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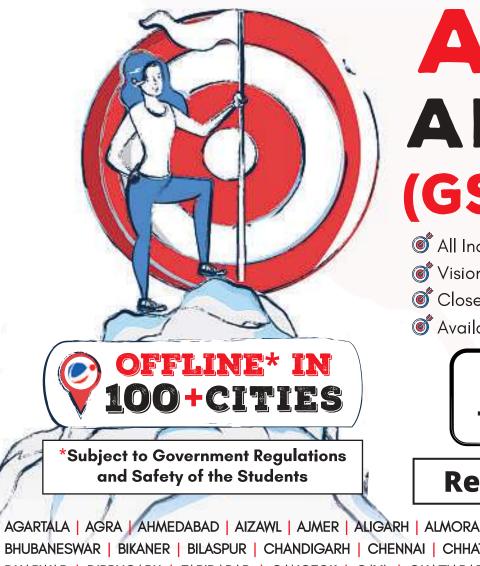
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JAIPUR GUWAHATI HYDERABAD AHMEDABAD LUCKNOW CHANDIGARH PUNE



CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I.NAYAB AHMAD.S/O.MUSTEJAB KHAN, ADD-F-37, III-FLOOR STREET.6/3,ZAKIR-NAGAR, OKHLA JAMIA-NAGAR DELHI-110025. Changed my name to NAYAB KHAN, permanently. 0040603811-9

I.Laksheta Mendiratta.D/o Sanjay Mendiratta R/o.H.No. 276/4, Marla-Modal Town Gurgaon (Haryana), have changed my name to Lakshita Mendiratta. 0040603842-6

I, JAGJIT KAUR, W/O.PRAMJIT SINGH, Address : B-23B, U/G RS Front Side, Kiran Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi -110059.Changed my name to JAGJEET KAUR, 0040603811-11 permanently.

I,HOSHIYAR YADAV/HOSHIYAR SINGH YADAV, S/O.GIAN SINGH, ADD-MCF-932, NEAR-MADRASI MANDIR, SANJAY COLONY, SECTOR-23.FARIDABAD, HARYANA,121005. Changed my name to HOSHIYAR SINGH. Permanently. 0040603811-10 I,AMANPREET SINGH SETHI S/O MANMOHAN SINGH R/O A-2,

ORIENTAL APPTS, SECTOR-9 ROHINI, DELHI-110085. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AMANPREET SINGH. 0040603833-6

I, Manorama Behera W/o Shri Sapneswar Behera R/o C34C, Sector-62. Raiat Vihar. Noida. Dist-Gautam Budh Nagar(UP) do hereby affirm and inform that I have changed my daughter's name from Ankita Behera to Ankita Priyadarshini, for all future purposes and relations. 0040603751-1

Name mentioned in my son's CBSE records is SARABJEET KAUR OBEROI, As per my documents is SARABJEET KAUR d/o DARSHAN SINGH r/o 32, 4 Block, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-15 0040603755-1

My actual/correct-name is Indu Bala instead of Indu as wrongly-mentioned in some records,wife of Lt.Col.Dharam Vir,R/o-A-2/251(Kothi), Paschim-Vihar, New-Delhi-63.

0040603782-1

I,hitherto known as Manisha, W/o Prabhoo Dayal Tiwari,R/o 699/7.Second Floor.Govindpuri Kalkaji,South-East Delhi,Delhi-110019, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Manisha Tiwari, for all purposes. 0040603811-6

I,Yuvraaj Marwaha S/o Raghubir Singh Marwah, R/o.J-6/56, Second-Floor, Rajouri-Garden, Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Yuvraaj 0040603833-5 Marwah.

I,Shabnama Altaf, D/O-Late Mohammad Altaf Dar, R/O-Kawari, .District-Kupwara.I have changed my name from Shabanama Altaf to Shabnama Altaf and in will be known as for all future Purpose Shabnama Altaf for all future purposes and records.

0020434394-1

I,SHANKUNTALA KUMARI, spouse of,VED PARKASH RAGHAV.resident of House.No. WE-80A, Mohan-Garden Rama-Park Road Uttam-Nagar, New name.from SHANKUNTALA **KUMARI to SHAKUNTALA** RAGHAV.vide-Affidavit dated-17.02.2022.at New-Delhi.

I,YESH BASAWATIA,S/O KRISHNA KUMAR BASAWATIA, R/O-1598, FIRST-FLOOR, GTB-NAGAR. DR.MUKHERJEE-NAGAR DELHI-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO YASH BASAWATIA. 0040603833-7 I hitherto Known as RESHMA

alias ALISHA KHAN W/O Mr. Asad Khan D/o Mr. Kamruddin Residing at H.No. 360/18, Flat No. A-1.Gali No.18. Jafrabad. DELHI-110053 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ALISHA KHAN. 0040603679-10

> I,Vikram Jeet Singh Shukla, S/O:Davinder Singh, Address: C344, Ground-Floor, Vikas Puri.New Delhi-110018. changed my name to Vikram Jeet Singh. 0040603833-

I,Vijaya Kumaran Parayath Kesavan Nair, S/o-Parayath Sankaran Kesavan Nair, R/o-54/UG5,Navjyoti-Appartment, Shalimar-Garden Ext-2,Pasonda,Sahibabad,Ghaziab ad-201005, have changed my name to Vijay Kumar Parayath Kesavan Nair. 0040603842-9 I.Viiav Laxmi R/o F-176. Vikaspuri, Delhi, have changed

my minor child's name, from Amon Semuel Massi to Amon Dipak Kerai. 0040603782-3 I,Sunita Kumari,D/o Krishan Chand Gupta,W/o Ranjan Gupta.R/o-3038P. 4th Floor. Sector-57.Gurugram.(Harvana) -122003, have changed my name to Sunita Gupta.

0040603842-2 I.Usha Kumari,W/o Bir Singh Chauhan R/O C-116, SF, Maharana Pratap Enclave, Pitampura. Delhi Changed Name to Usha Chauhan. 0040603842-1

I,Shahina W/o Hamza Ansari R/o-R-179, Gali No.9, Ramesh Park Laxmi Nagar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Shahina Hamza. 0040603839-9 I,Sarita Gupta.W/o-Duli Chand Gupta,R/o-2C/29,first floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh,New Delhi-110005.have changed my name Sarita to Sarita Gupta for all purposes. 0040603839-2

I,Sanjeev Kumar Sharma S/O.Mohan Lal Sharma R/O,242,Sunheri Bagh Appt Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Sanjeev Sharma. 0040603811-3 I,Sanjay Mendhiratta S/o Tej Bhan Mendhiatta, R/o.H.No. 276/4.Marla Modal Town Gurgaon,(Haryana),have changed my name to Sanjay Mendiratta. 0040603842-5

I,Sandeep S/o Wazir Singh,R/o H.No.13. Gali.No.2A.Ratan Vihar, Rajendra Park Gurgaon (Haryana), have changed my name to Sandeep Kumar. 0040603842-4

I,Sahaj Preet Singh Gungani S/o Bhupender Singh R/o,B-11, Kirti-Nagar, N.Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Sahaj Preet Singh Gugnani. 0040603839-5

I,Sagar Gupta,S/o Late.Hari Dass Gupta R/o-AU-28. Pitampura Delhi-110034,inform that my,father name Hari Dass Gupta and Hari Das Gupta are same,person. 0040603833-9 I,SAMIAH AHMAD,D/O.SHABBIR

I,Rushali Chawla,D/O-Shri Hemant Kumar Chawla.R/O-H-17/66,Sector-7,Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my father's name in my documents from Hemant Chawla to Hemant Kumar Chawla for all purposes.

> 0040603839-1 I,Rajender Kumar,S/o-Late Barhm Singh, R/o-H.No.79, Dahisra.Janti-Kalan.Sonipat. Haryana-131028, that in my service-records,my father's name.is mentioned.as Bhairav Singh, The correct, name of my father, is Barhm Singh

> 0040603839-8 I,Rahul Sachdeva,S/o Manoj Sachdeva R/o-H.No.343. 3rd.Floor, Block-B,Lok Vihar,VTC Pitampura, P.O.Saraswati-Vihar Delhi 110034, have changed my name to Rahoul Manoj Schdeva, for all purposes. 0040603782-6 I.Raghubir Singh Marwaha.S/o

Manjeet Singh Marwah, R/o J-6/56,Second-Floor, Rajouri-Garden Delhi-110027.have changed my name to Raghubir Singh Marwah. 0040603833-4

I,RUPENDER KUMAR,S/O ANIL KUMAR R/O-1488.Shakti-Khand-1, Behind Modern-Academy Schools-Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P-201012, have changed my name to RUPENDER SHARMA.

0040603811-1 I.Parminder Kaur.W/O Surinder Singh Makan R/O G-12B, Vijay-Nagar, Single Storey, Delhi-110009, Changed my name to

Mohini Makan. 0040603782-8 I.Palak Pahwa.D/o Neerai Pahwa, R/o-A-13, Friends Tower, Plot No.47, Rohini Sector-9, Delhi, Rajapur, Kalan North West Delhi-110085, have

changed my name Palek Schdeva, for all purposes 0040603782-5 I,PUSHPIT,S/O VIJAY KUMAR,R/O C-126, SECTOR-26, NOIDA,

GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR, U.P. 201301, changed my name to PUSHPIT KHATANA, permanently. 0040603782-10 I.Nishu Marwaha,W/o Raghubir

Singh Marwah, R/ o J-6/56 Second-Floor, Rajouri Garden, Delhi 110027, have changed my name to Nishu Marwah. 0040603833-3 I,Mohan Lal Yadav S/o-Ram Kumar Yadav R/o-373-A,DDA-

Flats.Vasundhara Enclave Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Mohan Kumar for all, future purposes. 0040603833-2

I,Meenakashi Arora,W/o Vipin Verma,R/o G-8/47,Near-Mother Dairy Sector-15. Rohini Delhi-110089, changed my name to Meenakshi Verma

0040603833-8 I.MOHAMMAD TANWEER AHMAD,S/O.LATE ABDUL

SUBHAN, H.NO G-24 GROUND FLOOR JOHRI FARM-NOOR NAGAR-EXTN JAMIA-NAGAR **OKHLA SOUTH-DELHI-**110025.Changed my name to TANWIR AHMAD, permanently.

I,Latha Lila Rajan Nair,W/o-Vijay Kumar Parayath Kesavan Nair, R/o-54/UG5, Navjyoti Appartment, Shalimar Garden Ext-2,Pasonda,Sahibabad, Ghaziabad-201005.have

I.BALDEV SINGH JARYAL.R/0 262. Divine Grace Omega-1.Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201308, have changed my minor daughter's name from RUCHIKA to RUCHIKA JARYAL.

0040603782-4

I,GRACE LALHMANGAI BIETE, D/O Lalmalsawm Biete.R/O 981, LIG-Flats, Hastsal, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-59, Change My Name GRACE LALHMANGAL 0040603782-7

I.FARHA W/O ARIF MANSOORI R/o-345 STREET-NO.2.MAIN ROAD ZAKIR-NAGAR OKHLA N DELHI-110025.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO FARHA MANSOORI. 0040603811-2

I,Chandrasekhar M.,S/O Ayaraghathan Mohan, R/O A 21C.Ground Floor.Sita Puri-1,Gali No-14,Dabri,Delhi-110045, Have Changed my Name to Mohan

Chandrasekhar. 0040603811-5 I, Raju Nagar S/o Rameshwar Nagar R/o Village-Lakhnawali, Suraipur Greater Noida U.P. have changed my name to Rajkumar Nagar for all future purposes. 0070774023-1

Aniali Pandey W/O Arvind Pandey R/o U/78, Plot No.15/16, DLF-3 Gurugram, Haryana, Have change my name to Anjali Pande for all purposes

0040603773-1 I, Chandra Rekha Tandon W/o Anil Tandon R/o Flat No.205. Delhi-110070, have changed my

LOST & FOUND

I, Manju Garg W/o Narinder Pal R/o B-61, Sec-26, Noida have lost my allotment letter of B-61, Sector-26, Noida-201301 purchased from Mr P Singh. Dated-24.03.1981@185/-pscm, area of plot 165.60 SQ. MTRS. Purchased by Manju Garg from P Singh who was the original allottee. 0070773988-1 I, RAJENDER KUMAR S/o Deshraj R/o 3338, Mandir Marg, Paharganj, Delhi-110055 declared that my DSIIDC Four Set Lease Deed Papers Application No.11331 M/S Regent Art Press vide Plot No-108, Pocket-H, Sector-3, DSIIDC, Bawana, Delhi-110039 has been lost. 9811266204.

0070774020-1

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



DP/1269/CD/22

THAT MY CLIENT SMT. BEENA L RAM RATAN R/O B-3/163, SUL JORTH-WEST, DELHI-110086 SEVERED ALL HER RELATIONS WITH HER SON NAMELY CALENATIONS WITH HER LSC MARRET, SULTAN PUR, SULTANEVURI LSC MARRET, SULTAN PUR, SULTANEVURI HAS DEBARRED THEM FROM INHERITM HAS DEBARRED THEM FROM INHERITM HAS DEBARRED THEM FROM INHERITM NISEELAND, WINNOVABLI MISSEHANICR, UNBECOMING ACT JAN MISSEHANICR, UNBECOMING ACT JAN MISSEHANICR, UNBECOMING ACT JAN MISSEHANICR, UNBECOMING ACT JAN REGLECTING THER DUTIES TOWARDS M CLIENT, IF ANYBODY DEALS WITH THEM IN REGLECTING THER DUTIES TOWARDS M ACTS OF ABOVE NAMED SON AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW IN ANY MANNER WARTSOEVER.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ER". Sd/- NARENDER KUMAR Adv Chamber No. 743, Western Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-11

PUBLIC NOTICE Mv Client Sh. Raj Kumar S/o Shri Janki Dass and M/o Late. Smt. Savitri Devi W/o Sh. Kanchan Kumar Both R/o 218 first floor, Chand Nagar, Delhi-110018 have disowned their son Gomzy and his wife Pushpanjali Yadav D/o Raju Yadav M/o Mamta Yadav after this public notice they will be disowned/debarred from my client moveable and immovable properties due to his misbehavior and misconduct. here shall be no right of Gomzy and hi wife Pushpanjali Yadav to claim any right on my client's property, money and house Any body with there whatsoever shall be doing so at his/her/their own risk, cost, responsibility. My client will not be respo sible in any manner whatsoever

Ravi Kumar (Advocate) Ch.376, Western Wing, Tis Hajari Court. New Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE Tit is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Raman Kumar Mehta acquired Plot No. 71, Block-C, Sector No. 8, measuring 48 sq. yrds, situated at Rohini, Delhi vide Regd. GPA dated 08.10.2010 executed by his father Mr. Samoop Singh Mehta, duly regd. as Doc. No. 6850 along with Will and now Mr. Raman Kumar Mehta is the undisputed owner of the above said property. OR Any person / fimr / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, sinter, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or othenwise cumbrance howsoever or otherwis hereby required to intimate in writin is network required within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and else treated are unived and not hidd ilso treated as waived and not bindi n our clien n our client. Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) 1.No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024

BLOCK, QUTUB VIHAR PHASE-I, QUTA PUR, SOUTH-WEST, NEW DELHI-11007 have disowned their son AKASH S/ BISHAN and his wife ARTI W/O AKASH fro unoncertainto insist wite ARTI W/O AKASH from their movable/immovable properties and hav cut off their family relations from them due to their disobedient and quarrelsome nature an my client were not / are not/ shall not be responsible for any act of AKASH and his wife ARTI in any manner. Promod Kumar Rat Advocat Eni. No. D/923/B/9 R/O.: H.No. 175, VILL. RANGPUF MAHIPALPUR NEW DELHI-11003

PUBLIC NOTICE Client, Harendra Prasad S/o Satya Narayan Prasad R/o G-18, 1st floor, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-92 debarred his daughter Akansha & her al legal heirs from his all movable & immovable propoerties. Ir future. Whosoever deals with her, deals on their on risk & responsibility.

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 73&75/2021-22/KWA/PHC/D1/TVM(RT1) Jal Jeevan Mission-2021-22-Thiruvananthapuram District-Providing Pipeline extension & FHTCs to all households in Kadinamkulam Panchayath & Augmenting of existing scheme and Providing new FHTC for Rural Households in Mangalapuram grama panchayath EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-, Tender fee : Rs. 10,000/-, Last Date for submitting Tender : 15-03-2022 03:00:pm Phone : 0471-2322303

Website www.kwa.kerala.gov.in., www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram KWA-JB-GL-6-1079-2021-22

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed lhat this boy namely Sujeet Kumar @ Golu, S/o Mukesh Sharma, R/o H.No-A 50/C KH No-235, Ground Floor, B Block Inder Enclave, Phase-I, Sukhi Nehar Kirari, Delhi. Age : 16 years, Height : 5'3" Complexion-Wheatish Face-Long, Built-Medium, Hair Black Medium, Wearing-Orange T Shirt Black colour Jeans & Black Colour Jacket and Chaopal in feet has been reported missing from his house since 25.12.2021. In this regard a FIR No. 217/22 u/s 363 IPC, dated 29.01.2022, has been lodged at P.S.

Sujeet Kumar @ Golu Prem Nagar, Delhi

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

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in	SHO
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641	P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi
Fax: 011-23011334	Ph.: 011-25489080, 9315164042,
DP/1289/RD/2022	8750870322

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ यांत्रिकी खण्ड, बलौदाबाजार (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ प्रपत्र-ए में एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से जल जीवन मिशन के एकल ग्राम नलजल प्रदाय योजनांतर्गत निर्माण कार्य की ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

निविदा सूचना	सिस्टम क्र.	विकासखण्ड	ग्राम का	अनुमानित		
क्र./दिनांक			नाम	लागत		
				(रु. लाख		
				में)		
280/18.02.2022	93143	पलारी	कुची	72.93		
281/18.02.2022	93144	पलारी	सुन्द्रावन	164.00		
282/18.02.2022	93147	पलारी	गातापार	115.63		
283/18.02.2022	93190	पलारी	मुडीयाडीह	60.96		
284/18.02.2022	93192	पलारी	गैतरा	118.86		
285/18.02.2022	93197	पलारी	नवागांव	100.62		
286/18.02.2022	93198	सिमगा	जांगडा	127.78		
287/18.02.2022	93199	सिमगा	आमाकोनी	131.28		
288/18.02.2022	93201	सिमगा	फरहदा	121.57		
289/18.02.2022	93202	सिमगा	पौंसरी	85.60		
290/18.02.2022	93203	सिमगा	झिरिया	127.67		
291/18.02.2022	93204	सिमगा	बिलाईडबरी	92.35		
292/18.02.2022	93205	सिमगा	धोधा	124.53		
293/18.02.2022	93206	सिमगा	मुडीपार	84.48		
294/18.02.2022	93209	सिमगा	नवधा	129.96		
295/18.02.2022	93210	भाटापारा	कोसमंदा	108.02		
उपरोक्त र्	नेर्माण कार्यो व	ती निविदा की र	गमान्य शर्ते	धरोहर राशि		

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों को निविदा की सामान्य शर्त, धरोहर राशि विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेबपोर्टल https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in में दिनांक 15.03.2022 तक देखी एवं निविदा डाउनेलोड की जा सकती है।

हस्ता/-कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ यांत्रिकी खण्ड बलौदाबाजार-भाटापारा (छ.ग.)

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDERNOTICE						
SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE TIME	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	SHRI VISH- WAKARMA SKILL UNIVERSITY DUDHOLA, PALWAL	SUPPLY AND INSTALLA- TION OF ADVANCE ELECTRICAL LAB (PACKAGE – B 1) + 1 OTHER WORK	18.02.2022 16.03.2022	EMD 42800/-	www.svsu.ac.in	7015961188 tenders@ svsu.ac.in
7731/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in						

68017

Ganga Block G-10, Sector-D. Pocket-6, Vasant Kunj, New

0040603788-1

changed my name to Sunita

name to Chandra Rekha I Sunita Nishad W/o Kishan

0040603771-1 chand R/o A-128, gali no.7, peer haha road om vihar phase-5 Uttam nagar, New Delhi have

PUBLIC NOTICE My client **BISHAN** S/O RAMPAL and his wi MALA W/O BISHAN, BOTH ARE R/ HOUSE NO.- KH. NO 9/7, GALI NO. 42,

Deepak Bhargava (Advocate) Delhi High Court Add: 98, Krishan Kunj, Laxm Nagar, Delhi-92 General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male

Age : About 35-40 years, Height: 80 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Build: Normal, wearing light blue colour shirt and blue colour jeans, was found dead on 16.02.2022 on footpath JLN Marg, Opp. G.B. Pant Hospital, Daryagan Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 25-A dated 16.02.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Daryagani, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification in the mortuary of MAMC Hospital, Delhi

The Time Police Algorithm of the Statistical Control of the Property Device and Poli No. 16, Strenet No. B. 1, Gord, Statistical Control of the Statistical as waived. PRAVESH KUMAR (Advocate) ess : Chamber No. 356, Saket Court, Pushp Vihar, New Delhi-17 Mobile No. 9999228185 Add

> PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public is hereby informed that my client Sh. Harbans Lal Ahuja R/o H.NO-31-A, Near Grover Nursing Home, Kundan Nagar, Laxmi Nagar Shakarpur, Delhi-110092 has severed Ubicreditenuith bicear Sh. Scabi all his relations with his son Sh. Sachin Ahuja, My above-named client has also disowned and debarred his so from all their movable and immovab from all their movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with Sh. Sachin Ahuja will do so at his own risk and responsibilities and my client will not be responsible for any act, deed, or dealing done by Sh. Sachin Ahuja. Qausar Khan (Advocate) Enrol No-D/9758/2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

is to inform the Public at large that M es Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Surpal Bikes Pv Title Holder' in possession of 'Entire Fi

PUBLIC NOTICE

Aashish A Massey S/o Shri Ajay Kumar has lost property documents My property is 806 DDA Janta Flats, GTB Enclave, Nand Nagari, Delhi-110093 in which (1) Demand Letter (2) Popssession Letter (3) Possession Slip (4) NOC (Electricity and Water Connection) For this an E.I.R. have been filed on 13.02.2022 and the FIR No. is LR No. 125173/2022

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contents. The Indiar contents. The Indiar press (P) Limited cannot be

0040603833-10

I,MOHAMMAD SHAMEEM,S/O MOHAMMAD MUSLHIM, R/o, R7-61/271 HANS-PARK WEST-SAGAR PUR, DELHI (SW) 110046,THAT MOHD.SHAMIM, S/O.MOHD MUSLIM AND MOHAMMAD SHAMEEM,S/O-MOHAMMAD MUSHLIM BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE PERSON.

0040603846-4

I,Luhar Ramilaban Kasanabahi, W/o No.6499860N Sep Ash Baria Rakesh Kumar.R/o Vill.Mahelol Po Mahelol The Godhra-Panchmahals Gujarat-389340, Have Changed My Name, From Luhar RamilaBan KasanaBahi To Baria Ramilaben Rakesh Kumar.Vide-Affidavit.Dated-17/02/2022, Before NCT-Delhi.

0040603833-11

I,KAVITA BOSE,SPOUSE OF, ARGHYA BOSE 14/202, TEJAS ENCLAVE VAYUSENA VATIKA AIR-FORCE STATION SOHNA ROAD-GURUGRAM HARYANA-122001, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM KAVITA BOSE TO KAVITA PANWAR, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT DATED-18.FEB.2022.

I,GAURAV SINHA,S/O SH. TRIBHUWAN NATH SINHA R/o.Flat-CG,Tower-12, NBCC, Kidwai-Nagar East, New Delhi-110023, have changed the name of my minor daughter SHAINA RAJ SINHA aged-12-years and she shall hereafter be known as SHAINA SINHA. 40603811-4

Alka D/o Ram Gopal R/o D-1/34, 1st Floor Palam Kunj, Palam Extension, Sector-7 Dwarka Delhi- 110075, have changed my name to Alka Goyal

0070774029-1

I,Gunjan Kawatra W/o Satnam Singh R/o C-158, Millennium Apartments, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Gunjan Walia. 0040603839-3

I, Nityanand Shukla S/o Kapildev Shukla R/o H-604, Tower-6 Floor-6, Ace City, Sector-1, Greater Noida U.P. have changed my name to Nitvanand Kapildev Shukla for all future purposes.

0070774021-1

NOOR NAGAR-EXTN JOHRI-FARM JAMIA-NAGAR, DELHI-110025.Changed my name to

SAMIA AHMAD, permanently.

I, Noor Mohmad Bhat, S/O-

Laway pora Srinagar-190017 (J&K). I belongs to general category. I have Changed my name from Noor Mohmad Bhat to Mehnoor Mohmad Bhat and will be known as Mehnoor Mohmad Bhat for all future Purposes. 0020434395-1

I. Mirtuniay Kumar S/o Dhanush Dhari Singh R/o H.N:-191, Gali No:-2, Dallupura, Delhi-110096 declare that in my son's school record my name wrongly written as Mritunjay Kumar instead of correct name Mirtuniay Kumar & my wife's name wrongly written as Sangeeta Kumari instead of correct name Anita Kumari.

0070774039-1

I, Anshul Sharma S/o Naresh Kumar R/o 7/7, Badrish Puram, Kanker Khera, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh-250001, that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Twinkle Sharma in my Passport T6613785 and Educational Documents. The actual name of my mother is 0040603846-3 0070774035-1 Rekha Rani

I,JITIN BISHNOI,S/O VIJAY KUMAR BISHNOI, R/o H-409, Parsvnath Prestige,Sector 93A.Noida.G.B.Nagar(UP), have changed my son's name, from YUVRAJ BISHNOI to YUVRAAJ BISHNOI, for all, future 0040603782-2 purposes.

I, Sunny Paul Mukkanamcherry S/o Mukkanamcherry Paily Poulose R/o House No. 2870/A, Housing Board Colony Sector-3, Ballabgarh Dist. Faridabad-121004, (Haryana) have changed my name from Sunny Paul Mukkanamcherry to Sunny Paul for all future 0070774006-1 purposes.

I.Ganpat S/o Ghewar Lal R/o-A-28, TF,M-Block, Commander Chock, Vikas-Nagar, Uttam-Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Rahul Kumar. 0040603839-6

I,Ayushi Mittal D/o-Pawan Kumar Mittal R/o G-133,Patel Nagar-III, Ghaziabad-201001, have changed my name to Aayushi Mittal. 0040603842-8

changed my name to Latha 0040603842-10 Vijay. I,Lalit Kaushik S/o,Jai Prakash

Kaushik R/o-E-21.Ramdutt-Enclave, Uttam-Nagar, N.Delhi-110059, have changed my minor son's name Ananay Kaushik to Gurdeep Kaushik

I,Km.Suneeta D/o-Shamsher Bakshi.R/o D-75 First-Floor Ram Dutt-Enclave East Uttam-Nagar Delhi-110059,have Changed my Name to Sunita Bakshi, for All, future purposes.

0040603839-4

0040603842-7

I,Km.Savitri alias Seema Devi D/o,Rajendra Prasad W/o.Sudhir Kumar R/o-H.No.655, Gali-No.13, Nehru-Nagar, Patel-Nagar, N.Delhi-08, have changed my name to Seema Devi. 0040603839-7 Seema Devi. I, Sanjeev Mishra S/o Sh.

Sridhara Mishra R/o Flat No.18/2, Gulmohar Road, Shipra Suncity, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar Mishra for all future purposes.

0040603768-1

I, Suman Tripathi W/o. Vishal Tripathi Residence, E-203 The Villas, Akashneem Marg 25, DLF-2,Nathupur, Gurgaon-122002, have changed my name Suman Satija to Suman Tripathi for all future purpose/all works. 0070774026-1

. Shobha devi W/o Kundan singh R/o Hn.44 Gali No-26, Molarband Ext New Delhi-44 have changed my name to 0070773995-Sureshi devi

I,Seema Mendiratta W/o Sanjay Mendiratta,R/oH.No.276/4, Marla-Modal Town Gurgaon,(Haryana),have changed my name to Seema.

I.ABHISHEK.S/O ANUP KUMAR SINHA.R/o T10-1101. LA RESIDENTIA, SURAJPUR ROAD, GREATER-NOIDA WEST GAUTAMBUDH-NAGAR.U.P-201306, changed my name to

0040603842-3

ABHISHEK SINHA, 0040603782-9 permanently. Rakesh Kumar Kukreja s/o Late Hira Nand Kukreja r/o 685/21A,

Faridabad have changed my name as Rakesh Kukreja for all the purposes. 0040603775-1

davp 17112/12/0043/2122

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. Daryaganj, Delhi Ph.: 011-23274683, 23279331, 08750870421

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Sanjay S/o Chander Bhan R/o Lal Qtr. N Block, Mangolpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 514/2019 U/S 392/411/34 IPC, P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Sanjay cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Sanjay have absconded (or is concealing him to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sanjay of FIR No. 514/2019 U/S 392/411/34 IPC, P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 23.03.2022.

> By Order Sh. Ajay Singh Parihar,

> > Sd/-

AIIMS, New Delhi

Metropolitan Magistrate (Nroth-West), Room No. 105, 1st Floor Rohini Courts, Delhi DP/1563/OD/2022(Court Matter)



17:30:00 The detailed tender documents may be seen at Tender/Bid No. GEM/2021/B/1775160 on www.gem.gov.in.

Stores Officer (Main Hosp.)

4	GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE *						
SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE TIME	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL	
1	MAHARISHI DAYANAND UNIVERSITY ROHTAK	PURCHASE OF EQUIP- MENT (AUTOMATED CELL COUNTER AND/OR CO2 INCUBATOR) FOR ZOOLOGY DEPARTMENT	18.02.2022 07.03.2022	8.71 LACS	www.mduro- htak.ac.in	01262393592 hod.zoology@md urohtak.ac.in	
7700/	FOR FURTHER	INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: ww	w.harvanaeprocu	rement.gov.in or	www.etenders.hrv	.nic.in	

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

and the second second						
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1	GMDA GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF CYCLE TRACK AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOOTPATH FROM IFFCO CHOWK TO SPR ON GMDA ROAD ASSET ID 3, GURUGRAM	15.02.2022 08.03.2022	23.36 LACS	https://www.gmda. gov.in	xen3infra1.gmda@ gov.in
2	GMDA GURUGRAM	MAINTENANCE OF GMDA ROADS WITH JET PATCHER FOR PATCH WORK ON VARIOUS ROADS IN SECTOR 1 TO 57, GURURAM	15.02.2022 02.03.2022	6.69 LACS	https://www.gmda. gov.in	xen3infra1.gmda@ gov.in
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in						

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA	TENDER NOTICE	÷
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1. THE PANIPAT CO-OP SUGAR MILLS LTD., PANIPAT ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANT FOR TAKING NOC FROM HWRA/CGWA + 25 OTHER 17.02.2022 25.02.2022 359.33 LACS https://etenders https://etenders hry.nic.in 9416281313 rajkumar_dhiman1110 yahoo.com	SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
	1.	CO-OP SUGAR MILLS LTD.,	CONSULTANT FOR TAKING NOC FROM HWRA/CGWA + 25			rajkumar_dhiman111@

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in 7724/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORT

Paribahan Bhawan, Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 Email: report.ctassam@gmail.com Website: www.comtransport.assam.gov.in

No. CT.RS/13/2022/767

G

e-Procurement Notice Inviting Request for Proposal

RFP No 9 of 2021-22

On behalf of the Commissionerate of Transport, Govt. of Assam, the Lead Agency on Road Safety invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from reputed and experienced firm for Procurement of Laptops and Peripherals for the Lead Agency on Road Safety, Assam.

The Detailed Bidding documents is available in the e-procurement portal www.assamtenders.gov.in from 22.02.2022 up to 12:00 hrs. of 14.03.2022. Bids are to be submitted online in the portal **www.assamtenders.gov.in** on or before 12:00 hrs. of 14.03.2022 and will be opened at 15:00 hrs. of 15.03.2022 in presence of the Bidder or his authorized representatives who would like to be present. In no case manual bids will be entertained. The RFP document is also available on the website of www.comtransport.assam.gov.in.

The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids without assigning any reason thereof. Sd/-

Head, Lead Agency on Road Safety Office of the Commissioner of Transport Paribahan Bhawan, Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati - 22

JANASANYOG /C/12451/21

New Delhi

0040603811-7 Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Bhat, R/O

DAILY FROM: AHMEDABAD, CHANDIGARH, DELHI, JAIPUR, KOLKATA, LUCKNOW, MUMBAI, NAGPUR, PUNE, VADODARA

The Indian EXPRESS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 18 PAGES

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

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HIGH COURT HEARING State assures no untoward action on hijab: Karnataka AG

'Petitioners want declaration on hijab that can bind every Muslim woman'

JOHNSON TA& **APURVA VISHWANATH** BENGALURU, NEW DELHI FEBRUARY 21

THE KARNATAKA Advocate General on Monday told the High Court that efforts have been initiated by the state to ensure that officials of its Education department do not act in an "untoward" manner with Muslim girl students while implementing the court's interim order that barred religious symbols in col-

leges where dress codes have been prescribed until the matter is decided. Advocate General Prabhuling Navadgi was reacting to a mem-

presented by orandum Mohammed Tahir, an advocate for petitioners against the hijab ban in a few government colleges in Udupi, that Muslim girls **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

ACCEPT DRESS CODE, **ABIDE BY COURT** VERDICT: SHAH PAGE 7



Incidents of stone-throwing and arson were reported during the funeral procession, in Shivamogga on Monday. PTI

Bajrang Dal worker killed in communal hotspot of Shivamogga; 2 arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE **BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 21**

A 26-YEAR-OLD Bajrang Dal an incident allegedly triggered previous enmity in Karnataka's Shivamogga, leading to arson and stone-throwing in the city during the funeral procession on Monday afternoon. Harsha Nagaraj alias Hindu Harsha alias Batte Market Harsha, an employee of a mobile service centre in Seegehatti, died



ASAD REHMAN LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 21

HITTING BACK at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for linking the bi-

terror activities, SP president

Akhilesh Yadav said Monday

that the BJP doesn't seem to



SALUTING THE SUPREME COMMANDER

During the Presidential Fleet Review, off the Visakhapatnam coast on Monday. PTI

TERMS INCLUDE: DID GOVT ACQUIRE SPYWARE? Pegasus: Panel to probe spying charges submits its report to SC

CJI-led bench to hear pleas, examine interim report tomorrow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE TECHNICAL Committee appointed by the Supreme Court to inquire into allegations of unauthorised surveillance using Pegasus software has submitted its interim report to the top court. A bench headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana will consider pending petitions along with the interim report February 23.

The SC had, on October 27, 2021, constituted a three-member technical committee comprising Dr Naveen Kumar Chaudhary, Dean of National Forensic Sciences University in

Akhilesh hits back at PM:

Cycle used by poor, BJP

will get 440 volt shock

Gandhinagar; Dr Prabaharan P, Professor at Amrita Vishwa Vidvapeetham in Kerala: and Dr Ashwin Anil Gumaste, Institute Chair Associate Professor at Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay; for conducting the

probe. It also appointed former SC judge Justice R V Raveendran, to oversee its functioning and two other experts - former IPS officer Alok Joshi and cyber security expert Dr Sundeep Oberoi -- to assist him.

Last month, The Indian Express had reported that at least two security experts, engaged by the petitioners, had deposed before the committee that there is

a presence of "strong indicators' pointing to the involvement of "the state, its intelligence and law enforcement agencies" in using the Pegasus spyware for unauthorised surveillance against individuals. The terms of reference of the

committee included:

Whether Pegasus was used on phones or other devices of citizens of India to access stored data, eavesdrop on conversations, intercept information and/or for any other purposes not explicitly stated?

Details of the victims and/or persons affected by such a spyware attack.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPRESS INVESTIGATION -After 'downgrade' last yr, MEA sent Speaker's office talk points on democracy, 'the Indian way'

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

AN **EXPRESS** RTI APPLICATION

ANISHA DUTTA NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

IN MARCH last year when USbased Freedom House and Sweden-based V-Dem Institute downgraded Indian democracy, calling out its restrictions on civil society, treatment of minorities, and crackdown on free speech, the Ministry of External Affairs hit back saying India did not "need sermons". Slamming a set of what he called "self-appointed custodians of the world," External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said, "India is not looking for their approval, is not willing to play the game they want to play.

On the ground, things were a little different.

slideshow and a talking-points

And in a move that raises Lok Sabha Secretariat which is an independent office that functions under the advice of the Lok Sabha Speaker.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 Research Division of the Ministry

IN THE DEMOCRACY DOSSIER

■ Nationalism not narrow, aggressive Broad representation deepened democracy People more confident about culture, belief Open access to foreign media, no firewalls



of External Affairs shared with

the Lok Sabha Secretariat after

the downgrade of Indian democ-

racy by global watchdog institu-

cantly, these are the

very attributes which

have come in for criti-

cism: dramatic escala-

tion of attacks on press

New India leaders less from English-speaking world, so judged harshly: MEA paper

tions

ANISHA DUTTA NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

CRITICS OF Indian democracy don't acknowledge that in India

today there is a "much broader representation of people in politics, in leadership positions, and in civil society," and these people are "much more confident about their culture, about their language, about their beliefs." They are also "less from the English-speaking world, are less con-

freedom, numerous sedition cases against protesters, and threats and legal harassment of These are among the key NGOs. 'speaking notes" in a document

The MEA's information dockets sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. reviewed by CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Choose Collagenprash to keep your

An investigation of records accessed by The Indian Express using the Right to Information Act reveal that within days, Jaishankar's Ministry was at work: preparing a detailed

list to showcase Indian democracy, "the Indian way" (see adjacent story). questions of Constitutional propriety, it also sent these to the

on 'India as a democracy' prepared by the Policy Planning and

nected to other global centres,' and this difference is "judged potically, harshly."



after he was attacked by a gang of youths that waylaid him when he stepped out of his home in the communally sensitive area on Sunday night.

the country. "We have arrested two persons in connection with the CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

"Janata mein inke khilaf 440 volt ka current chal raha hai. Isliye jinki janata ne khadhi kar di

BJP problem: As UP elections move

eastward, so do herd of stray cattle



BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

bon't nide or denide the

know that the bicycle is used by the poor, labourers and youth of CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPRESS NETWORK



LALU GETS 5-YR JAIL, **FINED Rs 60 LAKH IN** FODDER SCAM CASE **CORBEVAX GETS**

EMERGENCY USE NOD FOR 12-18 YRS **AGE GROUP PAGES 8, 12**

ADDRESSING A վիր BJP rally in Unnao Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra DECISION 2022 Modi promised a new policy to ad-

dress "chutta jaanvaron se pareshani" (stray animal trouble) after March 10, when results of the ongoing Assembly polls are out. There's a reason.

HARISH DAMODARAN FOR EK BIGHA ZAMIN BASTI, GONDA, FEBRUARY 21 To fence a bigha, a farmer needs: 100 kg of steel wire @ Rs 80-90/kg 40 RCC poles @ Rs 200-250/kg TOTAL COST: Over

Rs 16,000/bigha

As elections in UP move eastward, 'awara pashu' or stray cattle is becoming an increasingly potent issue, much to the discomfiture of the ruling BJP.

While west UP is predominantly a buffalo belt, the population of cattle - the cow and its progeny - rises as one goes east. Thus, buffalo numbers in Agra (10.67 lakh), Bulandshahr (9.72 lakh) and Aligarh (9.42 lakh), as per the Livestock Census for 2019, far exceeded that of cattle - at 2.83 lakh, 3.04 lakh and 3.11 lakh, respectively - for these **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

At 16, India's big chess hope scales first peak, beats his own hero and World No. 1

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SANDIP G

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AS WORLD champion Magnus Carlsen sat bemused, palms on his face, after realising that he was going to lose the eighth round of the Airthings Masters online rapid chess tournament. a wave of shock spread across the face of his would-be slayer R Praggnanandhaa. Wide-eyed and unable to fathom what had unrolled on the other side of the



Magnus Carlsen and R Praggnanandhaa

screen in Oslo, he covered his mouth with his hands in the

2 am silence of his home in the Chennai suburb of Padi

Praggnanandhaa was so drained by the exacting game of quick wits that all he wanted was to catch some sleep. "I just want to hit the bed," he told the International Chess Federation website with groggy eyes. It's likely that he wouldn't have gotten any sleep at all.

It was his "I can't believe it" moment, the moment that was always a part of his wildest dream. Norwegian World No 1 Carlsen, the undisputed emperor of chess, a bonafide GOAT, the marketing face of the game, was always his idol. "Beating him once is my biggest dream," he **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

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4 THE SECOND PAGE

FROM PAGE ONE

BJP problem

three districts. It's the other way round, with more cattle than buffaloes, in Gorakhpur (2.87 lakh versus 2.53 lakh), Deoria (2.88 lakh vs 1.91 lakh) and Mirzapur (5.11 lakh vs 2.88 lakh).

The effects of the cattle slaughter ban - its strict enforcement by the Yogi Adityanath-led BJP government – are clearly seen on the ground.

According to Ramchandra Tripathi, a farmer from Basevarai in Harraiva tehsil of Basti district. stray cattle were non-existent in his village five years ago. "Today, we have 50-60 saand (bulls),' says the 57-year-old who grows sugarcane on 50, wheat on 22, mustard on 18 and assorted vegetables and fodder on the rest of his 100-bigha (20 acres) holding. In a field nearby, a dozen animals

devoured the standing mustard. "They have destroyed my wheat in 3 out of 5 bigha," complains Shiv Prasad Verma, who also farms mustard on another 3 and sugarcane on 2 bigha. "Five years ago, we all chanted gau hatya band karo (stop cow slaughter) and voted for BIP both in 2017 (UP Assembly elections) and 2019 (Lok Sabha polls). But this time, we are fully behind Triyambak Nath Pathak (SP candidate from Harraiya). The only reason is awara pashu," says Sudhir Kumar Tiwari (25), who cultivates wheat on 10, cane on 5, mustard on 3 and masoor (lentil)

on 2 of his total 20 bigha. Crop damage by stray cattle wasn't a major problem in the pre-Yogi Adityanath government period, as the ban on slaughter was largely on paper. But as the number of strays -- bulls, male calves and non-milking cows let loose by farmers themselves --have multiplied over time, its political fallout could well be more in the eastern 'cow' than the

western 'buffalo' belt. For farmers, the costs are not only on account of crop loss, but also erecting barbed wire fences around fields to prevent entry of animals. "For a single one bigha (0.2 acres), 100 kg of steel wire at Rs 80-90/kg and 40 RCC poles (costing Rs 200-250/pole) are required for three rounds. That comes to over Rs 16,000," points out Jagnarayan Verma, pradhan (president) of Basevarai panchayat

But it isn't just Basti. Similar anger is palpable in neighbouring districts. "Without awara pashu, my wheat yields would be 4 quintals per bigha. But now I will be happy to even harvest 2 quintals," notes Ram Sundar Yadav, standing guard over his 4 bigha of wheat and one bigha of mustard at Durauni village in Gonda district's Colonelganj tehsil. Both he and fellow villager Pankaj Yadav, who has fenced his

16-bigha holding, claim they voted for BJP in the last two elections. This time, they are supporting SP's Yogesh Pratap Singh: "Baila hi mudda hai (bull is the only issue)".

mand Rs 2,000 from me. They also loot the government by tak-

ing money and not properly feeding the animals," says Shesh Naravan Paswan, a 10-bigha sugarcane, wheat and mustard grower from Shree Jot village of

Colonelganj. The UP government is paying Rs 30 a day for every animal housed in gaushalas. The Gau Ashray Kendra at Maijapur in Colonelganj, which was opened in August 2020, has 57 female and 45 male cattle. An average animal, even if unproductive, needs to be given about 5 kg of bhusa (wheat straw) and 1 kg of either whole flour, cattlefeed, rice polish or mustard oilcake. The delivered cost of bhusa and polish is currently around Rs 16/kg, while Rs 22 for flour, Rs 24 for cat-

tlefeed and Rs 40-42 for oilcake. "The Rs 30/day/animal provision cannot cover even the requirement of bhusa, including in the April-July period after harvesting when prices fall to Rs 7.5-8/kg," admits Ashwini Kumar Tiwari, whose wife Rekha is the pradhan of the Maijapur gram panchayat that runs the gaushala catering to 12 villages in the area. "Our monthly expenditure is over Rs 1.5 lakh. We get hardly half of it from the government and even that comes with up to six months delay." he says.

Surya Prasad Shukla, a progressive farmer and nursery owner from Maijapur, feels that the government shouldn't "waste money" on gaushalas: "They should build schools, hospitals and village roads rather than gaushalas. These cannot, in any case, handle big bulls that are the real problem. The government can give subsidy to groups of, say, 10 farmers to enable them to barricade their fields.'

Shivamogga

crime. One has been identified as Kashif and the other as Nadeem. They are locals from Shivamogga. In all, six people were involved in the murder," Shivamogga SPB M Laxmi Prasad said

A curfew has been imposed in Shivamogga for the next 24 hours, he said on Monday evening.

Although a social media post with derogatory references to Islam has been attributed as a possible motive for the murder. police sources described it as an "old issue" and said that a case had been filed against Harsha when the incident occurred in 2020.

"The motive behind the murder, according to one of the arrested accused, was a clash they had at a court around six months ago. All the persons involved in the murder have criminal records in Shivamogga," a senior officer said.

According to local police records. Harsha was involved in

and vehicles in Muslim-dominated areas, and a few twowheelers were set on fire.

> Shivamogga city has seen a few incidents of communal violence in recent years with the growing presence of pro-Hindutva groups and radical Islam outfits like Popular Front of

India. "We will send out a clear message that such incidents will be dealt with in a strong manner. There is some information that there are a couple of cases against the victim as well," Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said.

Karnataka ADGP S Murugan, who has been sent to Shivamogga to cool tensions, told reporters: "Four police teams have been constituted by the SP to investigate the case. We are in the process of arresting the main accused.'

Union Minister of State Rajeev Chandrasekhar "strongly" condemned the killing. "I pray that his soul rests in peace and urge the (state government) to investigate and ensure justice soonest. I appeal to all to remain calm and allow Govt to pursue this case." he tweeted.

Describing the victim as "a worker of our organisation", Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said: "We are confident that all suspects will be arrested soon. We have instructed the police to ensure that no untoward incident occurs in the region. I appeal to the people of Shivamogga to maintain peace...legal action will be taken

against those involved.' The murder also triggered a political war of words with senior BJP minister from Shivamogga, K S Eshwarappa, blaming the Opposition Congress for the incident while his party's state chief Nalini Kumar Kateel said the "murder occurred in the midst of the hijab controversy and is intended to disturb peace".

"A good worker of our party has been killed in Shivamogga. It has been done by Muslim goondas. The Muslim goondas were never so emboldened in Shivamogga and there should be action against such persons," Eshwarappa said.

The Congress demanded the resignation of Eshwarappa and Jnanendra, both from Shivamogga. The region is also represented in the assembly by former chief minister B S Yediyurappa. The Congress had already been demanding the resignation of Eshwarappa for "in-sulting the national flag" with his remarks about a saffron flag amid

the hijab row. On Monday, Eshwarappa claimed that "the murder has been caused by provocative statements" from state Congress chief D K Shivakumar. "Let them find the assailants and add my name also if I am involved in it."

Speaker's office

score to 67 from 71 where it was

rated as "free". It said Indians' po-

litical rights and civil liberties

have been eroding since the

Narendra Modi government took

charge 2014. It flagged "increased

pressure on human rights organ-

izations, rising intimidation of ac-

ademics and journalists, and a

spate of bigoted attacks" target-

MARCH 11:V-Dem calls India

a document file. Like the March

30 communication, the second

email is also copied to five Joint

three Director-level officers.

ing minorities.

district.

quest by The Indian Express, the MEA shared these emails but did not share the two attachments citing Section 8(c) of the RTI Act, which relates to breach of privilege of Parliament.

Official sources told The Indian Express that the MEA provided these inputs to the Lok Sabha Secretariat for reference by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla apparently to brief Heads of Missions of other countries.

Significantly, the Speaker, as per the Lok Sabha website, "is looked upon as the true guardian of the traditions of parliamentary democracy," and his weighing in on the subject, sources said, was considered by the Government.

In response to another RTI application by The Indian Express seeking information on the presentations made or proposed by the Speaker to resident Heads of Missions, the Lok Sabha Secretariat denied information citing Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act, which relates to national security. Asked why the MEA had sent these notes to the Lok Sabha Secretariat given its independent status, the spokesperson declined to comment.

Separately, the MEA and the Lok Sabha Secretariat also refused further information on appeals filed with the RTI Appellate Authority and did not respond to detailed queries about the presentations on democracy, the Constitutional propriety of sending it to the Speaker's office, and proposed briefing by the Speaker to Heads of Missions.

MEA paper

The Indian Express, include a 33slide power-point presentation on 'Indian Democracy' and a fivepage document on 'India as a democracy.' Taken together, these invoke the country's "civilisational ethos." Ironically, the presentation highlighted the structure of the Constitution where the "executive is accountable to Parliament."

"India is a deeply pluralistic society, intuitively an international society. The term 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam' - the world as a family, is deeply entrenched in Indian thinking," the document says. Describing Indian democracy as a "human institution", the MEA attempts to place its practice in the "civilisational" context tracing it to "panchayats in Ramayana" and "Shanti Parva in Mahabharata," respectively, and through the birth of different religions -Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism and Sikhism. And, eventually, to the ideas propounded by founding fathers Gandhi, Ambedkar, and Tagore.

Simultaneously, it is confident that India, given that it is the world's "largest democracy" and a "thriving economy," will influence international decision mak-

The Indian EXPRESS www.indianexpress.com



EXPRESS AUDIO

Using SRK to understand womanhood and the Indian economy

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Economist Shrayana Bhattacharya on why she spent 15 years interviewing women who are SRK fans, and what that revealed about the economy and womanhood

Have told state no untoward action on hijab: Karnataka AG

were being denied entry by authorities in several colleges.

Although the High Court's interim order of February 10 said that dress codes can be enforced only in colleges where they have been prescribed, it has been interpreted by Education and state authorities

as a general ban on wearing religious attire to colleges. "I have addressed a letter to the Chief Secretary and asked him to convene a meeting of all

concerned. I have communicated with the principal secretary of the Education department and they have assured us that nothing untoward will be

Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, Justice Krishna M Dixit and Justice Jaibunnisa M Khazi is hearing the batch of petitions against the hijab ban that led to protests on campuses across the state.

On Monday, the full bench raised the question as to whether it was necessary for the court to delve into the issue of whether the hijab is an essential religious practice and whether it would be a part of the fundamental right to freedom of religion.

"Are we required to go into all these Constitutional questions? Whether it is an essential religious practice or not, or whether it amounts to violation of Article 25, is it necessary for

dressing a rally in Lucknow, too targeted Modi over his bicycle remark: "Yesterday. I heard the Prime Minister came and said all those who ride cycles in the country are terrorists. This is a 'chhot' (attack) on all the poor

us to look into these aspects?" Chief Justice Awasthi asked the advocate general. Navadgi contended that the question of whether the hijab is a fundamental right is at the core of the pleas before the court.

'You have argued that the government order (of February 5 that specified norms for uniforms in schools and colleges) is totally innocuous and that you did not issue any direction restricting the wearing of the hijab. Your stand is that the state government has not imposed any restriction on hijab and that only the uniform prescribed by the pre-university institutions must be followed. What is your stand on whether the hijab can be allowed in the institutions or not? If institutions permit, then you do not have any objections? You have to make your stand very clear," the Chief Justice said.

"If an institution was to permit hijab or prohibit hijab, then we will take a decision as and when the situation arises," Navadgi replied.

"As a matter of principle, on whether students should be allowed to wear a dress or any apparel, which has religious symbolism, the answer is that the preamble of the Karnataka Education Act itself seeks to foster a secular outlook. The stand of the state is that religious elements should not be introduced in educational institutions," he said.

case. Navadgi argued that the status of hijab cannot be raised

published in the year 2019 about hacking of WhatsApp accounts of Indian citizens, using Pegasus. Whether any Pegasus suite of spyware was acquired by the Respondent--Union of India, or any State Government, or any

to the level of a fundamental right under Article 25 of the Constitution. "The petitioners have not placed any material to substantiate their claim for wearing hijab as a fundamental right since it is not an essential religious practice in Islam,' he said, while claiming that they had only quoted from the

Ouran to show that wearing of

by the petitioners, the advo-

cate general said they "have

sought a declaration that every

woman who follows Islam re-

ligion is required to wear the

hijab, they want a declaration,

which can bind every Muslim

but I can say with some re-

sponsibility that you (the peti-

tioners) must have shown

some circumspection and dis-

cretion when seeking a decla-

ration before a Constitutional

court binding not only peti-

tioners but everyone," Navadgi

While the state govern-

"I am nobody to criticise

woman".

argued.

Responding to arguments

hijab is a religious practice.

not come in freedom of conscience," the advocate general said, arguing that the freedom of conscience and right to religious freedom are mutual.

gious practice. Question of es-

sential religious practice does

"Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion," Navadgi said, referring to Article 25.

Over the years, the advocate general argued, the Supreme Court has evolved the "essential religious practice" test to protect only those that are seemingly essential to practice of religion under Article 25. Citing Supreme Court decisions from the 1950s, he argued that the peti-

tioners' case fails the test laid down by the court. He argued that for a religious practice to be safeguarded by Article 25, it must be established first as a religious practice, then as an es-

wearing of hijab is not obliga-

Navadgi argued.

ment has pinned the case on the test of essential religious sential religious practice, and practice, Justice Khazi asked if then whether it affects public it would also apply to freedom order, health and morality, and of conscience and not just to whether it is in conflict with religion. This crucial line of other fundamental rights. "In the case at present, pequestioning -- on whether the right to wear a hijab can be titioners have claimed the hifound outside the right to reliiab to be a fundamental right gious freedom -- is the first inwithout establishing it is an essential religious practice... If the tervention by the judge in the

"How you manifest your tory, then it is not essential," conscience amounts to reli-

nessmen etc.

and one former.

he had explained.

tory.

dered.

ent, too.

come

Big chess hope

had told this newspaper soon af-

ter becoming the second

youngest Grandmaster in the

world four years ago. "He

(Carlsen) has a solution for even

the most complicated problem,"

solution and Praggnanandhaa's

dream was finally realised. That

he's just the third Indian, after

Viswanathan Anand and P

Harikrishna, to accomplish the

rare feat of beating Carlsen un-

derlines his incredible potential.

That he toppled him in 39 moves

and with black pieces, a per-

ceived handicap in the game,

brightens the dazzle of his vic-

pushed Carlsen onto the back

foot but missed a glorious

chance to kill the game in the

middle stage. But he regained

his wits and bounced back, pil-

ing relentless pressure on

Carlsen, who cracked and blun-

Perhaps, more importantly

India has discovered a potential

successor to Anand as well as a

poster boy for the imminent

chess boom in the country -- the

Indian Chess League is set to un-

roll from June with a prize

gence is also a timely fillip for the

game's profile in the country. It

was a timely reminder of his tal-

fraternity, he was almost a for-

gotten figure after narrowly los-

ing the race against time to be-

Grandmaster in history, a record

the

Outside the close-knit chess

Praggnanandhaa's resur-

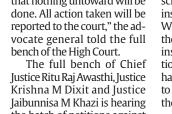
money of at least Rs 2 crore.

Aggressive from the start, he

But this time, there was no

The Indian leg of the investigation, conducted by The Wire, reported that among the potential list of targets were Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, political strategist Prashant Kishor, the

then held by Sergiy Karjakin before it was claimed by American prodigy Abhimanyu Mishra. The world often forgot that he was still a child, not even a teenager. and the expectations were often unrealistic. then Election Commissioner But the relative anonymity of Ashok Lavasa. now Information that period eased the pressure. and Technology Minister "There was no unnecessary dis-Ashwini Vaishnaw (who was traction and he could focus ennot the minister than), along tirely on his game. He was not with several other prominent obsessed with that record, but names. The list also mentioned there was too much attention on numbers of around 40 journalhim. But after that, he was cerists, including three editors of tainly more relaxed and put in a The Indian Express — two current lot of hard work," says his father Ramesh Babu



While the Yogi Adityanath government's answer to the stray cattle menace has been to help build more gaushalas (cow shelters), farmers aren't too impressed. "If I take my animal there, they will straightaway de-

CORRECTION

ON 21.02.22, PAGE 10

IN THE report, 'How car thieves led Mumbai cop to Indian Mujahideen', retired police inspector Arun Chavan was wrongly identified as Ashok Chavan.

The error is regretted.

पुलिस कमीशनरेट पंचकूला जिला पंचकृला लावारिस लाश की पहचान बारें।

निवेदन है कि दिनांक 18.02.2022 को पुलिस थाना पिंजौर पंचकूला के क्षेत्र से एक लावारिश लाश मिली है। जिसकी अभी तक कोई पहचान नहीं हो पाई है जो लाश दिनांक 18 फरवरी 2022 को सैक्टर 27/28 पैराडाईज होटल के पास पिंजौर से मिली है। जिसका हुलिया इस प्रकार से

है:- रंग सांवला, कमजोर जिस्म, मुंह पर दाढ़ी मु. उम्र करीब 50 साल, जिसने सफेद/क्रीम रंग का हुड (जाकेट) तथा नीली रंग की जिन्स पहनी हुई है। जिसकी लाश शिनाख्त हेतु 72 घंटे के लिए एडीएच कालका की मौरचरी हाउस में रखी हुई है। अगर कोई व्यक्ति इस लावारिस लाश बारे जानता हो या जानना चाहता हो तो पुलिस की निम्नलिखित नंबरों पर संपर्क करें। पुलिस कंट्रोल रूम 0172-2582100. प्रबंधक थाना पिंजौर 9729990502, मुख्य सिपाही संदीप कुमार 9416547418

multiple cases of violence, in-Shivakumar said. cluding an incident of rioting in December 2020, when merchants at a cloth market in the city were attacked by a mob of

pro-Hindutva activists following a communal flare-up.

Over five FIRs were registered in the incident with several suspects, including Harsha, being named. In 2017, Harsha was named in a case for allegedly stabbing a Muslim vouth in

Seegehatti, and in 2019 for an alleged attack on two youths in the same area "He left home on Sunday

night and did not return. He had gone out alone. We later heard that he had been stabbed,' Harsha's father Nagaraj said. On Monday, when the funeral

procession passed through the city, with a large number of pro-Hindutva activists taking part, stones were hurled at buildings

> an "electoral autocracy" citing "restrictions on multiple facets of democracy" such as civil society groups and free speech. V-Dem Institute said India registered a 23 percentage point drop on its 0-to-1 Liberal Democracy Index (LDI) scale, marking "one of the most dramatic shifts

among all countries in the world over the past 10 years". **MARCH 30:** MEA's Foreign Policy Planning division sends an email to a Joint Secretary in the Lok Sabha Secretariat attaching a power point presentation on "Indian Democracy". This is copied to seven other MEA offi-

> cials including Joint Secretary (EAMO – External Affairs Minister's Office), Joint Secretary (Parliament) and Director (FS -Foreign Secretary's Office). **AUGUST 5:** A second email from MEA to the Lok Sabha Secretariat attaches "speaking notes on – India a democracy" as

पी.आर.ओ कार्यालय पुलिस उपायुक्त, पंचकूला।

The paper talks about coun-The leader of Congress in the state legislature Siddaramaiah tering Western prejudices about India's democracy: "A large demsaid the Home minister should ocratic world exists beyond the resign on moral grounds since the murder occurred in his home West, one that gives democracy and pluralism a more universal appeal. But for that to make itself felt in the current situation, the Consider the sequence of power of ideas and strength of events based on official records beliefs need to be stronger than that include emails obtained unthe prejudices of history. Whether such convergences can der the Right to Information Act: **MARCH 3. 2021:** Freedom override entrenched frameworks House report rates India as is still an open question. India "partly free" and pulls down its holds the key to the answer."

Describing India as a polity which through the spread of democracy is leading to the discovery of roots, heritage, and traditions, the MEA paper hopes it would add "an Indian imprint onto the world - 'an Indian way'." "As a civilisational power now

making a comeback on the global stage, it will help create a different global cultural equilibrium," the paper states.

But in all of this and more, India has to demonstrate 'an Indian Way', the paper notes. .. one that delivers at home, embraces the world, contributes its fullest and expresses comfortably what its people really are. That the world has much riding on its success in doing so," it says.

Akhilesh

khatiya, unke bayan aa rahe hain ghatiya. Woh de rahe bayaan ghatiya, jinki ho gayi khatiya khadi. Batao ab cycle ke oopar aa gaye. Yeh gareebo ki cycle hai ki nahi hai? Humare mazdooron ki cycle hai ki nahi hai? Humare naujavano ki cycle hai ki nahi hai? Yeh BJP ke log jaante nahi hain yeh baat (People are angry with the BJP and want to give it a 440-volt shock. This is why those facing the ire of people are making cheap statements. Now, they have come to the bicycle. Isn't this the cycle of the poor? Don't our labourers have cycles? Don't our youth have cycles? The BJP people don't know this),' Akhilesh said at an election rally in Amethi.

Secretary (JS)-level officers and AAP leader and Delhi Chief In its response to the RTI re-Minister Arvind Kejriwal, ad-

who ride bicycles. The Prime Minister is calling all the poor 'ter-

rorists'," he said. On Sunday, Modi accused the Opposition of being soft on terror and singled out the SP, linking its election symbol, the bicycle, to those used to plant some of the bombs in the Ahmedabad blasts of 2008.

Akhilesh also campaigned for his party's candidates in Sultanpur and Rae Bareli, While Rae Bareli will vote in the fourth phase Wednesday, polling in Sultanpur and Amethi will happen in the fifth phase Sunday.

Akhilesh told the crowds: This election is for your future. The youth has waited for jobs for five years. If five more years pass, think what will happen to you. Your future will be ruined. I appeal to the youth and farmers. This is an election for taking you to happiness from distress. Then, it is also an election for saving the Constitution and democracy. The BJP has destroyed UP and that is why UP must be saved. It is UP which can show the country the way.'

He also said that the BJP supporters and leaders have already removed the party's flags because they can sense defeat. Talking a dig at UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, he said: "I have heard that Baba Bulldozer has sent his bulldozer for maintenance because he knows that the next government will be formed by Samajwadis. You must have heard speeches given by their leaders. If you hear them, you will see all of them are lying."

"Bulldozer Baba is saying that I wake up at noon. You wouldn't know, some might that Bulldozer Baba and I share a wall. He keeps an eye on me to check what time I wake up. When I got to know, I also started keeping an eye that side... I saw smoke rising at times," he said.

Pegasus

What steps/actions have been taken by the Respondent--Union of India after reports were

Central or state agency for use against the citizens of India?

■ If any governmental agency used Pegasus on citizens, under what law, rule, guideline, protocol was such deployment made?

Ruling on a batch of 12 petitions which sought an independent probe into the alleged illegal use of the spyware created by Israeli firm NSO, the bench of CII Ramana. Justices Surva Kant and Hima Kohli had said that given the "omnibus and vague denial" by the Centre, "we have no option but to accept the prima facie case made out by the Petitioners to examine the allegations made"

The Centre, while "unequivocally" denying the allegations against it, had said that the matter involved national security questions due to which it did not wish to put the details in a public affidavit. It said it would divulge the details to a committee of experts who would examine the issue and had urged the court to allow it to set up the committee.

But the SC turned down the request saying allowing this "would violate the settled judicial principle against bias, i.e., that 'justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done'."

The court also asked the committee to conduct the inquiry and submit its report "expeditiously".

On February 3, the panel had extended, until February 8, the time for people who suspected their mobile phones to be infected, to get in touch with it. In a public notice, the committee said that in response to its earlier January 2 notice calling for people submit their devices, only two people had given their devices for "taking digital images"

A global consortium of media groups had revealed in July 2021 that the spyware had been used by several governments around the world to snoop on opponents, journalists, busi-

The step into the big league, pitted in regular match-ups with seasoned pros, was not without a stutter or two. But far from being disillusioned, setbacks and near-misses toughened him. "He is always cheerful and willing to learn, especially from his mistakes. He hates losing games, but does not sulk and moves forward. These traits will ensure that he would be a top player in the future," childhood coach RB Ramesh had told this newspa-

per earlier.

Soon after, Anand, who had picked him and Iranian-French GM Alireza Firouzja as the future stars of chess, took him under his wings for the Chess Olympiad and smoothened the rough edges, the occasional tendency to make hasty moves and embrace risks. Adding caution to his aggression made him a better player -- one who could be the flag-bearer of Indian chess after Anand's days.

Carlsen was not the only elite player he scaled in the tournament. Hours before beating him. he had out-smarted Armenian GM Levon Aronian. Some time ago, he had defeated Wesley So and Michal Krasenkow, too. He has broken into the 2600 Elo pointing ceiling, a rarefied space in chess.

He is, after all, just 16. At this age, Anand was not yet a Grandmaster. But despite the number of points he may go on to pile up in his career, or whoever he would defeat in the future -- he wants to be a world champion -- he will not forget the first time he beat Carlsen, his hero and inspiration. The night he wanted to sleep, but could not.

youngest



7734/HRY

AMID RESERVATIONS FROM CBSE, CISCE No board exams for classes V, VIII this yr: Haryana CM **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** GURGAON, FEBRUARY 21

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE HARYANA government has deferred its plan to hold board examinations for classes V and VIII till next year, amidst strong reservations expressed by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Council For The Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) against the proposal. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar made the announcement on Monday.

The Indian Express has first reported on February 21 that the CBSE had conveyed its doubts over the proposal to the Ministry of Education (MoE) while the CISCE has written directly to the Haryana government disagreeing with the latter's decision.

There are nearly 1,300 CBSE schools and 26 CISCE-affiliated schools in the state. CISCE conducts the ICSE exam for Class X students and the ISC exam for Class XII students.

Khattar's announcement on Monday made no reference to the Boards' stand or the opposition voiced by schools and parents.

"In wake of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, students' studies were affected. Thus, we have decided to defer the board examinations for class V and VIII for the current session. The board examinations shall be held next year. For the current session, schools have been asked to conduct the examinations at their own level," he said.

In October 2021, the Board of School Education, Haryana (BSEH) had proposed board exams for classes V and VIII in all government and private schools in Haryana, irrespective of the education board they are affiliated to.

The move was justified on the

Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar made the announcement on Monday; (right) parents and students had staged a protest in Gurgaon on Sunday against the proposed decision to hold board exams. Express

ground that it would help monitor students' progress and to conduct a standardised assessment of the learning outcomes

The decision sparked opposition among private schools in the state affiliated to CBSE and CISCE boards. Associations of private school management also opposed this move, insisting that a school affiliated with one board cannot have affiliation with another to conduct board exams.

The state government withdrew the order last month after a few schools approached the High Court. However, on January 18, the government brought out a notification to amend the Right to Education Act and appointed SCERT in Haryana as the "Academic Authority" to conduct exams for Classes V and VIII. The SCERT, on January 28, entrusted BSEH

with the responsibility. As per the state government's order, all government and private schools were expected to register themselves with the Haryana board to conduct exams for the two classes before February 20.

Following this, school associations on

C-14012/ 1/2020-Admin.I(LD)

Government of India

Ministry of Law and Justice

Legislative Department

The Competent Authority has directed to hold inquiry under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Service (Classification, Control and

Appeal) Rules, 1965 against Ms. Tushti Chopra,

Superintendent (Legal) in the Legislative Department, Ministry

of Law and Justice. Notice issued by Inquiring Officer

be held ex-parte.

davp 24301/11/0005/2122

February 9 filed a petition in the High Court of Punjab and Haryana seeking a stay on the order. The first hearing was on February 10 and the court has reserved its decision on the matter until the next hearing on April 4.

RDS

Meanwhile, across various parts of the state, parents and students have been protesting for the last several days demanding that the state government cancel the decision.

Parents had been asserting that this would create unnecessary stress for students, who are struggling to overcome learning gaps after repeated school closures and online classes due to the pandemic for two years.

However, with Monday's development, the issue has been put on the back burner for now.

"To discuss the issue of whether to hold board examinations for these two classes, a meeting was scheduled to be held on February 25. We shall see, if the meeting is required to be held now. But, we have decided not to hold state board examinations for these two classes for the current session." Khattar said.

Sd/-**Director Of Training**

have been booked on charges of negligence.

post-graduation from a private university.

for a trip to Dehradun on February 14. They

checked into a hotel in Gurgaon on February

19. "The next morning, Satdev went to take a

shower. When he did not come out after 20-

25 minutes, we knocked on the door but

there was no answer," said Kumar in the FIR.

smoke-filled bathroom. The door was bro-

ken down and he was rushed to a hospital.

The mishap took place due to negligence of

where he was declared dead on arrival. Ved

Pal, SHO, City police station, said, "Initial

probe suggests he died from inhaling carbon monoxide gas which leaked from the geyser."

शिक्षुता प्रशिक्षण बोर्ड (दक्षिण क्षेत्र)

BOARD OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

(SOUTHERN REGION) का स्वायत्त निकाय, उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग

- Separation: of Higher Education, Government of Ind मौथी गली, सी.आई.टी. अहाता, तरमणि, चेन्नई-600 Ith Cross Street, <u>C.I.T. Campus, Taramani, Chennai-60</u>

"In connection to the Employment News Edition dated 22nd January, 2022 and

Indian Express dated 02nd February, 2022,

inviting applications for the post of Junior

Hindi Translator, it is to inform that the last

date for submission of duly filled

applications is extended till 28th February

2022 and the remaining other terms and

is Body under Ministry of Edu gher Education, Government

Police said he was rushed to a hospital,

manager and owner," he alleged.

He said they called the manager. "From the gallery, we saw him lying unconscious in

In the complaint, the victim's friend,

राष्ट्रीय औषधीय शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान गुवाहाटी National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Guwahati

conditions remain unchanged."

CORRIGENDUM FOR THE WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF RESEARCH ASSOCIATE II (GAP-133) he date of Walk-in interview for the post of Research Associate-II (GAP-133 notified vide employment notification No. NIPERG/Project/2022/Feb/1, dated (5/02/2022) has been advanced to 26th February, 2022 from earlier date of 28

February: 2022. Candidates desirous of attending the Walk-in interview (Physical/ Online) need to fill the google form available on NIPER-G website

The other terms & conditions will remain the same. For details, please visit MPER Guwahati websits: www.niperguwahati.ac.in



Man dies at hotel DU to take 2 months to prepare after 'inhaling syllabi for courses under UGCF gas' from geyser

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

DELHI UNIVERSITY, which will A 27-YEAR-OLD man was found dead in the shift to a four-year undergradubathroom of a hotel near Gurgaon's Sadar ate programme (FYUP) in 2022-Bazar. Police said a preliminary probe suggests 23. will take at least two months to decide the syllabi for various that he died after allegedly inhaling carbon courses that will be taught as part monoxide gas that leaked from a geyser in the bathroom. The hotel's manager and owner of the UG Curriculum Framework (UGCF), officials said. The UGCF Police said the man, Satdev Dhiman, was 2022 was passed by the Executive from Jandli in Ambala. He was pursuing Council on February 11 with three dissents. It had been passed in the Academic Council on February 9 Pankaj Kumar, said that six of them had left with 11 dissents.

The UGCF is an attempt to include two of the most talked-

about features of the National Education Policy (NEP) - multidisciplinarity and multiple exit points. The new draft has a total of 176 credits on offer. As per the new framework, to get a fouryear UG degree with a major in a specific discipline, students need to get a minimum of 50% credits (88) in that discipline.

Students who complete the four-year programme in more than one discipline - like what the erstwhile programme courses were – will need to earn 80 credits in a specific discipline to get an Honours degree with a major in that discipline. Students can also get a Minor in a specific

discipline by earning 28 credits. While DU has passed the overall framework, syllabi for new courses - Discipline Specific Core, Discipline Specific Elective, General Elective, Ability Enhancement Course, Skill Enhancement Course, and Value Addition Course – are yet to be formulated. "Once our convocation ends on February 26, we will set up syllabi committees for each discipline. Since it's a new system, all courses will have to be tailored accordingly. We have made many six-credit courses into four credits now, so the syllabi will have to be worked accordingly," said an official.

BONDWANA UNIVERSITY, GADCHIROLI EMPLOYMENT NOTICE NO. 42/2022

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following post(s) on the establishment of the Gondwana University, Gadchiroli.

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Scale	Number of Post	Category
01	Registrar	Rs. 1,31,100/- 2,16,600	01	Unreserved
02	Director, Knowledge Resource Center	Rs.1,44,200/- 2,18,200	01	Unreserved

For the above post(s), prescribed fees, required educational qualifications, experience and the conditions etc. is available on the University website www.unigug.ac.in under the Recruitment tab.

Application submission period will be from 22/02/2022 to 21/03/2022 upto 5.30 P.M.

Place:- Gadchiroli Date:- 21/02/2022

Registrar(I/C)

T ΤΛΤΛ **TATA STEEL LIMITED**

Registered Office: Bombay House, 24, Homi Mody Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001, India Tel.: +91 22 6665 8282 Email: cosec@tatasteel.com Website: www.tatasteel.com CIN: L27100MH1907PLC000260

POSTAL BALLOT NOTICE AND E-VOTING INFORMATION

Notice is hereby given that Tata Steel Limited ('the Company') is seeking approval of the Members of the Company by way of postal ballot through remote e-voting on the following resolution(s) being special resolution(s):

SN	Description of Special Resolution(s)
1	Appointment of Ms. Farida Khambata (DIN: 06954123) as an Independent Director of the Company
2	Appointment of Mr. David W. Crane (DIN: 09354737) as an Independent Director of the Company
3	Re-appointment of Mr. Deepak Kapoor (DIN: 00162957) as an Independent Director of the Company

The Postal Ballot Notice ('Notice') is available on the website of the Company at https://www.tatasteel.com/investors/investor-information/postal-ballot/, the website of the National Securities Depository Limited ('NSDL') at www.evoting.nsdl.com and on the website of the Stock Exchanges on which the equity shares of the Company are listed i.e. BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com

In compliance with the General Circular Nos. 14/2020 dated April 8, 2020, No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020, No. 22/2020 dated June 15, 2020, No. 33/2020 dated September 28, 2020, No. 39/2020 dated December 31, 2020, No. dated June 23, 2021 and No. 20/2021 dated December 8, 2021, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (collectively called 'MCA Circulars'), the Company has sent the postal ballot notice on February 21, 2022, only through electronic mode, to those members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/Depositories and whose names are recorded in the Register of Members of the Company or in the Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on Friday, February 11, 2022 ('Cut-off date'). Accordingly, physical copy of the Notice along with Postal Ballot Form and pre-paid business reply envelope has not been sent to the Members for this Postal Ballot.

Speed up scholarship disbursal to SC, ST kids: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21 THE DELHI Social Welfare de-

partment on Monday directed officials to remove pendencies and expedite disbursal of scholarships to students from Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and Other

Backward Castes. The direction came after a



THECITY 5

review meeting chaired by the Social Welfare Minister Raiendra Pal Gautam regarding the disbursement of scholarships to students. The meeting was also attended by the Director of SC-ST Welfare Department and other senior officials from the education and finance departments.

Gautam said, "There has been a delay in disbursement of scholarships to students from the ST/SC/OBC department. I have ordered the officers to resolve all the issues as soon as possible so that students get their scholarship at the earliest.'

The application process for the scholarships will start from the beginning of this academic year only, he added.

Missing teen's body found in bag at shop

New Delhi: A week after a 14year-old girl went missing, her decomposing body was found in a gunny bag inside a shop in Outer Delhi. Police said she was allegedly gangraped by two men who escaped after committing the crime on February 12. One of the accused has been arrested, police said on Monday.

According to police, the victim's family had filed a missing person's report on February 15. Officers said they conducted raids but couldn't locate the girl. On Saturday, they received a call from a shop owner in the locality where the girl lived, who complained of a foul smell in his store and alleged that one of his workers was missing.

DCP (Outer North) Brijendra Yadav said, "We found a body, it was that of the missing girl... One of the accused was arrested on Monday. He was trying to flee to Mumbai." ENS

Land Ports Authority of India (A Statutory body under Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)

Extension of last date for receipt of Application for Group - 'A', 'B', 'C' posts

Reference vacancy circular No. 13012/3/2020 (rectt.)/ (3511273)/ 277-93 dt. 11 January 2022 published in Newspapers regarding filling up various posts of Group - 'A', B', 'C' at its Headquarter in New Delhi and ICPs at Attari (Punjab), Agartala (Tripura), Petrapole (W.B), Raxaul (Bihar), Jogbani (Bihar), Moreh (Manipur) and Dawki (Meghalya) on deputation (Foreign Service).

- Complete information of posts, eligibility criteria, application format and other details are available on the website at http://mha.nic.in/vacancies, http://lpai.gov.in, www.ncs.gov.in
- Last date for receiving of applications has been extended from 10.02.2022 to 25.02.2022. Incomplete and applications received after last date shall not be considered.
- Address for sending applications:

Under Secretary Land Ports Authority of India First Floor Lok Nayak Bhawan Khan Market, New Delhi-110511 Tel. No. 011-24340729 Email: yashwant.kjain@lpai.gov.in

davp 19142/11/0009/2122



Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) invites sealed tenders, in two-bids for mat, from reputed and registered Aviation Companies, having a minimum flee of three airworthy light helicopters (for the Sector for which the Company is interested in bidding), endorsed on its NSOP, for flight operations in the air space of J&K, in the following two sectors:

- a. Srinagar Neelgrath Srinagar; and b. Srinagar Pahalgam Srinagar;

(Note: Purely on leave and license basis, for an initial period of the Yatra periods in two consecutive years i.e. Yatra 2022 and Yatra 2023).

- Detailed NIT (DNIT) can be obtained from the office of Director Finance, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, Chaitanya Ashram Talab Tillo, Jammu, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on any working day (Monday-Friday) from 22.02.2022 to 14.03.2022 on payment of the cost of document in cash i.e. Rs. 5,900/- (Rupees five thousand nine hundred only i.e. Rs. 5,000 + 18% GST) or in the shape of Demand Draft drawn in favour of Shri Amarnathi Shrine Board, payable at Jammu. Alternatively, the DNIT can be down-loaded from our website <u>www.shriamarnathjishrine.com</u>, in which case the cost of DNIT i.e. Rs. 5,900/- shall be deposited in the shape of a Demand Draft drawn in favour of Shri Amarnathij Shrine Board, payable at Jammu in addition to the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) at the time of submission of Tender (in the Technical Bid).
- The Tender, duly completed, along with EMD in the form of a Demand Draft drawn in favour of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, payable at Jammu, must reach latest by **1400 hours on 15.03. 2022.**
- A pre-bid conference will be held on 04.03.2022 at 11:30 AM. The prospec-tive bidders may contact the office of Additional Chief Executive Officer (on 0191-2555662) for registering themselves for the same. For further details about the Tender, please refer our DNIT, or contact on the pumper given obvice.
- the numbers given above

	No: SASB/DNIT/2022/02 Dated: 21.02. 2022	Sd Addl. Chief Executive Officer
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For details regarding Position, pay scale, qualification, age, date & venue, selectior process etc., candidates may see the detailed advertisement posted on RITES website www.rites.com under Career Section.



RECRUITMENT OF GRADE-C AND GRADE-B OFFICERS IN OIL Oil India Limited (OIL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, invites
online applications from eligible Indian Nationals, to fill up the following posts:
A. In 'Grade C' in the pay scale of ₹ 80,000 to 2,20,000:
POST
Manager (ERP-HR)
Superintending Engineer (Environment)
Superintending Medical Officer (Radiology)
Superintending Medical Officer (Paediatrics)
B. In 'Grade B' in the pay scale of ₹ 60,000 to 1,80,000:
POST
Senior Medical Officer
Senior Security Officer
Senior Officer (Civil)
Senior Officer (Electrical)
Senior Officer (Instrumentation)
Senior Officer (Mechanical)
Senior Officer (Public Affairs)
Senior Accounts Officer / Senior Internal Auditor
Senior Officer (HR)
The last date of receipt of Online Application is 23:59 Hours on
15.03.2022
For Details visit : https://oil-india.com/Current_openNew.aspx

INDIAN PORT RAIL & ROPEWAY CORPORATION LIMITED (A JV Company Under Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India) 4th Floor, Nirman Bhavan, Mumbai Port Trust Building, M.P. Road, Mazgaon (E), Mumbai-400010 Phone No.: 022-6656 6335 Fax No.: 022-6656 6336 Email: hr@iprcl.in

CIN: U60300DL2015PLC282703 ADVERTISEMENT NO: IPRCL/MUM/HR/REC.01/2022

Applications for the following Posts / Designation[#] are invited from experienced and result oriented persons:

(1) CGM(Projects) - 01 at Mumbai (2) CGM(Operations & BD) - 01 at Mumbai (3) CGM(Bridges) - 01 at Secunderabad, (4) CGM(S&T)- 01 at Mumbai (5) CGM(Projects) - 01 at Ahmedabad-NHMC/Lothal, (6) GM(Projects) - 01 at New Delhi (7) GM (Architect)/AGM(Architect)/JGM(Architect) - 01 at Ahmedabad-NHMC / Lothal (8) GM (Projects)/AGM(Projects)/JGM(Projects) - 01 at Bhubaneswar (9) AGM(Projects) - 01 at Gandhidham, (10) AGM(Electrical)/JGM(Electrical) - 01 at Mumbai, (11) JGM(Projects) – 01 at Ranchi & 01 at Chennai, (12) JGM (Planning and Corporate Co-ordination) – 01 at Mumbai, (13) JGM (Projects)/DGM(Projects)/ Sr. M(Projects) – 01 at Phusro & 01 at Piparwar/ Sanghamitra OCP **(14)** DGM (HR) -01 at Mumbai, (15) DGM(Contracts)/Sr. M(Contracts) – 01 at Vijayawada, (16) Sr. Manager (Projects) –01 at New Delhi & 01 at Bilaspur, (17) Asst. Company Secretary – 01 at Mumbai (18) Manager (P.Way) – 01 at Kolkata, 01 at Piparwar & 01 at Singrauli (19) Manager (Traffic) – 01 at Bhubaneswar. (20) PSE (Civil)-06, PSE (Electrical)-10, PSE(S&T)-03 at Any location (All India).

Revised designation approved by the Board.

For eligibility criteria and format of application etc. please visit on website www.ipa.nic.in then click for Whats New/Ports/Other Organization Advertisement / Indian Port Rail Corporation Ltd. or www.iprcl.in The last date of receiving applications in IPRCL Office is 15 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News. The application in prescribed format alongwith photograph copies of requisite certificates/documents and detailed CV may be submitted either in online mode at the link available in the HR/Vacancy caption on IPRCL website www.iprcl.in or hard copy by post or courier within due date addressed to "Addl. General Manager (HR), Indian Port Rail & Ropeway Corporation Limited, 4th Floor, Nirman Bhavan, M.P. Road, Mazgaon (East), Mumbai-400010.

The Company has engaged the services of NSDL to provide remote e-voting facility to its Members. The remote e-voting period commences on Thursday, February 24, 2022 from 9.00 a.m. (IST) and ends on Friday, March 25, 2022 at 5.00 p.m. (IST). The e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL thereafter. Voting rights of the Members shall be in proportion to the shares held by them in the paid-up equity share capital of the Company as on Cut-off date. Once vote on a resolution is cast, the Member will not be able to change it subsequently. Please note that communication of assent or dissent of the Members would only take place through the remote e-voting system. Only those Members whose names are recorded in the Register of Members of the Company or in the Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on the Cut-off date will be entitled to cast their votes by remote e-voting.

To facilitate Members to receive this Notice electronically, the Company has made arrangements with its Registrar and Transfer Agent, TSR Darashaw Consultants Private Limited ('RTA') for registration of e-mail addresses in terms of the MCA Circulars. Members who have not registered their e-mail addresses with the Company may register the same with the RTA on or before 5:00 p.m. (IST) on Friday, March 18, 2022, basis which, the NSDL will provide the Member with copy of the Notice. The procedure to register e-mail address with the RTA and the procedure for remote e-voting is provided in the Notice.

In case of any queries, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or call on toll free no.: 1800 1020 990 and 1800 22 44 30 or send a request to Mr. Amit Vishal, Vice-President, NSDL or Mr. Sanjeev Yadav, Assistant Manager, NSDL at evoting@nsdl.co.in or at NSDL, 4th Floor, 'A' Wing, Trade World, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013.

The Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Mr. P. N. Parikh (Membership No. FCS 327, CP No. 1228) or failing him, Ms. Jigyasa N. Ved (Membership No. FCS 6488, CP No. 6018) or failing her, Mr. Mitesh Dhabliwala (Membership No. FCS 8331, CP No. 9511) of Parikh & Associates, Practicing Company Secretaries, as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the postal ballot process in a fair and transparent manner.

The Scrutinizer will submit his report to the Chairman of the Company, or any other person authorized by him, on or before Tuesday, March 29, 2022. The results of the voting conducted by Postal Ballot along with the Scrutinizer's Report will be made available on the website of the Company at www.tatasteel.com and on the website of NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com and intimated to BSE Limited ('BSE') and the National Stock Exchange of the India Limited ('NSE'), where the equity shares of the Company are listed, on or before Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Additionally, the result will also be placed on the notice board at the Registered Office of the Company.







February 21, 2022

Mumbai



WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Regarding the position of

funds, the DMRC had earlier told

the court that it has Rs 1.478.39

crore fund available in the banks

under 'DMRC Funds' head,

Rs 2,668.81 crore under 'Project

Funds' – earmarked for Phase III

and IV – and Rs 1.561.30 crore

under 'other than DMRC funds'

head, which has been provided

to it by the Maharashtra and

Bihar governments for construc-

Railways Act, 2002, states that

only earnings of the metro rail-

way administration can be at-

tached by a court in execution of

a decree or order. DMRC told the

court that project funds and

money given to it by other state

governments cannot be used to

tors are aware of the legal provi-

sion, which prevents any court

from attaching its properties in

execution proceedings, when

they enter into contracts with it.

"Whosoever comes in your con-

tact is also aware that one side is

central government, other side

is state government and (thinks)

the money is safe. It is not that he

is entering in agreement with a

private person who has nothing,

and nothing can be recovered."

to the design, installation, com-

missioning, operation and main-

tenance of the line. DMRC in

2012 invoked arbitration after

DAMEPL terminated the conces-

sion agreement on the ground

that defects pointed out in con-

struction were not cured by

DMRC within the stipulated 90

days. The Supreme Court in

September upheld the 2017 ar-

bitral award favouring DAMEPL.

In 2008, DMRC had signed a contract with DAMEPL, related

The court, however, said,

DMRC argued that contrac-

pay off the debts.

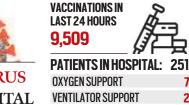
Section 89 of The Metro

tion of metro rail there.

Feb 21

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022 **6** THE CITY





	DELHI:	TOTAL		Total		Vacant	NOIDA		
	CASES		HOSPITAL BE	DS 15,2	J 9	15,047		Feb 20	
	18,56	5,517	ICU BEDS	4,46	1	4,345	Cases	62	
		Cases	Recoveries	Deaths		Tests	Deaths	0	
	Feb 20	570	730	4	5	4,614	GURGAO		
	Feb 21	360	706	4	3	8,136	Cases	193	1
1	Total *Total act	2,281* ive cases in L	18,28,131 Delhi	26,105	3,6	60,24,555	Deaths		1

TRAFFIC JAMS INCREASE AS COMMUTERS TAKE DETOUR **Barapullah bears brunt of construction** on Ashram underpass, flyover extension Infra firm's account

GAYATHRIMANI NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE BARAPULLAH elevated corridor, meant to ease congestion on the Ring Road, is facing frequent traffic jams. The reason: a rush of commuters traveling from South Delhi, Gurgaon and Central Delhi to Noida and East Delhi – who usually go via the DND flyway and Ashram switching routes to avoid traffic snarls caused by the under-construction Ashram underpass and flyover extension.

When The Indian Express drove down the corridor on Monday, it found that several other roads merge with the three-lane corridor at different points, which slows traffic down. For instance, if commuters get on to the Barapullah from INA market, they get stuck at the point where the Nizamuddin flyover merges with the corridor. Similarly, traffic is hit when the elevated corridor merges with the DND flyway.

Nearly 2.5 lakh vehicles use the Barapullah corridor, also called Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Setu, every day. More than 2 lakh vehicles a day use the

Nearly 2.5 lakh vehicles normally use the Barapullah corridor, also called Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Setu, every day. It now sees a vehicle load of nearly 4 lakh. Amit Mehra

DND flyway and Ashram flyover to reach Noida, Akshardham, Mayur Vihar and surrounding areas in East Delhi. According to a senior traffic

police officer, about 50-60% of vehicles that normally head to DND via Ashram. Sarai Kale Khan and Nizamuddin now take the

Barapullah corridor from INA and AIIMS to escape traffic jams at Ashram Chowk. "This 'diversion' has added about 1 lakh to 1.5 lakh more vehicles on the Barapullah corridor, taking the current vehicle load to nearly 4 lakh," he said. Due to this, traffic snarls are seen even during non-peak

hours

Mohammad Azhar, who travels to Noida every day from Shaheen Bagh, said: "The fastest route is the DND flyway and Mahamaya Marg via Kalindi Kunj. But due to the ongoing construction at Ashram. I take the Barapullah from INA or AI-

MS to save some time. I get stuck in traffic, but it's far worse on Ashram.' Ritika Sharma, who travels

from INA to Noida, said, "It usually takes 35 minutes to reach Noida Sector 6 via Barapullah. Now it takes an hour...' The closure of a three-lane

portion at the Kalindi Kunj flyover near the Noida border also has vehicles heading to the Barapullah stretch.

A senior traffic police officer, who looks after the Barapullah section, said: "It has become a choke point because all vehicles coming from South Delhi, Moti Bagh, Dhaula Kuan, Delhi Cantonment, Gurgaon and other areas take Barapullah to reach Noida, Sarai Kale Khan, East and Central Delhi. This corridor is a three-lane carriageway, and it gets choked when three more lanes merge with it. The Traffic Police has raised the issue with the Public Works Departments at several meetings.

The officer added, "Personnel are deployed along the stretch to ease traffic. But congestion will continue till an alternative route is created for traffic from the Ring Road.'

Traffic Police have held several

meetings with the PWD to expedite the Ashram project. "Creating an alternate lane is not easy... The PWD says work on the Ashram underpass is nearly done, but the flyover will take at least six more months. So, congestion on the Barapullah will continue till

then." said the officer. The six-lane extension of Ashram Flyover to DND is expected to be completed by September-October this year. And the 750-metre Ashram Underpass will be completed by March and is expected to be open for the public by mid-March. "98% work on the underpass is completed. The flyover will take six-seven months. The NOC was given last September, but work was delayed again due to a construction ban. Work is on as per schedule now," said a PWD official.

Barapullah Phase I was constructed during the Commonwealth Games and it was extended to INA from Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. Currently, the PWD is working on Phase III which will connect Mayur Vihar to Sarai Kale Khan. Work was delayed for years due to a land acquisition issue near Nizamuddin.

ICCR to hold 3-day Indian crafts fair

DIVYAA NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WITH AN aim to popularise traditional Indian crafts among the diplomatic community, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is organising a crafts exhibition-cum-fair in the capital this week. The mela, named 'Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate,' will be held at Bikaner House. It is to be inaugurated on February 23 by Meenakshi Lekhi, the Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs, in the presence of ICCR **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

added.

Metro to HC: Will

deposit Rs 600 cr

for now in Reliance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE DELHI High Court Monday reserved its judgment on Reliance Infrastructure-promoted Delhi Airport Metro Express Pvt Ltd (DAMEPL)'s petition seeking enforcement of the 2017 arbitral award, which pertains to the Delhi Airport Metro Express Line. It also recorded the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's assurance that an amount of Rs 600 crore will be deposited in DAMEPL's escrow account

within two days. While the Reliance Infra-led company is praying that the DMRC be asked to forthwith deposit the entire amount of Rs 6,305.40 crore into the Project Escrow Account in compliance with the arbitral award, the DMRC has disputed the number and submitted that they only owe Rs 3,305 crore after payment of Rs 1,000 crore last year. DMRC Monday told the court that it employs over 15,000 people and is the lifeblood of Delhi as far as transportation is

concerned. "Because of Covid, there is a serious shortfall of users and, therefore, there is a huge revenue implication which has hit us that is a monthly loss of Rs 150 crore. I am a government undertaking. What I am proposing is Rs 600 crore upfront," submitted the counsel representing the DMRC, while seeking more time for payment of the rest of the money.

Terming the amount offered by DMRC peanuts, the court said it was not acceptable. "You are the central government. You are the state government but despite that you are not realising .," Justice Suresh Kumar Kait

Returning home from wedding, 23-year-old woman hit by car, dies







treatment."



COLLEGE RUSH

Outside Vishwavidyalaya Metro station near Delhi University's North Campus on Monday. Colleges reopened for all years on February 17 after being shut since March 2020.

BRIEFLY -16k sanitation workers to be

regularised

New Delhi: Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said the municipal corporations have decided to regularise 16,346 safai karamcharis and that a programme will be organised to hand over their appointment letters.

Man who killed cop's daughter arrested

New Delhi: Two days after a Delhi Police personnel's daughter was strangled to death, allegedly by her

friend's husband in North Delhi. the accused was arrested from Jaipur on Sunday, with police saying that the investigation revealed he allegedly sexually assaulted the victim as well. DCP(North) Sagar Singh Kalsi identified the accused as Aman Singh Bisht (25), who worked with an insurance company but lost his job during the pandemic.

Man killed during robbery

New Delhi: A 32-year-old man was allegedly killed by two men when he tried to resist their attempts to rob him in Central Delhi's Karol Bagh Saturday. Police said the accused managed to flee with the victim's bag and phone. DCP (Central) Shweta Chauhan said "We arrested the duo and recovered the stolen items on Monday." ENS

Mercedes accident throws 2 families in turmoil: 'He was first to attend college'

JIGNASA SINHA NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

OMI SOLANKI, father of 19-yearold Krishan, who died in a road accident in the Delhi Cantt on Saturday morning, still remembers their last conversation. "We last spoke to him on Friday night. He said he was with his friends and they would drop him to our house. He was excited to be with his friends and attend a wedding after so long. It was the last call. My son was a hardworking student... In our family, he was the first to go to a college," said Omi. Krishan Solanki (19) and

Vinod Kumar (22) were in a Mercedes vehicle with three other friends when it allegedly rammed into a stationary truck. They died at the spot while their



(Left) Krishan Solanki; Vinod Kumar

friends were rushed to a hospital and are undergoing treatment. All five live in Palam. Delhi Police said they have

detained a suspect and are questioning him.

Krishan was pursuing his graduation from Delhi University's School of Open



Learning. His younger brother Mohit (18) said, "Bhaiya had told us he was going to a wedding. He went in a different car. He had called me and showed me photos and videos from the wedding. He wanted to study more and start his own business. I was shocked when I heard about the incident. I went to the spot but could only find a damaged car. My brother died before anyone could save him.' Krishan's friend, Vinod, also

studied at a private college in Delhi while simultaneously running a property business. Vinod's family said he was the only earning member, and bought the luxury vehicle with his savings three months ago.

"He told us that he was going to a wedding in Faridabad with his friends. He was a care-

ful driver. During the lockdown, we faced losses in the business but he kept working and supported the family. He was doing well and got married last year. We were proud of him. Now, it's just my wife and our daughter-in-law. We feel lonely because he was the pillar of this house," said Ashok Kumar, Vinod's father, who used to be a DTC bus driver. DCP (Southwest) Gaurav

Sharma had said after the accident that the five friends were coming back home from a wedding when their car crashed into the truck. The three injured victims - Nitin, Jitender and Karan Bhardwaj – are aged between 19 and 21. The accused truck driver had managed to flee after the incident but was eventually nabbed by police.

president Vinay Sahasrabuddhe. NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

The three-day mela will be an experience of India's cultural heritage and craft practices that help to balance the ecology of the planet, said Sahasrabuddhe, also a Rajya Sabha MP. It has been curated by Java Jaitly of Dastkari Haat Samiti. It will have 22 craft persons from 11 states under five categories - crafts, textiles, traditional and folk art, beauty aromatics and recycled products.

Sahasrabuddhe added that since all these products are made using natural, organic material, and produced with non-polluting methods, the global community will get a chance to understand how India's traditional culture can meet the challenges of climate change. "The effort is also to showcase not just India's music and dance as part of its culture, but also other traditions like cuisine, crafts, and even Indian literature," he pointed out.

The programme, which is being celebrated as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, will also include a cultural evening at Purana Qila on February 23, highlighting the diversity of India's dance culture, ICCR said in a statement.

A 23-YEAR-OLD woman died

while her mother-in-law sustained severe injuries after a car hit them in North Delhi's Wazirabad on Monday. Police said the accused fled after the incident and was arrested later.

The victim, Payal Chautala, worked as a helper at a local clinic and lived with her husband Rohit and his mother Urmila(45) at Chattarpur village. The couple got married in 2020. The family alleged that she and Urmila were dragged on the car's

bonnet for nearly 100 metres. The family had come to Wazirabad to attend Payal's cousin's wedding and were on their way back when the accident took place.

Rohit, who works at a temple, alleged, "We were all standing on the road to book an autorickshaw when the accused came out of nowhere and hit us. My wife and mother were dragged. We were all shouting and screaming, but the man wouldn't stop. Later, he hit the

brakes and fled. My wife died be-

fore we could take her to the hos-

has been identified as Jitender, who hails from Jagatpur village. A medical examination showed he had been driving under the influence.' Police booked Jitender under sections of rash driving and

The woman's family outside

pital. My mother is undergoing

Kalsi said, "We received a call

about the accident at 12.58 pm.

Rohit said they were taking an

auto when a Swift car hit them.

The women were shifted to a

hospital where Payal died. We

have arrested the car driver. He

DCP (North) Sagar Singh

Wazirabad police station

negligence. His car has been seized.

FIRST FULLY RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL Under Delhi's deshbhakti push, new school to prepare students for NDA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

A PART of a litany of projects announced by the Delhi government in its 2021 'Deshbhakti Budget', the Armed Forces Preparatory School will aim to help students prepare for entry to the National Defence Academy (NDA) and other related entrance examinations.

The central theme of the government's 2021 budget was 'Deshbhakti' with an overall outlay of at least Rs 98 crore for the

'Deshbhakti' project. The first section of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's scheme announcements during the budget speech was devoted to these, which included installing 500 high-mast national flags across the city, programmes on lives and contributions of Dr B R Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh and the flagship 'Deshbhakti Curriculum' in its schools. As part of this push, he had also spoken about preparing children for

the armed forces. "To prepare our children to protect the country's borders, we

are planning to start a new Sainik School here and a Delhi Armed Forces Preparatory Academy. There are currently 33 Sainik Schools in India but not a single one in Delhi; we will open Delhi's first Sainik School. Along with this, we'll also start an Armed Forces Preparatory Academy. Here, along with their regular studies, children will be prepared to be enrolled in the NDA and Army," he had said.

The setting up of Sainik Schools requires working with the central government since these are under the Ministry of

The announcement for the school had been made by Deputy CM Sisodia in his 2021 budget speech

Defence and not much ground

has been covered on that. However, admission to the Armed Forces Preparatory School is underway and it will be operational from the coming academic session with 200 students.

It will be the first fully residential school set up by the Delhi government in a 14-acre campus in Southwest Delhi's Jharoda Kalan, but admissions will only be open to residents of Delhi.

It is being counted among the government's new Schools of Specialised Excellence, in

which each school is dedicated to specialisation in one particular domain – from STEM to Performing & Visual Arts. Like the other SOSEs, it will have classes from grades IX to XII and the curriculum will cover both basic study and specialisation.

According to a government official, the specialisation modules are still in the works with a tender having been issued to bring in a knowledge partner with experience in this domain.

The school will have an academic wing and a 'service preparatory' wing. In classes IX

and X, the focus of the academic wing will be on basic subjects such as Maths, English, Hindi, General Sciences and Social Sciences; and in XI and XII it will be on academic training to prepare for the National Defence Academy and other entry examinations.

The services preparatory wing is aimed at "nurturing the identified potential and improving on the identified gaps/ working areas" and inculcating "officer-like qualities" in the students. The school promises to provide Services Selection Board training cycles, personality development capsules, spoken English and verbal expression training sessions.

Fifty per cent of admissions to the school will be reserved for students of government and government-aided schools. Candidates will appear for an aptitude test with questions on Maths, English and General Ability, which will be followed by an interview and medical screening, and only students who are medically fit according to NDA standards will be admitted.





NO VOTE, ONLY 'RESPECT' THIS TIME; MAY SEE IN LS POLLS In family bastion Raebareli, voters have a simple question: What can Cong get them?

MAULSHREE SETH RAEBARELI, FEBRUARY 21

ON THE last day of campaigning for the fourth phase of polls, which will cover the Gandhi family bastion of Raebareli, Congress president Sonia Gandhi issued a video message for constituents of her Lok Sabha seat. She said the BJP government had done nothing, from farmers to youth, or stray cattle to prices, just divided people. "Yeh chunav aapke live bahut hi mahatvapurna chunav hai (This election is a very significant election for you)," she urged the people.

The message could have been the other way round. Sonia has not been able this time to campaign in Raebareli, her Lok Sabha constituency that was the only seat won by the Congress in 2019 from Uttar Pradesh. Privanka Gandhi Vadra has shouldered the party's campaign in the state, including Raebareli where the Congress won two seats in 2017, with those MLAs too now in the BJP.

Two days to go for polls, voters in Raebareli say they will always "respect" the Gandhi family and appreciate Priyanka's "hard work". But with "all due apologies", they add, their vote will be for someone "who can form the government".

The Congress had won just seven seats overall in UP in 2017 (its lowest tally), with two of them in Raebareli – Raebareli Sadar (Aditi Singh) and Harchandpur (Rakesh Singh). The Lok Sabha seat has been represented by the Gandhis since the time of Indira, and now remains the party's only face-saver in UP after Rahul Gandhi was defeated in neighbouring Amethi in the 2019 polls.

And the Congress's problems in Raebareli are symbolic of its struggle for revival across UP.



There are six Assembly seats

in Raebareli district. In 2007,

when the Congress was in power

at the Centre, it had won five of

them, with the lone remaining

taken by a Congress rebel. In

2012, when the SP was voted to

power, its candidates had won

five of the six constituencies. In

2017, when the vote was for a BIP

government, the party had won

four constituencies, with two go-

to the Gandhi family notwith-

standing when it comes to the Lok

its Sushil Pasi is up against the can-

who is facing anti-incumbency.

win, but with great difficulty)."

tor Manish Singh Chauhan.

This means that their loyalty

ing to the Congress.

winning.

Priyanka with Rahul. PTI

What can it offer them, voters ask, who believe they have missed the development bus for standing by the Congress. A comparison they make is of the long delay in making the AIIMS in Raebareli sanctioned under the UPA government, to the one coming up in Yogi Adityanath's Gorakhpur. Priyanka led the way this

time in not just selection of candidates but also giving the campaign a distinct direction with the slogan of "larki hun lar sakti *hun*". Also on test is her giving 40% tickets to women candidates – mainly those who fought in any form, from the

mother of a rape victim to one who was jailed for protest against CAA to a health worker fighting for wages

Other parties have said the Congress chose this path because it fell short of candidates, given the exit of leaders like Lalitesh Tripathi and Imran Masood. However, there is also a faint hope, even among many senior leaders, that these firsttimers could change the tide for the Congress.

After several elections in alliances, the party this time is contesting all the 403 seats. This would at least improve its vote graph, if nothing else.

2007 2012 2017 other Congress rebel, Rakesh Singh, is contesting as a BJP candidate. confesses "bahut samman (a lot of respect)" for Sonia. "Privanka is also working verv Court, on Monday hard. But the fight is between the BJP and SP." The Congress would have one consolation, he says. "Zameen kuchch behtar hogi (it

will perform better than 2017)." In Unchahar Assembly seat in Raebareli, the SP's Manoj Pandey is seen to be barely getting any help from its BJP import Swami Prasad Maurya, who wanted the ticket for his son Utkrista.

PAST RESULTS

(% Vote share) —

(11.65)

(6.25)

(8.61)

Sabha, for the Assembly, voters generally stick to the party seen as Pandey is facing Yadav backlash for allegedly favouring his This time the only seat where community in some murders. people give the Congress a chance However, a government emis Baccharawan (Reserved), where ployee in Unchahar says for them the factors are different, didate of BJP partner Apna Dal, starting with "jatiya samikaran (caste equations)". "While stray At Raebareli Sadar, flour mill cattle are a big issue, people are owner Satish Chandra says of getting rations, money in their Congress-turned-BJP candidate accounts... Logon ko dar hai, dou-Aditi Singh: "Jeetiye wahi lekin ble engine ki sarkar chali gayi to bahut kashta se jeetiye (She will yeh suvidhayen bhi na chali jayen. Modi sautela vyavahar na karne Giving Aditi a fight is the SP's R lage UP se (Public fears that if the P Yadav. The Congress has fielded BIP loses and there is no longer a a Thakur, well-known local docdouble-engine government, these facilities might end. Modi might show step-motherly Harikesh Singh Bhadauria, 68, of Harchandpur, where the treatment to UP).'

Thrust into limelight, Unnao victim's mother: Support me, even if you don't vote

MALLICA JOSHI UNNAO, FEBRUARY 21

> "AAPKA SUPPORT chahiye, bhaiyya. Vote ho na no, support hona chahiye (I need your support. Even if you don't vote for me, do support me)," says Asha Singh, the Congress candidate from Unnao Sadar as she campaigns in the kachehri area that houses offices of lawyers practising in the Unnao District

Sarfaraz Hussain Gandhi, a member of the Congress's Unnao unit, quickly interjects, "Sirf support se kaam nahi chalega, vote bhi maangna zaroori hai (Asking for support won't do, you must ask people to vote for

you)," he tells her. For Singh, 55, the mother of the Unnao rape survivor who has been thrust into a sudden spotlight as the Congress candidate, the last few weeks on the campaign trail have been peppered with advice on what to say and how to seek votes. Congress workers Sarfaraz and Khurshid Ansari have been working with her for the past month and a half. Unnao votes on Wednesday

in the fourth phase of the Assembly elections. Singh's 20-year-old daughter, who was raped in 2017 allegedly by former BJP MLA Kuldeep Sengar, has been by her side throughout the campaign. Singh's husband died in police custody after being beaten up allegedly by Sengar's brother and aides in the presence of police personnel. The

former MLA from the nearby



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

MAYAWATI HAS not lost her relevance and the BSP will get votes in Uttar Pradesh, senior BJP leader Amit Shah said in an interview to News18 channel. As campaigning for the

fourth phase of elections came to a close in the state, the Union Home Minister said the Jatav vote remained with the BSP and that Muslims too would vote for the BSP in a number of seats. Asked whether this would help the BJP, Shah said: "I do not know if this would be an advantage for the BJP or a loss. It depends on the seat... it's seat specific. But it's not true that Mayawati's rele-

vance is over.' The Samajwadi Party, which is seen as the BJP's main competitor for power in UP, is counting on retaining its Muslim vote and weaning away traditional voters of other parties.

Asked about Mayawati keeping a low profile, Shah said it did not mean her support base had entirely eroded.

With the BJP accused of using polarisation to win votes, he denied that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's statement calling the UP election an 80 vs 20 battle suggested a contest between Hindus and Muslims in the state. "I don't think this election is

about Muslims or Yadavs or Hindus. Yogiji may have spoken about vote percentages but not about Muslims vs Hindus... Voting pattern can't be termed polarisation," Shah said.

happening, he added, it was by the Opposition. "The poor and farmers are being polarised," Shah argued.

In his first comments on the hijab row in Karnataka educational institutions, the Union Home Minister said: "It is my personal belief that people of all

Home Minister Amit Shah

religions should accept a school's dress code. And the issue is now in court... Whatever it decides should be followed by all."

He also expressed confidence that the BJP would win a clear majority and not need anyone's help to form the government in UP. "All we need would be constructive support of Opposition parties to run the government, for which we would need the BSP and the SP as well."

Having travelled across UP, Shah said, he had found that the Yogi Adityanath government had won "the hearts of the people", and that "Support and love for the Prime Minister is much higher today than it was in

December 2013". Criticising Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for questioning the BJP government's foreign policy and Kashmir policy, and saying it had brought Pakistan

and China closer, Shah said: "Rahul Gandhi does not know the history of this country. He does not know what happened in 1962 and because of whom. The Modi government has given a strong reply to every challenge

On the delay in implementation of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, after the government pushed it through Parliament despite protests against it, Shah said the delay was because of the Covid situation. "But there is no question of going back on it.'

(SoO) agreement between the

Centre and state governments

believed to be wielding strong

influence on the polls in

Manipur, locals say her hus-

band's militant credentials will

help Kimneo secure a win. But

With underground groups

Tiny hill town captures Manipur's unusual poll scene

TORA AGARWALA

Then there's the perennial hill-vallev divide and, of course, the abundance of defecting candidates

Tiny Saikul captures it all.

In the first phase of polls on

February 28, besides Yamthong

Haokip, a two-time MLA on NIA

radar, in the fray are his feisty

daughter, the father of the state's

Yamthong, the sitting MLA,

SAIKUL (ST RESERVED)



Asha Singh. Mallica Joshi

Bangarmau constituency has been convicted in both cases by Delhi courts and is serving a life term.

Singh is up against the BJP's sitting MLA Pankaj Gupta and Dr Abhinav Kumar of the Samajwadi Party. The BSP has fielded newcomer Devendra Singh.

The seat was won by BJP's Gupta in a by-election in 2014 after SP MLA Deepak Kumar died, as well as in 2017. The SP has now fielded three-time MLA Deepak Kumar's son Abhinav from the seat. Sengar represented the constituency as a BSP MLA in 2002. Recalling her meeting with

Gandhi a couple of years ago, Singh's daughter says, "I met Priyanka didi in Delhi in relation to my case a few times. When elections came closer, I heard that the Congress wanted to promote women and I told her I wanted to contest, but because of my age I wasn't eligible. That is how the ticket went to my mother. In 2027, I will be the candidate," she says, as she enters a house in Eidgah to distribute pamphlets. FULL REPORT ON

www.indianexpress.com

While "polarisation" was posed by China."

Manipur," says Angam Haokip, a der the Suspension of Operation



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said people should aim to reduce difficulties in the lives of the poor. Tweeting in Hindi, the PM said, We all have the debt of salt to Maa Bharti, to Hindustan. Our hard work

should be for Hindustan, for Maa Bharti, for the nation. Our aim should be that the lives of the poor are eased as much as possible.'

HASHTAG POLITICS

Bharti: PM Modi

We should all work for Maa

BJP, RSS come to Manipur with sense of superiority: Rahul

JIMMY LEIVON

IMPHAL, FEBRUARY 21

A DAY before Prime Minister Narendra Modi is slated to visit poll-bound Manipur, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi lashed out at the BIP and the RSS saying they come to the state "with a sense of superiority to tell the people what to do" Addressing an election rally

in the state capital on Monday, the Congress leader said that he, by contrast, came "with humility" because he understood he had a lot to learn "starting from the diverse culture, history, the way you treat your woman".

This is the difference between us. I want to help preserve your language, culture and the harmony that is prevailing in Manipur. I want to learn from you and, in return, give you something that you will benefit from," he said.

Targeting the PM, who will address a rally at the Luwangsangbam sports complex in Imphal East on Tuesday, Rahul said he "would tell you what he thinks" as if "he has the right to define India".

Referring to the allegation that a few politicians from the

state were asked to remove their shoes at Amit Shah's residence, the Congress leader said. "In Indian culture, we respect and honour guests when they come to our homes."

He alleged that the BJP had not only been assaulting the history, culture and traditions of Manipur but also had denied its people their democratic rights. How can the BJP claim that they are taking governance to people's doorstep without empowering the people by conducting elec-

tions to the Autonomous District Council," he asked, adding that the BJP government's failure to hold elections to the council in the past five years was one example of how the party was undermining democracy. Rahul also alleged that the

BJP's plan to start palm oil plantations in the state was not for the benefit of its people, but for companies like Ramdev's Patanjali

"The Congress's vision is to help protect the future of Manipur. We want to improve the horticulture products, make Manipur self-sufficient in rice products by giving good irrigation facilities, and boost the food processing industry and the

tourism sector," he said.

SAIKUL (KANGPOKPI), FEB 21

"SO HOW do you like our dusty, old Saikul?" asks Goupu Chongloi. the block president of the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO), as he talks about his town. "It has nothing, right?...totally backward."

police chief and the wife of the self-Nestled in the Sadar Hills and styled chief of the outlawed Kuki home to the Kuki tribe, Saikul in Revolutionary Army (KRA). Kangpokpi district, is a nondescript place. However, ever since the Assembly elections were an-

quit the Congress last November to join the BJP. Having won the seat twice, he is seeking to make it nounced, the town, situated 30 km from state capital Imphal, has the third time. Named in a highemerged as the scene of the quinprofile arms robberv case two tessential 'Manipur election'. years ago, he was accused of steal-Polls in Manipur are rarely ing arms from the 2nd Manipur shaped by political parties. Rifles garrison and distributing Instead, what influences them is them to different 'terrorist groups'. allegiances to clans and tribes, civil Following an NIA investigation, society organisations and, as Yamthong was arrested in August 2018, but was released on many believe, even the 'underground', a euphemism for the bail in 2019 on medical grounds. state's several militant groups. Standing against him,

2017

Winner: Yamthong Haokip (Cong), 8,677 votes Runner-Up: Chungkhokai Doungel (NCP), 5,416 votes 2012

Winner: Yamthong Haokip (Cong), 8,700 votes Runner-up: Chungkhokai

Doungel (AITC), 7,211 votes

Yamthong's daughter Lhingkim Haokip is contesting on a Congress ticket. When her father defected to the BJP, the Congress leadership thought it was only natural to take on board the "loval Lhingkim", a secretary of the All India Mahila Congress. Lhingkim, however, says her

fight is not "against my father". "I am contesting against the BJP

candidate. In politics there's no father, there is no daughter...mv aim is to serve the people of my constituency, especially the women and youth," she says.

Saikuł

While the father-versusdaughter battle in Saikul may be causing many a giggle, for Yamthong's supporters though it is "no big deal".

"This is how politics works in

thority who is also a BIP worker. Angam says he is happy with Yamthong's work as he had managed to make a few roads motorable "despite being in the Opposition".

member of the local village au-

Many others do not agree. "He barely comes here," Chongloi says, adding the local Kukis had not taken kindly to Haokip's marriage to a Meitei. "I do not think he cares for tribal rights...he never takes advice from stakeholders," Chongloi adds.

That's why, perhaps, a 33year-old aspiring actor, who did not want to reveal his name. says he will support the Kuki People Alliance (KPA) candidate Kimneo Haokip Hnagshing. Formed just a month ago, the KPA claims to represent tribal, particularly Kuki, interests.

Kimneo, 34, is the wife of David Hnaghsing, the chairman of the KRA, a militant group un-

she disagrees. "My candidature has nothing to do with that. My social work in the village speaks for itself," she says, although admitting the fight is not easy. Then there is Manipur DGP, P Doungel's father Chungkhokai Doungel, a popular name among

the locals. MLA from Saikul thrice (1992-2012), Doungel senior was earlier with the Nationalist Congress Party and the Manipur People's Parties, but now calls himself a "freelance politician".

With inputs from Jimmy Leivon FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

The bicycle tale: how Mulayam, Akhilesh identified with it

LALMANI VERMA LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 21

with

blasts.

BICYCLE, THE election symbol of the Samajwadi Party (SP) became the target of BJP leaders after Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an election rally in

Hardoi on Sunday EXPLAINE (February 20) appeared to link the SP's symbol the 2008 Ahmedabad terror

SP's election symbol

Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav founded the SP on October 4, 1992, and the party was allotted bicycle as its symbol for the UP Assembly election in 1993.

The SP contested 256 seats, and won 109. Mulayam became Chief Minister for the second

Mulayam had been Chief Minister earlier from 1989 to

1991, but he was then a part of the Janata Dal, whose election symbol was wheel.

Mulayam had earlier contested elections on symbols of other parties. He won his first Assembly election in 1967 as a candidate of the Samvukta Socialist Party, which



had 'bargad' or banyan tree as its election symbol. Mulayam went on

to be elected MLA for seven more terms until 1996. Before he

founded the SP in 1992, Mulayam also contested on symbols like 'bailon ki jodi' (pair of oxen), and 'Kandhe par hal dhare kisan' (farmer with plough). The latter was the symbol of the Janata Party, and Mulayam was elected as its candidate from Iaswant Nagar in 1991.

Symbolism of the bicycle

"When it came to selecting an election symbol for the 1993



Akhilesh with father Mulayam. Express

polls, Netaii (Mulayam) and other senior leaders picked bicycle (from UP president of the Samajwadi Party, said.

This was because, Patel said, "in that period, the bicycle was the vehicle of farmers, the poor,

labourers, and the middle class. and riding a bicycle was cheaper and good for health as well".

The SP has contested all elections on the bicycle symbol ever since, Patel said.

While building and expanding his party, Mulayam and his younger brother Shivpal Singh Yadav would frequently ride bi-

New Delhi

cycles. Mulayam continued to ride a bicycle during canvassing even after becoming Chief Minister.

Shivpal formed a different party, Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (PSP-Lohia), after differences with Akhilesh, but he is contesting the current Assembly election from Jaswant Nagar on the SP's bicycle symbol.

Patel recalled that during the previous Akhilesh Yadav government, bicycle tracks had been built in cities across the state, and bicycles had been distributed to girl students and labourers.

On the PM's remark on the SP's election symbol. Patel said. "PM does jumlebaazi with such remarks. His government has no concern for inflation, unemployment, and farmers. The PM works for rich industrialists, while the SP's bicycle is associated with the poor and farmers."

SP founder member and Uttarakhand State president Satyanarayan Sachan said that even after becoming MLA for

three terms, Mulayam rode a bicycle till 1977. "Later some other party leader collected money and bought a car for him,' Sachan said.

He added that the bicycle symbol reflects the party's dedication and commitment for the poor, Dalits, farmers, and labourer classes. "Its two wheels stand for the way society and socialists keep moving, while its handle is for balancing," Sachan

He said that even outside UP, the SP contests Assembly elections on the bicycle symbol.

Before the 2012 elections, in which the SP won an absolute majority, Akhilesh Yadav had taken out cycle yatras across the state to mobilise workers and voters. Even now, he gives interviews while riding a bicycle, even though his campaigns in both 2017 and 2022 have been carried out on modified chariots. However, other SP leaders took out bicycle yatras in their dis-

Assembly among available choices) as the symbol," Naresh Uttam Patel, the



said.

tricts ahead of these elections.



GOVT & POLITICS





FAST MOVER

DISCUSSIONS OVER the possibilities and prospects of candidates for posts of President and Vice President will begin once the Assembly polls are over. Opposition parties, though, have begun informal talks and backroom meetings to see that they are not completely kept aside when it comes to these two elections. One leader who has already started making his moves to zero in on a consensus candidate for the post of President is Telangana CMK Chandrasekhar Rao. While his meeting with his Maharashtra counterpart, Uddhav Thackeray, this Sunday was well publicised, he also had a meeting with RJD leader Tejashwi Yaday, who had flown to Hyderabad this month. Tejashwi made Rao speak with his father, RJD chief Lalu Prasad. The leaders are learnt to have discussed the name of Bihar CM Nitish Kumar as a candidate for the President's post. With the BJP state unit keen on replacing Nitish, Opposition leaders hope the party would give it a thought.

AT HOME, NOT ALONE

A SERIES of public meetings addressed by veteran Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad in Jammu and Kashmir some time ago had triggered much speculation about his political moves. Now, Azad's colleague Anand Sharma, another prominent member of Congress's 'Group of 23' whose term as Rajya Sabha MP ends in April, is set to address some public meetings in his home state - Himachal Pradesh. Sharma, who arrived in Himachal today on a five-day visit, is scheduled to address five rallies in Solan and Shimla. So is Sharma, who has always focused his attention on national politics, making a foray into the state's politics? Or is he trying to send a signal to some of his detractors in the party leadership who had in the past argued that the G-23 leaders lack mass support?

SPORTING SYNERGY

AT A time when India is celebrating 75th year of Independence, the British government will also pitch in with a 'India-UK Week of Sport'. From February 21 to 27, the Week of Sport will showcase the best of sports, with events involving Indian and British personalities reflecting on their own journeys. It will include lympic and Commonwealth Games gold medalist Neeraj Chopra, cricketer Dinesh Karthik, para-badminton world champion Manasi Joshi, tennis legend Vijay Amritraj and India rugby captain Vahbiz Bharucha, among others.

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Haryana Water Resources Authority

Lalu gets 5-yr jail term, fined Rs 60L in fodder scam case

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI, FEBRUARY 21

A CBI court in Ranchi on Monday sentenced RJD chief Lalu Prasad to five years in prison in a fodder scam case pertaining to illegal withdrawal of Rs 139.35 crore from Doranda treasury in 1995-1996. A fine of Rs 60 lakh was also slapped on him.

On February 15, Special Judge S K Sashi convicted 75 accused, including Lalu, while acquitting 24 others. The court awarded up to three years jail to 34 convicts and fined them between Rs 20,000 and Rs 2 lakh.

On Monday, the remaining 41 convicts were sentenced to three to five years rigorous imprisonment and fined a total of Rs 11.93 crore.

Lalu has already undergone judicial custody of three years and nineteen days, said Anant Kumar Vij, a defence lawyer. "The judge pronounced five-year jail term, of which he has already undergone more than three years in custody. Since he has already undergone half of the jail term, we will file a petition in

Iail and then moved to the staterun Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences in Ranchi on health grounds. The former Bihar Chief Minister has already been con-

said.

victed in the previous four fodder scam cases – related to High Court to grant him bail." he Dumka, Deoghar and Chaibasa

Singh Dimpy Dhillon of SAD and

Pritpal Sharma of AAP from this

constituency. In 2017 pollls,

Gidderbaha witnessed 89.02%

saw the second highest polling at

83.70%, with sitting MLA Baljinder

Talwandi Sabo constituency

RID chief Lalu Prasad at the

After his conviction in the

Doranda treasury case - the fifth

one related to the fodder scam -

the 73-year-old leader was

lodged in Birsa Munda Central

Iharkhand State Guest

House, in Ranchi, PTI File

Poll panel revises Punjab voter turnout to 71.95%

Still short of 2017 mark: percentage changed from 66% in preliminary data on Sunday

voting

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 21

A DAY after Punjab voted in a crucial Assembly election, the Election Commission revised the polling percentage to 71.95%, still short but closer to the 77.2% turnout recorded last time.

The revised percentage is higher than the around 66% turnout recorded till 5pm on Sunday, according to preliminary data released by the EC.

The Malwa region of the state took the lead in high voter turnout as compared to Majha and Doaba, as per the updated EC data. At 55.40%, Amritsar West recorded the lowest polling. The highest polling took place at Gidderbaha constituency at 84.93%. Transport Minister Amrinder Singh Raja Warring is pitted against Hardeep

In Dhuri, the constituency of AAP CM face Bhagwant Mann, 77.37% votes were polled compared to 81.23% in 2017.

flected in Amritsar (65.84%).

86.04% turnout.

In Amritsar East, where the contest is between Puniab Congress president Naviot Singh Sidhu and Akali leader Bikram Singh Majithia. 64.05% voting took

treasuries. He is currently out on bail in those cases, on grounds that he has undergone half the sentence.

One more case is pending before CBI Patna pertaining to illegal withdrawal of money from Banka-Bhagalpur treasury. In the present case, the CBI

said that the then animal husbandry officials in conspiracy with unscrupulous suppliers and others withdrew and misappropriated Rs 182.82 crore from Doranda treasury in Ranchi

This was done under the pretext of making payment to the suppliers, who submitted bogus bills showing supply of feed, fodder and veterinary medicines, the probe agency said in a statement.

Involvement of politicians, including the then Bihar Chief Minister Lalu, bureaucrats and others came to the fore during the investigation.

Three charge sheets were filed against Lalu, other politicians, bureaucrats, veterinary doctors, treasury officials, suppliers among others. During the investigation, an actual fraud of Rs 139.35 crore was found

FLEET REVIEW

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AFTER PRESIDENT Ram Nath

Kovind inspected more than 60

ships and submarines of the

Indian Navy, the Coast Guard,

and the Shipping Corporation of

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

Shackles cannot dampen spirit: Lalu

Patna: Soon after a Ranchi court sentenced him to five years in jail, RJD chief Lalu Prasad took to Twitter and said he takes his strength from the people and "shackles" cannot dampen his spirit.

"I have fought against injustice, inequality and dictatorial rule and would continue to do so Shackles cannot dampen the spirit of those whose strength is truth and who have the strength of the people," he said in a tweet. His son and Leader of Opposition in Bihar Assembly Tejashwi Prasad Yadav said, "Lalu Ji has always respected the judiciary. But this is not the last verdict in this case. We will move

higher court.' Bihar CM Nitish Kumar said: "Whatever happened, it happened after due court process... We had not filed any case against him. Some of those who had filed the case against him are in fact with him." Though Nitish did not name anyone, he was referring to RID national vice president Shivanand Tewari, one of PIL petitioners. SANTOSH SINGH

Hindus who don't vote for me have Muslim blood, says BJP MLA

LALMANI VERMA LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 21

HINDUS WHO will not vote for me have "Muslim blood in their veins", BJP MLA Raghvendra Pratap Singh – contesting the Uttar Pradesh assembly election - purportedly said in a video circulating on social media.

The Domariyaganj MLA, also in charge of the Hindu Yuva Vahini, will be up for re-election from his constituency in the penultimate phase on March 3.

Singh told The Indian Express on Monday that he made the remark five days ago, but added that it was said "in another context, as an example" and that he "had no intention to threaten anybody".

In the video, the legislator is purportedly heard using expletives. He says: "Tell me, will any Muslim vote for me? So be aware that if Hindus of this village support another side, they have Muslim blood in their veins. They are traitors... Even after so many atrocities, if a Hindu goes over to the other side, he should not be al-

lowed to show his face in public.' He goes on to add, "...aur ek baar agar warning dene ke saath samajh me nahi ayega to iss baar

tive deployment of the Indian

He added: "I am pleased to

national service when called

upon to do so, to value and pre-

serve the rich heritage of our

composite culture..." It also drew

on examples of "ancient India"

and Hindu scripture Bhagyad

Gita to reason that "people in

India have had a tradition of per-

main bata dunga ki Raghvendra Singh kaun hai. Kyunki mere saath gaddari karoge toh chalega, main apman sah lunga. Mujhe apmanit karoge toh bhi main anman sah lunga. Lekin agar hamare Hindu samaj ko apmanit karne ka prayaas karoge toh barbaad karke rakh dunga. [If the warning is not heeded, I will let everyone know who Raghvendra Singh is. I can tolerate personal insults and betrayals, but I will destroy those who try to insult the Hindu community]."

Singh admitted that he made the statement but told The Indian Express: "I have said those things, I am not denying. But I had spoken in another context, as an example, and was making a comparison with the past. I had no intention to threaten anybody. Can anybody win an election by threatening in Domariyaganj where there are around 1.73 lakh Muslim voters, comprising around 39.8 per cent of the electorate?'

Asked about his claim of 'atrocities", he added, "That is correct. If a Hindu girl elopes with a Muslim boy and Hindus mediate on behalf of the boy...I spoke in that context. I feel that complete speech was not like that... people remove or add words [in videos]."

PM's cycle remark an attack on poor: Kejriwal in UP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LUCKNOW, BARABANKI,

FEBRUARY 21

AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal on Monday termed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks equating the "bicycle" with "terrorism" as an attack on the poor, and indicated that his party will go with the anti-BJP camp in case of a hung assembly in Uttar Pradesh.

Addressing his first election Underscoring the importance of Visakhapatnam, where rally in capital Lucknow after the fleet review was held, he said polls began in UP, Kejriwal said, that its "strategic importance is Yesterday, I heard the prime underlined by the fact that the minister came (to the state) and said all those who rode cycles in headquarters of the Eastern the country were terrorists. This is a chhot (attack) on all the poor who ride bicycles."

Days after a court convicted 49 people for the 2008 Ahmedabad serial blasts. PM Modi accused the Samajwadi Party of being sympathetic to the terrorists and asked why the attackers had opted for 'bicycle', the SP's election symbol, to plant the bombs in the city.

Keiriwal also said other parties were calling him a "terrorist" and referred to the development work done in Delhi by his government to say: "Kejriwal is the terrorist who scares the corrupt."

deployment in Indian Ocean Region

President praises Navy's prompt

Plea in SC seeks law to ensure citizens fulfill duties Durga Dutt, stressed that citizens

have a duty -- as specified under

Article 51A of the Constitution -

- to uphold the country's ideals

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

and contribute to its growth and betterment. "It is need of the time to motivate every citizen of India to sought a law to ensure that citizens fulfill the fundamental duperform their duty to uphold forming their duties". ties that are enshrined in the and protect the sovereignty.

in Visakhapatnam. PTI

nificant portion of our trade and energy needs are met through

Kaur of AAP seeking re-election India, as part of the country's against Khushbaaz Singh Jattana 12th President's Fleet Review, he of Congress, Jeet Mohinder Singh praised the Navy's vigil to pro-Sidhu of SAD and Harminder tect the Indian Ocean Region. Singh Jassi, a close relative of Dera The President's Fleet Review Sacha Sauda Chief, Gurmeet Ram is conducted once under every

Rahim who is standing as an president's tenure. The last was Independent. In the previous polls held in 2016 under late President Pranab Mukherjee.

in 2017, the constituency recorded Among the districts, Mansa saw the highest polling at 81.24%, followed by Muktsar at 80.49%. Lowest polling in districts was re-

THE SUPREME Court on Monday issued a notice to the Centre and states on a petition that has



President Ram Nath Kovind

Naval Command of the Indian President Kovind said: "A sigthe oceans... prompt and effec-Navy is located here".

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						
	Renovation and face lifting of Jasola Sewage Pumping Station. 2022_DJB_217063_1	3917612/-	19.02.2022	04.03.2022 up to 3.00 P.M.						
* Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app										
	ED BY P.R.O. (WATER)		FX F	Sd/-						

PRESS N.I.T. No. 59 (2021-22)

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT SDW S/E

SRINIWASPURI: NEW DELHI: 110065

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

केनरा बैंक 귲 Canara Bank सिंडिकेट Syndicate

POSSESSION NOTICE (SECTION 13(4)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas : The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and ir exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice on below mentioned date calling upon the following borrower to repay the pelow mentioned amount in the notice to repay within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower 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 Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on following date.

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 the Canara Bank, following Branch, for below mentioned amount.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Name & Address of Branch/ Borrower/Mortgagor	Date of Demand Notice/Amount Dues & Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Property		
Branch- Kamaldah	24.05.2021	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of		
(17541) Mrs. Sindhu Devi W/o. Mahesh Prasad Chaudhary	Rs. 12,30,394.80 and Interest thereon	Mrs. Sindhu Devi W/o Mr. Mahesh Prasad Chaudhary, R/o Mohalla-Vidya Bihar, Behind of Lakshmi High School, Gudri Road, P.O & P.S-Sitamarhi, Bihar-843302 Ward No. 14 (old) 10 (New), Survey No. 181 Area-3.2 Decimal or 16 Dhur Boundary: North : Rasta 5 Feet number haja, South: Smt. Anita Devi, East : Nij		
	15.02.2022	Manmokir Number Haja, West: Nij Manmokir Number Haja		
Branch- Kamaldah	10.05.2021	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Smt. Sangeeta Devi, W/o Hari Pd. Singh, vill-Pratap Nagar, P.O-		
(17541) Mrs. Sangeeta Devi W/o. Hari Pd. Singh	Rs. 12,09,911.09 and Interest thereon	Smt. Sangeeta Devi, wio Han Po. Singh, viii-Pratap Nagar, Thakur Kishor Singh college, Sitamarhi, Bihar-843302 Khata 1435, Khesra No-2205 Area-0.09 Decimal Boundary : No R.S.P.No. 4872, South: Vidyanand Sharma, East : R.S.P 2219 & 2187. West: R.S.P.No. 2264		
	15.02.2022	Location-Mauza-Mehsol, Mohalla-Pratap Nagar, Thana No. 316, Dumra, Sitamarhi-843316		
Branch-	15.05.2021	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of		
Bhagwanpur2(17491) Mr. Shambhu Sharan Prasad S/o. Lt. Dev Nandan Sah	Rs. 19,63,945.92 and Interest thereon	Mr. Shambhu Sharan Prasad, S/o Lt. Dev Na Sah,Anandpuri Brahampura, Muzaffarpur, Distt-Muzaff Pin-842001 Khata No. 376, Khesra No. 12 K KHA GA Ar Dhur 12 Kanma Boundary : North : Govt. Road, South: Ga		
	14.02.2022	Singh, East: Belram Sah, West: Gopal Sah Location-Mauza-Chhapra Lodi Alias Maripur, R.T.No352, Ward No. 9 NSW, P.S. Kazi Mohammadpur, Anchal Mushahary, Sub- Registry & Dist.Muzaffarpur-842001		
Branch-	15.05.2021	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of		
Bhagwanpur2(17491) M/s. Jay Mata Di Vastralay Prop. Mr. Sunil Kumar S/o.Dev	Rs. 10,08,665.85 and Interest thereon	Mrs. Meena Devi, W/o Dev Lal Sah,Mohalla Nath Nagar, Gobarsahi, Bhagwanpur, P.O-Khabara, DisttMuzaffarpur, Pin- 842003 Khata No570, Khesra No. 1367 Area-2.00 Decimal Boundary: North: Kedar Prasad, South: Nirsan Sah, East:Smt.		
Lal Sah and Mrs. Meena Devi W/o. Dev LalSah	14.02.2022	Shanti Kumari, West : Road Location-Mohalla-Nath Nagar, Gobarsahi, Bhaganwanpur, P.S Sadar, P.O-Khabara, DistMuzaffarpur-842003		
		Authorised Officer Canara Bank		

place. In 2017, this constituency Constitution of India. had recorded 64.94% turnout.

The plea, filed by advocate

defend the country and render force fundamental duties.

Currently there is n unity and integrity of India; to sion in the statute books to en-

GOVERNMENT OF HARVANA TENDER NOTICE

SR, No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	ANOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPPES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	UNITAN	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CONTROL ROOM BUILDING AT 33 KY S/STN.KD0 KURUKSHETRA	DATE 28.02.2002	45.23 LACS	https://etenders.hty.nic.kr	9356063246 xenctxiluh bynpanichkula@gmail.com
2	UNITEN	FOR PROVIDING CHE NO. HARGNORA RELEND SHEP OR RELEVALENT VEHICLE.	CLOSING DATE 03.03.2002	EMD 6000/-	www.ubbvn.org.in	9334629377
, alk	UNITIN	HIBING OF 1 NOS. PERMIT PVT, VEHICLE FOR USE OF SE 'OP' CIRCLE, UHENN, YAMUWA NAGAR	GLOGING DATE 02.03.2022	6000/- PER VEHICLE	www.ubbon.org.in	9315609707 xerepuntsvnjegedtri@gmail.com
-	CHIRVN	HIRING OF 03 NOS, PERMIT PVT, VEHICLE (HAHENDRA CAMPHER/TATA FORCE OPEN FROM BACK SIDE USE OF COMPLAINT CENTRE,	GLOGING GATE 28.02-2002	6000/- PER VEHICLE	www.ubbvn.org.in	9315609707 senopundvnjegedhri@gmail.com
773	EC FC	OR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.har	yanaepro	ocureme	nt.gov.in or www	w.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. ND	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 86K KARWAL	RESTORATION OF OWNAGED CAUSED DUE TO LAVING OF SEWER LINE AND WATER SUFFLY LINE BY PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT ON NILOXHERE KARSA DHAND ROAD (SH-33) IN NILOXHERE BLOCK DISTRICT KARNA.	22.02.2022 06.03.2022	155.53 DACS	Ntips://etendens.hry.nic.in	9050620080 pwd-eepd-kama60try.nic.m
Z	PND BER BAHADURGARH	A/M DN VARIOUS RDADS FALLS IN PROVINCIAL ON/ISION PMD BBR BAHADURGARH SUPPLY & COLLECTION OF MATERIAL POR PROVINCIAL SUB DIVISION NO. L PN/D BBR IRA, BAHAOURGARH UNDER PROVINCIAL DIVISION PMD BRR BR, BHADURGARH FOR THE TEAR 2021-22 IN IRAUAR DISTRICT (DUMPED AT MAIN PMD STORE BAIMOURGARH (ONLY FOR LNC SOCIETY)) +1 OTHER WORKS	19.02.2022 25.02.2022	7,84 LACS	https://etendens.hty.nic.in	01276234113 pwd-eep6 bahadurgarhidhryviecu
1	PWD B&R FAR2DABAD	SPECIAL REFAIR ESTIMATE BY PROVIDING FOUR LAWRING FARIDABAD TIGAON ROAD KILDMETER 0.00 TO 1.18 AND 3.02 TO 10.50 IN MARIDABAD DISTRICT ROAD ID 3225 UNDER CHA. 12421	14.02.2022 07.03.2022	2200.90 UACS	https://etendens.hty.nic.in	9911722787 pwd-eepdL-tandataad@tay.aic.in
•	PWD BBR BHTWANE	SPECIAL REPAIR BY PROVIDING HANGI GATE TO MEMAN GATE VIA LOHAR CHOPTA FROM KM 0.300 TO 0.400 & KM. 2,735 TO 2,935 IN BHIMANI DISTT. (ROAD ID NO. 2230)	17.02.2022 03.03.2022	SS.40 LACS	https://etenders.hty.nic.in	01564CH2436 pwd-cepd-bitwani@try.ric.in
55	PHD S&R GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF TOILET AND RENOVATION OF P TYPE QUARTER IN GOVERNMENT STLAT CURLICIAM	DL058NG DATE 25.02.2022	32.50 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.m	0124-2977767 pwd-eepdi-gurgaoni@hry.nic.ih
0	PND BAR GURUGRAM	DEVELOPMENT FOR PLANTATION IN C/V OF BYE PASS / PERIPHERY ROAD DOWNECTING HISAR ROAD TO RATSA ROAD IN TOHANA CITY IN FATEWARAD DISTRICT (C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE \$767 OATED \$1,012,2014).	18.02.2022 02.03.2022	25.95 LACS	https://etendens.hvy.nic.in	9717214202 z#esingithort@gmail.com
1	PWICHAYAT) RAL JHALDAR	IMPROVEMENT OF 4 LAWARING OF IMALIAR BADLI ROAD (8Y PROVIDING DBM + (8C.) FROM KM 0.00.10 38.250 (N JMALIAR DESTRICT (MDR-L23) (ROAD ID (6464) +1 OTHER WORKS	18.62.2022 10.03.2022	2211.31 LACS	https://etenders.hty.nic.in	01251252085 ped-esp6-freger@key.ec.m
Ë.	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYAMA JHAUJAR	INTERNAL CLEARANCE, DEWEEDING OF LOHARI MINOR FROM RD 19933 TO 504L5 + 6 OTHER WORKS	LOHARD NUNOR FROM RD 19923 TO CLOSING DATE 7.83 LLCs. https://doces.html		https://etenders.hyy.nic.in	9416752376 xendewjr@gmail.com
ġ.	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARVANA JAGACHRI	SERVICE REQUIRED FOR ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE FOR TESTING OF PLATE LOAD TEST BY CSHBS AT SOME SARASVATI BARRACE STEE ON SOME NADI AS PER IS CODE 1888 (1982) + 2 (STHER WORKS	23.02.2022 03.03.2022	5.90 JACS	https://etenders.tvy.nic.in	9050140767 xemjdr 1 (Dgmaž.com
t0	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA JAGACHRI	1. PROVIDING PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURE LAND AND ABADI OF VILLAGE PARMI KALAN BY CONSTRUCTING SOLPT, STONE STEINING ON BANK OF CHAUTANG NALLAH TO AVOID EXCESSIVE SCOURING AFTER PLODO 2021 +1 OTHER WORK	21.02.2022 03.03.2022	37.95 LACS	https://etenders.fry.nic.in	9050s40767 wirtplr 1@great.com
n	BLOCK LEVEL E- TENDERING COMMETTEE, BLOCK IN/PORT	CONST. OF RASTA FROM ASMER S/O ANTU FARM TO PRITAM S/O NATTHU EMIM + & OTHER WORKS	19.62.2022 06.03.2022	93.25 LACS	https://etenderts.frey.nic.in	01746270233 bdpc.pundH@ftry.nic.in
12	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING SIRSA	AUGHEVITATION OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME AND CONSTRUCTION OF BOOSTING STATION AND PROVIDING FRITC TO HOUSEHOLDS IN VULAGE KUSSAR DISTT SIRSA UNDER JIM PROVIDING & LAYING OF 300MM JID RCC PIPE INTEL CHANNEL 400 MTRS.	18.02 2022 28.02 2022	95.37 LACS	https://etenders.fxy.nic/n	02666-223925 ec2sitsa@ofecftoryana.gov.in
п	PARCHAYATI RAU NARNAUL	CONST. OF EL.F.B. STREET WITH DRAIN AND R/WALL OF POND Z.P. NARNAUL	23.02.2022 04.03.2022	79.69 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic/m	8529995662 proveers.ord@hty.nic.in
14	PANCHAYATE RAJ PALWAL	CONSTRUCTION OF AGGARINAL GEN CHOPAL WITH B/WALL AT VILLAGE KUSHAK.	22.02.2022 01.03.2022	24.74 EACS	https://stenders.hty.ekc/m	8168399369 proxemg.pwt@gmail.com
15	RANCHWYATT RAJ PANIPAT	CONST. OF MODEL POND DWHENAR GADDA WALA JORAD + 1 OTHERS	18.92.2022 29.02.2022	80.38 LACS	https://etendens.fry.ric.m	9315510760 pressens pro@firy, ric, in







EXPRESS NETWORK 9

PLEA ON CRIMINALISATION OF MARITAL RAPE HC rejects Centre's request for time, reserves verdict

SOFI AHSAN NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE DELHI High Court on Monday rejected the Centre's request for more time to respond to petitions seeking criminalisation of marital rape and reserved its verdict in the case.

The government, which did not make any oral arguments in the case this year, told the court that its written stand of 2017 should not be treated as final.

Closing the hearing of arguments in the case, the division bench of Justices Rajiv Shakdher and CHari Shankar said it cannot "let the matter hang like this" and told the government that its consultation process can go on. There is no terminal date on when the consultation process would get over, the court said.

"Even after we conclude, we hear the matter, reserve for judgment, if you come back with something, we will look at it," the bench told the Centre. "To say that deferit endlessly, this cannot happen. This is a matter which will get closed either through a court route or a legislature route. Till this is there, and there is a challenge, we will have to go on."

The court said it was in a "logiam", as the government has asked it to not consider its stand already on record. Has it ever happened that a challenge is made

Loan fraud case: Former CMD of **ABG Shipyard** questioned again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE CBI on Monday questioned Rishi Agarwal, former promoter and chairman and managing director (CMD) of ABG Shipyard, for the second time in connection with the Rs 22,800-crore loan default by the company.

The agency had questioned him last week as well

Following the registration of a case against ABG Shipyard and Agarwal, the CBI had opened lookout circulars against Agarwal and other accused to prevent them from fleeing abroad. The agency has found that the company allegedly diverted funds using as many as 98 related entities.

Sources said Agarwal was earlier asked about the alleged diversion of funds detected by the agency during its investigation and was confronted with



Govt's stand 🔳 🛑 in 2017

since 2015. Although the government had replied to and opposed STATING THAT what "may the petitions in 2017, in January appear to be marital rape" this year it asked the court to deto a wife "may not appear fer the proceedings to await the so to others", the Centre in outcome of its consultation on the 2017 had submitted that subject with states and other striking down the excepstakeholders. tion "may destabilise the The government had said it wants to place a fresh stand before institution of marriage apart from being an easy the court after consultations. On tool for harassing the hus-Monday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta reiterated the request and

bands". It had also cited the "rising misuse of submitted that the Centre has Section 498A of IPC"written to chief secretaries of all cruelty by husband or states and Union Territories, as husband's relative against well as to the National a woman – to show how Commission for Women, on laws dealing with vio-February 10 on the issue of marital rape and asked them to share lence against women can be misused. their views. Mehta told the court the Centre is awaiting a response

but the matter is not heard, the court asked.

The bench said: "This [case] view without consulting the may be an input in your consultastakeholders, he added. Mehta tion. We are not a repository of said the issue affects social and family life and human relationwisdom but someone needs to ships, but the court declined to actake a call. If you agree with the petitioners or the respondents, say cede and said that in case the it... so that we can move further. Centre comes to it with an "out-But this...as they say, like a come" even after the arguments Trishanku vou are neither here are closed, that will be taken into nor there. Of course we are not consideration. Vishwamitra that we can put someone there as Trishanku."

party sees RSS hand, BJP denies SHAJU PHILIP On February 7, the court had granted two weeks to the Centre THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, to clarify its stand in the matter, FEBRUARY 21

which has remained pending

from them, and it would be desir-

able to defer the final adjudication.

It would not be prudent to take a

The court listed the case for

A CPM worker was allegedly hacked to death in Kannur district early on Monday morning. The party accused RSS-BJP men of killing the 54-year-old fisherman, but the BJP denied the allegation. The victim has been identified

CPM worker killed in Kerala:

as Korambil Haridas of Punnol near Thalassery in the district. The accused allegedly attacked the CPM leader when he was entering his house, chopping off one of his legs and inflicting several injuries before fleeing.

Seven people have been taken into custody. Police sources suspect the incident may be a fallout of the tensions between the CPM and the RSS for the past two weeks over a clash during a local temple festival. Cases had been registered against both sides.

CM Pinarayi Vijayan said: "There seems to be a concerted attempt behind the murder to shatter peace and trigger riots in the region," he said.

The CPM state secretariat alleged the murder was planned by the BJP. "The incident shows the BJP is not ready to put down the weapon," the secretariat said.

However, the BJP-RSS leadership denied the allegation. BJP state president K Surendran said neither BIP nor RSS had any role in the murder.

Jaishankar, French counterpart discuss India-EU ties, Ukraine, Afghanistan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar on Monday held talks with his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian in Paris – with the two leaders discussing several regional and global issues including the India-EU relationship, Afghanistan situation, Iran nu-

clear deal and the Ukraine crisis. Jaishankar, who arrived in Paris from Germany on a threeday visit to France, and Le Drian reiterated their commitment to the principles of multilateralism and a rules-based order. They also agreed to coordinate in the UN Security Council on issues of



Le Drian in Paris. PTI

mutual concern.

"Arrived in Paris. Held wideranging and productive talks with FM @JY_LeDrian. Discussions on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE funds, according to the family. PATNA, FEBRUARY 21 The incident took place on February 10 at UCO Bank's Mansoor Chowk branch at Bachhwara in Begusarai – a local resident named Mohammed Matin's daughter was allegedly denied cash when she went to withdraw money from her account.

bilateral cooperation, Ukraine situation, Indo-Pacific and JCPOA reflected our deep trust & global partnership. Look forward to participating in the EU Ministerial Forum on Indo-Pacific," Jaishankar tweeted.

The Ministry of External Affairs later said in a statement that the two ministers discussed, among other topics, the priorities of the French presidency of the EU Council that began on January 1 this year.

Jaishankar appreciated the French initiative of hosting an EU Ministerial Forum on Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific on February 22, where he will participate along with several other leaders from the Indo-Pacific and EU countries

Bihar: Bank denies cash to woman in hijab, allows after father intervenes ification while withdrawing Kumar told local reporters that

Farmers' kin move SC against Ashish Mishra's bail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

FAMILIES OF the farmers killed in Lakhimpur Kheri violence, in which eight people were killed in October last year, moved the Supreme Court on Monday challenging the Allahabad High Court

order granting bail to Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son Ashish. The family members said that

they approached the apex court as the State of Uttar Pradesh had not appealed against the bail granted to Ashish Mishra by the Allahabad High Court. The plea contended that the HC order did not consider the overwhelming evidence against the accused. The plea further argued that factors like position and status of the accused, the likelihood of him fleeing from justice and repeating the offence and the possibility of him tampering with evidence too were not taken into account.

On October 3 last year, a con-

voy of SUVs, including a Thar owned by Ajay Mishra, ran over a

group of protesting farmers in

Lakhimpur Kheri. Four farmers

and a journalist were killed and

several others were injured. In the

violence that followed, two BJP

workers and the driver of the Thar

On February 10, the Allahabad HC granted bail to Ashish Mishra. vehicle were also killed.

punjab national bank पंजाब नैष्टनल बैंक ..the name you can BANK upon ! ...भरोसे का प्रतीक !

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Circle Office- Ara, 2nd floor, Regal Complex, Near Raman Maidan, Ara, Bhojpur, Bihar, coarasamd@pnb.co.in SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

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

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

	SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS									
Lot. No.	Name of the Account, Borrower/ Guarantors Name, Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (Mortgagers of Property(ies))	A) Dt. Of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFESIACT 2002 B) Outstanding Amount C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFESI ACT 2002 D) Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/ Constructive	Price B) EMD C) last date of deposit of EMD	Date/ Time of E-Auction	Details of the encumbr ances known to the secured creditors				
1.	Prop: Sh. Ramdhani Jaiswal S/O Late	Dated 13.03.1996, Mauza- Dandawa, Anchal And P.S Mohania, Thana No- 535, Khata No-255, Plot No- 1306, Area- 1.25 Decimal, Boundary- North- Khanta Road, South- Siwan Awari, East- Puranwasi, West-Rest Plot Of 1306	01.04.2021 & Other	C) 08/03/2022	09/03/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM	Not Known				
2.	POLISHER MILL Prop SH ANAND PRASAD KESHARI S/O RAMJI PRASAD KESHARI, A/C No 2696009700001268	Land & Building situated at: 1. Sale Deed No- 1382 Dated 03.03.2009, Mauza-Kaudiram, Thana No- 541, Khata No- 41, Plot No- 304, Area- 12.66 Decimal, Boundary: North- G.T. Road, South- Sita Panery, East-Janeshwar Lal, West-Plot No- 304 Mortgagor: Sh. Sunil Prasad Keshari S/o Ramjee Sah 2. Sale Deed No- 1384 Dated 03.03.2009, Mauza- Kaudiram, Thana No- 541, Khata No- 41, Plot No- 304, Area- 12.66 DecimaL, Boundary: North- G.T. Road, South- Sita Panery, East- Plot no 304, West- Plot No- 304, Mortgagor: Sh. Murali Prasad Keshari S/o Ramjee Sah 3. Sale Deed No- 8028 Dated 03.09.2009, Mauza- Kaudiram, Thana No- 541, Khata No- 41, Plot No- 304, Area- 12.66 Decimal, Boundary: North- Road, South- Sita Panery, East- Plot no 304, West- Faudiram, Thana No- 541, Khata No- 41, Plot No- 304, Area- 12.66 Decimal, Boundary: North- Road, South- Sita Panery, East- Plot no 304, West- Fauzdar Singh, Mortgagor: Sh. Anand Prasad Keshari S/o Ramjee Sah.	A) 14.04.2018 B) Rs 64,94,438.00 +Intt w.e.f 01.03.2018 & Other Charges. C) 24.07.2018 D) Symbolic	A) 1. Rs. 17.44 Lakh, 2. Rs. 17.44 Lakh & 3. Rs. 17.44 Lakh B) 1. Rs. 1.74 Lakh, 2. Rs. 1.75 Lakh & 3. Rs. 1.75 Lakh C) 08.03.2022 D) Rs. 10,000/-	09/03/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM	Not Known				
3.	RICE MILL, PROP SH ARVIND KUMAR SINGH, A/C No 2784008700001414,	Land & Building situated at: MAUZA- DEOHALIA, DIST- KAIMUR-801110, KHATA NO 176,PLOT NO- 1257, THANA NO- 94, MAUZA- DEOHALIA KAIMUR, AREA- 45 DECIMAL, SALE DEED NO- 234 DATED 13.01.1971, MORTGAGOR: SMT LALSAKUNWAR	+Intt w.e.f 01.04.2015	A) Rs. 19.42 Lakh B) Rs. 1.95 Lakh, C)08.03.2022 D) Rs. 10,000/-	09/03/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM	Not Known				
4.	RICE MILL Prop: Umashankar Choubey, A/C No 2784008700002644, Branch- Gorsara	Land & Building situated at: Mauza- Sultanpur, Thana- Ramgarh, Thana No- 383, Dist- Kaimur, Halka No- 07, Khata No- 69, Plot No- 285, Area- 65 Decimal, Boundary: North- Road, South- Hari Narayan Choubey, East- Hardev Choubey, West- Gulabi Devi & Vindhyachal Choubey Mortgagor: Sh. Uma Shankar Choubey S/o Lt. Yamuna Choubey.	+Intt w.e.f 01.01.2016 & Other Charges. C) 12.10.2018	A) Rs. 31.85 Lakh B) Rs. 3.19 Lakh, C)08.03.2022 D)Rs.10,000/-	09/03/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM	Not Known				
5.	MINI RICE MILL Prop: Sh. Arvind Kumar	Decimal, Boundary: North- Shachidanand, South- Ramgyani Ram, East-Road, West-Kailash Ram Mortgagor: Sh. Arvind Kumar Singh S/o Rajbhansh	+Intt w.e.f 01.01.2016 & Other Charges. C) 29.08.2017	A) Rs. 22.18 Lakh B) Rs. 2.22 Lakh, C) 08.03.2022 D) Rs. 10,000/-	09/03/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM	Not Known				



further proceedings on March 2.

evidence provided by the SBI and other banks. Since then, some new facts had come to light during investigation for which Agarwal was questioned again, sources said. The agency on Feb 7 booked ABG Shipyard Ltd and Agarwal, along with a number of others for alleged offences including conspiracy, cheating, and breach of trust.

A PUBLIC sector bank in Bihar's Begusarai allegedly refused to pay cash to a woman since she was wearing a hijab and later allowed her to withdraw the money after her father asked the bank manager to cite rules directing banks to ask customers to lift their hijab or veils for ver-

The incident came to light after a video of the incident went online. Branch manager Ritesh

shot the video when he was talking to Kumar, Matin, a social activist, told The Indian Express, "The matter is settled now. We have no issues with the bank." UCO Bank tweeted in re-

Stating that his daughter had

the issue had been resolved.

sponse to the video, saying the bank respected religious sentiments. "[The] bank is checking the facts on this issue." it said.

hesphryargin @1800-180-3080

() Hanpler

- The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:
- The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS'
- The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation
- The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://www.mstcecommerce.com on 09.03.2022 @ 10:30 AM
- For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.tenders.gov.in, www.mstcecommerce.com https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app

Date : 21.02.2022 Place : Arrah

Sh. Deepak Kumar Gupta (Authorised Officer) **Punjab National Bank** Secured Creditor

AFTER 5 YEARS IN JAIL Pak woman who crossed over to be with Indian partner set to return

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 21

A NEARLY five-year prison ordeal of a young Pakistani woman, who entered India illegally to be united with her Indian lover, is set to end with Pakistan acknowledging her nationality and setting in motion her journey back home.

Sameera Abdul Rehman, 28, who became a mother in prison five months after her arrest in May 2017 in Bengaluru, has been waiting for papers to return to Pakistan since September 2021, when she was discharged in cases of illegal immigration and forgery registered against her.

Sameera, her now estranged husband Mohammed Shihab – a native of Kerala whom she met and fell in love with while in Doha, Oatar – and a Pakistani couple. Kasiff Shamsuddin and Kiran Ghulam Ali, were arrested by the Bengaluru Crime Branch police in May 2017 following an anonymous tip-off that Shihab was trying to arrange fake Indian citizenship documents, including an Aadhaar card, for Sameera alias Najma and the Pakistani couple.

While the Bengaluru police deported Kasiff and his wife Kiran, both aged 30, to Pakistan in 2018 after the couple admitted India through an illegal route (along with Sameera) after their families in Pakistan objected to their relationship, Sameera remained in India following questions surrounding the citizenship of the child born to her and Shihab, police sources said.

before a court that they arrived in

"The case is over. Two courts had convicted her. She completed her sentence in July 2021 and has paid her fine of Rs 1 lakh.

"She is awaiting deportation and the Pakistan High Commission has informed us that they have verified her nationality and are waiting for the MEA to provide clearance so that she can be repatriated," said Sameera's advocate in Bengaluru, Sahana B P, adding that she was transferred to a detention centre pending the de-

portation. On May 24, 2017, the Bengaluru police registered a case against Sameera, Shihab, and the Pakistani couple under the Foreigners Acts of 1939 and 1946, and the Passport Act of 1967, besides IPC sections of forgery.

According to statements recorded in the case by police, Sameera's family was opposed to her relationship and forcibly took her away from Qatar to Pakistan, from where she left for India to unite with Shihab.





Residential & Commercial Properties in Gurugram and Panchkula Zones

On 26th February, 2022

	Commercial prop Gurugram Zo	erties in ne		Resident	al properti	es in	Gurugram Zone	ł.,		Residential prope Panchkula Zo			Commercial prope Panchkula Zo	rties in ne
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1	4, Gurugram-I	2	1	5, Gurugram-I	7	17	47, Gurugram-II	1	1	27, Panchkula	12	1	5, Panchkula	8
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3	9, Gurugram-I	8	3	9-A, Gurugram-I	4	19	50, Gurugram-II	9	3	4 MDC, Panchkula	5	3	20, Panchkula	13
4	9-A, Gurugram-I	3	4	10, Gurugram-I	4	20	51, Gurugram-II	6	4	30, Pinjore	22	4	23, Panchkula	15
5	10, Gurugram-I	3	5	10-A, Gurugram-I	1	21	57, Gurugram-II	8	5	15, Jagadhari	6	5	25, Panchkula	10
_	10-A, Gurugram-I	6	6	12-A, Gurugram-I	1	22 23	6, Dharuhera	10	6	17, Jagadhari	4	6	1, Ambala	10
7	12-A, Gurugram-I	3	7	15-II, Gurugram-I	1	23	18-Def, Rewari	11	7	18, Jagadhari	3	7	8, Ambala	8
8	15-I, Gurugram-I	2	8	22, Gurugram-I	4				8	8, Ambala	28	8	10, Ambala	2
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https://hsvphry.org.in.

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022 THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE POLITICAL LANGUAGE IS DESIGNED TO MAKE LIES SOUND TRUTHFUL AND MURDER RESPECTABLE

- GEORGE ORWELL

The Indian **EXPRESS**

∽ Founded By ∽ Ramnath Goenka BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THE VICIOUS CYCLE

PM's linking of SP's poll symbol, cycle, to vehicle used for bombs tars and disrespects the Opposition

HE FACT IS this: In July 2008, 22 blasts took place within 70 minutes at various locations in Ahmedabad with explosives placed in buses, cars, parked cycles. In the rest of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in Hardoi in pollbound Uttar Pradesh, was more than a little spectre-mongering. Recalling the Ahmedabad blasts, days after 38 convicts were sentenced to death for them, the PM accused the Opposition of being soft on terror and joined dots that would otherwise appear to be impossible to connect. Linking the blasts to the SP's poll symbol, he said: "Cycle par bomb rakhe hue the (bombs were placed on cycles)". And: "Main hairan hun yeh cycle ko unhone kyun pasand kiya (I am surprised why they preferred the bicycle)". The cycle evokes many associations, it has several connotations, from simple mobility and balance to empowerment - the inexpensive and unsnazzy vehicle of the poor and middle class, the unlikely star of the Bihar government scheme for schoolgirls, which helped them to continue to study even when it meant pedalling to a school outside their village. It can no more be linked to the terror act than, say, the Congress's symbol, hand, or the BSP's elephant, except by a similarly incredible semantic leap - the terrorist's "hand", or terror as the "elephant" in the room. That the PM sought to make the poll symbol of a political opponent look sinister ahead of elections, however, speaks not of words and meanings, but politics - a politics that revels in tarring the Opposition and labelling it.

The PM's accusation of softness on terror cases against the SP, when it is in power, was also political polemic, but could be said to have more of a leg to stand on - in 2013, for instance, the then Akhilesh Yadav government ordered the withdrawal of cases against 19 persons facing terror charges, including for blasts in Varanasi and Gorakhpur, Lucknow and Ayodhya, on the ground of insufficient evidence. The PM's portrayal of that decision is harsh, but it is in consonance with his party's muscular stands on terror, and its strenuous projection of these positions to demarcate itself from its rivals in the poll arena. The airstrike on Balakot dominated the BJP's winning 2019 campaign. The cycle-terror equation, however, goes an unbecoming step further. It is one thing to allege that the political opponent is weak on national security and quite another to suggest that it is, in any way, implicated in or associated with acts of terror. In the context of UP, it is also a communal dog whistle, which may not be surprising -- the BJP campaign had spoken of kabristan vs shamshan, Ramzan vs Diwali, in the 2017 election in UP - but is nevertheless jarring.

In a democracy, disrespect shown to the Opposition can end up becoming disrespect to the people's right to choose, to democracy itself. For a campaigner of the PM's stature to lose sight of these vital distinctions in the heat of electoral battle is dispiriting and disheartening.

FLASHPOINT UKRAINE

Showdown between Kyiv forces and Russia-backed rebels highlights urgency of diplomatic solution to ongoing crisis

HERE IS LITTLE doubt that the ongoing crisis in Ukraine is in danger of becoming a flashpoint for a prolonged conflict between the US and Russia. On the ground, both state forces and Russian-backed separatists have mobilised, and both sides have accused each other of killing troops in the exchange of fire. Denis Pushilin, leader of the "Donetsk People's Republic", a separatist region, has appealed "to all the men in the republic who can hold weapons to defend their families, their children, wives, mothers". While an escalation of the conflict may not be part of the agenda for either Moscow or Washington, the showdown on Ukraine could spiral out of control.

On the diplomatic front, too, both sides have been raising the stakes. The Russian parliament has asked President Vladimir Putin to recognise the self-proclaimed "republics' of Donetsk and Lugansk in East Ukraine - a far cry from the 2014-15 Minsk Accords under which Moscow and Kyiv agreed to a ceasefire and a political settlement. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson accused Russia of planning to plunge Europe into "the biggest war in Europe since 1945". Washington, meanwhile, has claimed that Moscow has placed 1,50,000 soldiers on its borders with Ukraine, preparing for an invasion. Both sides, it appears, are raising the temperature in a bid to gain the upper hand in the negotiations. While Russia has remained adamant that it will not allow Ukraine to grow closer to the West - in effect, curtailing the country's sovereignty - the US and some of its NATO allies are presenting the dispensation in Moscow as militaristic and expansionist. However, attempts at an urgent diplomatic solution are also clearly in the works. On Sunday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called for a ceasefire between the forces on the ground. In the immediate term, two high-level meetings in the coming days hold the best hope for a de-escalation in Central Europe. US President Joe Biden has agreed, "in principle", to a summit with Putin but the White House also said that "We are also ready to impose swift and severe consequences should Russia instead choose war". The meeting, reportedly brokered by French President Emmanuel Macron, is contingent, according to the French presidency, on Russia refraining from an invasion. The meeting between US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Thursday will, hopefully, move the proposed summit forward. It is in these talks that hopes for regional peace and global stability rest.



Delhi can't continue to view Central Asia through Moscow's prism. It must engage region on its own terms

AS DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS to de-escalate the crisis in Ukraine continue, the time has come for Delhi to devote greater attention to Central Europe, which is at the heart of the contestation between Russia and the West. Delhi can't forever view this critical region through the prism of Russia's conflict with the West. It must come to terms with its growing strategic significance.

While the prospects for defusing the crisis have risen amidst the planned summit meeting between US President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin - brokered by French President Emmanuel Macron-it is important to remember that Central Europe is no longer just a piece of territory that Russia and the Western powers can divide into "spheres of influence". Central Europe today has an identity of its own and the political agency to reshape European geopolitics. A grand bargain between Russia and the West will work only if it is acceptable to Central Europe.

As External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar meets all the Indian ambassadors in Europe this week, it is a good moment to review Delhi's stakes in European security and elevate the importance of Central Europe in India's geopolitical calculus. Putin has been deliberate in raising the military temperature around Ukraine. He has set forth a clear set of demands, in writing, to the US and NATO for a sweeping overhaul of the current European security order that Putin sees as hostile to Russia. At the core of his proposals is the demand for a dominant role in Central Europe. One can quibble on Putin's wisdom on embarking on this risky geopolitical gamble, but there can be no misreading of what he is seeking. He wants to leverage the military tension for specific political ends. As the founder of the Soviet Union, Vladimir Lenin, had said, citing Clausewitz, "war (or the threat of war) is a continuation of politics (by other means)".

Continuing high-level conversations between Putin and Western leaders may yet lead to a de-escalation and substantive negotiations on European security. But the carefully crafted-military tension on the ground could easily spin out of control. The growing clashes between Ukrainian security forces and Russian-backed separatist forces in Eastern Ukraine could trigger an escalation that neither side wants.

As war clouds gather over Ukraine, there is

As war clouds gather over Ukraine, there is much focus on India's diplomatic balancing act, its unwillingness to publicly caution Russia against invading Ukraine, and above all its reluctance to defend Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. This is not the first time that Russia's approach to Central Europe has put Delhi in a tight corner. The Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956, and Czechoslovakia in 1968, exposed an important tension in Indian diplomacy. much focus on India's diplomatic balancing act, its unwillingness to publicly caution Russia against invading Ukraine, and above all its reluctance to defend Ukraine's sovereignty. This is not the first time that Russia's approach to Central Europe has put Delhi in a tight corner. The Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956, and Czechoslovakia in 1968, exposed an important tension in Indian diplomacy.

In Central Europe, India's pragmatism in not offending Moscow (an important partner) runs against the utter unacceptability of Putin's doctrine of "limited sovereignty", a continuation of the Soviet era policy of saying that the socialist states must subordinate their sovereignty for the sake of the "collective interests of the socialist bloc". While Putin's predecessors, Boris Yeltsin and Mikhail Gorbachev, abandoned this doctrine, he has sought to restore it in spectacular fashion by demanding a Russian say in Ukraine's geopolitical orientation as well as a veto over Central Europe's security policies.

The Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956 came amidst Jawaharlal Nehru's thundering denunciation of the Anglo-French attempt to seize the Suez Canal. While Delhi minced words on the Russian invasion of Hungary many opposition leaders criticised Nehru's ambivalence. That India needed the Soviet veto in the UN Security Council on the Kashmir question clearly shaped Delhi's readiness to subordinate its foreign policy principles for political expediency; but it opened India to the charge of diplomatic double standards. The invasion of Czechoslovakia to crush the Prague Spring of 1968 came at a time when Delhi was leading the Asian criticism of the US war in Vietnam. While Delhi twisted in the diplomatic wind to balance its political dependence on Russia with its commitment to national sovereignty, it was subjected once again to charges of geopolitical hypocrisy.

The prospective Russian invasion of Ukraine comes amidst India's military tensions with China and Delhi's continued dependence on Moscow's military supplies. It also comes at a time when Delhi is trying to build an international coalition against China's brazen attacks on the territorial sovereignty of its Asian neighbours. Delhi has no desire to see this coalition break down due to Russia's aggressive actions in Europe.

For the moment, Delhi is in a safe corner by calling for diplomacy in resolving the Ukraine crisis. But if Russia does invade Ukraine, the pressure on India to rethink its position will mount. Any such review must eventually lead to an independent appreciation of the geopolitics of Central Europe. Five crucial factors must shape that review.

First, Russia's claim for a broad sphere of influence in the region has no takers in Central Europe. Neither the former members of the Warsaw Pact like Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Romania, nor nations such as Ukraine and the Baltic Republics that were part of the Soviet Union want to be part of Putin's reconstituted Russian sphere of influence.

Second, while Russia has legitimate security interests in Central Europe, they can only be realised through political accommodation. Moscow cannot enforce a sphere of influence against the will of its prospective members. Central Europeans have long memories of Russian regional domination and look to the West for guarantees on their sovereignty. Third, few Central Europeans buy into the French vision for "European sovereignty" and "strategic autonomy". They bet that NATO, led by the US, is a better option than a Europe that is independent of Washington. They view with even greater distaste the prospects for Russo-German condominium over Central Europe. Fourth, while they are eager to be part of the Western institutions, Central Europeans resent any attempt by the US and EU to impose political values that run against their traditional cultures. Finally, Central Europeans are eager to develop sub-regional institutions that can enhance their identity. The Visegrad Four -- Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, and Slovakia -- is one of them. The so-called "Three Seas Initiative" brings together 12 European states running in a vertical axis from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Adriatic and Black Sea in the south.

These groups of states are at once a barrier and bridge between Russia and the West. They underline the complexity of European geopolitics and are valuable partners for Delhi in India's long overdue strategic engagement with Europe.

The writer is senior fellow, Asia Society Policy Institute, Delhi and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

NOTES OF SWEETNESS AND LIGHT

POLITICS, NOT SPORT

Winter Olympics in Beijing will go down as China's failed attempt to use and misuse sport for political propaganda

HE WINTER OLYMPICS wrapped up without any severe pile-up. But despite the most controlled outflow of information from the Games venue, the enduring legacy of Beijing 2022 will be of political calculation gone awry. Despite re-assertions from China about politics and boycotts not spoiling their Games, the lingering vibe from the postcard perfect venues will still be of a highly politicised sporting event that just couldn't front and centre the sport.

China's inability to address global concerns about tennis star Peng Shuai's claims of sexual assault against a high-ranking party official, despite allowing access to a French news platform, showed why the hosts couldn't pull off a Beijing 2008 encore of controlling every frame that the world watched. In fact, the chilling censorship, where not one voice of dissent could rise above the snow-blowers, only underlined that China could and would exert control over even their biggest tennis star, dictate every word she spoke, and control every move she made in the public eye. The silence of other athletes was loud. Beyond Peng, the row over Russian teenage ice skater Kamila Valieva's uncertain doping status dragged on through the entirety of the Games, overshadowing the event itself. In fact, winter Beijing's most glaring miss will be how completely overpowering was the stench of politics on sporting action, which might have risen to great heights, but simply couldn't wrest back the headlines. Tokyo last summer, in comparison, stayed understated as hosts, allowing sport to breathe.

The Winter Olympics in Beijing will go down as China's failed attempt to use and misuse sport for political propaganda. Try they did, even boorishly getting a soldier from Galwan to run the torch relay, but this time, China might've overplayed its hand. Turning sport into a sideshow, while hard selling their politics, might well have backfired in Beijing's 14-year-itch.



Sandhya Mukherjee combined skill, emotion to make songs unforgettable

BHASWATI GHOSH

SANDHYA MUKHERJEE CAME to my listening universe inconspicuously. Growing up as a probashi Bengali in Delhi in the pre-digital age, I didn't have Mukherjee as part of my early listening experience in the way Lata Mangeshkar or Geeta Dutt had been. I was two years away from hitting my teens when Mukherjee's voice unmistakable for its lilt and lalitya, Sanskrit/Bengali for sweetness or charm - entered my world as we moved to Chittaranjan Park in south Delhi. No Durga Puja went by without listening to songs by two legendary Mukheriees - Sandhya and Hemanta - being blared on loudspeakers. The pandals of the late 1980s were venues for the screening of blackand-white Bengali films on giant projectors. This was also when I found Sandhva Mukherjee's voice merging with the screen persona of Suchitra Sen, even as Hemanta Mukherjee's did with Uttam Kumar's who often played her romantic interest. As I spent the past few days listening to the breathtakingly wide range of songs Mukherjee sang in her long and illustrious career, I found that the ability to adapt - to artistic idiosyncrasies, situational peculiarities and the basic demands of a piece of composition - was what made her such a versatile and gifted artist.

Recently, I stumbled upon some near-forgotten gems - a whole stack of Hindi songs in her voice. Between 1950 and 1951, when she Mukherjee belonged to an era when the artist fraternity often came together to lend support to social and political causes. In 1971, when refugees from the erstwhile East Pakistan flooded Calcutta, Mukherjee played a leading role in raising funds and creating global awareness on the issue.

went to Bombay answering composer S D Burman's call, Mukherjee sang in as many as 17 Hindi films before returning to Calcutta and becoming a household name. One of the biggest appeals of Mukherjee's singing is the effortlessness with which she glides through different musical genres. She has sung some of the most memorable romantic songs, which she injects with sensuous dreaminess or playful vibrancy, depending on the mood the words intend to convey. In songs like "Ke tumi amare daako" and "Ei je kachhe daaka", Mukherjee imbues the notes with a quasimysterious air while retaining remarkable control. She's equally at ease singing "Ghiri ghiri aayi", a raag-based thumri in the film Antony Firingee, or in Kamallata, rendering Ham ekakini, tahe abhagini in kirtan style. In her ease in traversing this multitude of musical landscapes - film songs, Nazrulgeeti, classical and semi classical compositions, Rabindrasangeet, folk music – Mukherjee went beyond each style and made it her own. Each of her songs in Antony Firingee, a film in which she sang opposite Manna Dey, known for his classical command, remains a testament to her ability to combine skill and emotive persuasiveness. Whether it is "Tuhun mama mono prano hev" or "Champa chameli, golaperi baagey" or "Ami je jalsaghare," every song Mukherjee sang under composer Anil Bagchi's direction, bears the

stamp of this fluidity.

Mukherjee belonged to an era when the artist fraternity often came together to lend support to social and political causes. In 1971, when refugees from the erstwhile East Pakistan flooded Calcutta, Mukheriee plaved a leading role in raising funds and creating global awareness. She sang "Bongobondhu phire ele", written and composed to celebrate Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's release from the prison in Pakistan in 1972. The song aired on All India Radio in January that year. After the creation of Bangladeshin February 1972, Mukherjee was invited as a main guest to the celebrations in Dhaka.

Every autumn, just before the Bengali community gets into the Durga puja frenzy comes Mahalaya, the day inaugurating the festival. Bengalis across the world wake up to the notes of Mahishasuramarddini, a musical that plays at the crack of dawn on radio (and now on digital devices). From the stellar lineup of singers rises the voice of Sandhya Mukherjee, singing "Bimaney bimaney alokero gaane jaagilo dhoni" ("Riding air chariots, notes of ight take flight in song"). Despite her passing, Mukherjee's aloker gaan - bright notes - will keep taking flight.

Ghosh is a writer and translator, and author of Victory Colony, 1950



FEBRUARY 22, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDIA-TANZANIA TALKS

INDIA AND TANZANIA expressed grave concern at the building up of military arsenals in the Indian Ocean and resolved to work together to make the Ocean a zone of peace. Speaking at the banquet organised for the visiting Tanzanian President Julius Nyeyrere, the President N Sanjiva Reddy said that the Indian Ocean was now bristling with lethal weaponry and it was essential to strengthen efforts to reduce tension and create peace. Nvevrere who had arrived earlier on February 21 said that India and Tanzania were collaborating to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. He criticised South Africa for its continued defiance of international pub-

lic opinion and sanctions against its "odious racist policies". Reddy said India was proud to link with friends in the struggle for justice.

TRAIN CRASH

EIGHT RAILWAY EMPLOYEES were killed when a goods train capsized in the Nilgiris and rolled down a 60-feet slope between Adderley and Hillgrove stations. The train was carrying coal. The cause of the accident was not known and the entire crew died in the mishap. According to sources, the accident may have been caused by the failure of the brake system when the train was negotiating a sharp incline.

New Delhi

DELHI BANK ROBBERY

IN A DARING daylight robbery, five armed bandits looted over Rs 9 lakh from a branch of the Canara Bank in Maharani Bagh in New Delhi. The entire operation lasted about 10 minutes. None of the 23 bank employees present at the time of the incident were injured.

ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

A FRACTURE ZONE under the Antarctic landmass and a second undersea mountain in the Indian Ocean have been discovered by the Indian expedition that returned on February 20. The discovery of the fracture zone in the Antarctica is said to be of great significance.



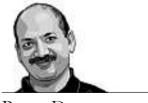


THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

THE IDEAS PAGE

After the wave

India's Covid-19 response must now switch momentum, focus on dealing with the disease in its less virulent form and address scars of past two years



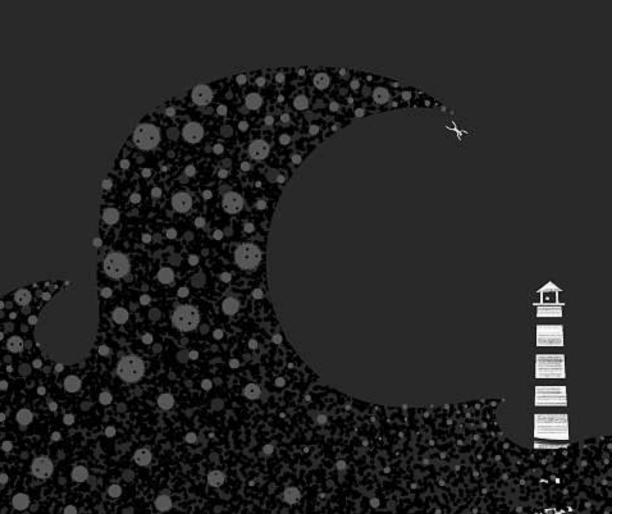
RAJIB DASGUPTA

THE OMICRON-LED surge in India - popularly, the Third Wave – saw a rise in new Covid-19 cases beginning end-December for about four weeks. The decline was dramatic, in about three weeks. This phase was marked by less hospitalisations, fewer complications and reduced mortality compared to the Deltadriven second wave. India's experience replicates that of South Africa. Some of the increase in death counts in recent weeks can be attributed to the "reconciliation" of deaths across states in the light of the Supreme Court's directive on compensation.

Omicron is the dominant variant currently, globally and India. It is likely to shape the state of the pandemic for some time. The Alpha variant had nine mutations in its Sgene and Delta had between nine and 13 mutations. Contrast these with the staggering 50 mutations in Omicron, including 32 mutations in the S gene. A French study found Omicron to be 105 per cent more transmissible than Delta and a Danish study found the variant's capacity to infect 2-7-3.7 times more than its predecessor. Delta was 100 per cent more transmissible than the parent strain. The WHO had, therefore, warned of a tsunami of Omicron cases overwhelming hospital services despite the virus being less virulent. Indian has, however, weathered this ongoing phase reasonably well.

The Omicron variant comprises three sublineages: B.1.1.529 or BA.1, BA.2 and BA.3. As of February 10, India was among the 10 countries that reported a predominance of BA.2 sub-lineage. Emerging evidence suggests that BA.2 is 30 per cent more transmissible than BA.1. However, current evidence from the US, UK, South Africa and Nepal also confirms continued "decoupling" - low hospitalisation and fatalities amidst rising new cases. At the same time, mortality due to Omicron does remain a matter of concern in patients above 75 years, those with comorbidities and importantly, the unvaccinated

Re-infection, people testing Covid positive 90 days after their last infection, is an emerging concern. The most obvious reason for this is Omicron's uniquely abundant mutations that make the variant extremely efficient to escape pre-existing immunity. Immunity also wanes since the last vaccination. That's why boosters are important. Evidence from countries with rollout and high coverage of vaccines, Israel and the UK, confirm protection from hospitalisation or death. The UK's Office for National Statistics estimates that the rate of re-infection has increased 15-fold in the



The current lot of Covid vaccines provide substantial protection against systemic disease in the lungs and other organs, but do not generate strong mucosal immunity that would be effective against the mild but the early infectious stage that affects the patient's nose and throat. Mucosal vaccines administered through a nasal spray can correct this significantly but these will quite likely require to be administered repeatedly as the duration of the immunity it confers is relatively short. Bharat Biotech's intranasal vaccine, BBV154, has received regulatory approval for phase 3 clinical trials for use as booster dose (third dose) for those who have received a primary schedule of Covaxin. If it passes the final regulatory test, the vaccine can be a potential game changer

The performance of the Covid vaccination programme, so far, provides ample testimony to vaccine confidence – trust in the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine, the system that delivers, including the reliability and competence of the health services and professionals In its acute phase in the past two years, the Covid-19 response framework was seen through the lens of a disaster. It focused, almost exclusively, on the mortality and morbidity aspects of disease. Revoking the National Disaster

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The high-speed train of China's rejuvenation once stopped at the '2022 Beijing Winter Olympics' station, shed warm and healing sunshine, watered the flowers of human unity, and brought the world the amazement of winter and the hope of spring." - GLOBAL TIMES, CHIÑA

Work of democracy

US-India commercial ties, and convergence could show the way to removing post-pandemic anxieties



Atul Keshap

DEMOCRACY IS UNDER strain. We see social tensions within open societies intensify as citizens question whether their system can deliver for them during this pandemic. Our competitors sense discord and the opportunity to challenge the relevance of democratic nations on the world stage. The prospect of global conflict is rising, and strategic competition is heating up; the free world feels beset.

I am, however, an optimist. Throughout my 28-year career as an American diplomat, including my time serving as Chargé d'Affaires to India, I have engaged with governments, citizens, and civil society to pursue shared interests and advance a positive vision of a freer and safer world predicated on fundamental human rights. For these efforts to succeed, we must demonstrate to our people and the world that democracy can secure their well-being and dignity, create a fair and innovative marketplace, and deliver economic growth and good jobs.

We find ourselves at a critical moment of geostrategic and geoeconomic convergence that demands the US and India embrace closer economic cooperation. I believe our two democracies can demonstrate to the world that we can, proverbially, deliver the goods for our people.

Through the pandemic, the US and India have shown the remarkable things we can accomplish when we work together. Delhi and Washington came to each other's assistance at moments of crisis, and we cooperated to airlift hundreds of millions of free doses of vaccines to low-income countries - generosity that reflects the values and compassion of our people.

This pandemic recovery, however, presents new trials. Inflation and supply chain woes are shrinking consumers' buying power, leading them to question the direction of our economic policies. Americans are seeing a dire workforce shortage, shipping delays, and in some cases, empty store shelves. At the same time, Indians are seeing the prices of essential commodities like fuel, cooking oil, and produce skyrocket. Some of this is temporary, as the Omicron wave results in many sick workers in crucial fields. Other root causes, however, are structural and require our urgent attention.

To prove that democracies can lead in the post-pandemic world, the US and India must work together to increase supply, bring prices down, and improve economic confidence. Delhi and Washington need to work together to remove unnecessary barriers to trade and seize the vast opportunities of our commercial relationship – aspiring to achieve \$500 billion in bilateral trade in goods and services. As strategically aligned partners facing shared challenges, the US and India can work to make the free world's supply chains more robust and re-

silient through closer cooperation across a range of sectors — including defence, energy, healthcare, and agriculture.

This cooperative approach could lead to widespread and impactful benefits for our citizens. We could see lifesaving medical innovations reach patients faster and at a better price point by protecting innovation and avoiding unnecessary regulatory divergence. We could better secure our borders through a stronger defence partnership and accelerate the energy transition. In the immediate future, we could ensure more affordable and reliable access to the goods our people need every day, stretching paycheques for our 1.7 billion consumers and citizens.

With a reinvigorated Quad and a reopened Trade Policy Forum, we have the government channels to pursue these goals. Now is the time for both governments to begin the hard work of removing the stumbling stones in the commercial relationship and prepare the way for a bilateral trade agreement. That road will be long, and some will call the goal unrealistic. As a diplomat, I heard the doubters make the same arguments before we sealed the India-US Civil Nuclear Agreement. It was a seemingly impossible undertaking, with a thousand nay-sayers and unworkable obstacles, until leaders on both sides decided it must be done to serve the security interests of both countries. A bipartisan majority in each country ensured the passage of that agreement, which supported India's rise in global affairs and facilitated strategic convergence between Delhi and Washington. Our leaders can likewise embrace the goal of a bilateral trade agreement as a powerful tool to deliver greater prosperity and opportunity that improves citizens' lives and proves the case for democracy around the world.

As we encounter an increasingly competitive and risky geopolitical arena in the 21st century, the US and India can spearhead a sustainable and inclusive abundance agenda through our trade partnership, making the case for democracy through our shared prosperity. This includes relaxing India's trade barriers, lowering America's talent barriers, ensuring sound and aligned regulatory practices, securing the free world's supply chain, and promoting investment across the corridor. As we face the challenges to democracy together, our prosperity is our strength, and our commercial relations are essential to enduring and meaningful cooperation.

The remarkable history of our nations demonstrates that democracies can secure the liberty, safety, and dignity of their people. Combined with free enterprise, these commitments can build a more prosperous and exciting future for the world. Our politicians, bureaucrats, and companies must work together to prove that democracies continue to deliver and show that the free people of America and India can lead the 21st-century world to even greater opportunities for the pursuit of happiness.



Omicron phase: Re-infections account about 10 per cent of current infections in England. in contrast to 1 per cent during November 2021. Re-infections with Alpha were symptomatic in 20 per cent cases. In contrast, Delta re-infections caused symptoms in 44 per cent cases and Omicron in 46 per cent. In general, re-infections boost immunity. But such re-infections do not confer 100 per cent immunity.

Analyses from UK confirm protection against mild disease 20 weeks after a twodose schedule. A booster dose increases it by 65 to 70 per cent. That declines to 45 to 50 per cent after 10 weeks. Protection against hospitalisation after a booster dose, however, is a lot higher – it's estimated at 92 per cent and remains high at 83 per cent after 10 weeks.

and the perceived motivations of the policymakers making decisions on the vaccine. In the journey ahead, two key challenges will require to be addressed. One, as perceived risks decline, there could be a rise in vaccine complacency with inoculation not being seen as necessary preventive action. Public messaging must ensure that such complacency does not arise. Two, the drive to make vaccines available and accessible must not flag.

The WHO foresees the acute phase of the pandemic to end by the middle of this year if 70 per cent of the global population is vaccinated – this will limit the emergence of newer variants. The goal of vaccine equity an ethical imperative as well - has been bedevilled by vaccine shortages and funding

Management Act that framed this response ecosystem should now be seriously considered. A switch to a "slow disaster" framework, instead, will enable re-profiling strategies over the next few years to deal with crises that could be long and complex -- the resumption of economic activities and education and removing the trauma and the scars of the pandemic.

Covid-19 response framework was seen through the lens of a disaster. It focused, almost exclusively, on the mortality and morbidity aspects of disease. Revoking the National Disaster Management Act that framed this response ecosystem should now be seriously considered. A switch to a "slow disaster" framework, instead, will enable reprofiling strategies over the next few years to deal with crises that could be long and complex – the resumption of economic activities and education and removing the trauma and scars of the pandemic.

and infrastructural inadequacies. Founded

on the principles of human well-being, equal

respect, national equity, reciprocity and le-

gitimacy, the WHO's Values Framework con-

siders Covid vaccines as a public good. By and

large, however, this message did not receive

adequate traction, both across and within

atively shorter periods, outbreaks of smaller

scale and the emergence of new variants.

Covid-related restrictions are being relaxed in

all states. Isolation guidelines and contact

management protocols are changing as well.

The core principles of prevention continue to be relevant though: Mask-wearing, hand hy-

giene and vaccination. This is the time to test

risk communication strategies. There needs

to more investment in research on social and

behavioural aspects of disease management.

In fact, dealing with long-Covid will require

far greater systemic response than what is be-

In its acute phase in the past two years, the

ing undertaken currently.

We could witness increased cases over rel-

countries.

The writer is Chairperson at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi The writer is a former US Chargé d'Affaires to India and is currently president, US-India Business Council

Pradesh seems to be hotting up and get-

ting uglier. It seems like election cam-

paigning has touched its nadir. How

could one liken the planting of bombs on

cycles to the election symbol of a politi-

cal party? The cycle is known to be the poor man's mode of transport. Can one

forget how a 15-year old girl brought her

ailing father from Gurgaon in Harvana to Darbhanga in Bihar on a cycle, during the

lockdown covering a distance of around

1,200 km? Let's not deride that humble

cycle. There are other real issues afflicting

WELCOME PACT

Melville X D'Souza, Mumbai

our country.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EMPATHY NEEDED

THIS REFERS TO the article, The compassion lesson' (IE, February 21). The writer has done a commendable job in lifting the veil of hesitation under which matters of children's mental health remain shrouded. We need to break our implicit, collective ignorance. For children, parents have a special role. They need to listen, for children have something to say. Our culture has turned a blind eye to these psychosocial matters. We need to grow as a culture and destigmatise these imperative discussions, for they affect us all. Let's humanise the whole experience of school education and turn it into a transformational and holistic process where every child is genuinely cared for.

A Bhatia, Amritsar

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Riding trade winds' (IE, February 21). The Free Trade Agreement between India and the UAE is indeed significant. It shows a renewed focus by New Delhi on improving bilateral economic ties and not just strategic ones - the latter has been the focus for the last few years. As far as RCEP is concerned, India's concerns were pertinent and largely correct. But at the same time, opting out of such a major regional trade agreement was not a sign of strength but of weakness. For that. India must focus on domestic capability and think of joining the latter. Nevertheless, this FTA shows that winds are changing in New Delhi and protectionist policies appear to be on the wane. West Asia is very important for India from many sides. With this deal, New Delhi will further its bilateral ties with the UAE, which have already been burgeoning for the last few years. Efforts should continue to sign other FTAs that are in the pipeline – with the EU, Canada, Australia and Israel.

Dewang Ganesh Thosar, Raigada

A safer India

Since 2014, a new norm of security has saved Indian lives, prevented attacks

Akhilesh Mishra

THE RECENT VERDICT by a special court in the 2008 Ahmedabad bomb blasts case has brought back memories of the dark era, not too long ago, when Indians were routinely killed with wanton disdain.

Consider this data from the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP) for regions outside of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and the Northeast. In just four years between 2005-08. 663 Indians were killed in terror attacks; since 2014 till now, just four and since 2016, zero.

This is not an incidental statistic. It is a reflection of what prevailing political ideologies can do to a country. Consider the contrast between 2004-14 national mindset of the Congress and 2012-17 mindset of the Samajwadi Party in Uttar Pradesh with what the Narendra Modi government has displayed since 2014

One of the first acts of the UPA government that came to power in 2004 was to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The message that went to the terrorists was unmistakable – we now have open season in India. Train commuters in Mumbai and shoppers in Delhi, devotees in Kashi and students in Bengaluru - everyone was a target, no one was safe. Such was the "freedom" that the terrorists enjoyed that they openly bragged about their impending attack through emails sent in advance.

. .

The year 2008 was particularly gruesome. Three hundred and eight Indians were murdered by terrorists that year. That same year, the Indian Mujahideen (IM) attacked cities like Jaipur and Bengaluru while the UPA government contented itself with doing "kadi ninda" for public consumption.

On July 26, 2008, the IM targeted Ahmedabad. Modi was then chief minister of Gujarat. He had police powers only in his state, nowhere else. But when the IM targeted Gujarat, they wrote their death sentence. It was the leads provided by the Gujarat police investigation that eventually led to the Batla House encounter, the liquidation of dreaded terrorists and the arrest of many more. The Indian Mujahideen has not been heard of since. Some of those arrested were among the 49 convicted by the Ahmedabad special court and awarded the death sentence.

But we all know of how the Congress behaved after the encounter. As per Salman Khurshid, the then Congress president became emotional when she saw photos of the encounter. Congress stalwart Digvijay Singh has still not given up his insistence of defaming the Delhi police, even though they lost a brave soldier of India in that encounter.

Cut to 2013. Akhilesh Yadav had become the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh. Among

his first acts was seeking to withdraw cases against terrorists who were later convicted. The court thwarted Akhilesh Yadav's attempt to free Tariq Qasmi, accused of the Gorakhpur blasts of 2007, and instead, tried and convicted him, imposing 20 years of rigorous imprisonment. Imtiaz Ali and Sitara Begum of Kanpur were similarly found guilty and sentenced to jail terms despite the Samajwadi Party seeking to have cases against them withdrawn. During this phase, as many as 14 cases against terrorists were similarly sought to be withdrawn by the Akhilesh Yadav government. It is the courts that thwarted these designs.

It is, first and foremost, the duty of a government to protect its citizens against all enemies - foreign and domestic. Everything else comes later. The experience and commitment that PM Modi brought with him from his Gujarat days manifested itself at the national level after 2014 when he became the prime minister.

On the domestic front, anti-terror laws like Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act have been strengthened, NIA has been given more teeth, the investigating agencies have been modernised with more resources being made available to them and terror financing has been squeezed through the creation of the Terror

Funding and Fake Currency Cell in the NIA. Insurgencies in the Northeast were ended with the signing of historic accords. Incidents of Naxalism have reduced by 70 per cent in 2020 as compared to 2009. Fatalities (civilians and security forces) have reduced by 80 per cent in 2020 as compared to 2010.

On the external front, the armed forces were given a free hand to deal with Pakistan through strikes which, for the first time, imposed a direct cost on that country. Terrorism and terror financing was consistently brought onto the agenda of the G20 through PM Modi's interventions, eventually leading to a broad international consensus in dealing with terror finance. Pakistan has been on the FATF grey list since 2018, with the threat of blacklisting looming over it.

Today, if India has emerged as a nation that has attracted \$80 billion in FDI even during the pandemic, created 42 unicorns in just one year and is the fastest-growing major economy in the world post the pandemic, then the bedrock of this success is the safety and security that has become the new norm under the Modi government. Any threat to the nation is treated as a threat to every Indian.

The writer is CEO, Bluekraft Digital Foundation and was earlier director (content) MyGov





New Delhi

dents as they return to classrooms, let us use this opportunity to make kindness and understanding an essential part of the larger educational ecosystem. While children have suffered from loneliness, loss and grief during the pandemic, in the times prior to that, they were under great stress due to the highly-competitive environment in schools and weighed down by astronomical expectations. We must not go back to that.

Induchoodan Menon, Thrissur

A NEW LOW

THIS REFERS TO the report, "'Cycle & bombs': PM targets SP on terror, says it withdrew cases against accused" (IE, February 21). The election scene in Uttar

THIS REFERS TO the article, The compassion lesson' (IE, February 21). While the writer has very correctly pointed out the need for greater compassion towards stu-

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022 12 EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY

ANDHRA PRADESH State minister dies of heart attack

Hyderabad: Andhra Pradesh Industries and Information Technology Mekapati Minister Goutham Reddy died of a heart attack on Monday in Hyderabad. A two-time MLA from Atmakur Assembly constituency in Nellore district, the 50year-old minister was taken to Apollo Hospital early morning after complaining of chest pain. However, hospital authorities said he was unresponsive when brought. ENS

RAJASTHAN Indian, Omani air forces begin joint exercise

New Delhi: The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Air Force of Oman began a bilateral joint exercise on Monday. The IAF said in a statement Monday that the bilateral exercise named Eastern Bridge -VI will be held from February 21 to February 25 at Air Force Station Jodhpur. ENS

J&K **BJP** corporator detained

Jammu: ABJP corporator of Srinagar Municipal Corporation was detained for questioning Monday after he was found travelling in a vehicle bearing fake registration and chassis numbers, police said. Nasir Ahmed Gilkar, they said, was travelling with two PSOs and was detained in Udhampurtown. ENS

Teachers exposed to adversity during pandemic write success stories online

PALLAVI SMART MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

PARTH MOMAYA, 27, from Mumbai's Ghatkopar had little

clue how his life was going to change when he started sharing his recorded lectures on social media after losing his coaching institute job in May 2020. Two years later, with 2.78-lakh subscribers to his YouTube channel, Momaya is now a brand that many big players have tried to acquire.

The offers are lucrative but I prefer the independence. I have worked really hard on this content." said Momava, who creates animated video lessons on science for Maharashtra state board's Class 10 students from home.

The prolonged education shutdown during the Covid-19 outbreak took a heavy toll on employment in this sector. While there is no official data on the jobs lost, an estimate by Maharashtra Coaching Class Owners' Association claims around 20,000 coaching centres in the state were shut during the pandemic.

Faced with uncertainty, some teachers turned to YouTube to continue teaching, eventually learning how to embellish their

ANONNA DUTT

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE TRANSLATIONAL Health

Science and Technology Institute

(THSTI) and Panacea Biotec con-

sortium has become the first

Indian team to receive a grant of

USD 12.5 million from Coalition

for Epidemic Preparedness

Innovations (CEPI) to develop a

vaccine that either works against

Sars-CoV-2 variants or all beta-

THSTI is an autonomous in-



video lectures with catchphrases, background score and animation to attract more students that also helps them make extra money as content creators and influencers.

Wasim Khan, 32, who is M Sc BEd qualified, says he couldn't pay the "donation" for a permanent government job and joined a private school. But when the pandemic hit, his hopes were dashed and Khan decided to move on. His first video lesson in Urdu on YouTube had 300 views. Encouraged by the response, he

has never looked back. Khan has nearly 60,000 subscribers, which is impressive given that he caters only to students taking lessons in Urdu. He has even roped in more Urdu-medium teachers on his channel. "I pay them per lecture basis. Some of them join voluntarily for experi-

stitute under the Department of

Biotechnology while Panacea

Biotec is a leading Indian drug

rently undergoing pre-clinical

studies. Once the final toxicology

study is completed for the pre-

clinical trial, the vaccine will

progress onto human trials. The

consortium targets to reach the

human trial phase in 18 to 20

months, said Dr Syed Khalid Ali,

chief scientific officer and the

This is the fourth grant glob-

project lead, Panacea Biotec.

Prevention of Atrocities

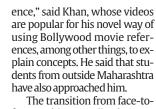
stitute, whose contractual ap-

pointment was abruptly sus-

pended on Monday morning.

The vaccine candidate is cur-

and vaccine manufacturer.



face teaching to online lectures was not easy for Khan. He improved his skills by watching tutorials online. He now uses a green background (chroma screen) to add visual effects to his videos and recently bought a noise-cancelling microphone.

"If we stop adapting and learning new techniques, the content will become boring for students,' said Momaya

Teacher influencers earn money through YouTube advertisements, subscription-based content, sponsored videos, branding opportunities and by selling question-banks and lecture notes That apart, they can also earn through "super thanks" and "super chats", a YouTube feature that allows viewers to support the content creators with small payments.

Well aware that their content has seasonal demand (during exams), many teachers are widening their reach by creating content for other state boards as well.

ally under Coalition for Epidemic

Preparedness Innovations'

(CEPI) USD 200 million pro-

gramme launched in March last

naviruses – alpha, beta, gamma,

and delta. The beta-coronavirus

encompasses not only the cur-

rent Sars-CoV-2, but also Sars-

CoV-1 that led to the SARS

(Severe Acute Respiratory

Syndrome) outbreak in 2003

and MERS-CoV that led to the

high-fatality Middle-East

Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)

There are four genera of coro-

"Through YouTube views alone. I earn up to Rs 20.000 monthly. Also, there are offers to make sponsored videos. For instance, a publisher might ask me to review a book on my channel because my subscribers are their target audience," said Shubham Jha, 23, who creates video lessons

for Class 10 students of Maharashtra board from his small studio set-up in Delhi. His channel has nearly 40,000 subscribers. Before Jha set up his channel

on YouTube in 2020, he taught at a coaching institute in Mumbai's Palghar to earn "pocket money" as a college student himself. As the pandemic turned learning virtual, ĥis students at the coaching institute started dropping out. That is when he started studying YouTube videos and reached out to a popular YouTuber, Dinesh Kumar Gupta, for guidance. Gupta, a school teacher, took to online teaching much before the pandemic hit, in 2017.

Edtech platforms, too, have started approaching them to take some lectures as visiting faculty. ing to Momaya, depends on the teacher's popularity. "The more followers you have the higher are

Corbevax gets emergency use nod for 12-18

age group

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE DRUGS Controller General of India on Monday granted emergency use authorisation (EUA) to Hyderabad-based Biological E's Corbevax vaccine for the age group of 12-18 years.

The EUA to Corbevax by the country's drug regulator makes it the third vaccine to have received EUA for the age group of 12-18 years. At present, India administers only Covid-19 vaccines to those between 15 and 18 years.

The government's expert panel on vaccine administration is expected to meet soon to decide on expanding the Covid-19 vaccination coverage from 12 years up. The government has only allowed Bharat Biotech's Covaxin to be used for the population above the age of 15 years.

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya tweeted, "The @CD-SCO_INDIA_INF has granted emergency use authorisation to COVID-19 vaccine #CORBEVAX for 12-18 year age group. It is India's 1st indigenously developed Receptor Binding Domain Protein sub-unit vaccine against Covid-19.This will further strengthen our fight against Covid19.'

Corbevax received emergency use authorisation in December last year for the adult population. However, it has not been used in the Covid-19 immunisation drive so far.

"We are pleased with this significant development, which helps extend the reach of our vaccine to the age group of 12 to 18 years. We believe that with this approval, we are even closer to finishing our global fight against the pandemic. Once fully vaccinated, children can resume their activities and educational pursuits..." Mahima Datla, MD, Biological E. Limited, said.

AID TO MOVE THROUGH PAK IN 50 TRUCKS India wheat aid to Kabul starts at Attari today

the wheat to be unloaded. and

loaded again into Afghan trucks,

at the Zero Point on Wagah-

than a month after India sent a re-

quest to Pakistan for sending food-

grain to Afghanistan through land

route, Pakistan Prime Minister

Imran Khan had told the visiting

Taliban delegation in Islamabad

that it would "favourably con-

sider" the request by "Afghan

brothers" for transportation of

wheat offered by India through

Pakistan "on exceptional basis" for

"humanitarian purposes, and as

per modalities to be worked out"

This was conveyed by Imran Khan

to Taliban Foreign minister Amir

Khan Muttaqi, who was accom-

and Commerce & Industry minis-

ters and senior members of the

In 2020, India assisted

Afghanistan with 75,000 metric

tonnes of wheat, External Affairs

Minister S Jaishankar had said at

the UN High-Level Meeting on the

Humanitarian situation in

Afghanistan in September 2021.

manitarian aid to people of

tioned the international commu-

quences of granting recognition

Afghanistan to only export goods

to India but doesn't allow any

other two-way trade through the

border crossing. India has so far

sent five batches of medical assis-

tance consisting of about 9 tons of

essential life-saving medicines to

Afghanistan.

Currently, Pakistan allows

On several occasions, India has

delegation.

panied by the Taliban's Finance

In November last year, more

Attari border.

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

FOUR-AND-a-half months after India proposed to Pakistan that it wants to send wheat for the people of Afghanistan, the first consignment of about 2,000 metric tonnes of the grain, laden in about 50 trucks, will roll out on Tuesday. They will be taken to Afghanistan overland through Pakistan in Afghan trucks, which will pick up the consignments at Attari in Punjab.

This is a significant diplomatic development where India and Pakistan are coming together to help the people of Afghanistan. India doesn't recognise the Taliban regime in Kabul.

The flag-off is expected to take place on Tuesday afternoon, sources said Monday. This is the first tranche of 50,000 tonnes of wheat India has committed to send to Afghanistan since the Taliban took over the country in mid-August. This follows a pact between India and the World Food Programme, signed earlier this month to supply foodgrain

expressed willingness to send huto Afghanistan as a humanitarian gesture. India had sent a proposal to Afghanistan, though it has cau-Pakistan on October 7 last year seeking the transit facility to send nity to think through the conse-50,000 tonnes of wheat and lifesaving medicines to Afghanistan to the Taliban regime. via Pakistani soil, and received a response from Islamabad on

November 24, 2021. Officials said the task of moving 50,000 metric tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan would require more than 1,200 trucks via Pakistan. The logistics suggest that Indian trucks would require

PM

Modi

PTI

proposals related to the educa-

Sitharaman had announced the

formation of a digital university

while presenting the Union

Budget 2022-23 earlier this

month. So far, the proposal has

not been given a concrete shape,

but the minister had said the

university will work with the

other central varsities in the

country to provide the required

The webinar, organised by the

government, also saw discussions

on issues ranging from develop-

ment of cloud-based platforms for

a Digital University to allowing

only top foreign universities to set

up campuses in India.

Student leader death: Bengal sets up

infrastructure and training.

Finance Minister Nirmala

tion sector.

Narendra

addresses

a webinar.

India rejects UN mission charges over journalist Rana Ayyub's 'harassment'

New Delhi: India on Monday reacted sharply to the allegations of the United Nations' mission in Geneva over "judicial harassment" ogainst iournalist Rana Awuh and

Govt bars scholarships FIR against IIMC Amravati director for studying Indian subjects abroad

coronaviruses.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

in India. So, we felt that the resources could be better spent on gaining expertise in other fields

Director of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Amravati, under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe

with universities to develop e-courses under SC/ST Act Mumbai, New Delhi: An FIR has been filed against Professor Anil Kumar Saumitra, Regional

SOURAV ROY BARMAN NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

ED-TECH companies will soon higher education institutes of-The complaint has been filed by Professor Vinay Sonule, fering online undergraduate and postgraduate degrees to help deassistant professor from the invelop course content and carry out evaluation of students under a set of sweeping reforms planned by the University Grants Commission (UGC). UGC chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar told The Indian Express on Monday that the proposed amendments are aimed at encouraging greater flexibility for colleges and universities and harnessing the technological tools available with the fast growing ed-tech sector. "Through amendments in the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020, universities and colleges offering online UG and PG programmes will be allowed to collaborate with ed-tech platforms towards developing course content and Financial Rules," Kumar said. The amended draft regulations are likely to be put out in public domain for suggestions and feedback in the first week of March.

UGC chairperson **M** Jagadesh

Digital University can solve issue of limited seats

cases since 2012. "What we are trying to do is develop a vaccine designed to prevent all known and future beta-coronavirus infections including SARS, MERS, and Covid-

19. These viruses have a tendency to mutate and result in development of variants. "These variants might escape

the existing immune response or a non-pathogenic virus might become pathogenic. A broadly protective vaccine will be effective against all beta- coronaviruses," said Dr Ali

UGC reforms: Ed-tech firms can tie up

Payment for such lectures, accordyour chances of revenue."

Indian team gets grant for vaccine against Covid variants

THE MINISTRY of Social Justice and Empowerment has issued fresh guidelines barring students from applying for the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) to study several humanities subjects, including Indian history, culture and heritage, abroad.

Published earlier this month for 2022-23. the ministry has sought applications by March 31.

R Subrahmanvam, Secretary, Social Justice and Empowerment Department, said the move was a considered one. "There is a rich repository of resources and excellent universities and courses within the country on these subjects. We have made an estimation within the ministry of the capabilities guiding high-quality research within the country and felt that the scholarship for studying abroad was not needed to study Indian history, culture or heritage. In any case for such subjects, the majority of the field work would have to be within the country and 3/4th of the

The decision has invited criticism from different quarters. Senior Congress Dalit leader PL Punia said: "This is an objectionable move. If a Scheduled Caste student wants to pursue superspecialisation in a particular field in a foreign university, he/she should be encouraged and allowed to do so. This move restricts the opportunities for SC youth. The government is pushing Dalits out of the higher edu-

cation system." However, GB Pant Social Science Institute Director Prof Badri Narayan said: "Any archival research or field work on these subjects needs to be necessarily carried out in the countrv itself. If the ministry has decided to better utilise these funds in other subjects, it should not be time a student spend would be an issue," he added

"We have not taken out social studies entirely from the NOS," he said, adding that students who wanted to study these particular subjects could apply for fellowships the ministry provided for Indian universities.

Saumitra, a former BJP member, has been a controversial figure and was suspended from the party's primary membership in May 2019 for calling Mahatma Gandhi "father" of Pakistan in a Facebook post. "Suddenly, on Monday, I re-

ceived an email informing me that my contract has been suspended. The question here is if the regional director has the powers to suspend my contract. My appointment was finalised by head office in Delhi," said Sonule.

DCPMM Makandar said, "We have registered an FIR and are investigating the matter...We have not arrested the accused yet."

Sources at IIMC, Delhi said they were aware of the matter and that it was being looked into, adding a call will be taken on Tuesday. ENS



Kumar said the regulator also plans to allow top-rated autonomous colleges to offer online degrees from the 2022-23 academic session. Autonomous colleges that have been among the top 100 rank holders in NIRF (National Institute Ranking Framework) twice in the last three cycles or have NAAC grad-

ing of minimum 3.26 will be covered under the relaxations. Currently, only universities and their constituent colleges that

fulfill these criteria are allowed to offer online degrees. At present, 59 universities offer 120 UG, 29 PG and two PG diploma degrees online, of which 15 per cent are science courses. 50 per cent related to business administration, and 35 per cent to humanities. The initiative to formalise the

involvement of the ed-tech sector in digital education comes at a time when the government has been urging the industry players to conduct their businesses with more transparency.

in higher education: PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Monday said that the proposed Digital University can potentially solve the issue of limited seats in higher education institutes, and prepare students to meet the demands of the present as well as the future.

"When we were connecting our villages through optical fibers, trying to keep the cost of data affordable, improving infrastructure related to connectivity, some people used to raise questions on the need for such initiatives. But during the pandemic, everyone realised the importance of our efforts...The Digital University can entirely solve the issue related to seats in our universities. Imagine the possible transformation in the education world if there are unlimited seats on a particular subject," PM Modi said in his inaugural address at a webinar on Budget

termed the charges as "baseless and unwarranted", asserting that the country upholds the rule of law and no one is above it.

India's Permanent mission in Geneva, in a tweet, said: "Allegations of so-called judicial harassment are baseless & unwarranted. India upholds the rule of law but is equally clear that no one is above the law. We expect SRs (Special Rapporteur) to be objective & accurately informed. Advancing a misleading narrative only tarnishes @UNGeneva's reputation." it said.

Official sources in New Delhi said the matter will be followed up by a note verbale from the Indian mission in Geneva.

Earlier, the UN in Geneva tweeted about "relentless misogvnistic and sectarian attacks onne" against journalist Ayyub.

Earlier this month, sources in the Enforcement Directorate said the agency has attached over Rs 1.77 crore worth of bank deposits of Ayyub in connection with a money-laundering probe. Ayyub has rejected the allegations. ENS

NAGAUR RAPE-MURDER: QUESTIONS RAISED OVER POLICE VERSION Kin of accused, victim point fingers at local Cong man

DEEP MUKHERJEE PALOT (NAGAUR), FEBRUARY 21

JUST 3 km from Palot village in Rajasthan's Nagaur district, a long trench runs through a vast expanse of empty field, adjacent to the main road. Empty liquor bottles lay scattered around the trench, dotted by thorny shrubs. It was here that a 35-year-old Dalit woman was found by police on February 10 morning.

Barely alive, she had injuries and insect bites on her body. The police said she had been lying there for six days – raped and strangled by her assailants, who left her to die. They said it was a "miracle" she was alive. The police also suspended two of their own officials for not making efforts to

trace the woman after her family approached them on February 6,

two days after she went missing. The woman, who was brought to Jaipur for treatment,

died on February 17. The police have arrested Suresh Meghwal, also a Dalit, on charges of rape and murder. A juvenile who allegedly aided him has been detained.

But several people, ranging from Suresh's family to the woman's family, do not buy the

police narrative. Instead, they point to the involvement of a man named Aaydan Ram Dara, a Congress worker from the lat community and member of the Deedwana Panchayat Samiti.

The opposition BJP, too, has alleged his involvement. The party's Rajya Sabha MP Kirodi Lal Meena

alleged that the accused have the political patronage of Aaydan.

> "My nephew is innocent and has been framed. On February 5 evening, Aaydan came to our house with several people and threatened Suresh and family. He abused us with casteist slurs and said there will be dire consequen-

ces if Suresh takes Aaydan's name before the police. Police tortured Suresh to extract his confession," said Nanuram. Suresh's uncle.

"Suresh used to work for Aaydan. He would work as a labourer...That night Suresh dropped the woman and the juvenile at a place in the village and returned home. I don't think the woman was lying there for six days. She may have been dumped there one or two days before she was found. But from February 5 till

his arrest, Suresh was at home." According to Nagaur SP Ram

Moorty Joshi, Suresh was brought in for questioning on February 6 but was later let off. It was for this negligence that the SHO of the local police station and a head constable were suspended.

A relative of the woman said, "We don't believe that Suresh is completely innocent but we think that Aaydan is also involved She may have been taken to some other location and later dumped at the spot where she was found. It is difficult to believe that she was lying there for six days."

While Aavdan was not available at his home, his family denied the allegations. "Suresh never worked for my father. All the allegations being levelled are false and are part of a political conspiracy.

This is being done because of Congress-BIP rivalry... We have decided to file a defamation case against those who have alleged my father's involvement, including BJP MP Meena," said Mukesh, Aavdan's son.

Although the woman's brother had demanded Aaydan's arrest, the police said no proof has been found yet against him. "A call from the woman's phone did go to Aaydan's phone, but we have found no evidence of his presence at the crime scene," SP Joshi said. He denied that Suresh was tortured to extract his confession.

He also denied allegations that the woman was dumped there one or two days before she was found. Teams from FSL came to the conclusion that she was lying there for six days, he said.

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA, ATRI MITRA & SWEETY KUMARI AMTA, KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 21

EVEN AS the West Bengal government announced on Monday that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) would probe the death of 28-yearold student leader Anis Khan, the victim's family reiterated their demand for a CBI probe under court supervision in the case.

While the family members of Anis claimed that they were "offered a job, money and an opportunity to meet Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at Nabanna" but they "refused for the time being" - this claim was denied by state panchayat and rural devel-

SIT, family firm on CBI probe demand opment minister Pulok Roy, who along with TMC's Uluberia MP Sajda Ahmed, visited the bereaved family on Monday.

According to the family, Anis was killed on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday after being allegedly thrown off the second floor of his residence by four unidentified persons in Howrah district's Sarada Dakshin Khan Para village. His father Salem Khan has alleged that one of the accused was "in police uniform" and the others in civil volunteers' uniform. The police have denied the allegation.

Speaking with The Indian Express at his residence on Monday, Anis's father Salem Khan said, "A man identifying himself as a representative of CM Mamata Banerjee had visited us on Sunday night, saying the government is ready to provide us with a job and compensation... an offer that I refused...That night, four people visited my home and killed my son. We want the murder accused to be arrested soon. We want justice. I told him categorically that we want a CBI probe under court supervision," said the grieving father.

Anis's uncle Jalim Khan, too, claimed that a "government representative" visited the family with an offer. "The same person came again to our home on Monday morning, and then came along with the minister Pulak Roy] and the MP [Sajda

Ahmed]...," the uncle said. However, while speaking with The Indian Express later on Monday, Roy denied that the government had made any such offer to the family.

13 **EEXPLANATION**

@ieExplained#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to **explained@indianexpress.com**

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE





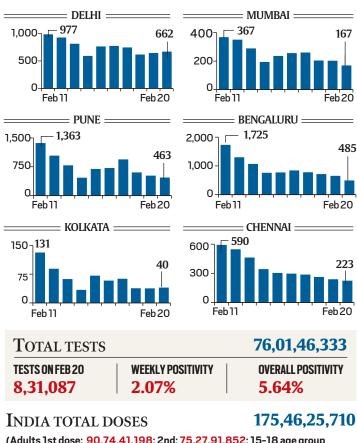
NEW CASES, DAILY



SURGE IN THE STATES

State		Weekly		
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	positivity
Kerala	5,427	66,814	92	13.80%
Maharashtra	1,437	16,422	8	1.95%
Rajasthan	1,022	9,803	4	3.85%
Karnataka	1,001	12,671	18	1.75%
Madhya Pradesh	950	7,527	2	1.80%

Cases in the cities, last 10 days



(Adults 1st dose: 90,74,41,198; 2nd: 75,27,91,852; 15-18 age group 1st dose: 5,36,77,342; 2nd: 2,17,30,069; precautionary:1,89,85,249)

First dose Second dose	FEBRUARY 19: 9,03,013
3500000	

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Pandemic and endemic

The UK has eased restrictions while new measures in California approach Covid-19 as being endemic. What does endemic stage mean, how far is India from getting there, and what changes in control measures?

1.649

MAY 3,202

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

PEOPLE WITH Covid-19 will no longer legally need to isolate in United Kingdom and the tests are likely to be scaled back as part of a plan to live with Covid-19. California too has announced a shift to an endemic approach to Covid-19 that will focus on watching out for new variants and reacting quickly to outbreaks rather than issuing mandates for masking indoors.

A look at what an endemic stage of Covid-19 will look like, how the world will reach there, and what it will mean for control measures such as masking, social distancing in India and vaccination globally:

What does endemic stage mean, and are we there yet?

An infection becomes endemic when the rates become static in a given geographical location, meaning that the pathogen causing the disease — SARS-CoV-2 in this case — is likely to remain in circulation without causing large outbreaks as witnessed over the last two years.

Although the number of infections in India is consistently declining, experts say they cannot give a deadline on when the disease will become endemic. It will depend on the number of susceptible people in the population, vaccination rates, and emergence of new variants that are able to evade the immune response.

"Endemic means that the virus will continue circulating in the population and there will be periodic ups and downs when the conditions are favourable to the virus and less favourable to humans. Take, for example, flu which goes up in the winters and when the season is changing because of lower immunity in people or dengue which goes up after monsoons because of the availability of vectors. Covid-19 also may become seasonal and cause disease in the vulnerable," said Dr Pramod Garg, director, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)-Faridabad.

An important determinant for whether we can "technically" say that the disease is endemic would be a representative sero-survey (population-level survey of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2) and laboratory susceptibility studies, said Dr Amit Singh, associate professor, Centre for Infectious Disease at the Indian Institute of Science-Bangalore.

FEB 28, 2020

JULY 2.2020

"We can say that the disease is endemic only after we see that a majority of the people have immunity against the infection either through previous exposure or vaccination. If a representative sero-survey shows over 90% positivity, we can assume that. But we also need to see whether these antibodies can effectively protect against the current variants and a neutralisation study would tell us that," Dr Singh said.

Does it mean we are safer?

UK

2,50,000

2,00,000

1,50,000

1,00,000

50,000

A disease becoming endemic does not mean it is harmless. In an editorial in *Nature*, Oxford University professor on viral evolution Dr Aris Katzourakis argued, "A disease can be endemic and both widespread and deadly. Malaria killed more than 600,000 people in 2020. Ten million fell ill with tuberculosis that same year and 1.5 million died. Endemic certainly does not mean that evolution has somehow tamed a pathogen so that life simply returns to normal."

He added, "Nor does it suggest guaranteed stability: there can still be disruptive waves from endemic infections, as seen with the US measles outbreak in 2019."

Researchers are also wary of new variants emerging. Another Nature article on the virus's future course said, "The sky-high circulation of the Delta variant and the rise of Omicron — aided by inequitable vaccine rollouts to lower-income countries and minimal control measures in some wealthy countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom — offer fertile ground for SARS-CoV-2 to take additional surprising evolutionary leaps."

DAILY INFECTIONS: SEVERAL DIPS, BUT NEVER ZERO

2,19,290

JAN 4.

2022

25,536

FEB 20, 2022

INDIA

4,00,000

3,00,000

2,00,000

1,00,000

MAY 1, 2020

How will control measures change if the disease becomes endemic?

Although experts have pushed for easing of restrictions, they say that there is a need to maintain high levels of testing and good genomic surveillance.

"We need to maintain high levels of testing and ensure that the cases get reported. Testing is quite less in smaller cities and villages and with home testing becoming available even in bigger cities like Delhi, people are not reporting if they test positive. Testing can tell us whether infections are going up or down," said Dr Singh. He also insisted on good genomic surveillance.

Talking about genomic surveillance when the disease becomes endemic, Dr Rakesh Mishra, former director of Centre For Cellular And Molecular Biology-Hyderabad which is one of the ten central labs of India's genomic surveillance consortium, said, "It is not always about the numbers. During the peak of a wave, a lot of sequencing makes no sense. It is more important in a period of lull. That is the time to not relax."

The best way to find new variants, he said, was to "One, conduct a general survey; sequence probably 1% or 2% of the positive cases. Two, wherever there are more cases from an area, we should sequence immediately. Third, we need to keep a very close eye on hospitalised cases. The sample of any person admitted to the hospital with positive Covid-19 should be certainly sequenced. If they needed to come to the hospital with severe symptoms, it may be because of a new variant."

4,14,188

MAY 6.

2021

16.051

5.326

2021

FEB 20, 2022

DEC 20,

Should we continue to mask up?

"There is no real benefit in declaring that the disease is now endemic," Dr Mishra said. "What is the hurry to remove restrictions? If we live with the new normal, we will be protecting the economy as well. We don't know when a new variant might emerge. If we look at omicron, it did not cause severe disease in India but in the US it led to high rates of hospitalisations and deaths. US is a smaller country, it is a richer country. We cannot afford to do what they did. We have all suffered, let us not fall into the ditch of a new variant," he said. Other experts agreed that the precautions

should remain in place. Another concern with officially declaring Covid-19 endemic would be fewer resources being made available for measures such as vaccination. "There is a vaccine inequity; not all countries are vaccinated. If the disease is declared endemic, then the 10% vaccination rate in some countries will remain 10%' nobody will take care of that," said Dr Singh.

"The more a virus replicates, the greater the chance that problematic variants will arise, most probably where spread is highest. The Alpha variant was first identified in the United Kingdom, Delta was first found in India and Omicron in southern Africa – all places where spread was rampant," Dr Katzourakis wrote in the *Nature* editorial.

singing of hymns.

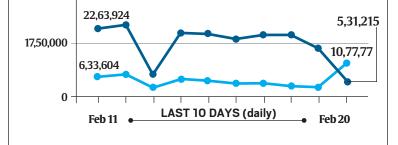
Manipur's tradition of flag-hoisting by candidates

TORA AGARWALA

for the elections. Dr Bedavati Laishram, Assistant Professor of history at Manipur University, said Athenpot Thinba is a ritualistic proces-

37

The significance Observers say the flag-hoisting ceremony, apart from being a public declaration that a candidate is standing from a particular constituency, is also an indicator of how strong or popular he/she is. "It is like a show of strength... if a lot of people show up at your flag hoisting, it means you are very popular, and have a better chance of winning," said a senior Congress leader from Manipur. The ceremony is also a way to seek blessings from the voters before the campaigning starts. It is not clear when the tradition started to become an important part of elections in Manipur. Observers say it has been happening for quite a while. Imphal-based historian Wangam Somorjit points out that flags in general hold a place of importance in the political and religious life of Manipur's history, and this practice could be linked to that. "For Meiteis, before that go into the temple and pray to a deity/god, they first pray to a religious flag," he said, adding that the belief was that those who seek power, must especially keep the flag in reverence.



Control Contro

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BEFORE SETTING off on the campaign trail for the Manipur elections, being held on February 27 and March 3, candidates are holding a special 'flag-hoisting ceremony' in their respective constituencies. The practice, unique to Manipur, cuts across parties, ethnicities, religions and communities.

The ceremony

The ceremony is usually held in the courtyard of the candidate's home on an auspicious date in the calendar. While the event simply involves the candidate hoisting the party flag, followed by a prayer by a priest and blessings by community elders, its scale and ceremony vary from candidate to candidate.

In the Meitei-dominated Imphal valley, a practice called the *Athenpot Thinba* is a key part of the flag-hoisting ceremony. In it, women from the community carry a variety of fruits and vegetables, rice, traditional snacks and flowers, and deposit them at the base of the party flagpole. Other gifts are also given to the candidate to wish him/her luck

sion that marks the auspicious beginning of any event. "*Athenpot* usually refers to an offering, which includes a mix of items, such as food and flowers, and *Thinba* means to present/drop things," she said. The giving of *Athenpot* is common practice, and found in other traditional festivals such as Lai Haraoba, and even weddings.

In religious ceremonies, *Athenpot* is presented to appease the gods; in elections, it is done to show support to the candidate.

Following that, the candidate can interact with the people, or deliver a speech. Central leaders or star campaigners too attend flag hoisting ceremonies of some candidates. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who was in Manipur last week, attended the flag hoisting ceremony for BJP's Y Khemchand Singh, contesting from Singjamei.

The date of the ceremony is selected on the basis of astrological predictions in some areas. For example, a number of candidates held their flag-hoisting ceremony on February 14, as it was considered an auspicious day.

Flag-hoisting ceremony of Sh Yuh Jonathan Tao, candidate from Karong, in the presence of state BJP President Sharda Devi. Twitter/BJP Manipur

While the ceremony cuts across religions and faiths, there are variations on how it is done. The Meiteis, who follow Vaishnavism and Sanamahism, may have a puja in the ceremony. In the predominantly Christian hill districts, the ceremony is usually presided by a pastor who delivers a sermon, with blessings by elders, and may be followed up with

Apple, Google privacy moves: boost to user agency, data concentration

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

FOR YEARS, the business model of Internet giants that provided "free" services hinged on collecting user data and monetising the information in the form of advertisements. The global spotlighting of data privacy issues has, however, forced the companies to change their ways of working. At the same time, the big tech firms — Facebook, Apple, Google, Amazon — have come under increasingly intense antitrust scrutiny for attempts to monopolise their businesses.

Decisions made recently by Apple and Google to give users greater control over the use of the data they generate online can be seen both as a boost to user privacy and as a step towards consolidating further the position of these companies.

What have Apple and Google done?

Last year, Apple added the app tracking transparency (ATT) feature to iPhones and

iPads, which requires apps to seek users' permission to track their activity across other apps and websites. This impacted companies who were dependent on advertising as a revenue model, because the ATT feature cut their access to the data of iPhone users, which they harvested and used for targeted advertising. Meta, Facebook's parent, said the financial hit from Apple's move could be "in the order of \$10 billion" for 2022.

Earlier this month, Google announced that it would bring the Privacy Sandbox -the privacy solution that it is building for the web -- to Android devices. The new solution would "limit" the sharing of user data with third parties, and operate without cross-app identifiers, including advertising IDs. The advertising ID is a unique, user-resettable ID for advertising provided by Google Play services.

The Privacy Sandbox on Android could go live in two years.

But what is the Privacy Sandbox?

In the context of the web, Google has said that the Privacy Sandbox will phase out third-party cookies and limit covert tracking. A 'cookie' is a small piece of data stored in the browser when a user visits a website.

Third-party cookies are stored by a service that operates across multiple sites. For example, an ad platform might store a cookie when you visit a news site. First-party cookies are stored by the website itself.

So, if the news site is storing a cookie, it will use it to offer curated news items the user is more likely to read. But if an ad platform like Facebook stores a cookie when one visits a news site, it is likely to use that information and categorise the user in certain buckets based on preferences, and will offer advertisers the ability to target the user with specific ads. This can also be used for political advertisements.

How do cookies work, in plain terms?

Imagine you are flying with a friend, and you have a check-in bag each. Imagine that before putting the bags in the aircraft belly, airline personnel go through their contents. They find a bottle of Chanel perfume and Tommy Hilfiger clothes in your bag, and put a red sticker on it. In your friend's bag they find a camera tripod and books on photography, and put a blue sticker. (These stickers are cookies.)

At the destination, the driver of your cab notes the stickers, and hands you separate advertisement flyers: to you for Hermes bags, and to your friend for Canon DSLRs. Brands and local businesses have paid the cab company to hand over pamphlets to passengers, and your ride is now free.

How has Meta been hurt?

Having got the choice to opt out of app tracking, many iPhone users have done so for apps such as Facebook, stymieing the primary channel for the company's online advertising business, according to a report in *The New York Times*.

With the reduction in the volume of data gathered from users' online activity such as e-commerce and search engine queries, and other social media activity, it has become more difficult for Facebook to target specific ads, potentially cutting the incentive for advertisers to run promotions on the platform. Online ads targeted at iPhone users typically have higher conversion rates than Android, so these users opting out of app tracking is especially damaging.

While Privacy Sandbox on Android could have a deeper impact on Meta given the larger global market share of Android devices, even the implementation of the solution on the web could hurt Meta. Unlike Google and Amazon, Facebook depends heavily on tracking the third-party activity of users to generate data. In the case of Google or Amazon on the other hand, users help generate first-hand data through their queries.

How could these developments lead to further concentration of data?

Solutions such as the Privacy Sandbox mean the phasing out of cookies, currently the go-to tech for online advertisers.

Google had proposed that cookies should be replaced with FLoC (Federated Learning of Cohorts) -- which meant that instead of interest-based advertising that was enabled by cookies, users would be bunched into groups with comparable interests. But privacy advocates argued that rather than stopping the tracking of users' online activity, FLoC put the tracking directly into Google's hands. Antitrust investigations were opened in the UK and the European Union.

Google gave up the FLoC project, and last month announced 'Topics', through which the company's Chrome browser would curate a user's top interests in a week based on browsing history. A key difference between FLoC and Topics is that the latter will exclude categorisation based on sensitive categories such as race, religion, sexual orientation, etc. A developer trial will launch soon, Google said.

While Topics would give users greater choice to limit the gathering and use of their data by third-party apps, it would still continue to track these users through its bouquet of apps such as Search, Gmail, Google Maps, GPay, YouTube, etc.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022 4 'I'HE WORLD

TOPOFTHE WORLD



Jamal Edwards was awarded an MBE in 2015.AP

BRITIAN

Jamal Edwards, who helped launch stars of music, dies at 31 JAMALEDWARDS, a British music entrepreneur who championed UK rap and grime and helped launch the careers of artists including Ed Sheeran, Jessie J and Stormzy, has died. He was 31. His mother, broadcaster Brenda Edwards, said Monday that her son died the day before after a sudden illness. Edwards founded the YouTube music channel SBTV as a teenager in 2006. The channel has helped a generation of performers, including rappers like Stormzy, Skepta and Dave, gain national and international attention. AP

PORTUGAL Fire dies down on ship carrying

luxury cars A FIRE that swept through a cargo ship carrying luxury cars and adrift off the coast of Portugal's Azores islands has lost its intensity, probably because there is little left to burn, an official said. The Felicity Ace, carrying around 4,000 vehicles including Porsches and Bentleys caught fire in the Öcean on Atlantic Wednesday. The crew were evacuated. **REUTERS**

IRAN **US-built military**

jet crashes, 3 dead A US-built F5 jet in use by Iranian military crashed into the wall of a school in



Passengers are welcomed as they arrive at the Sydney International Airport on Monday. AP

Welcome back world: Australia fully reopens borders after 2 yrs

After being away from loved

ones for months there were

many emotional reunions, in-

cluding for Cindy Moss who

travelled from the US state of

long and it was such a big thing

to be able to get over here. So I'm

so excited," she said after hug-

ging her daughter, her voice

"I just haven't seen her in so

Kentucky to see her daughter.

RENJUJOSE SYDNEY, FEBRUARY 21

AUSTRALIA ON Monday fully reopened its international borders to travellers vaccinated against the coronavirus after nearly two years of pandemic-related closings as tourists returned and hundreds of people were reunited with family and friends.

More than 50 international flights will reach the country through the day, including 27 touching down in Sydney, its largest city, as the tourism and hospitality sectors look to rebuild after getting hammered by Covid-19 restrictions.

cracking with emotion.

"It is a very exciting day, one Tourism is one of Australia's that I have been looking forward to for a long time, from the day biggest industries, worth more that I first shut that border right than A\$60 billion (\$43 billion) and at the start of the pandemic," employing about 5% of the coun-Prime Minister Scott Morrison try's workforce. But the sector was crippled after the country told reporters in the island state of Tasmania, which relies heavily shut its borders in March 2020. Once a champion of Covid-

suppression strategy, Australia shifted away from its fortressstyle controls and relentless lockdowns since late last year and began living with the virus after reaching higher vaccination levels. Skilled migrants, international students and backpackers have been allowed to fly into Australia since November in a staggered re-REUTERS opening exercise.

INCREASING FEARS OF ATTACK

Uncertainty over proposed Biden-Putin summit

NYT&REUTERS MOSCOW, FEBRUARY 21

THE KREMLIN said Monday that President Vladimir Putin would recognise the independence of two territories in Ukraine controlled by Moscow-backed separatists, further escalating tensions in what Western nations fear could lead to one of the biggest conflicts in Europe since World War II.

The announcement was made by the Kremlin in a statement summarising Putin's phone calls on Monday with President Emmanuel Macron of France and Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany.

"The president of Russia said that he intended to sign the relevant decree in the near future," the Kremlin said. "The president of France and the Federal Chancellor of Germany expressed their disappoint-ment with this development. At the same time, they indicated their readiness to continue contacts."

Putin was expected to deliver an evening address to the nation later on Monday.

His phone calls with the German and French leaders came after an extraordinary session of the Russian Security Council at which Putin accused the US and its allies of using Ukraine "as an instrument of confrontation" with Russia, and said it posed "a serious, very big threat to us".

The move is a high-stakes gambit by Putin that threatens to engage Russia and Ukraine in a deadly military conflict while sharply escalating Moscow's conflict with the West.

The separatist enclaves claim all of Ukraine's eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions as their territory, while controlling only about one-third of them. Russia has conducted an enormous troop buildup to Ukraine's north, east and south, which Western officials say could be used to conduct a

Forex-starved Sri Lanka

Kremlin: Russia will recognise **2** separatist regions in Ukraine Ukraine seeks

lines, according to an analysis

by Maxar Technologies, which

Earlier, Macron gave hope of

a diplomatic solution, saying

Putin and US President Joe

Biden had agreed in principle

were no specific plans for a sum-

mit. The White House said Biden

had accepted the meeting "in

principle" but only "if an invasion hasn't happened". **REUTERS**

DONALD TRUMP'S new social

media venture, Truth Social,

launched late on Sunday in

Apple's App Store, potentially

marking the former president's

return to social media after he

was banned from several plat-

download shortly before mid-

night Eastern Time and was au-

tomatically downloaded to

Apple devices belonging to users

The app was available to

But the Kremlin said there

to meet.

REUTERS

FEBRUARY 21

forms last year.

NYT

Satellite images show new phase of Russian military readiness



A satellite image shows a motorised rifle battalion near Soloti, Russia, on Sunday, Maxar Technologies via Reuters

SATELLITE IMAGERY collected this weekend shows an apparent shift in Russia's military deployment around Ukraine. In contrast to the large-scale deployments visible in imagery over recent weeks, some smaller deployments are now visible. Several units or troops have been deployed outside bases or training grounds, with some positioned along tree

released the imagery. The Maxar analysis noted that most of the combat units and equipment at Soloti, a military garrison outside the city of Valuyki, have left and that "extensive vehicle tracks and some convoys of armored equipment" have been seen in the area.



large-scale invasion.

Earlier on Monday, Russian state television showed video of the Russian-backed leaders of separatist territories in eastern Ukraine appealing directly to Putin to recognise their independence. Russia's Lower House of Parliament passed a resolution making such an appeal to Putin last week

emergency meeting of UN **Security Council RICK GLADSTONE** FEBRUARY 21 AS WESTERN fears of a Russian

invasion intensified, Ukraine said Monday it had requested an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss ways to guarantee its security and deescalate the crisis with Russia.

The request, which was announced by Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, came as President Vladimir Putin of Russia was weighing whether to recognise two breakaway regions of Eastern Ukraine, which could help lay the groundwork for Russian military forces to pour into Ukrainian territory.

"I officially requested UNSC member states to immediately hold consultations under article 6 of the Budapest memorandum to discuss urgent actions aimed at de-escalation, as well as practical steps to guarantee the security of Ukraine," Kuleba said in a Twitter post. NYT

Pak's Imran set to meet Putin in Russia this week

Islamabad: Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan will fly to Moscow this week to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin, Islamabad confirmed on Monday – the first such trip by a Pakistani leader in two decades.

The two-day visit, starting on Wednesday, was planned before the current crisis over Ukraine. "During the Summit meeting,

the two leaders will review the entire array of bilateral relations including energy cooperation," Pakistan's foreign office said, adding that Khan and Putin will also discuss issues including the situation in Afghanistan, REUTERS

Trump's new social media app launched on App Store



on tourism

UK PM Boris Johnson

fense," Johnson said.

Johnson confirmed that mandatory self-isolation for people with Covid-19 will end starting Thursday, and the routine tracing of infected people's

also stop offering the public free rapid virus tests, though they will be available privately for a price, as is already the case in many countries.

surprises.

currently dominant strain.

Boris Johnson scraps remaining **Covid-19 restrictions in England**

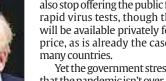
JILL LAWLESS LONDON, FEBRUARY 21

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson said Monday that he is scrapping the last domestic coronavirus restrictions in England, including the require-

ment for people with Covid-19 to self-isolate, even as he acknowledged the potential for new and more deadly variants of the virus.

Johnson told lawmakers in the House of Commons that the country was "moving from government restrictions to personal responsibility" as part of a plan for

treatments as our first line of de-



Yet the government stressed that the pandemic isn't over and the virus could still spring nasty

Johnson said scientists were "certain there will be new variants and it is very possible they will be worse than omicron," the

Johnson said the fact that that Queen Elizabeth II tested positive for Covid-19 on Sunday was "a reminder that this virus has not gone away.

Buckingham Palace said the

95-year-old monarch was expe-

riencing mild, cold-like symp-

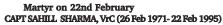
toms, was continuing with light

duties and would follow all gov-

ernment regulations.

the northwestern city of Tabriz on Monday, killing the two pilots and a person on the ground, Iranian state TV reported Monday. The school was closed at the time of the crash. **REUTERS**

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



27 years ago on this day you laid down your life in the service of our motherland, fighting the enemy in the world's highest battlefield, Siachen. You are fondly remembered and deeply missed by every member of 'YUDHE NIPUNAM' family. You are and always will be our leading light. CO and All Ranks 237 Field Regiment.

NDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LINITED X YSIR VIDIUT SOUDHA, CORPORATE OFFICE, ITI COLLEGE ROAD, VUX/AVADA-SOUGO

E-Producement Notice Tender notification No: CPWPT-43, 44, 45 (2021-22 of APCPDC), CGN (PSNM) DI: 22-07-2022 APCPDCL invites online bids under e-producement for producement of 11 KV Three Phase NG Fuse Sets, LT Three Phase NGF use sets, GJ, FLAT 26X3/mm (Hot Dip), 11 KV Metal Parts (C&T) and LT Metal Parts. Tenderers can have further datase and download the tender schedules from e-Procurement marketplace from 22-02-2022 i.e., NDps:0lender.apeprocurement.gov.in (published by APCPDCL). Ph.0854 2965456 & Email: comprim.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in.

Chief General Manageri P&WM, APCPDCL, Andhra Prader



GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY Website : www.ipu.ac.in

TENDER NOTICE FOR INVESTMENT OF CPF FUNDS

Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University intends to invest its funds o CPF Trust approximately Rs. 6.29 Crores in fixed deposit in two spells during the period w.e.f 23rd February 2022 to 1st March 2022 Investment of Rs. 2.31 Crores shall be finalized in the first spell on 23rd February 2022 and the details regarding remaining investment shall be notified subsequently on the University website. Accordingly competitive interest rate quotations are invited from the Nationalize Banks only by post or via Email on Email Id:-investment@ipu.ac.in. The validity of interest rates and other detailed information may be seen or the University **website "www.ipu.ac.in"** under the Head "Tenders" in Events & Notices during the aforesaid period. (Controller of Finance)



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treating Covid-19 like other transcontacts will stop. missible illnesses such as flu.

People will still be advised "We now have sufficient levto stay home if they are sick – but will no longer get extra fiels of immunity to complete the transition from protecting peonancial support introduced ple with government intervenduring the pandemic for those tions to relying on vaccines and who miss work.

The government plan fore-Many people who think they sees vaccines and treatments keeping the virus in check. have Covid-19 may never know for sure. Starting April 1, lab-con-Everyone 75 and older will be offirmed PCR tests for the virus will fered a fourth vaccine dose, be available free only to older along with those 12 and up who have conditions that make them people and the immune-com-

vulnerable to severe disease. AP promised. The government will MADHYA PRADESH TOURISM BOARD CORPORATE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (CIN): U75302MP2017NPL043078 6th Floor, Lily Trade Wing, Jahangirabad, Bhopal Madhya Pradesh, India, Pincode - 462008

Website: www.tourism.mp.gov.in No. 128/MPTB/2022 and ID 2022_MPTB_185843_pack1

Dated : 21.02.2022 **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ORGANIZING CRUISES**

AT VARIOUS WATER BODIES IN MADHYA PRADESH

The detailed EOI document will be available from the date 22.02.2022 on the website : www.tourism.mp.gov.in/https:// www.mptenders.gov.in/ Interested Applicants may submit their response to the EOI by the last date 21.03.2022, 1500 hrs. For further information, Contact Mr. Ankit Kaurav, Company Secretary, Mobile No. 9407057416 Tel No. 0755-2780600 or email on csmptb@mp.gov.in

MANAGING DIRECTOR M.P. Madhyam/103743/2022

भारतीय वायु सेना/INDIAN AIR FORCE AIR FORCE STATION SOHNA ROAD NOTICE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Air officer Commanding, Air Force Station Sohna Road invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from registered vendors and companies for supplying of Handheld spectrum analyser with digital signal processing and direction finding features, to Air Force Station Sohna Road. The Expression of Interest (Eol) should accompany copy of relevant license and other relevant documents/information including technical specifications and available features of the equipment being offered. The Eol should be submitted to office of the Chief Engineering Officer, Air Force Station Sohna Road within 15 days from the date (inclusive) of publishing this advertisement. The communication address is appended below:

> **Chief Engineering Officer** Air Force Station Sohna Road Near Rajiv Chowk, Gurugram Haryana - 122001 Ph: 0124-2200053, 54, 55

davp 10802/11/0041/2122

runs out of cash to buy fuel

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO, FEBRUARY 21

SRI LANKAN government on Monday admitted that it ran out of cash to buy fuel as pumps in most filling stations across the country ran dry, exacerbating the deepening foreign-exchange crisis that has crippled the island nation's economy.

So dire is Sri Lanka's current economic situation that it does not even have adequate US dollars to pay for two shipments of fuel. "Two shipments of fuel have

arrived today, but we are unable to pay for it," Sri Lanka's Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila said on Monday.

Last week, state-owned refinery Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) said it was out of money to procure supplies from abroad.

The CPC suffered losses to the tune of \$415 million in 2021 due to the sale of diesel at prices fixed by the government.

"I had warned about the impending fuel shortages due to the dollar crisis twice in January and once earlier this month," Gammanpila said.

Sri Lanka's worsening foreign-exchange shortage has seriously impacted the energy sector, which largely depends on imports for fuel.

The fuel shortage has led to long queues at understocked pumps across the country.

Gammanpila reckoned that the only way out of this mess is by hiking the retail prices of fuel. placed you on our waitlist."

Trump was banned from Twitter, Facebook and YouTube following the Jan 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol by his supporters, after he was accused of posting messages inciting violence.

Led by former Republican US Representative Devin Nunes, Trump Media & Technology Group (TMTG), the venture behind Truth Social, joins a growing portfolio of technology companies that are positioning themselves as champions of free speech and hope to draw users who feel

who had pre-ordered the app. Some users reported either having trouble registering for an account or were added to a waitlist with a message: "Due to Acquisition Corp. massive demand, we have

their views are suppressed on more established platforms. TMTG is planning to list in New York through a merger with blankcheck firm Digital World

REUTERS

Leak shows Credit Suisse served strongmen

JESSE DRUCKER & BEN HUBBARD FEBRUARY 21

THE CLIENT rosters of Swiss banks are among the world's most closely guarded secrets, protecting the identities of some of the planet's richest people and clues into how they accumulated their fortunes.

Now, an extraordinary leak of data from Credit Suisse, one of the world's most iconic banks, is exposing how the bank held hundreds of millions of dollars for heads of state, intelligence officials, sanctioned businessmen and human rights abusers, among many others.

A self-described whistleblower leaked data on more than 18,000 bank accounts, collectively holding more than \$100 billion, to the German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung.

The data covers accounts that were open from the 1940s until



King Abdullah II of Jordan is among the people listed as holding amounts worth millions of dollars in Credit Suisse accounts. File

well into the 2010s but not the bank's current operations.

Among the people listed as holding amounts worth millions of dollars in Credit Suisse accounts were King Abdullah II of Jordan and the two sons of former Egyptian strongman Hosni Mubarak. Other account holders included sons of a Pakistani intelligence chief, General Akhtar Abdur Rehman Khan, who

helped funnel billions of dollars

from the United States and other countries to the mujahedeen in Afghanistan in the 1980s and Venezuelan officials ensnared in a long-running corruption scandal. The leak shows that Credit Suisse opened accounts for and

continued to serve not only the ultrawealthy but also people whose problematic backgrounds would have been obvifor the bank. said in a statement that "Credit Suisse strongly rejects the allegations and inferences about the bank's purported business practices.' Sun said that while Credit

ous to anyone who ran their

names through a search engine.

Candice Sun, a spokesperson

Suisse can't comment on specific clients, many of the accounts identified in the leaked database have already been closed. "Of the remaining active accounts, we are comfortable that appropriate due diligence, reviews and other control-related steps were taken, including pending account closures." she said.

The leaked records were provided to Germany's Süddeutsche Zeitung more than a year ago by an unidentified whistleblower. Of the dozens of news organizations collaborating on the project, none were based in Switzerland, where a 2015 law restricted journalists from writing articles based on internal bank data. NYT





THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022 **15** ECONOMY

KARUNJIT SINGH

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

EVEN AS the government signals

a renewed push on the trade front

by targeting early harvest bilat-

eral deals, India's existing Free

Trade Agreements (FTAs), most of

which were inked in the mid-

2000s and are under an official

review process, have seen im-

ports grow much faster than ex-

ports to nine countries and two

trading blocs, with which India al-

ready has trade agreements, grew

36 per cent to top \$62 billion

while imports from these coun-

tries grew 44 per cent to nearly

from \$5.8 billion in FY11.

cent to \$93.2 billion.

Israel and the EU.

South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand,

Singapore, Sri Lanka, Nepal,

Bhutan and Mauritius. India also

Between FY11 and FY21, ex-

ports over the last decade.

GOLD RUPEE OIL SILVER **⊙** ₹63,329 ₹49,827 Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of February 18

SENSEX: 57,683.59 ▼ 149.38 (0.26%) NIFTY: 17,206.65 ▼ 69.65 (0.4%) NIKKEI: 26,910.87 ▼ 211.20 HANG SENG: 24,170.07 ▼ 157.64 FTSE: 7,506.26 ▼ 7.36 DAX: 14,958.55 ▼ 83.96

POLICY WATCH DATA ACCESSIBILITY

IT Min draft pitch: 'Enriched' Central data can be sold for 'appropriate price'

AASHISHARYAN NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE MINISTRY of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has proposed that government data, which has been collected at the Central level and has "undergone value addition/transformation", can be sold in the open market for an "appropriate price".

The "value addition" would mean when the government data, which is collected by various line ministries, their departments and agencies are processed in a way such that "it can add value to a product or digital delivery of services," an official of the IT Ministry said, asking not to be named.

According to a draft of a new policy called 'India Data Accessibility and Use Policy', stakeholders such as researchers, startups, enterprises, individuals, and even government departments "will be able to access" this "enriched data" through various mechanisms of data licensing, sharing and valuation. The Ministry has sought public comments on the draft by

March 18. These stakeholders can access such data through the India Data Office, which will be a new department created under MeitY.

The move to make public data collected by Central ministries comes even as the government is deliberating on the Data Protection Bill. Though a Ioint Committee of Parliament has already presented the final copy of its report on the changes that should be included in the Bill, government officials have said there could be more changes to it before it is tabled in Parliament for discussion and approval.

Anew framework for identifying "high value data-set" on the basis of the data's degree of in the market so cio-economic benefits that can be derived from it, the impact of such data set on the country's artificial intelligence strategy and performance on key global enterprises will also be chalked out. All the ministries and departments of the Central government will have to "identify, publish and maintain" their high-value dataset (HVD), while the framework to decide what will consist of HVD will be finalised by the India Data Council.

'VALUE ADDITION'

The "value addition" would mean when the government data, which is collected by various line ministries, their departments and agencies are processed in a way such that "it can add value to a product or digital delivery of services," an official of the IT Ministry said.

each ministry will have its own Data Management Unit, which will be headed by a Chief Data Officer (CDO). The CDOs at the central and state level, as well as the India Data Officer will together comprise of an India Data Council (IDC). It is this IDC which will define the framework for identifying HVDs of respective central ministries and their departments or agencies.

Though all government data shall be open and shareable by default, ministries can notify if a said dataset under "a negative list" of database, which will not be shared. Databases placed under the "restricted access" umbrella will be shared only with "trusted sources" which

will be defined by the respective ministries and their departments. "Each Central ministry/de-

partment shall adopt and publish its domain-specific metadata and data standards. These standards should be compliant with the interoperability framework, policy on open standards, institutional mechanism for formulation of domain-specific metadata and data standards and other relevant guidelines published on the e-govt standards portal."

TRADE DEFICITS WITH S KOREA, INDONESIA, JAPAN AMONG THE HIGHEST Behind FTA policy calibration: More imports, lack of competitive edge

International market data till 1900 IS SC agrees to hear Mistry review plea on March 9

may also be subject to challenges at the WTO if they are not converted into agreements that eliminate Customs duties and other trade barriers on "substantially all the trade" between the WTO

Dhar said it was important for Cyrus Mistry the government to ask industry about pain points in market ac-

member countries.

tries", Dhar said.

der negotiation.\

are the little things that have of-

ten paid dividends in other coun-

Pradeep S Mehta, secretary

general of CUTS International,

also highlighted competitiveness

as the key issue holding back

Indian exports noting the high

cost of doing business in India.

cess in countries with which FTAs INDU BHAN are there to boost exports. "These NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

> THE SUPREME Court has agreed to hear in open court on March 9 a batch of petitions filed by Cyrus Mistry seeking review of the apex court's March 26, 2021 order which had upheld his ouster as the chairman of Tata Sons in October, 2016.

"In India, power rates are one of the highest in the world and we A three-judge Bench comprishave the anomaly of industrial ing Chief Justice NV Ramana and power rates being higher than justices AS Bopanna and domestic rates," Mehta said, V Ramasubramaniam considered the request for an open court adding that high logistics costs and relatively lower availability of hearing in chamber on February finance had also hampered 15, but the order was uploaded on India's exports. Mehta added that Monday. While the Bench in a 2:1 majority decision allowed the rethe lack of competitiveness had also made Indian industry hesiquest for a rare open court heartant about the FTAs currently uning, Justice Ramasubramanian dissented with the other 2 senior Mehta did note, however, judges. "Applications seeking oral that the government's Rs 1.97 hearing of the review petitions are lakh crore production linked in-

allowed. List the review petitions on March 9," the CJI and Justice centive scheme to boost manufacturing across sectors and the Bopanna said in their order. national logistics policy were However, Justice Ramasteps in the right direction to subramanian expressed his "inboost competitiveness of Indian ability to agree" with the majoritv order. FE

TRADE WITH 19 FTA/RTA 80,000 PARTNERS (IN \$ MILLION) 70,000+ 60,000 ← ■ Exports ■ Imports 74,496 50,000 62,683 40,000 51,889 30,000+ 46,103 20,000-10,000-0 FY11 FY21

Note: Does not include trade with Mauritius as FTA was signed in 2021, FTA stands for free trade agreement, RTA is regional trade agreement Source: Commerce Department

has a trade agreement with the ASEAN group of countries and is part of the South Asian Free Trade Agreement.

Growth | 36%

Among countries with which \$75 billion, doubling the trade India has trade agreements, key deficit to \$11.8 billion in FY21 markets where exports have grown on a net basis between The gap between growth in FY11 and FY21 include Nepal, exports and imports was even larger in FY19, the last fiscal that Malaysia, Bangladesh and Thailand while import growth was not impacted by the pandemic. Between FY11 and FY19, has far outpaced export growth in trade with Vietnam, Singapore, India's exports to these countries grew by 57 per cent to \$72.4 bil-Indonesia and Japan. While lion while imports grew 80 per India's exports to South Korea have grown slightly faster than India concluded an FTA with exports between FY11 and FY21, the UAE last week and is currently trade deficit with South Korea in in the process of negotiating deals FY21 was the highest among FTA partner at \$8.1 billion, followed by with Australia, the UK, Canada, Indonesia at \$7.4 billion and Japan The country has bilateral at \$6.5 billion. trade agreements with Japan,

India has already launched a

well as the FTA with ASEAN. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has previously said trade agreements with ASEAN, Japan and South Korea "have not met their promise" for India as domestic goods "face barriers" in these countries, even as they provide trade partners duty free access to Indian markets.

In 2019, India backed out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which would entail a trade agreement with 10 ASEAN members as well as Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea, citing "outstanding issues and concerns" after the government faced domestic pushback about the adverse impact of the agreement on the MSME, textile, dairy and manufacturing sectors.

Experts noted that the key cause behind India not being able to benefit as much as trad-

ing partners from the lower tariff barriers offered by FTAs was a lack of competitiveness in Indian industry.

Biswajit Dhar, professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, said the key issue holding back Indian export growth was competitiveness.

"The issue is one of competitiveness and that has been something that has always kept us behind," said Dhar, noting that India needs to look at boosting the manufacturing sector and reducing the cost of doing business including logistics costs.

Since 2020, India is looking to conclude early harvest agreements in ongoing FTA negotiations, aiming to exclude sensitive sectors such as agriculture including dairy and sectors where Indian players may not be able to compete with foreign players. Early harvest schemes can allow countries to exclude contentious issues and agree on quick tariff concessions in mutually beneficial areas. The upcoming early harvest scheme with Australia is likely to exclude the wheat, dairy and beef sectors which are considered sensitive sectors but is likely to liberalise trade in mining, pharmaceuticals, health, education, renewables, railways, gems and jewellery, tourism, defence and textiles. Experts have, however, noted that early harvest agreements can, at times, reduce the incentive for further negotiation for a comprehensive FTA and

FORMER GROUP OPERATING OFFICER OF NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE **CBI questions Subramanian in 2018 case**

industry.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE CBI has questioned former group operating officer (GOO) of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) Anand Subramanian in connection with its probe into a 2018 case of manipulation of the bourse. It has already questioned former MD-CEO Chitra Ramkrishna and former CEO Ravi Narain. While Ramkrishna's questioning

took place last Friday, Narain was tioned last Saturday Sources said a team of the uments from Sebi office have also

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) also visited the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) office in Mumbai and collected documents related to the case.

The interrogations, according to CBI, are being made in light of a Sebi report that said Ramkrishna had been sharing confidential NSE information with a "Himalayan Yogi" and indicted her for Subramanian's appointment in contravention of rules.

"Subramanian is being questioned by a CBI team in Chennai Somedoc

been collected today," a CBI official said. In an order last week, Sebi penalised Ramkrishna and a few others for allegedly violating securities contract rules in the appointment of Subramanian as GOO and advisor to the MD. Sebi said she was steered by a "yogi" in the appointment of Subramanian. Last Thursday, the Income Tax

Department searched the residences of Ramkrishna and Subramanian as part of its probe into the allegations of illegal gains made by passing on internal exchange rmation to a third party

charges of preferential access to the trading system to some brokers, through the co-location facility (where brokers can buy "rack space" for their servers) at the NSE, early login and "dark fibre", which can allow a trader split-second faster access to the data feed of the exchange. Even a split-second edge is considered capable of

bringing huge gains to a trader. The CBI had booked Sanjay Gupta, owner and promoter of Delhi-based OPG Securities Pvt Ltd, and others in the case.



review of the FTA with South Korea and is working to launch a review of the FTAs with Japan as 'Gold loan NBFCs may adopt

As per the proposed draft,

BRIEFLY —

'Foreign flights' New Delhi: Regular international flights are likely to resume from March 15 and will follow SOPs effective at Indian airports, sources said. PTI

UAE FTA, jobs

New Delhi: India and the UAE are looking at mutual recognition of professional bodies and educational institutions under the FTA, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said, adding opportunities for at least 100 million jobs will open up for Indian youth. FE

Sebiorder

New Delhi: The SAT quashed a Sebi order against HDFC Bank, levying a ₹1 crore fine on the bank in a case related to invoking securities pledged by BRH Wealth Kreators.

Undersea cable

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel has joined SEA-ME-WE-6 undersea cable consortium as a major investor, while RJio will land its India-Asia-Xpress undersea cable system in Hulhumale, Maldives. PTI

The draft also proposes a data sharing toolkit, which will be the broad umbrella to help respective central or state gov-

icy making", as per the draft.

ernment ministries and departments "assess and optiassociated with the release and sharing of such data.

the policy would be to allow

mally manage" the risks The targeted outcome of

"new generation of startups to bolster digital innovation for high-priority use cases and enter new markets", apart from enabling "more informed pol-

Russia can lose market

access if it invades **Ukraine: EU**

REUTERS BERLIN,, FEBRUARY 21

EUROPEAN COMMISSION president Ursula von der Leyen disclosed some details of the sanctions Moscow would face if it invaded Ukraine, saying Russia would be cut off from international financial markets and denied access to major export goods.

"Russia would in principle be cut off from the international financial markets," Von der Leyen told ARD public television late on Sunday evening.

European stocks dropped 1.65 per cent to their lowest in more than four months. British stocks fell 0.5 per cent. The rouble slid nearly 3 per cent against the dollar and Russian shares slumped 9 percent their lowest in 14 months. Meanwhile, Brent jumped

\$1.23, or 1.3 per cent, to \$94.77 a barrel by 1300 GMT. WTI crude futures rose \$1.13, or 1.2 per cent, to \$92.20 a barrel

Gold loan auctions by NBFCs rose in April-December FY22 -

aggressive growth strategies'

Gold loan NBFCs may adopt aggressive strategies to maintain

amid

EXPLAINED

and expand gold loan franchise, an India Ratings report said

Despite volatility, LIC likely to push ahead with March listing

GOLD LOAN-FOCUSSED NBFCs

(non-banking financial companies)

could adopt aggresive strategies

Intense competition from banks

Absence of any spikes (as seen in

Source: India Ratings/PTI

the past) in gold prices

Would like to have some stake in IDBI Bank: Chairman

Eyeon

divestment

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

STATE-OWNED LIFE Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), which is planning the country's largest IPO of around Rs 63,000-66,000 crore next month, is going ahead with its listing despite the high volatility in the markets amid increasing global concerns over tensions between Russia and Ukraine. "We are watching the geopo-

litical developments closely... but are keen on listing in March," LIC Chairman M R Kumar said at a press conference.

Investment banking sources said once the Sebi approves the issue, the IPO will open for subscription in the March second week and trading will commence by the third week of March 2022.

The government is likely to

Mumbai: Finance Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday

said the government is aiming at

a sustained economic recovery

and the budgetary proposals on

infrastructure building are an at-

tempt to create a multiplier ef-

outreach and to hold interactions

with industry stakeholders, large

taxpayers and professionals, she

said banks should focus more on

being customer-friendly so that

the process of availing credit is

easier for borrowers. However,

she said this did not mean that

banks should take adverse risks.

Sitharaman said the Budget

At a two-day post-Budget

fect to propel growth.

THE GOVERNMENT is likely to mobilise about Rs 63,000-66,000 crore from the proposed Offer for Sale (OFS) to meet the disinvestment target of Rs 78,000 crore for the cur-

mobilise about Rs 63,000-66,000 crore from the proposed Offer for Sale (OFS) to meet the disinvestment target of Rs 78,000 crore for the current financial year. While the corporation is yet to announce the IPO price, market estimates are that the IPO is likely to be around Rs 2,000-2,100 crore per share.

talised and potential investors should not worry about government control post the IPO as decisions in the insurance firms are taken by its board and not by the government, which will hold 95 per cent of stake post the IPO. He said LIC may not sell its entire stake in IDBI Bank and can use

Kumar said LIC is well capi-

its large network of branches to market its insurance services, its chairman said. "I would like to have some stake in IDBI Bank. It has been the strongest contributor to the bancassurance channel for us. This will help us to grow that part of the channel," Kumar said.

The government, which holds 45.48 per cent stake in the bank, has already expressed its intent to exit by selling the stake.

He said that over 60-70 lakh PAN have been updated on its website

inks deal with **Ballard** Power

New Delhi: Adani group and USa joint investment for commerin mobility and industrial applications including a collaboration for

hydrogen fuel cell manufacturing. "Adani aims to be one of the largest green hydrogen producers in the world through accelerated investment in renewable energy,' Adani group said in a release, adding that Adani New Industries Limited (ANIL), a new subsidiary of Adani Enterprises focused on generation of green hydrogen, green electricity generation, manufacture of electrolyzers and wind turbines, would lead the group's efforts under the deal. ENS

based fuel cell manufacturer Ballard Power Systems have inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to evaluate hydrogen fuel cell production in India. The companies will assess the potential of cialisation of hydrogen fuel cells China, others warn against use of Abbott baby formula Beijing: China Customs has

warned against buying and eating certain infant and baby products of Abbott Laboratories, affected in a recall linked to a US factory.

It referred to a February 18 notice by US FDA warning consumers against buying or eating certain batches of baby formula products made by Abbott.

The day before, Abbott said it was recalling powdered baby formulae after four consumers complained about bacterial infections in infants. Other nations have called to stop using some Abbott products. Oman warned against two Abbott baby milk powder formulae, and Saudi Arabia against three. **REUTERS**



Sr. No.		Sr. No.	Tender No.
		1	DGVCL/SP/2205/11 KV D.O. Fuse (Polymeric)
		2	DGVCL/SP/ 2249 /Safety Helmet
	No	ote : Bidde	ers may visit the Company website/s for regular updates til
	op	ening of t	he tenders. CE (P), DGVCL, Surat

OSBI

CMP & SCF Department, State Bank of India. Global IT-Centre, Sec-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai-400 614 NOTICE INVITING TENDER

DATED: 10.02.2022

RFPNO: 708 Bids are invited by State Bank of India from the eligible bidders fo Procurement of two offsite SAP professionals who will develop SAP utility in their own environment, for a period of 3 years from 01.06.2022 to 31.05.2025, for State Bank. Bidders, who are interested to submit bids, visi Procurement news at https://www.sbi.co.in and e-Procurement agenc portal https://etender.sbi

Commencement of download of RFP: From 22.02.2022. Last date and time for submission of bids: 16.03.2022 up to 02:00 pm. Place: Navi Mumbai

Date: 22.02.2022

New Delhi

CMP & SCF Department

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at a post-Budget session. Mumbai. PTI

has "messages for sustainability, predictable tax regimen and we continue with the good things we took up last year: such as transparency in accounting."

Revenue Secretary Tarun

'Govt not against blockchain'

tary TV Somanathan said the government is not against the use of blockchain technology. "RBI digital currency itself will be based on a version of blockchain technology," he said, clarifying that the Centre's policy on blockchain has nothing to do with its policy towards crypto as-

sets or virtual digital assets. ENS Full report on



wer Plant Equipment consisting of batter charger, Battery with 3 year AMC. Estimated cost : ₹64759112/-; Opening Dat : 15-3-2022 12:30 Hrs at www.gem.gov.in Trenching, laying for shifting/rectification OFC in 6 sections of NER. Estimated cost : ₹11918328/-; Opening Date 15-3-2022 15:30 Hrs at **www. ireps.gov.in** Trenching, laying for shifting/re OFC in 5 sections of NER. Estimated cost :₹6168450; Opening Date 16-3 2022 12:30 Hrs at **www.ireps.gov.in** 4. "Trenching, laying of OFC for connectivity c

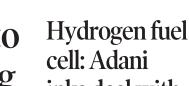
DRONA DRDO locations in Chandigarh Estimated cost :₹1236312/-; Opening Date 16-3-2022 15:30 Hrs at www.ireps.gov.in Tender Notice & tender documents are available on www.railtelindia.com Addendum/corrigendum will be uploaded RailTel website only.



The 2018 case pertains to

POST US RECALL

www.indianexpress.com







Be customer-friendly: FM to banks

Bajaj, also present at the interaction. said balance sheets of both banks and the corporate sector have started looking up.

Meanwhile, Finance Secre-

www.indianexpress.com

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, SHANKAR VIHAR (NEAR MAHIPALPUR) DELHI CANTT-10 TELE NO – 011-26153559/8 **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

EOI is solicited from the leading vendors for Repair and resurfacing of 2xSynthetic Basketball Court. Details for the above and EOI form are available at school counter against DD/POS machine/UPI of ₹1000/- each. Forms duly filled be submitted by 08 Mar 2022 Chairman

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION JAMTARA

e-Procurement Tender Notice Tender Reference No.-WRD/IRRIGATION DIVISION JAMTARA /SBD-IFB-01/2021-22 Date:-21.02.2022

JA.	M IAKA /SBD-IF B-01/20	21-22 Date:-21.02.2022				
		अजय मुख्य नहर के चेन संo 550,590 एवं 1343 पर स्थित क्षतिग्रस्त सीo डीo				
1	कार्य का नाम	र्व 1343 पर स्थित क्षातंग्रस्त सांठ डाठ का नये सिरे से BARREL TYPE				
		CD का निर्माण कार्य				
		रू० 3,59,58,900.00 (रूपये तीन				
2	प्राक्कलित राशि (रू० में)	करोड़ उनसठ लाख अनठावन हजार				
		नौ सौ)मात्र				
3	कार्य पूर्ण होने की अवधि	240 दिन				
4	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन होने की तिथि एवं समय	01.03.2022 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न तक				
5	बिड प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	19.03.2022 5.00 बजे अपराहन तक				
6	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ,				
6	कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	सिंचाई प्रमण्डल जामताड़ा				
7	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का संपर्क	08709752152				
'	संख्या					
8	ई0 प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन सं0	06432-232477				
नोट : सि	र्फ ई0 निविदा ही मान्य होगा					
प्राव	क्कलित राशि घट–बड़ सकतीहै					
िस्तत ह	गौरा तेवसाईट http://ibarkbandte	nders gov in पर देखा जा सकता है ।				

वेस्तृत ब्यौरा वेबसाईट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in<u>पर देखा जा सकत</u> कार्यपालक अभियंता

PR.NO.264445 Irrigation(21-22):D

PIM

सिंचाई प्रमण्डल जामताड़ा 772

SR. NO.

1.

772



NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KALKA	CONST. OF STREET WITH IPB 80MM THICK (ISI MARK) IN LOWER KURARI MOHALLA KALKA + 15 WORKS	19.02.2022 25.02.2022	327 LACS	https://etenders. hry.nic.in	xenmcklk@gmail.com

	GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDERNOTCE											
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL						
1.	HSRDC FARID- ABAD	WORK OF IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY OF PALWAL HATHIN- UTTAWAR ROAD (MDR-135) BY FOUR LANNING / RAISING / CC PAVEMENT / STRENGTHENING IN PALWAL AND NUH DISTIRCT (LENGTH 22.400 KM).	17.02.2022 05.04.2022	63.18 CRORE	https://etenders. hry.nic.in	9871942155 dgmhsrdcpalwal@g mail.com						
2. HSRDC FARID- ABAD		IMPROVEMENT OF CONNECTIUTY OF FARIDABAD TOWN WITH KCP EVMAY BY RROVING DIVIDED CARRIAGEWAY ON BALLABHGARH -CHHAINSA MOHNA ROAD FROM KM 3.00 (BYPASS ROAD) UPTO KM 14.960 (INTERCHAINCE AT KGP) ROAD ID-3313 IN FARIDABAD (RE-INVITED). (TENDER NO. 2022-HBC.20682_1)	18.02.2022 04.04.2022	57.19 CRORE	https://etenders. hry.nic.in	9871942155 dgmhsrdcpalwal@g mail.com						
772	6/HRY	FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT:	www.haryanaep	rocurement.g	ov.in or www.eten	ders.hry.nic.in						

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	MICAD DIVISION JHAJJAR	2 NO. OF WORKS FOR PLANNING, DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TEST- ING, COMMISSIONING AND OPERATION & MAINTENANCE FOR 3 YEARS (INCLUDING THREE YEARS FREE MAINTENANCE OF ON-FARM MICRO IRRIGATION SYSTEM)	21.02.2022 10.03.2022	AS DETAILED IN NIT PUBLISHED ONLINE	https://etenders. hry.nic.in	01251-257076 xenjhajjarcad@ gmail.com

"IMPORTANT"

damage incurred as a result transactions with companie associations or individua advertising in its newspape or Publications. We therefor recommend that reade make necessary inquirie before sending any monies e entering into any agreemen with advertisers or otherwis acting on an advertisement any manner whatsoever.

ilst care is taken prior eptance of advertisir w. it is not possible to veri ess (P) Limited can responsible for nts, nor for any loss of incurred as a result

BSES BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited,	New Delhi
CER/CONTACT TENDER NOTICE Date	: 22.02.2022
Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.	

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.						
NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening	
	RATE CONTRACT FOR PROVIDING FEMALE SECURITY GUARDS & EX-DELHI POLICE FOR ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT FOR TWO YEARS IN BRPL.	1.95 Cr for one Year	3.90 Lakhs	14.03.2022 15:15 HRS	14.03.2022 15:30 HRS	
	CONSTRUCTION OF TOILET FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY IN BRPL OFFICES FOR SOUTH & WEST CIRCLE AT 68 NOS. LOCATIONS	2.92 Cr.	5.84 Lakhs	14.03.2022 15:30 HRS	14.03.2022 15:45 HRS	
CMC/BR/22-23/ RB/CR/NG/0989RATE CONTRACT FOR PROVIDING CANTEEN RB/CR/NG/09890.60 Cr for one Year1.20 Lakhs14.03.2022 15:45 HRS14.03.2022 16:00 HRS						
Cost of each Tender Document : ₹ 1180/- For any query call on 011-49107235 or e-mail on Brpl.Eauction@relianceada.com For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission						

Head (Contracts & Materials) of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com Regd. Off. : BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bh No.: U40109DL2001PLC11152 : +91 11 4920 7235 | Web

No.	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER(WW) THROUGH EE (DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI HAIDER PUR WATER WORKS, DELHI - 110085 Tel No. 011-27552446-47, Email ID: <u>eeemhp1.djb@r</u>				1Ì 5		
S. No.	Name of Work	ess N.I.T. NO.23 Approximate value based on schedule of rates/ item rate/ lump sum (Rs in lacs)	Earnest Money in Rs.	+	Date of release of tender in e- procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-pro- curement solution.	
1.	Procurement of Centre Mechanism for Clarifiers of Bawana WTP under division EE (E&M) HP-I. Make HDO Tender ID: 2022_DJB_217034_1	Item rate	53700/-	500/-	18.02.2022	04.03.2022	
2.	SITC of 2 Nos. sludge submersible pump sets with allied accessories for dewatering of waste Raw water storage tank of RWPH under division EE (E&M) Tender ID: 2022_DJB_217034_2	Item rate	94000/-	500/-	18.02.2022	04.03.2022	
3.	Designing/Fabrication/Fixing/Commissioning of Bar Screen at Incoming Flow of CLC at WTP Haiderpur. Tender ID: 2022_DJB_217034_3	Item rate	89000/-	500/-	19.02.2022	04.03.2022	
ISS	Further details in this regard can be seen at https://delhi.govtprocurement.com. ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 1150 (2021-22) STOP CORONA; WEAR MASK, MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE						

PRI	CHINCHWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
	WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT
	TENDER No. 15/01/2021-22

Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation invites, online Tender (e-Tender) in B-1 (Percentage rate form) on tender portal of Government of Maharashtra at https://www.mahatenders.gov.in for the works detailed in the table below.

The Contractor shall quote his rate on amount mentioned in column No. 4. The rate shall be exclusive of GST. The GST at the applicable rate shall be paid separately by PCMC.

Sr. No.		Estimated Cost Put to the Tender (Rs.)	Cost of work excluding Royalty & Material Testing Charges (Rs.)	(Rs.)	Material Testing Charges (Rs.)	money	Cost of Document with GST (Rs.)	Period of Comple- -tion	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
	Providing Laying. Testing & Commissioning of 22KV H.T cable from 220/22KV Bhosri-II Receiving station to Chikhali WTP and 22 KV gantry (VCB) Works with SCADA System and allied works	Rs. 12,15,36,593/-	Rs. 12,15,36,593/-	00	00	(7) Rs. 6,07,683/-	Rs.	(9) 10 months (Including Monsoon)	

Pre-bid meeting is open to all prospective tenderers who have downloaded tender form before the date of Pre-bid meeting. Pre-bid meeting will be held on 24/02/2022 at 15.00 Hrs. in the office of The Joint City Engineer, Water Supply & Drainage Department, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Head Office, Old Pune-Mumbai Road, Pimpri, Pune-18.

The Tender can be downloaded from date 22/02/2022, 15.00 Hrs. to 9/03/2022, 15.00 Hrs. & Technical bid opening date 10/03/2022, 15.00 Hrs. (If possible)

The Proposals must be submitted online at the e-Tender portal Government of Maharashtra i.e., https://www. mahatenders.gov.in on or before 15.00 Hrs of date 9/03//2022 on payment of a nonrefundable fee of Cost of document.

Before submitting the proposal, the bidders shall mandatorily register and enlist themselves, on https://www.mahatenders.gov.in. Further, the bidders shall follow the operating procedure as may be prescribed on the said website.

The Municipal Commissioner PCMC reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partially or completely without any reasons thereof.

Contact Person: For any further information / clarifications please contact

Joint City Engineer, Water Supply Department,

1st Floor, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Head Office, Old Pune-Mumbai Road, Pimpri,

Pune-411018. Phone:020-67331401 Fax: 020-27425600 e-Mail: To-water@pcmcindia.gov.in

(LL No. 020-67333333, Ext.- water supply) Adv. No. 1428

No. WS/ 6 /KaVi/ 27 /2022

Date 21/02/2022

Sd/-
- COMMISSIONER,
PCMC

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER DESIGN MASTER PLANNING AND HYDROLOGY, JAL BHAWAN, DORANDA, RANCHI, GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT, NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR (Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement) <u>Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation</u> and Maintenance of SCADA system for Tenughat Dam, Jharkhand, WRD, Jharkhand under National Hydrology Project (NHP)						
Bid Reference	:	NHP/WRD/JH/CE/DMPH/NCB-				
Tender documents	:	03/2021-22 Can be downloaded from Website				
Bid publication date & time	:	https://jharkhandatenders.gov.in 24/02/2022; 16:00 HRS (System Server Time)				
Document Download/Sale Start date & time		24/02/2022; 16:00 HRS (System Server Time)				
Bid Clarification Starting date & time	:	24/02/2022; 16:30 HRS (System Server Time)				
Bid Clarification Closing date & time	:	02/03/2022; 15:30 HRS (System Server Time)				
Pre Bid Meeting date, time & venue	:	04/03/2022; 11:30 HRS (IST) Chief Engineer (Design Master Planning And Hydrology cum Nodal Officer, NHP), Room No.203, Second Floor, Jal Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand. 834002				
Bid Submission Start Date and Time		16/03/2022; 16:00 HRS (System Server Time)				
Online bid submission closing date & time	:	24/03/2022; 16:00 HRS (System Server Time)				
Last date and time of Receipt of relevant document as mentioned (IFB) by Speed Post/Courier/by hand.	:	24/03/2022; 16:00 HRS (IST) at the office of Chief Engineer (Design Master Planning And Hydrology cum Nodal Officer, NHP), Room No.203, Second Floor, Jal Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand. 834002				
Date, Time and Venue of Opening of Bids	:	24/03/2022; 16:30 HRS (System Server Time) Chief Engineer (Design Master Planning And Hydrology cum Nodal Officer, NHP), Room No.203, Second Floor, Jal Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand. 834002.				
Contact details & Email Id	:	09430113045,8210223920 Nhp.jharkhand@gmail.com				
		(Ashala Varman)				

(Ashok Kumar) PR 264450 (Water Resource) Chief Engineer-cum-Nodal Officer, 21-22 (D) NHP, Jharkhand, Ranchi

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ TENDER NOTICE No. AGC-ELG-T-20-2021-22 Date: 18.02.202 **Tender Notice** Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) N.C. Railway, Agra on behalf or

President of India invites "Open Tender" through on line only (E-Tendering) for the following works.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	AGC-ELG-T-20-2021-22
1.	Name of work with its location & Completion Period	Provision of rewiring of service building at Agra Division. Completion period 08 months
2.	Approx. Cost of the Work	Rs. 5676174.48/-
For full	details and submission of h	id places are the Indian Bailways website

or full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways webs www.ireps.gov.in. Tenders can only be submitted through web porta /ww.ireps.gov.in up to 15:00 hrs. on 14.03.2022 193/21 (D) orth central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in 💓 @ CPRONCR

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely:** Mohd. Rafiq, **S/o** Mohd. Manzur Alam, **R/o:** Village Kahra, Ward No. 24, Kahra Village Kanra, Ward No. 24, Kanra, Saharsa, Bihar, Age: 21 Years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black Jacket, Blue Shirt, Black Jeans and Blue White Shoes in feet has been missing since 10.02.2022 from Meena Bazar, Jama Masjid, Delhi from the area of P.S Jama Masjid, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 46A, Dated 14.02.2022 has been Mohd. Rafiq lodged at P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing person please inform to the following:-

Web-site : http://cbi.nic.in E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-23011334 DP/1265/CD/2022

SHO P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi Ph.: 011-23261625, 23269777

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

E BOARD CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY

APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, HONOURS



CREDENTIALS

The President of India accepted credentials from the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia at Rashtrapati Bhawan recently. H.E. Sinisa Pavic, Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia, presented his credentials.



LOI - SECI

SECI signed LOI to set up 2 GW of Solar PV Projects in Rajasthan under "Invest Rajasthan", in the presence of CM of Rajasthan Ashok Gehlot and other senior officials from SECI and Government of Rajasthan.



CSR - POWERGRID. NR-I

POWERGRID has signed a MoU with Deputy Commissioner, Gurugram, for providing financial assistance towards procurement of medical equipment for District Hospitals in Gurugram, Faridabad, & Mewat districts of HR.



CSR - POSOCO

A Bhargava, Dir. (HR), POSOCO handed over the medical equipment & facilities to R Sahay, Addl. Commissioner (Health), SDMC in presence of N Singh, ED (HR), POSOCO, Dr. S Sardana, Addl. DHA (Medical & TB), SDMC & others.



INAUGURATION - TP-DDL

T P-DDL has installed an Anytime RO plant at Sarvodaya Vidyalaya, Rampura. The plant was inaugurated by Ganesh Srinivasan, CEO, T P-DDL, and other senior officials of the company



MOU - SCOPE

A MoU was signed between Atul Sobti, DG, SCOPE and Dr. K Sriharsha Reddy, Director, IMTH, in the presence of other senior officials, to conduct a research-based study on 'Digital Transformation in PSEs.'



ACHIEVEMENT - IRCON

IRCON has achieved yet another milestone of completion of Main Tunnel excavation of 12.76 km twin tube tunnel (Tunnel No. T49), which is a part of the 272-Km-long USBRL Project.



CSR – POWERGRID, NR-I

AK Mishra, ED, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., (Northern Region-I) handed over Medical Equipment to Dr. Harish Arya, Dy. CMO, District Hospital, Faridabad under CSR initiative of POWERGRID.

CONFERENCE-IIHMR UNIVERSITY

Dr PR Sodani, President, IIHMR University, spoke during the 26th Pradanva Annual **Global Conference** on Innovations in



Health Care & Education: Decade of Acceleration to the Global Goals, in which he highlighted about SDGs & Health & Wellbeing (SDG 3) & emphasis on quality education and shared its important role. More than 30 speakers and more than 2000 delegates from more than 25 countries were present in this global knowledge sharing conference.



FELICITATION - NTPC

NTPC has been felicitated at the "New Frontiers: A Programme on Renewable Energy" event. Gurdeep Singh, CMD, NTPC received the award from R.K. Singh, Union Minister, Government of India.

NHPC has set up a new wholly owned subsidiary company named "NHPC RENEWABLE ENERGY LIMITED (NREL)", for development of Renewable Energy, Small Hydro and Green Hydrogen based business of NHPC. Speaking on the occasion, AK Singh, CMD, NHPC said, "The incorporation of NHPC Renewable Energy Limited shows our deep commitment towards tapping Renewable Energy which helps in reduction of carbon emissions and in producing clean and green energy."

<u>CONCOR</u> In view of the overwhelming response of the customers & consolidating itself as a trade-driven organisation, CONCOR announced the extension of the scheme of up to 100% discount on rail freight for repositioning of empty containers from various Gateway Ports / Portside Terminals / CFSs to hinterland terminals / ICDs for use in export purpose for a further period of one year i.e. w.e.f. 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023.

BANK OF INDIA had recently launched "Branch Adalat" Pan India campaign with the objective of providing relief to the borrowers affected by the Covid pandemic, especially small borrowers where outstanding loans was below 25 lakhs. It covered loans under Agriculture, MSME, Retail & personal loans. Total 6,84,000 NPA borrowers were eligible under this campaign & availed benefits of the campaign. Bank was able to settle NPA Loans amounting to Rs. 407 crore during this campaign. In view of the good response, Bank of India has decided to re-launch the campaign again during from 28.02.2022 to 05.03.2022.



AWARD - ANANTH TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED

Dr. Subba Rao Pavuluri, Chairman & MD, ATL, received the Award for Excellence in Aerospace Indigenisation from Society of Indian Aerospace Technologies & Industries (SIATI), Bangalore for the year 2022 given by Dr. K. Sivan, Immediate Past Chairman, ISRO; Dr. CG Krishnadas Nair, President SIATI: and R. Madhavan, CMD, HAL, SIATI is pleased to confer this Award to ATL for the development of VHF/ UHF modules for V/ UHF Radio used in the front-line Defence Fighter Aircraft.

IndianOil, India's leading energy provider recently announced a partnership with IndiGo. Under the partnership, 6E Rewards Ka-ching credit card holders under will earn accelerated reward points of upto 4% on fuel spends at more than 35,000 IndianOil outlets across India. With no restrictions & limits on the earnings, 6E Rewards Ka-ching credit card holders can earn free flight tickets with 6E Rewards with daily fuel purchases.

Ujjain Smart City is rejuvenating old water sources, including Mahavir Bawdi (Pipli Naka), Tilkeshwar Temple Stepwell, Modika Chopra stepwell, Maharani of Nagar Kot & Pushkar Baori, making them safe & useful. The work of restoration of water sources has been started by Ujjain Smart City.

IIIT-NR Four B. Tech pre-final year students of IIIT Naya Raipur, Gaurav Mundada, Yogesh Kumar, Anurav Gupta, and Nishanth Addagatla, have been selected for Summer internship at Goldman Sachs. The students will be joining the global investment banking, securities, and investment management firm from May 2022 onwards for two months. Selected students mentioned that they used to solve coding questions regularly on Leetcode, Codeforces, and Codechef platforms.

ENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, LAUNCHES, CSR INITIATIVES, APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS







Australia, the home of multi-sport women

Ash Barty & Ellyse Perry are only the latest exponents of a tradition of excelling in various sporting codes

GAURAV BHATT NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

LIKE THE rest of her compatriots, Jenny Williams spent a fortnight glued to the screen as Ash Barty went on a history-making run at Melbourne. Williams and Barty – the first home singles champion at the Australian Open in 44 years – both belong to Australia's tradition of talented multisport athletes, or cross-coders. And while Barty is probably the most illustrious example, Williams helped set the blueprint decades ago

Williams, 65, comes from one of the great Aussie Rules dynasties. Father Fos, Australian Football Hall of Fame's inaugural inductee who ruled 40s through 60s as a player and coach, has a grandstand named after him at the Adelaide Oval. Her three brothers all played top-grade football.

Williams, meanwhile, represented South Australia at senior level in cricket, soccer, football, touch football, indoor lacrosse and lacrosse during the 1970s and '80s, and was part of a world champion lacrosse team. She was adjudged the Australian Football League (AFL) Woman of the Year in 2003 for her contribution to the sport.

"Many, in my dad's era, they all played a summer sport, a winter sport, and took what they could from one game into another," says Williams, who received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) last month for her services to women's sport and sports psychology. "Australian athletes have historically used different sports to be fitter for the sport they played."

Aussie Rules, in fact, was devised to keep cricketers fit during winter months before it was developed, codified and got its own league. Earlier, it was simply a variant of English public-school football which grew popular in Melbourne parklands thanks to cricketers, enthusiasts and schoolchildren; no better mix of sports-lovers encompasses Australia's cross-code culture.

Another notable example is Australia wicketkeeper Alex Carey. Carey grew up in Loxton playing both cricket and Australian rules football. Named in the 2009 Redbacks squad. Carev instead chose the oval ball. siding with the expansion team Greater Western Sydney Giants. There, he was coached by Jenny's brother Mark and when his footie career hit a dead end, both Williams



siblings supported him in his return to cricket.

"Traditionally, you play a lot of different sports as a child here," Mark Williams had told The Indian Express in an earlier interview. "It definitely helps athletes as they bring something from each sport and it teaches them collaboration.'

Cross-code culture

Still, there must be something in the water Down Under?

"I think growing up here, there's a lot of opportunities to play a sport and not just one sport," says cricket coach Andy Richards who helped Barty take up the bat in the Women's Big Bash. "While we have a love for cricket. it was one of the things we encouraged our kids to play in wintertime. We understood the need to go play other sports to make other parts of your body function and acquire different skills through different sports. We always say India is a cricket-mad country. And I would just say Australia is probably a sport-mad country.'

Barty famously took a hiatus from tennis after feeling burnt out, played cricket in the Women's Big Bash, returned rejuvenated and began her ascent to the World No. 1 ranking.

The next high-profile example is star allrounder Ellyse Perry. The first cricketer to score 1,000 runs and take 100 wickets in



(Top) Ash Barty went on a history-making run at Melbourne-AP; Jenny Williams' father Fos (left) was the Australian Football Hall of Fame's inaugural inductee who ruled the 40s through 60s as a player and coach; Jenny Williams.

T20Is, Perry represented Australia in soccer 18 times before famously choosing a T20 against India over a shield game in 2016.

Alongside Barty and Perry, at the elite level, it's mostly a host of less-heralded Australian sportswomen who are thriving in multiple codes. Several of Perry's teammates have played hockey or football. The culture can be traced back to Jenny Williams and Co in the '70s.

The magnificent seven

For Williams, cross-coding began with the children's game Brandy, where kids try to 'brand' each other with "the wettest ball they could find."

"It hurt, so it taught you to be a little bit tough," Williams says. "But it also taught you to catch the ball, dodge it."

"I grew up with brothers and had a netball. Of course, they didn't ever want to play netball. But they did love putting the ball on the ground. And then we'd play soccer. And having four kids was great because I grew up with twin brothers, so it was me in two-onones. Then with my little brother, it was twoon-twos, and what great development you can possibly have with that."

At the Adelaide Teachers College, Williams formed a cohort with six other physical education students. The magnificent group of cross-coders formed a cricket team, represented Australia in various sports, and went to university together over a threeyear span. The group included Olympic basketballers Jenny Cheesman and Pat Mickan, squash world champion Vicki Cardwell, and cricketers Jill Kennare, Wendy Plitz and Lynette 'Lefty' Fullston, who were part of the Test side that toured India in 1984.

"I was fortunate enough to keep wickets to Lefty, who has the lawns named after her at the Oval," says Williams. "In the summer, we would be playing cricket. In winter, I would be playing soccer and lacrosse. We would train for the state team and play one sport on a Saturday. The other sport we would play on Sunday, and then train for another sport in the morning. It was always doing things, running between games."

At the Teachers College, the group once invited Australian cricketer David Hookes described by Wisden as "a first-class destroyer of second-rate bowling" to bat - and bowled him out a couple of times.

"He got a respect for the group that we had, how driven we were," says Williams. 'We found that if the men could see we were really dedicated and wanted to try, they gave us opportunities to get better. They trained with us. We figured, well, if we could keep up with the best men, we were definitely in the ballpark, if not ahead of other great women.

How it helps

Sport/Calendar 17

Even before cricket and lacrosse, Williams fell in love with tennis. Mother Von "was an elite tennis player" and growing up, the siblings spent hours on the court.

"As a result, I was really, really good at hitting anything especially square of the wicket on either side. Tennis players-turnedcricketers had to learn how to play with a straight bat," says Williams. "There are so many things that work between the two sports. Being able to catch, able to move well, understanding how to communicate during doubles or with the partner at the other end.'

"By playing basketball, I learned how to run inside and do a drop-step, which was a perfect defence in lacrosse. The men played with both hands, while the women's game had only evolved one-handed. Training with them was an 'aha' moment for us. So, it wasn't only cross-coding, but also looking between the genders at times."

During the 1986 world championship, Williams remembers the one-handed Americans saw Australia's plastic sticks as a fad and their wielders "stupid".

"Now you can't find wooden sticks." Williams details the 'intellectual' side of playing multiple sports.

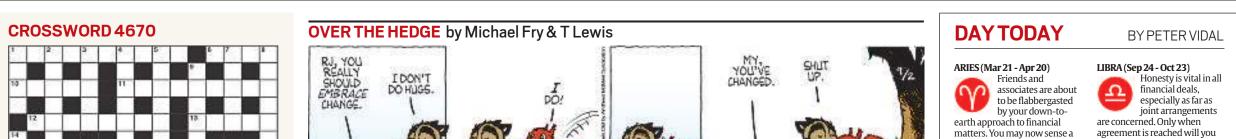
The joy of actually being able to see how to cross-code sport also takes some intellect. The fact that the good people can actually work out what to take from one sport into another is often underestimated."

A cross-coder off the field too, Williams has been an author, teacher, administrator and broadcaster. But it's the perspectives as a coach and psychologist that bring a fresh perspective to cross-coding.

The multi-sport movement is starting to be around a little bit more again, because people are seeing that overuse injuries can be a problem if you're just doing one thing. It's also about staleness and not feeling like you're doing something fresh," says Williams, the PE teacher.

Williams the psychologist, meanwhile, expounds on the reasoning, and how crosscoding helps in the holistic development of children.

"You are subjected to more ideas, more people. And when you come across gems, you learn to recognise them and keep them in your life," says Williams. "We were willing to stand out and play whatever we wanted. People said 'girls shouldn't play that' but we didn't care. It was all about playing well and being really good friends. Even when I got married, I had seven bridesmaids and all of them were amazingly good multisports women!"





DOWN

point(4)

3 Steal a little salt(5)

regulations(7)

4 Where patients are treated

7 I am on time for the picture (5)

8 It should prevent a woman

getting into bad habits (5,5)

9 Don't lose that quiet shyness

14 NCO stripes for police officers

16 To arrange the relay is tough (8)

20 Haul on the canvas to speed the

21 Sink with fuel in it perhaps (7)

23 The head requires things to be

25 Make fun of one's peers (5)

26 I'd look up to one who's

worshipped(4)

18 Crazy about mother in a

manner of speaking (9)

internally (7) 5 They're not at home with

it (9)

(8)

(10)

sailor(7)

done(5)

1 Turn out to be in error about a

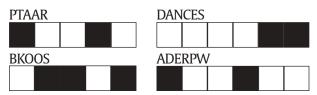
2 There's a lot to be said for having

ACROSS 1 Penitentiary with unlimited accommodation(4,6) 6 Come across a bit of fluff in dusting (4) 10 Sort of enemy you've cursed? (5)11 Treat wage adjustment as a political scandal (9) 12 No bad feeling? (8) 13 Measures taken for the sake of progress(5) 15 Perplex with a minus sign? (7) 17 Waiting for a religious ceremony(7)19 Be the more usual to succeed 21 The sort that is in glasses (7) 22 The snag about angling? (5) 24 Looking horrible so urge me to make changes(8)27 Mindful of how voters ban change (9) 28 Classified unconventional trade(5) 29 Part of window dresser's flamboyant attire (4) 30 Censorious writer (4,6)

Solutions Crossword 4669: Across: 1 Garnish, 5 Baste, 8 Rebellion, 9 Alp, 10 Odds, 12 Chastise, 14 Distil, 15 Remiss, 17 Isotherm, 18 Tyro, 21 Ego, 22 Reluctant, 24 Straw, 25 Endemic. **Down**: 1 Garbo, 2 Rib, 3 Idle, 4 Height, 5 Bandsmen, 6 Stability, 7 Express, 11 Dishonour, 13 Withdraw, 14 Drivers, 16 Grille, 19 Optic, 20 Acid, 23 Aim.

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. Where there is injury let me - Francis of Assisi (3,6)



Answer: Where there is injury let me sow pardon. - Francis of Assisi SOLUTION: APART, BOOKS, ASCEND, WARPED



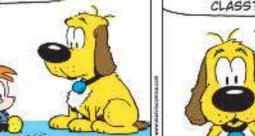
CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong









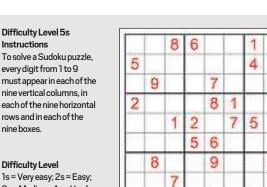
8

4

2 7 2

1

2:11



3

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4752



DUR PLANET IS WE'LL SEE DYING. WE NEED ABOUT THAT COOKIES TO SURVIVE, DO NOT TRY TO GET BACK

RESIST OR

YOU WILL BE

DESTREMED

HERE

Achigocons

prosperous period ahead, even though nothing will happen without sensible team-work. I know co-operation is a struggle, but it's necessary.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

It is almost time to make a final choice and stop worrying about others' feelings or opinions. Judge your own behaviour by absolute standards of right and wrong, not according to what friends or family might expect. Define your limits and other people will respect them.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Behind the day-today fluctuations of the planets lie longer-term trends of which you are often only half aware. A creative time is now coming to an end and it is up to you to inwardly digest all that has happened over the last four months.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The underlying message of current planetary patterns, especially those emanating from Jupiter and Neptune, is that you are expected to hold on to what is sound, worthwhile, personally meaningful and spiritually rewarding. That has to be pretty sound advice, don't you think?

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

The good news is that celestial configurations are still lively and, if you are alert and on-the-ball, you ought to be able to turn even adverse developments to your own advantage. This is no time to procrastinate. It's better to know where you stand to start with, and at least you'll know what changes are needed.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Your remarkable analytical faculties often serve you well

and prevent you from making potentially disastrous blunders. After what has been a relatively impulsive period vou will once again be settling into a practical, efficient and cool routine.

be able to determine what your next major move should be. And that might require dealing with urgent personal and family matters.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

If you're grappling with complex personal issues continue to review the situation on a daily basis. You may be enjoying acclaim for your financial skill, adding to a general feeling of wellbeing. But that doesn't excuse you from caring about partners' feelings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

You now realise that someone must be forced to settle a debt of honour. perhaps one that was incurred months or even years ago. How satisfying it must be to know that you were in the right. But, it is necessary to prepare for the unexpected, especially where your security is concerned.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

News from an unexpected source is on its way, and should give you the last piece of a complicated jigsaw. Once it arrives, you will be able to start planning your future with confidence and selfassurance. This means that partners must begin to respect your ideals.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19)

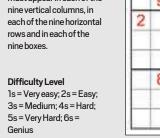
You need to get into peak condition in readiness for a hectic period. In particular, you are now aware of the number of improvements that are required in your domestic situation and family relationships. You will also be paying attention to spiritual needs over the coming days.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)









Instructions

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ALCARAZ BECOMES YOUNGEST ATP 500 WINNER

Two years after winning his first tour-level match in Rio de Janeiro, 18-year-old Carlos Alcaraz of Spain became the youngest to clinch an ATP 500 title at the same event on Sunday when he defeated Diego Schwartzman in the final of the Rio Open. It was a second tour-level title for Alcaraz after his victory in Umag last year and his 6-4 6-2 victory against 13th-ranked Argentine Schwartzman. **REUTERS**

BRIEFLY ——

Jhingan apologises for sexist comment

New Delhi: India team vice captain and ATK Mohun Bagan footballer Sandesh Jhingan was criticised by fans after his club drew an Indian Super League (ISL) match over the weekend for a sexist comment that saw him comparing the game played to that of women. "I have played a match with women," Sandesh Jhingan was seen saying in a short video shot after the match. Facing backlash, he apologised a day later after the comparison - which hinted that women players are inferior. After the team drew 2-2 with the Kerala Blasters on Saturday night, Jhingan was caught on camera saying "I have played a match with women, with women". The video has now been deleted. The context of the video and who it was referred to was unclear. Jhingan tweeted on Sunday that the comment was made "in the heat of the moment" and wasn't aimed at rivals. However his apology exacerbated matters since he stressed it was in response to his disappointment over how the team played.

Neymar keen for a stint in cash-rich MLS

London: Paris St Germain and Brazil forward Neymar would like to play in the United States-based Major League Soccer for at least a season before he calls time on his career. Neymar, who is under contract at PSG until June 2025, said he was more likely to play in the U.S. than return to his home country. "I don't know if I'll play in Brazil again," the 30-year-old said on the Fenomenos podcast. "I have some doubts about that. "I'd love to play in the U.S. actually. I'd love to play there at least for a season. "First of all their season is shorter, so I'd get three months' vacation," Neymar joked. The former Barcelona player said he had not decided when he would hang up his boots but added that he play at least till the end of his PSG contract. REUTERS

Djokovic itching to get back into action

London: Novak Djokovic was looking forward to kick-starting his 2022 season in Dubai following his deportation from Australia, and said he would be the first to congratulate U.S. Open champion Danil Medvedev if the Russian ends his two-year reign at the top of the world rankings this week. The 34-year-old Serbian will play competitively on Monday for the first time this year in his opening Dubai Duty Free Championships match against Italy's Lorenzo Musetti, ranked 57th in the world. "I am as well prepared as I possibly can be and excited to again be able to tour," he told a press conference on Sunday. Djokovic, who is chasing his 6th tournament win in Dubai, said he resumed training about 10 days after he was deported from Australia and had been playing tennis for the past three weeks. "I did my best to put myself in a good position tennis-wise and mentally as well ... I'm really happy to be playing again." The world number one, who is not vaccinated against COVID-19, was flown out of Australia after an 11-day ordeal, at the discretion of the country's immigration minister over concerns the tennis star could fuel anti-vax senti-REUTERS ment.

Saha to remain mum on scribe's identity if board wants name

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 21

18 SPORT

WRIDDHIMAN SAHA will not reveal the name of the journalist to the BCCI, as and when the cricket board communicates with him over his tweet that has become arguably Indian cricket's biggest talking point at the moment.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

On Monday, *The Indian Express* reported that the BCCI would ask the wicketkeeperbatsman to reveal the identity of the unnamed person who purportedly sent a string of WhatsApp messages to the cricketer, demanding an interview. Saha later posted a screenshot of the messages on his Twitter handle.

"I haven't received any communication from the BCCI yet. If they ask me to reveal the name (of the journalist), I would tell them it was never my intention to harm somebody's career, to pull a person down. That's why I didn't reveal the name in my tweet. That's not the teaching of my parents. The main purpose of my tweet was to expose the fact that there's someone in the media who does such things, disrespecting a player's wish," Saha told The *Indian Express*. He added: "It wasn't fair, which I wanted to tell through my tweets. He who has done it knows it very well. I posted those tweets because I didn't want the players to face such things. I wanted to convey the message that what has been done was wrong and no one else should do it again."

On Saturday, the 37-year-old was dropped from the Test team for the upcoming twomatch series against Sri Lanka. The tweet was posted on the same day, capturing messages like: "After all of my contributions to Indian cricket..this is what I face from a so called "Respected" journalist! This is where the journalism has gone." One of the messages from the unnamed journalist had said: "You did not call. Never again will I interview you. I don't take insults kindly. And I will remember this."

Saha received an outpouring of support from the cricketing fraternity after this, from Ravi Shastri to Virender Sehwag. Shastri, the former India team head coach, in fact, urged BCCI president Sourav Ganguly "to dive in".

Saha said he didn't have any conversation with Ganguly over the last few days. However, former India spinner Pragyan Ojha, currently the Indian Cricketers Association's (ICA) representative on the IPL Governing Council, called him.

"Ojha called me and said, 'I won't ask you about anything which is personal. If you feel that you want to go further on this or pursue the matter legally, the BCCI would support you'. I told him that at the moment I wasn't willing and gave him the reasons. He responded to it saying, it was completely my decision," Saha said.

Conflicting messages

On Saturday, Saha told this paper that following his 61 not out in the first Test against New Zealand at Kanpur in November last year, he had received a WhatsApp message from Ganguly that mentioned: 'As long as I'm here (helming the BCCI), you would be in the team'.

On Sunday, after India's T20I series win against the West Indies, India team head coach Rahul Dravid told reporters that his conversation with Saha at the end of the South Africa tour came from his respect for the 'keeperbatsman's contribution to Indian cricket, as he deserved "honesty and clarity". Dravid told Saha that the team would look to the future, bringing in a younger wicketkeeper as Rishabh Pant's back-up. Chief selector Chetan Sharma, however, had spoken about the veteran being excluded for just two Tests against Sri Lanka, at the post-selection press conference on Saturday. Saha pulling out of the Bengal Ranji Trophy squad has been questioned, with Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) secretary Snehasish Ganguly, Sourav's elder brother, suggesting that he might have played the tournament.

Asked about this, Saha said: "My opting out has nothing to do with the (Indian) team selection. I opted out due to personal reasons. My wife has been recovering from dengue and that's the reason. But I'm keeping my options open and things can change."

Will there be any motivation left to play cricket after this? "I play cricket because of my love for the game. As long as that is there, I will not hang up my boots. It doesn't matter whether I'm being considered for the Indian team or my state team or my IPL side. As long as I'm enjoying the game, I will play. I won't mind calling time on my career through club and office cricket," Saha signed off.

A state of Wriddhiness

In perpetual readiness on the bench on either side of some solid years, Saha's career ends nearly as suddenly as it began

ABHISHEK PUROHIT MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

FOR A MAN who hardly spoke much - even his wife has said in the past that his inexpressiveness of sadness or joy is the only thing she would like to "cut marks for", Wriddhiman Saha has caused a storm in the wake of his non-selection for Sri Lanka Tests. Befittingly, with as few words as possible by merely restating facts about who said what to him from Chetan Sharma to Sourav Ganguly to Rahul Dravid, and above all, by tweeting a text message from a journalist that told its own story. Never before in his career has he been discussed as much by the public; now he is part of memes and Gifs to nail down what's wrong with the system. Who would have thought Saha, the quiet unobtrusive man who shuffled behind the stumps with impressive stealthiness, would become the poster boy to bring down a few egos.

The start, though, couldn't have been more sudden. Rohit Sharma tripped during warm-up before the start of the 2010 Nagpur Test and had to wait for his Test debut for nearly four more years. The man over whose foot Rohit had tripped, Saha, found himself facing a red-hot Dale Steyn in the unlikeliest of circumstances: a second-choice back-up wicketkeeper making his Test debut as a specialist batsman at No. 7, because there were no actual specialist batsmen left in the squad to choose from. He left his third ball; it reversed in late to crash into the off stump.

The then 25-year old Saha had learned what would become the defining lesson of his career the hard way.was the need to be ever-ready, irrespective of circumstances. He had been thrown in at the deep end, without any warning at all, when all he had been ready for was a poolside view. Ever since, he has al-



Wriddhiman Saha probably made a better case for T20Is with a swifter strike-rate in the shortest format than Parthiv Patel and Naman Ojha, and just behind Dinesh Karthik (133) at 130. Partha Paul.

ever a question of fitness or performance if he was available. How could there be, from a man who came back from shoulder surgery at 34 and dove upon resuming training to fall on the same shoulder? Diving was instinctive for the keeper who had started as a goalkeeper, and Saha wasn't going to restrain that instinct in order to survive a little longer as a from a potentially awkward bounce. He would go down sideways on the left knee, open up the right leg as the second line of defence, keep the gloves vertical and almost touching the grass, and calmly let the ball sail in. Maybe it is memory playing tricks, maybe it is the effect his absolute command over the job had, but he could also have been chatting

if they were vacant and a chance arose.

Not that he was only good against spin. He is the rare Indian keeper who side-shuffled nimbly to his right and gathered the ball on his left against the pacers. Traditionally, it's the Australian way; the English preferred to have their bodies behind the ball in case posthumous swing prevalent in their country

with the bat when called upon also strengthened his cause. That was visible right after that debut duck in Nagpur, when, in the second innings, he resisted an attack comprising Steyn, Morne Morkel, Wayne Parnell and Jacques Kallis for two and a half hours.

But perceptions can cut both ways. So set was the image of Saha as the Test keeper that he played only nine ODIs despite having a better List A batting average than Karthik, Patel and Ojha, all three of whom played all three formats for the country.

Saha probably made a better case for T20Is -- without getting even one match -with a swifter strike-rate in the shortest format than Patel and Ojha, and just behind Karthik (133) at 130. Even now, Saha has as many T20 centuries as Pant has, and the latter is yet to make one in an IPL final.

The first of Saha's three Test centuries came from a position of 126 for 5 in St Lucia, where he and R Ashwin revived India to a total of 353. That was in 2016, the middle year among the three best ones of Saha's career immediately following Dhoni's Test retirement at the end of 2014. He would be out injured for nearly two years after the South Africa tour in early 2018 and Pant would establish himself firmly as the future as well as the present.

Still, Saha would remain true to his primary vocation and never tried to morph into some other role. He was chosen as specialist pinkball keeper for the 2020-21 Australia tour and didn't concede a single bye in 93 overs in the Adelaide day-night Test. Earlier in 2020, during the pandemic lockdown, he had tweeted a video of him practising on his home terrace. He'd throw a ball into a corner, it would bounce off one wall onto another, or it would hit the intersection, and come back at different angles. Saha would collect everything.

He turned 37 last October. Weeks later, KS

ways prepared for a game assuming he would be in the playing XI. Even though he has spent a large chunk of his career on the bench.

He waited for Deep Dasgupta during his early days for Bengal. He waited for MS Dhoni during his prime years for India. And then, even as the then captain Virat Kohli called him the best wicketkeeper in the world, he waited for home Tests and pink-ball Tests because Rishabh Pant had first dibs elsewhere. Stoic is an understatement for almost an entire career spent in readiness knowing the norm was that you weren't required. It is perhaps apt to call it a state of Wriddhiness.

All along, until the very end – and he has been told by head coach and chief selector that it is actually the end – there was barely

lesser version of himself.

Those leaps of perfection, parallel to the ground, body absolutely horizontal from head to toe, and gloves somehow dead-still amid that burst of motion, until they opened and shut at the right instant to gobble the ball. Of course, there is much more to remember, and that itself says a lot for how an unobtrusive man practised an art that is said to be performed best when it goes unnoticed.

Surely it must have happened – he operated in India mostly after all – but one can't straightaway recall the dying ball troubling Saha. He would neither attempt to hurriedly fall forward to try and take it on the half-volley, nor jerk his head away in what is a perfectly acceptable reflex reaction to avoid a hit up first slip while doing all this. It was stretching the unobtrusive towards the performative, but remaining well within limits.

The spinner and the batsman know the ball will turn on a wearing pitch in India, but neither can say with certainty how much. The keeper's vision is blocked by the batsman, so he has lesser input to work with. But as the raging ball spat past the pads on turners, Saha would arrive behind the line down the leg side, having precisely judged the length of the sidestep that was needed.

As it is with the best keepers, Saha just knew. He knew when to get up, when to stay low, when to let the gloves ride the bounce. And he was also aware enough to spring to action and go flying to silly point or short leg tricked them. Saha had no such doubts.

It is a cliche partly because it is often thrown around loosely, but it can be safely said without such danger that Saha was born to keep wicket.

It was something Indian cricket was wise enough to acknowledge early in an era where keeper-batsman was replaced by batsmankeeper, a change led in the country by Saha's great predecessor. But Saha was so far out in front of the rest as keeper that his 13 first-class hundreds didn't suffer in comparison to Dinesh Karthik (28), Parthiv Patel (27) and Naman Ojha (22). And mind you, all three competitors began their careers much before Saha did.

The fact that he could fight a good fight

Bharat made an impressive entry as substitute behind the stumps in Kanpur. Weeks thereafter, Pant went past Saha's 104 dismissals in Johannesburg. Time was up, but unless you are Sachin Tendulkar, there are no perfect goodbyes in Indian cricket.

In keeping – pun intended – with the nature of the man, drama had surrounded the handling of Saha's injury and its communication by the board in 2018, and there's been noise now over his phasing out. Because when it came to matters on the field, over 40 Tests spread across 12 years, there was never a question of fitness or performance. We might have seen the last of the pure keepers in Indian cricket, and he brought nothing but pure joy to a diminishing art.

ISL SCENARIOS Hyderabad surprise leaders; Jamshedpur finally inching towards AFC spot

SHASHANK NAIR NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AN INDIAN Super League season, heavily impacted by covid cases at various moments, is nearing an end with four teams looking to win the group stage of the league and seal a spot in the AFC Champions League.

Hyderabad FC, Jamshedpur FC, ATK Mohun Bagan and Kerala Blasters are all in the reckoning for some continental honours. Apart from ATKMB, every other team on the list is a virtual surprise at this point of the season. Last year's table toppers Mumbai City FC lie just out of reach of the playoff spots while FC Goa have had a year of upheaval after almost four consistently good seasons.

The surprise leaders

Last season, a slew of injuries to foreign and Indian players alike meant that Hyderabad FC had to suddenly turn to their young Indian players to take the mantle. And they did, almost making it to the ISL playoffs and then as many as five of their players making the national camp after last year's

league campaign.

This season, the addition of Bartholomew Ogbeche to an already young core has seen an explosion of goals for Manolo Marquez. Last season Ogbeche was a bench warmer at Mumbai, coming in and scoring goals at will if Adam le Fondre failed to make the mark. This year though, Ogbeche has landed the leading role he so richly deserves and is the top scorer across teams.

Hyderabad has 32 points in 17 games, having won nine, drawn five and lost three while scoring 39 goals in the process. To average over two goals a game has turned a young team with potential into the best candidates to go through to next year's Champions League.

In their own hands

No club in the Indian Super League comes quite as close as Jamshedpur does when it comes to making the playoffs and then inevitably failing to do so. Last season they missed out on the Top 4 spot by four points. In the 2018-19 season, they came agonisingly close but fell short by a mere two points. Playoff disappointments have been part and



This season, the addition of Bartholomew Ogbeche to an already young core has seen an explosion of goals for Hyderabad. ISL

parcel of Jamshedpur's season. What's changed this time?

Not much. Jamshedpur's statistics can be a little deceptive. They are dead last in the league for the number of touches on the ball as well as total passes made by the team. They have scored 30 goals from 16 games and conceded 18 and are only on the second spot because both Mumbai City FC and ATK Mohun Bagan have leaked goals aplenty.

But as luck would have it, their destiny is in their own hands. This week Jamshedpur will be taking on Hyderabad in what could be a winner-takes-it-all league match. A victory for JFC would still not make it certain, what with their matches against Odisha, and crucially ATK Mohun Bagan yet to come – but it would make the league theirs to lose. Currently they are on 31 points from 16 games and are in the best position to take the ACL spot.

Bagan in the mix

Having played the same number of games as Jamshedpur, Bagan are a point behind them and can also turn the tide of the league should they beat JFC.

Boasting of one of the best squads in the league, Bagan's season has been topsyturvy to say the least. A great start was followed by a string of dismal results that led to the ISL's most successful coach in

Having played the same number of games as Jamshedpur, Bagan are a point behind them and can also turn the tide of the league should they beat JFC.

Antonio Habas being shown the door. Juan Ferrando made a quick getaway from FC Goa and signed for Bagan. Under Habas, ATKMB were a team that passed little, took fewer touches than most but relied on some heavy lifting from Roy Krishna to push them over the line.

Ferrando has already changed that aspect of the Kolkata club and made them keep the ball for longer periods of the game. In their last four games, they've beaten Hyderabad FC, NorthEast United FC, FC Goa and then drew against a 10-man Kerala Blasters team. Form is on their side and any slip up from Jamshedpur could suddenly hand the keys to ATKMB yet again.

A well-deserved playoff spot

Usually at this end of the season, it's rare to be talking about Kerala Blasters as a contending team but one of the big surprises of the league has been Ivan Vukomanovic's team pulling themselves this deep towards the end of the season. Five points behind league leaders Hyderabad and three points behind ATKMB, Kerala will need quite a lot of luck to take the league crown at this point.

But the change in fortunes for the team is worth note. Ninth last season, seventh before that and ninth again in the 2018-19 season, the Blasters have pulled their socks up this season to come this close to the title. They have conceded the least number of goals in the league – an issue that has constantly plagued the team in previous ISL seasons.

Vukomanovic's team has benefited from the Serbian's emphasis on having a strong base to work from. Had the team signed an Ogbeche like figure as striker, this league could really have been theirs for the taking. They have Hyderabad, Chennai, Mumbai and Goa as their remaining four games – making it highly unlikely that they could somehow take the top spot, but not impossible.

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