIT-Delhi, I could have easily gone abroad but I learnt an important lesson from my father that we should work for the country."

## 60% in and out: The stories behind Goa's revolving doors

**MAYURA JANWALKAR**

PANAJI, FEBRUARY 11

LIKE A report by the Association of Democratic Reforms said, as many as 60 per cent of the MLAs in Goa have jumped parties since 2017, from the ones on whose ticket they were elected. The Congress is the worst-hit, with 16 of its 17 MLAs elected in 2017 now in other parties, barring just former chief minister and Leader of Opposition Digambar Kamat.

## A summary:

■ **24:** Of the 40 winners in 2017, 24 will be contesting from a different party or as Independents. These include the 12 (2 elected from MGP, 10 elected from Congress in 2017) who defected to the BJP in 2019.

■ **9:** In the current 40-member House, only 9 MLAs have been in the same party through at least two terms. Among them is Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, who has risen in the BJP ranks through the RSS. Of these 9 MLAs too, 3 have changed parties this time. They include former CM Luizinho Faleiro and Aleixo Reginaldo Lourenco (from the Congress to the TMC and now Independent), and ex-minister Micheal Lobo (from the BJP



After 40 years in Congress, ex-CM Luizinho Faleiro joined TMC last year.

to Congress).

■ **4:** Of the 10 Congress MLAs who joined it in 2019, the BJP has given tickets to 7. Of the 2 ex-MGP leaders, it has fielded 1. Of the 4 in all rejected, 1 (former minister Filipe Nery Rodrigues) is contesting on an NCP ticket now, and 3 (ex-Deputy Speaker Isidore Fernandes, former minister Deepak Pauskar and Wilfred D'sa) as Independents.

■ **Former Deputy CM Ramkrishna alias Sudin Dhavalikar:** Can earn the title of the most loyal MLA, having been in the same party (MGP) now through 5 wins and the coming contest. Goa's oldest regional party, the MGP itself has moved around. Having supported the BJP twice to form governments, it is now in an alliance with TMC.

■ **Former CM Churchill**

**Alemão:** The Benaulim strongman has hopped the most number of parties, and once served 19 days in power in 2009 as the first Catholic CM of the state. Alemão's stints include multiple outings with the Congress, two different regional fronts, NCP, and now the TMC.

■ **Former CM Luizinho Faleiro:** Till he ended his 40-year association with the Congress this time, Faleiro held the distinction of having won the maximum MLA elections in Goa (7) without changing his party. He is now a Rajya Sabha MP from the TMC.

■ **Former CM Pratap Singh Rane:** Goa's longest-serving MLA and six-time CM, Rane began his journey with the MGP before moving to the Congress in the late 1970s. He has won 10 consecutive elections for the Congress since. However, his son and daughter-in-law are now with the BJP, and Rane, confirming the Congress's worst fears, decided at the last moment not to contest.

■ **Aleixo Reginaldo Lourenco:** The three-time Congress MLA was in talks with AAP, resigned and joined the TMC in December, then quit the TMC, and is now contesting as an Independent.

## AN UPHILL BATTLE

## 16 villages, 15 km on foot: A day in a campaign at 1,800 m above sea level

**AVANEESH MISHRA**

RANIKHET, FEBRUARY 11

VIRTUAL CAMPAIGNING is futile in Uttarakhand's Ranikhet, the picturesque hill town nestled in the Himalayas. Situated some 1,800 metres over sea level, internet connectivity here is low and often reliant on clear weather conditions.

The BJP's candidate from the constituency, Pramod Nainwal (50), realised this the hard way. With physical rallies and roadshows banned due to the pandemic, he relies on village-to-village campaigning.

"In places like Ranikhet, virtual campaign is not an option. We twice attempted to organise virtual events but it just does not

work here. There is no internet. Twice we planned a virtual rally of the Prime Minister but rains and snowfall ruined our plans," he says.

And so, the BJP leader's day begins at 4am. After a breakfast of sabzi-roti and coffee, he leaves his house—all wrapped up in a saffron kurta, a green sweater, a traditional Uttarakhandi cap and a pair of Adidas shoes. By night, he wants to cover 16 villages to complete his target of 178 villages that fall under the Ranikhet Vidhan Sabha.

Uttarakhand votes on February 14 to elect its next state assembly.

"I physically have to travel every single village and touch every single house. In case there are a couple of villages very close



Pramod Nainwal while campaigning in Ranikhet

to each other, we organise a small jan sabha and invite them all at one place," says Nainwal after addressing a small gathering at the Matela Manihar village, his first stop for the day.

The cold weather and the terrain don't make it an easy jour-

## PAST ELECTIONS



ney. "In a day we all cover around 90-100km, and around 15-20km of that is on foot... A few days ago, there was also heavy snowfall and all the roads were covered with ice. Campaigning at such a time is a herculean task," says Aman Joshi, Nainwal's

brother-in-law who travels with him. Through the day, Nainwal—a PhD in law—is followed by his aides and supporters. Speakers mounted on the SUV he is travelling in blares a campaign song for the BJP: "Jo Ram ko laaye hain, hum unko layenge, duniya me

phir se hum bhagwa lehrayenge."

Still, Nainwal has an even tougher electoral battle. He is contesting against sitting MLA Karan Mahara, the two-time Congress legislator who has been chosen by the Opposition party once again.

The BJP leader, who fought and lost the 2017 assembly election from the seat as an Independent, is banking on anti-incumbency against Mahara—the same factor that the BJP is likely to wrestle with in the state.

Aware of the risk, Nainwal goes on with his day.

Early morning gatherings are sparse, with just 20-25 people in attendance, but Nainwal's convoy picks up the pace. By the afternoon, nearly 100 people are gathered to hear him in Jaina vil-

lage. He delivers a small speech in Kumaoni language and asks his audience to remember that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the one who provided free Covid-19 vaccines apart from the Rs 6,000 given to farmers annually under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme. The only way they can thank the Prime Minister is by pressing the "lotus", he says.

Regular stops in villages is also an opportunity to recruit members for the BJP or at least ask them to take a symbolic oath to support the party, but not everyone is convinced.

"Nainwal is my distant relative and that is why he asked me to symbolically join the party. The joining here means wearing a garland and a BJP scarf. I am not

going to say no to him, but that changes nothing. My vote is in my heart," says 72-year-old Deewan Singh Mehra, a kirana shop owner in Sula village.

"There is my vote," Mehra says, pointing at a Congress campaign vehicle passing by. He adds that Mahara has done a lot for the village while the BJP-led state government has done little to alleviate the unemployment issue for residents.

As the night sets in and the winding roads empty out, Nainwal, visibly tired, is around 60 km from his residence with two more villages to go.

"This is something which will keep going on till late night. I get to go to bed around 1am and again have to get up at 4am," he says, moving along.

# 7 IN PARLIAMENT

BUDGET SESSION

## FROM THE GALLERY

## FROM THE CHAIR

RAJYA SABHA

"On behalf of the honourable Chairman and myself, I would like to express our happiness over the manner in which proceedings of this august House took place during the first part of the Budget Session. The House has not witnessed any forced adjournments during the entire first part of this Budget Session and it functioned nearly half-an-hour more than the scheduled sitting time. The credit for this goes to every Member of this House... I compliment all sections of this august House for effective functioning of the House in a very positive way..."

HARIVANSH NARAYAN SINGH,  
Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha

LOK SABHA

"This House is witness to a series of incidents where the political events taking place outside have been raised in this House. The question is whether it is unconstitutional or against the rules. If it is so, then definitely that will be looked into. He is not mentioning any name. I will give you an opportunity and you can then counter the argument. There is no problem in that. Please make your submissions within the rules."

NK PREMACHANDRAN,

who was in the chair, asking BJP MP Nishikant Dubey not to interrupt TMC MP Sougata Roy, who wanted to raise the issue of remarks made by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath about about West Bengal, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir.

Only one-fourth the number of required Disha meetings being held, minister informs Lok Sabha

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

ONLY ONE-FOURTH of the required number of Disha meetings have taken place, Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh informed Lok Sabha on Friday.

District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee, also known as Disha, is responsible for monitoring the implementation of 43 government schemes and programmes including NREGS and PMGSY. Headed by an MP elected from the district, a Disha is required to meet at least once in a quarter. In a year, at least four meetings of Disha are required to be held. However, many MPs have complained that Disha meetings are not taking place in their constituencies. On Friday, when AIMIM MP Syed Imtiaz Jaleel raised this issue during Zero Hour, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla asked the Rural Development minister to take a review after consulting all the concerned departments so that Disha meetings are held and all officials attend the meetings.

Singh, who was present at the time in the House, said the issue was also raised by Congress MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury as well as other members.

"Today, I say with a heavy heart that only one-fourth of the required number of Disha meetings are taking place in the country," Singh said.

Earlier, raising the issue, Jaleel had said that Disha meetings were not taking place in his constituency, Aurangabad, because MPs Raosaheb Dadarao Danve and Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad were not able to find time for these meetings as both have become ministers.

## Sitharaman: Inflation lower despite higher contraction than 2008-09

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

UNEMPLOYMENT IS declining and the inflation rate is lower than what it was during the financial crisis of 2008-09, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said Friday in Rajya Sabha.

Responding to the budget discussion on the concluding day of the first part of this session, Sitharaman defended the document, saying it focused on boosting growth and creating jobs through public spending amid the pandemic.

She said the government's handling of inflation was "robust" and that it has taken measures across sectors to ensure increased employment.

"In order to attain growth, we wanted to undertake public expenditure in building infrastructure for a modern India," she said, adding that the government is looking to infrastructure for giving a stimulus to the economy.

She drew a comparison between the inflation now and during the global financial crisis, with respect to the contraction in the economy.

"In 2020-21, the -6.6 per cent contraction is one of the biggest the Indian economy had to go through. I just want to highlight that (in 2008-09) the contraction was only to the extent of Rs. 2.12 lakh crore. Now, the contraction is Rs. 9.57 lakh crore... because of this pandemic. But, in spite of the supply-side disruptions, India's CPI inflation now is at only 6.2 per cent," she said, adding that during the "smaller crisis" in 2008-09, the CPI inflation was 9.1 per cent.

Speaking on taxing cryptocurrency, Sitharaman maintained her earlier stand. "We have taxed the profit emanating from the transactions. I am not doing anything to legalise it or ban it... legitimate or illegitimate is a different



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Rajya Sabha on Friday. PTI

Question... But I will tax it because it is a sovereign right to tax."

Responding to accusations made by members of the opposition that numbers in the budget were different from those in the Economic Survey, the Finance Minister said that the comparison made was "misleading" as "the Economic Survey draws its source of information from one particular set of data" while the government looks at advance estimates.

Sitharaman also clarified that the government has announced the creation of 60 lakh jobs through PLI-driven exercises but that employment will be generated across sectors, with the Rs. 7.5 lakh crore spending on public infrastructure also creating jobs.

"The latest periodic Labour Force Survey indicates that the urban unemployment rate in January-March quarter of 2021-22 has declined to

pre-pandemic level of 9 per cent after peaking at 20.8 per cent of unemployment... So, the unemployment issue is be-

ing addressed and the unemployment numbers are coming down. November 2021 saw a net

addition in the EPFO subscription peaking at 13.9 lakh new subscribers, an increase of 109.21 per cent over the previous year. This is the highest ever achieved since 2017," she said.

The Finance Minister said the increased allocation to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs was not because of the Central Vista but the PM Awas Yojana-Urban in which the allocation has been enhanced from Rs 8,000 crore to Rs 28,000 crore.

She said allocation has been increasing in the health sector — from Rs 64,000 crore in 2019-20, Rs 80,026 crore in 2020-21, Rs. 85,950 crore in the Revised Estimates of 2021-22 and Rs 86,606 crore in the 2022-23 budget.

"Expenditure on Covid-related health preparedness had received Rs 12,000 crore in 2020-21, and more than Rs 15,000 crore in 2022-23. So, for preparedness we have given that money as well. The allocation for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, which was Rs 64,000 crore, has gone to Rs 86,606 crore," she said.

Sitharaman said that technology and digital adaptation are also instruments through which the government wants to work, and therefore have been prioritised in the budget.

She said that start-ups are also being encouraged as a major driver of growth and employment.

The minister said that fertilizer subsidies have been increased despite the increase in the global prices.

She added that "a high-level committee (was) to be formed for understanding how best we can have more resources within India through the PEs and also Venture Capital Funds for enabling more such funding of start-ups."



## UNTIL NEXT TIME

MPs leave the Parliament House complex on Friday, the last day of the first part of the Budget Session. Both Houses will reassemble on March 14. PTI

## Rejected NOC for movie on gay officer as it would cast Army in poor light: Govt

KRISHN KAUSHIK  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

THE DEFENCE Ministry on Friday said that the Army refused a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for a movie as it showed "a romantic relationship between an Army officer and a local Kashmiri boy", which would have shown "the Army in a poor light".

The ministry said that total 18 proposals were received from January 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022, by the Army, of which one was rejected and one is still pending.

In response to a question by BJP MP Varun Gandhi, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt, in a written response in the Lok Sabha, said, "The reason for refusal of granting NOC is the portrayal of a romantic relationship between an Army soldier serving in Kashmir and a local boy, which casts Indian Army in poor light and raises security issues."

In January, filmmaker Onir had mentioned that a film proposal by him was rejected by the Army, which was based on the life of a retired Indian Army officer who is gay. In an interview to *The Indian Express*, Onir had said that the idea behind the movie was "to create a dialogue" and "there was no criticism of the Army but it talks about certain situations. But the way you make a film and the

discourse it initiates are different from the situation when the script goes to a person who probably has no idea about cinema."

In the response to the Lok Sabha on Friday, MoS Defence Bhatt said that the approval process "is not arbitrary/discriminatory in nature nor does it violate Article 14 of the Constitution of India. Each case is considered based on its own merits keeping in view the factors like national security, the defence of India, situation of law and order in the country/various states, maintenance of discipline in the Armed Forces, ethos/customs of military service and general sentiments of the citizens and image of the Armed Forces in the minds of the citizens of India/general public."

The process, Bhatt said in his response, is "not violative of freedom of speech and expressions, guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India" stating that the "freedom of speech and expression is also subject to reasonable restrictions".

The rationale behind issuing NOC to filmmakers/producers for movies based on defence related themes is "to ensure that the Armed Forces are not depicted in a manner which brings disrepute to the Armed Forces/Government/Country, as also to ensure factual accuracy and that no classified matters are brought out in the open domain that could effect in security of the country."

## 'All over the world, people say there has to be more accountability on social media'

UNION MINISTER for Communications, Electronics and IT **ASHWINI VAISHNAW** tells **LIZ MATHEW** that the government wants to build consensus when it comes to having stricter guidelines for social media.

**You have said in Parliament that you were open for stricter guidelines for social media. Can you explain what you meant? Do you want more disclosures from the platforms on how they are dealing with controversial issues?**

Society is evolving in terms of its engagement with social media as it plays a more and more active role. All over the world, people say there has to be more accountability on social media, mainly because our children and our family members are getting affected by it. So, do we have to have a more self regulatory regime where accountability is higher on social media? that is the question. Our government's view is that we must build consensus around this so that there is balance between freedom of expression and accountability on social media.

Social media companies have to come up with their own method, their own process by which content that is not to be published — content that is not good for society — is taken down by themselves. There should be more responsibility on users too. That is also to be shared.

## In LS, Tharoor demands release of journalists Shah, Gul, Kappan to 'preserve' press freedom

LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

CONGRESS MP Shashi Tharoor on Friday urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to facilitate "the immediate and unconditional release" of journalists Fahad Shah, Sajad Gul and Siddique Kappan "in the interest of preserving the freedom of press" in India.

Raising the issue in Lok Sabha during Zero Hour, Tharoor said that while Shah and Gul were arrested on charges of sedition and under the Public Safety Act respectively in Jammu and Kashmir, Kappan has been in "prolonged detention" under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in Uttar Pradesh.

"Journalists deserve to be able to do their job safely without fear of arrest or harassment. The Supreme Court too has recognised the importance of dissent in a vibrant democracy stating that a free and independent press is a vital pillar of democracy, which supports an informed and democratically-engaged citizenry, and allows those in power to be held accountable more meaningfully," Tharoor said. He said India has been named among the five most dangerous countries in the world for journalists at present.

National Conference MP Hasnain Masoodi also backed Tharoor's demand.

Meanwhile, BSP MP Danish Ali sought the reopening of universities and referred particularly to Jamia Millia Islamia and Aligarh Muslim University. He also said the process to appoint a new vice-chancellor for AMU should be set in motion.

Ali, the MP from Amroha in Uttar Pradesh, said: "It has been two years since the educational institutions remained closed, and many schools and colleges have now been opened. The government is opening up everything, but these premier institutions (Jamia and AMU) are still closed," he said.

BJP MP Uday Pratap Singh said a law should be enacted to implement a two-child policy to control the rate of increase of population.

"The country does not have the capacity to support 135 crore people. In the future, the population is projected to reach 160 crore, which will be a strain on national resources," Singh said during Zero Hour.

Nishikant Dubey, BJP MP from Godda in Jharkhand said the government should restrict access to reservation for those who convert from Hinduism to other religions.

## IN LAST 10 YEARS

## 211 cadets discharged from defence academies after being injured: MoS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

MORE THAN 200 cadets from three defence academies have been discharged over the last ten years after they were seriously injured and became unfit for service, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt told Lok Sabha on Friday. He added that such cadets receive financial assistance from the government.

The minister was answering a question by NCP MP Shrinivas Patil, who asked if the government was aware of instances of cadets undergoing training at the National Defence



Congress MP Shashi Tharoor at Parliament House complex on Friday. PTI

## Opp members stage walkout over Yogi remarks on Kashmir, Bengal, Kerala

New Delhi: Members of the Opposition, led by Congress and TMC, staged a walkout in the Lok Sabha on Friday protesting against Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's remark that the state would turn into "Kashmir, Bengal or Kerala" if the BJP does not return to power.

While Congress MP TN Prathapan gave notice for an adjournment motion to take up the matter, his party leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury raised the issue as soon as the House met on Friday afternoon.

Chowdhury said it was shameful that the UP chief minister made such a statement and urged the House to take up the matter. But Speaker Om Birla proceeded to the Question Hour. He said the MPs could raise the issue after the Question Hour.

The MPs, however, insisted that they should be given a chance to speak. When the Speaker did not budge, they staged a walkout. Members from the Congress, DMK, Left and the RSP walked out first, after which the TMC members followed as another group.

LIZ MATHEW

"Under Article 341 for Scheduled Castes, it is clearly mentioned that if they convert to any other religion, their status as SC will cease to exist," he said. He also demanded that a similar provision be brought in under Article 342 meant for Scheduled Tribes to discourage them from converting.



Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

**Are you planning to formalise the review process on social media companies?**

Interactions between the ministry, officials and social media platforms regularly happen, and it is a regular process. The interaction takes place at various levels, ministerial levels and so on... I do not think you can put these things in a straight jacket here. Its a structure in which people interact in a particular way. It all depends on the requirement.

**Meta, in its recent Securities and Exchange Commission filing in the US**

**has flagged that Indian privacy laws may require local content storage which will increase cost. Has the ministry had any talks about this?**

Well, the data protection Bill has been deliberated by a very large section of stakeholders, and there is a joint committee of Parliament which has come up with some recommendations. We have to follow the process of consultation. Let us look at the law as it comes. Whatever decision is good for the country will be taken.

**How do you address the concerns expressed about the data protection Bill in its current form? There are concerns that the Bill seeks to regulate the use of data and to foster a privacy protection framework in the country. How are you planning to address this?**

With Parliament being in session, and the Bill yet to come up, I do not think it proper for me to comment on it. The committee is a statutory body that has given a proper report and I should not comment on it.

**How will you ensure that the states and the Centre are working together to rein in social media companies?**

In our constitutional structure, law and order is a state responsibility. So far, the state governments have taken action on the basis of inputs given to them.

## 8 GOVT &amp; POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## WORD PLAY

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman, while replying to the discussion on Budget, dropped her tough composure when CPI(M) MP John Brittas took a dig at his own Left colleague from Kerala, CPI leader Binoy Viswam. Sitharaman was irritated when Viswam persisted with his interruptions. Brittas got up and told Sitharaman in a lighter vein that Viswam was "entitled to be agitated as the Finance Minister was repeatedly referring to the sliding CPI!" Sitharaman, along with the entire House, had a hearty laugh. The context was that the Finance Minister was talking about the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in response to questions by the Opposition on inflation under the BJP government. Incidentally, CPI(M) has an axe to grind as the CPI recently criticised the CPI(M)-led LDF government in Kerala.

## SMOOTH RUNNING

LOK SABHA Speaker Om Birla is known for giving opportunities to the Opposition to make their voices heard in the House. So when he introduces strict rules, they appear to be accepting it without much complaints. When the Speaker announced that no member would be allowed to stand and talk to another member inside the House for more than five seconds, RSP MP N K Premachandran requested that it should be 10 seconds. And Birla immediately agreed. When Premachandran raised a question on the central government's AMRUT programme, the Speaker praised both the MP and Union Minister Hardeep Puri, who replied to the question. "Intelligent member and intelligent minister," the Speaker said. Despite his jovial approach, Birla made it sure that everyone followed his instructions. On Friday, when TMC MP Saugata Roy was seen standing and talking to Independent MP Navneet Kaur for more than 10 seconds, he called out "Saugata Roy". The TMC MP immediately stopped the conversation, saying sorry to the Chair.

## TWEETING TYPOS

SOCIAL MEDIA on Thursday witnessed what it would have perhaps never imagined: RPI leader Ramdas Athavale correcting Congress leader Shashi Tharoor's English. Tharoor while taking a pot-shot at Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's reply to the Budget debate happened to introduce a couple of typos in his tweet that said Athavale had a stunned look on his face during the reply as even the treasury benches couldn't believe Sitharaman's claims on the economy. Quoting the tweet, Athavale said, "...they say one is bound to make mistakes while making unnecessary claims and statements. It's not 'Bydget' but BUDGET. Also, not reply but 'reply'!" Tharoor being Tharoor stuck on Athavale in his reply: "I stand corrected, Ramdas ji. Careless typing is a bigger sin than bad English! But while you're on a roll, there's someone at JNU who could benefit from your tuition..."

## Azam in jail over false cases, minister's son out on bail for killing farmers: Akhilesh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 11

TAKING A dig at the Bharatiya Janata Party-led state government for keeping his party MP in jail in cases related to petty crimes, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav Friday said that while the son of Union Minister Ajay Mishra Teni is out on bail after mowing down farmers, Azam Khan was sent to jail for "false charges".

Akhilesh was in Rampur on Friday to campaign for Azam and his son Abdullah who are contesting the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections from Rampur Sadar and Suar seats respectively. "Azam Khan was also sent to jail on false



Yadav was in Rampur to campaign for Azam and his son

charges. Cases of buffalo theft, chicken theft and theft of books were lodged against him. But the man who crushed farmers under the wheels of a jeep has come out of jail. This is the new India of the BJP," he said. The Allahabad HC on Thursday granted bail to Ashish Mishra, the son of Union minister Ajay Mishra, in a case of violence in Lakhimpur Kheri district in which eight people, including four farmers, were killed.

## President to review Navy's fleet in Visakhapatnam on Feb 21

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

PRESIDENT RAM Nath Kovind will review the Navy's fleet, which is done by every President once in his term, later this month in Visakhapatnam. For the review, more than 60 vessels of the Navy and Coast Guard, all of which have been made in the country, will participate.

The Navy said on Friday that this will be the 12th Presidential Fleet Review – the last one was conducted in 2016 under President Pranab Mukherjee.

According to the Navy, the fleet review is a "long-standing tradition followed by navies all across the world" and it is "an assembly of ships at a pre-designated place for the purpose of displaying loyalty and allegiance

to the sovereign and the state". By reviewing the ships, the head of the state, "reaffirms his faith in the fleet and its ability to defend the nation's maritime interests" and such an exercise is done without any "belligerent intentions".

The Navy said that the review will take place on February 21, and to commemorate the 75th year of independence, the theme of PFR 22 is 'Indian Navy – 75 years in Service of the Nation'.

More than 60 ships, including from the Coast Guard, the Shipping Corporation of India, and the National Institute of Ocean Technology, submarines and over 50 aircraft will participate in the review. The ceremony will include review at the anchorage, a steampast in a mobile column, a flypast, and parade of sails.

## If elected, dynasts in UP will stop schemes for poor: PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KASGANJ, FEBRUARY 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Friday said the BJP's flag was flying high after the first round of voting in Uttar Pradesh and asked people not to vote for the "dynasts" who intend to stop the government's welfare schemes for the poor.

Modi made the comments at a physical rally in Kasganj district that will vote in the third phase on February 20.

In an apparent dig at the Samajwadi Party (SP), Modi said, "The dynastic leaders are so desperate that they have made up their mind to stop all the schemes [of BJP government] which are run for the poor. Hence, these people should never be given an opportunity."

Urging the people of Uttar Pradesh to "remain alert", he said, "The blessings and love that you have showered on Modi and Yogi ji, have robbed these pariwaradis [dynasts] of their sleep. No matter how much efforts they made to divide you on the basis of caste, they have failed."

Taking a jibe at his political rivals, Modi said after the first round of voting, the BJP's flag is flying high while its rivals were disappointed. "In all the interviews given by the leaders of Opposition parties, they have a long face. Even those who are staunch dynasts have realised this. Hence, they have started raising questions over the EVMs [Electronic Voting Machines], and Election Commission." They would have plenty of time to badmouth EVMs after March 10, when results will be declared, he added.

Modi also accused the Opposition of trying to sabotage the central government's Covid-19 vaccination drive. "These rumour-mongers made every effort to ensure that free Covid vaccines are not administered to poor families. But the government did not allow them to succeed," he added.

Showering praises on Yogi Adityanath, Modi said everyone would appreciate that even his



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during an election rally in Kasganj, Uttar Pradesh on Friday. AP

opponents could not level corruption charges against the chief minister.

He also hailed Adityanath's announcement to name a roundabout in Ayodhya after iconic singer Lata Mangeshkar, who died on February 6, and termed it as an example of "unity of India".

The prime minister also lauded women for turning up in large numbers to vote in the first phase. "Yesterday, voting for the first phase in UP took place. People came out in large numbers from their homes and voted for the lotus [BJP's poll symbol] for the development of UP and to keep it safe," he said.

Targeting SP chief Akhilesh Yadav over his appeal to the followers of Dalit icon Dr BR Ambedkar to join his party and help oust the BJP from power, Modi said, "The ghor pariwarwadis [staunch dynasts] are the biggest problem for the country's Constitution and democracy."

At a press conference last week, Yadav urged the followers of Ambedkar to join the party's effort to oust the BJP from power so that democracy could be saved and people's right protected.

## At Uttarakhand rally: 'Cong divides people in name of caste, religion'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE DEHRADUN, FEBRUARY 11

IN UTTARAKHAND'S Almora, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday accused the opposition Congress of dividing people on the basis of caste, religion, language and working on the formula of 'sabme daalo phoot, mil kar karo loot' (divide everyone and loot together).

Addressing an election rally in Almora, the PM said, "Our opponents have the formula of 'sabme daalo phoot, mil kar karo loot'. The Congress party had this policy not just in Uttarakhand but the entire country. They have divided people in the name of caste, belief, religion, language and state. Within states, they divide on the basis of areas... No one has suffered from this as

much as Uttarakhand. They attempted to create a divide between Garhwal and Kumaon so that they can loot both," the Prime Minister said.

PM Modi also took a dig at Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and said, "See what has become of Congress... only the brother-sister duo is left campaigning. Don't they have any other leaders in the party?"

"After campaigning in three states -- Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa -- yesterday, I'm back among you in Almora today. The enthusiasm and love people have for the BJP in every state is unparalleled. I am seeing that the voters never forget good work... Based on what I saw yesterday, it is clear that people are fighting this election more than the BJP itself," the PM said.



Rahul Gandhi addresses a press conference in Margao, South Goa on Friday. Twitter/Goa Congress

## PM's job is to distract: Rahul on Goa remark

MAYURA JANWALKAR MARGAO, FEBRUARY 11

IN GOA three days before the election, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday hit back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over remarks on the state's liberation and said the PM has to "distract" people because the BJP government had nothing to show for its governance record in the last five years.

Rahul, addressing a press conference in Margao, said PM Modi's statement that former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru delayed Goa's liberation reflected a lack of understanding the "history of those times".

Goa was liberated from Portuguese rule in 1961.

"He (PM Modi) cannot come to you (Goans) today and say - 'I gave you jobs, I gave you employment, I fixed your problems, I stole your last government'. He can't say that, so he has to distract you. His role is to distract. His role is to take you away from your issues. The fact of the matter is that freedom fighters have commented on this issue, academics have commented on this issue. The sad fact is that the Prime Minister does not understand the history of those times..." Rahul said.

His retort came after the

Prime Minister, in Parliament earlier this week and at a political rally in north Goa's Mapusa on Thursday, blamed Nehru for Goa's liberation 14 years after India's independence.

"The country's first PM, Pandit Nehru, declared from the Red Fort - you can hear his speech on YouTube today. He said from the Red Fort that to help those struggling for the liberation of Goa, he will not send the Army..."

On Friday, Rahul Gandhi also said the pledge of loyalty taken by the Congress candidates and on February 4 was not because the party did not trust them. It was a "demonstration of intent", he said.

"That (pledge) function was a demonstration of intent. It does not mean we do not trust our candidates. It is a demonstration that, we feel, we have a group of candidates who have integrity and who are going to work to form a government," Gandhi said.

The Congress won the most number of seats (17) in the 2017 assembly election but it was the BJP that stitched up a coalition with regional parties and independents to form a government in Goa. In 2019, 10 Congress MLAs defected to the BJP in a contested "merger" of legislative parties.

Goa goes to the polls on February 14, and votes will be counted on March 10.

## IN UTTARAKHAND MANIFESTO: 300 UNITS FREE POWER PER MONTH

## Can lodge case if AAP fails to keep poll promises: CM candidate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE DEHRADUN, FEBRUARY 11

THE AAM Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday released its poll manifesto for Uttarakhand, titled 'Vachan Patra', along with an affidavit signed by the party's Chief Minister candidate Col (Retd) Ajay Kothiyal, which allows people to file cases against the party if the promises are not fulfilled.

The poll manifesto includes 10 guarantees from party national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, and 119 promises from Kothiyal.

The 10 guarantees include corruption-free Uttarakhand and doubling the Budget of Uttarakhand in five years. The AAP also promised to provide 300 units of free electricity every month and 24-hour power supply to every household. If elected



AAP Chief Ministerial candidate Col (Retd) Ajay Kothiyal

to power, the AAP said it will send elders on free pilgrimage and will develop Uttarakhand as the spiritual capital of Hindus.

Releasing the manifesto in Dehradun, party leader Gopal Rai said for the first time in the history of Uttarakhand a political party is releasing the manifesto along with a signed affidavit.

In the signed affidavit, Kothiyal said, "After AAP government is formed in Uttarakhand, work will be done with full enthusiasm and passion on all the points in our manifesto. The AAP will ask for votes in the next assembly elections only on the works done by the government."



## GOA CALLING

Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal addresses a public meeting in Velim on Friday. Attacking the BJP-led Goa government, Kejriwal said that the state government had built a helipad for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit within 24 hours, but a bus stop next to the site had not come up in 20 years. The Assembly polls are scheduled to be held on February 14. ANI

## ORDER ON SUSPENDED MAHARASHTRA MLAs

## Chairperson, Speaker meet Kovind, seek judicial review of SC order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

THE CHAIRPERSON and Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly met with President Ram Nath Kovind requesting him to refer the Supreme Court judgment, which had set aside the suspension of 12 BJP MLAs from the Maharashtra Assembly, to the constitution bench of SC for "a judicial review".

The presiding officers of the two Houses of Maharashtra's legislature, in their submission before the President, said that the top court judgment had "overstepped" confines marked by the Constitution between the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature.

On January 29, the SC had



Legislative Council Chairman Ramraje Naik Nimbalkar

ruled that the Maharashtra Assembly's July 5, 2021 resolution suspending 12 BJP MLAs for one year following alleged misbehaviour in the House was "unconstitutional, substantively illegal and irrational". The SC had said that the legislators could not have been suspended beyond the tenure of that session.

On Thursday, Maharashtra Legislative Council Chairman Ramraje Naik-Nimbalkar along with the deputy speaker of Legislative Assembly Narhari

Zirwal and deputy chairman of the Legislative Council Neelam Gorhe met the President at Raj Bhavan and handed over a memorandum, signed by all three, to him. "We hold the Honourable Supreme Court in the highest possible esteem. Yet, we are compelled to submit with utmost humbleness that the aforementioned judgement passed by the Honourable Supreme Court does not sit well with the provisions of Article 190, 194 and 212 of the Constitution," it stated. "...The honourable President of India has been insistently urged to oblige us by exercising the powers conferred upon him... and request the SC to subject the aforesaid judgement to a judicial review."

Nimbalkar said that the President had assured them that he would look into the matter.

## Maharashtra minister gets jail for not disclosing flat in nomination papers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

MAHARASHTRA MINISTER Omprakash Kadu alias Bacchu was convicted by a magistrate court in Chandur Bazar in Amravati district on Friday and sentenced to two months imprisonment and fined to the tune of Rs 25,000 for allegedly hiding details of his flat in Oshiwara, Mumbai, while filing nomination papers in 2014 elections.

Gopal Timmare, the complainant in the case, earlier worked for Bacchu but parted ways with him due to some differences. Timmare is presently a corporator from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Timmare lodged a non-cognizable (NC) complaint

with the Asegaon police in 2017 alleging Bacchu, while filing his nomination papers for 2014 Vidhan Sabha elections, did not mention that he owned a flat in Oshiwara. Bacchu had taken a loan from a bank in 2009 and had registered the flat in his name in 2011. Although he showed a bank loan in the nomination papers, he did not mention the flat has been taken from the loan, the complainant said. This was done to mislead the Election Commission and the public, it was alleged.

"We took permission from the court to convert the NC to FIR and investigated the case. A charge sheet was filed in 2018," said investigating officer, inspector Ajay Akare. Meanwhile, Kadu said, "I will appeal against the order. It's a conspiracy..."

# Char Dham panel chief quits, says his belief is shattered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11



The Rs 12,000-crore highway expansion project was envisaged to widen 889 km of hill roads to provide all-weather connectivity in the Char Dham circuit. Express file

see any purpose in continuing to head the HPC or indeed, even to be a part of it," he wrote.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Chopra said: "I feel I'll be able to do more without the constraints of being part of an official committee — perhaps engage more meaningfully in public education, and also monitor closely and write about how the (Char Dham) project carries on — particularly in the Bhagirathi Eco Sensitive zone where the HPC put precise conditions for roads and the SC asked the MoRTH to follow those unanimous recommendations."

In his letter, 75-year-old Chopra recalled how he was "compelled to accept" the responsibility in September 2019, despite his age, "by an inner voice born out of a 40-year commitment to help restore the

degraded Himalayan environment and the livelihoods of its people".

"That same inner voice now compels me to move out. The belief that the HPC could protect this fragile ecology has been shattered. I can do no more. I therefore choose to resign," he wrote.

Asked if he felt despondent, Chopra said: "While travelling through villages until a decade ago, I would be amazed at how little people remembered about the Chipko movement. Today, we have youngsters in Dehradun opposing tree felling. These are straws in the wind. One has to keep sowing, the rain will come."

Describing the Himalayas as a marvel of nature, Chopra wrote in his resignation letter: "Sustainable development demands approaches that are

both geologically and ecologically sound. Such development also enhances disaster-resilience and hence national security, especially when climate challenges to slope stability are becoming far more unpredictable.

"As a member of the HPC, however, I saw at close quarters the desecration of the once impregnable Himalayas... I have seen engineers armed with modern technological weapons assaulting the Himalayas... The engineers exult and circulate photographs proving their conquest of Nature, little realizing that they too are a part of Nature and cannot survive if their own natural environment is destroyed.

"Nature, however, neither forgets nor forgives such wilful wrongs inflicted on her treasures. Already we have witnessed stretches of roads disappear that have later taken months to repair. Nature sounded warning bells in June 2013 and February 2021 with disastrous consequences."

A flagship initiative of the Centre, the Rs 12,000-crore highway expansion project was envisaged in 2016 to widen 889 km of hill roads to provide all-weather connectivity in the Char Dham circuit — Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri — in the upper Himalayas.

FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

# Sand mining: ED remand ends, Channi nephew sent to 14-day judicial custody

ANJU AGNIHOTRICHABA  
JALANDHAR, FEBRUARY 11

A SPECIAL court Friday sent Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi's nephew Bhopinder Singh Honey, arrested earlier this month in a money laundering case pertaining to illegal sand mining, to 14-day judicial custody.

The Enforcement Directorate produced Honey in the Special PMLA Court of Judge Rupinderjit Chahal seeking extension of his remand by seven days, which was denied.

Honey was arrested during the intervening night of February 3 and 4 by the ED, which got his custody till February 8. It was later extended till February 11. On Friday, the ED could not present any fresh evidence against Honey. The agency, however, informed the court that digital devices, including mobile phone, recovered from Honey contain around 18 lakh pages of data out of which one lakh pages have been analysed. The ED said it needs further remand of the accused to confront him with additional facts that may emerge while analysing the 17 lakh remaining digital pages.

The ED informed the court that during the remand period, Honey was confronted with seized documents, which revealed his deep involvement in the process of sand mining activity.

# Kashmir: One policeman killed, four injured in grenade attack

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 11

A POLICEMAN died while four others were injured in a grenade attack at a joint Police and Border Security Force (BSF) party in Bandipora, North Kashmir, police said on Friday.

The incident took place near the Nishat Park area at 5 o'clock on Friday evening. "Terrorists hurled a grenade at a joint party of Police & BSF in Bandipora resulting in martyrdom of one police personnel and injuries to four other police personnel. Senior officers reached at the terror crime spot," J&K Police said in a statement.

Preliminary investigations, as per the police, revealed that militants hurled a grenade upon the 'Naka' (patrol) party near Nishat Park leaving five Police/BSF personnel with splinter injuries. The injured personnel were evacuated to the nearest hospital. However, a policeman identified as Zubair Ahmed succumbed to his injuries. The condition of the other injured personnel is stable, police said.



People carry the mortal remains of a policeman who was killed in Bandipora. Shuaib Masoodi

"Police has registered a case in this regard under relevant sections of law. Investigation is in progress and officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of this terror crime. Area has been cordoned off and search is going on," a spokesperson said.

Condemning the attack, National Conference vice president and former J&K chief minister, Omar Abdullah said, "I join

my party in condemning this attack on the police in Bandipora & send my condolences to the family of Zubair Ahmed."

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president and former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti also took to Twitter to condemn the attack. "Condemn today's attack on police personnel in Bandipora & condolences to the family of Zubair Ahmed killed in the line of duty," she said.

# Journalists' groups write to I&B Minister against new accreditation norms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

FIVE JOURNALISTS' groups have written to Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur against the "drastically" altered Press Information Bureau (PIB) accreditation guidelines, which were issued this week, saying that the new guidelines violated the existing guidelines prepared by Press Council of India (PCI).

The letter, with the subject "Protest by the journalists against the new guidelines", written by PCI president and secretary general, was also signed by the heads of Women Press Corps of India, Press Association, Delhi Union of Journalists and Working News Cameraman Association.

They said in the letter that various journalists' organisations, associations and unions "under the aegis of Press Club of India held a meeting today and discussed the new PIB accreditation guidelines".

"The meeting after the detailed discussions strongly opposed the unilateral and unfair decision of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in drastically altering the guidelines and forming a lopsided Central Media Accreditation Committee (CMAC). Both the guidelines and the CMAC violate the existing guidelines framed by the apex media body Press Council of India," the letter said.

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**PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION**

**E-AUCTION Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / hypothecated / Pledged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on **14.03.2022**. Details are as under :

Sl. No.	Name / Address Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price /EMD/ Bid Multiplier Amt./A/c No. /IFSC/ EMD Date
1.	ARRAH- Branch Mob. 8210998301	Kamlesh Kumar Pandey, S/o Late Mundrika Pandey, Mohalla-Ramgarhia, P.S.-Arrah Town Bhojpur-802301	Rs. 31,21,000 as on 05.08.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All the part and parcel of property in the name of Kamlesh Kumar Pandey consisting of Mauza- Kasbe Arrah, Mohalla - Ramgarhia Thana Arrah Town Thana No- 237, Khata No- 1873, Khasra No.- 8254 Arrah, District- Bhojpur- 802301. Total Area - 1 Katha five dhur. Boundary :- North-Dhupa Devi, South-Drainage Channel, East - Road, West - Shri Nandlal Mahto.	Rs. 14,59,000/- Rs. 1,46,000/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 6959295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0006959 10.03.2022
2.	Hajipur- Branch Mob. 8210998316	M/s New Singh Jee Hatchery, Prop-Sri Ram Niranjn Singh, S/o Ram Ishwar Singh, Road No. 7, Rajput Nagar, Hajipur, Vaishali	Rs. 23,86,145.26/- as on 09.07.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All the part and parcel of property in the name of Sri Ram Niranjn Singh, Tara Singh and Roshan Kumar consisting of Sale Deed No. 4163 and 4164 Khata No 425, Khesra no 1100 measuring 37 Dhur situated at Thana No. 162, under P.S. Industrial Area, Rajput Nagar, Hajipur, Dist.-Vaishali Boundary :- North-Bhagirath Singh South-Anil Prasad Singh, East - Abiraj Devi, West - Deep Narayan Sahkari Grih Nirman Samiti	Rs. 1,05,69,000/- Rs. 10,56,990/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 6959295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0006959 11.03.2022

For Detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in [www.canarabank.com](http://www.canarabank.com)

Date : 08.02.2022 Place : Patna Authorised Officer Canara Bank

**TENDER NOTICE**  
**AIR FORCE STATION PALAM**

1. The Air Officer Commanding, Air Force Station Palam invites sealed quotations for the following work:

(a) Name of work	Installation of Public Address system & Public Address conference system including mikes (all types) (Customized Audio System with echo cancellation technology), Electric/ LED display board (Digital LED Board), Small Rostrum (Electronic Lectern) with all accessories for Left Annexe of Jumbo Majumdar Centre of dimension 58x48x20 ft.
(b) Approx cost of work	Rs. 35,02,660/-
(c) Earnest money to be deposited	Rs. 1,05,080/-
(d) Place of collection and drop of tender	Fire Section (Camp Area), Air Force Station Palam, Thimayya Marg, Delhi Cantt - 110010
(e) Time of collection and survey of area	18 Feb 22 - 25 Feb 22
(f) Last date for submission of Tender	On or before 28 Feb 22 by 1200 hrs at Fire Section

2. Rs. 100/- (Rupees One Hundred) is to be paid as tender fees at the time of collection of RFP.  
3. The firms interested for above work must be GST registered. For more details and all the terms & conditions please collect tender documents from above mentioned place mentioned at para (d). Earnest money will be acceptable in form of "TDR" or "FDR" payable to "SI Fund". The original TDR/FDR is to be attached along with tender documents/quotation and drop in the tender box (Contact on 011-25687197 Extn 23247228 7428544494 and 9599864495).  
**Note: Tender will not be accepted/considered from the firm, who will not attend the pre-bid meeting.**

**CSIR - CENTRAL LEATHER RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
(विज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)  
अद्वयार, चेन्नै, तमिलनाडु Adyar, Chennai - 600 020, Tamil Nadu  
दूरभाष Telephone : 91 - 44 - 24437420, 24437193, 24437257, 24437162. ई-मेल Email : [spp@clri.res.in](mailto:spp@clri.res.in)

Date: 10/02/2022

**OPEN TENDER NOTICE (gem.gov.in)**

Director, CSIR - Central Leather Research Institute, Adyar, Chennai - 600 020, INDIA, (CLRI) invites encrypted bids on [gem.gov.in](http://gem.gov.in) from manufacturers, their authorized distributors for purchase of items listed below. The tender is only open for local suppliers as per Public procurement Preference to Make in India, Order No. P-45021/2/2017-PP (BE-II) dt 16th September, 2020.

Sl. No.	Tender No. & GEM Tender ID	Description of items	Qty	Single/ Double bid	Bid Security (EMD)
1.	28(10)/2021/Pur/T-185 & GEM/2022/B/1939699	Supply, installation and commissioning of GPU SERVER	7 Nos	Double Bid	Rs.375000/-
2.	28(11)/2021/ Pur/T-194 & GEM/2022/B/1943670	Procurement of Maestro access license & FEP + floating license	1 No	Double Bid	Rs. 77,500/-
3.	28(12)/2021/ Pur/T-195 & GEM/2022/B/1943737	Procurement of Maestro access license & KINME access license	8 Sets	Double Bid	Rs. 1,37,500/-

Tender Closing Date : 21st February, 2022 at 3.00 P.M. (IST)  
Tender Opening Date : 21st February, 2022 at 3.30 P.M. (IST)  
The bid document can be downloaded from [gem.gov.in](http://gem.gov.in) & [www.clri.org](http://www.clri.org). Tenders should be submitted through GeM portal as above

**STORES & PURCHASE OFFICER**  
(For & on behalf of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ**  
(An Organisation of the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)  
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**B. Communication Resource Unit (CRU) sponsored by UNICEF**

- UNICEF CRU-SBCC Coordinator (Training & Knowledge Management) - 1 No.

For Job profiles, Eligibility Criteria, remuneration and submission of online application, please visit <http://career.nirdpr.in/>  
Last date for receipt of online applications : 26.02.2022

Advt. No. 6/2022 Sd/-  
(No. NIRDPR/CSA/RC-DSJE/2021-22) Assistant Registrar (E)

**Subject: Engagement of 06 Legal Consultants in National Commission for Scheduled Castes, New Delhi.**

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), Govt. of India, New Delhi invites applications for engagement of 06 Legal Consultants; purely on contract basis; initially for a period of one year. The details regarding remuneration, eligibility, conditions of service, format of application for applying etc. are available on the website of National Commission for Scheduled Castes "<http://ncsc.nic.in>". Application is required to be submitted online through email only to the undersigned at email id "[kishan.chand68@nic.in](mailto:kishan.chand68@nic.in)". Last date for submission of application is 15 days from the date of publication of this Advertisement in Newspaper/ Employment News, whichever is later. Incomplete Applications, Applications received after the due date will be summarily rejected.

(Kishan Chand)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
NCSC, New Delhi

davp 38125/12/0003/2122

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## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

### THE JOBS CRISIS

India's employment problem predates Covid. The pandemic has deepened the faultlines

**I**N AN ATTEMPT to counter the Opposition's claims on the politically sensitive issue of unemployment, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman argued in the Lok Sabha on Thursday that unemployment in the country had actually declined to pre-pandemic levels. As per the periodic labour force survey, urban unemployment during January-March 2021 had declined to the pre-Covid level of around 9 per cent, after peaking at 20.8 per cent during the first wave. Various other estimates also seem to suggest that the level of unemployment in the country has in fact fallen back to pre-Covid levels. As per CMIE, the unemployment rate in January 2022 stood at 6.57 per cent, down from the peak of 23.52 per cent in April 2020. It had stood at 7.76 per cent in February 2020 prior to the pandemic. However, does this fall in the unemployment rate indicate an easing of the labour market distress? Does it reflect an expansion of more productive forms of employment? And if so, does it suggest a healing of the scars induced by the pandemic?

The employment crisis in India predates Covid. However, several fault lines have been deepened by the pandemic. First, India has witnessed a decline in the labour force participation rate. This implies that many have simply opted out of the labour force, perhaps put off by the absence of jobs. Second, unemployment rates are significantly higher among the youth, and the more educated sections. As per surveys, the unemployment rate in the 15-29 age group stood at 22.9 per cent in January-March 2021. Third, while there are signs pointing towards an increase in the formalisation of the labour force (though this employment is more likely to be concentrated among low-income jobs in the larger industrial regions), there is also the casualisation of employment to contend with. Casual wage labour employment lacks the social security framework that formal employment provides. Fourth, considering current per capita income levels, few can afford to stay unemployed for long. Many will simply opt for less productive jobs at lower wages. This implies that a downward trending unemployment rate may not be an accurate gauge of labour market distress. The heightened demand for work under MGNREGA, despite large parts of the economy having recovered to their pre-pandemic levels, suggests continuing economic distress.

The recent protests in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, by those who had appeared for the non-technical popular categories exam conducted by the Indian Railways, are indicative of this growing mismatch between the demand and supply of jobs. So are the demands by various caste groups for increasing reservation in public sector employment and expanding their scope to encompass the private sector. At their core, they indicate the lack of adequate and remunerative employment generation in the country, and the inability of the government to facilitate the creation of a labour-intensive manufacturing sector that can absorb the surplus labour force in agriculture and the millions entering the labour force each year. This is the biggest issue confronting the government.

### DOG-WHISTLE POLITICS

Uttar Pradesh CM picking on Kerala, Bengal, J&K, stokes old fears, dents his own governance claims

**U**P CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath's claim that if he is not voted back to office the state could become a Kerala, West Bengal or Jammu and Kashmir is a dog whistle, plain and simple and disquieting. These states have a substantial Muslim population. Except for Jammu and Kashmir, where mainstream politics is in the cold, the other two states have a politics that has resoundingly defeated the BJP. In the black-and-white discourse of politics, this, in the eyes of the BJP, makes them "appeasers of minorities". So the message in the CM's video, released just ahead of the first phase of polling in the state Thursday, was not lost on anyone. Expectedly, politicians across party lines from these states closed ranks to criticise Adityanath — and audit his government.

It is a self-goal when Adityanath has to talk about other states in the Union to stoke imagined fears, raise old bogeys, to attract voters rather than let his own record in office speak for itself. Just the other day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke in Parliament about the BJP's commitment to cooperative federalism — he recalled the virtual meetings he had held with various chief ministers while formulating the government's Covid strategy — and emphasised unity in India's diversity. The fact is the BJP has been raising communal dog whistles in its UP campaign for some time. Adityanath had recently framed the electoral contest as 80 per cent versus 20 per cent, the latter an allusion to the percentage of Muslims in the state's population. The BJP has routinely invoked the memory of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan who died in 1948, and woven it into the party's exclusivist nationalism narrative to polarise the electorate: Adityanath described those voting against the BJP as supporters of Jinnah. Even claims made on improvement in law and order are framed communally and appeals for re-election are cast as a necessary step to protect "sisters, mothers and daughters". Administrative actions taken in violation of due process — encounter killings to indiscriminate arrests and seizure of property belonging to protesters from minority groups — have become proxy indicators of a no-nonsense "tough" government.

The regress towards a discourse of majoritarianism and victimhood instead of a positive campaign focused on the party's record in office may be good election politics but a campaign that paints the spectre of a communal threat only creates bitterness that will endure long after the votes are counted.

### THE AIDS HEALER

Despite dubious forays in recent times, Luc Montagnier will be recognised as a modern medicine great

**I**N 2018, FACING criticism for his maverick theories — DNA can be "teleported" by electromagnetic waves picked up by water, for instance — a defiant Luc Montagnier told *Le Monde*: "I don't have to be ashamed of what I am doing. The discovery of the AIDS virus has saved millions of lives. I have authority." His peers reacted to such assertions with dismay. But not even his worst detractor will contest Montagnier's claim that the discovery of AIDS assures him a place in the galaxy of medicine's greats.

In his autobiographical essay for the 2008 Nobel Prize, Montagnier — who passed away on Tuesday — describes how watching his grandfather suffer cancer moved him to study medicine. In 1983, he was approached by a Paris clinician to examine a patient who was showing early signs of the mysterious new illness that was ballooning into a public health crisis. Montagnier was amongst the few virologists, who suspected that the disease — then described as the "gay plague" in several quarters — was caused by a retrovirus, a pathogen that slips into the host's DNA and takes control of it. His team's research paved the way for the development of HIV tests and AIDS therapies. But Montagnier got embroiled in a bitter conflict with the American virologist Robert Gallo, with whom he had once shared notes — and camaraderie. Gallo had examined samples from the same patient as Montagnier and also concluded that the disease was caused by a retrovirus. Debate turned into a public spat over who had discovered HIV and acrimonious litigation over the patent on a crucial blood test on AIDS patients ensued. The matter required the intervention of the US and French presidents.

In recent times, Montagnier earned the ire of his peers for questioning Covid vaccination and peddling pseudoscience. But the world will know him better as the virologist whose work unravelled HIV and led to removing misinformation on AIDS.



SHAH ALAM KHAN

**T**HROUGH THE NEXT few weeks, the country's most populous state will vote for a new government. Unfortunately, besides being the most populous, Uttar Pradesh (UP) also happens to be in the company of the most "diseased states" in the country. In the recently published results of the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5), the state has done even worse than conflict zones like Jammu and Kashmir. It, therefore, appears that the poor showing of the state in the second wave of Covid-19 was not by chance, but a fallout of government neglect of health-care. This is even more evident in the ongoing election campaign where the narrative is set by the incumbent regime and no one wants to discuss the "health of the people".

Traditionally, health and education have never been points of discussion in electoral campaigns in India, but with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, it is imperative that there is clear accountability for death and disease. In the wake of the devastation unleashed by Covid-19, even the most far-right regimes (like in Brazil and the Philippines) have begun to talk about the health of their people.

The NFHS-5 has revealed some staggering facts about India's perpetual health crisis. This, despite India being a signatory to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) of the United Nations General Assembly in 2000. An evaluation of the NFHS-5 results from UP reveals how deep the muck is and how urgent the need to fix accountability. According to the NFHS-5, the infant mortality rate (IMR) of UP is 50.4 per 1,000 live births. This is poorer than even the most violent conflict zones in the world. The IMR for Syria is 16 per 1,000 live births and for Iraq, it is 20 per 1,000 live births. The under-five mortality rate for UP is even more dismal at 59.8 per 1,000 live births. This is in contrast to the under-five mortality of 9.8 per 1,000 live births for Jammu and Kashmir in NFHS-5 (the figure is 16 per 1,000 live births for Syria). Both IMR and under-five mortality rates are among the most impor-

## State of ill-health

There appears to be a political determination to distract voters from the alarming health crisis in UP

According to the NFHS-5, the infant mortality rate (IMR) of UP is 50.4 per 1,000 live births. This is poorer than even the most violent conflict zones in the world. The IMR for Syria is 16 per 1,000 live births and for Iraq, it is 20 per 1,000 live births. The under-five mortality rate for UP is even more dismal at 59.8 per 1,000 live births. This is in contrast to the under-five mortality of 9.8 per 1,000 live births for Jammu and Kashmir in NFHS-5 (the figure is 16 per 1,000 live births for Syria). Both IMR and under-five mortality rates are one of the most important and sensitive indicators of the health of a population.

tant and sensitive indicators of the health of a population. For UP, these figures are nowhere near the Sustainable Development Goals 3 target for 2030, which is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for people of all ages.

Even as we cry a river on UP's poor health indicators in the NFHS-5, other tragic maladies directly affect the well-being and health of the people of the state. The NFHS-5 data shows that 39.7 per cent of children under the age of 5 years are stunted. A whopping 66.4 per cent of children between the ages of 6-59 months are anaemic. This figure for anaemia has worsened from 63.4 per cent in NFHS-4 (2015-16). The 2021 Global Nutrition Report reveals that the incidence of stunting in children aged less than 5 years in South Sudan, which has the worst malnutrition in all of Africa, is 31.3 per cent. As per the NFHS-5, 50.4 per cent of women in the reproductive age group (15-49 years) in UP have anaemia. In 2019, South Sudan had 35.6 per cent anaemic women within the reproductive age group. Uttar Pradesh, thus, has more stunted children and more anaemic women than probably any region on the planet with such a significant cohort of people. Anaemia and malnutrition are the harbingers of chronic disease and death.

No wonder, among all states, UP has the largest number of tuberculosis cases and is responsible for over 20 per cent of the total TB cases notified in the country. In 2020, just over 4 lakh cases of TB were detected in UP. This was in contrast to the 1.23 lakh TB cases notified in the neighbouring state of Bihar during the same year. Bihar was known to have some of the worst TB statistics in the decades gone by. More worryingly, the incidence of multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) is second highest in UP with 4.53 per cent newly diagnosed cases of TB being MDR. The future health implications of this high percentage of drug-resistant TB is anyone's guess.

Epidemics also make frequent appearances in UP. The 2017 deaths of children in a

government hospital in Gorakhpur due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) is a case to ponder as it symbolises the poisonous mix of susceptibility of the malnourished and brutal neglect on part of the state. Epidemics of AES are not uncommon in UP. The number of child deaths in previous years due to AES was 5,850 in 2014, 6,917 in 2015 and 6,121 in 2016. Epidemics of dengue and malaria are also a common occurrence. In November 2021, the number of dengue cases in Uttar Pradesh had crossed the 23,000-mark for the year 2021, making it the worst outbreak situation in the state in several years. This was the highest number of dengue cases reported in UP since 2016. I refrain from mentioning the death and devastation seen in the wake of the second wave of Covid-19 in the state.

As mentioned earlier, in India, health doesn't traditionally figure in the imagination of the political class. The people are wrongly made to believe that health is their own responsibility. Following the pandemic, health discussions have begun to take centre-stage in this country. But it appears that political determination is to induce a collective amnesia about death and devastation, particularly following the brutal second wave of Covid-19. Memories of medical neglect and death fix accountability, and accountability affects electoral prospects. As the election campaigning gains pace in UP, we are hearing more and more about temples, mosques, "love jihad" and hijabs. The health crisis silently grows bigger as we are distracted from asking questions that matter. The voters of UP should realise that somewhere in the vast hinterlands of the state of Ram, as the irresponsible finish speaking about "love jihad", hijab or the mandir, a few hundred more men, women and children would have taken their last breaths due to malnutrition, AES, TB or anaemia.

The writer is professor, department of orthopaedics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Views are personal



M RAJIVLOCHAN

**D**ALITS IN PUNJAB do not vote on the basis of caste. Neither do Jats. Nor do Hindus or Sikhs. Yet, it is said that only a Jat Sikh can become chief minister in Punjab, even though Jats make up less than one-fifth of the population while Dalits constitute more than one-third.

It was a historical accident by which, after 1900, Jats ended up being the masters of almost all agricultural land and, eventually, of public life in Punjab. Jats in Punjab, a grouping of some 900-odd sub-castes and clans, used to pursue diverse occupations like soldiering, cattle herding and cultivation, when the colonial government passed the Punjab Land Alienation Act in 1900. The Act, in one stroke, made Jats the sole owners of agricultural land.

The poorer sections of society, the ones who actually tended to the land, the agricultural labourers, were by default defined out of the ownership of any agricultural land.

Deprived of any opportunity for upward mobility, they became Dalits — oppressed, crushed — in the most literal sense of the word.

In a society with hardly any industries and a negligible service sector, the ownership of land created a new elite. Soon, those who owned land began to dominate the public spaces of Punjab. They also began to demand more control. The initial demand for the creation of a separate state for Sikhs was crushed by Partap Singh Kairon, a chief minister who did not countenance any communal nonsense. After his death, however, Indira Gandhi took the initiative to remove Haryana and Himachal Pradesh from the

## PUNJAB'S NEW CASTE CALCULUS

Rising worth of Dalits could end Jat dominance in public life

The inevitable pushback from the dominant groups came around the issue of 'hurt religious feelings'. This was a euphemism for fights picked with the newly prosperous people on the excuse of religion, beating them into submission in the hope that they would remain within their limits. The conflict over Baba Bhaniara, which we documented in some detail, would end with Bhaniara, a former class IV employee of the government, being put in jail and then seceding from public life altogether.

state of Punjab, thereby consolidating Jat control over Punjab.

The Dalits, meanwhile, continued to suffer indignities and social humiliation despite being almost a third of the population of the state. The big change happened in the late 20th century when education and the service sector grew manifold in Punjab. By the early 21st century, the hospitality and service sector had become the main creator of wealth in Punjab. Today it constitutes almost half of Punjab's GDP.

The Scheduled Castes, unhindered by ownership of land, took to these new opportunities in a big way. The consequent upward mobility was further strengthened by many of them finding jobs abroad. The newly earned wealth was invested in setting up patterns of *izzatdar* (honourable) living for those who had stayed home. The research of Paramjit Judge and Gurpreet Bal tells us that one of the first expenses undertaken after making money abroad was to convert their homes in the Dalit *basti* into pucca houses. A unique feature here was a toilet, an important indicator of honourable/civilised living. Dalit bastis in the Malwa region — for that is the region from where the most migrations happened — were soon converted into rows of neat and clean multi-storied pucca houses.

At the same time, celebrations of their religious mentors and the guides who had helped them negotiate the changing world became more visible. The inevitable pushback from the dominant groups came around the issue of "hurt religious feelings". This was a euphemism for fights picked with

the newly prosperous people on the excuse of religion, beating them into submission in the hope that they would remain within their limits.

The conflict over Baba Bhaniara, which we documented in some detail, would end with Bhaniara, a former class IV employee of the government, being put in jail and then seceding from public life altogether. "He (a Dalit) was prone to saying nasty things about Sikhism and its contemporary leaders", was the usual complaint against him.

An almost week-long riot in Talhan village in 2003 — "riot" being another euphemism for pitched battles being fought on streets, with the police as helpless bystanders — indicated that the Dalits were now willing to hit back.

In the next few years, analogous conflicts emerged around sundry babas who were revered by the Dalits and their religious practices. Ronki Ram documented the story of how after one such fracas, in 2008 the Ravidassias turned their back on Sikhism and announced that they were a distinct religion.

The postponement of polling day in Punjab to the last week of February at the request of those who wish to celebrate Guru Ravidass Jayanti has only underlined the new worth of Dalits in public life — and their distinct religious practices. An electoral victory helmed by Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, a self-made Dalit man, would loudly announce that the domination of Jats over Punjab's public life is over.

The writer teaches at Panjab University



## FEBRUARY 12, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

**TURMOIL IN DHAKA**  
BANGLADESH PRESIDENT ABDUS Sattar has dissolved the 42-member council of ministers in the face of the "grave crisis facing the nation" and to rid the administration of "corruption and inertia". The dissolution of the 77-day-old ministry was announced by the President in an unscheduled address to the nation over radio and TV. The 77-year old Sattar who got a massive mandate from the people in the November presidential election to succeed Ziaur Rahman assured the nation that a smaller council of ministers will be formed in a day. He said he had decided to dissolve the ministry because doubts seemed to have arisen in people's minds over the hon-

esty and integrity of some of the ministers. He appealed to the people to cooperate with the government in removing corruption.

### NEWSPRINT DUTY

THE INFORMATION AND Broadcasting Ministry has suggested to the Finance Ministry the abolition of customs duty on newsprint that was introduced in the current year's budget. It has also suggested that a system of collecting an annual licence fee on three-band radio and television sets be done away with. Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Vasant Sathe said that he had made these suggestions on the eve of the budget.

### INDO-PAK TALKS

THE INDO-PAK OFFICIAL talks will resume in March. The talks were originally scheduled to be held in the last week of this month. The Indian side will be led by Foreign Secretary RD Sathe. Besides attempting to narrow down differences over security issues, the two sides will also have further discussions on an Indo-Pakistan Economic Commission.

### MP POWER CRISIS

MADHYA PRADESH IS experiencing its worst ever power crisis. On February 11, almost all thermal and hydel units in the state broke down, plunging the entire state in darkness.

# 11 THE IDEAS PAGE

## At the expense of the poorest

Budget could have increased capital expenditure without cutting MGNREGA allocations. As things stand, government has taken a dangerous gamble



PRAVEEN CHAKRAVARTY

A WEEK BEFORE the Union budget was to be presented, the chairman of Hindustan Unilever (HUL) wanted the finance minister (FM) to plan for a Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme-type programme for the urban poor. He reasoned that personal consumption, which constitutes nearly two-thirds of India's economy, has been badly hit and schemes like MGNREGA should be extended and expanded until consumption recovers fully.

This is a stunning reversal of opinion about MGNREGA, which was lampooned just a decade ago by the private sector, policy commentators and then Chief Minister Narendra Modi as a "dole" for the poor that would render them lazy and indolent.

Ironically, the Economic Survey of 2021-22 proudly states that MGNREGA provided a safety net to more than 110 million poor Indians. For context, all the companies listed in the stock exchange and unicorn start-ups, put together, employ a mere seven million people.

But, in actuality, more than 110 million would have been reliant on MGNREGA this year, had the programme not run out of money after just six months in the current financial year. Demand for work under MGNREGA, which is by design an unemployment insurance scheme for people plunged into penury, is at record highs and ostensibly many were turned away due to lack of funds.

Amidst this backdrop, the FM outlined a new economic philosophy in the budget that moved away from direct government welfare assistance for the needy to an indirect "trickle down" economic impact. Belying expectations of an extended and expanded MGNREGA, conversely, the FM cut the programme's budget and reallocated that sum for government capital expenditure.

To be clear, lower MGNREGA demand should be our primary economic objective as a nation. It is a demand-based programme and if people are able to find better quality jobs than toiling for minimum wages, MGNREGA demand and hence expenditure will also be lower. But turning people away due to lack of funds and artificially suppressing MGNREGA demand does not behave a democratically elected government.

The idea that the government must step in when private investment is tepid and demand is lacklustre in an economy is a sound and well-established economic theory. By itself, embarking on a productive government investment programme to stimulate economic activity, boost demand and catalyse private investment is a laudable objective. The question is: Was it right to cut MGNREGA expenditure to fund government investment at this perilous time? And the natural corollary question will be — how else could such a government investment programme have been funded?

The Union government plans to spend an additional Rs 2.5 lakh crore in capital expenditure next year than it did in the current year, including Rs 1 lakh crore as loans to states exclusively for capital expenditure. Sixty per cent of this additional capex amount is budgeted to come from a reduction in food (ration), fertiliser, fuel subsidies and MGNREGA.



C R Sasikumar

The government's fundamental premise is that we are past the pandemic blues and next year will be a normal year. Additional food grains given during the pandemic can be withdrawn and food subsidies can be cut by Rs 80,000 crore is the belief. Similarly, the government seems to believe that MGNREGA demand will taper off next year and has cut its allocation by roughly Rs 30,000 crore. The government's conviction that next year will be a "business as usual" pre-pandemic year is a dangerous gamble.

It is important to recall that in September 2019, outside the budget cycle, there was a sudden announcement of a dramatic reduction in corporate tax rates. As a result, of the more than nine lakh corporates that filed income tax returns last year, the top 433 companies with profits greater than Rs 500 crore paid taxes at the effective rate of 20 per cent while in FY2019 these companies paid an effective tax rate of 27 per cent.

Profits of these top 400-odd companies have doubled and their market value has increased three times since 2019. But the total number of people employed by these companies remained the same. To put it simply, the corporate tax cuts have cost the government Rs 3 lakh crore this year (Rs 1.5 lakh crore per year), they have doubled the profits for companies, but created no new jobs.

Since the government believes that next year will be a normal year like 2019, the corporate tax rate could have been reverted to the 2019 rate. Doing so could have garnered at least an additional Rs 1 lakh crore in tax revenues, likely more, which could have been used for increased capital expenditure without the need to cut down on welfare.

There would have been no economic or

social repercussions to this move since these companies have neither increased investment nor created jobs after the tax cuts and they were used to paying tax at that tax rate anyways. Similarly, with booming stock markets and massive increases in the capital wealth of a tiny few, an increase in the securities transaction and capital gains taxes could have fetched an additional Rs 50,000 crore at least, to be used for increased capital expenditure. India's capital gains and corporate tax rates are among the lowest in the world, which have fetched no "dividends" in terms of investments or jobs for people. There was a clear and justified rationale to spur government capital expenditure through increased corporate and capital gains tax rates and not by reducing welfare expenditure at such a precarious time for the economy.

Increased government investment to stimulate economic activity is in principle a sound philosophy. Reducing MGNREGA expenditure is an optimum objective but one that should be achieved naturally, not forcefully. Reducing welfare expenditure to fund capital expenditure in the hope of a "trickle down" economic benefit is a dangerous gamble at this time. Especially, when there were other more prudent ways to raise funds through increased progressive direct taxes of large corporates with no deleterious impact.

Increased government investment to stimulate economic activity is in principle a sound philosophy. Reducing MGNREGA expenditure is an optimum objective but one that should be achieved naturally, not forcefully. Reducing welfare expenditure to fund capital expenditure in the hope of a "trickle down" economic benefit is a dangerous gamble at this time. Especially, when there were other more prudent ways to raise funds through increased progressive direct taxes on large corporates with no deleterious impact. For the nation's sake, I sincerely hope the dangerous gamble by the Modi government to fund government investment by reducing safety net allocations pays off, though I remain sceptical.

Chakravarty is a political economist and chairman of data analytics of the Congress party

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Windfall taxes are nothing new. Margaret Thatcher's government was one of the most notable users of the tactic — with one-off levies on banks and oil companies for making excess gains in the early 1980s" — THE GUARDIAN

## Explaining the exodus

Chief ministers, opposition parties cannot absolve themselves of the part they played in the 2020 migrant crisis



PRIYAM GANDHI-MODY

IN THE FIRST indication of a forthcoming total lockdown, on March 19, 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to the country in a televised address to follow a 14-hour self-imposed "janta curfew" three days later — on March 22. By the time of his appeal, 22 states had already gone into several forms of lockdowns, without issuing any prior warnings. Maharashtra and Delhi, which are recipients of the highest number of incoming migrants, had already ordered and implemented stringent curfews and Rajasthan was the first state to impose a total lockdown. Various opposition leaders like P Chidambaram had led the clamour for a lockdown. On March 24, when the PM announced total lockdown, almost all activity in these states had already come to a complete standstill.

So, how was the lockdown sudden if many opposition leaders were already asking for it and most states had already implemented various forms of it? Out of work already for several weeks due to state-imposed curfews, daily-wage workers had begun to feel the sharp financial pinch, despite the announcement of free foodgrains by the Centre. With little information about the new virus, coupled with insecurity, these migrants sought to return to the safety of their villages. It was common knowledge that the Indian rural health infrastructure was simply not ready to handle a surge of Covid-19 cases. The WHO and various Indian experts also spoke about halting the movement of people across the country. What good would a lockdown have been if people were freely moving around the country, carrying the virus to places where there was no adequate health infrastructure? The only option for the country was to halt the movement of potential carriers of the virus from urban to rural centres.

The migrants' exodus, which began as a humanitarian crisis, quickly turned political with fear-mongering being used generously by several opposition leaders. It hardly mattered what speeches they made on social media — Arvind Kejriwal appealing to the migrants to stay put and Uddhav Thackeray in a televised address assured that they'll be treated humanely — because on the ground, these states simply did not provide for the vulnerable. On March 27, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) sent a notification to the states advising them to make adequate arrangements, which would fulfil the basic human needs of the displaced migrants. But should it need an MHA directive for state governments to provide for the most vulnerable?

On April 2, Rs 11,000 crore was sent to states so that they would be able to cope with the financial burden of providing the amenities outlined by the MHA. Unfortunately, as events unfolded, it became clear that many

states failed to use these funds. As per several reports and self-proclaimed numbers, Maharashtra's government made arrangements for only seven lakh migrants when over two crore migrants (a conservative estimate) were believed to be working in the state.

The Delhi government liberally allowed movement of the displaced to bus stops and train stations, instead of enforcing a strict lockdown and providing for their needs. Maharashtra, on the other hand, turned a blind eye to rumour-mongering, pushing an already vulnerable population to the brink of panic. Mumbai police did little to stop them from hitting the streets. The uproar on social media by several opposition leaders like Rahul Gandhi, fuelled by videos of migrants returning on foot, only added to the migrants' anxiety and they eventually began to fully believe that returning home to the villages was their only chance of survival.

On May 1, only after the PM and his team of experts were confident that enough knowledge of Covid-appropriate behaviour had percolated into society, and the health-care infrastructure had been augmented satisfactorily, did the Centre announce special Shramik trains to ferry the migrants to their homes. The arrangement was that 85 per cent of the cost of each ticket would be borne by the Centre and the remaining 15 per cent by the states who could then choose to charge the migrants if they wished to. Following this, the political discourse turned ugly when chief ministers like Thackeray began to make unreasonable demands for additional trains to paint themselves as the saviours of the migrants, only to fail to provide enough people to demand all those extra trains. Entering the race, Sonia Gandhi too wrote a letter stating that the Indian National Congress will pay for migrants' train tickets if the Centre doesn't. However, despite such a generous offer, no reported fund has been issued by the INC for this purpose, even in Congress-ruled states. Similarly, in yet another demonstration in the second week of May, the Congress party announced provisioning over a thousand buses to send migrants from Rajasthan to UP. However, when a list of number plates of those thousand buses was sent to the UP government, it was found that many of them were junk vehicles registered as auto-rickshaws, cars and trucks. Eventually, considering the security risk, the Congress party had to recall the buses.

Despite heavy politicking, the PM was silent on the issue through the two years of the pandemic. Only now that the issue is behind us, with several migrants successfully rehabilitated in their home states as evidenced by the increased demand for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, did he raise the issue in both Houses of Parliament. Predictably, the accused chief ministers and sections of the media are blindly retorting without putting out any facts to demonstrate their sincerity and condemning the prime minister as a liar. Notably, they still refuse to take any accountability for the sorry plight of the migrants, holding the Centre fully responsible.

The writer is a policy and communications strategist. A Nation to Protect: Leading India Through the Covid Crisis is her third book



SHIVANI NAIK

## One stab too many

China parading Galwan soldier at Winter Games is indefensible

GETTING QI FABAO, a PLA regiment commander who was involved in China's Galwan Valley border confrontation with India, to run the pre-Winter Games relay as torchbearer, isn't merely a blurring of politics and sport by the host nation. It is a brazen breach of the principle of political neutrality that China and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) have preached about continuously in the lead-up to the Games.

Short of welcoming foreign athletes at the airport with placards of Rule 50 of the Olympic Charter, which prohibit them from demonstrating or displaying political, religion or racial propaganda, Beijing and the IOC did everything to intimidate athletes into silence. But Chinese officials don't seem to have read the rule themselves.

Chilling athletes into silence by spelling out the jeopardy of binding Olympic rules and the Chinese judicial system is the sort of controlled self-censorship that can tunnel athletes into sticking to sport. But getting state media like *Global Times* to cackle and crow about a military commander who was in recent combat with India, and parading him in a torch relay — perhaps for the benefit of a domestic audience — flies in the face of China's obligation to sanitise sport of any

whiff of politics. This was partisan politics literally running with a boastful beacon.

While countries have always put soft-sells of cultural, nationalistic propaganda on show at opening ceremonies, and been indulged by the IOC, Fabao's is a blatant and curiously undignified flaunting. War wounds — on either soldiering side — are far too real and honourable, to promenade around at a jogger's pace for a mere sporting spectacle. It's an unwritten line of civility crossed, as sporting hosts.

India might not be travelling with the largest contingent to the Games. But political point-scoring against a military opponent on the sidelines of an Olympic Games, by drawing on confrontational symbolism as a measure of "bravery", is frankly indefensible. If it is unnecessary for athletes to drift away from their job at hand — to win — and use the podium to express their concerns over myriad issues in China, surely it would count as entirely avoidable for the hosts to use the Games as a ramp-way for battle-wounds.

India responded with a last-minute diplomatic boycott, after committing to show up and stand by China and Russia at the BRICS summit. It declared that its diplo-

matic presence was untenable, and its envoy declined the invitation to the ceremony after the torchbearer provocation; India also pulled out of telecasting the opener. A US Senate Foreign Relations Committee member dubbed Beijing's choice of a military commander as a torchbearer as "shameful". But the world might well let this slide.

Commercial considerations have leashed the biggest powers from calling out China for this contempt. UK's tripling trade deficit with China post-Brexit, and other western economies' dependence mean athletes in Beijing are shorn of protections in case they choose to voice any thoughts unpalatable to the hosts. A senior official of the Beijing Organising Committee and an Olympic champion, Yang Yang, was quoted from a news conference last week, saying, "Athletes need to be responsible for what they say."

It is not uncommon for athletes belonging to armed forces to turn up at the Olympics to represent their countries in competition. But it is entirely looked down on if territorial tensions and scars are directly dragged onto a sporting field, in this case as part of relaying the Games flame. Sport is no stage for militarised cosplay, never mind the countless war analogies it

riffs off.

The IOC dropped all pretence of this being solely about sport, when Thomas Bach at a pre-event news meet declared for the benefit of ski lift and snow cannon manufacturers: "The boom in China will change the global winter sports industry. All the companies that are mainly based in the Alps and North America will benefit greatly from the development of winter sports in China." It is well-known that several struggling companies are invested in building the ski-resort winter economy of China.

In one of his most absurd pleas to athletes to say nothing unsavoury and political and stay confined to the sporting lane, Bach invoked Shakespeare. "If an actor is engaging in the theatre, playing Hamlet, then nobody expects him to voice his political opinion. And the same is true there for the athlete." A rather unfortunate reference, given the play's un-silenceable ghost and perhaps theatre's most famous soliloquy. To be or not to be was the question. For India's diplomatic dilemma, a Chinese soldier from Galwan in the torch-run was one stab too many, well after the poison dripped into the ear.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SRI LANKA QUESTION

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New bonhomie' (IE, February 11). Both India and Sri Lanka deserve kudos for showing far-sightedness by mending their bilateral relations. The supply of essential commodities, fuel, and other items by India to Sri Lanka could well be the cause for this newfound bonhomie. Of course, there should be an element of reciprocity in our relations. But sometimes, generosity proves to be more useful and productive in the long run. However, we cannot ignore the well-entrenched anti-India lobby in Sri Lanka. Colombo continues to be silent on the sensitive issues relating to the Tamil polity. We must demand urgent action on Sri Lanka's part to match our sincerity for keeping relations over on an even keel.

Tarsem Singh Mahilpur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New bonhomie' (IE, February 11). India's approach to its relations with Sri Lanka is characterised by a lack of sensitivity and finesse in handling the Tamil issue. We have already paid an extremely heavy price during the ill-fated IPKF intervention when close to 1,400 Indian soldiers lost their lives without any strategic advantage accruing to India or to Sri Lankan Tamils. All over the world, minorities always complain about unfair treatment and look for assistance from the outside world, which then is perceived as disloyalty by the majority. India is herself vul-

### IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● THE BAN ON TRADE OF CAPTIVE ELEPHANTS MUST STAY: ARJUN KAMDAR

www.indianexpress.com

nerable on this count and, therefore, should do nothing that is perceived by Sri Lankans as interference in their internal affairs.

H N Bhagwat, Chiplun

### ANTI-BUSINESS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Ease of doing business 2.0' (IE February 11). Last year, the prime minister acknowledged the role of the private sector and the kind of positive strides the country has made in the ease of doing business index in the last few years. This report throws up a different picture: If there are 26,134 imprisonment clauses in Indian business laws then any budding entrepreneur is bound to get disheartened. It looks like that single window clearance is still a far off dream for small companies to start their business journey.

Bal Govind, Noida

## Police say Unnao Dalit woman was strangled to death

Murder charge to be invoked against accused — son of former UP minister

ASAD REHMAN  
UNNAO, FEBRUARY 11

A DAY after the decomposed body of a missing 22-year-old Dalit woman was exhumed from an empty plot owned by the family of a former Uttar Pradesh minister, Unnao police Friday said she had died of strangulation, and injuries on her head and neck.

The case triggered a war of words between the BJP and the Samajwadi Party (SP) amid the UP Assembly elections. While the SP said the accused has no links with the party, the BJP accused it of "giving patronage to criminals". The BSP demanded strict action against the accused.

The body of the woman, missing for over two months, was exhumed from the plot next to an ashram on Thursday. The plot and ashram are owned by the family of late Fateh Bahadur Singh, who was a minister in the previous Samajwadi Party (SP) government. His son Rajol Singh (45) was arrested on January 24 in connection with the case, hours after the woman's mother tried to immolate herself in front of SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's vehicle at the party office in Lucknow. The local SHO has been suspended for "laxity". Police have said that the woman and Rajol were in a relationship and but later developed differences.

While the woman went missing on December 8, the case for kidnapping was lodged on January 10. The victim's mother has alleged that police refused to file a case saying that her daughter is an adult and "may have eloped with someone".

Unnao Additional SP Shashi Shekhar Singh on Friday said, "The cause of death is anti-mortem in-

juries and strangulation. While the post mortem report says she was killed around 45 days ago, the corroborative evidence we have makes it clear that she was killed on December 8 — the day she went missing. I can't say anything on whether she was raped or not." He said the murder charge will be also invoked against Rajol Singh (45) and his arrested aide Suraj Singh (26).

The family on Friday refused to cremate the body until their demands were met. After assurances from administration and police officials, the family performed the last rites at 5pm. The woman is survived by her parents and a brother.

The victim's father said they had gone to meet Akhilesh for help as the police and administration were not cooperating. "We knew that Rajol Singh is not in the SP or any other party, but we thought Akhileshji might help us because of the father's connection with the SP."

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya tweeted: "Mr Akhilesh Yadav, the body of a Dalit woman was found in the farm of an SP leader. When the mother of the woman begged in front of your car, you didn't listen to her. You gave patronage to the SP leader."

The SP said the accused has no connection with the party. It tweeted: "Under BJP rule, a daughter faces a heinous crime in Unnao. The CM is responsible for the murder of the Dalit daughter."

BSP chief Mayawati said: "The body of the young woman being found buried at a farm of an SP leader in Unnao is tragic and a serious matter. The family members had already raised suspicion on the SP leader. The state government must ensure justice to the family..."

## Chinese troops entered Indian territory, drove away herders, alleges local official

KRISHN KAUSHIK  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

CHINESE SOLDIERS entered Indian territory on January 28 in Ladakh and stopped local people from grazing their herd in the area, a local official has alleged.

The Block Development Chairperson of Nyoma, Urgan Chodon, told *The Indian Express*: "There was an incident on January 28, when PLA troops came into our territory, they drove away the grazing herds from our own territory. They did not take anyone away, but shooed the nomads and herds off."

On Friday, she also tweeted a 45-second video of the alleged in-

cident in a grazing area called Dogbuk.

A defence source said this video appeared to be an old one. "It appears recorded during the summer season as no snow can be seen," this source stated.

Chodon, who was earlier a councillor from BJP, maintained while speaking to *The Indian Express*: "What I tweeted is what happened."

Along with the video, Chodon posted the following: "On 28 Jan PLA army came in our territory n not letting our herds graze in our own territory at dat time no action from security force but our own herdman cross the demarcated Border to get his livelihood(yak)back army caught him

from our own territory and send him 2 policestati".

Chodon said the second incident she refers to in her tweet took place on January 26 in the Changlum area. "A local nomad had crossed the Line of Actual Control to bring back 17 of his yaks. On his way back, he was accosted by the Indian Army, which interrogated him and took him to a police station."

"I myself had gone to the Nyoma Police Station to bring the nomad back. Even though the IB people said that he is our nomad, still the Army did not believe and left him at the police station," Chodon claimed.

The defence source quoted above confirmed that such an in-

## Days after teen killing: 4 FIRs, notices to 15 people amid tensions in Jharkhand village

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
RANCHI, FEBRUARY 11

DULMAHA PANCHAYAT in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district remained tense days after incidents of violence took place following the murder a 17-year-old boy. Four FIRs were registered after the incidents, authorities said, and 15 people were sent notices to appear before police for spreading fake news in the aftermath of the violence.

The incidents began last Sunday (February 6) evening in Dulmaha village in Darhi block, when 17-year-old Rupesh Pandey was killed, and in retaliation, a mob set vehicles and houses on fire.

According to police, an FIR was registered for murder, and two FIRs for arson. Another FIR was registered against people from two communities for promoting enmity on the grounds of religion.

Hazaribagh SP Manoj Ratan Chothe, said: "On February 6, a 17-year-old boy, Rupesh Pandey, was



Former chief minister Raghubar Das meets the family members of the teenager on Friday. Express

assaulted, leading to his death. The act was the result of an ongoing dispute, and the Saraswati Puja idol immersion [during which the killing allegedly took place] had nothing to do with the incident. We have registered a case of murder, along with other charges, and have arrested five persons so far." A total of 27 people were named in the complaint lodged by the

victim's uncle, the SP said. Hazaribagh deputy commissioner Aditya Anand said the situation is now peaceful.

According to the FIR, Pandey, who worked at a local mobile phone shop, was on his way to watch the idol immersion when "one Mohammad Aslam dragged him towards a crowd", which beat him up. When the mob dispersed,

## Hippocratic oath should be replaced with 'Charak Shapath', suggests NMC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

THE NATIONAL Medical Commission has made a suggestion that the Hippocratic oath taken by doctors during their graduation ceremony should be replaced by a Charak Shapath.

The suggestion was made during the discussion with all medical colleges of India on February 7.

Dr Aruna V Vaniker, president of the under-graduate medical education board of the NMC, who chaired the meeting, said no final decision has been taken on making the specific change on oath to be taken by doctors. "No comments at this stage. You will get all the details once it is finalised," Vaniker said.

The minutes of NMC discussion with the medical colleges said: "No Hippocratic Oath. During white coat ceremony (with parents) the oath will be 'Maharishi Charak Shapath' present in NMC website."

Charaka Samihata is a Sanskrit text on Indian traditional medicine Ayurveda. Maharishi Charak Shapath is mentioned in Charaka Samihata.

Sources said undergraduates at the country's premier health institute AIIMS have been taking Charak Oath during convocation for quite some time. "Not for the self; Not for the fulfillment of any worldly material desire or gain, but solely for the good of suffering humanity, I will treat my patient and excel well," the Charak Oath at AIIMS reads. Former AIIMS director Dr MC Misra said the institute had adopted Charak Shapath at the convocation ceremony even before he took over in 2013.

The classic Hippocratic Oath, derived from Greek texts, reads: "I swear by Apollo Physician and Asclepius and Hygieia and Panacea and all the gods and goddesses... that I will fulfill according to my ability and judgment this oath and this covenant... I will apply dietetic measures for the benefit of the sick according to my ability and judgment..."

## Hijab row: Karnataka delays college reopening

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 11

DESPITE THE Karnataka High Court issuing orders for the reopening of colleges in Karnataka, which were shut amid tensions due to the hijab row, the BJP government in the state has decided to exercise caution and delay the opening of colleges for a few days.

"On Monday we will decide on the reopening of colleges. We will follow the high court's orders, but we will watch the situation for a few days..." Karnataka Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said on Friday after a meeting of district officials with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Protests by Muslim students demanding the right to wear hi-

jab in class, and counter agitation by Hindu youths, at some colleges in Udipi district had led to tensions on campuses across Karnataka leading to the closure of colleges since February 8.

On Friday, the Karnataka High Court released an interim order for colleges to reopen and for students to refrain from wearing clothes that are not prescribed under colleges' uniform norms.

"Pending consideration of all these petitions, we restrain all the students regardless of their religion or faith from wearing saffron shawls (Bhagwa) scarfs, hijab, religious flags or the like, within the classroom, until further orders," a full bench of the Karnataka High Court said in its order. The Karnataka government has decided to allow

schools to open from Monday, but has adopted a cautious approach on reopening colleges. "We want to go stage by stage," CM Bommai said.

Sources in the government said a graded opening of colleges has been proposed since the high court order states that hijab and other symbols of religion cannot be worn only in those colleges where it has been specifically barred by the College Development Council. Only pre-university government colleges in some regions of Karnataka — like Udipi and Chikmagalur — are known to have banned hijab, while government degree colleges have no such issue since there are no uniforms at the degree level.

"We make it clear that this

order is confined to such institutions wherein the College Development Committees have prescribed the student dress code/uniform," the HC said.

Sources in the government said the state is wary of issues over the wearing of hijab and saffron shawls arising again in colleges where there are no uniform norms. "There is some worry over what would happen if girls wear hijab in colleges where uniforms are not prescribed," the sources said.

The minister for higher education Dr C N Ashwathnarayan said on Friday that degree, post-graduate and technical colleges will remain shut till February 16 for offline classes. Examinations that are scheduled will however be held, he said.

## Students in burqa stopped from entering Jaipur college

DEEP MUKHERJEE  
JAIPUR, FEBRUARY 11

IN THE first such incident in Rajasthan since the hijab controversy broke out in Karnataka, students wearing burqa were allegedly stopped by the staff of a private college near Jaipur from entering the institution's premises, officials said.

According to the students, they were stopped by the administration of the Kasturi Devi

College in Chaksu near Jaipur because they came dressed in burqa.

"I have been going to the college since the past three years wearing burqa over our college uniform. Nobody ever objected to our dress. But today morning, the college administration stopped me and some other girls saying we can't enter the college in burqa. We were told to exit," a 20-year-old BA final year student told *The Indian Express* on Friday.

Another student alleged that the administration told them that

those wearing burqa will not be allowed to attend classes and threatened that they will be issued transfer certificates.

"We were wearing burqa over our uniforms. Some of us started crying... Some locals who saw us in distress, came to ask the administration about the issue. Soon, police also arrived and the issue was sorted out," said another student.

However, the college administration maintained that the students came in burqa for the first time.

"We have a uniform and dress code in the college — salwar for girls and shirt-pant for boys. Some girls arrived today wearing burqas, around 5-10 of them. Yesterday too, some of them had come in burqa and we had warned them. This is the first time that students wore burqa. We have no objection to hijab or headscarves but the issue was about burqa," said Rajendra Sharma, director and owner of the college.

Police said no FIR was filed and that the issue was resolved.

## A remote village in Kalahandi mourns loss of its only journalist

AISHWARYA MOHANTY  
BHUBANESWAR, FEBRUARY 11

A FARAWAY village in Odisha's Kalahandi district is in mourning. Last Saturday, Mohangiri lost its only journalist — 43-year-old Rohit Biswal — to Maoist violence.

A reporter with Odia daily *Dharitri*, Rohit was killed on Saturday when an improvised explosive device (IED), planted near a bridge by suspected Maoists, went off in Madanpur Rampur block, barely 10 km from his home.

Rohit was clicking pictures of Maoist posters, which called for a boycott of the forthcoming rural polls, when he stepped on an IED,

district authorities said. According to them, the explosive was possibly meant for police personnel. This is the first reported instance of a journalist getting killed in Maoist violence in Odisha.

For the villagers of Mohangiri, 85 km from the district headquarters, Rohit was more than just a journalist who would ride his blue motorcycle around the villages in the block, clicking pictures and writing their stories.

Although he had studied up to Class 10, Rohit started a movement in his village in 2009 for an intermediate college. In 2013, Mohangiri got its first college. Four years later, the gram panchayat got its first arts college, again



Rohit Biswal, 43, died in an IED blast carried out by suspected Maoists.

largely attributed to his efforts. "If you approached him for help, you would never return

empty-handed," said Gokulnanda Biswal, a villager.

"He would hardly stay at home. He kept wandering from one village to another. You would always find him sitting with a group of people discussing their problems, trying to find solutions," said Biswajeet, Rohit's elder brother.

"If he came to know about an issue, he would first inform the concerned authorities and seek solutions. Even on that fateful day, he had informed the police about those posters after he learnt about them at around 8 am," Biswajeet said.

Rohit's wife Madhavi was inconsolable. "He was always careful and cautious. He never expe-

rienced any life-threatening event as well previously. I do not know what went wrong this time," she said.

Madhavi said after Rohit's death the future appeared uncertain for her and their two school-going children — a 12-year-old son and eight-year-old daughter. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced a compensation of Rs 13 lakh for the family.

Having done odd jobs after quitting studies, Rohit joined *Dharitri* in 2005. "I had come to know about him through a local contact and asked him to join journalism since he had such a wide network of ground contacts," said Sashibhusan, Rohit's colleague in Madanpur Rampur block.

## Kasganj custody death: HC orders police to exhume body of youth

ASAD REHMAN  
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 11

THE ALLAHABAD High Court has directed police to exhume the body of a 22-year-old youth, who was found dead at a police station in Kasganj on November 9, and send it for a second post mortem to AIIMS in New Delhi.

Police had said that the youth, Altaf, had hanged himself with a drawing from the hood of his jacket, using a water pipe in a toilet that is a couple of feet from the ground. The post mortem was conducted in the Kasganj district hospital. The worker from Nagla Syed in Kasganj was booked under the kidnapping charge following a complaint by a Hindu woman's family. After Altaf's death, a police inquiry and a magisterial probe were ordered into the death case.

In an order on Thursday, a Bench of Justices Anjani Kumar Mishra and Deepak Verma said the second post mortem examination will be conducted by a team of doctors constituted by the Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi.

"We therefore, direct that the body of the deceased, Altaf shall be exhumed forthwith in the presence of Senior Superintendent of Police / Superintendent of Police, Kasganj. The body after it has been exhumed shall be sealed and immediately transported to the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, where a post-mortem examination of the exhumed body shall be conducted in presence of a team of Doctors to be constituted by the Director of All India Medical Sciences, Delhi," said the

court. The court was hearing a petition filed by Altaf's father Chand Miyan, who said "he is not satisfied with the post-mortem". Miyan requested the court for a second post mortem "conducted outside the State of UP because of the alleged involvement" of the state police. Additional Advocate General Manish Goel, representing the state, did not object.

The court also directed officials to video-graph "the entire" post mortem process. "High resolution still photographs of the body at various stages of the examination shall also be taken and preserved. The post mortem report, the video footage and photograph shall be prepared in three copies," the court said, adding the process should be completed in 10 days.

While the petitioner also prayed for an inquiry by the CBI, the court did not pass any order on this as a judicial and magisterial inquiry is pending.

Listing the matter after four weeks, the court said it is passing the order "because it is the case of the petitioner based upon photographs brought on record, wherein the deceased, Altaf is shown to have hung himself from a water pipe, which was installed only three feet above the ground..."

A week before he was found dead, Altaf was picked up for questioning on a complaint by the woman's family and booked under IPC sections 363 (kidnapping) and 366 (kidnapping, abducting or inducing woman to compel her marriage). Police earlier said the couple were in a relationship but later broke up. The court was told that under the judicial inquiry into the death case, 7 of the 36 witnesses have been examined.

## Hijab bans in education institutes violate religious freedom, says US official

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

US AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE for International Religious Freedom (IRF) Rashad Hussain on Friday said "Karnataka should not determine permissibility of religious clothing" and hijab bans in schools "violate religious freedom and stigmatize and marginalize women and girls".

This came on a day when External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Melbourne on Friday and the two leaders reviewed the efforts to strengthen cooperation bilaterally and through the Quad grouping in the strategic Indian Ocean region. Hussain, who had served as US Special Envoy of President Barack Obama to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), was recently appointed as the US envoy for international religious freedom by the Biden administration.

In a tweet on Friday, he said, "Religious freedom includes the ability to choose one's religious attire. The Indian state of Karnataka should not determine permissibility of religious clothing. Hijab bans in schools violate religious freedom and stigmatize and mar-



Rashad Hussain, US ambassador-at-large for International Religious Freedom (IRF)

ginalize women and girls." His comments come in the wake of the incidents of hijab ban in schools and colleges in Karnataka.

Born in the US, Hussain's father belonged to Bihar. He studied at the Yale Law School and also earned his Master's degrees in Public Administration (Kennedy School of Government), and Arabic and Islamic Studies from Harvard University.

In Melbourne, during their talks on the sidelines of a key meeting of Quad foreign ministers, Jaishankar and Blinken reviewed their bilateral ties. Jaishankar said the "strategic partnership has deepened so visibly". Blinken too said the "changing India-US relationship" has been "very defining".

## HIJAB ISSUE 5 IIM-Bangalore faculty write to NCW; students of Azim Premji univ express solidarity

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

OPPOSING THE "intimidation" faced by students wearing hijab in some Karnataka colleges, five faculty members of IIM Bangalore wrote to the National Commission for Women (NCW) urging it to secure the rights of Muslim women, and 277 students of Azim Premji University in Bengaluru issued a statement of solidarity with those "harassed by mobs and denied education based on their attire".

In a letter addressed to NCW chairperson Rekha Sharma, IIM Bangalore faculty members Hema Swaminathan, Ritwik Banerjee, Deepak Malghan, Dalhia Mani and Prateek Raj stressed that while they did not condone patriarchal restrictions across religions, "To single out one religious practice is not acceptable."

"Women across all religions face patriarchal restrictions of one kind or the other. Certainly, we cannot condone such practices and we must work with men, women, and religious leaders to bring about change. But to single out one religious practice is not acceptable... The atmosphere of fear and intimidation will make parents hesitate to send daughters to schools and colleges," the letter read. Swaminathan, a professor at the Centre for Public Policy, told *The Indian Express* that faculty members chose to write to the NCW to safeguard the rights and agency of women. "Women in general are subject to restrictions and they should not be pushed back further. Also, we need to reclaim plurality," said Swaminathan.

The students of Azim Premji University in a statement urged other student communities to "peacefully speak up". They said they stand against discrimination that denies citizens their basic rights. "Such incidents have the potential of creating institutionalised discrimination based on gender, religion, caste..." they said.



GOLD

₹48,669



RUPEE

₹75.36



OIL

\$92.41



SILVER

₹62,214

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of February 10

SENSEX: 58,152.92 ▼ 773.11 (-1.31%) NIFTY: 17,374.75 ▼ 231.10 (-1.31%) NIKKEI: 27,696.08 ▲ 116.21 HANG SENG: 24,906.66 ▼ 1769 FTSE: 7,613.12 ▼ 59.28 DAX: 15,430.72 ▼ 59.72

International market data till 1900 IST

CORPORATE WATCH  
GOVERNANCE

## BharatPe interim report in few weeks, CEO allays fears on liquidity position

SOU MYARENDRA BARIK & PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

AN INTERIM report of the governance review being carried out at BharatPe will be submitted to the company's board in a few weeks, BharatPe's CEO Suhail Sameer wrote in a communication to the employees on Friday. Sameer wrote that there were "a couple of... serious allegations" of governance lapses because of which an audit was being conducted by external firms.

Sameer also noted in the letter that BharatPe has "huge amounts of cash in the bank to keep building", adding that the company has \$500 million (including the \$100 million invested in Unity Small Finance Bank) in the bank, and all existing investors are backing it. He also wrote that the company did not need to raise capital in the foreseeable future, and that it was getting "2-3 new inbound conversation requests every week" from potential investors.

"While we don't need to raise capital for a foreseeable future, it is great to know that both existing investors as well as potential new ones are keen to support us, if we need the capital," Sameer wrote.

Noting that the governance review was being carried out by external firms — Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, Alvarez & Marsal (A&M), and PwC — Sameer wrote: "Based on some internal complaints, we decided to do a full audit of our governance processes. While many of the findings of the review are pretty standard for a fast-growth company of our

size, there are a couple of more serious allegations, which the review is still substantiating".

PwC was roped in by the Board late last month to investigate aspects such as accounting, approval processes, expenses and hirings. As part of this process, PwC is involving its forensic team, which is likely to study the findings submitted by A&M.

A&M was appointed by BharatPe through its legal firm Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas to look into internal governance issues — specifically assessing if senior executives were making proper internal disclosures about personal investments and check for conflicts. Some of the preliminary findings by A&M allegedly involve Ashneer Grover's wife and the company's head of controls, Madhuri Jain Grover, and noted that payments were allegedly made into "dubious" recruitment firms with expenses running into crores of rupees spent on "non-existing" vendors and "questionable invoices" created to substantiate such spends.

An e-mail query sent to BharatPe did not elicit a response. "We expect the review partners (consultants) to share an interim report with the Board in a couple of weeks," Sameer wrote.

"Meanwhile, I would just request all of you to keep your trust on the Board of BharatPe, which comprises some of the best investors in the world and veterans of the Indian Banking Industry. Whatever the Board will decide, will be beyond doubt, in the best interests of our employees, our merchants and our consumers," he added.

## RUPEE FALLS 21P TO NEAR 7-WEEK LOW OF 75.36 AGAINST USD

## US rate hike worries spook markets; Sensex drops 1.3%

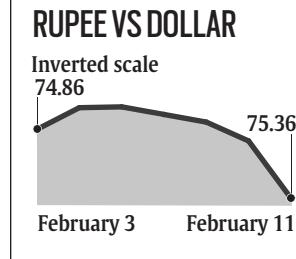
ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

DOMESTIC STOCK markets on Friday plunged by 1.31 per cent as higher US inflation data and fears over higher-than expected rate hike by the US Federal Reserve spooked sentiment.

The benchmark Sensex, which plunged 1,000 points in the opening session, fell 773 points to close at 58,152.92 and the Nifty50 lost 231 points, or 1.31 per cent, at 17,374.75 on selling pressure in IT, capital goods, consumer durables, financial and realty stocks. IT index lost 2.55 per cent on sustained selling with TCS, Infosys and HCL Tech falling over 2 per cent each.

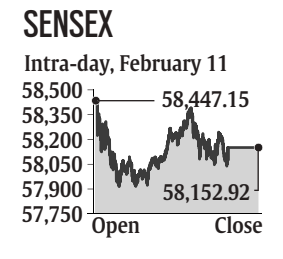
The Sensex had gained 460 points on Thursday after the Reserve Bank of India unveiled a "dovish" monetary policy.

The rupee plunged by 21 paise to a nearly seven-week low of 75.36 against the US currency on



Friday on forex outflows and a strong dollar after a spike in inflation in the US boosted expectations of a rate hike.

"The US inflation at 7.5 per cent, a multi-year high, and the probability of Fed getting soon into a tightening mode, dampened sentiment in overseas markets, especially in US and Europe, and these movements are getting reflected in the domestic market as well. These concerns are going to linger on for some more time..." said Joseph Thomas, head of research, Emkay Wealth Management.



Indian markets are dictated by the trend in the US. Consumer price inflation in the US rose 0.6 per cent from the prior month and 7.5 per cent a year ago, the biggest annual gain since February 1982, the US Labour Department said.

When interest rates rise in the US, the gap between rates in countries like India reduces, giving less incentive for foreign investors to pump money into other markets as they prefer to invest in their home markets.

The Dow rose 105.6 points, or 0.3 per cent, to 35,347.19 while the

EXPLAINED  
Global inflation weighs

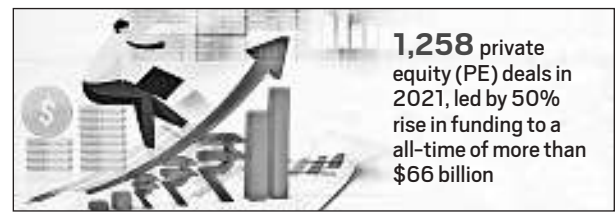
WHEN INTEREST rates rise in the US, the gap between rates in countries like India reduces, giving less incentive for foreign investors to pump money into other markets as they prefer to invest in their home markets.

Nasdaq Composite dropped 16.92 points, or 0.12 per cent, to 14,168.72, as per a Reuters report.

US Treasury yields eased, with benchmark 10-year notes rising to 2.0224 per cent, from 2.029 per cent late on Thursday. Meanwhile, oil rose on Friday after the IEA said markets were tight. Brent rose \$1.46, or 1.6 per cent, to \$92.87 a barrel at 12:00 pm ET.

## 'Total deals soar 40% to record \$115 billion in 2021'

Overall deal activity in 2021 rose 40% to about \$115 billion across 2,064 transactions, as per a PwC India report



## \$35 bn of total PE funds went to startups

Drivers of high deal activity:

- Abundant cash reserves
- Availability of private equity dry powder
- Foreign direct investments
- Lower interest rates

Deal activity in 2021 reached \$114.9 billion with 2,064 deals

- 40% rise from 2020 in terms of value
- 60% rise from 2020 in terms of volume

Source: PwC India/PTI

## ALLEGED FRAUDULENT ACTIVITIES

## Anil Ambani, Reliance Home Finance, 3 others barred from markets

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Friday restrained Reliance Home Finance Ltd (RHFL), Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group chairman Anil Ambani and three other individuals from the securities market until further orders for alleged fraudulent activities related to the company. The three other individuals are Amit Bapna, Ravindra Sudhakar and Pinkesh R Shah.

In an interim order issued on Friday, Sebi also restrained the individuals from "associating themselves with any intermediary registered with Sebi, any listed public company or acting directors/promoters of any public company which intends to raise money from the public till further orders."

"The way the chairman of the group, the CEO and the CFOs have conducted themselves in extending gratuitous treatment to the GPCL (general purpose corporate loan) borrower entities, gives a clear indication that the destination of the funds lent by RHFL was already known to the notice numbers 1 to 5 (RHFL, Anil Ambani, Amit Bapna, Ravindra Sudhakar and Pinkesh R Shah) at the time of sanctioning itself," the order said.

## Sebi fines NSE, ex-MDs, others

Mumbai: Sebi has penalised the NSE and its former MDs and CEOs, Chitra Ramkrishna and Ravi Narain, and others for violating securities contract rules in a case related to appointing Anand Subramanian as group operating officer and advisor to the MD. It has levied a fine of Rs 3 crore on Ramkrishna, Rs 2 crore each on NSE, Narain and Subramanian and Rs 6 lakh on VR Narasimhan, who was chief regulatory officer and chief compliance officer. **ENS**

"It is apparent that under a well drafted scheme, these notices devised an artifice to ensure the siphoning of funds to the benefit of the promoter related entities by layering the lending operations through GPCL borrower entities," Sebi said. Concealing such material information, which were apparently very much in the knowledge of aforesaid key managerial persons, cannot be said to be an act that can lead to disclosure of a true picture of company's affairs in the statements, it said. **Full report on www.indianexpress.com**

Air India, AirAsia ink interline pact for domestic passengers  
To transfer flyers to one another in case of disruptions on 'as available' basisPRANAV MUKUL  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

TATA GROUP airlines Air India and AirAsia India signed an agreement on interline considerations on irregular operations (IROPs) that will allow the two airlines to transfer passengers to one another in case of disrupted operations.

While this is the first official move in the direction of two airlines in the Tata Group aviation portfolio cooperating after the Air India takeover, it is also a step towards executing the plan of eventually merging AirAsia India into Air India. In a letter circulated Friday by Air India's ground handling department to its regional divisions across the country, the airline noted that the agreement — that will be valid till February 9, 2024 — will be applicable only on domestic sectors and the carriage of passengers shall be on an "as available" basis.

Airlines typically enter into such interline agreements with other carriers, especially on routes where they operate limited number of flights to prevent inconvenience to passengers in case of disruptions. These disruptions could occur as a result of extenuating circumstances such as delays, cancellations, diversion of flights.

"The arrangement will enable airport teams of both Air India and AirAsia to offer alternative first available flights so that inconvenience to passengers is minimised," the letter noted.

With the inclusion of Air India from January 27, the Tata group now has four airline brands in its portfolio: Air India, its low-cost arm Air India Express, AirAsia India (in which it owns 83.6 per cent stake), and Vistara (which is a 51:49 joint-venture with Singapore Airlines). Barring Vistara, the Tata group is likely to put in effect greater synergies among its portfolio airlines.

## Second 5-yr term for Chandrasekaran as Tata Sons chairman

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 11

THE BOARD of Tata Sons Ltd, the holding company and promoter of the \$110-billion Tata group companies, on Friday reappointed Natarajan Chandrasekaran as executive chairman for another five years. "At its meeting on February 11, 2022, the board of Tata Sons reviewed the last five years and considered the reappointment of its executive chairman N Chandrasekaran," it said in a statement.

Ratan N Tata, who was a special invitee at the meeting, expressed his satisfaction on the progress and performance of the Tata group under the leadership of Chandrasekaran. "He recommended his term be renewed for a further five-year period," Tata Sons said.

Tata Trusts, headed by Ratan Tata, holds majority 66 per cent stake in Tata Sons. "The board members commended the performance of the Executive Chairman and unanimously approved the



The Tata Sons board cleared N Chandrasekaran's reappointment on Friday. File

reappointment of Chandrasekaran as the Executive Chairman for the next five years," it said.

"It has been a privilege to lead the Tata group for the last five years and I am delighted at the opportunity to lead the Tata group for another five years, in its next phase," Chandrasekaran said. The Tatas, led by Chandrasekaran, acquired Air India recently.

Chandrasekaran joined the board of Tata Sons in October 2016 and was appointed Chairman in January 2017.

## Win-win for both sides: Goyal on Aus trade pact

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

INDIA AND Australia are set to finalise an interim trade agreement spanning goods, services, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, Customs procedure, and legal and institutional issues in the next 30 days, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said Friday. The two nations also signed a

memorandum of understanding (MoU) to boost tourism between them during a visit by Australia's Trade, Tourism and Investment Minister Dan Tehan. Goyal and Tehan noted that both countries had respected each other's sensitivities in trade negotiations and that a vast array of subjects were of interest to both countries.

"The good part of this friendship is that we have respected each other's sensitivities. And the

agreement is only a win-win with absolutely no negatives for both sides and both countries," Goyal said at a joint press conference at the end of three days of talks here. Tehan noted he had said publicly that "we (Australian government) understand the sensitivities that India has when it comes to dairy, beef and wheat."

The two nations are expected to sign the India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation

Agreement (CECA), likely to be concluded in 12-18 months after the interim pact is announced.

The dairy and agriculture sectors, which are key sources of employment in the country, have traditionally been sensitive sectors for India in trade negotiations.

Goyal highlighted that India's merchandise exports in the first 10 months of the fiscal till January had hit \$336 billion. **Full report on www.indianexpress.com**

## PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR AUTOMOBILE SECTOR

## Tata Motors, Hyundai among 20 cos selected

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

TATA MOTORS, Hyundai, Mahindra & Mahindra and Bajaj Auto are among 20 companies that have been selected for the Centre's Rs 25,938-crore Production Linked Incentives (PLI) scheme for the automobile sector, the ministry of heavy industries said on Friday.

"The PLI scheme for automo-

bile and auto component industry has been a huge success in terms of the applications received from local as well as globally headquartered groups," the ministry said, noting that applicants that have been approved for the scheme thus far include groups from countries such as the Republic of Korea, USA, Japan, France, Italy, the UK and the Netherlands besides India. The government had received 115 applications under the

PLI scheme. The Ministry noted that while 20 Original Equipment Manufacturers had been selected for the manufacture of Advanced Automotive Technology (AAT) vehicles, applications for component manufacturers under the scheme are being processed separately.

The 20 applicants approved under the champion Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) Incentives scheme include Ashok

Leyland, Eicher Motors, Ford India, Hyundai Motor India, Kia India, Mahindra & Mahindra among non two-wheeler and three wheeler manufacturers.

The two- and three-wheeler manufacturers selected include Bajaj Auto, Hero MotoCorp, Piaggio Vehicles and TVS Motors.

Six non-automotive investors including Ola Electric technologies and Axis Clean Mobility have also been selected for incentives.

## BRIEFLY

## CBIC, seizures

New Delhi: At a Fici event, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) member Balesh Kumar said better coordination among enforcement agencies is leading to major seizures.

## Airtel outage

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel said its data network was disrupted for around 5 minutes across India, but normalised in a few minutes. **PTI**

## OIL Q3 net up

New Delhi: Oil India Ltd (OIL) saw 37% rise in Q3 net profit at ₹1,244.9 crore, against ₹903.7 crore last year. **ENS**

## POST MOVE TO STOP SELLING, MAKING CARS IN INDIA

## Ford looking at EV manufacturing in India

REUTERS  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

Ford Motor Co said on Friday it is considering producing electric vehicles in India for export, and possibly for sale in the domestic market, months after the automaker decided to stop selling and manufacturing cars in the country.

Ford has two car plants in the country. In a statement on Friday, the company said it was "exploring the possibility of using a plant in India as an export base for EV manufacturing."

When asked if the company may consider selling electric cars in India as well, a Ford

## PV sales fall

New Delhi: Passenger vehicle sales in January continued to be impacted by the shortage of semiconductor. According to the data released by SIAM, overall sales across categories fell 18.84 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to 14,06,672 units in January. PV sales declined 8.05 per cent y-o-y to 2,54,287 units in January. **FE**

India spokesman said, "there have been no specific discussions on this right now, but it is not out of the realm of future consideration".

## Twitter faces outage

Bengaluru: Twitter Inc said on Friday it had fixed a software glitch in its micro-blogging website that had disrupted services for several thousands of its users.

"We've fixed a technical bug that was preventing timelines from loading and Tweets from posting. Things should be back to normal now," the company said in a tweet. Earlier, Twitter had said on its status page that it was facing an elevated number of application programming interface errors, a set of protocols for building and integrating application software.

Over 40,000 users had reported outage of the service on Downtodetector, a website which tracks outages by collating status reports from sources, including user-submitted errors. **REUTERS**

## BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Bid No. E-59/2021-22 E-Tenders Date : 04.02.2022

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence :- S. No., Tender No., (Due Date), Description and Quantity.

S. No. 1. 09221068, (25.02.2022), PANEL MODULE TLF 301, to PL No. 18120880, 21 Nos. S. No. 2. 09211035B, (25.02.2022), FUSE AND INDICATOR ASSY, to PL No. 18310606, 1231 Nos. S. No. 3. 09211076C, (28.02.2022), DC LINK CONTACTOR, to PL No. 18310795, 17 Nos. S. No. 4. 09221069, (03.03.2022), CURRENT SENSOR 300A & VOLTAGE SENSOR-10mA, to PL No. 18160013, 19 Nos. & PL No. 18160622, 19 Nos. S. No. 5. 09211055A, (03.03.2022), PANEL MODULE FCF301, to PL No. 18120076, 10 Nos. S. No. 6. 10221175, (25.02.2022), SPRING EXHAUST VALVE, to PL No. 16160034, 19168 Nos. S. No. 7. 10211381A, (25.02.2022), PUMP & MOTOR ASSEMBLY, to PL No. 16241526, 40 Nos. S. No. 8. 10211216C, (25.02.2022), PIN PISTON, to PL No. 16141441, 2540 Nos. S. No. 9. 05211104A, (28.02.2022), Steel Plate 70x1250x2500, Part No. 90426514, 03 MT. S. No. 10. 05211039C, (03.03.2022), Depressor Valve SGS Ring, Part No. 15510670, 04 Nos. S. No. 11. 05215282A, (03.03.2022), Rain Force Grinding Wheel, 400 Nos. S. No. 12. 05225028, (07.03.2022), Switch Board Speedtree, 01 Nos. S. No. 13. 02211345B, (23.02.2022), Sln. Steel Hardware Items Kit for T&S CAB, PL No. 29408532, 146 Set. S. No. 14. 02221035, (07.03.2022), Guide Exhaust Valve, PL No. 18120140, 6942 Nos. S. No. 15. TENDER No.: 01221006 DUE DATE: 09.03.2022 DESCRIPTION: COVER ASM HAND HOLE. PL No.: 16020406 QUANTITY: 2227 UNIT: NOS. The details of above Tenders are available on [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). CORRIGENDUM NOTICE - S. No. 16. BID No. : E-55 Tender No.: 07211059A Due Date : 07.02.2022 PL No. : 80011524 Description : Edible Coconut Oil Corrigendum for Opening date : 17.02.2022. SMM/lmp-1 PRO/BLWS-67

f t i /blwvaranasi Website: [blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://blw.indianrailways.gov.in)

## NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS - ORIGINAL

MD-cum-CEO, Dharamshala Smart City Limited invites online tender for the eligible bidders for the following work:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost to Work	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of Tender Document	Whether Tender Document Fee and EMD Exemption Permitted to MSME's	Date of Issue of Tender Documents Online	Last Date of Sending Pre-Bid Queries	Last Date of Online Submission of Bids	Date of Opening of Pre-Qualification & Technical Bid
1.	Development of Modular Toilets in Dharamshala. (3rd Call)	Rs. 1,12,83,775/-	Rs. 2,26,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Yes	11.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	14.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	21.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	22.02.2022 03.00 P.M.
2.	Construction of Sports/Playfields in Govt. Senior Secondary Boys School at Dharamshala (3rd Call)	Rs. 1,45,14,353/-	Rs. 2,91,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Yes	11.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	14.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	22.02.2022 05.00 P.M.	23.02.2022 03.00 P.M.

**NOTE:**

- All the Tender Documents can be downloaded from the website: [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in).
- All Addendums/Corrigendum's will only be published in the above website.
- For any queries please Contact us at [dscltender@gmail.com](mailto:dscltender@gmail.com) or Phone No. 01892-226677/226075.

Sd/-  
Managing Director-cum-CEO  
Dharamshala Smart City Limited.



MEANWHILE

## BIDEN DOG COMMANDER TO MAKE TV DEBUT

President Joe Biden's puppy Commander will make his TV debut on Super Bowl Sunday. The German shepherd will appear with Biden's wife, Jill, in a video message about pet love during Sunday's broadcast of "Puppy Bowl XVIII" on Animal Planet. The first lady's office tweeted the video Thursday.

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Drought, habitat loss reduced koala population. AP

## AUSTRALIA

## Koalas declared an endangered species

Sydney: The Australian government on Friday declared the koala an endangered species, as drought, bush fires, disease and habitat loss have drastically reduced the numbers of an animal that is an emblem of the country's unique wildlife. The announcement, by the country's environment minister, came two years after a parliamentary inquiry predicted that koalas could be extinct by 2050 without urgent government intervention. Reclassification from vulnerable to endangered does not require the Australian government to take any special action. But it separately announced that it would adopt a recovery plan for the koala issued by the country's environmental department. NYT

## USA

## Snoop Dogg accused of sexual assault

Los Angeles: An unidentified woman has filed a civil lawsuit that accuses American rapper Snoop Dogg of sexual assault and battery after she attended one of his concerts in 2013. The lawsuit was filed on Wednesday, days before Snoop Dogg is set to perform at the Super Bowl halftime show. The woman was identified as Jane Doe and described as a dancer, model, host and actress who had worked with Dogg. Representatives for Dogg did not immediately respond to requests for comment. REUTERS

## PAKISTAN

## 10-yr-old raped on school campus

Lahore: A 10-year-old girl was raped allegedly by a male student when the victim went to the washroom of her school in Pakistan's Lahore city, police said on Friday. The incident took place at a private school in a thickly-populated area of Shahdara on Thursday. Police said they have taken suspects into custody and also obtained the record of the CCTV footage. The condition of the girl, who was admitted to a local hospital, is stated to be critical. Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has taken note of the incident and directed the Lahore police chief to arrest the culprit at the earliest. PTI

## Russia could invade 'any time', says Blinken; urges Americans to leave

Ukraine warns that it is almost fully surrounded by hostile forces

AP &amp; THE NEW YORK TIMES FEBRUARY 11

RUSSIA COULD invade Ukraine during the current Beijing Winter Olympics so Americans should leave the Eastern European country immediately, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday.

Blinken did not detail the reasons behind the State Department's latest security alert that calls on all American citizens to leave Ukraine.

"Simply put, we continue to see very troubling signs of Russian escalation, including new forces arriving at the Ukrainian border," Blinken said in Melbourne, Australia. "We're in a window when an invasion could begin at any time and, to be clear, that includes during the Olympics," Blinken added. The Olympic Games are scheduled to end on February 20.

Russia has amassed over 100,000 troops near Ukraine. It says it has no plans to invade but wants the West to keep Ukraine and other former Soviet countries out of NATO.

Satellite images collected on Wednesday and Thursday reveal new deployment and positioning of Russian military equipment and troops in multiple locations around Ukraine, including Crimea, western Russia and Belarus, adding to an already ominous buildup that has fueled invasion fears. Ukraine's military warned on



Satellite imagery by Maxar Technologies shows additional Russian military deployment in areas near Ukraine, including, above, in Crimea on Thursday. NYT

Friday that Russian-backed separatists in the country's east are conducting military exercises, completing a near encirclement of Ukraine by hostile forces.

The drills tested the force's preparation for live-fire operations, driving "artillery, tank and armored vehicles" in field exercises, the Ukrainian statement

said. The statement said some units of the force were put on their highest level of alert, and that senior Russian military officers were observing the activity.

To the south, the Russian Navy announced on Thursday the closure of large swaths of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov for live-fire exercises by its fleet that will

effectively blockade Ukrainian ports. To the east, the army of Russian-backed separatists in two enclaves in eastern Ukraine, the Donetsk and Luhansk peoples' republics, was put on partial alert and ordered to conduct field exercises, Ukraine's military intelligence agency said Friday in a statement.

## No US troops for stragglers in Ukraine, warns Biden

AISHVARYA KAVI WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 11

PRESIDENT BIDEN on Thursday warned Americans to leave Ukraine, saying that US troops would not be dispatched to retrieve them should Russia invade.

"American citizens should leave, should leave now," Biden said in an interview with NBC's Lester Holt that aired on Thursday evening, adding that there was no scenario that could prompt him to send troops to rescue Americans. "We're dealing with one of the largest armies in the world. This is a very different situation, and things could go crazy quickly."

"That's a world war when Americans and Russia start shooting at one another," Biden added. "We're in a very different world than we've ever been in."

The State Department said on Thursday that "military action may commence at any time and without warning," as it reissued an advisory urging Americans not to travel to Ukraine with its starkest language yet. A military incursion would also "severely impact" the US Embassy's ability to help Americans leave Ukraine, the department said. NYT

## US always used Pak, China ties stood test of time, says PM Imran

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, FEBRUARY 11

THE US HAS always used Pakistan to meet its strategic goals and when the purpose was served it abandoned and slapped sanctions on the country, while "friend" China stood the test of time, Prime Minister Imran Khan said.

Khan made the remarks during a recent interview with Eric Li, Director of the Advisory Committee of China Institute of Fudan University, The News International newspaper reported on Friday.

Replying to a question, Khan said there are times when his country has friendly ties with the US. However, when the US feels



Pakistan PM Imran Khan

that it no longer needs Pakistan, it distances itself from it.

"Whenever the US needed us, they established relations, and Pakistan became a front-line state (against Soviet), and then abandoned it and slapped sanctions on us, when its purposes were served, he said. "China is a friend which has always stood by Pakistan," Khan said, adding that during the last 70 years, the two countries supported each other on every forum. PTI

## Pak has to return \$3 bn to Saudi in 1 year: Minister

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, FEBRUARY 11

CASH-STRAPPED Pakistan has to return \$3 billion to Saudi Arabia within a year, which it had borrowed from Riyadh in 2021 to improve its dwindling foreign exchange reserves, it emerged on Friday.

Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin told the Senate, the upper house, that the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) in October 2021 placed the amount in the account of the country's central

bank, the State Bank of Pakistan. Under an agreement, Saudi Arabia revived its financial support to Pakistan, including about \$3 billion in deposits and \$1.2 billion to \$1.5 billion worth of oil supplies on deferred payments. Pakistan also pledged to return the \$3 billion within a year.

Tarin said the interest rate on the loan was 4%, which would have to be paid every three months. He added that the principal would have to be returned in lump sum. "There was no clause in the agreement to extend the loan," he said. PTI

## At France meet, leaders mull ways to protect oceans

ASSOCIATED PRESS PARIS, FEBRUARY 11

WORLD LEADERS met on France's Atlantic coast Friday to discuss protecting the planet's oceans from threats such as overfishing and plastic pollution, and finding fairer ways to manage the seas.

The One Ocean Summit comes as European authorities are investigating a mass fish dump in the Bay of Biscay that environmental activists call an example of abuses by huge trawlers that disrupt undersea ecosystems. Oceans cover more than 70% of the planet's surface.

French President Emmanuel Macron initiated the three-day summit in the port city of Brest with the support of the United Nations. "Today, we are going to make commitments," Macron said in his opening speech. "I am convinced they are going to help strengthen helpful actions."

## Officer of Indian origin could be next head of Met police in London

HS RAO LONDON, FEBRUARY 11

ANILKANTHI 'NEIL' BASU, an Indian-origin British counter-terror cop, the most senior police officer of Asian heritage, is among the frontrunners to become the next London Metropolitan Police Commissioner, according to British media reports.

He is likely to replace Dame Cressida Dick, the first woman to lead the biggest UK police force, who resigned earlier this week after a series of damning reports of bullying, misogyny and racism emerged in the force under her helm.

Basu, 53, is currently the Assistant Commissioner (Specialist Operations) of the London Metropolitan Police. His father was a surgeon, who hailed from Kolkata, and relocated to the UK in the 1960s, where he married his mother, a nurse of Welsh heritage.

An economics graduate from Nottingham University, Basu had joined the Met Police in 1992 and was elevated as head of counter-terrorism and specialist operations, before becoming director of the College of Policing.

A widely respected figure in the police force, Basu rose to worldwide fame during the London Bridge incident two years ago, when he and his team nabbed and shot the terror convict Usman Khan, according to the Guardian.

According to media reports, others in the fray include Martin Hewitt, Chair of the National Policing Chiefs Council, Simon Byrne, Chief constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland, Mark Rowley, former head of counter terrorism, Matt Jukes, currently acting head of the counter-terrorism and Louise Rolfe, a leader and specialist on tackling violence against women. PTI

## UK lifts all testing formalities for Covid vaccinated travellers

London: Vaccinated travellers can enter Britain without taking any coronavirus tests starting Friday, after the government scrapped one of the final restrictions imposed over the past two years in response to Covid-19.

British residents and visitors who have had at least two doses of an approved coronavirus vaccine now only need to fill out a

passenger locator form before travelling to the UK. Unvaccinated people still have to take tests both before and after arriving but no longer need to self-isolate until they get a negative result.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said the UK "now has one of the most free-flowing borders in the world — sending a clear message that we are open for business."

Airlines and other travel firms hailed the change as a lifeline after two years of severely constricted travel. Andrew Flintham, managing director of travel group Tui UK, said there was "a huge pent-up demand for international travel," and people were rushing to book getaways for the February school break and April's Easter holiday. AP

## White House order: frozen Afghan cash will be used in part for 9/11 damages

AAMER MADHANI &amp; KATHY GANNON WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 11

PRESIDENT JOE Biden signed an executive order on Friday to create a pathway to split \$7 billion in Afghan assets frozen in the US to fund humanitarian relief in Afghanistan and to create a trust fund to compensate Sept. 11 victims.

The order calls for US financial institutions to facilitate access to \$3.5 billion for Afghan relief and basic needs. The other \$3.5 billion would remain in the US and be used to fund payments from ongoing litigation by US victims of terrorism.

International funding to Afghanistan was suspended and billions of dollars of the country's assets abroad, mostly in the US, were frozen after the Taliban took control of the country in August.

The White House said in a statement that the order "is designed to provide a path for the funds to reach the people of Afghanistan, while keeping them out of the hands of the Taliban and malicious actors."

The lack of funding has led to increased poverty, and aid groups have warned of a looming humanitarian catastrophe.

The Biden administration is still working through details of setting up the trust fund, an effort the White House says will likely take months to sort out. Because victims have ongoing legal claims on the \$7 billion in the US banking system, the courts would have to sign off before the money for humanitarian assistance could be released to Afghanistan, the officials said.

Taliban political spokesman Mohammad Naeem criticised the US for not releasing all the funds to Afghanistan. AP

## EXPLAINED Courts to take call on victims' aid

THE US courts where 9/11 victims have filed claims against the Taliban will have to take action for the victims to be compensated. It will ultimately be up to the courts to decide if the victims have a claim to the \$3.5 billion the administration is allotting for them through the trust fund.



Mass starvation has gripped much of the country since the Taliban took control. NYT

## UN aims to launch new Afghanistan cash route this month: UN note

JONATHAN LANDAY WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 11

THE UNITED NATIONS aims to kickstart this month a system to swap millions of aid dollars for Afghan currency in a plan to stem humanitarian and economic crises and bypass blacklisted Taliban leaders, according to an internal UN note seen by Reuters.

Since the Taliban takeover in August, foreign financial assistance has stopped and international banks are wary of testing UN and US sanctions on the headline Islamist group, leaving the United Nations and aid groups struggling to obtain cash even as they continue to receive humanitarian donations.

The UN explanatory note, written last month, outlines an "urgently needed" Humanitarian Exchange Facility (HEF). "The overall objective is to have the HEF up and running in February," the note said. "Prior to the full establishment of the facility, we seek to facilitate several trial swaps, to demonstrate exactly how the mechanism will work." REUTERS

## Taliban detain UNHCR staff, two journalists in Kabul

Kabul: The Taliban have detained two foreign journalists on assignment with the UN refugee agency and a number of its Afghan staff working in the country's capital, UNHCR said Friday.

"Two journalists on assignment with UNHCR and Afghan nationals working with them have been detained in Kabul," the refugee agency tweeted. "We are doing our utmost to resolve the situation." The Geneva-based organisation refused to comment further. The Taliban so far have not replied to queries for information about the detained.

One of the detained is Andrew North, a former British Broadcasting Corporation journalist who has worked extensively in Afghanistan. His wife, Natalia Antelava issued a plea on Twitter for his release.

The Committee to Protect Journalists condemned the detentions and called for the immediate release of the journalists. AP

## Burkina Faso's junta leader declared president

Ouagadougou: The leader of Burkina Faso's junta Lt. Col. Paul Henri Sandaogo Damiba has been declared president this week, the West African country's Constitutional Council said.

Damiba is to be officially inaugurated on February 16, military officials confirmed on Friday, although his term as president is effective retroactively from January 24, when soldiers overthrew the democratically elected former President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré.

Damiba has vowed to restore security to the nation. He has also met with politicians, including the former administration, civic organizations and representatives of the international community to explain his views and garner support. AP

## VISITING FRENCH PRESIDENT WAS KEPT AT A DISTANCE FROM PUTIN DURING LENGTHY TALKS IN MOSCOW

## Macron refused Russian Covid test over DNA theft fears

MICHEL ROSE PARIS, FEBRUARY 11

FRENCH PRESIDENT Emmanuel Macron refused a Kremlin request that he take a Russian Covid-19 test when he arrived to see President Vladimir Putin this week, to prevent Russia getting hold of Macron's DNA, two sources in Macron's entourage told Reuters.

As a result, the visiting French head of state was kept at a distance from the Russian leader during lengthy talks on the Ukraine crisis in Moscow.

They were photographed at opposite ends of a table so long that it provoked satirical comment on

social media and speculation, including by diplomats, that Putin might be using it to send a message.

But two sources who have knowledge of the French president's health protocol told Reuters Macron had been given a choice: either accept a PCR test done by the Russian authorities and be allowed to get close to Putin, or refuse and have to abide by more stringent social distancing.

"We knew very well that meant no handshake and that long table. But we could not accept that they get their hands on the president's DNA," one of the sources told Reuters, referring to security concerns if the French leader was tested by Russian doctors.



Russian President Putin with French President Macron in Moscow on Feb 7. Reuters

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov confirmed that Macron had declined the test and said Russia had no problem with this, but it meant that a 6-metre (20 feet) distance from Putin was required in order to protect the Kremlin leader's health.

"There is no politics in this, it does not interfere with negotiations in any way," he said.

A second source in Macron's entourage said he instead took a French PCR test before departure and an antigen test done by his own doctor once in Russia. "The Russians told us Putin needed to be kept in a strict health bubble," the second source said. Macron's office said the

Russian health protocol "did not seem to us to be either acceptable or compatible with our diary constraints", referring to the length of time that would have been required to wait for the results.

When asked specifically about DNA theft, Macron's office said: "The president has doctors who define with him the rules that are acceptable or not in terms of his own health protocol."

On Thursday, three days after Macron and Putin had their socially-distanced meeting, the Russian leader received Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev. The two men shook hands, and sat close to each other, divided only by a small coffee table. REUTERS



@ieExplained

#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

## TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

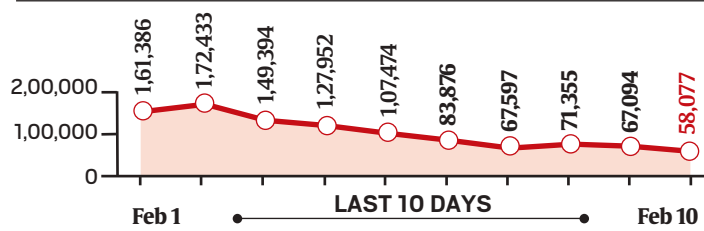
## DASHBOARD, AS ON FEB 10

711  
DAYS SINCE  
PANDEMIC  
BEGAN

New cases **58,077** | Active cases **6,97,802** | Deaths **657**

Weekly CFR: 0.35% | Overall CFR: 1.25% | Total deaths: 5,07,177

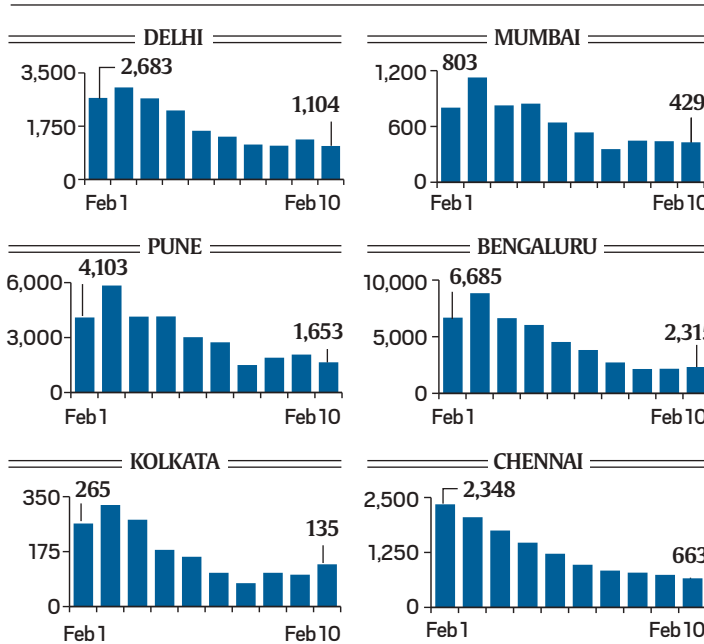
## NEW CASES, DAILY



## SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON FEBRUARY 10			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	18,420	2,33,747	341	29.50%
Maharashtra	6,248	70,150	49	6.47%
Karnataka	5,019	52,047	39	6.76%
Tamil Nadu	3,592	66,992	25	4.89%
Rajasthan	3,491	29,530	15	9.71%

## CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS

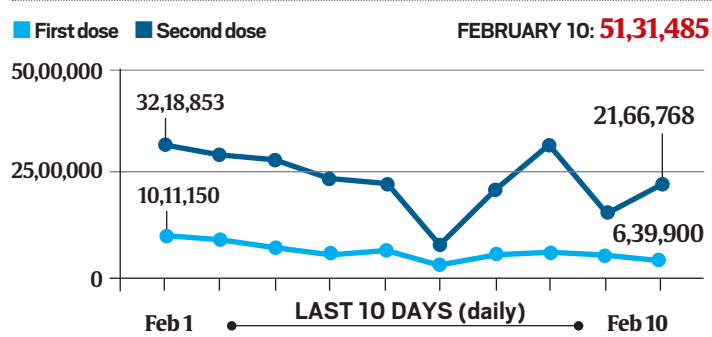


## TOTAL TESTS 74,78,70,047

TESTS ON FEB 10 **16,73,976** | WEEKLY POSITIVITY **4.84%** | OVERALL POSITIVITY **5.69%**

## INDIA TOTAL DOSES 171,28,19,947

(Adults 1st dose: 90,29,84,890; 2nd: 73,51,06,074; 15-18 age group 1st dose: 5,13,17,677; 2nd: 1,20,51,032; precautionary: 1,69,91,759)



## EXPLAINED POLITICS

## Politics and history in Goa

PM has raked up a 6-decade-old debate on Nehru's decisions during Portuguese rule to accuse Congress of apathy towards Goa. What happened during Goa's liberation struggle, and in what national & global context?

## EXPERT EXPLAINS

RAHUL TRIPATHI

WITH GOA going to polls on Monday, it is time for politics to confront history again, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set the tone.

"Goa was liberated 15 years after India attained freedom. Pandit [Jawaharlal] Nehru felt that if he launched a military operation to oust the colonial rulers from Goa, his image as a global leader of peace would be impacted," he said in Rajya Sabha on February 8.

Modi quoted from Nehru's 1955 Independence Day speech, holding the nation's first Prime Minister guilty of leaving satyagrahis in the lurch, refusing to send the Indian Army to liberate Goa, even after 25 of them were shot dead by the Portuguese Army on the Goa Maharashtra border.

The following day, Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said in campaign speeches that if he wanted, Nehru could have liberated Goa in 1947 itself, and local BJP units circulated social media posts amplifying the message.

On Thursday, the Prime Minister during a brief campaign in Goa repeated his attack on Nehru, painting him and the Congress as callous and uncaring in their attitude towards the state and its people.

## Goa's freedom movement

Goa became a Portuguese colony in 1510, when Admiral Afonso de Albuquerque defeated the forces of the sultan of Bijapur, Yusuf Adil Shah. The next four and a half centuries saw one of Asia's longest colonial encounters — Goa found itself at the intersection of competing regional and global powers and religious and cultural ferment that would lead eventually to the germination of a distinct Goan identity that continues to be a source of contestation even today.

By the turn of the twentieth century, Goa had started to witness an upsurge of nationalist sentiment opposed to Portugal's colonial rule, in sync with the anti-British nationalist movement in the rest of India. Stalwarts such Tristão de Bragança Cunha, celebrated



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks in Rajya Sabha on February 8. He said, "Pandit Nehru's biggest concern was his international image. It did not matter what happened in Goa, [he] let it suffer... He said I will not send the Army... The people of Goa cannot forget the attitude of the Congress..." PTI

as the father of Goan nationalism, founded the Goa National Congress at the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress in 1928. In 1946, the socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia led a historic rally in Goa that gave a call for civil liberties and freedom, and eventual integration with India, which became a watershed moment in Goa's freedom struggle.

At the same time, there was a thinking that civil liberties could not be won by peaceful methods, and a more aggressive armed struggle was needed. This was the view of the Azad Gomantak Dal (AGD), whose co-founder Prabhakar Sinari is one of the few freedom fighters still living today.

As India moved towards independence, however, it became clear that Goa would not be free any time soon, because of a variety of complex factors. The trauma of Partition and the massive rupture that followed, coupled with the war with Pakistan, kept the Government of India from opening another front in which the international community could get involved. Besides, it was Gandhi's opinion that a lot of groundwork was still needed in Goa to raise the consciousness of the people, and the diverse political voices emerging within should be brought under a common umbrella first.

There were also questions with regard to the mode of protest to be followed. In her thesis 'Goa's Struggle for Freedom, 1946-61: The Contribution of National Congress Goa and Azad Gomantak Dal', historian Dr Seema Risbud highlighted the dichotomies within

the groups fighting for freedom in Goa, and argued that satyagraha had its limitations against a totalitarian regime. This point appears to have been validated by the success of the militant role played by the AGD in the liberation of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, another Portuguese enclave (albeit with the covert support of Indian authorities, as some have suggested).

## Nehruvian dilemma

It was apparent that Nehru was prepared for the long haul in Goa, perhaps trying to exhaust all options available to him given the circumstances that India was emerging from, and where he was headed in shaping India's position in the comity of nations. Portugal had changed its constitution in 1951 to claim Goa not as a colonial possession, but as an overseas province. The move was apparently aimed at making Goa a part of the newly formed North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) military alliance — so the collective security clause of the treaty would be triggered in the event of an attack by India or any other nation — but this was not acceptable to other NATO member countries.

Nehru saw it prudent to pursue bilateral diplomatic measures with Portugal to negotiate a peaceful transfer while, at the same time, a more 'overt' indigenous push for liberation — one that would strengthen India's moral argument — gathered momentum. His 1955 Independence Day speech — cited by Modi in Rajya Sabha — criticising the satya-

grahis who were trying to cross the border did demoralise the diverse pan India group of liberation fighters comprising socialists, communists, and the RSS. But the firing incident also provoked a sharp response from the Government of India, which snapped diplomatic and consular ties with Portugal in 1955.

The obvious question that arises is, if things had reached such a stage in 1955, why did Nehru wait until December 1961 to launch a full-scale military offensive, even though India continued to raise the issue of Goa at various levels and fora?

D P Singhal, who was a political scientist at the University of Queensland at the time, provided a clue in his paper 'Goa: End of An Epoch', published in The Australian Quarterly in March 1962. With India firmly established as a leader of the Non Aligned World and Afro Asian Unity, with decolonisation and anti-imperialism as the pillars of its policy, it could no longer be seen to delay the liberation of Goa. An Indian Council of Africa seminar on Portuguese colonies organized in October 1961 heard strong views from African delegates who argued that India's policy of going slow on the Goa question was hampering their own struggles against the ruthless Portuguese regime. The delegates were certain that the Portuguese empire would collapse the day Goa was liberated.

The rest, as they say, is history. Goa was liberated on December 19, 1961 by swift Indian military action that lasted less than two days.

## The debate in 2022

Politics needs to be charitable to history, because at some point it would be put to the same scrutiny and judgment as it becomes history itself.

Sinari, the lone surviving member of the AGD, whose sense of history and political instincts have not been blunted by age and failing health, says attempts at political point-scoring around incidents that took place in a certain historical context more than six decades ago, only diverts attention and focus from pressing current issues.

Goa has seen 60 years of eventful liberation and successful amalgamation in the Indian Union. It is more important for it to look ahead to its future than to rapidly receding, increasingly dim images in the rear-view mirror.

Prof Rahul Tripathi teaches Political Science at Goa University. Views expressed are personal.

## THESE WORDS MEAN: SLALOM &amp; GIANT SLALOM

## The Games events India's Arif Khan is taking part in

SHASHANK NAIR  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

INDIAN SKIER Arif Khan has qualified for both the slalom and giant slalom events at the Beijing Winter Olympics. While he isn't the first Indian to take part in either of these two events at the Winter Olympics, he is the only Indian to have ever qualified for both events together, and is the country's only athlete participating in the Beijing Games.

Before leaving, he said a finish in the top-30 would be quite an achievement. His best position till date at a World Championship has been 45th.

## How it's played

Punishing on the knees and rewarding if flexibility is a strong point, slalom and giant slalom are two events that require successfully completing an obstacle course in the least possible time possible.

Alpine skiing is made up of five different events — the downhill, Super G, Alpine combined, slalom and giant slalom. Different it-



Arif Khan, first Indian to take part in both events at Winter Games. Twitter/SAL

erations of the sport have existed in history. The modern-day version of slalom skiing was ratified in 1922 by Arnold Lunn for the British National Ski Championships, and this

was brought into the 1936 Winter Olympics in Germany.

A cascading slope of snow is fixed with highly flexible plastic poles (gates) in red and blue across a fixed course. The course has between 55-75 gates for men and 40-60 for women. The height from top to bottom of the course is usually between 180-220 cm for men.

Skiers are supposed to start at the top of the hill and, in the shortest time, navigate their way between the poles to reach the finish line. In both events, the skier has a chance to put up a time that enters them into the Top 30 and, after this, gets another chance to put up a winning time.

## The difference

Slalom is the shorter of the two events, but the more technically challenging one since the gates are smaller and skiers have to focus on their zigzagging technique rather than their speed. Usually, that technique depends on tension. Core muscles need to remain tense while the skier flies downhill. The best slalom skiers tend to show extreme

discipline with their arms — the less the movement, the more one's body can be streamlined to zigzag through the course.

Giant slalom, on the other hand, combines the technical aspect of slalom but the speed of downhill skiing events. The giant slalom event sees skiers reach up to 80 km/hr. The higher speed means the "gates" have to be larger.

## Cross-blocking technique

In slalom skiing, turns are much shorter and therefore skiers get a narrower and direct line to race on. The average slalom skier is much closer to the gates and thus uses their body to push gates out of the way while keeping their line of racing as close to a straight line as possible. This method is called cross-blocking.

In giant slalom, this technique gets marginalised slightly. This is because gates are wider apart and are fewer than in slalom, which is why the event is usually the faster of the two. The average skier therefore uses their shoulder to round up the gate, rather than the outside of their poles.

## 11 MW in 5 sec: breakthrough in nuclear fusion, and why it is significant

AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, FEBRUARY 11

SCIENTISTS IN the United Kingdom have managed to produce the largest amount of energy so far from a nuclear fusion reaction, the same process that makes the Sun, and all other stars, shine and emit energy. This result is being seen as a major breakthrough in the ongoing global efforts to produce a fusion nuclear reactor.

All current nuclear reactors are based on the fission process, in which the nucleus of a heavier atom is split into those of lighter elements in a controlled manner. This process is accompanied with the release of large amounts of energy. Fusion is the opposite process, in which nuclei of relatively lighter atoms, typically those of hydrogen, are fused to make the nucleus of a heavier atom.

Much more energy is released in the fusion process than in fission. The fusion of atoms of two heavier isotopes of hydrogen

— deuterium and tritium — for example, to form a helium nucleus produces four times as much energy as is released during the fission of a uranium atom, the kind of which we see in our nuclear reactors.

## Quest for fusion energy

Trying to harness energy from fusion reaction is not a new endeavour. Scientists have been making efforts to build a fusion nuclear reactor for several decades, but the challenges are high. Fusion is possible only at very high temperatures, of the order of a few hundred million degrees Celsius, the kind of temperature that exists at the core of the Sun and the stars. Recreating such extreme temperatures is no easy task. The materials that will make up the reactor, too, need to be able to withstand such huge amounts of heat.

There are several other complications. At such high temperatures, matter exists only in the plasma state, where atoms break up into positive and negative ions due to excessive heat. Plasma, which has a tendency to



One of the giant components at the ITER site in southern France. ITER

expand very fast, is extremely difficult to handle and work with.

But the benefits of fusion reaction are immense. Apart from generating much more energy, fusion produces no carbon emissions, the raw materials are in sufficient supply, produces much less radioactive waste compared to fission, and is considered much safer.

Over the years, scientists have been able to draw up the plan for a fusion nuclear reactor. It is called ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) and is being built in southern France with the collaboration of 35 countries, including India which is one of the seven partners, alongside the European Union, the United States, Russia, Japan, South Korea and China.

Several small-scale fusion reactors are already being used for research. The one that produced this week's new record in energy generation is based at the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, just outside of Oxford in England. During the record-breaking experiment, the reactor produced 11 megawatts

of energy over a five-second period.

## The ITER project

Fusion is considered to be the future of energy. It is supposed to liberate the world from the perennial quest for more and more efficient sources of energy. A very small amount of raw material — deuterium and tritium nuclei to begin with — can produce very large amounts of energy in a clean manner. It is also being seen as an answer to the problem of climate change.

In fact, in its early stages, fusion was also seen as an answer to the problem of climate change because it produces zero emissions. The climate crisis, however, has deteriorated rapidly and needs urgent attention, while a practical fusion reactor is still decades away.

Building a fusion reactor has not been easy. The ITER project began in 1985 and the deadline for its first experimental run has been extended several times. According to the current timeline, it is expected to become operational only in 2035. Right now, the re-

actor is in the machine assembly phase. Over ten million parts, being manufactured and tested in the seven member countries, have to be transported, assembled and integrated.

Still, ITER is only an experimental project. The energy it will produce — about 500 MW — would not be in the form of electricity that can be used. It will be a technology demonstration machine that will enable the building of futuristic fusion devices that can be run as normally as the fission reactors today. The deployment of fusion energy for electricity generation for our everyday needs might take another few decades after ITER becomes operational.

India joined the ITER project in 2005. The Institute for Plasma Research in Ahmedabad, a laboratory under the Department of Atomic Energy, is the lead institution from the Indian side participating in the project. As a member country, India is building several components of the ITER reactor, while also carrying out a number of experiments and R&D activities related to the project.

# Maoists abduct 2 men from building site in Chhattisgarh: Police

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
RAIPUR, FEBRUARY 11

A SUB-ENGINEER and a head mason, involved in bridge construction work in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, were abducted by armed Maoists on Friday, officials said. They were also threatened by the Maoists to stop work at the site, they said. The incident occurred under the Bedre police station,

**The Maoists had earlier threatened to stop work at the site, police said**

60 km from the district headquarters in Bijapur. "A bridge is being constructed over the Indravati river to connect Bijapur and Narayanpur districts. It will connect Bedre to Abujhmad, which is a threat to

Maoists. Since it is a sensitive bridge, security has been provided to the construction workers," said a senior police official from Bastar. "The sub-engineer and the head mason were both asked to go with the Maoists. They (the Maoists) also took some masons but later, released them midway," an official privy to the case said. The sub-engineer has been identified as Ashok Pawar, and head mason is yet to be identified. Police have intensified search for both the men, officials said. The

abducted people are privately employed by a Korba-based company that is building the bridge, police said. The bridge measuring 700m is one of the expensive bridges being built on the Indravati river in Bastar division. Work on the bridge started 5 months ago and is still on the initial stages. "Soil testing and approximation work is going on. There is Ngur camp on the southern edge of the bridge, whereas the abduction happened," a police official said.

# AHMEDABAD BLASTS Arrest warrant sought for two acquitted in 2016 case

**SOHINI GHOSH**  
AHMEDABAD, FEBRUARY 11

THE SABARMATI CENTRAL jail authorities moved the court of the judicial magistrate seeking an arrest warrant for two people, who were acquitted in the 2008 Ahmedabad serial bomb blast case, in connection with a 2016 case of assaulting jail staff.

The development comes two days after the special Ahmedabad court pronounced the verdict in the 2008 serial bomb blast cases convicting 49 and acquitting 28. Of the 28 acquitted, 13 were directed to be released as they had no other trials against them and were not required in judicial custody. The magisterial court issued orders for their judicial custody the same day.

The accused in the 2016 case — Dr Ashdullah H Akhtar alias Asad alias Aslam alias Furkan Abubakr, from Bellary in Karnataka and Afaaq Iqbal alias Danish Riyaz alias Safi Saiyed, a native of Ranchi, who was residing at Hyderabad at the time of his arrest in the 2008 case — will now continue to remain in Sabarmati Central jail following the order of the magisterial court.

As on Thursday, however, 10 have been released from jail, including one Abdul Sattar from a Kerala jail. Another lodged in a Kerala jail, Suheb Pottanikal, is expected to be free by Saturday, owing to pending paperwork.

# Raped and left to die, Rajasthan woman rescued after six days

**DEEP MUKHERJEE**  
JAIPUR, FEBRUARY 11

A 35-YEAR-OLD woman was found unconscious in a forested area in Rajasthan's Nagaur district, six days after she was allegedly gang raped, choked and abandoned, police said on Friday.

One person has been arrested and another, a juvenile, has been detained.

A senior official said two policemen, an SHO and a head constable, have been suspended over the delay in rescuing her — the woman had gone missing on February 4, her family had made a complaint on February 6, and she was finally rescued on February 10. She was found just 3 km away from her village. "It is nothing short of a miracle that she is alive even after six days. She has been referred to Jaipur where she is undergoing treatment. The woman was lying in an unconscious state for six days. She has insect bites all over her body, her brain is lacking oxygen and she is still unable to talk. A police inspector has been sent with her to Jaipur who is monitoring her treatment," Nagaur SP Ram Moorty Joshi told *The Indian Express* on Friday.

Joshi said while the police had identified a person as a suspect, the SHO of the police station concerned "made no effort to search for the woman through traditional methods of policing or with the help of her call details".

Joshi added that when the family members brought the issue to the notice of the circle officer on February 9, call records of the woman were investigated and the involvement of the same person was confirmed.

# National Health Mission

Karnataka State Health & Family Welfare Society  
Arogya Soudha, Magadi Road, Bengaluru -560 023,  
e-mail: ddehospital-hfws@karnataka.gov.in Ph. No.: 080-23295625

No. e-H/ECRP Phase II proposal/22/2021-22 Date: 11.02.2022

## TENDER NOTIFICATION

Nation wide tender is invited under e-Tendering system from the manufacturers, as well as from the Authorized Dealers under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000, for the procurement of ICT (Active component and passive components) equipment for the implementation of e-hospital programme under National Health Mission, Arogya Soudha, Magadi Road, Bengaluru. The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-tendering system.

Details regarding specification, EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information is available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded and uploaded from the website <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from the below mentioned date:

(1) Tender Notification No.: NRHM/2021-22/IND277 Phase 2 ECRP. Tender downloading date: 11.02.2022. Last date for uploading Tender: 03.03.2022 upto 5:30 PM.

Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/- Deputy Director (e-Health)

DIPR/DB/BCPL/3347/2021-22

MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AND WEAR MASK

Wear Mask Follow Physical Distancing Maintain Hand Hygiene

## Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.

An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi.  
ISBT Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer (Elect), DTIDC invite tenders on behalf of Chairman, DTIDC Ltd for the following works through e-procurement solution only.

**NIT No.** : 62/2021-22  
**Tender ID No.** : 2022\_DTIDC\_216018\_1  
**Name of work** : C/o New Automatic Driving test Track at various Educational Institutes in Delhi at ITI Pusa, ITI Jaffarpur Kalan, ITI Mayur Vihar, ITI Shahadara, ITI Jail Road, ITI Narela, IGTUW & DTU, Bawana  
**Estimated Cost** : Rs. 20,68,82,957/-  
**Earnest Money** : Rs. 41,37,659/-  
**Time Allowed** : 150 Days  
**Last date of receipt of Tenders** : 25/02/2022 at 3.00 PM

The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/>

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Elect) DTIDC Ltd. ISBT Kashmere Gate, Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/0641/21-22

## E-TENDER PRESS NOTICE

The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD-XIII, I&FC Department Govt. of Delhi, on behalf of the President of India, invites Online Percentage rate tender from the approved and eligible contractors registered with IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT. The contractors who are registered with other department and now got their registrations verified from I&FC Deptt. are eligible to participate in Tender process for the work:-

- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/82 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216105\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement of streets and side drain at Shyam Enclave, Z-Block, T.C.S. Bosco, Gopal Nagar, Extension at main Dhansa road, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043 (Reg. No. 689). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 81,90,311/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,63,806/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/83 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216111\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement of streets and side drain at Nirmal Vihar, Nangloi-Najafgarh road, New Delhi (Reg. No. 1372). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 1,74,08,754/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 3,48,175/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/84 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216127\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement and Reconstruction of Internal streets and side drains of Vikas Nagar A-Block Extn. In vikaspuri Constituency AC-31 (Reg. No. 554). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 1,50,87,023/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 3,01,740/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/85 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216132\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement and Reconstruction of Internal streets and side drains in Sainik Enclave Sec-V (Reg. No. 906/1642) in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 1,67,84,359/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 3,35,687/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/86 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216116\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: improvement of streets and side drain in Janta Vihar Colony at Bahadurgarh road New Delhi-110043, AC-35 (Reg. No. 69). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 50,25,005/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,00,500/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/87 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216325\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (MLALAD) Name of Work: Construction of boundary wall of govt. land in different location in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31. Demolishing and Re-construction of boundary wall of chhat Ghat at Vikas Nagar in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31 (Balance Work). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 16,41,122/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 32,822/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/88 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216328\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement and Reconstruction of internal streets and side drains of Tyagi Enclave, Mohan Garden in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31 (Regd. No. 1164). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 56,86,030/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,13,721/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/89 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216338\_1) Major Head of Account 2711 (Revenue) Name of Work: Construction of R.C.C. retaining wall in B.D.O. office store, footpath shed and repair of old store at Najafgarh (Balance Work). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 72,86,627/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,45,733/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15.02.2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/90 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216351\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (MLALAD) Name of Work: Construction of Temporary Shed by Laying sheet on Gram Sabha land bearing Kh. No. 11/4, 15/12 and 113/10, 11 at village Dhansa in N.G. Block, AC-35 Development of Pandit cremation ground village Dhansa in N.G. Block (Balance Work). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 16,45,072/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 32,901/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15.02.2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/91 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216368\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement and Reconstruction of Internal streets and side drains of Yadav Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Extn. Hastal in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31. (Regd. No. 286). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 2,15,42,414/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 4,30,848/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/92 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216369\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: improvement and Reconstruction of Internal streets and side drains of Vikas Nagar, R-Block and R-Extn. Hastal in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31. (Regd. No. 1364). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 1,94,33,922/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 3,88,678/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/93 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216373\_1) Major Head of Account 4217 (Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement and Reconstruction of Internal streets and side drains of Niyader Enclave, Vikas Nagar, in Vikaspuri Constituency AC-31. (Regd. No. 927). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 1,74,80,939/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 3,49,619/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/94 (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216382\_1) Major Head of Account 2711 (Revenue) Name of Work: Restoration of road from RD 9100m Right Bank of Mungeshpur Drain to Bridge at Jharoda-Bahadurgarh road at N.G. Block. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 55,19,527/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,10,391/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15.02.2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/30(2nd Call) (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216424\_1) Major Head of Account 2711 (Revenue) Name of Work: Construction of Motorable Passage to connect the Farm land with Right Bank of Mundella Drain at RD 9000m in N.G. Block. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 20,92,368/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 41,847/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/49(2nd Call) (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_216332\_1) Major Head of Account 2711 (Revenue) Name of Work: Removal of C and D Waste from both side of Mungeshpur Drain from RD 0m to RD 10362m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 17,33,675/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 34,674/- Time allowed 180 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 15-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.

- Note :-**
- Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
  - Amendment(s)/alteration(s)/ corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.
  - EMD in the form of Bankers Cheque/DD/Fixed Deposit receipt in F/o EE/CD-XIII, I&FC Deptt Shall be scanned and uploaded to the e-tender website within the period of bid submission. The original EMD should be deposited in the office of EE/CD-XIII, I&FC Deptt. within the period of bid submission.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CD.XIII.

DIP/Shabdarth/0642/21-22

**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI**  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M) TYR-SV, 140 MGD WATER TREATMENT PLANT: SONIA VIHAR WAZIRABAD ROAD, DELHI-110094  
E-mail: soniaviharjb@gmail.com

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/Time receipt of Tender through procurement solution
1.	Providing & laying of electric cables, along with SITC of distribution panels for additional nos. of tubewells at Sonia Vihar WTP Campus (Re-invited)	Lump-sum	1,33,000.00	Tender ID: 2022_DJB_216559_1 Publish Date 11-Feb-2022 11:30 AM onward	18-Feb-22 Up to 12:15 PM

NIT along with all terms & conditions is available on DJB website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 1121(2021-22) Sd/- (Dinesh Kumar) EE (E&M) TYR-SV

"STOP CORONA; WEAR MASK, FOLLOW PHYSICAL DISTANCING, MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE"

**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI**  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT SDW S/E SRINIWASPURI: NEW DELHI: 110065

S. No.	Name of Works	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Date of release of tender in E-procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1	Diversion of flow existing rising main emanating from Ghonda-I SPS into inlet chamber Ghonda-II SPS. 2022_DJB_215604_1	3700459/-	11.02.2022	28.02.2022 up to 3.00 P.M.

\* Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 1119(2021-22) Sd/- EX. ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT SDW S/E

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

## NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDERING

### OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. NIT-28/UMB-2021-22 DATED 11.02.2022

Open tenders through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Engineer/Coordination, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15.00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.

S. No.	Name of work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Date of Closing & Opening
1.	Dewatering at LHS at LC Nos.91, 97-A, 99 & 103 in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN, SRE.	1458968	29200	06 Months	08.03.2022
2.	(i) Provision of 2 Nos. end loading ramp along approach road in c/w E. I. (Electronic interlocking) work at Malout railway station, (ii) Repair of boundary wall to prevent trespassing and entry of outside storm water in railway land from km 168/15-16 to 170/7-8 for the safety of track on DUJ-BTI section under ADEN/BTI. (iii) Repair to water supply pipe lines at washing line at railway Station Bathinda in the section of SSE/WL/BTI under ADEN/BTI.	7980827	159600	06 Months	08.03.2022
3.	Improvement to roof treatment of staff qtrs to prevent leakage in railway colony at Ambala in the section of ADEN/UMB.	15840651	229200	09 Months	08.03.2022
4.	1. Provision of S&T service building at KART, RPAR & NGWN in c/w Electronic interlocking at KART, RPAR & NGWN station on SIR-ADDR section under ADEN/SIR. 2. Widening and improvement of Goods platform at KART station in c/w Electronic interlocking at KART. RPAR & NGWN station under ADEN/SIR.	24889446	274500	12 Months	08.03.2022
5.	Hiring of manpower for USFD weld testing teams wipe out the over due AT weld Testing over Ambala division under SSE/TP/UMB under ADEN/Track/UMB.	6111750	122200	24 Months	08.03.2022
6.	Provision of 4 Bed AC Dormitory at Una Himachal Railway station including all facilities, on SIR-DLPC section under ADEN/SIR.	3084818	61700	03 Months	08.03.2022
7.	Strengthening of tunnels on KLK-SML section by grouting & guniting in the section of ADEN/SML. (Tunnel No. 3, 4, 5, 7, 23, 25, 31, 33, 36, 52, 54, 82, 83, 94 & 96)	18787855	243900	18 Months	08.03.2022
8.	(i) Repair to trolly refuses for bridge No. 245 in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN/SRE. (ii) Repair to Grouting/Guniting to ROB's and major & minor bridges in SRE-UME section under ADEN/SRE. (iii) Repair to scouring at Bridge No.1307 UP & DN in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN/SRE.	4950364	99000	06 Months	08.03.2022
9.	Provision of standard protection screen on ROB's in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN/SRE on SRE-UMB section.	2959488	59200	03 Months	08.03.2022
10.	Provision of standard height gauges on level crossing No. 539, 540, 1-C, 2-C between HNC-SRE & By Pass Line in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN/SRE.	2772411	55500	03 Months	08.03.2022
11.	TBTR of 522 Nos. of Br. No. 242 DN, 251 DN, 259 DN, 260 DN & 260 UP in the section of ADEN/SRE in c/w TBCSR (H-BEAMS)-3102 Nos. over Ambala Division	12079529	210400	06 Months	08.03.2022
12.	Raising and extension of passenger platform No. 2/3 Up to 24 Coaches at Ambala City railway station on UMB-LDH section in the section of SSE/WL/JP under ADEN/IRPJ.	21373430	256900	08 Months	08.03.2022
13.	Renovation of Wood Bank & Crow brough officer rest house etc. to restore its Heritage look at SHIMLA in the section of SSE/WL/SML under ADEN/SML.	5254065	105100	06 Months	08.03.2022
14.	Replacement of worn out steel water storage tank No. 4 with 2 Nos. RCC water storage over head tank of 225000 Ltr. Capacity & One No. Deep Tubewell in Kalka Colony, Jagadhari workshop in the section of SSE/WL/JUDW under ADEN/JUDW.	9480754	189600	08 Months	08.03.2022

**NOTE :-** 1. Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions. 2. The required Earnest Money will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking or Payment Gateway payment only well before & upto 15.00 hrs. of closing date & time of tender. 3. Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of works tenders. 4. For detail, please log on IREPS website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) 5. GST will be levied as per GST Act, 2017

311/22 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## Online Tender Document "Equipment" for M.P. Bhopal POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL

No. PHQ/15/GPC/760-1/2022 Bhopal, Dated 10.02.2022

### "ONLINE TENDER NOTICE"

Online tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police (Provisioning) Police Head Quarter, Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following on website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app>

S. No.	Name of Item(s)	Qty.	Tender Fees (Rs.)	EMD Paid Online Through mptenders.gov.in
1	FIRE RESISTANCE FILE CABINETS (FRFCs)	440	10,000	4,40,000

- Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is nonrefundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & must submit online through website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app>.
- Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police ([www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in))
- Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website: <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app>
- Critical Date Sheet:**

<b>Published Date</b>	10/02/2022 Time 18.45 PM
<b>Bid Document Download Start Date</b>	11/02/2022 Time 11.00 AM
<b>Pre-Bid Meeting Date</b>	17/12/2021 Time 12.00 PM
<b>Bid Submission Start Date</b>	23/02/2022 Time 11.00 AM
<b>Bid Submission End Date</b>	02/03/2022 Time 14.30 PM
<b>Bid Opening Date</b>	03/03/2022 Time 16.30 PM

- Intending Bidders are advised to visit this website regularly till closing date of submission to keep themselves updated as any change/modification in the tender will be intimated through this website only by corrigendum/addendum/amendment.
- Bids will be opened as per date/time as mentioned in the Tender Critical Date Sheet. After online opening of Technical-Bid the results of their qualification as well Price-Bid opening will be intimated later.

Sd/- (Sanjeev Kumar Kanchan) A.I.G. (Provisioning)

For: Director General of Police M.P.

G-22571/21

**उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड पूर्णकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना**  
अनुभवी कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से निम्नलिखित पूर्ण-कालीन ई-निविदा दो भागों में निष्पत्ति तिथि को 12:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है जो उसी दिन 15:00 बजे खोली जाएगी। विस्तृत विवरण समचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन के उपरान्त ई-टेंडर को वेबसाइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर उपलब्ध रहेगा तथा अन्य किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन/तिथि विस्तार हेतु निविदा खुलने की तिथि तक लॉग ऑन करें। किसी भी निविदा को बिना कारण बताये निरस्त/अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा।  
ई.टी.सी.-63/2021-22 132के.वी. एवं 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र सिकन्दराराज के वार्षिक अनुरक्षण कार्य।  
ई.टी.सी.-64/2021-22 220के.वी. उपकेन्द्र अतरीली के वार्षिक अनुरक्षण कार्य।  
ई.टी.सी.-65/2021-22 132के.वी. अतरीली-गंगोत्री लाइन एवं 132 के.वी. सिकन्दराराज-गंगोत्री लाइन के वार्षिक अनुरक्षण कार्य।  
ई.टी.सी.-66/2021-22 132के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, कुसुमराज पर 132 के.वी. लाखा वे के निर्माण हेत

**UJVN Limited**  
H.O. "UJJAWAL" Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone: 0135 - 2763808, Fax : 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866  
Website : www.ujvn.com

**RO No. 67 Time Extension Notice-1** Dated : 11.02.2022  
Due to unavoidable reason the schedule date & time are extended as follows :  
Tender No: 09-EE-Test-DKP-2021-22 Shifting of protection relay wirings, commissioning and testing of 132KV Feeder & 100 MVA Auto-transformer protection panels at Khodri power station.  
Last Date & Time for submission of bids on website : 07-03-2022 up to 18:00Hrs  
Date & Time for submission of original documents : 08-03-2022 up to 13:00 Hrs  
Date & Time of opening of bid website : 09-03-2022 from 15:30 Hrs  
All other terms and Conditions shall remain same. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in".  
EE(Test), Dakpathar  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

**CENTRAL SLIVER PLANT**  
KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION  
Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises  
(Govt. of India)  
Ichhawar Road, Sehore (M.P.) - 466001

CSP/MP/Tender/2021-22 Date : 11-02-2022

**TENDER NOTICE**  
Please refer below Tender Notice on e-procurement system Government of India portal.

Sr. No.	Portal Tender ID	Tender For	Quantity in KG	Bid Submission end date
01	2022_KVIC_672805_1	Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF)	80000	03-March-2022, 3:00 PM
02	2022_KVIC_671510_1	Hiring of Transport Services	-	03-March-2022, 11:30 AM

This is to inform to all concerned virgin Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF) manufacturer for supply of PSF to CSP Sehore and hiring of transport services for CSP Sehore. The interested parties may be submitted tender on CPP portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>). Details can also be seen on our website [www.kvic.gov.in](http://www.kvic.gov.in).  
Project Manager  
CSP-Sehore

**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA**  
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR  
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

File No. B-IV-H-(NHM)-06/2021 Lr. No. 5492 Bhubaneswar, the 11th Feb. 2022  
Invitation for Bids  
Bid Identification No. C.E (B) - 37 / 2021-22

1. The Chief Engineer (Buildings) Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for Construction of Building works as detailed below.

2. Nature of work	: Building works
3. No. of work	: 10 Nos
4. Bid Cost.	: ₹ 10,000/- (each)
5. Class of Contractor	: Special / Super Class
6. Availability of Bid Documents in the website	: From dt. 18.02.2022 to 17.00 Hours of dt. 28.02.2022.
7. Date of Opening of Bid	: Dt. 02.03.2022 at 11:30 AM.

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Buildings),  
Odisha, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-34117/11/0112/2122

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
Executive Engineer Public Works Division Bhopkar, Dist. Nanded  
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 43/2021-22

ONLINE Tender (e-tender) in B-1 form for the Nanded District total 02 (Two) works are invited by the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division Bhopkar, Dist. Nanded (Ph.No. 02467-222658) on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System. From the registered contractor in appropriate class of Public Works Department of Maharashtra State. The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-tender portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in/> on sub portal [www.mahapwd.gov.in](http://www.mahapwd.gov.in) as under.

Note: 1) Details of the tender documents are available on e-tendering <https://mahatenders.gov.in/> and [www.mahapwd.gov.in](http://www.mahapwd.gov.in) website of the Government of Maharashtra.  
2) If there are any changes in the tender notice, then the information will be display on the web site.  
3) Executive Engineer, Public Works Division Bhopkar, Dist. Nanded has reserved the right to accept or reject tenders.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Public Works Division  
Bhopkar Dist. Nanded

DGIPR/2021-2022/C-4295

**OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT WW C/o ACE(P)-2**  
DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF N.C.T. DELHI  
CHANDRAWAL : WATER WORKS NO. II CIVIL LINES : DELHI-54  
Office Telephone No. :- 23815504 E-mail:- [eeplantww.djb@gmail.com](mailto:eeplantww.djb@gmail.com)

SHORT PRESS NIT No. 43/ (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money (Fresh)	Tender Processing Fee (Fresh)	Publication date of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date & time for receipt of tender from e-procurement solution
1.	Covering of 1200 mm dia RCC Well for stalling submersible pump opposite Akshardham Temple. (Tender ID No. 2022_DJB_216654_1)	2789448/-	55800/-	500/-	11.02.2022	18.02.2022

The more detail required above can be seen on website [www.delhi.govtprocurement.com](http://www.delhi.govtprocurement.com).  
Sd/-  
EX. ENGINEER (C) PLANT, WW  
C/o ACE(P)-2

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Adv. No. J.S.V. 1123/2021-22

"STOP CORONA; WEAR MASK, FOLLOW PHYSICAL DISTANCING, MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE"

**JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No.: JDA/EE&TA to Dir.Engg.-II/2021-22/D-30 Date : 11.02.2022

**NOTICE INVITING BID**  
NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-II/37/2021-22

Bids are invited for works given below in various zones as per details given below :-

S. No.	Zone	UBN No.	Cost of Work (Lacs)	A&F	Nature of Work	Last Date
1.	EE-Elec.-III	JDA2122WSOB00573	307.59	260/2020-21	Electrification and Street Light Work	03.03.2022
2.	EE-Elec.-IV	JDA2122WSOB00578	275.50	NR 014/2019-20	SITC of Elevator in R.I.C.	07.03.2022

Details are available at Procurement Portal website [www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in), [www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) and [www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in)  
Raj. Samwad/C/2021-22/11615  
Executive Engineer & TA to Dir. Engg.-II

**झारखण्ड सरकार पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग**  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गुमला।  
अति अल्पकालीन ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा सूचना  
(द्वितीय आमंत्रण)

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं० - DWS/D/Gumla/Raidih/13/2021-22 दिनांक - 10.02.2022  
पी० आर० सं० - 260991

1	कार्य का नाम :- Detailed survey, designing and drawing, construction of 5.50 MLD capacity Water Treatment Plant, Sump 4.00 Lakh litre capacity, Intake Well cum Pump House, 140 M long and 3.00 M wide Gangway, Zone -01 ESR 5.90 Lakh litre capacity with 20 M staging, Zone -02 ESR 5.00 Lakh litre capacity with 07 M staging, Zone -03 ESR 2.80 Lakh litre capacity with 20 M staging, Infiltration Gallery, Staff Quarter, compound wall, N.H Crossing, Approach road, Supplying and laying Raw and Clear Water rising main and Distribution network, Pump House, Coffor dam, House Connection, Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump motor and Five years operation & maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job for Raidih Block Full Coverage Rural Water Supply Scheme under D.W & S Division Gumla on turnkey basis" Head-JJM 2021-22	
2	प्राकृतिक राशि :-	6037.63 लाख रुपये
3	अग्रघन की राशि :-	60.38 लाख रुपये
4	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि :-	30 माह + 3 माह for Trial Run for Rectification of defects etc.
5	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :-	11.02.2022, 04.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
6	प्रौ. बौद्ध मीटिंग की तिथि :-	15.02.2022, 12.30 अपराहन में अभियन्ता प्रमुख, का कार्यालय, नेपाल हाउस, राँची
7	बौद्ध प्राप्ति की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय :-	23.02.2022, 5.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
8	बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि, समय एवं स्थान :-	24.02.2022, 3.00 बजे अपराहन तक, (1) कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल गुमला के कार्यालय में (2) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल गुमला के कार्यालय में (3) क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल राँची के कार्यालय में
9	निविदा के तकनीकी बौद्धों के खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :-	25.02.2022, 11.30 बजे अपराहन से
10	निविदा के वित्तीय बौद्धों के खोलने की तिथि :-	बाद में सूचित किया जाएगा
11	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी एवं कार्यालय का पता :-	कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गुमला।
12	ई प्रोक्योरमेंट कार्यालय का सम्पर्क नं०	06524-223058
13	ई प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्प लाईन नं०	7488491963

नोट :- वेब साइट पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग में समुचित श्रेणी में निविदा नहीं है, वे भी निविदा में मांग ले सकते हैं परन्तु कार्यालय के 60 दिनों के अन्दर पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग में समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधन करवा लेना अनिवार्य होगा। ऐसी स्थिति में उन्हें विभागीय पत्रांक 676(CDO) दिनांक 20.10.2012 के अनुसार इस आशय का शपथ-पत्र देना अनिवार्य होगा कि राज्यान्तर्गत किसी भी थाने में उनके विरुद्ध कोई अपराधिक मामला दर्ज नहीं है और वे निविदा के अन्य सभी शर्तों को पूरा करते हैं। प्राकृतिक राशि घट या बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रघन की राशि देय होगी।  
वित्तुत जानकारी वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल गुमला

PR 263678 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22)D

**DIRECTOR GENERAL MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, HARYANA, PANCHKULA**  
4th floor, DHL Square, Plot No.9, IT Park, Sector 22, Panchkula, Haryana- 134112  
Ph. No. 0172-2584633, 2560799 email: [dmer-hry@nic.in](mailto:dmer-hry@nic.in)  
Website: <https://dmer.haryana.gov.in/>

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Counselling for admission to MD/MS courses in all Government Government Aided/ Private Unaided Medical Institutes including those under Private Universities - SCT University, Bothera, Gurugram, and Post MBBS DNB/Post MBBS Diploma/Post Diploma DNB courses in Civil Hospitals in the State of Haryana for the Academic Session 2021-22.

It is for the information of all the eligible candidates desirous of seeking admission to PG (MD/MS) and Post MBBS DNB/Post MBBS Diploma/Post Diploma DNB courses in Civil Hospitals for the academic session 2021-22 and all other concerned that fresh candidates can register for Second Round of counselling for admission to PG courses for the academic session 2021-22. The tentative schedule for 2<sup>nd</sup> round of counselling is as under -

Sr. No.	Tentative Schedule for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Counselling for Session 2021-22	Dates
1.	Fresh Registration on the online web portal i.e. <a href="https://hry.online-counselling.co.in/">https://hry.online-counselling.co.in/</a>	14.02.2022 (11:00 AM) to 18.02.2022 (11:59 PM)
2.	Editing (if any) of information submitted online	17.02.2022 to 20.02.2022
3.	Willingness to participate in the second round of counselling by the following- Registered candidates who have not been allotted seat in 1 <sup>st</sup> round Candidates who have been allotted seats in the first round but have not joined. Candidates who have joined the seat allotted during 1 <sup>st</sup> round but wish to upgrade their seat (The option will be available on the log-in of the candidates)	14.02.2022 (11:00 AM) to 18.02.2022 (11:59 PM)
4.	Online deposition of the security amount and submission of the undertaking regarding non-joining of any seat in 2 <sup>nd</sup> round of All India Quota/Any State Counselling (The option will be available in the log in ID of the candidate)	14.02.2022 (11:00 AM) to 18.02.2022 (11:59 PM)
5.	Submission of Choices (Online) & Choice locking	18.02.2022(9:00 AM) to 20.02.2022 (11:59 PM)
6.	Provisional Allocation of seats	25.02.2022
7.	Grievances if any on the provisional allocation list (through email)	26.02.2022 (till 11:00 AM)
8.	Seat allocation, and downloading of allotment letter and Payment of Requisite Fee Online	26.02.2022 to 01/03/2022
9.	Document Verification of Original Documents at Pt. B.D Sharma UHS, Rohtak	02/03/2022
10.	Last Date for joining/reporting in the allotted institute	04/03/2022

a) The candidates who have already registered themselves for the first round and wish to participate in the second round, shall not be required to register again. The candidates who have got their document verification done during the first round of counselling are not required to get documents verified again.

b) The candidates who have been allotted seats in the first round of counselling shall have to give their willingness/option to upgrade themselves in the second round of counselling online otherwise they shall not be considered eligible for the second round of counselling.

c) The Candidates who have joined on the allotted seat in the first round shall have a right to already allotted seat and this shall be changed only if he/she gets an updated and opted seat during second round. However, the candidates who wish to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of online counselling will have to submit their preferences/choices afresh. Candidates, who have been allotted, seat in first round should give the fresh choices in order of preferences for the seats in which they wish to upgrade themselves.

d) All candidates (already registered (irrespective of their admission status) and freshly registered candidates) who wish to participate in the second round of counselling and want to opt for State Quota Seats in only Government/Government aided Medical Colleges or Post MBBS DNB/Post MBBS Diploma/Post Diploma DNB seats in Civil Hospitals shall be required to deposit online an amount of Rs.25,000/- (Rs.12,500/- for SC/BC/EWS/PWD of Haryana state) and if the candidate wishes to also opt for State Quota Seats/Management Quota Seats in Private Medical Colleges including Private Universities then he/she shall have to deposit online an amount of Rs.2.00 Lakh. This facility shall be available in the login ID of the candidates.

In case of failure of any registered candidate (whether freshly registered or the candidates who were allotted seats in the 1<sup>st</sup> round and want to upgrade their seat in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round) to deposit the requisite security amount, they will NOT be considered eligible to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of counselling.

- In case the candidates join on the allotted seat, this amount shall be adjusted in the fee of the first year of PG Course.
- If the candidates are allotted any seat as per their preference, but they do not join on the allotted seat, the security amount shall be forfeited. However, these candidates will be eligible to participate in the mop-up round.
- The Security amount of the candidates who are not allotted seats during the 2<sup>nd</sup> round shall be returned after the completion of the counselling process.
- The candidates who join on the allotted seats in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of counselling, will not be eligible to participate for further rounds of counselling.

e) The candidates who join the seat allotted to them during the All India Quota/Any State upto the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Counselling shall not be eligible to participate in the second round. The candidates will have to give any undertaking regarding the same. The same shall be available in the login ID of the candidates filling which the candidature of the candidates will not be considered.

Note:-

- The choices filled by the candidates for the first round of counselling shall be treated as null and void and the candidates will have to fill fresh choices to be eligible for participating in the second round of counselling.
- The above instructions should be read alongwith the Admission Notification dated 03/09/2021.

It is informed that aspiring candidates should regularly visit the website of Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma University of Health Sciences, Rohtak [www.uhsrae.in](http://www.uhsrae.in) and admission webpage i.e. <https://hry.online-counselling.co.in/> and website of Medical Education and Research Department, Haryana i.e. <https://dmer.haryana.gov.in/> for updates.

Sd/-  
Director  
Medical Education & Research,  
Haryana, Panchkula

7325/HRY

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE**

SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R KARNAL	TENDER CASE FOR COMPREHENSIVE UP GRADATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MUNIPLA KARNAL, KATHAL KHANAUJI ROAD (SH-08) ROAD ID 7223) & 7264 LENGTH 95.65 KM IN KARNAL DISTT (AS PER RECOMMENDATION OF ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REPORT)	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	668.94 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01250-299258 xenswst@nic.in
2	PWD B&R HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF PREFABRICATED STORAGE ROOM IN MADCH CIVIL HOSPITAL, HISAR	18.02.2022 03.03.2022	10.37 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9466446525 paw-eeepd-hisar@hry.nic.in
3	PWD B&R SONPAT	SPECIAL REPAIR/RENOVATION OF SBL-II LABORATORY OF BIRD FLU TESTING AT SCDL AT SONPAT IN SONPAT DISTT.	10.02.2022 02.03.2022	10.91 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	130-220575 paw-eeepd-sonpat@hry.nic.in
4	PWD B&R SONPAT	BYP. BY PDG WDG & STG EXISTING ROAD FROM GT ROAD TO KATHUPUR SABOLI UPTO NARELA BORDER KM 0.00 TO 4.60 IN SONPAT DISTT. (ROAD ID 6643) (ALTERNATE ROUTE DUE TO KISAN AGITATION AT MUNDJI BORDER) (SE-IV/VI/TE)	10.02.2022 02.03.2022	624 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	130-220575 paw-eeepd-sonpat@hry.nic.in
5	PWD B&R SIRSA	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING ON SIRSA ELLENABAD ROAD TO MOJUI KHARA ROAD KM. 0.00 TO 1.20, KM. 1.50 TO 3.30 & KM. 4.30 TO 7.13 (ROAD ID 5913) UNDER SSCP SCHEME FOR THE YEAR 2020-21 IN SIRSA DISTT. + 5 NOS. OTHER WORKS	11.02.2022 26.02.2022	1184.02 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01666-222959 paw-eeepd-sirsa@hry.nic.in
6	PWD B&R SONPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF LABOUR ROOM IN CHC GANOUR IN SONPAT DISTT	10.02.2022 02.03.2022	10.90 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	130-220575 paw-eeepd-sonpat@hry.nic.in
7	PWD B&R KARNAL	TENDER CASE FOR COMPREHENSIVE UP GRADATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MOKHERI KANSA DHAND ROAD (SH-33) (ROAD ID 7407) LENGTH 28.64 KM IN KARNAL DISTT (AS PER RECOMMENDATION OF ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REPORT)	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	204.16 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9050620000 paw-eeepd-karnal@hry.nic.in
8	PWD B&R KARNAL	TENDER CASE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION OF BOX TYPE BRIDGE AT RD 900 ON NESSING POINT DRAIN IN PEONT TO ALLIPIR, INEW ROAD IN KARNAL	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	239.82 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9050620000 paw-eeepd-karnal@hry.nic.in
9	PWD B&R KARNAL	TENDER CASE FOR COMPREHENSIVE UP GRADATION AND KARNAL RAYBA INDRI LAHRIA TO SHAHAD ROAD SH 07 KM 39.25 IN KARNAL DISTT (AS PER RECOMMENDATION OF ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REPORT)	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	447.48 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9050620000 paw-eeepd-karnal@hry.nic.in
10	PWD B&R KARNAL	TENDER CASE FOR STRENGTHENING WITH WBM+75MM BM+20MM PC RELAYING OF COB AND 80 MM IPB IN ABADI PORTION ON KARNAL MEERUT ROAD (NH 709A) TO MUNIPLA ROAD (ROAD ID 7236) RD 0 TO 1.2665 IN KARNAL DISTT.	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	678.53 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9050620000 paw-eeepd-karnal@hry.nic.in
11	PWD B&R FATEHABAD	CONSTR. A ROAD FROM CHAUHARA TO MOCHI DEHMAN KM 0 TO 1.85 IN FATEHABAD DISTT. + 1 OTHER WORK	10.02.2022 03.03.2022	244.05 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01667220120 paw-eeepd-fatehabad@hry.nic.in
12	PWD B&R JIND	CONSTRUCTION OF LIBRARY AT SAFEDON INN JIND DISTT.	CLOSING DATE 17.02.2022	21.15 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9466421395 paw-eeepd-jind@gmail.com
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ CHARKH DADRI	CONSTRUCTION OF BALMIKI CHOUHAL & 1 NOS, RASTA IN DISTT. CHARKH DADRI	11.02.2022 22.02.2022	44.37 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416479223 xenswst@nic.in
14	PANCHAYATI RAJ SONPAT	1. CONST. OF RASTA ROAD FROM SUGER PURCHASE CENTER TO BUCHANPUR VILLAGE AT VILLAGE BEGA BUCKER AND INDS OTHER WORKS DISTT.SONPAT	10.02.2022 28.02.2022	64.99 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416391006 preewngsrp@gmail.com
15	PANCHAYATI RAJ JIND	DEVELOPMENT OF WORKS	11.02.2022 18.02.2022	16.40 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01661-245124 xenswst@nic.in
16	BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS OFFICER AMBALA	CONSTRUCTION OF INTERLOCKING STREET KRISHNA GAUSHALA VILLAGE MOHRA BLOCK AMBALA-I	11.02.2022 17.02.2022	6.87 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9817342017 bdpo.ambala_city@hry.nic.in
17	PANCHAYATI RAJ KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF ZILA PARSHAD BUILDING PH AND EI WORKS KARNAL	10.02.2022 24.02.2022	3311.34 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9813805200 preewngsrp@hry.nic.in
18	PANCHAYATI RAJ JIND	DEVELOPMENT OF WORK	11.02.2022 18.02.2022	20 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01661-245124 xenswst@nic.in
19	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA KATHAL	CONSTRUCTION OF INLET AT RD 9345/OIL OF BML-HB-88-NPLC TO PROTECT AGRICULTURE LAND OF VILLAGE KARALA GURJAN AND AVOIDANCE OF DAMAGES OF CHANNEL + 3 OTHER WORKS	18.02.2022 28.02.2022	82.03 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416438867 xenswst@nic.in
20	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA KURUKSHETRA	SUPPLY, ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. 10 CS. VT PUMP AND 01 NO. SCS. VT PUMP AT TEMPORARY PUMP HOUSE AT RD 23500 OF SARASWATI FEEDER NEAR VILLAGE BHOR SAIDAN IN WATER SERVICES MECH. SUB DIVISION, KURUKSHETRA. + 6 OTHER WORKS	10.02.2022 28.02.2022	218.03 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9996608452 xenswst@nic.in
21	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA CHARKH DADRI	WORK FOR LAYING UNDERGROUND HDPE PIPE LINE (200MM) FOR CARRYING OUT FLOOD DEWATERING WORK AT KHARAK VILLAGE IN BHIWANI DISTT. + 4 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 03.03.2022	233.1 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01250-299258 xenswst@nic.in
22	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA JIND	LAYING HDPE PIPE LINE FOR DEWATERING OF FLOOD WATER OF MEHRARA DRAIN RD 9086 MEHRARA DRAIN OUTFALLING RD 33143 S.S. BRANCH + 12 OTHER	CLOSING DATE 03.03.2022	1790.43 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9464040970 xenswst@nic.in
23	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA BHIWANI	INSTALLING THE RD STONE ON THE VARIOUS CHANNEL OF BOND W/S DIVISION, BHIWANI	CLOSING DATE 17.02.2022	29240/-	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	7357486447 bonds@nic.in
24	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA CHARKH DADRI	SUPPLY, ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. DELIVER BEND OF BHM THICKNESS SUITABLE FOR 58 CS. VT PUMP AT PUMP HOUSE NO. 5 OLD BUILDING (LOHARI) CANAL HAVING LIFT 2'9" AND 5 OTHER WORKS.	CLOSING DATE 24.02.2022	12.13 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01250-299258 xenswst@nic.in
25	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA HARAWANA	RE-USE OF FLOOD WATER OF VILLAGE SURJA KHARA AND BELARKHA FOR IRRIGATION THROUGH BML BARWANA LINK CHANNEL AT RD 63065/L	CLOSING DATE 28.02.2022	19.23 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	7989925704 xenswst@nic.in
26	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA CHARKH DADRI	NS CHANNEL ISMC-75 (75 X 40 X 5 MM) (7 TON) (SAIL, TATA, JINDAL MAKE) + 4 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 17.02.2022	25 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8901388296 xenswst@nic.in
27	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA KATHAL	LAYING 600 MM DIA RCC PIPELINE TO DRAIN OUT THE FLOOD WATER OF VILLAGE SOTHA & SAIR OF BLOCK SEWAN AND RECHARGE GROUND WATER + 2 NOS. WORKS	CLOSING DATE 04.03.2022	102.99 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01746222384 xenswst@nic.in
28	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING KURUKSHETRA	MOHR PROVIDING 1 NO. NEW TUBEWELL IN PLACE OF FAILED TUBEWELL AND FHTC UNDER JIM IN VILLAGE MOHR CONSTRUCTION OF PUMP CHAMBER OF SIZE 3.05 X 3.66, M BOUNDARY WALL LAYING OF DI RAISING MAIN AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO.	09.02.2022 17.02.2022	6.48		

**Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd.**  
A Government of India (Ministry of Railways) Enterprise

**Request For Expression of Interest**  
(consultancy Services - Firms Selection)

**Country : INDIA, NAME OF PROJECT : EASTERN DEDICATED FREIGHT CORRIDOR-3.** Loan No./Credit No./Grant No. : IBRD-85130. Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for development of Freight Terminals over Indian Railways and Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited.

The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the consultancy services. Interested consultants should provide information regarding required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The complete details of REOI are available on DFCCIL website: [www.dfccil.com](http://www.dfccil.com). Interested consultancy firms having relevant work experience may submit their interest by **15:00 hrs 28/02/2022** to Group General Manager (OP&BD)-I, Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited, Room No. 506, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building Complex, New Delhi - 110 001. All prospective applicants are advised to see DFCCIL website instead of Newspaper notification for further Addendum/addenda.

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**  
(See Section 82 Cr.PC.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Naymat Ali @ Katta, S/o Mohd. Mustak, R/o H.No. 108, E-Block, JJ Colony, Bawana, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 548/2021 U/S 392/34 IPC PS Kashmere Gate, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Naymat Ali @ Katta** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Naymat Ali @ Katta** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Naymat Ali @ Katta of FIR No. 548/2021 U/S 392/34 IPC PS Kashmere Gate, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on 11.04.2022.

By Order  
**Shri Kapil Kumar**  
Metropolitan Magistrate  
Room No. 32, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/1954/N/2022

The Department of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh Itanagar propose to undertake the works for Reconnaissance survey for Plastic clay in & around Tezu area, Lohit, Preliminary investigation on Graphite occurrences at Rubeng, Kerang, Pango, Singing & Ninging area under Upper Siang Dist, Preliminary investigation on Graphite in Kra Daddi Dist, Upper Siang Dist. Preliminary investigation on Graphite in Kra Daddi Dist., Investigation of Rock Quarries in Papum Pare & Lower Subansiri Dist., Auction of Minerals, Advisory service for preparation of mandatory various rules, Exploration of Minerals (i) Geo Chemical & Geological mapping for lime stone & Dolomite in & around Memga Area, Uppersubansiri Dist., (ii) Geo Chemical & Geological mapping for lime stone & Dolomite in & around Yemsing-Rottung Area of Siang & East Siang dist., (iii) E-Auction of Kalaktang Quartzite. The details of the tender available in Govt. website [www.arunachalpradesh.gov.in](http://www.arunachalpradesh.gov.in)

DIPR/ARN-3042-44/2021

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Dy. CEE/JUDW acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. 56-W/Elect/21-22/T/04/R/RT/Rain Water. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) & can be seen/downloaded. The Tenderers/bidders will have to make payment towards tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like Net banking/Debit/Credit Cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual/offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, cash deposit receipts etc. are not permitted.

Name of work	"Rain water leakage proofing of LHB AC Coaches".
Tender Type	Open
Bidding System	Single Packet System
Tender sale Closing Date	04.03.2022 at 15.30 hrs.
Date, Time of Up-loading Tender	11.02.2022
Pre-Bid Required	No
Pre-Bid query till date	N.A.
Advertisement Value	Rs. 47,30,505/- including all taxes GST etc.
Tendering Section	Tender & Works/Electrical branch Jagadhari Workshop
Earnest Money	Rs. 94,610/-
Validity of offer	45 days
Tender Document Cost	NIL (as per Part-I clause No. 3 of Indian Railways GCC July 2020)
Period of Completion	365 days
Bidding Start Date	15 days before opening of tender as per IREPS provisions.
Bidding end date	04.03.2022 up to 15.30 hrs.
Tender opening date & time	At any time thereafter 15.35 hrs on dt. 04.03.2022. The tenderers are not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserve the right to open the tender at any time after closing of tender.

No.: 56-W/Elect/21-22/T/04/R/RT/Rain Water Dt.: 10.02.2022  
306/2022  
Serving Customers with a Smile

राजस्थान सरकार  
**कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त अलवर**

सा.नि.वि. परिसर, अशोक टाकोज के पास, कचहरी रोड, अलवर  
फोन 0144-2737038. E-mail: [sealvw.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:sealvw.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in)

क्रमांक:- 5504 दिनांक:- 10.02.2022

निविदा सूचना संख्या 19 / 2021-22

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से निम्नलिखित सड़क कार्यों के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय / राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग / डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग / रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के "ए" एवं "ए" श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हों, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा की कुल लागत	राशि रु. 586.57 लाख (1 पैकेज कार्य)
निविदा फर्म मिलने की तारीख	11.02.2022 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे से 04.03.2022 सायं: 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा जमा करने की तारीख	04.03.2022 सायं: 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा शुरू एवं आरंभ होने की तारीख	04.03.2022 सायं: 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा खोलने की तारीख	07.03.2022 को दोपहर 03.00 बजे
निविदा खोलने की तारीख	तकमिनी निविदा के जांच निर्णय पश्चात

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट [www.dipronline.org](http://www.dipronline.org) व विभाग की वेबसाइट <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> एवं [www.sppp.raj.nic.in](http://www.sppp.raj.nic.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।

क्र.स.	कार्य का नाम	बुद्धी. एन. नम्बर
1	Poothi Village to Lilawandi Gvendgarh Road 0/0 to 5/0 (Remaining work)	PWD2122WLOB15197

हस्ता./-  
(समीत कुमार)  
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता  
सा.नि.वि. वृत्त अलवर

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-Tender Notice**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work:

Name of work with its location	Part-I, Provision of CB along with associated equipments at DSA/SSP, in connection with Electrification of NO-SMQL section. Part-II Additional work required in existing SSP at Ghaziabad.
2	Approx. Cost of work Rs.88,04,064.4/-
3	Earnest Money Deposit Rs.1,76,100/-
4	E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period 21.02.2022 (00.00 Hrs.) to 07.03.2022 (15.00 Hrs.)
5	E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time 07.03.2022 (15.00 hrs.)
6	Fund Allocation 00845521
7	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

E-Tender No.: 15-TRD-NDLS-2021-22 Dated : 11.02.2022 317/2022  
Serving Customers With A Smile

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PHED CIRCLE NCR ALWAR PHED CAMPUS, MANU MARG ALWAR (RAJ.)**  
E-Mail- [sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in)  
No- 4418-35 Date- 04.02.2022

**NOTICE INVITING BID (NIT No. 87-108 / 2021-22)**

Bids for Works of Construction of Source, PLI of Rising Main & Distribution Pipe Line with FHTC, Construction of Reservoir for Various villages are invited from Interested bidders upto 05:00 PM on Date 07.03.2022. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and <http://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in> departmental website.

UBN:  
PHE2122WSOB13298, PHE2122WSOB13299, PHE2122WSOB13300, PHE2122WSOB13301, PHE2122WSOB13302, PHE2122WSOB13303, PHE2122WSOB13304, PHE2122WSOB13305, PHE2122WSOB13306, PHE2122WSOB13307, PHE2122WSOB13308, PHE2122WSOB13309, PHE2122WSOB13310, PHE2122WSOB13311, PHE2122WSOB13312, PHE2122WSOB13313, PHE2122WSOB13314, PHE2122WSOB13315, PHE2122WSOB13316, PHE2122WSOB13317, PHE2122WSOB13318, PHE2122WSOB13319

Sd/-  
L. P. Bairwa  
Superintending Engineer  
DIPRC/1667/2022

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age: 55 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'5", Built: Thin, Face: Long, Hair: Black & White, was wearing Green colour T-Shirt and Blue colour Pant, was found dead on pavement in front of Hanuman Mandir, Jamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 29A U/S 174 CrPC, dated 07.02.2022, has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. His dead body has been preserved in Subzi Mandi Mortuary for identification for 72 Hrs. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO  
P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23968730, 8750870123  
DP/1988/N/2022

**OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED, JAIPUR REGION-I, JAIPUR**  
Jyoti Nagar, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur-302005  
Phone: 0141-2740170(o) e-mail: [ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in).  
No. F./ACE/PHED/Ar.Sikar/NIT-192/JJM/2021-22/15528-549 Date: 08.02.2022  
(e-NIT No. 192/2021-22)

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan NIT No. 192/2021-22 online tender is hereby invited from eligible bidders for "Work of Augmentation of RWSS to provide FHTC including one year Defect Liability period of SVS/MVS and 3 Year O&M for MVS under JJM in the jurisdiction of PHED Sub Division Dantaramgarh, District-Sikar on SPR basis" as per criteria mentioned in the detailed NIT/tender document available on websites: <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>. Tenderers are to be submitted online in electronic format on website <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> as per prescribed schedule.

NIT No.	Particular	Estt. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	UBN No.
190/2021-22	Sub Division Dantaramgarh	450.23	PHE2122WSOB13459

**SAVE WATER-SAVE LIFE** Sd/-  
(Arun Srivastava)  
Addl. Chief Engineer  
PHED, Jaipur Region-I, Jaipur  
DIPRC/1644/2022

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED MALE**

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely **Mohd. Ashif S/o Late Mohd. Irfan R/o H.No.4084, Gali Nal Wali, Urdu Bazaar, Jama Masjid, Delhi Aged-38** Years has been reported missing/kidnapped since 04.02.2022 at about 5:00 PM from the area of P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 01-A dated 06.02.2022 has been lodged at Police Station Jama Masjid, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-  
**Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 6', **Face:** Round, **Built:** Strong, **ID:** Mental disorder, **Wearing:** Grey coloured sweater, cream coloured pant and white coloured relaxo slipper in feet.  
Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped male, may inform SHO, Jama Masjid, Delhi at E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Sd/-  
Tel. No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Jama Masjid, Delhi  
FAX No. : 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-23269777, 23261625  
DP/1244/CD/2022 Mob.: 8750870422

**MOHD. ASHIF**

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
**DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE, RAJBAGH-SRINAGAR, KASHMIR-190008**  
TELE-FAX: 0194-2311287/2311484,  
Email: [Kashmirhorticulture@gmail.com](mailto:Kashmirhorticulture@gmail.com),  
website: <http://HortiKashmir.gov.in>

E-NIT No 46 of 2021 Dated: 09.02.2022

**Note: All bidding process will be done on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from reputed authorized dealers for supply of laboratory equipment/machinery required in the soil testing laboratory Pulwama as listed in the tender document.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility Criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Tender Website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

**Critical Dates:**

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	09-02-2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	09-02-2022
3	Bid Submission Start Date	09-02-2022
4	Bid submission End Date	23-02-2022
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (online)	24-02-2022 10:30 AM

The tender document may be downloaded from the Govt. e-procurement website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).  
(Ajaz Ahmad Bhat)<sup>IKAS</sup>  
Director General  
DIPK-17968

**"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.

**BRIDGE WORKS**

Tender Notice No. CON/2022/JAN/04 Dated: 25-01-2022. Open tender through E-Tendering system is invited from experienced and reputed contractor (s)/firm (s) for the following works: Tender No. CE/CON/JM/MB/2022/01. Name of Work: Fabrication and making steel side pathway for Open Web Gider, Composite Gider & PSC Sab (Major Bridges) including painting etc. in Gaupur-Achayapur section of New Maynagar-Joghpura new line project. Tender Value: 14,93,08,653.43/- Closing of Tender at: 14.03.2022. Opening at 15.35 hrs of 01-03-2022. For details please visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Chief Engineer/CON/5, Maligaon  
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation)  
New Guwahati, Assam

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE No. DDU/EL/G/21-22/25 Dated 10.02.2022**

Online (through E-Tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/ Elect/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from Experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings. Sl. 01. Name of Work with its location: No. DDU/EL/G/21-22/12 Sub-Improvement in Power supply distribution system of Platform No. 02 at DDU station by Sandwich Busbar Trunking system under Sr. SE/TS-1/Elect/DDU. Approx cost of the work: Rs. 5390232.39, Earnest Money: Rs. 107800.00, Tender closing Date Time: 10.03.2022 15:00 Hrs., Website particulars of E-tendering: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
Sr. Divnl. Elect. Engr.(G) East Central Railway, DDU PR/01658/DDU/EGENT/21-22/32

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-Open Tender Notice No-ELECT -CRW-HRT-3 Date: 10.02.2022**

For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Harnaut invites open e-tender for the following work as detailed:- 1. Name of the work with its location:- Robotic AC duct cleaning and Sterilization by Ozone in AC (LHB & ICF) coach, Qty.180 coach at CRW/HRT, 2. Estimated cost of the work:- Rs. 2400165.00 (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh One Hundred Sixty Five only), 3. Earnest Money:- Rs. 48000.00 (Rupees Forty Eight thousand only), 4. Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of Tender:- The tender has to be submitted online on <http://www.ireps.gov.in> up to 12.00 hrs on 04.03.2022 and it will be opened on the same day at 12.30 hrs., 5. Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen:- Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria, etc. could be viewed on <http://www.ireps.gov.in> & offer to be made through same website. Full details of notice can be seen on notice board of Chief Workshop Manager, Administrative Building, Carriage Repair Workshop, Harnaut, Nalanda, Bihar-803110. Any corrigendum will be uploaded on the same website if required.  
Dy. CEE/CRW/HRT, Harnaut PR/01656/HRT/ELECT/21-22/40

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**BID NOTICE**  
NO.-C/470/SBD/SMU/D/SON/22 Dated:- 08.02.2022

1. For and on behalf of the President of India, Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Sonpur Division, East Central Railway invites sealed Bid on Open, Competitive, Single stage single packet tender system, from food and catering service providers for "Provision of Catering Service at Special Minor Unit (SMU) at stations (Maheshkunt, Dighwara, Semapur, Bachwara, Dholi, Thanabihpur, Mohiuddinagar, Desari, Karhola Road, Goraul, Lakho, khudirambose Pusa, Mehar Road of Category D. Bids invited from Individuals/Partnership firms/ Companies/Registered sole-proprietor firm/Co-operatives/Self Helps Groups. 2. Bid Documents: The interested bidders may purchase 'Bid Document' which can be obtained between 10:00 hrs and 17:00 hrs on all working days from 14.02.2022 to 08.03.2022 in person from the Railway office at the address given in paragraph 5 below, on payment of non-refundable document fee. Bid document can also be downloaded from the website [www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in) and the bids can be submitted on the downloaded document along with a separate Demand Draft towards the cost of bidding documents at the time of bidding. 3. Receipt of Bids: The sealed bid will be dropped by the bidders or their representatives on 09.03.2022 till 12:30 pm in the box specified at the address given in para 05. The bids shall be opened on the same day (dated 09.03.2022) at 15:00 in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives. 4. Railway reserves the right to accept/ reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof. Detailed information is available on the website: [www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in) 5. Address for Communication: Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Sonpur Division, East Central Railway, PO+PS: Sonpur, Dist : Saran (Bihar) PIN-841101 Tel: 06158-221646, Fax: 06158-221646 Email: [srdcmsonpur@gmail.com](mailto:srdcmsonpur@gmail.com)  
Divisional Railway Manager (C) Sonpur Division PR/01652/SEE/COML/T/21-22/64

**FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA**  
REGIONAL OFFICE: 4 - NEHRU PLACE, TONK ROAD, JAIPUR - 302015  
Email: [srmfj@nic.in](mailto:srmfj@nic.in), PHONE: 91-141-2743137-40, Fax: 0141-2742034

**E-Tender Notice**

An e-tender notice is invited, under two-bid system for appointment of regular Handling/ Handling & Transport Contractor for two years at various centers of Rajasthan region. Under e-tender notice ROJ/CONTRACT/HTC/01/2022, the bids shall be accepted ONLINE from 11.02.2022, 02:00 PM to 04.03.2022, 02:00 PM. (All the Terms & Conditions and other details are available on Government E-Marketplace (GeM) Portal's website <https://gem.gov.in> and Corporation's website [www.fci.gov.in](http://www.fci.gov.in) General Manager (Region)

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE No. ELS\_SRE\_T-21 dtd. 09.02.2022**

Open tender through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ TRS, Electric Loco Shed, Khanalampura Yard, Northern Railway, Saharanpur (Ambala Division) for and on behalf of the President of India from the registered tenderer on web site [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for the following work upto 11:00 hrs on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter:-

Open Tender No	ELS_SRE_T-21
Name of Work	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of EOT Crane with stand by spares installed in Electric Loco Shed, Khanalampura, Saharanpur for the period of three years.
Date of Closing/Opening	03.03.2022
Approx. Cost	₹ 37,14,024.00/-
Earnest Money	₹ 74,300/-
Completion period	03 Years
Validity period	45 days
Cost of tender form	Free of cost

1. Tenderer(s) should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of Works Tenders.  
2. Tenderer are required to upload self-attested scanned copies of all related eligibility documents as per conditions.  
3. Taxes & Charges will be applicable as per extant rule.  
4. For details, please log on IREPS website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) 308/2022  
Serving Customers With A Smile

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-II जोधपुर (मुह्यालय-बाड़मेर)**

क्रमांक-3000 दिनांक:- 03.02.2022

**ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 09/2021-22**

इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग में कार्यरत बाड़मेर एवं जैसलमेर जिला स्तरीय गुण नियंत्रण प्रयोगशाला को एन.ए.बी.एल. प्रमाणिकरण (राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण एवं अंशोद्यम प्रयोगशाला प्रत्यायन बोर्ड) कार्य की निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 24.02.2022 सांय 06.00 बजे तक ऑनलाईन पर अपलोड करना आवश्यक होगा व उक्त निविदाएं दिनांक 25.02.2022 को दोपहर 4.00 बजे ऑनलाईन खोली जावेगी। उक्त निविदा से संबंधित अन्य विवरण राज्य के प्रोकरमेंट पोर्टल (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>) व विभाग की वेबसाइट <http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in> पर देखे जा सकते हैं। वृ.बी.एन. संख्या निम्नानुसार है:-

हस्ता./-  
(सुनील कुमार कालानी)  
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,  
सानिच संभाग-II, जोधपुर  
(मुह्यालय-बाड़मेर)

1. PWD2122A3086  
PW2122SL0B14953  
DIPRC/1559/2022

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-Tender Notice**

E-Tenders is invited for execution of the following work by Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), E.C. Railway, Dhanbad. E-Tender No. Com-2D-ATM-22. Sl.No. 1. Name of the work with its location & completion period:- Installation of Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at 16 locations / Stations over Dhanbad Division for the period of five years. 2. Reserve Price for five year (in Rs.):- Rs. 1.1. 3. Earnest Money:- Rs. 20000/- 4. Date & Time for closing and opening of Tender:- Date of closing of e-tender at 16.00 hours on 07.03.2022. Date of opening of e-tender from 16:30 hrs. on 07.03.2022. 5. Website particulars :- <http://www.ireps.gov.in> No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering. Tenderer have to pay levy of GST @18% in addition to offered rate by him. Railway Administration reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason what so ever.  
DRM (Commercial) ECR/Dhanbad PR/01654/DHN/COML/T/21-22/36

**HIMACHAL PRADESH, JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT**  
**E-Procurement Notice "NOTICE FOR Bids (IFB)"**

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Dharamshala District Kangra (HP) on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh re- invited the item rate/lump sum contract bids from the eligible contractors/Firms. Bidders should be registered with Central Govt. or State Govt. or Central Govt. or State Government under takings. The Contractor/Firm who have experience in construction of similar work and have established organization for taking up such work and who satisfy the qualification criteria of bid document need only apply. The scope of the work will be as under:-

SN	Name of work	Estimated cost	EMD	Cost of tender form	Eligibility criteria	Time limit
1	Name of work: - Providing separate WSS to Chamunda Nandeshwar Dham in Tehsil Dharamshala Distt. Kangra (HP). (SH: C/O Civil Works, Pumping machinery, Laying, Joining & Testing of Rising main, Gravity Main and other Miscellaneous works).	Rs. 5,05,30,892/-	Rs. 5,05,310/-	Rs. 2500/-	Definition of "Similar work" means C/O Water Treatment Plant base on Rapid sand filter. 2. To demonstrate experience of the bidder/contractor as per eligibility criteria, the bidder/contractor shall submit the certificate of completion or commissioning of project/work (completed work should not be less than 90%) as the case may be, issued by an officer not below the rank of executive engineer. The bidder shall upload the award letter or related agreements to corroborate the experience certificate submitted.	One year

Last date of submission of e-tender 24.2.2022 at 11.00 A.M  
Others terms and conditions, tender documents please refer website <https://tptenders.gov.in>  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti Division Dharamshala  
NO.EE/JAL SHAKTI/Dharmshala/CB/Tender/NIT/2022-17499-17598  
Dated:- 10.02.2022 6839/HP

**varthana Varthana Finance Private Limited**  
(Formerly known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.)  
Registered Office at : No. 58C-110, Varasiddhi, 3rd Floor, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043. Website [www.varthana.com](http://www.varthana.com). Email: [care@varthana.com](mailto:care@varthana.com) Phone: 080-68455777, Branch Office: No. 1162 & 1163, Tower B-1, 11th Floor, Spaze 1 Tech Park, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurugram 122018.

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Mortgagee(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd, Gurugram, (Formerly known as Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd), will be sold on 17-03-2022 (Thursday) "As is Where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis, for recovery of below mentioned loan account. The details of the Borrower(s)/ Mortgagee(s) Secured Assets/ Dues/ Reserve Price/ Auction date & time, EMD & Bid increase amount are mentioned below.

Name of The Borrower/Guarantor: 1. M/s. Gautam Convent Middle School, Rep. by Authorised Signatory, 2. M/s. Galaxy Educational Society, Rep. by Authorised Signatory, 3. Lajiwati B, W/o. Bhambilli, 4. Dinesh Kumar, S/o. Bhambilli, 5. Rajesh Kumar, S/o. Bhambilli.  
Loan A/c No. S19GUR-GUR-007873

**Details of Total Outstanding Amount in Rupees: Rs.54,05,813/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakhs Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirteen Only) as on 04.02.2022 together with future agreed contractual interest plus legal costs/charges, full realisation of entire amount.**

**Details of the immovable property: Schedule 'A' Property :** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Khewat No. 78, Khata No.96, Mustafi No.38, Kila, No.2/1/1 (4-16), 9/2/2 (4-10), Khasra No.453 (1-0) & 679 (0-2), land admeasuring 1 Kanal 5 marla (760 Sq.Yds) Situated at Gahlab Village, Hathin Tehsil, Palwal District (Haryana) and bounded on, East By: Road, West By: Other Property, North By: Other Property, South By: Road.

**The Reserve Price for Schedule 'A' Property will be Rs.44,40,930/- and the earnest money deposit will be (EMD 10% of Reserve Price) Rs.4,44,093/-**

**Known encumbrances, if any: Nil.**

**Schedule 'B' Property :** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Khewat/Khata No.769/829, Mustafi No.88, Kila No.13 (8-0) 19 (8-0) and 20 (8-0), Land area measuring 6 Marla that is 183 Sq.Yds, Situated in Bhamnikhera Village, Palwal Tehsil & District(Haryana) and bounded on, East By: Road, West By : Other Plot, North By: Road, South By : Other Plot.

**The Reserve Price for Schedule 'B' Property will be Rs.8,65,575/- and the earnest money deposit will be (EMD 10% of Reserve Price) Rs.86,557/-**

**Known encumbrances, if any: Nil.**

Interested bidders should submit their EMD amount along with KYC documents (PAN Card and Aadhar/Voters ID/Driving Licence) and Rs. 1,00,00/- Non-refundable Tender fee at the Indore Office, at the above address, by way of Demand Draft/ Pay Order drawn on a Scheduled Bank, favouring "M/s. Varthana Finance Private Limited", payable at Gurugram before 5.00 p.m. on or before 16-03-2022 (Wednesday).

**Date & Time of Inspection of the Property: 07-03-2022 to 11-03-2022 (on all working days) from 11.**

**Arra-Branch**  
**POSSESSION NOTICE [Section 13(4)] (For Immovable Property)**

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 02.12.2021 calling upon the borrower **M/s Bhola Electricals Prop.-Bir Chand Jain** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being amounts to **Rs. 35,87,406.55 (Rs. Thirty five lakh, eighty seven Thousand, four hundred Six and fifty five Paise Only)**, plus int. & other charges thereon.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **8<sup>th</sup> day of February of the year 2022.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank** for an amount of **Rs. 35,87,406.55 (Rs. Thirty five lakh, eighty seven Thousand four hundred Six and fifty five Paise Only)** plus int. & other charges thereon.

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

**Description of the Immovable Property**  
All the part & parcel of the property Situated at Kasba Ara, Moh.-Mahajan Toli No.-1, Thana No.-237, Old Ward No-19, Nagar Nigam Ward No-22, Ara Town, Bhojpur, Khata No-786 (O) 247 (N) 248, Plot No-(O) 2145, (N) 258, 259, 261. **Mortgagor- Bir Chand Jain** S/o Late Hukum Chand Jain Area-3 dhur 7 dhurku 10 furki **Boundary :-North- Nij Vendor, South-Nij Vendor, East-Road, West-Nij Vendor**

Date : 08.02.2022 **Authorised Officer CANARA BANK**

**DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION**  
DRDO Premier Organization formed in 1958

**AERONAUTICS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
Under Grants-in-Aid Scheme of DRDO AR&DB

Only online application will be accepted from 10th Feb 2022  
**DRDO SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME EXCLUSIVELY FOR GIRLS-2021**  
Last date 31st Mar 2022

**FOR UNDER GRADUATE AND POST GRADUATE LEVEL GIRL STUDENTS RELATED TO AEROSPACE ENGG./AERONAUTICAL ENGG./SPACE ENGG./ ROCKETRY/ AVIONICS/ AIRCRAFT ENGG.**

ONLY ON MERIT SCHOLARSHIP GRANT	POST GRADUATE Rs. 1,86,000/- per year	UNDER GRADUATE Rs. 1,20,000/- per year or Annual fee whichever is less.
<b>NO. OF SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	10 Numbers	20 Numbers
<b>PERIOD</b>	Full time 2 years degree course pursuing ME/ M Tech/ MSc (Engg.).	Full time 4 years degree course pursuing B.E/ B Tech/ B. Sc (Engg.) or dual degree course/Integrated Master degree & scholarship restricted to first 4 years only.
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Aerospace/ Aeronautical Engg./ Space Engg. & Rocketry/ Avionics/ Aircraft Engg. *In case pursuing dual degree, scholarship only for first four years applicable for B Tech degree course under the above scheme.	
ELIGIBILITY	HIGHLIGHTS	SELECTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post Graduate level</li> <li>Indian National</li> <li>Secured admission to the 1st year of current academic year</li> <li>Scored min 60% in BTech/ BE or equiv.</li> <li>Valid GATE score</li> <li>Under Graduate level</li> <li>Indian National</li> <li>Secured admission in 1st year of B.Tech/ BE/ 5 yr Integrated course or equiv.</li> <li>Valid JEE main score</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheme is free from any bond obligation.</li> <li>Final year project work preferably in DRDO/ Govt. lab/ AR&amp;DB funded project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The selection of M Tech scholarship for the first year will be on the basis of valid GATE score &amp; on merit basis.</li> <li>First year scholarship for 4 yr B Tech course based on merit of valid JEE Main or as revised from time to time as per AICTE/MHRD.</li> </ul>

Online applications are invited by Recruitment and Assessment Centre (RAC), DRDO for 2021-22 session for the award of scholarships to the students for B Tech and M Tech courses in the premier academic institutions /Govt./ Autonomous/ UGC or AICTE approved/ of the country offering these courses every year. The other terms & conditions details of the scheme are available on the RAC website (<http://rac.gov.in>) and also on AR&DB website (<https://www.drdo.gov.in/aeronautics-research-development/about-us>)

Query through Mail:- (i) On application submission: [pro.recruitment@gov.in](mailto:pro.recruitment@gov.in) (ii) Status of approval of scholarship: [ardb.hqr@gov.in](mailto:ardb.hqr@gov.in) davn 10301/11/0155/2122

**HFCL LIMITED**  
Regd. Off: 8, Electronics Complex, Chambaghat, Solan Himachal Pradesh-173 213  
CIN: L64200HP1987PLC007466; Website : www.hfcl.com; Email: secretarial@hfcl.com  
Tel : 91-1792-230644; Fax No.: 91-1792-231902

**NOTICE OF EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM), E-VOTING & REMOTE E-VOTING [THIS IS FURTHER TO OUR EARLIER NOTICE PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 11, 2022 REGARDING EGM]**

NOTICE is hereby given that:

- The Extra-Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) of HFCL Limited is scheduled to be held on **Monday, 07th March, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. (IST) through Video Conferencing (VC) / Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM)** facility, to transact the Special Business, as set out in the Notice dated February 09, 2022 convening the EGM, in due compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (the "Act"), the Rules made thereunder and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (the "SEBI Listing Regulations") read with the General Circulars numbered 14/2020, 17/2020, 20/2020, 02/2021 and 20/2021 dated April 8, 2020, April 13, 2020, May 5, 2020, January 13, 2021 and December 08, 2021, respectively issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (the "MCA Circulars") and Circulars numbered SEBI/HO/CFD/CMO1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 and SEBI/HO/CFD/CMO2/CIR/P/2021/11 dated January 15, 2021 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (the "SEBI Circulars").
- In compliance of the provisions of Sections 101 and 136 of the Act read with Rule 18 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 as amended, the Notice setting out the business to be transacted at the EGM along with the Statement has been sent through electronic mode only to the members whose e-mail IDs are registered with the Depositories/ the Depository Participants/ the Company/ the RTA, whose names appear in the Company's Register of Members / Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories, as on **Friday, February 04, 2022**. The Notice of EGM is also available on the Company's website [www.hfcl.com](http://www.hfcl.com), website of the stock exchanges i.e. the BSE Limited at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited at [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) and also on the website of NSDL at [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com).
- The Dispatch of Notice of EGM through e-mails has been completed on **February 11, 2022**.  
**Remote Voting Through Electronic Mode ("Remote e-Voting") and E-Voting during EGM**  
Pursuant to Section 108 of the Act read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and the Secretarial Standard on General Meetings (SS-2), Members holding shares either in physical form or dematerialized form, are provided with the facility to cast their vote on all the resolutions set forth in Notice of EGM using electronic voting system from a place other than the venue of EGM ("Remote e-Voting"), provided by the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). All the Members are informed that:
  - The Business as set forth in the Notice of EGM may be transacted through voting by electronic means;
  - The remote e-Voting shall commence on **Friday, March 04, 2022 (9.00 a.m. IST)**;
  - The remote e-Voting shall end on **Sunday, March 06, 2022 (5.00 p.m. IST)** and shall not be allowed beyond this time;
  - The Cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means and / or e-Voting during EGM is **Monday, February 28, 2022**. The voting rights of the member shall be in proportion with the paid-up value of their shares in the Equity Share Capital of the Company as on Cut-off date i.e. **Monday, February 28, 2022**.
  - Any person, who becomes the member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice of the EGM and holding shares as on the Cut-off date i.e., **Monday, February 28, 2022**, may obtain the user ID and Password by sending a request at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or to the Company at [secretarial@hfcl.com](mailto:secretarial@hfcl.com) or to the RTA at MCS Share Transfer Agent Limited (Unit: HFCL Limited) at [admin@mcsregistrars.com](mailto:admin@mcsregistrars.com), by mentioning their folio No./DP ID and Client ID. However, if a member is already registered with NSDL for remote e-Voting/e-Voting, the member can use the existing user ID and Password for casting his/her vote through remote e-Voting/e-Voting during EGM;
  - The Members may note that:
    - once the vote on a resolution is cast by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently;
    - the facility for e-Voting on NSDL platform shall also be available at the EGM;
    - the members who have exercised their vote by remote e-Voting may also attend the EGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again;
    - a person whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the Cut-off date, i.e., **Monday, February 28, 2022** only, shall be entitled to avail facility of remote e-Voting as well as e-Voting at the EGM;
    - a person who is not a member as on the Cut-off date should treat this Notice for information purpose only.
  - The detailed procedure and instructions for remote e-Voting / e-Voting are provided in the Notice of the EGM and e-mail sent to each shareholder.
  - In case of any queries or grievances connected with facility for remote e-Voting / e-Voting, members may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and Remote e-Voting User Manual for Members available at the "Downloads" section on [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com) or call on Toll free no.: **1800-222-990** or contact **Ms. Pallavi Mhatre**, Manager, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), Trade World, 'A' Wing, 4th Floor, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Panel, Mumbai-400013, at the designated e-mail address: [pallavi@nsdl.co.in](mailto:pallavi@nsdl.co.in) or at telephone no. **+91-22-24994545**.
  - Mr. Baldev Singh Kashtwal [FCS - 3616 & COP No. 3169], Practicing Company Secretary, has been appointed as the Scrutinizer by the Board of Directors of the Company, to scrutinize the entire remote e-Voting process and e-Voting during EGM, in a fair and transparent manner.
  - Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, a member entitled to attend and vote at EGM is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his / her behalf and the proxy need not be a member of the Company. Since, this EGM is being held pursuant to the MCA Circulars and the SEBI Circulars through VC / OAVM, the requirement of physical attendance of members has been dispensed with. Accordingly, in terms of the MCA Circulars and the SEBI Circulars, the facility for appointment of proxies by the members will not be available for this EGM and hence the proxy form, attendance slip and route map of EGM are not annexed to the Notice. However, corporate members intending to appoint their authorised representatives pursuant to Section 112 and 113 of the Act, as the case may be, to attend the EGM through VC / OAVM or to vote through remote e-Voting / e-Voting during EGM, are requested to send a certified true copy of the board resolution to the Scrutinizer by e-mail at [scrutinizer@hfcl.com](mailto:scrutinizer@hfcl.com) with a copy marked to NSDL at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) and to the Company at [secretarial@hfcl.com](mailto:secretarial@hfcl.com).

**Voting Results**  
The voting results along with the Consolidated Report of the Scrutinizer shall be placed on the Company's website at [www.hfcl.com](http://www.hfcl.com), NSDL's website at [www.nsdl.com](http://www.nsdl.com) and also on the website of Stock Exchanges, viz., the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) at [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) and the BSE Limited (BSE) at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com), within 2 working days of the conclusion of the meeting, after declaration of the voting results by the Chairman or a person authorized by him in writing. Subject to receipt of requisite number of votes, the Resolutions shall be deemed to be passed on the date of the EGM i.e. 07th March, 2022.

for HFCL Limited  
Sd/-  
(Manoj Baid)  
Senior Vice-President (Corporate) & Company Secretary

**"IMPORTANT"**  
"While 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 notices or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever."

**Zonal Office: Delhi, General Services Administrative Section Bhikaji Cama Place, Delhi**  
Sealed Tenders are invited for disposal of Bank's Vehicles:-  
Sr. No. City. (Nos.) Regd In the name of Punjab National Bank  
1. 16  
For details refer at the bank's website [www.pnbindia.in](http://www.pnbindia.in)  
Last date of submission of tender is **02.03.2022 up to 15.00 Hrs.**  
Any corrigendum/addendum shall be uploaded on website. Bidders are requested to regularly visit at our website for up-dation.  
Chief Manager, GAD, Zonal Office: Delhi

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (North)**

**DM Office Complex, Alipur, Delhi- 110036 PUBLIC NOTICE (U/S 3G (3 & 4) Of NH Act 1956)**

Whereas, by the notification (reproduced here with), of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways S.O. No. 464 (E) dated 04.02.2022 published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-Section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3D of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared to acquire the land in Village Bakoli specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building, (widening/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH-344M on the stretch of the land from KM 000.00 to KM 13.100 Km in the district North in the state of Delhi.

Therefore, it is hereby informed to all the interested persons in the said land to state the nature of their respective interests in the land, the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, their claims to NH Act, 1956 as per sub section 3 & 4 of section 3G of National Highways Act, 1956 and are required to appear in person or by legal practitioner referred to in sub-section (2) of section 3G, before the competent authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this Public Notice Between 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. in the office of the Competent Authority under NH Act 1956 **ADM cum Additional District Magistrate (North), DM Office Complex, Alipur, Delhi- 110036** Sd/-  
Competent Authority for Land Acquisition under NH Act 1956  
Competent Authority

**राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, पंचकुला**  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY, PANCHKULA  
(वस्त्र मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)  
राजकीय बहुतकनीकी संस्थान पॉरर, सेक्टर-26, पंचकुला, हरियाणा-134116  
Govt. Polytechnic College Campus, Sector-26, Panchkula, Haryana-134116  
विज्ञापन क्र./ Advertisement No:-NIFT/PANESTT/ADV/2022/02 दिनांक: Date: 12.02.2022

**भर्ती सूचना/RECRUITMENT NOTICE**  
राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (निफ्ट), वस्त्र मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के तहत एक सार्वजनिक निकाय, निफ्ट पंचकुला परिसर में तीन (03) साल के शैक्षिक अनुभव अनुभव के आधार पर निम्नलिखित पदों - भर्ती पदों के लिए भारतीय नागरिकों से आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है: National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), a Statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India invites applications from the Indian Nationals for the following Group-C posts to be filled on three (03) years long term contract basis at NIFT Panchkula Campus:-

क्र. सं./Sl. No.	पदनाम/Designation	वेतन स्तर (7 <sup>वें</sup> वेतन आयोग के अनुसार)/ Pay Level (As per 7th CPC)	अनारक्षित (UR)	कुल Total
1.	मशीन मैकेनिक/Machine Mechanic (योग्यता - 'अ' / Competency- 'A')	स्तर-4/ Level-4	1	1
2.	सहायक (शिक्षण एवं सेवा) / Assistant (F&A)	स्तर-4/ Level-4	1	1
3.	सहायक वाइलर (मैकेनिक) / Assistant Warden (Female)	स्तर-4/ Level-4	1	1
4.	आर्ग्राफिक ड्रॉइंग-III/Stenographer Gr.-III	स्तर-4/ Level-4	1	1
5.	नर्स/Nurse	स्तर-4/ Level-4	1	1
6.	पुस्तकालय सहायक/Library Assistant	स्तर-2/ Level-2	1	1
कुल/Total			6	6

# सहायक वाइलर (मैकेनिक) के पद के लिए आवेदन करने के लिए केवल महिला उम्मीदवार ही जोड़ें हैं।  
Only female candidates are eligible to apply for the post of Assistant Warden (Female) विज्ञापन पर जो आवेदन पर जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि/Last Date for the submission of duly filled in applications: 14.03.2022  
विस्तृत विवरण जैसे उम्र सीमा, शैक्षिक योग्यता, अनुभव और परीक्षा शुल्क आदि के लिए, कृपया हमारी वेबसाइट <https://nift.ac.in/panchkula/careers> देखें। इच्छुक उम्मीदवार अपने आवेदन 'निदेशक, राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, राजकीय बहुतकनीकी संस्थान पॉरर, सेक्टर-26, पंचकुला, हरियाणा-134116' को संबोधित प्रमाण पत्र और प्रासंगिक दस्तावेजों की प्रतियों के साथ 14.03.2022 (सोमवार) को या उसके पहले -पॉस्ट पॉस्ट/रजिस्टर्ड पोस्ट- के माध्यम से भेज सकते हैं।  
For more details like age limit, educational qualification, experience and exam fee etc., kindly visit our website <https://nift.ac.in/panchkula/careers>. Interested candidates may send their applications through registered post to the Director, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Government Polytechnic Campus, Sector 26, Panchkula, Haryana-134116 along with copies of certificate and relevant documents by 'Speed Post/Registered Post' on or before 14.03.2022 (Monday).  
(संयुक्त दिनांक: Joint Director)

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी. एल. - 33004/99  
REGD. No. D. L.-33004/99

**भारत का राजपत्र**  
The Gazette of India  
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असाधारण  
EXTRAORDINARY  
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)  
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)  
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 455] नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, फरवरी 4, 2022/माघ 15, 1943  
No. 445] NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022/MAGHA 15, 1943

**MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS NOTIFICATION**  
New Delhi, the 4th February, 2022

**S.O. 464(E).**—Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, S.O. 4169 (E) dated 08th October 2021, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH-344 M on the stretch of land from Km. 0 to Km. 13.1 (Room No.4, Office of ADM (North), DM office complex, Alipur, Delhi-110036) in the district of NORTH in the state of DELHI;

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Times of India" and "Navbharat Times" both dated 10th October 2021; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas objections have been received and the same have been considered and disallowed by the Competent Authority;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

**SCHEDULE**  
Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling in NH-344 M in the stretch of land from Km. 0 to Km. 13.1 in the district of NORTH in the state of DELHI.

State : DELHI	District: NORTH				
Sr. No.	Survey Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part Survey No.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Narela					
Village: Bakoli					
1	25/29 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0215	Gurdeep Singh S/o Harbhajan Singh, Sr. Sanjay Maan S/o Ishwar Singh, Satnaryan Jindal S/o K.R. Jindal, Tej Singh S/o Ricchhpal, Nathuram S/o Fakirchand, Manisha Jain D/o Narayan Singh 25/29min
2	25/30 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0215	Kamlesh Jain W/o Mukesh Jain, Kawaljeet, Baljeet Ss/o Jeevan Singh, M/s FCB Garments Textile Pvt. Ltd. Director Fatechand s/o B.R. Bhanshali & sons (HUF) Through its karta Pars Mal Bhanshali s/o B.R. Bhanshali 2/5 bhag and Gramsabha 25/30min
3	42/16 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0211	Jagmender Prasad Mittal S/o Sitaram, Smt. Aartri Agarwal W/o Ramawtar, Bijender Maan S/o Khehar Singh, Smt. Mamta W/o Sh. Sanjay Praveen Bhugdra S/o Jagannath, Virender Kumar, Ajay Kumar, Garish Chand Ss/o Mukand Lal, Gramsabha
4	42/17 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0514	Jagmender Prasad Mittal S/o Sitaram, Smt. Aartri Agarwal W/o Ramawtar, Bijender Maan S/o Khehar Singh, Smt. Mamta W/o Sh. Sanjay Praveen Bhugdra S/o Jagannath, Virender Kumar, Ajay Kumar, Garish Chand Ss/o Mukand Lal, Gramsabha 42/17 min
5	42/25 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0194	Rampyari W/o Hari Singh, Smt. Kamla Tawwar W/o Bhem Singh Tawwar, Alok Yadav S/o Kalesh Chander Yadav, Sundermohan Sharma S/o Jaial Sharma, Alok Mahajan S/o Ameranth Sharma 42/25 min
6	43/21 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0105	Mahesh Yadav S/o Hari Singh Yadav and Gramsabha 43/21 min

Sr. No.	Survey Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part Survey No.
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	51/11 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0244	M/s Libra Hospital Pvt. Ltd. Director Crodimal Bansal S/o Kaliram Bansal 51/11 min
8	51/20 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.1307	Rishi Buildcon Pvt. Ltd. Director Virender Agarwal S/o P.L. Agarwal and Gramsabha u/s 81 51/20 min
9	51/21 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0464	Smt. Chandewati D/o Lakhiram 51/21 min
10	51/22	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0464	Smt. Chandewati D/o Lakhiram and Gramsabha 51/22 min
11	51/28 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0169	Smt. Chandewati D/o Lakhiram 51/28 min
12	52/1 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0464	Rampyari W/o Hari Singh, Bijender S/o Ranjeet, Bijender S/o Kehar Singh, Hari Singh S/o Kude, Krishan S/o Nandram and Gramsabha 52/1min
13	52/13/1 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0084	Kaliram, Hari Singh s/o Ramprasad sambhag 2/3 bhag, Ranveer Singh, Rajesh Kumar, Pradeep Kumar Ss/o Jaisingh sambhag 1/3 bhag Alipur Delhi 52/13/1min
14	52/14 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0042	Kaliram, Hari Singh Ss/o Ramprasad sambhag 2/3 bhag, Ranveer Singh, Rajesh Kumar, Pradeep Kumar Ss/o Jaisingh sambhag 1/3 bhag and Gramsabha 52/14min
15	52/15 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0885	M/s Libra Hospital Pvt. Ltd. Director Crodimal Bansal S/o Kaliram Bansal and Gramsabha 52/15 min
16	52/2 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0375	Smt. Chandewati D/o Lakhiram and Gramsabha 52/2 min
17	52/6 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0447	M/s Batla Motas Ltd. Marfat Director Sh. Mahender Batla, Raju Batla S/o Mukandlal. 52/6min
18	52/7 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0143	M/s Batla Motas Ltd. Marfat Director Sh. Mahender Batla, Raju Batla S/o Mukandlal. 52/7min
19	52/8 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0211	Rampyari W/o Hari Singh and Gramsabha 52/8min
20	52/9 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0455	Rampyari W/o Hari Singh 52/9min
21	57/13 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.1686	Smt. Jaswinder Kaur Soni W/o Sardar, Mahender Singh Soni, Jasmit Singh S/o Balwant Singh 141/282 Bhag, Subhas Kakkar S/o Jagdishlal Kakkar, Punish Khanna S/o Ramesh Khanna 78/282 Bhag, Praveen Gupta S/o Sh. Jugal Kishor 63/282 Bhag and Gramsabha. NOTE: khasra no. 57/8(4-15) 13 (2-18) vest in Gram Sabha vide ADM order dated 09.03.2021 in case no. 21/DC/NW/2002, but Honble FC has ordered stay on the order of ADM vide case no. 56/2021 till NDOH. 57/13min
22	57/2 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.1383	Smt. Chandewati D/o Lakhiram and Gramsabha 57/2min
23	57/8 min	Common (Private & Gramsabha)	Agriculture	0.0704	Smt. Jaswinder Kaur Soni W/o Sardar, Mahender Singh Soni, Jasmit Singh S/o Balwant Singh 141/282 Bhag, Subhas Kakkar S/o Jagdishlal Kakkar, Punish Khanna S/o Ramesh Khanna 78/282 Bhag, Praveen Gupta S/o Sh. Jugal Kishor 63/282 Bhag and Gramsabha. NOTE: khasra no. 57/8(4-15) 13 (2-18) vest in Gram Sabha vide ADM order dated 09.03.2021 in case no. 21/DC/NW/2002, but Honble FC has ordered stay on the order of ADM vide case no. 56/2021 till NDOH 57/8min
24	57/9 min	Private	Agriculture	0.0843	Himpoli Pack Pvt. Ltd. Director Prgya Aggarwal W/o Manoj Aggarwal and Additional Director Mrs. Payal Aggarwal w/o Mayank Aggarwal 57/9min
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.1824</b>

[F. No. PIU/DWE/19/05/3D]  
RAJESH GUPTA, Director

Classifieds

PERSONAL

My name is mistakenly written as MANSI instead of SARIKA in school records of my ward Aastik Ashrani. My actual name is Sarika w/o Ajay Ashrani, R/o C-8, Sudershan Park, New Delhi-110015

040602353-1

I/W/VE SUMESH MAHAJAN AND POOJA MAHAJAN, RESIDENT OF B-4/4 2ND-FLOOR, PASCHIM-VIHAR NEW-DELHI, HAVE CHANGED THE NAME OF OUR SON 'DAIVIK MAHAJAN' BORN. ON 21-04-2019 AS 'SIDDH MAHAJAN' HE SHALL BE HEREAFTER KNOWN AS SIDDH MAHAJAN.

040602397-9

I, hitherto known as ARUN alias ARUN TAYAL, S/O VINOD KUMAR, residing at A-12-A Block, Near-IP School, Swaroop-Nagar, Delhi-110042, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ARUN TAYAL.

040602403-3

I, Ved Rabotra S/o Puran Chand R/o-192, MIG-Flats, Pocket-B, Phase-2, Sector-14, Dwarka, Delhi-110078 have changed my name to Ved Prakash.

040602408-2

I, Surjit Kumar Roy S/o Sunil Kumar Roy R/o-H.No.164/23, Laxmi Garden, Gurgaon, Haryana, have changed my name, from Surjeet Kumar to Surjit Kumar. Roy, Surjeet Kumar and Surjit Kumar Roy is same-person.

040602387-8

I, Smt Sushma Rani is legally wedded spouse of M/s-13766374H, NK- Mukesh Kumar S/O- Sh Parkash Chand, R/O/ P/O- Nakroh, Tehsil- Ghanari, District- UNA (H.H). In my husband's Service records my name has been wrongly mentioned as Sushma Rani instead of Sushma Devi (D O B-16-06-1984 as in Matriculation Certificate. It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days.

040602387-1

I, Sindhu Kumar D/o Chandan Kumar Thakur R/o B-332, Brij-Vihar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011 have changed my name to Sindhu Thakur.

040602403-1

I, Seema W/o Narender Kumar R/o G-1/414, Dal Mill Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed name to Kusum.

040602387-7

I, SAJJAN, S/o JAI BHAGWAN, ADD-A-174, 10, GAURAV NAGAR, ANAND NAGAR, NITHARI, DELHI-110086, have changed my name to SAJJAN MALIK.

040602403-6

I, Ramesh Kumar S/o-Chander Bhan, R/o 56, Third Floor, North Ex, Model Town-2, Delhi-110009, have changed my name to Ramesh Kumar Taneja.

040602403-9

I, Rakesh S/O Ishwar Dass, R/O-12A Navsena Apartment, West-Enclave, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to RAKESH KUMAR.

040602397-1

I, REENA SINGH/RADHIKA SINGH/RADHIKA SINGH MANOCHA, W/O, RAMESH MANOCHA, ADD-E-163, SECOND-FLOOR, MASJID MOTH, GREATER-KAILASH-3, SOUTH DELHI-110048, changed my name to RADHIKA MANOCHA, permanently.

040602403-4

I, Chiranjil Lal Chauhan, S/O Late Shri. Bansilal Chauhan, R/O J-221 Sri. Ram J. Camp, Near-Satya Niketan, New Delhi-110021. I am declaring that my name is mistakenly recorded as Chiranjil Lal Khaatek instead of Chiranjil Lal Chauhan. That the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

040602403-10

I, Mr. Shailesh Kumar, S/o Mr. Tej Narayan Singh, R/o: Professor Colony, Hajipur Vaishali, Bihar-844101, inform that in the birth certificate of my son Devyansh Singh, his name has been wrongly-written as Devyansh in place of Devyansh Singh. His correct name is Devyansh Singh, for all purposes.

040602408-6

It is for general information that I, Asif Ali, S/o-Kasim Ali, R/O-698 Gali No.27, Near-P.S. Jafraabad North-East-Delhi-110053, declare that name of my father has been wrongly-written as Qasim Ali in my Passport No. J5298816. The actual name of my father is Kasim Ali which may be amended accordingly.

040602397-10

I, ABUBAKAR S/O MOHAMMED TALEEM, H.No. 1088, NEEM WALI GALI, MOHALLA KISHAN GANJ AZAD MARKET, SARDAR BAZAR, NORTH DELHI-110006. Changed my name to ABU BAKAR, permanently.

040602387-7

I, Syed Badshah S/o SM Hussain R/o house no-108 Block-A Rajat-Vihar-Duplex-II, Sector-62, Noida, Dist- Gautambudhnagar, have changed my minor daughter's name from Myra Fatima to Mysha Fatima

040602373-1

I, Meenakshi Mahey W/O Rakesh Kumar R/O-12A Navsena Apartment, West-Enclave, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Meenakshi Chowdhary, for all future Purposes.

040602397-2

I, Pritpal Singh W/O Harjit Singh R/O B-37, Sector-47, Noida UP-201303 have changed my name to Pritpal Kaur.

040602403-2

I, Pratap Lalwani S/o Suresh Lalwani R/O A-2/17 Jankapuri New Delhi have changed my name to Partap Lalwani.

040602387-5

I, Nitika Sira W/o Davinder Dhiman R/O WZ-283/7A Vishnu Garden New Delhi have changed my name to Nitika.

040602387-4

I, Nikhil Nagpal S/o Narinder Kumar Nagpal R/O-52, Shakti Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi Changed Name To Nikhil Kumar Nagpal.

040602387-6

I, Manish Verma S/o-Ramesh Kumar R/O-A-2/86, Hastals Road Uttam Nagar Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Munish verma.

040602403-8

I, Mahinder Pal Chandel S/O Hans Raj R/O 471-472, Main-Bazar, Sabzimandi Malkaganj Delhi have changed my name to Mahinder Pal.

040602387-2

I, MOHINI W/O DINESH KUMAR SHEORAN, R/O RZF F/1/223 GALI.NO.2 MAHAVIR-ENCLAVE DELHI-110045, CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHINI DESHWAL.

040602397-8

I, Askhay Kumar Sahani S/O Bidyadhar Sahani R/O H.No. Flat-A-2, 3rd, Floor Giridhar Apartments, Firozshah Road, New Delhi-110001, have changed my name to Akashaya Kumar Sahani.

040602387-1

I, Sudhanshu Kaushik S/O Dharameyvar Kaushik R/O H.No-450 Chirag Delhi Malviya Nagar Delhi-17 have changed my name from Sudhanshu to Sudhanshu Kaushik for all future purposes.

040602387-1

I, Y. Rekha Shenoy W/o Y.V. Shenoy R/O F-53/F-1, First Floor, Near Seema Puri, Gol Chakkar, Dilshad Colony, East Delhi, Delhi-110095 have changed my name to Yermal Rekha Shenoy for all purposes.

040602316-3

I, Trishna W/O, Awanish Kumar Gupta R/O A-216, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110052 have changed my name to Trishna Gupta for all purposes.

040602055-1

I, Tarun Sokhi D/O, Amarjeet Sokhi R/O H No -a-90, U/g/F Block-a, Chanakya Place Part-1, Uttam Nagar West Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Tarun Kaur Sokhi for all purposes.

040602350-1

I, Rajesh Kumar Arora S/O Harbans Lal Arora R/O Emperor 2/902 8th, Floor Superthex Emerald Court, Sector-93A, Noida, U.P. Rajesh Kumar Arora and Rajesh Arora are Same Person.

0406027526-1

I, Prem Parkash S/O Laxmi Narayan R/O Shanti Nagar, 1745/128, Tri Nagar, Delhi -110035 Have Changed My Name To Prem Parkash Rathor

040602374-1

I, Inderjeet Kaur Parmar W/o Kuldeep Singh R/O Ac-1 2nd floor, Tagore Garden Delhi-27 have changed my name from Inderjeet Kaur Parmar to Inderjeet Kaur Parmar for all future purposes.

040602387-1

I, Chhaya Goswami Alias Chhaya Sharma W/O, Gaurav Sharma R/O B1/8A, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi-110053, have changed my name to Chhaya Gaurav Sharma for all purposes.

040602348-1

I, Teena W/O-Ravi Kishore R/O-744, Third Floor, Pocket-1, Paschim Puri Delhi-110063 have changed my name to Teena Kishore.

040602403-7

I, SH GANGA SINGH BHIST, RESIDENT OF VILL-BOUNLIM, PO-JAMOLI, DIST-ALMORA, UTTARAKHAND-263667, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SH GANGA SINGH BHIST TO SH GANGA SINGH BHIST/VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED.10-FEB-2022, AT NEW-DELHI.

040602408-8

I, Rajshankar Pandey, S/O SH. RAMESH CHANDRA PANDEY, R/O ROOM. NO.681 SNOCS Mess, AFND, Race-course, NEW DELHI-110003, have changed my name from Rajshankar Pandey to Raj Shekhar Pandey vide affidavit dated-10-2-2022.

040602387-1

I, Kavita Rani Gupta W/O Amit Gupta R/O J-14, First-Floor, Jangpura Delhi-110014, have changed my name to Kavita Gupta Permanently.

040602364-2

I, Bajrang Tiwari S/O Girish Chandra Tiwari R/O H-74 Street no-6 Shastri Park, North East Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Bajrang Tiwari

0406027477-1

I, Anuradha Chandel W/O Mahinder Pal R/O 471-472 Main Bazar Sabzimandi Malkaganj Delhi have changed my name to Anuradha.

040602387-1

I, Anju Bala w/o Bharat Bhushan, R/O D-169, Krishna Park, Devli Road, Kharipur, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Bharti Arora, permanently

040602403-5

I, Lalit Kumar Chhabra S/O Late K.L. Chhabra R/O A-23, Sector-52, Noida (U.P) have changed my name to Lalit Chhabra for all purposes.

I, Kanta w/o Jagbir Singh Dahiya, R/O Qtr no.32, Police Station Ashok-Vihar Phase 1 Ashok-Vihar Delhi-52, have changed my name to Kanta Dahiya, for all purposes.

040602397-6

I, Ishar Dass S/O Ram Rakha, R/O 12A Navsena Apartment, West Enclave, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034, have change my name to ISHWAR DASS, for all future Purposes.

040602397-3

I, Hitendra Kumar S/o Satpal Singh, R/O Flat.No-TF-2, H-2/147, Mahavir Enclave Bengali-Colony Palam-Village Delhi have changed my name to Hitendra Kumar Kadam.

I, GARIMA SINGH W/O JITENDER SINGH, R/O 10/7 3RD FLOOR SARVAPRIYA VIHAR SOUTH DELHI-110016 have changed my name GARIMA to GARIMA SINGH for all future purposes.

040602326-1

I, Bikram Singh S/O-Fateh Singh R/O-A1003, Spring Valley Apartments, Plot No.3-C, Sector-11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 have changed my name to Bikram Singh Gusan for all purposes.

040602327-1

I, Bhupender Prasad, S/O Shri. Dwarika Prasad, R/O-1253-c gali.no.3-c B-block baba-colony burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Bhupender prasad uniyal, for all purposes.

040602397-5

I, BHUSHAN MEHDIRATTA, W/O KAILASH MENDIRATTA, H.NO.7/19 GROUND-FLOOR OLD RAJINDER-NAGAR DELHI-110060, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BHUSHAN MENDIRATTA.

040602408-1

I, Atul Anand S/o Shri Shiv Nath Roy R/O House No.109/1, First Floor, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi-110049 have changed my minor daughter's name from Valbhavie aged 13 years to Valbhavie Anand for all purposes.

040602387-10

I, Ashok Aggarwal S/O-Manohar Agarwal R/O-860, Kedar Building, Clock-Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes.

040602324-1

I, Aishwarya Jhamb D/o Sh. Rajeev Jhamb R/O-34/20, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060, have changed name from Aishwarya Jhamb to Riya Jhamb for all purposes.

040602387-9

I, ANITA AHLAWAT, SPOUSE OF, RAKESH KUMAR AHLAWAT, R/O-V&PO-DIGHAL TEH-BERI, DISTT-JHARJAR STATE-HARYANA-124107, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM ANITA AHLAWAT TO ANITA, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED, 10-FEB-2022.

040602408-7

I, Shaileendra Prasad Karnia S/O Digambar Mallik R/O D-5, Engineers Park, Sector-Omega-1, Greater Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh-201308, have changed my minor Son's name from Anshuman aged 17 years to Anshuman Karnia forever.

040602387-9

I, ANITA AHLAWAT, SPOUSE OF, RAKESH KUMAR AHLAWAT, R/O-V&PO-DIGHAL TEH-BERI, DISTT-JHARJAR STATE-HARYANA-124107, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM ANITA AHLAWAT TO ANITA, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED, 10-FEB-2022.

I, Shailendra Prasad Karnia S/O Digambar Mallik R/O D-5, Engineers Park, Sector-Omega-1, Greater Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh-201308, have changed my minor Son's name from Anshuman aged 17 years to Anshuman Karnia forever.

040602375-1

I, Neelam Rani W/o Vinod Bhatia R/O-B-4/4 First-Floor, Paschim Vihar Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Neelam Bhatia Permanently

040602364-1

I, Manjot Singh S/O Inderjeet Singh born on 15 September 2000 residing at Site No-7 House no-10 New Rajender Nagar New Delhi-110060, have changed my name to Manjot Singh Sachdeva vide affidavit dated 10 February 2022 at New Delhi

040602364-1

I, Kushal Pal Singh Yadav, R/O: G-202, First Floor, Pushkar Enclave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-63 Have Changed My Minor Son's Name from Advaita Yadav to Advait Yadav.

04060272542-1

I, Jagdish Kumar था। अब बदल कर मैंने अपना नाम Jagdish Kumar Saini S/O Zandu Ram Saini R/O L-31/6, Saurabh Vihar, Jaitpur, Badarpur, New Delhi-110044 कर लिया है।

040602364-2

I, Rajshankar Pandey, S/O SH. RAMESH CHANDRA PANDEY, R/O ROOM. NO.681 SNOCS Mess, AFND, Race-course, NEW DELHI-110003, have changed my name from Rajshankar Pandey to Raj Shekhar Pandey vide affidavit dated-10-2-2022.

040602387-1

040602364-2

LOST & FOUND

Lost Original Documents i.e. Demand-Letter, of DDA Flat.No.78-A, Janta-Flats, Rampura, Delhi-110035, favouring Mukesh Kumar Gupta, S/o late Sh. Ram Kumar Gupta FIR, Lodge Vide-LR.No.114558/2022. Founder-inform at above address or Mobile-No.9729875374

040602364-3

THE General Public is hereby informed that the Public Notice No. 110062 was issued on 07/02/2022 regarding the property of Late Sh. Manoj Kumar Singh R/o 57, Madangiri Village, South Delhi-110062 have changed my name to ISHWAR DASS, for all future Purposes.

I, HITENDRA KUMAR S/O SATPAL SINGH, R/O Flat.No-TF-2, H-2/147, Mahavir Enclave Bengali-Colony Palam-Village Delhi have changed my name to Hitendra Kumar Kadam.

I, GARIMA SINGH W/O JITENDER SINGH, R/O 10/7 3RD FLOOR SARVAPRIYA VIHAR SOUTH DELHI-110016 have changed my name GARIMA to GARIMA SINGH for all future purposes.

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I, Bhupender Prasad, S/O Shri. Dwarika Prasad, R/O-1253-c gali.no.3-c B-block baba-colony burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Bhupender prasad uniyal, for all purposes.

040602397-5

I, BHUSHAN MEHDIRATTA, W/O KAILASH MENDIRATTA, H.NO.7/19 GROUND-FLOOR OLD RAJINDER-NAGAR DELHI-110060, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BHUSHAN MENDIRATTA.

040602408-1

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I, Ashok Aggarwal S/O-Manohar Agarwal R/O-860, Kedar Building, Clock-Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes.

040602324-1

I, Aishwarya Jhamb D/o Sh. Rajeev Jhamb R/O-34/20, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060, have changed name from Aishwarya Jhamb to Riya Jhamb for all purposes.

040602387-9

I, ANITA AHLAWAT, SPOUSE OF, RAKESH KUMAR AHLAWAT, R/O-V&PO-DIGHAL TEH-BERI, DISTT-JHARJAR STATE-HARYANA-124107, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM ANITA AHLAWAT TO ANITA, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED, 10-FEB-2022.

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I, Shailendra Prasad Karnia S/O Digambar Mallik R/O D-5, Engineers Park, Sector-Omega-1, Greater Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh-201308, have changed my minor Son's name from Anshuman aged 17 years to Anshuman Karnia forever.

040602375-1

I, Neelam Rani W/o Vinod Bhatia R/O-B-4/4 First-Floor, Paschim Vihar Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Neelam Bhatia Permanently

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I, Kushal Pal Singh Yadav, R/O: G-202, First Floor, Pushkar Enclave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-63 Have Changed My Minor Son's Name from Advaita Yadav to Advait Yadav.

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I, Jagdish Kumar था। अब बदल कर मैंने अपना नाम Jagdish Kumar Saini S/O Zandu Ram Saini R/O L-31/6, Saurabh Vihar, Jaitpur, Badarpur, New Delhi-110044 कर लिया है।

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040602387-1

I, Kavita Rani Gupta W/O Amit Gupta R/O J-14, First-Floor, Jangpura Delhi-110014, have changed my name to Kavita Gupta Permanently.

040602364-2

I, Bajrang Tiwari S/O Girish Chandra Tiwari R/O H-74 Street no-6 Shastri Park, North East Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Bajrang Tiwari

0406027477-1

I, Anuradha Chandel W/O Mahinder Pal R/O 471-472 Main Bazar Sabzimandi Malkaganj Delhi have changed my name to Anuradha.

040602387-1

I, Anju Bala w/o Bharat Bhushan, R/O D-169, Krishna Park, Devli Road, Kharipur, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Bharti Arora, permanently

040602403-5

FACT THE FERTILISERS AND CHEMICALS TRAVANCORE LIMITED (A Government of India Enterprise) Regd. Office: Floor CORPORATE MATERIALS, FACT PD, ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, UDYOGMANGAL-683501, KOCHI, KERALA. NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS. Online competitive two bid tenders are invited for the following works...

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE. Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, DEMU-Shed Shakurbasti for and on behalf of President of India, invites E-Tender for the under noted work.

SEARCH FOR MISSING. General public is hereby informed that one male namely Anand Singh Rawat, S/o Sh. Chandan Singh Rawat, R/o: H.No. 756/757, Guru Ram Das Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-92, Age: 50 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Hair: Small Black, wearing Brown Jacket, Black Jeans, Black Cap and Purple colour Sports Shoes in feet, has been missing from his house since 24.01.2022.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION. General public is hereby informed that an unidentified deadbody of female Age : About 30-35 years, Height : 5', Face: Round, Build : Medium, Complexion : Wheatish, wearing red colour kurta, multicolour design woollen jacket and red colour salwar, was found dead on 09.02.2022 in train accident at Platform No. 3 towards East direction, 25 meter away from Electric Pole No. 1061, between Army Compound Wall and pump house.

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division, Deoghar e-Procurement Tender Notice. Tender Reference No. :- WRD/Irr. Div., Deoghar/SBD-IFB-02/2021-22 Dt :-10.02.2022

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड मुंगेली जिला-मुंगेली (छ.ग.) इमेल: e-cumun-phc-cg@nic 'ट्रिजिट हॉस्टल, जेल रोड मुंगेली फोन-07755-264172 205475 ई-प्रोक्विमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ऑनलाइन निविदा प्रणाली में प्रतिबद्ध रूप में अनुबंध हेतु नीचे उल्लि

HC suspends TTFI executive panel after Manika's plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

THE DELHI HIGH COURT on Friday suspended the Executive Committee of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) and decided to appoint an administrator for discharging its functions, after perusing the report of a three-member panel constituted by it last year to look into the allegations made by top paddler Manika Batra. Justice Rekha Palli said that the court's faith in the sports body was shaken and that its conduct prima facie appeared to be blameworthy as per the committee report in which it has been opined that TTFI was, in fact, safeguarding the interests of its officials instead of promoting the players.

"The executive committee of the TTFI will no longer be allowed to take any decision or interfere with the manner in which the Administrator will decide to discharge duties assigned to it under the Code," said the court. It also said that there was no explanation forthcoming as to why Soumyadeep Roy was appointed national coach when he is running his personal academy, and said the committee has termed it a conflict of interest.

"The report also shows that the committee also observed that respondent no. 3 even after being appointed the national coach by respondent no. 1 was continuing to run his academy. In these circumstances, this court has left with no option but to appoint an administrator," it said. On September 23, the court on Batra's petition had stayed the TTFI's rules mandating compulsory attendance of players at the national coaching camp for selection for international events.

It had also recorded the Centre's statement that it would initiate an independent inquiry into Batra's complaint against the management of TTFI, particularly the conduct of national coach Roy - whom she accused of repeatedly asking her to lose an Olympic qualifying match in March in favour of one of the trainees at his private academy.

The court, however, also said that since there are a number of tournaments scheduled in the coming months, the members of the executive committee are expected to render assistance to the administrator as and when required. The name of the administrator, most likely a former judge, and other persons to be appointed with him/her will be announced by the court later. The court also said that if an inquiry is not directed to be conducted into the affairs of TTFI and the administrator is not appointed to run the federation after suspending the executive body, the court will be failing in its duty not only towards the sports persons of this country but also towards the general public itself.

India's moment in the snow

Gulmarg's Arif Khan has had to overcome several setbacks and constraints to realise Olympic dream

SHASHANK NAIR  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 11

INDIA'S SOLE ATHLETE AT the Beijing Olympics hails from Kashmir. Arif Khan took up winter sports after being encouraged by his father, who owns a ski shop and was taught everything there is about the Himalayas by Colonel Narendra Kumar - one of the first Indians to scale the Siachen Glacier and a team member of Operation Meghdoot to seize control of the Siachen Glacier in 1984.

"If you're an athlete, this should be your dream," said Gulmarg's Arif in an Instagram post while standing in front of the Olympic rings at the Yanqing National Alpine Ski Centre, 90 kms northwest of Beijing. He is India's lone entrant to the 2022 Winter Olympics and made history when he became the first Indian man to qualify for two events - slalom and giant slalom - in a single Winter Olympics.

Qualifying for his first Olympics took place on the slopes of Dubai's artificial snow. It was further followed by a quota spot in men's giant slalom, earned in Kolasin, Montenegro.

This dream of Arif's was set in motion way before he was even born. In the 1980s, Colonel Kumar and his family set up Mercury Himalayan Explorations. For 36 years, Yasin Khan worked with India's premier mountaineering family, setting up a tourism industry in Gulmarg. He was part of the business when Colonel Kumar's daughter Shailaja participated in the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics for India in the slalom event.

Six years after he saw his employer's daughter become the first Indian woman to participate in the Winter Olympics, Yasin set up his own shop in Gulmarg, across a slope that received fresh snowfall. And then his son prompted him to dream.

"I still remember the day I entered Gulmarg for the first time. There was so much snow when we were walking through those gullies towards my father's ski shop. The next day he stood beside me and helped me put on the boots, tighten the bindings and get onto the skis," remembers Arif.

It took the senior Khan four days to be convinced that he might have just seen another Olympian-in-the-making. It wasn't just the fish-to-water nature of his son's first snow experience, but the lack of fear he showed while skiing downhill. It was almost as if he was born to do this.

"Darpok nahi tha (he wasn't scared)," his father sums up.

That statement would ring true as a young Arif began to travel outside India even as he hit teenage years. The family's



Indian skier Arif Khan along with team coach Ludar Thakur. Instagram/Arifkhanski

business - Kashmir Alpine Ski Shop at Highlands Park - made enough to dedicate a major chunk of earnings to send him for competitions across the world. Turkey, Spain, Iran - wherever there was an icy slope, a young Kashmiri teenager, all alone in that part of the world, would be present.

But money soon became a factor in Arif's development. He was well aware of pioneers like Shiva Kesavan, who was always in fund-raising mode, with no real government support for the Winter Olympians. Years of being in the wilderness, and slowly clawing his way into the contention in a sport that barely made an impression on the rest of the country, would have made someone less determined give up. But the family business kept Arif afloat. Friends and well-wishers kept chipping in over the years.

Controversy & setback

It wasn't until 2017 that Arif had his first real sniff of a hope of making it to the Olympics. The Pyeongchang Games were

It wasn't until 2017 that Arif had his first real sniff of a hope of making it to the Olympics. The Pyeongchang Games were finally meant to be his debut on the biggest stage. But the lean business years of 2016-18 had hit the family hard. Coupled with that, a controversy erupted in the Indian winter sports community when news leaked that Arif had visited Pakistan.

finally meant to be his debut on the biggest stage. But the lean business years of 2016-18 had hit the family hard. Coupled with that, a controversy erupted in the Indian winter sports community when news leaked that Arif had visited Pakistan.

"He was the South Asian champion at the time. Invites for the event in Pakistan had been sent to the best skiers in the world. The ski federation president gave him permission to go as well. He was called an anti-Indian," said Arif's father.

Arif was supposed to take part in five different events in an attempt to qualify shortly after. But the turbulent period had taken its toll and he failed in his attempts to enter his first Olympics. "I missed out on the funding for the Olympics by Rs 1.5 lakh," chuckled the former Army School alumni over phone when recalling the setback.

With Pyeongchang in the rear-view mirror, Arif decided to double up on his training as well as his funding sources. But a couple of years later, Covid struck. Business in the Kashmir Valley, already bottlenecked, was suddenly a trickle.

"Tourism is always dependent on the situation in Kashmir. If there is a good situation, tourism is good. A huge number of people come in for winter sport activities. But if the situation in the valley is different, hardly anyone comes," Arif told *The Indian Express*. But then the first wave subsided and Indians started to flock in record numbers to Gulmarg. Difficulty in going abroad was what did the trick, said Arif.

"Covid actually brought business back to us because there was nowhere else to go. Europe was closed for Indian tourists and the only destination that was open was Kashmir. Almost 50 percent more people came during this period for tourism. It was one of the best years we have ever had in Kashmir."

The sudden rise in business, coupled with Arif having to sit out the 2020 season because of the virus, brought about a bump in his wallet unlike previous years. A European training stint followed and then a chance encounter in Gulmarg turned everything on its head.

A member of the Jindal family was skiing in Gulmarg and a successful meeting between father, son and corporate funding took place. Today, 40 percent of Arif's training expenses are taken care of by JSW. The rest come from his inclusion in Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) as well as the Jammu and Kashmir government's coffers. "We tried to make the story of someone from India being a part of the Winter Olympics as the main attraction," said Arif. He succeeded in doing so, even though it took over 120 international events, disappointments galore - even a wedding postponement. Early morning on Sunday, that success gets its moment in the snow.

Watch Arif Khan's Giant Slalom event on February 13, Sunday on Olympics.com (Run 1 - 7:45 AM IST, Run 2 - 11:15 AM IST).

Doping hearing to decide Russian skater's Olympic fate

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BEIJING, FEBRUARY 11

RUSSIAN FIGURE SKATER KAMILA Valieva's right to compete in the women's event at the Beijing Olympics will be decided at an urgent hearing at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Both the World Anti-Doping Agency and the International Testing Agency ? on behalf of the IOC -- said Friday they would fight the decision by Russia's anti-doping agency to allow the 15-year-old Valieva to skate. The Russian agency provisionally banned Valieva Tuesday because she failed a doping test in December. After an appeal, the agency lifted the ban Wednesday.

Valieva is the heavy favorite in her event, which begins Tuesday. She set world record scores this season and landed the first quad jump by a woman at an Olympics as the Russian Olympic Committee won the team event. The ROC said it will fight to keep that gold medal, and Valieva has passionate support from the Kremlin. The ITA confirmed reports that Valieva tested positive for the banned substance trimetazidine at the Russian national championships in St. Petersburg six weeks ago.

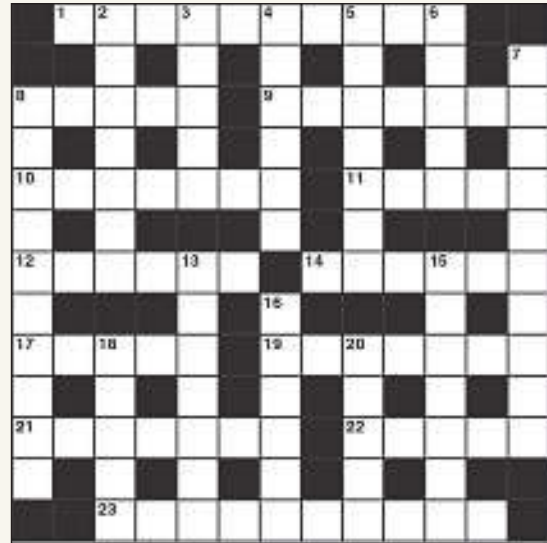
The positive test was flagged by a laboratory in Sweden only on Tuesday ? the day after Valieva helped the Russians win the team event and just hours before the medal ceremony, which was then postponed. Whether the Russians will lose that gold medal will be decided later.

An AP request for comment by the Swedish lab on the delay was not immediately answered. Valieva was hit with an immediate interim ban from the Beijing Olympics by the Russian anti-doping agency known as RUSADA, which oversaw testing at the national championships. On Wednesday, a RUSADA disciplinary panel upheld her appeal and overturned the skater's interim ban.

The rushed hearing at will only consider the question of the provisional ban at these Games, said the International Testing Agency, which is prosecuting on behalf of the IOC. The ITA was formed by the IOC in 2018 in the wake of the Russian doping scandal to manage international testing and to design the anti-doping program for the Olympics. "The IOC will exercise its right to appeal and not to wait for the reasoned decision by RUSADA, because a decision is needed before the next competition the athlete is due to take part in," the testing agency said.

As a 15-year-old, Valieva has protections in the World Anti-Doping Code. Under the guidelines, she could ultimately receive just a simple reprimand.

CROSSWORD 4662



- ACROSS**  
1 Validate one's rights in such a low budget (10)  
8 Doctor, I have reduced energy (5)  
9 When there's a change of plea, men select a jury (7)  
10 Given marks for having been observant (7)  
11 So stupid I omit to include it in a peculiar expression (5)  
12 Remains holy? (6)  
14 Possibly trains for a big effort (6)  
17 City of Arabs (5)  
19 Moved, I re-echo the goodbye (7)  
21 Possibly hear out US writer (7)  
22 Units ordered to part of North Africa (5)  
23 Farmers who are also compatriots (10)
- DOWN**  
2 A lubricant made specially for locks (4,3)  
3 A keyhole affair (5)  
4 Very up-to-date conclusion in an essay (6)  
5 I'm the type to make an impression (7)  
6 Gin that is a form of bottled spirits (5)  
7 They fly some flag in trouble (10)  
8 Share out is tried but as an alternative (10)  
13 Cat is given water in French country house (7)  
15 Fix the score to suit the players (7)  
16 Give firm backing to a craze that's mystical (6)  
18 A very good bearer (5)  
20 A record number of runners in the field (5)

Solutions Crossword 4661: Across: 1 Blithe, 4 Pippin, 9 Leopard, 10 Slang, 11 Assail, 12 Element, 13 King's ransom, 18 Doleful, 20 Rebel, 22 Amigo, 23 Shallow, 24 Salads, 25 Versed. Down: 1 Ballad, 2 Irons, 3 Heading, 5 Issue, 6 Placebo, 7 Nights, 8 Added relish, 14 Ill will, 15 Narrate, 16 Ideals, 17 Flawed, 19 Flood, 21 Bells.

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.

... comes but once in a lifetime. - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (5)

EEMOT      ABLPY Y  
MMTYU      ROCHET

ANSWER: EEMOT, TUMBLE, BRYAN, HECTOR  
LUTION: EEMOT, TUMBLE, BRYAN, HECTOR

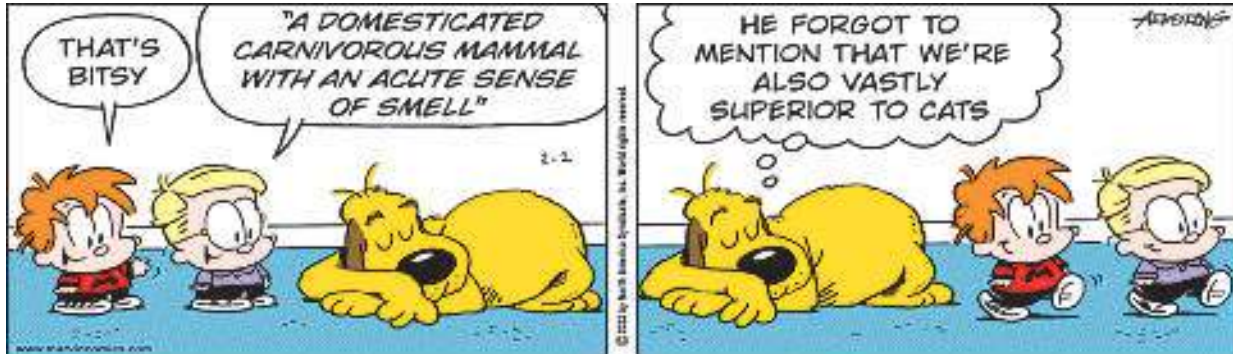
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4743

Difficulty Level 2s  
Instructions  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

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

	4	2	7					9
3							7	
			1	5	6			
	9	1			8	6		
	5		4		2			
8	3			7	1			
	1	5	2					
	4							3
2				9	4	1		

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4742

6	4	7	5	8	9	2	3	1
2	1	8	4	6	3	7	9	5
5	9	3	1	7	2	4	6	8
9	8	1	6	3	4	5	2	7
4	7	2	8	9	5	6	1	3
3	6	5	2	1	7	9	8	4
1	3	9	7	5	6	8	4	2
7	2	6	3	4	8	1	5	9
8	5	4	9	2	1	3	7	6

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Seldom have you been in such a strong position to make decisive moves. You're finding it much easier than in the past to take decisions without arousing opposition from close colleagues and associates. That's a very special skill, and one which will stand you in good stead in the future.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You're not supposed to be an intellectual, yet Mercury's relationship to radical, revolutionary, inventive Uranus has been supplying you with the best and brightest ideas in town. You have the chance to prove all your detractors and critics completely wrong.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The Moon now turns your attention back towards routine issues of survival. Over the next few weeks you must ensure that any new offers or alterations in your earnings will be to your advantage. It's all about making certain that your dreams come true.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Even those who were once so close or supportive may now be going their own ways. Don't panic: partners, colleagues and associates will be doing you a good turn if they loosen the bonds even a little. Perhaps you should have the confidence to stand on your own feet.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Shaken, but not stirred, that's what your planets are at the moment. Even unwelcome or unexpected changes will be to your advantage in the long run, such is the beneficial power to be felt from the Sun influencing the region of your chart dealing with long-term hopes and wishes.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Current planetary activity is forcing you to look outside the narrow limits of your current existence. If you wish to resuscitate long-buried ambitions, especially in the personal sphere, now is your chance. This time you can do it without worrying about other people's opposition.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Five planets in angles of your chart ruling home and work are bound to raise major issues. The question is whether the emotional satisfaction you receive from public affairs will be sufficient to take your mind off certain family or domestic frustrations.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

You have made the right moves, and now it is up to others to make the required concessions. However, if you start being unreasonable and demanding contrition from partners, events may eventually blow up in your face. Give them all the space they need to come to terms with their behaviour.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Partners now need to have their say. You must be prepared to wait a little longer before you see your plans and ideas put into practice. And do remember that, for the next four weeks, certain additional restrictions will be placed on your freedom of action.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You're not entirely in control of circumstances at the moment. One plan or proposition cannot be developed much further until others prove they are ready to play their full part. I can see that any help and assistance you require will be forthcoming just as soon as you say the word.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Being so emotional, the Moon can be an irritating influence from the Aquarian point of view. You may be reminded of a number of responsibilities that you would rather forget or push to one side. But, then, it's always uncomfortable to face the truth.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You may be feeling rather restricted or restless, but I hope that today's gentle lunar alignments will calm you down. You will realise that it is no good longing for another time or place and that it's where you are now that counts. The answers to your questions are right under your nose.



## SPRINT STAR GATLIN HANGS HIS SPIKES

U.S. sprinter Justin Gatlin has announced his retirement from athletics after a career that included an Olympic gold medal, several world titles and a pair of doping bans. Gatlin, a three-time Olympian whose bid to qualify for last year's Tokyo Games ended when he aggravated a hamstring injury during the U.S. trials, made the announcement in a social media post late on Thursday. **REUTERS**

## BRIEFLY

## Rahul, Axar ruled out of T20I series

**Mumbai:** India vice-captain KL Rahul and all-rounder Axar Patel were on Friday ruled out of the three-match T20I series against the West Indies beginning in Kolkata from February 16 due to injuries with Rituraj Gaikwad and Deepak Hooda replacing them in the squad. While Rahul has suffered a hamstring injury while fielding in the second ODI on February 9, Axar has not fully recovered from his shin injury that also forced him to miss the South Africa tour. The spinner had also recently tested positive for COVID, said BCCI. "Rahul sustained an upper left hamstring strain during fielding in the 2nd ODI on 9th February 2022 while Axar has resumed the final stage of his rehabilitation after recently recovering from Covid-19. They will now head to the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru for further management of their injury," said the BCCI in a statement.

**T20I squad:** Rohit Sharma (Captain), Ishan Kishan, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Surya Kumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Chahar, Shardul Thakur, Ravi Bishnoi, Yuzvendra Chahal, Washington Sundar, Mohd. Siraj, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Harshal Patel, Rituraj Gaikwad, Deepak Hooda.

## Australia draw first blood against Lanka

**Sydney:** Australia defeated Sri Lanka by 20 runs in its first Twenty20 match since capturing the T20 World Cup last November in the United Arab Emirates. Sri Lanka finished with 122 runs for eight wickets on Friday after Australia scored 149-9 after Sri Lanka captain Dasun Shanaka won the toss and sent the home side in to bat. Sri Lanka's required run total was adjusted under the Duckworth-Lewis system due to a short rain delay that reduced the visitors' overs to 19. Josh Hazlewood led Australia with four wickets for 12 runs in his four overs while Adam Zampa took 3-18. The teams play again on Sunday at the SCG in the second game of the five-match series.

**Brief scores:** Australia 149 for 9 (McDermott 53, Hasaranga 3-38) beat Sri Lanka 122 for 8 (Hazlewood 4-12, Zampa 3-18) by 20 runs (DLS method)

## Jota strikes twice in win over Leicester

**London:** Diogo Jota is squeezing every moment out of his understudy role in the Liverpool attack. Even with Egypt striker Mohamed Salah back available after a month away at the African Cup of Nations, Jota still started and scored both goals in a 2-0 victory over Leicester on Thursday. "We have more options now and it's good for the team," Jota said after taking his tally for the season to 17. "We have a lot of games and everyone will be important at some point." The second was scored with Salah on the field for the final 30 minutes in a win that keeps second-place Liverpool nine points behind Manchester City with a game in hand. Liverpool is also chasing titles still in the Champions League, FA Cup and League Cup. "He is really helpful for us," Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp said of Jota.

AGENCIES

## Veterans on sticky wicket

With franchises looking to build for the future in mega auction, many in their mid to late 30s with high base price may find the going tough

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 11

THE STORY goes like this... After the inaugural Indian Premier League auction in 2008, then Royal Challengers Bangalore owner Vijay Mallya got a phone call from a friend, who "congratulated" him for building "a very good Test team". RCB were in for a rude awakening in the opening game, when Brendon McCullum blasted 158 not out off 73 balls, while RCB's top order - which included Rahul Dravid, Wasim Jaffer and Jacques Kallis - fizzled.

Fourteen seasons down the line, as the stage is set for another mega auction ahead of the 15th edition of the tournament, franchises have become smarter. They have got an understanding of the T20 format and its requirements. Franchises now focus on current form and potential. They want value for money.

The auction list of 590 cricketers has 10 marquee names upfront, each having a base price of Rs 2 crore. They would open the proceedings of a two-day auction in Bengaluru on Saturday and Sunday. Six of those players - Ravichandran Ashwin, Trent Boult, Shikhar Dhawan, Faf du Plessis, Mohammed Shami and David Warner - form the OT (over thirty) brigade. Don't be surprised to see one or two of them going unsold in the first round of the auction.

"It's a two-day auction and while you go to the room with a certain plan, opportunities might arise and you have to be ready with adequate money to be part of a bidding war," said a franchise chief executive.

Take the case of Dhawan. He is 36 years of age and has been left out of India's T20I set-up. His T20 strike rate is touching 125 opening the innings and according to some franchise insiders, the left-hander is being looked at as a bargain buy rather than someone who prompts the owners to break the bank.

A similar thought process exists for 37-year-old du Plessis despite his match-winning 59-ball 86 for Chennai Super Kings in last year's final. His IPL form last term didn't lead to Cricket South Africa considering him for the T20 World Cup. He is unlikely to be a hot property at this year's auction either.

"To a certain extent, old bonding plays a part. But beyond a certain level, you cannot be looking at what I would say is our attachment. It is going to be decided on the future of the team," CSK chief executive Kasi Viswanathan told The Indian Express.

Warner, however, is likely to have many takers, notwithstanding his unavailability for the first few matches of the IPL. The Aussies will be touring Pakistan until April 5 and Cricket Australia is not releasing players on national team duty for the IPL. And yet, Warner, a captaincy material and batting x-factor, is likely to draw big bids.

As for Shreyas Iyer, some franchise insiders are expecting him to be one of the top buys at the auction.

Going to the bowlers in the marquee list, it is learnt that Shami and Boult are the first names on many teams' wish list. Shami is a fast-bowling royalty, while Boult's left-arm pace is coveted by captains and coaches. That both Pat Cummins and Kagiso Rabada would miss a good chunk of the first half of the IPL - South Africa's series against Bangladesh ends on April 11 - makes Boult, and compatriot Lockie Ferguson, an attractive proposition, as they are available for the entire duration of the tournament.



The auction list of 590 cricketers has 10 marquee names upfront, each having a base price of Rs 2 crore.

## CURIOUS CASE OF ARCHER

ENGLAND FAST bowler Jofra Archer making a late entry into the auction has raised many eyebrows. Archer hasn't played any cricket for nearly a year now and according to the England and Wales Cricket Board, is still "in the final stages" of his recovery after an elbow surgery. The 26-year-old wasn't part of the original list but got into the auction pool after 44 new players were added at franchises' request. Archer has listed himself at a base price of Rs 2 crore, but the BCCI has informed the franchises that a replacement will not be allowed if the player misses out due to his injury. Archer, listed as Player No. 171, will go under the hammer on Sunday. Grapevine has it that he must know something which other people don't.

## Timely performances

■ Ahead of the 2013 IPL, MI's talent scout John Wright spots Jasprit Bumrah during a domestic T20 game. The franchise offers him a contract and the rest is history.

■ A day before the 2018 IPL auction, Mumbai's Shivam Dube hits Baroda spinner Swapnil Singh for five consecutive sixes. At the auction, RCB rope him in for Rs 5 crore.

■ In October 2019, Mumbai teenager

Yashasvi Jaiswal becomes the youngest Indian batsman to score a double century in List A cricket, 203 against Jharkhand in the Vijay Hazare Trophy. Two months later at the IPL auction, Rajasthan Royals fork out Rs 2.4 crore for him.

■ Before the 2021 IPL auction, Shahrulkh Khan smashes 40 not out off 19 balls in a Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy game against Himachal Pradesh. At the auction, Punjab Kings bag him for Rs 5.25 crore.

Meanwhile, Ashwin, as he told IPL auctioneer Richard Madley on his YouTube show, would like to return to his old franchise CSK. This paper understands that the four-time IPL champions, too, aren't averse to bringing him back to the fold. Then again, it's an open auction and nothing can be predicted beforehand.

## PSL factors

Franchises these days work like football clubs, with their scouts keeping a close watch on different T20 leagues around the world. Little wonder then that everybody is keeping an eye on the ongoing Pakistan Super League and performances there are expected to have a serious knock-on effect at the IPL auction.

Only a few days ago, Jason Roy (base price Rs 2 crore) blazed to a 57-ball 116, including 11 fours and eight sixes, playing for Quetta Gladiators and decimating a Lahore Qalandars bowling attack that boasted Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Rashid Khan. Such im-

pect performances have traditionally been rewarded handsomely at the IPL auctions.

Just a day before the 2018 IPL auction, Mumbai all-rounder Shivam Dube had whacked Baroda spinner Swapnil Singh for five consecutive sixes in a Ranji Trophy fixture. At the auction, RCB bought him for Rs 5 crore. In 2019, the IPL auction witnessed Yashasvi Jaiswal's rags-to-riches story - a Rs 2.4-crore buy for Rajasthan Royals on the heels of his 203 off 154 balls for Mumbai in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

From that perspective, watch out for Shahrulkh Khan, who comes into the auction with a base price of Rs 40 lakh. His last-ball six against Karnataka to win the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy for Tamil Nadu is still fresh in memory. Punjab Kings released him but the 26-year-old has become a part of Indian team's white-ball set-up since. "Finishers are at a premium at the moment. Shahrulkh has fantastic potential," said a franchise official.

## The West Indies bowling was good and some individual gains were their only takeaways from this defeat.

the latter gradually grew into the game.

Pant's batting in a way defines the Orwellian 'doublethink', which simultaneously accepts responsibility and irresponsibility. He is capable of sublime as well as messy stuff. Nobody knows which Pant would turn up. On Friday, it was the former, with all his grace and wide range of shots. The left-hander gave himself time, didn't err in shot selection and made batting look easy. He was the only batsman who looked comfortable right from the beginning.

## Making it look easy

Pant charged down the track only when Fabian Allen lured him with flight. The ball went several rows back over the long-on boundary. From thereon, he was having a walk in the park. Dancing down to Kumar Roach and flat-batting a delivery from the pace bowler for four showed his audacity.

Caribbean fast bowler Alzarri Joseph did no harm to his auction prospects, through his opening spell in the second ODI against India on Wednesday. A tweet from Harbhajan Singh followed: "Kon banega crorepati in the #IPLAuction I think ALZARRI JOSEPH will be a crorepati".

## 'Keepers in demand

Wicketkeepers would be in demand, especially those who open the innings. The marquee list has de Kock, while Ishan Kishan, too, is entering the auction at a base price of Rs 2 crore and matches the South African's profile. Mumbai Indians have released both of them and are expected to go all-out for at least one of those players. Another two 'keeper-batsmen' franchises are very interested in are Nicholas Pooran and Jonny Bairstow. India's KS Bharat would carry his enhanced reputation, thanks to his pyrotechnics for RCB against Delhi Capitals last year and an excellent Vijay Hazare Trophy for Andhra where he scored two centuries.

One significant approach of this auction could be that teams go big for Indian players; batsmen, fast bowlers and spinners. It's a vast talent pool and the likes of Harshal Patel and Chetan Sakariya, for example, would benefit from this approach. Prasad Krishna, too, is fresh from his 4/12 in the second ODI against the West Indies. The Indian spinners' pool has a stellar star-cast comprising the likes of Yuzvendra Chahal, Krunal Pandya, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav and Rahul Chahar.

"Indian players are equally good, if not better. There will be no issues with their availability. Also, with the Covid situation still being fluid, investing in Indian players makes sense," said a franchise head coach.

At least four players from the India U-19 World Cup-winning team can earn lucrative contracts; batsman Yash Dhull, medium pacer Rajvardhan Hangargekar, left-arm spinner Vicky Ostwal and all-rounder Raj Bawa. The last name has excited a lot of franchises with his all-round show in the recent final against England U-19.

## Team strategies

A mega auction is where franchises build their squads from scratch. Different teams have different strategies. A very successful franchise like CSK that has thrived on retaining a core group over the years and building a family, is looking at the future.

"This auction is going to be a very difficult one, because it's a mega auction with two (new) teams coming in. It would be very difficult for any of the franchises to get back the players whom we want. Maybe, we will be looking for the future also. We have to take that into account, as a new cycle starts," Viswanathan told this paper.

RCB, meanwhile, look to build their squads around three retained players - Virat Kohli, Glenn Maxwell and Mohammed Siraj. They are hoping to get back some of their old hands. "We have got some players there (in the auction pool) we have seen develop over the years and if there's a chance to get them back at RCB and continue their development, then we will certainly look to do that," RCB's director of cricket operations Mike Hesson said in a video post by the franchise.

Delhi Capitals, on the other hand, are focusing on seven other players apart from the retained four - Rishabh Pant, Axar Patel, Prithvi Shaw and Anrich Nortje - to strike the right balance. "Now, we want to get seven players, who can give us more balance basically. That's our important goal and that's the challenge to be honest," DC assistant coach Pravin Amre said.

As regards to the two new teams, Lucknow Super Giants and Gujarat Titans, they have a blank sheet to work with. No Right to Match (RTM) card gives them a level playing field. According to sources, Lucknow are targeting an attacking spinner to bowl in tandem with Ravi Bishnoi.

## Williamson eager to recover in time for IPL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
AUCKLAND, FEBRUARY 11

NEW ZEALAND and Sunrisers Hyderabad captain Kane Williamson is hoping to be fit in time to play in this year's IPL as he spends time in rehabilitation after deciding against surgery for a long-standing elbow injury.

Although no time-frame has been set for his return to competitive cricket, the 31-year-old batter is optimistic of recovering at some point during the white-ball series against the Netherlands in March-April, which could precede the IPL slated to start end of March.

"Last (IPL) season was an example as well, where I wasn't involved initially and it was elbow-related as well. The franchise was great and supportive of it," Williamson was quoted as saying by 'ESPNCricinfo'.

"I'm optimistic that it will continue to improve. The (T20) format, in particular, is slightly more friendly to managing the load. So, we will wait and see, but it is taking steps forward, which is positive."

He said he is hoping to return to action as soon as possible.

"All the conversations, certainly with New Zealand cricket and Sunrisers who are aware of this...I've had it (elbow injury) for a long time now, so this period of time is to try and get it right," Williamson said.

"It is progressing... there's still quite a bit of time between now and then, or now and some of the Netherlands games perhaps. There's nothing definite, but I'm hopeful that I'll be back on the field as soon as possible."

## Seeking guidance

Williamson said he also spoke to the likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Steven Smith and his former IPL team-mate Manish Pandey -- who have all dealt with elbow injuries.

"(I spoke to) a number of different people with different thoughts and ways to get rid of it," he said. Williamson had come into IPL 2021 carrying an elbow injury. He returned to action for Sunrisers' fourth game last season, against Punjab Kings at Chepauk.

He then replaced David Warner as captain midway through the season after the side suffered five defeats in six games.

The elbow injury flared up in the lead-up to the T20 World Cup in the UAE. He then sat out the second Test against India in Mumbai, with Tom Latham taking over as captain in his place.

Williamson subsequently missed the home Test series against Bangladesh, and will miss the forthcoming Test series against South Africa as well. He expressed his frustration at the lengthy injury layoff but pointed out that undergoing surgery would be the "last resort".

## REPRIEVE FOR YORKSHIRE

Yorkshire cricket club can resume hosting international matches after the sport's governing body in England lifted its suspension on Friday in recognition of the club's "good progress" on addressing problems of racism and bullying. Yorkshire's Headingley Stadium will now host England's third test against New Zealand in June and a one-day international against South Africa in July. The England and Wales Cricket Board in November suspended Yorkshire from hosting international matches as punishment for the club's "wholly unacceptable" response to the racism faced by former player Azeem Rafiq. **AP**

## Collapso Series: West Indian batting fails again, India win series 3-0

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
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COLLECTIVELY, West Indies were a shambles, their batting in particular. Yet again, their top order was in give-away mode, playing with the gaiety of recreational cricket. 169 all out, chasing 266 for victory, completed a 3-0 ODI series sweep for India. Under lights at Motera, the hosts barely broke a sweat. Commentating for the host broadcaster, Ian Bishop called for setting up a High-Performance Centre in the Caribbean.

The West Indies bowling was good and some individual gains were their only take-away from this defeat. Alzarri Joseph and Odean Smith enhanced their reputations ahead of the Indian Premier League auction.

Joseph went unsold last year. In all likelihood, it would be different this time. Smith (36, 18 balls) added his batting pyrotechnics to his bowling, laying into Kuldeep Yadav and probably upsetting the chinaman bowler's auction prospects a bit. But in the context of the third ODI, which India won by 96 runs, it was just delaying the inevitable.

The hosts, too, suffered a top-order col-

lapse, but that was mostly down to the excellent Joseph (2/54), bending his back on a bouncy and a little two-paced pitch. Virat Kohli fell prey to a soft dismissal, caught down the leg-side, something that happens during a lean patch. Kohli is having an elongated one, and he had a rueful smile after getting out for a duck.

Rohit Sharma, who had started off with a rasping square cut against Kumar Roach off the first ball of the match, was Joseph's first scalp. The India captain went for a cover drive without moving his feet and inside-edged a fullish delivery on to the stumps. Kohli's wicket a couple of balls later gave Joseph a double-wicket maiden. It was the second time in the series that he dismissed Sharma and Kohli in the same over.

The returning Shikhar Dhawan departed in Smith's first over, failing to handle the extra bounce and India were 42/3 in the 10th over. KL Rahul sat out of this game owing to a niggle and Shreyas Iyer came at No. 4 after recovering from Covid. He had Rishabh Pant for company to resurrect India's innings. Both scored half-centuries, in contrasting styles, and added 110 runs for the fourth wicket. If Pant's knock was silken, Iyer's was a tad laboured. But

A 47-ball fifty was the best piece of batting on the day. It promised a lot more, but Pant misjudged the length of a Hayden Walsh delivery and was caught behind for 56.

Iyer was taking the game deep, looking set for a big one. His dismissal on 80 came against the run of play. He went inside-out and tried to clear long-off without getting to the pitch of a Walsh delivery, giving the leg-spinner his second wicket.

Deepak Chahar scored a valuable run-a-ball 38. He had singlehandedly taken India very close to victory in the third ODI in South Africa. The team management had preferred Shardul Thakur over him in the first two matches here. Given an opportunity, the swing-bowling all-rounder put in another fine performance; two wickets on top of his batting contribution.

Once India had put up 265, they were in command. West Indies had bowled more than three extra overs - 18 wides and a no-ball. The munificence of the West Indies top order made the hosts' job easy. A Mohammed Siraj nip-backer struck Shai Hope above the knee-roll. But the opener chose to walk, when a review would have overturned the on-field umpire's LBW decision as the ball was heading over the stumps.

Brandon King casually poked at a Chahar outswinger and was caught by Suryakumar Yadav at second slip. Shamarh Brooks softly sliced another Chahar delivery to Iyer at point and Darren Bravo went for an expansive drive, playing away from his body, against Prasad Krishna, when Sharma had kept a second slip. Kohli gleefully accepted the catch. At 68/4, the tourists were down. When Prasad beautifully set up Jason Holder and did him in with extra bounce, they were out.

Kuldeep returned to the fold as Yuzvendra Chahal's replacement after a seven-month surgery-forced hiatus. Sharma brought him on when there was very little pressure and the spinner accounted for Fabian Allen and Nicholas Pooran. But under the pump against Smith, he looked clueless.

A couple of dropped catches, both off Siraj's bowling, didn't go down well with the India captain. Sharma made his displeasure known.

**Brief scores:** India 265 (Shreyas 80, Pant 56, Holder 4-34) beat West Indies 169 (Odean 36, Prasad 3-27, Siraj 3-29) by 96 runs



Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant (right) resurrected the innings after India suffered a top-order collapse. **PTI**