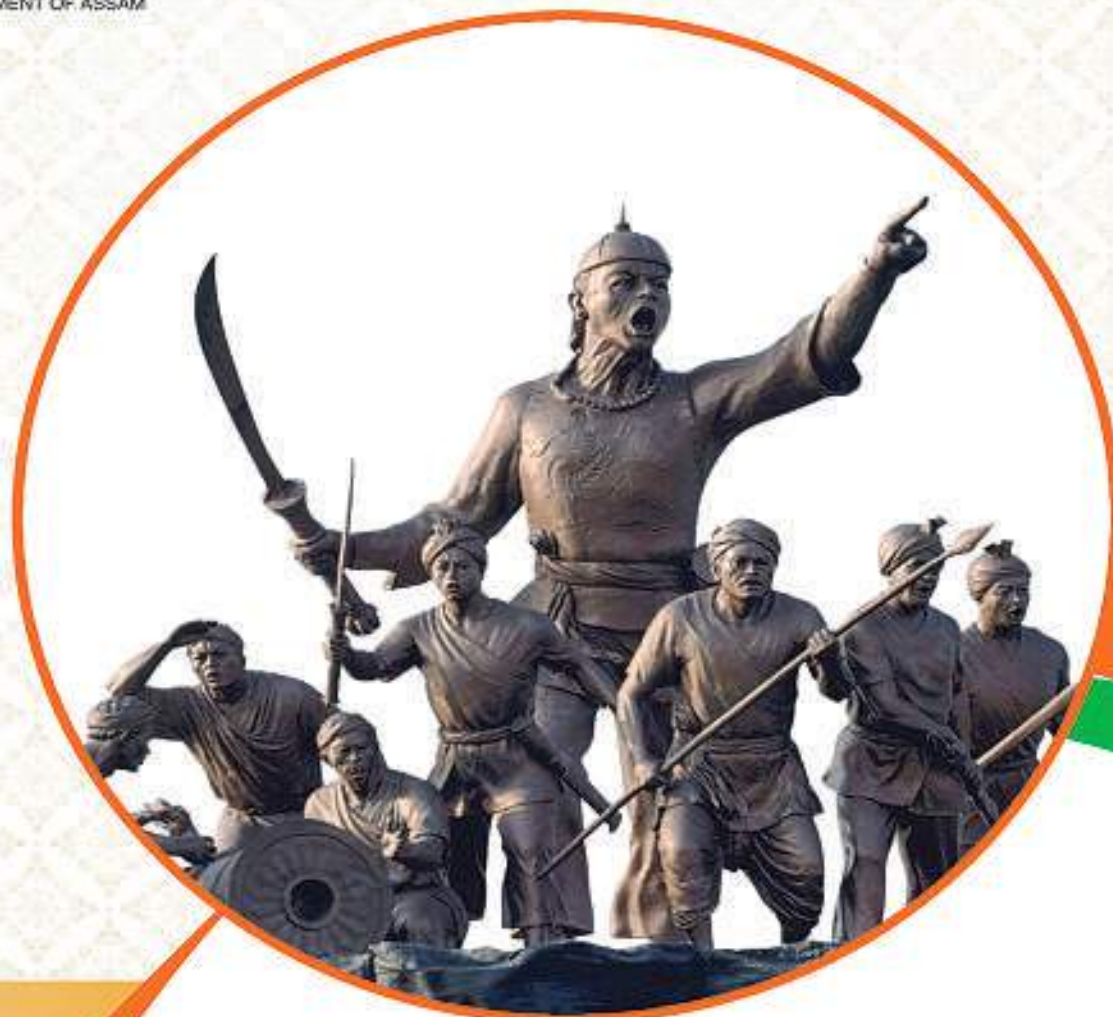


**SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND**  
Hon'ble President of India



## Welcome to Assam

25-27 February, 2022

### Programme Schedule of Hon'ble President in Assam

**25 February, 2022**

**Inauguration of year-long celebration of the 400th Birth Anniversary of Lachit Barphukan**  
Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Panjabari, Guwahati

**Foundation laying of Alaboi War Memorial**  
Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati/Dadara, Kamrup

**Foundation laying of beautification and repair work of Lachit Barphukan's Maidam**  
Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati/Teok, Jorhat

**26 February, 2022**

Convocation ceremony of **Tezpur University**  
Tezpur, Sonitpur

Discussion on Assam Government's new initiatives for conservation of **Kaziranga National Park**  
Kaziranga



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**PUTIN WARNS: STAY AWAY OR FACE**  
'consequences you have never seen'**UKRAINE SENDS OUT SOS, SEEKS**  
global support: 'The time to act is now'

# WAR



In this handout photo taken from video released by Ukrainian Police Department Press Service, military helicopters, apparently Russian, fly over the outskirts of Kyiv on Thursday. AP

**AFTER CCS, NEW DELHI SIGNAL TO BOTH SIDES**

## Modi tells Putin to end violence; Biden says US in talks with India

India avoids echo of West outrage; Kremlin says Putin outlined Kiev's aggression

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

At the CCS meeting in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

ASA stunned world watched the Russian attack unfold in Ukraine and key US and European leaders condemned the invasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called up Russian President Vladimir Putin and "appealed for an immediate cessation of violence".

This is an important signal to the Western bloc which has been pressing on India to condemn the Russian action. US President Joe Biden has called it "unprovoked and unjustified attack by Russian military forces" while British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has called it "barbaric" saying

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**SENSEX PLUNGES 4.7%**

## Concerns over Budget math and growth as oil tops \$100, markets crash

**AANCHAL MAGAZINE, KARUNJIT SINGH & PRANAV MUKUL**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

GLOBAL CRUDE oil prices topping \$100 a barrel and singeing of stock markets following Russia's attack on Ukraine will cast a shadow not just on India's

budget arithmetic, but also put to test the Reserve Bank of India's deftness in continuing to support growth in the near term with inflation risks suddenly turning more grave.

To take stock of the evolving situation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BUSINESS AS USUAL  
By UNNY**INSIDE****DE-ESCALATE**  
The world cannot afford a war over Ukraine. Both sides must return to the negotiating table  
**THE EDITORIAL PAGE**  
PAGES 10,15,16,17,18**FIND NEAREST BOMB SHELTER: ADVISORY**

## To evacuate stranded Indians, MEA teams head to Ukraine land borders

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

WITH UKRAINE closing its airspace, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is sending teams "to the land borders... in Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic and Romania" to assist in the evacuation of Indian nationals stranded in the country.

Ukraine shares its western

border with these countries, while Russia is attacking from the eastern side.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar tweeted that he had spoken to his counterparts in these four countries.

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla also said Indian Air Force aircraft are ready, in case they need to be pressed into service for evacuation.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**CHERNOBYL FALLS TO PUTIN'S TROOPS**

## Russia invades Ukraine, rumble shakes the world

**YURASKARMANAU, JIM HEINTZ, VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV & DASHA LITVINOVA**  
KYIV, FEBRUARY 24

RUSSIA LAUNCHED a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on Thursday, unleashing airstrikes on cities and military bases and sending troops and tanks from multiple directions in a move that could rewrite the world's geopolitical landscape. Ukraine's government pleaded for help as civilians piled into trains and cars to flee.

President Vladimir Putin ignored global condemnation and cascading new sanctions as he unleashed the largest ground war in Europe in decades, and chillingly referred to his country's nuclear arsenal. He threatened any foreign country trying to interfere with "consequences you have never seen".

Late Thursday, US President Joe Biden said "Putin chose this war" and he and Russia "will



Russian President Vladimir Putin addresses the nation in Moscow, Thursday. AP

bear the consequences" of new sanctions.

Ukrainian officials said their forces were battling Russians on multiple fronts, and had lost control of the decommissioned Chernobyl nuclear power plant, scene of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

"Russia has embarked on a path of evil, but Ukraine is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

### THE THEATRE OF WAR IN EUROPE

**RULING PARTY FOREIGN AFFAIRS CELL CHIEF**

## 'Regional conflict, not global... Delhi should continue normal ties'

Key Russian leader: No regime change, want talks between Kiev and Donbas

**NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE OPERATIONS in Ukraine mark a "regional conflict" and all other countries, including India, should continue to have normal relations with Moscow, Andrey A Klimov, an influential member of the upper house of the Russian Federation's Parliament, and the head of the ruling United Russia party's international af-

airs section, said Thursday.

"India is a great democratic state with a long democratic tradition. It is an independent state. Of course, we would like to have India, as we had in our past, as our strategic partner and friend, partner of the state, and a friend of our people. So we look at our relationship with India in such a way," said Klimov in a phone interview from Moscow to The Indian Express hours before Prime Minister Narendra Modi

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**UKRAINE AMBASSADOR TO INDIA**

## 'Deeply dissatisfied with India stand, but Modiji makes me hopeful'

**SUKRITA BARUAH**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

HOURS AFTER his country came under attack Thursday, Ukraine's Ambassador to India, Igor Polikha, said Kyiv is "deeply dissatisfied" with India's position on Russian aggression. While "pleading" for India's support, he said "I don't know how many world leaders (Russian President Vladimir) Putin may listen to but the status of (Prime Minister Narendra) Modiji makes me hopeful".

As events unfolded rapidly in Ukraine, Polikha said, "I am following all the reports from the



Igor Polikha, Ukraine's Ambassador to India

side of your ministry and the latest advisory to your citizens in Ukraine was just not to go out, not to go to Kyiv, and the statement of your Minister of External Affairs was that India is closely following development of events. We are deeply dissatisfied with their positions. What does it mean? Closely following

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**INDIAN STUDENTS ON EDGE**

## 'Window sill started vibrating, car sensors went off... it's terrifying'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, BHOPAL, BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 24

AROUND 4.30 am Thursday, Animesh Kumar arrived at the airport in Kyiv to board a flight to Dubai on his way to Delhi. He checked in his luggage, stuffing his jacket into the bag at the last minute because "the airport was warm". Moments later, he heard the blasts, and then the screams.

He ran out into the biting cold -- and kept going.

"There was chaos all around. When I asked for my bag, a staffer told me, 'are you mad? Just run!'" said Kumar, a student at the National Medical University in Vinnytsia, over 200 km from Kyiv.

With no warm clothes on him except a hoodie, Kumar "kept walking for 3-4 km" with other Indian students. "It was freezing. It was only after some time that a bus arrived and

dropped us to a Metro station, and we reached the Indian Embassy around 7 am. Initially, they didn't allow us in. After the crowd swelled, they gave us shelter in a nearby school. We are in a very bad situation, we want to be evacuated immediately," said the 22-year-old who hails from Dhanbad in Jharkhand.

From Ukraine's capital to Uzhhorod in the west, Kharkiv in the northeast and the port city of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# LIC IPO

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\* Please also refer draft red herring prospectus dated February 13, 2022

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CDSL: <https://www.cdslindia.com/DP/dplist.aspx>

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[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)



# No ‘religious attire’ in Delhi’s South MCD schools: Order

ABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE CHAIRPERSON of the education committee of South Delhi Municipal Corporation, BJP councillor Nitika Sharma, has written to officials instructing them to ensure that no child comes to schools in “religious attire”.

This comes days after a parent of a Class VI student in a Delhi government school in Northeast Delhi’s Tukhmirpur complained to the area MLA that his daughter had been asked to remove her headscarf by her teacher.

Sharma, who is the councillor from Dwarka, stated in the letter: “School uniform is prescribed for children studying in the primary school running under the South Delhi Municipal Corporation, in which they look very beautiful. From time to time, the corporation keeps changing the colour of the uniform, due to which (uni-

**This comes days after a student was asked by a teacher to remove her headscarf in school**

form) there is no inferiority complex between the rich and poor children studying in school. It has been found recently that some parents send their children to school in religious attire, which is not right at all. This move will create a mentality of inequality among the children, which is not good for their future.”

Sharma told *The Indian Express* that she had decided to write the letter after the incident at the Tukhmirpur school. “The letter has been written to ensure that such an incident does not happen in schools under our jurisdiction,” she said.

Asked if the same rule would apply to students wearing turbans, she said, “No, that is different. Turbans are needed to tie

hair. In every school, Sikhs come in turban and no correlation should be drawn.”

The letter further states that all zonal officers have to ensure that school children deviate from the school uniform only during competitions or festivities. “On normal days, students should be present in school only in the school uniform,” it said.

In Delhi, public schools are divided into two categories — those run by the Delhi government and those by municipal corporations. While municipal corporations can only run schools up to Class V, the Delhi government has no such restrictions.

All municipal school students have the option to shift to Delhi government schools in Class VI. There are 568 schools under the South MCD in which around 2.50 lakh children study.

The student in the Tukhmirpur school was in Class VI and had gone to the Delhi government school for the first time on Monday when the alleged incident took place.

On Thursday, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the matter was being politicised and that students from all religions were treated with dignity in Delhi government schools.

“Delhi schools have an excellent arrangement to teach students. Regarding this incident... attempts are being made to politicise the issue. In our schools, students of all religions and castes are treated with dignity. There is no restriction from our side and their traditions are respected. I also enquired how the incident had taken place, but so far I don’t think there is a problem... Our school system or education department has not imposed any restrictions in this regard,” he said.

The Delhi government education department, which does not govern the municipal schools, said they had no information about the SDMC order and said there are no such instructions in Delhi government schools.

# Structural audit ordered for towers of 5 residential societies in Gurgaon

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, FEBRUARY 24

A FORTNIGHT after a large portion of sixth floor flat collapsed at Chintels Paradiso society in Gurgaon’s Sector 109 killing two women, the Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Haryana, has ordered a structural audit of towers in five high-rise societies of Gurgaon on an urgent basis.

The cost of the audit, to be conducted by experts from IIT Roorkee, will be borne by the respective developers, officials said.

In a letter to senior town planner and district town planner Gurgaon, the district town planner (HQ) said various complaints regarding structural stability in high-rise societies have been received from Raheja Vedanta, Sector 108; Raheja Atharva, Sector 109; Brisk Lumbini, Sector 109; 3M Woodshire, Sector 107 and Mahindra Aura at Sector 110-A.

“Keeping in view the seriousness of the matter and threat to the lives of residents, it has been decided to get the audit of structural stability, quality of construction which includes use of material in required ratio, quality of steel used and quality of other material used etc of the towers mentioned in above colonies, from IIT Roorkee on urgent basis along the same pattern as is being done by IIT Delhi at Chintels Paradiso, sector 109,” said the order by S K Sehrawat, district town planner (HQ). Officials said the team will flag issues and suggest measures to repair defects.

RS Bhat, district town planner (enforcement) Gurgaon said. “In light of the urgency of the structural audit, the Director General Town & Country Planning Department Haryana (DGTCP) has directed to submit factual situation of all complaints from about 60 colonies received at field offices, which will be sent by combined teams of field offices in 30-45 days. The visit will be done in presence of residents and developers. We assure the residents a safe environment.”

Following the incident at Chintels Paradiso, residents of societies especially the ones located along Dwarka Expressway

had been demanding independent structural audits.

On February 14, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had given directions for a structural audit of the affected towers at Chintels Paradiso to detect defects in design or workmanship during its construction. The CM said the government in principle had decided that, apart from the structural engineers appointed by the builders, the Town and Country Planning Department would also conduct structural audits headed by reputed government institutions or structural engineers empanelled by them, before giving occupation certificates. The devel-

oper of ‘Mahindra Aura’ project said it was yet to receive any intimation regarding the audit.


Dimple Bhardwaj, Head of Marketing and Communication, Raheja Developers, developer of Raheja Atharva and Raheja Vedanta, said, “The construction work on our all projects have been awarded on turnkey basis to reputed builders like Shapoorji Pallonji and structural consultants like Dr P C Ragatha, an IIT Delhi alumnus. All reports submitted by builders and structural consultants ensure that the work was done with the best quality of material and specified IS codes by the authorities/government.”

# ‘Appointment of Lokayukta soon’


New Delhi: The Delhi government Thursday told the High Court that it is in the process of appointing a Lokayukta in the national capital. The position has remained vacant since December 2020.

“On February 10, a meeting was convened with all statutory authorities and a name has been recommended,” the Delhi government’s standing counsel Santosh Tripathi submitted before the division bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh. The submission was made during the hearing of BJP leader Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay’s plea for the appointment of the Lokayukta within a month. Following the government submission, the court listed the matter for hearing on April 29. “Have patience. We are simply adjourning the matter,” the court told Upadhyay.


Upadhyay earlier submitted that more than 100 cases against MLAs are pending before the office of Lokayukta. “The party-in-power [Aam Aadmi Party] promised Lokpal in the 2013 manifesto, 2015 manifesto and 2020 manifesto. Delhi is without Lokayukta from 2020. Corruption cases against the MLAs are pending and that is why the government is not appointing Lokayukta.” ENS



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## PRESTIGE CONTEST IN AYODHYA

## As BJP hits caste hump, RSS lends a hand, with Ram, prasad &amp; temple soil

SHYAMLAL YADAV  
AYODHYA, FEBRUARY 24

WITH CASTE equations making Ayodhya a sticky wicket for the BJP, the RSS has hit the ground for the prestige contest in the town which lies at the heart of the Sangh Parivar's Hindutva project. Apart from invoking the ongoing construction for a Ram temple, RSS workers are handing out to voters literature on the Yogi Adityanath government's works as well as "Ram lalla's prasad" and pouches of "raaj-kan (soil)" from Ram Janmabhoomi.

Over the past fortnight, RSS top leaders have held meetings in Ayodhya, including sahsarkaryawah and BJP in-charge Arun Kumar. Prant pracharak Kaushal Kishore, based in Lucknow, has been camping here for the past week and will be here till polling day on February 27.

RSS sources said nearly a hundred Sangh workers are holding five to 10 meetings every day, with groups of 10-15, where they talk about the BJP government's achievements and request for votes in the name of Ram. The activities are parallel to what the BJP is doing on the ground.

Winning UP again would be a big boost to the Sangh ahead of its centenary year to be celebrated in 2025. Months back it had appointed in-charge for each Assembly segment in UP, with pracharak, former pracharak and cadre given the task of ensuring voters get to booths on polling day, and early. A former



Priests and supporters shower flower petals during UP CM Yogi Adityanath's roadshow in Ayodhya on Thursday. AP

pracharak in Lucknow said, "If they come late, many change their mind."

The hope is that not only will the RSS and Ram temple push help overcome the anger among some against the BJP, but also take it over the caste hump. While the BJP is likely to get the Bania, Thakur and Brahmin votes, and is counting on Dalits backing it for its schemes, the party has a strong challenger in the SP's Pawan Pandey, also a Brahmin and well-liked in the area.

All the five Assembly segments in the Ayodhya Lok Sabha constituency – Ayodhya, Bikapur, Sohawal, Milkpur and Gosaiganj – were won by the BJP in 2017 amidst a BJP wave. In the Ayodhya seat, the BJP's Ved Prakash Gupta had won by 50,440 votes against his nearest rival Tej Narain Pandey

of the Samajwadi Party. Both are again in the fray. However, at the time, the BSP's Md Bazmi Siddeque and another candidate, Banshilal Yadav, had split the Opposition vote.

Among the 3.79 lakh total voters in the Ayodhya Assembly segment, Brahmins, Muslims and SCs number around 45,000 each; Vaishyas 40,000; and Yadavs and Chauhans 35,000 each; apart from a sizeable Kurmi and Nishad strength.

The VHP, which has also been pitching in, says they want to ensure that "those who had made donations at the feet of Ram Lalla, of whom crores have not had 'darshan' till now, should get the prasad". The prasad is being distributed with the help of the Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust. The VHP also carried out

a 'sant yatra' in the constituency of Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, and is planning another in Adityanath's constituency of Gorakhpur.

RSS sources said one of the frequent complaints they are hearing about BJP MLAs is their inaccessibility, and that they are "controlled by bureaucrats". A pracharak working in Assembly constituencies in eastern UP said another common complaint was the delayed recruitment for government jobs.

The RSS has been promising to take care of their concerns as well as work out a proper mechanism against this during its Pratinidhi Sabha on March 11-13 at Ahmedabad. Among those called in for help is Anupam Jaiswal, who was a vibhag pracharak in Ayodhya earlier.

A pracharak welcomed RSS leader Arun Kumar's visit to UP recently, accompanied by Union minister and BJP UP in-charge Dharmendra Pradhan, where a patient hearing was given to them over meetings lasting nearly five hours. However, he said: "This exercise should have been done long back".

The division among voters is apparent as one travels from Brahmin-dominated village Malikpur on Ayodhya's outskirts to Dabha Semari nearby. In Malikpur, a young farmer, Ajay Tewari, says: "Our whole village is with Pandeyji. We don't have any problem with Yogiji or the BJP, but the MLA is inaccessible." In Dabha Semari, Shivam Tewari, who runs a Common Service

Centre that provides facilities in rural areas for the government's e-services, is, however, a BJP voter. "Like me, there are many beneficiaries of the PM Awas Yojana in my village."

Brakesh Rawat, who belongs to a Dalit-majority village and runs a coaching centre in Ayodhya, says "hardly anyone in my village will vote for the BJP". "People are angry due to unemployment, inflation, stray cattle."

At a private hostel in Ayodhya where students stay while preparing for competitive examinations, Dharmendra Patel, Rohit Nishad, Vipin Chandra Pal and Ashvani Yadav say their families voted for the BJP in 2017 and 2019, but not now. "The BJP is seeking votes in the name of Ram and killing reservation (referring to a reservation scandal in teacher recruitment in the state)."

BJP sitting MLA Gupta, who has contested from Ayodhya before on SP and BSP tickets, said the party has brought "historic changes" to Ayodhya and all sections are benefiting from the same. "I am fighting to increase my margin of win."

SP candidate Pandey said that the BJP has only duped people in the name of development. "Local businessmen are being cheated and Gujarati businessmen being given contracts. Farmers' land is being taken by force and false cases being registered."

BJP and RSS sources admitted the situation was "tight". "Victory or loss will be by only a few thousand."

HARISH DAMODARAN  
GONDA (UP), FEBRUARY 24

"RASHTRAVID THEEK hai, par dharam ke liye karam bhi zaroori hai (Nationalism is fine, but work also matters for religion)".

This statement by Surya Prasad Shukla from Majjapur village in Colonelganj tehsil of Gonda is, perhaps, an indicator of what the current Uttar Pradesh polls are turning out to be – a "normal" election where local development issues, caste equations and factionalism are trumping grand nationalist narratives.

In the 2017 polls, the BJP won all seven of Gonda's Assembly seats. With hardly 20% Muslims, and substantial Brahmin and Kshatriya Rajput populations, one would expect a cakewalk this time round too.

But it isn't so. For now, BJP's position looks shaky in at least three seats (Katra Bazar, Colonelganj and Mehnaun) and comfortable in one (Mankapur), while it is locked in tight contests in the remaining three (Gonda, Gaura and Tarabganj). At work is a mix of dissatisfaction, especially among Brahmins, against local BJP MP from Kaiserganj, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, plus Muslim vote consolidation in favour of the Samajwadi Party.

"How long will they keep talking of Hindu-Muslim and Mandir-Masjid? Look at the state of our roads," points out Shukla, who owns a nursery.

For Vijay Kumar Mishra, a three-acre farmer from Katela Talab village of Colonelganj



BJP supporter Ram Gopal Kashyap at his stall at Colonelganj's Sarayu Ghat. Harish Damodaran

tehsil, the main issue is *baadh* (floods) and *saand* (stray cattle). Farmers like him with land in low-lying areas have suffered huge crop loss from excess rains and overflowing rivers.

Shukla and Mishra are backing Bajinath Dubey, a fellow Brahmin and SP candidate from Katra Bazar, pitted against three-term BJP MLA Bawan Singh who is said to be facing anti-incumbency and was yet selected over two Brahmin contenders. With Masood Alam Khan, who polled nearly 56,000 votes as BSP candidate in 2017, also not fighting, the SP is counting on a Brahmin-Muslim winning combination.

The same formula is being tried out in Mehnaun, which has around one lakh Brahmin voters and 75,000 Muslims. Both BJP and

SP have fielded Brahmins: Vinay Kumar Dwivedi (sitting legislator) and Nandita Shukla (2012 election winner and wife of former minister Ghanshyam Shukla).

Equally interesting is the battle in Colonelganj, where BJP has denied the ticket to its current legislator Kunwar Ajay Pratap Singh, alias 'Lalla Bhaiya', from the erstwhile princely estate of Bargadi Kot. It has, instead, chosen Parasramp block president Ajay Kumar Singh, a non-royal considered close to MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. Lalla Bhaiya has since extended support to SP candidate Yogesh Pratap Singh, who is from the Bhabua Kot estate. This is the first time, after 1984, that the two royal families have also buried their political rivalries. "We will vote for whichever party Lalla Bhaiya goes to," declares Bam Bahadur Singh, a six-acre farmer from Paska village.

Colonelganj has 75,000-odd Rajput, 65,000 Brahmin, 50,000 Muslim and 20,000 Yadav voters. But there are also other communities such as the Kashyaps. "The BJP government is giving me 50 kg of free grain per month and Rs 6,000 (under PM-Kisan scheme). They are saying we will soon be getting Rs 500/month against Shramik Card (for labourers). Why should I vote for any other party?" asks Ram Gopal Kashyap, who sells puja items at the Sarayu river ghat.

The one seat where BJP seems well-placed is Mankapur, where its candidate Ramapati Shastri had won by 60,161 votes in 2017.

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

## PM attacks dynasts in Amethi, cites own mother

LALMANI VERMA  
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 24

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Thursday again slammed the Opposition parties for maintaining "silence" over the recent court verdict in the 2008 Ahmedabad terror blasts case and not welcoming it due to "vote bank politics".

At an election rally in Amethi in support of the candidates of the BJP and its allies, Modi said the people of Uttar Pradesh have suffered from these parties' "vote bank politics" and "parivarwadi rajneeti" (dynasty politics).

"When I speak about these two topics, *parivarwadis* get tight-lipped and their ecosystem diverts the discussion. They never reply to this because they have foul intentions – their politics of vote bank and parivarwad have done maximum damage to the country," the PM said.

Modi said these parties first nurtured politics of appeasement, which later held them hostage. "Now leaders of these parties are compelled to do vote bank politics and so their every decision is according to that politics. They don't hesitate in taking such decision even if that is against the interest of nation," he charged.

"Hence they discourage armed forces and the police by in-

sulting them because that makes their vote bank happy. With same intention, they question constitutional institutions," he alleged.

Referring to a court judgment giving capital punishment to 38 convicts in the Ahmedabad serial blasts case, Modi said, "You all clapped and felt satisfied when I said that the court has pronounced punishment. But these parties did not show courage to welcome the judgment as they fear losing vote bank. They are lip-locked."

The PM also hit out at "*parivarwadis*" in the Opposition who "spread rumours" about the Covid vaccine to malign the "image of Modi and Yogi", adding they lost credibility in the process as their own workers did not listen to them.

Modi said when the vaccination exercise got underway, neither he nor his 100-year-old mother rushed for the dose and waited for their turn. "Both PM and his 100-year-old mother follow the law and rules," he said.

Modi said initially there was democracy in the Congress but problems started when one family "captured" it. In a veiled attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who lost the Lok Sabha election from Amethi in 2019, Modi said, "The one you chose for decades, he went to Kerala and questioned your wisdom."



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Anupriya Patel (second from right) and others at a public meeting in Prayagraj Thursday. PTI

## Youngest candidate in Manipur out on a mission: 'Polls not only for the rich'

JIMMY LEIVON  
IMPHAL, FEBRUARY 24

IN A candidate field around with *crorepatis*, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) candidate Ningthoujam Popilal Singh stands out. Not only is the 26-year-old the youngest candidate in the fray, he has also not declared any assets.

Singh is contesting from the Sekmai Assembly seat that will go to the polls in the first phase of the two-phase elections on February 28. Of the 173 candidates featuring in this phase, over half (91) are *crorepatis*.

Asked why he was contesting the polls, Singh told *The Indian Express* that among his many motivations was challenging the dogma that being "rich and powerful" is a prerequisite for contesting elections.

Singh said he wanted to show that money was not the only solution and a good leader could bring change. "Politics is a very powerful platform that can change people's lives for the better. Unfortunately, this platform has become the playground for rich and power-hungry people. So

much so, it has become a trend that being rich and powerful is a prerequisite for contesting elections," he added.

The NCP candidate, who has a pending defamation case from 2018, completed his BA from Manipur University in 2016. He initially wanted to contest for the Congress, but quit and joined the NCP after being denied a ticket.

According to his poll affidavit, Singh is a cultivator. He claims he earns his living through private tuition.

Asked how he financed his campaign, Singh said he received donations from his supporters. "More than 3,000 people turned up for my flag-hoisting ceremony and my supporters contributed whatever they could,"

Singh added. Though he is up against heavyweights such as incumbent BJP MLA H Dingo Singh, and former MLA Kh Devendro who is contesting on a Janata Dal (United) ticket, the young NCP leader has a vision for his constituency. He has released a 17-point manifesto detailing his plan if elected.

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



NCP's NPS Singh

## ETHNIC FAULTLINES

## Nagas have NPF, Meiteis numbers, and now Kukis, a party &amp; hope

TORA AGARWALA  
CHURACHANDPUR,  
KANGPOKPI, FEBRUARY 24

IN JUNE 2021, about 200 people gathered at a community hall in southwest Manipur's Churachandpur, the heartland of the state's Kuki tribe. As people from Kangpokpi, Tengnoupal and other Kuki-dominated districts poured in, fiery speeches were made. At the end of the two-hour-long meeting, the Kuki People Alliance (KPA) was born.

Come February 28, when 38 out of 60 constituencies of Manipur go to polls, taking on big players like the BJP and the Congress will be the little-known KPA, formed by two retired bureaucrats, a practising doctor and a lawyer.

With the KPA contesting only two seats (Saikul in Kangpokpi district and Singhat in Churachandpur district), it is unlikely to have much of an impact on the results. But its formation is a significant development in Manipur's political landscape, where tribal aspirations play a major role.

Says Gracy Lamkhohling, a 25-year-old Churachandpur-based teacher, who was at the meeting in Vegnom Hall that day: "A political platform for the Kukis was the need of the hour."

Distinct from the Meitei-dominated valley, the hills of Manipur are home to two major tribal groups – the Nagas and Kukis. While the Naga movement is the country's longest-running insurgency, underground Kuki groups, too, have

fought the Indian government for an 'independent Kuki homeland' spread across Manipur.

Lamkhohling remembers that she first heard of this "homeland" when she was five, when a bomb went off near her home. Twenty years later, all the Kuki underground groups are in talks with the Centre. And, Lamkhohling feels, priorities have changed. "We need jobs, we need development, we need our voices to be heard. Without a political party, you can't achieve anything."

On Wednesday, as Union Home Minister Amit Shah promised the end of Kuki insurgency, at a rally in Churachandpur, a small crowd gathered at a two-storeyed house nearby to seek votes for Chinlunthang, the KPA candidate for Singhat. A 47-year-old lawyer, Chinlunthang is one of the KPA's



KPA's Saikul candidate Kinneo Haokip Hnagshing.

founding members.

David, 41, a college lecturer, echoes Lamkhohling. "So far, most Kuki politicians have been a part of national parties like the BJP and Congress. When you are with big parties, you have to stick to their guidelines, and indige-



nous interests are sidelined," he says, adding that parties have only been fielding Kuki candidates to get the Kuki vote before forgetting all about them.

His friend Lianzagou, 36, also a teacher, rattles off incidents where tribal interests were "side-

lined" by Biren Singh's "Meitei government". These include the government's recent move to make Mount Koubur in Kangpokpi district a protected government site, as well as the inauguration of a Maharaja Chandrakriti Memorial Park at Chivu Lake in Churachandpur district in 2020.

Chinlunthang is facing JD(U) Manipur chief T Hangkhanpau, the Congress's Tuankhan Kiamlo Hangzo (a retired bureaucrat) and the BJP's Ginsunhau Zou. Earlier with the Congress, Zou is expected to be Chinlunthang's main rival.

In Saikul, in Kangpokpi district, the KPA fielded the young Kinneo Haokip Hnagshing, after the BJP denied her a ticket. The wife of the self-styled chairman of the outlawed Kuki Revolutionary Army (KRA), Kinneo says her main fo-

cus is "safeguarding tribal rights".

In both Singhat and Saikul, the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) as well as the Kuki Inpi, the tribe's apex body, are backing the KPA. In Manipur, such support goes a long way. Sasang Vaiphei, President, KSO, refers to the Kuki National Assembly (KNA), a Kuki political party that fizzled out over the years, adding: "In other areas in the Northeast, tribes enjoy the Sixth Schedule, but when it comes to Manipur, we have no privileges, no protection."

While the KPA's main poll planks are what the state's tribal communities have demanded for long (a repeal of the AFSPA, a push for the 'Autonomous District Council Bill 2021', as well as strengthening of Article 371-C, which safeguards the rights of the hills of Manipur), the other push

for the party comes from insecurity about the Nagas.

The two tribes have had a strained relationship since the 1990s, which saw bloody clashes over imagined territorial homelands. The Kukis feel the Nagas have an upper hand as the Naga People's Front (NPF) speaks for the community's rights, and is also an ally of the BJP-led state government.

"The Nagas have the NPF, the Meiteis are the dominant group... so where does this leave the Kukis?" asks Seilin Haokip, the spokesperson of the Kuki National Organisation (KNO), an umbrella group of armed outfits fighting for a homeland for the Kukis. These groups too are tacitly supporting the KPA.

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2019 DEFECTIONS THAT GAVE BJP MAJORITY IN ASSEMBLY

Goa Speaker right in not disqualifying 12 MLAs: HC

MAYURA JANWALKAR  
PORVORIM, FEBRUARY 24

MORE THAN two years after 10 MLAs from Congress and two from Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) defected to the BJP to give it full majority in Goa Assembly, High Court of Bombay at Goa on Thursday held that the Assembly Speaker was right in not disqualifying the 12 legislators.

A division bench of Justices Manish Pitale and RN Laddha dismissed petitions filed by Goa Pradesh Congress Committee president Girish Chodankar and senior MGP leader Ramkrishna Dhavalikar. Both had challenged the order of Speaker Rajesh Patnekar, who had in April 2021 rejected petitions seeking disqualification of the 12 defectors.

The court held that “the disqualification petitions filed by the petitioners were correctly dismissed” by the Speaker. It said the Speaker was justified in holding that the 10 Congress MLAs and

EXPLAINED Question of merger

AS DEFECTIONS are not limited to Goa, the High Court’s verdict may set a precedent to determine the legal validity of political crossovers by elected representatives across the country. Since the court found the merger of legislature parties legally sound, it may open the gates for more such post-poll moves of MLAs elsewhere.

two MGP MLAs “did not attract disqualification under the Tenth Schedule...”

In the 2017 Assembly polls, Congress won 17 seats while the BJP won 13. The BJP, however, formed a coalition government with the MGP, Goa Forward Party and Independents.

One Congress MLA resigned later in 2017 and two followed him in 2018. In 2019, the Congress won the Panaji bypoll after the death of former CM Manohar Parrikar and the party’s strength in the Assembly rose to 15 again.

However, months later, in July 2019, 10 of the 15 Congress MLAs and two of the three MGP MLAs switched over to the BJP, giving the party full majority in the House.

The crossover was done as a “merger” of the legislature parties of Congress and MGP, as two-thirds of their respective MLAs consented to merge with the BJP. The MGP and GFP were then dropped from the government.

At the centre of the case in the court was paragraph 4 of Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, which states that “disqualification

on ground of defection not to apply in case of merger”. Sub-paragraph 2 under paragraph 4 of the Tenth Schedule states, “... the merger of the original political party of a member of a House shall be deemed to have taken place if, and only if, not less than two-thirds of the members of the legislature party concerned have agreed to such merger”.

“Parliament in its own wisdom has incorporated a deeming fiction under sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 4 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution, which protects a member of a House from being disqualified... provided at least two-thirds members of the legislature party agree to merge with another political party,” the court said.

“As long as Parliament... has determined threshold of morality of at least two-thirds members of the legislature party agreeing for merger, the courts have nothing else to go by, except the legislative wisdom of Parliament to determine such a threshold of political morality in that context.”

Verdict unexpected, will challenge it in SC: Cong

MAYURA JANWALKAR  
PORVORIM, FEBRUARY 24

GOA PRADESH Congress Committee president Girish Chodankar said on Thursday that the court’s verdict was on “unexpected lines” and the order was against the spirit of the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law) of the Constitution.

“We are going to challenge it in Supreme Court because the very existence of parties in politics is concerned. With the use of money, they can change the mandate of the people. This order goes against the existence... of democratic values,” he said.

“It’s setting a bad precedent in the country where after elections, a few MLAs can come together and take a decision irrespective of the political party which has nominated them as a candidate, they

may take money from the party in power and break away. This is not only going to set a bad precedent for the Congress party but all parties across the country,” he said.

Senior MGP MLA Ramkrishna Dhavalikar, the petitioner in the MGP’s case, said, “We don’t have the financial capacity to take this ahead in Supreme Court. But... the law needs to change. A person who is elected from one party... the day they go to another party, they should be barred from contesting elections for six years. This is a mockery of democracy.”

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant tweeted, “I welcome the decision of the Hon. High Court in dismissing the appeal filed by Congress and MGP against merger of 12 MLAs into the BJP legislature party. Democracy and constitutional mandate has prevailed over the smear campaign!”

RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY

Bill seeks 10-yr jail, Rs 10-cr fine for exam fraud

HAMZA KHAN  
JAIPUR, FEBRUARY 24

FOLLOWING EMBARRASSMENT over the Rajasthan Eligibility Examination for Teachers (REET), the state government on Thursday tabled a Bill proposing 10-year imprisonment and fine up to Rs 10 crore and attachment/ confiscation of property to curb use of unfair means in public examinations.

Under the Rajasthan Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Bill, 2022, if an examinee takes unauthorised help from any person or group or from any material written, recorded, copied or printed or uses any unauthorised electronic or mechanical instrument or gadget, it may invite imprisonment up to three years and a fine not less than Rs 1 lakh. In case of default of fine payment, the examinee shall also be liable to be punished with nine-month jail.

Secondly, anyone associated with the examination, including the examinee, or someone impersonating, or trying to leak the question paper, or procures the paper in an unauthorised manner, or assists the examinee in an unauthorised manner, shall be



Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot

imprisoned for five to 10 years and fined between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 10 crore.

An examinee who has been convicted of an offence under the Act shall be debarred from taking any public examination for two years.

If an officer investigating offences under the Act finds out that a property has been obtained from commission of offence under the Act, the officer will be authorised to seize or attach the property.

If the institutions or the organisations assisting the government with conducting the examination are found guilty too, they would be liable to pay all cost and expenditure related to the examination and would be banned forever.

The state may also designate special courts to try offences punishable under the Act.

Need ‘vocal for local’ in farm sector too, curb import of food items: PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

OBSERVING THAT the Budget can become a means for “transformation” of life, agriculture and villages, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked officials to roll out the Budget proposals from April 1, “without wasting time”.

Modi also asked officials to reduce the country’s dependence on import of agricultural goods.

On import of food items, Modi said India is an agricultural country and emphasised the need to follow the dictum “vocal for local” about food also. “We should not bring even a single (food) item from outside to meet our requirements; we should produce according to the needs of the country,” Modi said.

Addressing a webinar on “positive impact” of Union Budget-2022 on the agriculture sector, Modi said, “We must roll out the proposals and start work on April 1, itself, the day when new the Budget comes in effect.”

Stating that the government has the “full month of March” to prepare, Modi said: “The Budget has already been presented in Parliament.... Without wasting time, we should do all preparations in March and plan to de-



PM Modi addresses a post-budget webinar, Friday. PTI

‘NEW CO-OP POLICY DRAFT IN PROCESS’

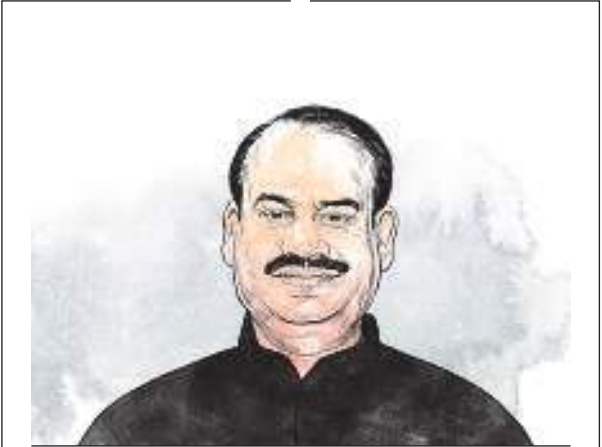
New Delhi: The Centre is drafting a new cooperative policy, the Union Ministry of Cooperation said on Thursday. In a statement issued after a webinar on budget proposals, the ministry said, “Under the guidance of Union Cooperation minister Amit Shah, we are in the process of bringing a new cooperative policy and many new schemes which will incorporate various suggestions given by stakeholders.”

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liver the schemes to farmers in April, well before the new agriculture year starts in July.”



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



HOME, ABROAD

LOK SABHA Speaker Om Birla, who is on a five-day trip to the UAE, visited the Swami Narayan temple in Abu Dhabi on Thursday. Impressed by the grandeur of the temple, Birla got a chance to meet the artisans who were involved in its construction. It was then that he realised that many of them were from his home state Rajasthan – from Bharatpur and Alwar regions. He was impressed by their plans to bring in water from Ganga and Yamuna to create a feeling of confluence of the holy rivers inside the temple. On Wednesday, too, the Speaker was surprised to see Bundi, Jodhpur and Alwar engraved at Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi. He was told that the construction materials were brought from several places and the names of all such places are engraved there.

VOICE FROM LEFT

MUCH HAS been written and said about the split of the Communist Party in 1964 – into CPI(M) and CPI – one faction, which formed the CPI(M), was closer to the Chinese Communist Party and those who remained in parent party CPI agreed with the line of the Communist Party of the erstwhile Soviet Union. That is history. On Thursday, as Russia invaded Ukraine, the CPI(M) was silent but the CPI put out a statement. Three paragraphs and 126 words, but there was no mention of Russia. It expressed deep concern and anguish over the military conflicts in and around Ukraine. Further, it said the CPI believes war is not the solution for any geo-political conflict in any part of the world and that conflicts could be solved only through peaceful means and meaningful dialogue. While the CPI did not mention Russia, it did mention the US and NATO as it said Washington’s move to expand NATO to the “East and any part of the world would be an eternal threat to world peace”.

Shah in Bahraich: To keep Azam, Atiq, Mukhtar in jail, bring BJP back to power

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BAHRAICH, FEBRUARY 24

PRAISING THE Yogi Adityanath government’s on the law and order front in Uttar Pradesh, Union Home Minister and BJP leader Amit Shah on Thursday said no “bahubali” (strongmen) can be seen now even using a telescope and that it is only “Bajrangbali” everywhere.



Amit Shah

Addressing an election rally here, Shah targeted the Samajwadi Party, claiming that if Akhilesh Yadav comes to power, bahubalis will be set free.

He asked the rally where is Azam Khan, Atiq Ansari and Mukhtar Ansari today, with the crowd responding “in jail”.

“If you make a mistake and bring ‘cycle’ (SP’s symbol), will they remain in jail? They will come out and trouble all. If you have to keep them in jail and keep the state free of ‘bahubalis’ for five more years then only BJP and Yogi Adityanath can do this,” he told the rally.

He said Akhilesh had asked what change has been made on the law and order front, but those who wear dark glasses see everything black.

“These are samajwadis only in name, they cannot see anything other than their family. When Akhilesh got a chance, 45 people of his family were occupying different posts,” he added.

The Union Home Minister said the BJP had promised to improve law and order in the 2017 election campaign and Adityanath, after becoming the chief minister, eradicated mafia elements.



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during a roadshow in Ayodhya on Thursday. AP

Yogi woos traders, Brahmins: Ayodhya is our top priority

SHYAMLAL YADAV  
AYODHYA, FEBRUARY 24

CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath on Thursday held a roadshow in Ayodhya and sought people’s support to develop the temple town into the “world’s greatest cultural and spiritual city”. He also assured the priests and traders of Ayodhya that if re-elected, the BJP government would resolve their issues as per their wishes.

“Babaon aur vyaparion ko ashwaast karna chahta hoon ki unki samasya ka samadhan hoga. Wo jo chahenge, vahi hoga. (I want to reassure the priests and traders that all their problems will be resolved. What they want, will be done),” Adityanath said after concluding the two-km long roadshow at Naya Ghat.

The business community of Ayodhya, where a Ram Temple is being constructed, has expressed their unhappiness with the state

government’s plan to widen roads as part of the beautification project of the temple town.

In a bid to woo the Brahmins in Ayodhya, Adityanath announced that “most qualified” teachers will be appointed in Sanskrit colleges and schools in the state, and scholarships will be given to the students.

“Those who want to run Sanskrit schools will get grants as well,” the chief minister said as he promised to give tablets and smartphones to Sanskrit school students. “...So that they could connect with technology,” he said.

Adityanath also said that his government would constitute a Purohit Kalyan Board for the welfare of priests and saints.

The BJP is banking on the Brahmin votes in Ayodhya as there is a possibility of the votes getting divided between the BJP and SP, which has fielded a Brahmin candidate. Moreover, the sitting BJP MLA Ved Prakash

Gupta is said to be facing anti-incumbency.

Reminding the people of his government’s top priority to Ayodhya, Adityanath said that he visited the temple town “50 times” in the last five years of his chief ministership, and added that he has come again to ensure that BJP wins all the five Assembly seats in Ayodhya. “Main swayam aaya hoon (I have myself come here),” Adityanath said a day before the campaigning ends for the fifth phase.

Ayodhya will vote on Sunday. The BJP leader also hit out at Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, who is set to visit the temple town on Friday

In Barabanki and Bahraich, Adityanath claimed that the Akhilesh Yadav government did not provide electricity to people on Holi and Diwali, but there was always power on Eid and Muharram.

WITH PTI INPUTS FROM BARABANKI AND BAHRAICH

TAMIL NADU LOCAL BODY POLLS

Behind DMK’s big win: steady allies, dispirited Opp

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, FEBRUARY 24

WHILE THE ruling party’s victory in the local body polls isn’t a first for Tamil Nadu, the magnitude of the DMK’s landslide win in the urban body polls held on Sunday has taken all political parties by surprise.

While a final picture is yet to emerge – indirect polls are yet to be held to elect mayors and council heads – in all likelihood, the DMK is set to rule all the 21 city corporations, not less than 128 of the 138 municipalities, and at least 400 of the 489 town panchayats. While the DMK walked away with a vote share of around 60 per cent, ally Congress too put up a decent show, bagging 4.6 per cent of the votes.

For DMK chief MK Stalin, this unprecedented victory means more responsibilities considering the Lok Sabha elections are at least two years away and the challenge would be to retain un-

til then the goodwill the party evidently has among voters now. While there were a number of factors that worked in the DMK’s favour – from a steady alliance with the Congress, Left parties and Thol Thirumavalavan’s Dalit party VCK, to the popular schemes announced by the party since it came to power in 2021, and the advantage of having the government machinery at its disposal – the single biggest factor was that the Opposition AIADMK put up no real fight.

The party, which hasn’t quite recovered since party supremo J Jayalalithaa’s death in 2016, has seen a string of major poll defeats – the 2019 Lok Sabha and rural body polls, the 2021 Assembly elections and the second phase of rural body polls in 2021.

While the AIADMK put up a brave face, with senior leader O Panneerselvam calling the DMK’s victory “artificial”, the party lost both Periyakulam municipality, part of Panneerselvam’s home



CM Stalin, wife Durga before casting vote on Sunday. PTI

town, and former CM Edappadi Palaniswami’s Edappadi municipality in Salem district.

A senior AIADMK leader, who was part of Palaniswami’s Cabinet, said the defeat calls for introspection. “What we need is introspection – nothing more, nothing less. Is our problem that of double leadership (Edapadi and Panneerselvam)? Or is the alliance with the BJP costing us our secular, minority followers?” he said.

Another senior AIADMK leader said the party’s shrinking base is a cause of concern. “Over the years, MGR and Jayalalithaa built an assured vote share of 20 to 25 per cent. We maintained this vote share, irrespective of whether we won or not. It has gone down to 16 per cent this election. This means there is something seriously wrong with the party,” he said, warning the party may face a “slow death” if corrections were not made. “You cannot run a party without a leader. You cannot run a party by flaunting your connections with the leader of another party in Delhi,” he said, referring to the BJP’s influence on the AIADMK leadership.

This election, the BJP made a friendly exit from the AIADMK alliance to contest the urban local body polls on its own – a decision that may have backfired.

While BJP state chief K Annamalai is claiming credit for the party having emerged as the third-largest in the state, the

BJP’s performance this election – it won 308 seats from among the 5,000-odd seats it contested – is only marginally better than its showing in 2011. That election, the party won 226 wards (including rural local bodies). But as a BJP leader pointed out, the situation was vastly different then. “We were neither in power in Delhi then nor did we enjoy the backing of a powerful Dravidian party (AIADMK) like we do now,” said the leader. A BJP leader from central Tamil Nadu pointed out that in nearly 100 wards, BJP candidates got less than 10 votes.

“When a candidate is required to have signatures from about 10 people to submit nominations, why did they fail to get even 10 votes in these wards? We didn’t win a single seat in at least 10 districts. What went wrong in western Tamil Nadu and Coimbatore?” he said. Former state chief L Murugan and present state leader K Annamalai hail from western Tamil Nadu.

‘Sarvgyaani’ Modi was unaware of stray cattle issue till now: Priyanka

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
GONDA, FEBRUARY 24

CONGRESS GENERAL secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took a jibe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi describing him as “all-knowing” who reaches out to the US and Russian leaders when they are ill but is unaware of the woes of the people of Uttar Pradesh.

Raising the issue of stray cattle at an election rally in Gonda, she said: “Stray animals are ruining your farms and they seem to be unaware of it. Modi ji is ‘antaryamaani and sarvgyaani’ (omniscient)... But he was unaware that farmers in the biggest state of our country are suffering and dying because stray animals are destroying their crops.”

“Modi ji gets to know when the prime minister of Russia catches some disease and when Donald Trump in America coughs. He quickly writes letters



Priyanka campaigns in Gonda, UP, on Friday. PTI

to them and calls them on phone.

“But Modi ji, who has government in Centre and in Uttar Pradesh, was unaware of this (farmers’ problems). Now, when the elections are here, the prime minister has taken note of it and announced a solution,” Priyanka Gandhi said asking where was he during the last five years.

“You (Modi) were nowhere to be seen when youth struggled

for jobs, farmers protested and atrocities committed against women. You travelled the world got pictures clicked with foreign politicians and came to Uttar Pradesh now,” she added.

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said in an election rally that once re-elected to power, the BJP government would come out with a policy to tackle the menace of stray cattle.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath also said that a monthly stipend of Rs 900 per cow will be given to farmers. The Congress leader also accused the Bahujan Samaj Party and Samajwadi Party of dividing people on the lines of caste and religion.

“These political leaders have understood that they do not need to work for the public as they are assured of getting votes by invoking religion... But who has nurtured this habit among them? The people have.”



Sidhu aide calls  
Cong campaign  
‘botched up’

KANCHAN VASDEV  
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 24

Days after Amritsar MP Gurjeet Aujla targeted PPC chief Navjot Sidhu claiming people of Amritsar (East) were upset with him, Sidhu's chief strategic advisor Mohd Mustafa criticised the party's poll campaign as "botched up, incoherent".

In a tweet, Mustafa wrote, "Punjab Fatwa: Despite a botched up campaign, incoherent campaign strategy and conspicuous absence of decisive leadership at all levels, Congress would form government with or without support from unexpected corners." His tweet also indicated that the Congress may not reach the two-third majority number of 59 in the House of 117. Speaking to The Indian Express, he said: "Cabinet Minister Rana Gurjit Singh had fielded his son, Rana Inderpal Singh, against party nominee from Sultanpur Lodhi, Navtej Cheema. Rana Gurjit went to the extent of campaigning for his son but nobody could stop him. CM Charanjit Channi's brother, Dr Manohar Singh, also contested as an Independent against party nominee from Bassi Pathana. How come the CM has his brother contest as an Independent?"

BAIL PLEA TO BE HEARD TODAY

Drugs case: Majithia surrenders in court, remanded in judicial custody till March 8

JAGDEEP SINGH DEEP  
MOHALI, FEBRUARY 24

SHIROMANI AKALI Dal (SAD) leader Bikram Singh Majithia was on Thursday remanded in judicial custody till March 8 after he surrendered before a Mohali court in connection with a drugs smuggling case.

The Akali leader has now moved a plea for regular bail which will be taken up by the court on Friday.

As Majithia arrived for surrendering before the special court of Additional District and Sessions Judge (ADSJ) Sandeep Singla, the prosecution filed an application seeking his arrest and questioning.

The court allowed the application following which Majithia was formally arrested. The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the case then questioned Majithia for nearly 90 minutes in the court complex. He was later produced in the court of Judicial Magistrate (1st Class), Mukesh Kumar Singla.



Akali Dal leader Bikram Majithia at the Mohali court complex on Thursday. Jasbir Malhi

After questioning, the investigating agency, however, did not seek Majithia's police remand and instead applied for judicial remand.

The court observed, "In view of the averments made in the instant application, the accused Bikram Majithia is hereby remanded in judicial custody till

March 8. Accused be again produced in the special court."

Earlier, speaking to reporters outside the court premises in the morning, Majithia, who entered

the court complex at around 11 am along with his supporters, said, "As per orders of the hon'ble Supreme Court, I have appeared before the (Mohali) court". While the SC had granted Majithia protection from arrest till February 23 (Wednesday), it had also directed him to surrender in court after February 20 polls in Punjab.

Majithia, who is the brother-in-law of SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal and brother of former Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, contested the February 20 polls from the Amritsar East constituency, from where Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee president Navjot Singh Sidhu is seeking re-election. He was booked by the state's Bureau of Investigation (BoI) on December 20 last year under Sections 25, 27-A, and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The case was registered on the basis of a report of the Special Task Force of the Punjab Police formed to tackle the drug menace in the state.

Proceeds of crime worth  
Rs 1,249 crore identified  
in terror cases: Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE CENTRE on Thursday told the Supreme Court that investigation into 57 cases of terror has resulted in identification of proceeds of crime to the tune of Rs 1,249 crore and attachment of 256 properties worth Rs 982 crore besides filing of 37 prosecution complaints and conviction of two terrorists under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

"The attached properties include that of Hafiz Mohammad Sayeed (a UN-designated terrorist), Syed Salahuddin (head of Hizable Mujahideen) and Iqbal Mirchi (an international narcotics smuggler involved in the Mumbai blasts)," Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the three-judge bench comprising Justices AM Khanwilkar, Dinesh Maheshwari and CT Ravikumar.

Mehta pointed out that proceeds of crime worth Rs 98,368 crore were identified and attached provisionally under the Act so far. Of this, proceeds worth Rs 55,899 crore were confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority and substantial part of attached proceeds were still under adju-

dication, he said, adding that proceeds worth Rs 853.16 crore have already been confiscated to the Central Government under the orders of the competent court.

The bench is hearing a clutch of petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the scope of powers available to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the PMLA for search, seizure, investigation, and attachment of proceeds of crime.

Mehta told the court on Wednesday that only a "very small number of cases are being taken up for investigation" in India as compared to countries like the United Kingdom, the United States, China, Austria, Hong Kong, Belgium and Russia. On Thursday, he explained that low registration of cases in India "is due to the robust mechanism for risk-based selection of cases for investigation". He said the Financial Action Task Force's recommendations provide for no threshold for the selection of cases for probe under the PMLA while the ED is focusing on cases involving high-value proceeds of crime and cases involving serious predicate offences involving terror financing, narcotics, corruption and offences involving national security, etc".



Leaders of the Maha Vikas Aghadi at a protest against the arrest of Nawab Malik in Mumbai on Thursday. Amit Chakravarty

NAWAB MALIK'S ARREST

MVA leaders stage sit-in, state-wide protests today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

A DAY after the arrest of minister Nawab Malik by the Enforcement Directorate, the leaders of Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) held a protest outside the Mahatma Gandhi statue near Mantralaya against BJP and misuse of central investigation agencies. The activists of the three parties will hold state-wide protests on Friday in support of Malik and against the BJP.

On Thursday, leaders of the MVA staged a sit-in against the arrest of Malik at the Mahatma Gandhi statue near Mantralaya. NCP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil, Irrigation Minister Jayant Patil, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Chhagan Bhujbal, NCP MP Supriya Sule, Congress ministers Balasaheb Thorat, Ashok Chavan and others were also present.

While the protest began at 10 am, the Sena leaders joined it an hour later with party legislators from Mumbai coming to the venue. Subsequently, senior Sena minister Subhash Desai also joined the protest. The protest went on till 1.30 pm.

Leaders from the Shiv Sena and NCP leaders clarified that some Sena leaders including

Aaditya Thackeray, Sanjay Raut and Eknath Shinde had gone to Uttar Pradesh for election campaigning while others had gone to Konkan for Bharadi Devi Yatra.

On Wednesday, the MVA decided not to seek resignation of Malik despite arrest and have decided to mount defence against the misuse of central agencies by the Centre. The protests are part of MVA's strategy to take on the BJP in the state.

Bhujbal said Malik has no links with the bomb blast or those who were behind the blast. "But a Muslim party activist is being linked with Dawood to defame him. Using Dawood's name, an impression is being created that an elected representative has links with him to justify the action. All these things will be put before the court and legal battle will be fought," said the NCP minister speaking to media persons.

Throat said the MVA is fighting a united front against the repression of the Centre. Shiv Sena legislator Manisha Kayande said the MVA allies are together in the fight against the Centre's misuse of agencies. In the evening, a meeting was held by senior NCP leaders to discuss various aspects related to Malik's arrest. The MVA announced that the activists of all three parties will stage a protest on Friday in Malik's support.

Top court dismisses plea seeking stay on release of 'Gangubai Kathiawadi'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE SUPREME COURT on Thursday dismissed a plea seeking stay on the release of Bollywood movie Gangubai Kathiawadi. A bench of Justices Indira Banerjee and J K Maheshwari junked the plea by Babuji Rawji Shah, who claimed to be the adopted son of Gangubai Kathiawadi, clearing the way for the movie's release on Friday.



On Wednesday, the bench had asked the film's makers if it was possible to change the title given the legal challenge. On Thursday, Senior Advocate C Aryama Sundaram and Advocate Rohini Musa, appearing for director Sanjay Leela Bhansali, said the name was published and advertised long ago and it could not be changed at the last moment.

The film, the counsel argued, actually glorifies Gangubai and shows how she rose from a red

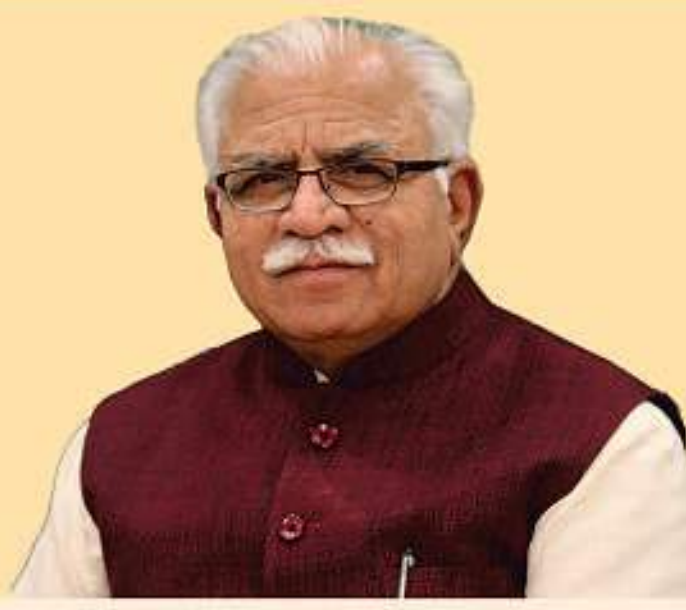


A poster of the movie

light area to become a social worker. Sundaram said the film is based on book Mafia Queens of Bombay published in 2011 but the book has never been challenged. Justice Banerjee said: "What if there are sensibilities in the family?...What he is saying is that lady is not there but members of family, when daughters are going out...I don't look down upon anyone. But if the family is concerned, that is a concern." Sundaram said the movie there was nothing defamatory in the movie.




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- Manohar Lal




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Future Road Map for Urban Development and Challenges in Implementation of RERA




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## Policies Launch & Valedictory Session

on 26th February, 2022 at 5:30 PM  
by  
**Sh. Manohar Lal**  
Chief Minister, Haryana



Entry by invitation only

Department of Town & Country Planning, Haryana

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## DE-ESCALATE

The world cannot afford a war over Ukraine. Both sides must return to the negotiating table

THE RUSSIAN ATTACK on Ukraine is, unarguably, an assault on the latter's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In a 24-hour period, Moscow recognised the "republics" of Donetsk and Luhansk in East Ukraine and deployed aerial forces into the country. The attacks, reportedly, are taking place on multiple fronts, including airports and military targets. The conflict is now the largest attack by one state on another in Europe since the Second World War and the first since the Balkan conflict in the 1990s. While Beijing has expressed its full-throated support for Russia, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg has condemned the invasion, warned of dire "economic and political consequences", as well as placed aerial and naval assets on high alert. In essence, Ukraine is now on the verge of becoming a theatre of conflict in a new Cold War. But the world has changed in the last 30-odd years, and both sides — the West and Russia — must defuse the situation as soon as possible.

While there is no justification for the attack, it is important to understand why Vladimir Putin's Russia is willing to brave severe economic sanctions as well as a military conflict over Ukraine. In the years since the demise of the Soviet Union, Russia's position has been somewhat comparable to that of Germany post World War I. Much as with the Treaty of Versailles and Germany, Russia stood diminished without the USSR. Its economy was in shambles, national assets sold and national pride dented. The West, for its part, oversaw the eastward expansion of NATO, and by the mid-2000s Russia under Vladimir Putin began to assert itself once again in its neighbourhood with hostile actions in Georgia, Estonia and Ukraine. NATO's decision to include Ukraine and Georgia on the shortlist for membership only added to Russia's insecurities and anxieties — which Putin has often played up for domestic political reasons. The 2014 annexation of Crimea had thus far been Moscow's boldest act — that crisis, like the current one, was justified by Putin on the grounds of security interests and the rights of ethnic Russians in former Soviet Republics. Now, with the invasion of Ukraine, agreements like the Minsk Protocols of 2014, and the Russia-NATO Act of 1997 stand all but voided.

Unlike during the Cold War, though, the global economy is now deeply integrated. The costs of a prolonged conflict are just too dire, first and foremost in terms of the loss of life and suffering that is already underway in Ukraine. Second, the world is still reeling from the Covid-19 pandemic, which hurt the poorest countries and people the most. It can ill-afford a conflict-induced slowdown. It is incumbent on Russia to implement a ceasefire and, subsequently, for both sides to return to the negotiating table. Escalation is not an option.

## CRUDE THREAT

Rising oil prices will be inflationary, posing risks to the external sector

WITH THE CONFLICT between Russia and Ukraine escalating, crude oil prices on Thursday touched multi-year highs, breaching the \$100 per barrel mark. The spike in prices is driven by worries of a significant disruptions in supplies — as per some estimates, Russia accounts for one in every 10 barrels of oil consumed globally, along with being the largest supplier of natural gas to Europe. Disruptions in these markets will have adverse consequences on the global economy, affecting both industries and households, dampening the pace of the recovery.

For India, which imports around 80 per cent of its crude oil requirement, the risks stemming from higher prices are particularly challenging. The Economic Survey had projected growth for 2022-23 at 8-8.5 per cent assuming crude oil prices to range between \$70-75 per barrel. Elevated crude prices will not only be inflationary but also pose risks on the fiscal front and the external sector. On inflation, according to research by analysts at the RBI, a \$10 increase in oil prices could raise inflation by 49 basis points (unless it is absorbed by the government). But while retail fuel prices in India are currently not in line with market prices, post the conclusion of the ongoing state elections, oil marketing companies are expected to hike pump prices. This will increase the risks of retail inflation not moderating in line with the projections of the RBI, limiting the degrees of freedom before the monetary policy committee, unless these price hikes are offset by governments, at both the central and state level, by lowering their fuel taxes. However, doing so will impact their revenues. This will be particularly challenging for state governments who face considerable uncertainty over their revenues once the GST compensation cess ends in its current form in the coming financial year. Higher oil prices will also exert pressure on the current account deficit. As per a report from Kotak Economic Research, for every \$10/bbl increase in the average crude price, the current account deficit increases by roughly \$17 billion or 0.5 per cent of GDP. The Indian currency will also come under pressure.

The oil market is currently in the midst of a mismatch. As per Crisil, for the past three months, the OPEC countries have not been meeting their production targets "which has influenced prices". Thus, the longer this conflict goes on, the greater is the upside risk to the price of crude, and greater will be the costs to the Indian economy.

## WILD SWING

Imran Khan wants a debate with the Indian PM to settle India-Pakistan differences. Has he watched any TV recently?

YOU'VE GOT TO give it to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan. His government might have just passed a harsh law that can throw social media users and journalists into prison for "fake news", but his belief in the power of rhetoric — especially his own — appears rather intact. And so, one television debate is all he wants with his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi — to resolve differences that have too often brought the two neighbours to war. Or, as the great balladeers of 1990s soppy romance, the boy band Boyzone, would say: "Words are all I have to take your heart away."

Surely, Khan hasn't watched TV recently. It is hard to imagine the small-screen gladiators on either side of the LoC — not known for control or restraint in crossing lines — as moderators of peace. Does this touching faith in eloquence have something to do with the debating culture at Oxford University, where Khan studied in the early 1970s, and began his charmed life as player and playboy? After all, in universities across the world, there are enough young privileged men (and women) with the breezy confidence that they only have to marshal facts and dazzling arguments to solve the world's most intractable problems. Demagogues and populists, too, like nothing more than to anoint themselves the heroes of all stories. Who needs the grunt work of diplomacy and negotiation and conflict management? Let's settle this, man to man, one on one.

On a Moscow visit as the war on Ukraine unfolds, will Khan be tempted to organise another debate-cum-primetime-peace-mission? That crossing words — and not swords or nuclear buttons — is a great idea is undebatable. But to imagine that tricky geopolitical disputes can be untangled by personal chemistry is not statesmanship. It is to sell the world a lemon. Well at least, there will be lemonade at hand as we watch another edition of the Great Bluster.



BRIJESH SINGH

THE CRISIS in Ukraine has caught the world's attention. Visible is the conventional conflict between soldiers and words between leaders. But invisible is the information war that led up to the conventional war. NATO calls it hybrid warfare, but actually, it is a combination of cyberattacks, information campaigns and kinetic force. The sophisticated hybrid warfare and disinformation campaigns are being played by both Russia and the West. The aim is to create a multiplicity of narratives, which fragment the understanding of the opponent. Alongside the physical battles, the mind battles are on.

While a cyberattack is used to create panic and degrade the adversary's capability to fight, information operations break the resolve to respond and push a narrative conducive to the attacking forces, even legitimising the aggression. Kinetic operations are thus suitably aided by softening the battlefield. This is what NATO accuses Russia of doing over Ukraine.

The credit for coining the term "hybrid warfare" goes to US Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel Frank G Hoffman, who in 2007 defined it thus: "Hybrid wars incorporate a range of different modes of warfare, including conventional capabilities, irregular tactics and formations, terrorist acts including indiscriminate violence and coercion, and criminal disorder".

Russian hybrid war strategies in the 2014 invasion of Crimea were very well thought out. An important element in the success of the Russian approach was the prior establishment of a dominant position for the official Kremlin media in the local population as the primary source of news. Similar agenda-setting is already underway in many Baltic states.

From the earlier experience of Georgia, Crimea and Estonia, it has been noticed that Russian aggression coincided with the dissemination of pro-Russian and anti-Estonian, anti-Georgian or anti-Ukrainian propaganda, with an active intent of public opinion manipulation elsewhere in the world too.

Russia's rivals in the West practise this whole-heartedly as well. The American or Western approach to these influence operations has centred on perception management, by creating impressions in the mass media and other platforms and steering dis-

The information war by Russia and the West has made it difficult for each side to understand the other

cussions in the desired direction. These "psychops" and "strategic communications" are carefully crafted by state leaders to attain pre-defined objectives.

The Communist bloc has long accused the West of engineering revolutions and organising regime change across the world. In fact, it was the threat of an imminent "colour revolution" overturning a pro-Russian government in Ukraine, that may have precipitated a military response by Russia, resulting in the annexation of Crimea in 2014. "Colour" and "flower" revolutions across the world, as also the Arab springs, are widely believed to have been aided and abetted by western powers using mass and social media.

In a Kremlin-produced film chronicling the annexation of Crimea, Russian President Putin declares the mission of Russian forces to be, "to save the life of the ousted Ukrainian President Yanukovich, to protect the rights of minorities and Russian-speakers, and to liberate Crimea and bring it back to the homeland."

Vladimir Lefebvre, the original theorist of "reflexive control" theory, posits that an adversary uses information about the other side when making decisions. It then aims to disrupt and control the decision-making algorithm of the opponent. In practice, this is achieved by feeding selective information or providing disinformation to influence the voluntary decisions of the adversary. This tactic is skillfully used to shape public discourse, set an agenda and manipulate the understanding of events.

Some of the very successful techniques used are as follows: Show of force to precipitate a crisis; providing false information; use of surprise to force decisions; interfering with an adversary's decision-making process

These approaches involve the use of "maskirovka" — camouflage, denial, and deception — and may even include systematic modelling by intelligence agencies and policy establishment of an adversary's thought processes, publication of deliberately distorted doctrines, and feeding distorted information to an enemy's key figures.

A surprising aspect of these information operations is that the mode and manner of messaging are considered irrelevant, and a

large number of different channels — from radio to mobile, word-of-mouth to government reports — are used till it reaches just a small section of the mainstream media on the other side, which then picks it up and starts discussing it in public.

The aim is the creation of a multiplicity of narratives, which fragment the understanding of the other side. Leakage of confidential information, telling of tactical truths and creation of several alternative versions, creates a situation where the official channels are no longer trusted. This technique also feeds on the trust deficit between the other government and its citizenry.

Such information operations use the techniques of elaboration, persuasion, manipulation, reiteration (repeating it again and again), wedging (causing dissensions) and seeding (agenda-setting).

Russia, with its Communist past, has substantial expertise in propaganda. It is effectively used to generate, spread and amplify narratives in various languages across several geographies and demographics. When the Malaysian Airlines Flight MH 17 went missing in July 2014, the pro-Kremlin propaganda networks seized the opportunity to generate a huge volume of disinformation about the complicity of Ukraine in its disappearance. Russian mass media, official and unofficial Twitter accounts, bots and sock puppets created and shared a flurry of doctored images, videos and even fake first-person accounts to defame Ukraine.

Ukraine's security service, SBU, recently took down two bot farms operating under the Russians, in the Ukrainian city of Lviv. These farms controlled more than 18,000 bots, engaged in spreading rumours of bombings and placement of "mines" etc. thereby engaging in disruptive influence operations.

The mind battles are on. So beware, whatever is read or heard about the crisis in Ukraine from any side, has to be taken with a pinch of salt, vetted with common sense and ascertained to be true, before it is passed on.

*Singh is adjunct distinguished fellow for cyber security at Gateway House. He is an author and a senior IPS officer. Views are personal*



MEENA T PILLAI

ONE OF MALAYALAM cinema's most beloved female character actors has made a quiet exit from life. She leaves a yawning gap that remains unbridgeable for the sheer variety, depth and shades of life she portrayed. KPAC Lalitha wrote herself onto the silver screen at a time when Malayalam cinema was blooming and maturing in the 1970s. Her life straddled its most vibrant phase for over half a century.

Born Maheshwari Amma, Lalitha grew up in Kayamkulam, a small hamlet in central Kerala. She joined the left-leaning theatre collective, KPAC (Kerala People's Arts Club), at an early age and adopted its acronym as her stage name.

Lalitha stood out for the elan with which she played the agonies and ecstasies of being a common woman. The moral dilemmas of embracing imperfection, or the plain messiness of being ordinary, helped transform the characters she played into women of all seasons.

Behind each of her finely-crafted characters, no matter how brief their screen time or how trivial their import, was a fully-formed life force radiating vitality and vigour that crackled with electricity, holding audiences spellbound by the ease with which an actor could master perfection in such small brushstrokes. In the cult classic, *Manichitrathazhu*, remade in multiple languages including Hindi (Bhool Bhulaiyaa), Lalitha has a small memorable scene where she narrates the spellbinding backstory of the spectral danseuse's love

## KERALA'S COMMON WOMAN

KPAC Lalitha stood out for the elan with which she elevated the ordinary on screen

life in her former birth. It is captivating to watch her face and eyes brim with the mirth of the present, while her voice conjures a ghostly presence from the past.

In Adoor Gopalakrishnan's adaptation of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer's *Mathilukal*, she "acts" with just her voice, making audiences laugh and cry, nudging them to be more human, touching their hearts with the transformative potential of a love that transgresses walls and transforms prisons into veritable gardens, where roses bloom and the fragrance of humanity fills one with strange epiphanies. All this, with just the crystal stream of a voice of undying clarity, tinged with muted passions and suffused with deep melancholic notations.

KPAC Lalitha went beyond the art and popular/commercial cinema dichotomy, placing herself in the blurred lines between categories and characters. Her nuanced performances in Adoor's *Kodiyettam*, Padmarajan's *Peruvazhiyamabalam*, or her spouse Bharathan's *Aaravam*, among many others, indelibly etched her name into the Malayalam New Wave. And yet, the same fervour of art and rigour of method informs her forays into the more popular terrains of cinematic enterprise. She made Malayalis walk many cinematic roads, leading them up melodramatic streets in movies such as *Venkalam*, *Amaram*, *Kattukuthira*, *Sadayam*, through sad alleys in *Kaattathe Kilikoodu* or *Sphadikam*, across byroads of hilarity in untemper movies such as *Gandhinagar Second Street*, *Sandesham* or

through satire in *Panchavadi Palam*, challenging them to savour the wide spectrum of her acting prowess that went far beyond received feminine stereotypes.

That she acted in a small regional film industry, away from the "hype" around the glitz and glamour of Bollywood and its self-assigned aura of nationalist myth-making, was her only shortcoming as an actor. She lived and died a quintessential Malayali actor, for whom fame and acclaim were measured by yardsticks that often did not meet national standards. Though she bagged the National Award for Best Supporting Actress twice, and the Kerala State Film Awards four times, alongside Filmfare Awards and many other accolades, the 550-odd films she acted in clamour for applause that ought to go beyond the narrow confines of the regional. Nevertheless, she lives on in the hearts of generations of Malayalis around the world, many who grew up mouthing her "comic" dialogues, or adoring her "heroic" "villainous" mothers, garrulous sisters-in-law, "nosy" women-next-door characters, all of whom could turn the tables on celluloid stereotypes, whose foibles were etched unerringly on a physiognomy that was often a palimpsest of the finest undertones of human emotions, carrying the ordinary to extraordinary heights of finesse and perfection.

*The writer is a film historian and a professor at the University of Kerala*

## FEBRUARY 25, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

### ISLAMABAD VISIT

INDIA HAS DECIDED to defer indefinitely the visit of Foreign Secretary R D Sathé to Islamabad for talks on a no-war pact following references to Kashmir made by Pakistan at the Human Rights Commission in Geneva. According to a Pakistan embassy spokesman, the Indian decision was conveyed to Pakistan ambassador Abdul Sattar by Sathé. India had taken objection to the fact that during a discussion in the commission on countries under colonial domination, Pakistan had compared the situation in Kashmir with that in Palestine and Namibia.

### CALL FOR EXPORTS

THE ECONOMIC SURVEY, presented to Parliament, speaks of "increasing pressure" on the budget but doesn't indicate areas where the new Finance Minister hopes to widen his tax net. The survey noted a sharp deterioration in the balance of payments in the past two years and spells out a two-pronged attack — maximum import saving and redoubling of exports — to improve this situation.

### SECRET MEETING

THE PRESIDENT OF the Uttar Pradesh Lok Dal, Mulayam Singh Yadav, alleged that UP's

Minister of State for Home, Rajinder Tripathi, had a secret meeting with the dacoit, Chhatiram, near the village of a Congress (I) MLA in Mainpuri district.

### ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION

THE PRIME MINISTER declared in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday that, there was no political motive behind the Indian scientific expedition to Antarctica and said India had as much right as any other country to go to uninhabited places. "We do not subscribe to the view that only a few very rich countries have the right to such uninhabited and other places," Mrs Indira Gandhi said.



THE IDEAS PAGE

The great exodus

How India’s education and employment crises result in lakhs of students heading to foreign universities



MILIND SOHONI

A RECENT REPORT estimates that about 8 lakh students travel abroad for higher education every year and spend \$28 billion or 1 per cent of our GDP on this. Of this, about \$6 billion are fees that go to foreign universities. This is about Rs 45,000 crore, which is adequate capital to start and run 10 new IITs, IISERs or JNUs or any such elite institution every year. And yet, by the recent CAG report, the eight new IITs started in the period 2008-2009 are not doing well at all. The clutch of new private universities too has not managed to dent the above exodus of students and wealth. Thus, even after 70 years of Independence, and the last eight years of vigorous policy initiatives, we neither have *aatmanirbharta* nor a value proposition in higher education. Why is that?

Firstly, it’s about jobs. From the income tax department data of the last few years, we see that there are about 3 crore taxpayers. Taking two-thirds of these as the number of salaried people and assuming an average tax-paying life of 20 years, we see that there are only about 10 lakh fresh jobs available each year. This includes both public and private sector jobs. More data from the income tax department show that of these, there are about 3 lakh “good” jobs which pay Rs 5 lakh per annum (LPA) or more, and 30,000 “posh” jobs which pay a starting salary of Rs 10 lakh-plus per annum. Of the 3 lakh good jobs, about 1 lakh come from the IT majors. The posh jobs come from multinational companies and are in marketing, finance, IT and global engineering services. Hardly any Indian company serving the Indian customer offers a starting salary of Rs 10 lakh per annum.

From the MHRD data, we see that India graduated about 30 lakh students last year from about 45,000 colleges. Given the recent employment data, there may be about 1 crore unemployed graduates seeking jobs. This is 10 times the number of salaried jobs, 30 times the good jobs and 300 times the number of posh jobs available every year. Now, it is impossible for companies or state agencies to meaningfully interview such a large number of applicants for every job. The short-listing task for private companies is done by branded institutions and colleges. Good jobs are concentrated in about 800 top colleges and posh jobs in 80-100 elite colleges such as the IITs and IIMs, St Stephen’s in Delhi, Presidency College in Kolkata and emerging elite private universities. It is only here that good companies will go and recruit, and where a student has a hope that her CV will be read. And hence the madness of competitive exams, closing ranks and coaching classes in high school and placement and packages in college. If there was an option, no wise parent would want to put her child through this ordeal. And that partly explains the flight of students and capital to foreign shores.

Sadly, the central and state governments also rely on such exams for their recruitment, for example, even the IAS. Can capabilities in science, economics or administrative ability be tested through exams with odds of 1 in 100? The answer is a firm no. The JEE is perhaps the



CR Sasikumar

single biggest disaster in India’s higher education, and yet there is no formal analysis of this exam in the public domain. Students should ask our PM for his opinion on this in his *pariksha pe charcha*.

But it’s also about knowledge. Why are there so few jobs? The answer to that, our economists tell us, are outdated labour laws, inadequate investments and bureaucratic cholesterol. That may be, but here too, there is a deeper connection with higher education and it begins with the job description. This is the work that a person on a job must do through the week or month. Consider, for example, a bus driver in MSRTC, the Maharashtra state regional bus service. Her weekly schedule, number of hours of service, the route etc., along with other job descriptions within MSRTC must be carefully designed. Together, they decide the efficiency, profitability and societal value provided by MSRTC. The performance of the enterprise needs to be periodically measured and analysed and the job descriptions updated. Such studies should be commissioned by the concerned IAS officer and done by the regional universities and consultancy firms.

Unfortunately for MSRTC, and for most state agencies such as irrigation, water supply or city administrations, this has not happened and they are now in a deadly spiral of decreasing efficiency and mounting losses. MSRTC itself faces a crippling strike and 93,000 jobs are at risk.

In fact, most job descriptions in the public sector have remained stagnant since independence. Thus, there is no statistician in the district public health department nor an economist in the agriculture department. If these had been there, we would have a much better understanding of the epidemic and its impact on our society.

But the role of our elite institutions is all the more crucial in emerging areas. Take, for exam-

Why are there so few jobs?

The answer to that, our economists tell us, are outdated labour laws, inadequate investments and bureaucratic cholesterol. That may be, but here too, there is a deeper connection with higher education and it begins with the job description. The performance of an enterprise needs to be periodically measured and analysed and the job descriptions updated. But most job descriptions in the public sector have remained stagnant since independence.

ple, air pollution. An ICMR study estimates that air pollution caused about 1.7 million deaths and Rs 2.6 lakh crore worth of lost output. Ideally, if the professional know-how and business models had been there, this could have been a Rs 26,000 crore industry of measuring, mitigating, and managing air pollution and employing 26,000 people in posh jobs. And yet, that has not happened. There is a National Clean Air Programme that has offered Rs 300 crore to over 100 city administrations across India to initiate a basic study of the problem in their cities. That is languishing because of bureaucratic sloth, incompetence but principally because there is no clear idea on what is to be done.

Thus, there was and is a clear role for the elite central institutions, the IITs, the IISERs, JNU and others. They should look at the problems of the day, formalise them, and convert them into business models and job definitions which offer solutions that deliver value. They should then have supported local institutions and entrepreneurs in the deployment of these solutions. They have missed doing that. Instead, they have chosen to become accessories to the globalisation of knowledge and a highly unequal system of delivering the benefits of science to the people. As a result, they have very little primary experience in solving the hard problems that the world faces today. In short, our professors have very little to teach.

So, it is no surprise that so many of our students choose to go abroad to study and eventually work there. Are *achhe din* here for these professionals to return? To find meaningful work in solving the problems that we face? To come back home and raise a family? The answer lies in our Air Quality Index, an environmental marker of the social reality we have collectively accepted.

The writer teaches at IIT Bombay

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Londongrad” – a damning nickname which has been around for well over a decade – must finally be dismantled as a hub of Russian soft power and a safe conduit for Kremlin cronyism.” —THE GUARDIAN

Ravish, my friend

As a journalist, Ravish Tiwari was open, sharp and analytical. He was loyal and generous to a fault



ATISHI

“AB AKHADE MEIN kood gayi hain, toh kushti toh ladni padegi”, was the advice given to me by Ravish in mid-2018. I had been asked by my party to become the in-charge of the East Delhi Parliamentary constituency and prepare for the Lok Sabha elections in 2019. Having spent much of my time in the Aam Aadmi Party in behind-the-scenes policy work, I was not sure whether I was ready for a transition to electoral politics. As with many difficult personal and political decisions in my life, I turned for advice to one of my oldest and closest friends, Ravish Tiwari.

Ravish and I had been friends since 2005 when as twenty-somethings we had gone to Oxford University as Rhodes Scholars. Even then, Ravish’s passion was to understand Indian society, economy and politics; his sharp and irreverent analysis peppered many weekend dinners where he used to cook *tehr* for his friends. He talked about going into politics and when the 2007 Uttar Pradesh elections began inching closer, he decided that he couldn’t watch from a distance and needed a ring-side view of the same. He came back to India after completing his Masters in Comparative Social Policy and joined the Indian Express in September 2006. He felt that being a journalist could give him an insight into Indian politics, and maybe even help provide an entry point into it.

He took to journalism with gusto. From his very first beat where he used to cover agriculture and panchayati raj, Ravish hit the ground running. His writing was never constrained by any pre-existing frameworks but based on intensive groundwork into policies and politics. I am not sure when his passion shifted from politics to journalism but interestingly, my own journey from working on education and rural development brought me to India Against Corruption and then the Aam Aadmi Party. Over a lunch in October 2013 in the run-up to AAP’s first Delhi election, I commented to Ravish, “Who would have thought when we came back from Oxford that I – and not you – would be in politics?” His tongue-in-cheek response came within seconds, “If I had joined politics, I would have been in serious politics!” But when AAP won 28 seats in that election, he was the first to concede that he had not spent enough time on the ground in Delhi to assess the political transformation that had taken place.

This is who Ravish was – eager to learn, never embarrassed to admit his

lack of understanding of an issue, ready to listen to every voice on a subject and then form his own opinion, an opinion that was unencumbered by fashionable frameworks. He was ever ready with his sharp, analytical lens – James Bond movies were subject to the same scrutiny as the political decisions of Mayawati and Mulayam Singh Yadav.

Ravish’s own life journey was inspirational. From a small town in Eastern UP, he got admission to the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, in Basti District. The school was new and had very limited infrastructure, but Ravish was clearly committed to bettering his life and stuck on. After Class 12, he moved away from home to Allahabad to take coaching classes for the IIT-JEE exam. That is when he learned to cook his signature dishes – *tehr*, *mirchi waali daal* and *matar sauté* – that many of us ate over the years. In 2000, he got admission to IIT Bombay for a dual B.Tech-M.Tech degree in Metallurgy. That Ravish was always ready to walk his own path was evident even in his decision not to follow the MS-MBA-Consulting route that most of his batchmates took, but to shift to public policy. From Basti district to Oxford University to becoming the National Bureau Chief of the Indian Express, Ravish was a self-made man who shaped his own destiny.

As a friend and human being, Ravish was loyal and generous to a fault. He was the friend who would show up at 3 am if you needed help. He was the older brother who always found time to mentor a young cousin who told him she was lonely while studying abroad. Even while he was battling cancer, he found the emotional bandwidth to support others. I remember when he was admitted to Max hospital a few months ago for the administration of a new chemotherapy drug, he spent much of his time counselling a young cancer patient and her family, telling them not to lose hope in the fight against the disease.

No remembrance of Ravish would be complete without acknowledging his brave and wonderful wife, Puja. A successful professional from the publishing field, Puja put her entire life on a backburner and stood like a rock with Ravish while he battled cancer for the last two years. Ravish breathed his last in the early hours of February 19. While the country lost a stellar journalist, I lost one of my dearest friends.

As I write this piece, my Twitter timeline is showing stories about the last two phases of UP elections, and it breaks my heart to think that I will never hear Ravish’s sharp, grounded and irreverent analysis of Indian politics again; to realise that I will not have the counsel of my friend, my political advisor, my sharpest critic when I have a difficult political decision to make. Ravish, you will always be missed.

The writer is an MLA and leader of the Aam Aadmi Party



ASHISH KOTHARI

THREE THINGS STAND out in the 2022-23 Union budget for anyone interested in the relationship between economy and ecology. One is the complete absence of the following words in Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman’s budget speech: Nature, wildlife, environment, ecology, ecosystem, pollution, and conservation (except uses such as “business environment” and “growth ecosystem”). Second, it is a budget with a stated focus on climate action. Third, there is a massive rise in allocation for infrastructure projects, with huge environmental implications. Seen together, these highlights demonstrate the deep contradictions in the government’s approach to sustainable development.

One can analyse the budget from three standpoints: Direct allocations for the environment sector, allocations for environment in non-environment sectors, and allocations for other sectors with environmental impacts.

On the first count, there is a slight increase in the budget of the Ministry for Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) from 2021-22’s revised estimate of Rs 2,870 crore to Rs 3,030 crore. But this is easily wiped out by inflation. More importantly, this is a meagre 0.08 per cent of the total budgetary outlay. While some sectors like forestry and wildlife have seen a healthy rise in allocation, the outlay for others like the National River Conservation Plan has declined – this, astonishingly, also includes the allocation for tackling air pollution, widely acknowledged as a national emergency.

On the second count, there is mixed news. There is a welcome stated focus on natural and organic farming, and on promoting millets. But

Insufficiently green

Budget misses a chance to facilitate climate action

there are no details on the allocations, including for linkages necessary to make such farming viable, such as manure and markets. Also, given the major push for food processing in the budget, without making reservations for community-run businesses, there is a danger of big corporations capturing the organic space. Completely missing is a focus on rainfed farming that involves 60 per cent of the farming population and is ecologically more sustainable than artificially irrigated agriculture. The FM announced the government’s support to “chemical-free farming throughout the country,” but she has also allocated a massive chemical fertiliser subsidy of Rs 1,05,222 crore. A chance to begin shifting this subsidy to organics has been missed.

On the climate front, there are several positive provisions – use of biomass for power stations, boost to batteries, energy-efficiency measures in large commercial buildings, and sovereign green bonds. However, these gains will be more than wiped out by the much greater budgetary support to climate-unfriendly investments like those on mega-infrastructure, air travel, and coal expansion.

Renewable and “clean” energy has received substantially higher allocations. But the focus remains on mega-parks in solar/wind energy, nuclear power, and large hydro that have serious ecological impacts. These projects also threaten to grab peoples’ lands. The additional budget for farm-level solar pumps and rooftop solar generation is welcome, but it’s minuscule compared to mega-projects. Another chance to shift towards decentralised renewable energy with less ecological impacts and greater

community access has been missed.

There is a striking schizophrenia in the government acknowledging climate as the “strongest negative externality” but investing hardly anything in coping mechanisms for hundreds of millions of people facing the consequences of increased floods, fires, droughts, coastal erosion, cloudbursts, unpredictable rainfall, and temperature extremes. The National Climate Action Plan gets an abysmally inadequate Rs 30 crore – the same as in 2021-22. And there is no focus on a “just transition” that could help workers in fossil fuel sectors, like coal, to transition to jobs in cleaner, greener sectors.

It is encouraging to see the budget proposing a “paradigm shift” towards sustainable urban living. A committee is to be set up to advise on this. The budget does promise greater support for public transport, something demanded by citizens’ groups for decades. Unfortunately, most of the allocation in this will go to metros that are extremely carbon-intensive in terms of construction. The budget misses out on the shift towards a full bus system, cycling and walking – which would help both the environment and most road users in cities. Even the boost to electric vehicles is likely to benefit the rich unless it is predominantly focused on buses.

The third dimension is of greatest concern. As highlighted by the FM, this is predominantly an “infrastructure budget”. While investments in infrastructure for small towns and villages are urgently needed, much of what is proposed are mega-projects. The proposed 25,000 km increase in highways will further fragment forests, wetlands, mountains, grasslands, agri-

cultural lands and bypass most villages. A shift in paradigm to decentralised, sustainable, and community-oriented infrastructure is missing.

Several specific allocations are of further concern. For instance, the Ken-Betwa river-linking project, given over Rs 40,000 crore, will submerge valuable tiger habitat. Viable decentralised irrigation alternatives have been ignored. The Deep Ocean Mission and the Blue Revolution allocations are oriented towards commercial exploitation rather than conservation and sustainable use. A new budgetary item is oil palm, given nearly Rs 500 crore (under the SC, ST and gender budgets). A recent announcement that palm plantations are proposed in Northeast India and the Andaman Islands, both ecologically fragile, makes this a worrying prospect.

Finally, the budget misses out on a major shift to “green jobs”. This includes support to decentralised (including handmade) production of textiles, footwear, and other products. Even the MGNREGS, which could have been used for regenerating two-thirds of India’s landmass that is ecologically degraded, has got reduced allocation.

The economy will continue being overwhelmingly unsustainable and inequitable, as the private corporate sector has been favoured, and environmental regulations are being steadily whittled down. Another chance to turn the economy towards real sustainability and equity – a real “Amrit Kaal” as India heads to a centenary of Independence – has been missed.

The writer is with Kalpavriksh, Pune. Views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GO NO FURTHER

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Go no further’ (IE, February 24). Setting a dangerous precedent, President Vladimir Putin recognised the independence of two separatist areas of Ukraine’s eastern region – Donetsk and Luhansk – which has raked up tensions in Europe. The US and EU have responded with targeted sanctions on the two Ukraine areas and Russian officials, with Germany halting the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project that would have doubled Russian gas exports to Berlin. But it seems that the West may be willing to live with Russia’s recognition of Donetsk and Luhansk as the Ukrainian government had itself declared the two areas as occupied. The targeted sanctions would serve as a face-saver for NATO. A return to a Cold War-like situation doesn’t help Europe, as it will disrupt energy supplies and economic activity. Oil prices are already touching \$100, most major economies including India are facing high inflation and national economies are just about recovering from the pandemic. India finds itself in a tough spot having historical ties with Russia and growing ties with the US and facing a huge threat from China. Although Delhi has taken a neutral approach to the Ukraine crisis so far, it will likely be tested as matters escalate. Can India stay neutral on Russia going further into Ukraine if it wants the world to be with it on China’s imperialism?

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

LISTEN TO STATES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Trust and loan’ (IE, February 23). The hesitation of some states to avail of the central loan assistance scheme for capex stems from the binding restrictions that such assistance entails. The said provisions

IDEAS ONLINE

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● ‘NAVA RASA’ OF LATA MANGESHKAR’S MUSIC: SONAL MANSINGH

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hamper the ability of states to borrow without the Centre’s prior approval. Some states have suggested flexibility, in the form of prepayment of loans, which would free them from taking the Centre’s nod for future loans. Such proposals should be considered by the Centre, in the interests of the development of states and more congenial fiscal federalism.

Hemant Contractor, Pune

APATHY GALORE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Indignity made invisible’ (IE, February 23). That the Centre and the states have not even proper or relevant data on people engaged in manual scavenging shows criminal callousness. It is worth noting that on the one hand, our governments are spending crores of rupees on cleaning up the rivers and constructing bathrooms near religious places for VIPs. On the other hand, they hesitate to reward manual scavengers. It exposes our government’s hypocrisy of having a casteless society. For this purpose, they need to make jobs like gutter cleaning attractive through better service conditions.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur



## Government of NCT of Delhi Department of Revenue, Delhi 5, Sham Nath Marg, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054

E-mail: minoritycellhqdelhi@gmail.com

### APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES FROM THE STUDENTS BELONGING TO MINORITY CATEGORY OF DELHI FOR THE YEAR 2021-22

1.	Reimbursement of tuition fees to the minority students of class I to XII, studying in recognized public/private schools of Delhi
2.	Merit scholarship for students belonging to Minority category studying in Professional/Technical Colleges/ Institutions/ Universities
3.	Dr. B. R. Ambedkar State Award for Toppers in Minority category students

Online applications are invited for above mentioned Scholarship Schemes: [www.edistrict.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.edistrict.delhigovt.nic.in)

DETAILS OF THESE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES, INCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING ONLINE BY STUDENTS AND VERIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS BY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES ETC., ARE AVAILABLE ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT:

[www.revenue.delhi.gov.in](http://www.revenue.delhi.gov.in)

**Last date for submission of applications for above mentioned Scholarships has been extended up to 31/03/2022**

Pr. Secretary  
DIP-SHABDARTH-0672-21-22 (Revenue Department/GNCTD)

#### E-TENDER PRESS NOTICE

The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD-XIII, I&FC Department Govt. of Delhi, on behalf of the President of India, invites Online Percentage rate tender from the approved and eligible contractors registered with IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT. The contractors who are registered with other department and now got their registrations verified from I&FC Deptt. are eligible to participate in Tender process for the work:

- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/95** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217194\_1) Major Head of Account 4217(MLALAD) Name of Work: Improvement and reconstruction of internal lanes at village Dhansa in AC-35. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 62,44,822/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,24,896/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/96** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217195\_1) Major Head of Account 4217(MLALAD) Name of Work: Improvement and reconstruction of internal lanes at village Issapur in AC-35. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 89,18,855/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,78,377/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/97** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217196\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Construction of Boundary wall between RD 7000m to RD 8000m of left bank of Mundella drain in N.G. Block. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 53,02,195/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,06,044/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through EProcurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/ Acs/2021-22/98** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217197\_11) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Widening, Protection of left embankment of Mundella drain from RD 7500m to RD 8050m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 43,23,752/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 86,475/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-131 Acs/2021-22/99** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217199\_1) Major Head of Account 4217(MLALAD) Name of Work: Construction of racing track on Gram Sabha land bearing Kh. No. 25/1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10 at village Malikpur in N.G. Block. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 12,26,795/Earnest Money (in Rs.) 24,536/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/100** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217232\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Providing and fixing of solar light on Mundella drain from RD 8950m to RD 10950m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 75,38,206/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,50,764/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-13/Acs/2021-22/101** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217243\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Providing and fixing of LED street lights on Mungeshpur drain from RD 10362m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 8,00,332/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 16,007/- Time allowed 30 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.EICD-13/Acs/2021-22/102** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217256\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Providing and fixing of LED street lights on Right bank and left bank of B.C. drain from RD 2700m to RD 6500m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 71,26,472/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,42,529/- Time allowed 90 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through EProcurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.EICD-13/Acs/2021-22/103** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217256\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Providing and fixing of LED street lights on Right bank and left bank of B.C. drain from RD 6500m to RD 7500m. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 22,61,019/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 45,220/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-131 Acs/2021-22/3815h Call** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217190\_1) Major Head of Account 4217(Development Unauthorized Colonies) Name of Work: Improvement of Streets and construction of side drain Nathu Ram Park, Najafgarh, AC-35 (Reg. No. 172). Construction of main road from Najafgarh Tilak Nagar road to Nathu Ram Park, Najafgarh Block (Balance Work). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 91,76,034). Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,83,521/- Time allowed 120 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.E/CD-131 Acs/2021-22/71(3rd Call)** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217220\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Providing Neelgiri/Mexican Grass turf on plot adjacent to Kakraula Model Nursery Right bank of Mungeshpur Drain. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 24,95,736/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 49,915). Time allowed 30 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.EICD-13/Acs/2021-22/741340 Call** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217211\_1) Major Head of Account 2711(Revenue) Name of Work: Demolishing and Re-Construction of west side RCC Retaining wall on the land boundary of plot at Kakraula Model Nursery. Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 51,83,147/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 1,03,663/- Time allowed 90 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.
- NIT No. E.EICD-131 Acs/2021-22/9012" Call** (ID No. 2022\_IFC\_217192\_1) Major Head of Account 4217(MLALAD) Name of Work: Construction of Temporary Shed by Laying Metro sheet on Gram Sabha land bearing Kh. No. 1114, 1512 and 113/10, 11 at village Dhansa in N.G. Block, AC-35 Development of Pandit cremation ground village Dhansa in N.G. Block (Balance Work). Estimated Cost (in Rs.) 16,45,072/- Earnest Money (in Rs.) 32,901/- Time allowed 60 Days. Last date & time of receiving & opening of tender through E-Procurement System 28-02-2022 on 03.00 Hrs & 03.05 Hrs respectively.

- Note :-**
- Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
  - Amendment(s)/alteration(s)/corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.
  - EMD in the form of Bankers Cheque/DD/Fixed Deposit receipt in F/o EE /CD-XIII, I&FC Deptt Shall be scanned and uploaded to the e-tender website within the period of bid submission. The original EMD should be deposited in the office of EEICD-XIII, I&FC Deptt. within the period of bid submission.

Sd/-  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
DIP/Shabdhath/0673/2122



**GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**  
No.1, Dr. M.G.R.Salai, Taramani, Chennai - 600 113.

**SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

Ref. No.3358 / NC-3 / 2021 Dated 25.02.2022

Sealed tenders are invited from the manufacturers / dealers for the supply of Ready-made colour uniforms to the pre-school children attending anganwadi centres in 355 projects of Tamilnadu under the department of Integrated Child Development Services.

The tender document and other details can be obtained from above mentioned office. The tender document can also be downloaded from the website [www.tender.tn.gov.in](http://www.tender.tn.gov.in)

DIPR/737/TENDER/2022 Director cum Mission Director

சேதான கட்டுத்து கத்திரும் கைப்படுத்தும். சாதகமான புரிந்து சரித்திரும் பகாப்படுத்தும்.

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, मिनीमाता बांगों नहर संभाग क्रमांक 6, नंदेलीभांठा सक्ती जिला जांजीर-चाम्पा छ.ग.

निविदा निरस्तीकरण आदेश

आदेश क्रमांक 437/व.ले.लि./2021-22सक्ती, दिनांक 16.02.2022

इस कार्यालय की निम्नांकित निविदा सूचना क्रमांक द्वारा आमंत्रित की गई निविदाएं एतद् द्वारा निरस्त की जाती हैं।

स. क्र.	निविदा सूचना क्र.	सिस्टम निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	पूर्व प्रकाशन का जी.नं.
01	15/व.ले.लि./2021-22 दिनांक 24.01.22 (प्रथम आमंत्रण)	91315	जांजीर चापा जिले के सक्ती शाखा नहर के अंतर्गत मुरलीडीह वितरक नहर, मलनी वितरक नहर सिरली सब माईनर तादुलीह माईनर एवं भोथिया माईनर नहर के क्षतिग्रस्त सी.सी. लायनिंग, बैंक सुदृढीकरण टो-वाल का निर्माण एवं मिट्टी के कार्य।	रु. 436.80 लाख	67139
02	16/व.ले.लि./2021-22 दिनांक 24.01.22 (प्रथम आमंत्रण)	91316	जांजीर चापा जिले के खरसिया शाखा नहर के अंतर्गत घोघरा वितरक नहर के अचानकपुर माईनर, पासीद माईनर एवं सब माईनर, जुनवानी माईनर, मलली माईनर, सराईपल्ली माईनर, भालूडरा माईनर, डोगिया माईनर एवं सब माईनर के क्षतिग्रस्त सी.सी. लायनिंग का पुर्ननिर्माण, कोलाबा फिक्सिंग एवं बैंक सुदृढीकरण के कार्य।	रु. 478.06 लाख	67138

हस्ता/-

कार्यपालन अभियंता  
मिनीमाता बांगों नगर संभाग क्रमांक-6  
सक्ती, जिला-जांजीर चापा

68116

NORTHERN RAILWAY							
E-TENDER NOTICE							
S. N.	Name of Work with its Location	App. Cost of the Work (in Rs.)	Address of the office from where the tender form has been issued	Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.)	Comple tion Period of the Work	Date & Time for Submission of tender & opening of tender	Website Particulars & Address of Office
1.	16/SrDEE/G/MB/202 (IInd Call):- Electrical work i.e.w Repair/Improvement of electrical wiring and other amenities in service building over MB Division.	40,45,400.25 (Including GST)	Electrical Branch, Divisional Railway Manager's office, Northern Railway, Moradabad	80,900.00	6 (Six) Months	Tender will be received upto 15.00 hrs. and opened at 15.00 hrs on 21/03/2022	Website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> Divisional Railway Manager's office, Northern Railway, Moradabad.
Tender Notice No:- 02/2022 Dated. - 24 02 2022				408/2022			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE							

**INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & ALLIED SCIENCES (IHBAS)**  
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Dilshad Garden, Delhi 110 095 (India)

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Advt. No.: /2022/Estt./IHBAS Dated:

**A Walk-in-interview for appointment of Senior Residents on Regular basis in various Specialties of this Institution and appointment of Junior Residents on Regular basis will be held in the Office of Director, IHBAS, Delhi as per schedule given below:**

S. No	Name of Post	No. of vacant posts	Reservation UR	SC	ST	OB	C	OW	EWS	Date of Interview	Qualification/Eligibility
1	Sr. Resident (Psychiatry)	23	10	04	02	05	02			21.03.2022	For SI.No. 01 to 09 Recognized Post Graduate Degree (MD/MS/DNB)/Diploma in the concerned specialty.
2	Sr. Resident (Neurology)	05	02	01	00	01	01			22.03.2022	For SI.No. 10 Recognized Post Graduate Degree (MD/DNB) in Pathology/ Microbiology/ Biochemistry/ Laboratory Medicine) from a MCI recognized Institution/ Medical College.
3	Sr. Resident (Neurosurgery)	04	02	01	00	01	00				
4	Sr. Resident (Pathology)	02	02	00	00	00	00				
5	Sr. Resident (Microbiology)	02	01	01	00	00	00				
6	Sr. Resident (Neurochemistry)	02	01	00	00	01	00				
7	Sr. Resident (Neuro-Radiology)	03	01	00	01	01	00				
8	Sr. Resident (Neuro-Anesthesia)	10	04	01	01	03	01			23.03.2022	
9	Sr. Resident (Neuro-psychopharmacology)	03	01	01	00	00	01				
10	Sr. Resident (Emergency Laboratory)	04	02	00	00	01	01				
Total posts		58	26	09	04	13	06				
1	Junior Resident (Psychiatry)	19	10	03	01	04	01			15.03.2022	MBBS or equivalent degree from MCI recognized Institution/ Medical College.
2	Junior Resident (Neurology)	26	13	04	01	06	02				
3	Junior Resident (Neurosurgery)	08	05	01	00	02	00				
4	Junior Resident (Neuro-anesthesia)	03	03	00	00	00	00				
		56	31	08	02	12	03				

(i) Receiving of Application and verification of Certificates will be held from 09:30 AM to 12:00 Noon on the date of interview in the Activity Room, Academic Block, IHBAS Hospital, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110095.

(ii) Out of total 58 vacancies of Senior Resident, 03 posts are reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) OH candidates as per Government Rules. The Director, IHBAS reserves the right of any amendment, cancellation and changes of this advertisement-whole or in part-without assigning any reason.

(iii) Out of total 56 vacancies of Junior Resident, 03 posts are reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) OH candidates as per Government Rules. The Director, IHBAS reserves the right of any amendment, cancellation and changes of this advertisement-whole or in part-without assigning any reason.

(iv) Application Form and other information may be downloaded/viewed from our official Website ([www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in))

(v) Those candidates who had applied earlier for the post of Senior Resident in response to Advt. No.11/2020/Estt/IHBAS/9948 dated 17.11.2020 published in The Times of India on 29.11.2020 and in Employment News on 05-11 December 2020 need to re-apply for Walk-in-interview but are exempted to deposit the requisite fee.

**How to apply:**  
The eligible and desirous candidates fulfilling educational qualifications/eligibility conditions should appear for a Walk-in-interview with their application, along with Original certificates and one set of self attested photocopies of the relevant documents in support of Age, Qualification, Attempts, Mark-sheet, Degree, DMC Registration, Category & Experience Certificate etc and two passport size photographs and a Fee of Rs.500/- will be charged from the UR, OBC & EWS applicants in the shape of demand Draft (non-refundable) issued in favour of Director, IHBAS payable at Delhi to be issued after the date of publication of this Advertisement. The SC/ST/PWDs applicants are exempted from payment of Fee. No TADA will be paid to the candidates.

(Col. Joint)

Maneesh Puri  
Director (Admn)  
DIP/Shabdhath/0671/2122

MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE TREATABLE

**E- TENDERING PRESS NOTICE.**

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.V.Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Near Paryavaran Complex, Sardulajab New Delhi 110030 invites on behalf of President of India, on line percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors registered with Irrigation and Flood Control Department up to 3:00 PM on dates mentioned as below.

- NIT 162/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Asa/(ID No. 2021\_IFC\_217231\_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 2711 Non Plan.N.O.W:- Removal of obstructions of Asola Nallah from RD 0 metre to RD 1400 metre and its maintenance for a period of 08 months. E.C.Rs. 2587.826/- Earnest Money Rs 51,757/- Period of Completion 300 Days. (Date of opening 07.03.2022).
- NIT 163/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Asa/(ID No. 2021\_IFC\_217234\_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4225 SCST.N.O.W:- Construction of dividing road from Chamunda Chowk to Peepal Chowk in Harijan Basti Gautampuri in Badarpur Constituency AC-53. E.C.Rs. 91,59,566/- Earnest Money Rs 1,83,191/- Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 07.03.2022).
- NIT 164/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Asa/(ID No. 2021\_IFC\_217238\_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 2711 Non Plan.N.O.W:- Construction of road from Meethapur Chowk to Ali Drain in Badarpur Constituency AC-53. E.C.Rs. 92,03,142/- Earnest Money Rs 1,84,063/- Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 07.03.2022).

Note:- 1). The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tenders. In case the last date of opening of tender is extended the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.

2) Earnest Money in the shape of FDR/ Banker Cheque/Demand Draft of schedule bank issued in favour of Executive Engineer, Civil Division-V,I&FC department should be uploaded. Further after declaration of L-1 position, L-1 bidder will submit EMD (which was uploaded) in physical mode within 3 days of L-1 declaration.

3) Details of above mentioned work can be seen and downloaded from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

4) Tender submitted through e-procurement portal shall be accepted only.

5) Corrigendum, if any will be published on e-procurement web site only.

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**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Tender Notice No. PCE/NWR/2021-22/13 Date 24.02.2022 For and on behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, North Western Railway, Engineering Department, Jaipur (Rajasthan)-302017 invites e-tenders on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) website for supply of material as follows:- Tender No.: NWR/20212213 (1) Items: Manufacture and supply of PSC Turnout Sleepers to Drg. No. RD/SO/-4218, RD/SO T-4865 and RD/SO/-6068 (2) Quantity:122 Sets (3) Tender Value: Rs.5,92,18,412.04 (4) Earnest Money: Rs.11,84,370.00 (5) Date of closing: 22.03.2022. Item is reserved for procurement from RD/SO approved vendors only. 77-AC/22

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HIJAB ROW

# Karnataka govt stretches HC order scope, creates confusion in colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 24

DESPITE THE Karnataka Advocate General telling the High Court that the state government is not interfering with uniforms in private-minority institutions, the state education department officials have reportedly been doing the opposite.

According to reports, attempts were made to dissuade a turbaned Sikh girl from attending classes at Mount Carmel College, a private-minority institution in Bengaluru, this week reportedly at the instance of the Karnataka Pre-University Education Department officials. She, however, was not stopped from attending classes.

Deputy Director of the department in north Bengaluru G K Sriram said he was entrusted with the duty of convincing authorities at Mount Carmel College to enforce the ban on religious attire as prescribed by a February 10 High Court order. "The High Court order only says the order should be implemented in colleges where uniforms have been prescribed. The order is not clear on private-minority institutions specifically," he said.

Karnataka Advocate General Prabhuling Navadgi had, however, informed Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi on February 22 that the state was not interfering with uniform norms in private-minority educational institutions.

The declaration by the AG was used by the High Court to dispose of a petition filed by Karnataka State Minorities Educational Institutions Managements' Federation that had questioned



Students in hijab outside a school in Udupi. Reuters file

the applicability of restrictions on religious attire. "We are of the considered view that nothing is required to be adjudicated in the matter. The writ petition is accordingly disposed of," the court had said.

"We think the High Court order applies to all institutions. The order says do not allow headscarves in classrooms in colleges that have uniforms. This college (Mount Carmel) has a uniform," Sriram said.

"We are not conducting any inspections but if someone points it out (religious attire) then we go to the college. We have to ensure no religious attire is worn in classrooms. People complain out of precaution to prevent students from indulging in a competitive display of religious attire," an education official said.

However, Muslim girls have even been kept out of the classrooms in degree colleges where there is no dress code, a move that goes against the High Court order. Even Muslim teachers were forced to remove hijab and burqa at some places.

On February 15, advocate Mohammed Tahir, who has been representing Muslim students on the hijab issue in the High Court, sought a clarification on the February 10 order from the court. "The order passed by the High Court has been grossly misused. They are using this order in every institution. Muslim girls are being forced to remove their hijab," he told the court.

On February 23, in an oral clarification of its February 10 order, the High Court said that restrictions on wearing religious attire would apply only to state colleges where uniforms are prescribed. No written clarification was issued in this regard. The High Court also clarified, orally again, that its February 10 order would apply only to students and not teachers.

An official on condition of anonymity said the government's February 5 order banning hijab and leaving it to the discretion of college development committees that prescribe dress code was the root cause behind the issue getting out of hand.

## Amid row, Bengaluru college asks Sikh girl to remove turban

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 24

A FEMALE Sikh student in Bengaluru was asked to remove her turban by college authorities as they cited the High Court's order related to the hijab row.

In its interim order on February 10, the High Court restrained students from "wearing saffron shawls, hijab and religious flags or the like" in classrooms of colleges that have prescribed a uniform.

An Amritdhari (baptised) Sikh, the 17-year-old student of Mount Carmel PU College, Bengaluru, was told she could not wear the turban in spite of the college's uniform dress code. She refused to remove the headgear.

The incident has drawn criticism from the girl's father as well as Campus Front of India, a student outfit affiliated to the Popular Front of India, involved in organising Muslim students to fight for their rights in the state's coastal districts.

"Asking a Sikh to remove his/her turban is a big insult to a Sikh and the entire Sikh community," Gurcharan Singh, the girl's father wrote to the administrator of the Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Ulsoor, Bengaluru.

Singh said he also stands by Muslim female students who wanted to cover their heads as a

part of their faith. "The colour of the scarf and dastaar (turban) can match the uniform of the institution," he wrote.

Demanding action against the college, CFI's state unit chief Athaulla Punjalkatte on Thursday said asking the Sikh student to remove her turban was "against individual and religious freedom".

"The repression of Constitutional rights in the name of uniforms threatens the unity of the country. Religious rights of minorities in colleges are being violated as part of the state government's indiscretion and anti-Muslim behavior, while the Constitution and Supreme Court specifically permit the Sikh community to follow the fundamental rights of the Sikh community," the CFI leader added.

The college authorities had first asked the girl to remove the headgear on February 16. They later wrote to Singh, saying while they understood the importance of the turban for a Sikh they were bound by the court order.

In his reply, Singh told the college management they had "misunderstood" the High Court's order. "I have gone through this order and this High Court order does not mention anything about Sikh turban... it should not be misunderstood," he wrote, telling the college that he was in touch with "our community advocates and various organisations" on the issue.

# Paes 'caused various acts of domestic violence' against Rhea Pillai: court

SADAF MODAK  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

TENNIS ACE Leander Paes "caused various acts of domestic violence" against former partner, model-actor Rhea Pillai, a metropolitan magistrate court has said.

In its order, issued earlier this month, the court also ordered Pillai to leave their shared residence, with directions to Paes to pay her a monthly rent of Rs 50,000, besides monthly maintenance of Rs 1 lakh.

The court, in its order on the domestic violence case filed by Pillai, said that with his career in tennis "almost over", it would cause "serious prejudice" to order him to live in a rented home while also paying maintenance to Pillai.

The court directed Paes to pay an additional amount of Rs 1 lakh towards legal costs and expenses, while continuing to pay expenses of maintenance, education and other necessities of their daughter. It rejected Pillai's prayers seeking payment of past maintenance and partition of their shared residence, located in Mumbai western suburbs.

The court's order came more than seven years after Pillai, through lawyers Mahesh Jethmalani and Amna Usman, had filed proceedings under the Domestic Violence Act, naming Paes and his father Vace Paes as respondents. Pillai had claimed that she and Paes were in a relationship since 2003; they were living together since 2005-06; and had a child in 2006.

It was claimed that they then shifted to a house in Mumbai's Bandra, and Paes's father also



Leander Paes



Rhea Pillai

moved in with them. Subsequently, differences arose between them.

Paes filed an application before the family court in Bandra seeking custody of his daughter. Following this, Pillai filed a plea in court in 2014, alleging that she was subjected to domestic violence by Paes.

"Considering the facts admitted by the Respondent (Paes)... it can be said that the Applicant (Pillai) succeeded in proving all allegations constituting emotional and economic violence and then burden shifts on the shoulders of Respondent to prove counter i.e. his stance/defence," Metropolitan Magistrate Komalsing Rajput said in the order. "But if we perused either cross-examination of the Applicant from his side, or his evidence affidavit, there is nothing in it on the basis of which it cannot be said that Respondent succeeded in proving his defence."

The court took into account submissions made by Pillai alleging domestic violence through various means, including "economic violence", for being made to bear all expenses despite his earnings.

The court dealt with aspects including the contention made by Paes, represented by his lawyers George Cheriyan and Uttam Cheriyan, that the plea filed by Pillai was not maintainable under the Act since she was still married when they began living together, and got divorced from her previous marriage only in 2008. He had claimed that he was unaware about her marital status.

Pillai countered this by stating that Paes was aware of the fact that she was separated from her then husband — actor Sanjay Dutt — and divorce proceedings remained to be completed due to a pending trial against Dutt and the death of his father.

The court said it was difficult to believe that Paes was unaware of the status of Pillai's first marriage, given that he had "roamed internationally" and was "acclaimed belonging to the elite class". It also did not agree with Paes's contention that the divorce between Pillai and Dutt was not valid. It said even though Pillai was still married legally when she began living with Paes, the fact of "existence of relationship beyond marriage is undeniable".

WB MUNICIPAL POLLS

## SC to hear plea on central forces deployment today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

SUPREME COURT agreed to hear on Friday a plea by West Bengal BJP leaders against the Calcutta High Court order which had left it to the State Election Commission (SEC) to decide on demands for deployment of central forces for elections to 106 municipalities scheduled on February 27.

On Thursday, Senior Advocate Paramjit Patwalia, appearing for petitioners Mousumi Roy and Pratap Banerjee, informed Chief Justice of India N V Ramana that they have filed an appeal against the High Court direction and requested that it be listed urgently given that the polls are on Sunday. He submitted that the High Court had "put the ball on the Election Commission" to decide if central forces will need to be deployed to maintain peace.

CJI Ramana then sought to know why the court should interfere in the matter when the High Court had left it to the SEC.

Patwalia said that in a matter concerning local body polls in Tripura, a bench headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud had allowed a plea by Trinamool Congress to deploy additional central forces. Following this, the CJI agreed to list the BJP plea for hearing.

The party had approached the High Court alleging large scale violence and rigging of votes in the elections held on February 12 to four municipal corporations — Siliguri, Bidhannagar, Asansol and Chandernagore — and sought deployment of central forces for the remaining polls.

KARNATAKA POLLS NEXT YEAR



Rahul Gandhi with senior leaders of the party's Karnataka unit in New Delhi, Thursday. PTI

## Rahul meets Congress leaders, urges unity to get back to power

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

WITH ASSEMBLY elections in Karnataka just over a year away, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday met the party's top leadership from the state, including former chief minister Siddaramaiah and state unit chief D K Shivakumar, and asked them to work unitedly to bring the party back to power.

The meeting came amid a raging controversy in the state over barring Muslim girls in hijab from entering schools and colleges. Both the Congress central leadership and its state unit had been treading cautiously on the issue.

Thursday's meeting, sources

said, was to brainstorm on the broader strategies ahead of the Assembly elections next summer. Rahul, sources said, was clear: he asked the leaders to work unitedly. The discord between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar has been a recurring theme of Karnataka Congress for some time.

The meeting was attended by 21 senior leaders from the state, including Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, former Union minister M Veerappa Moily and Leader of Opposition in Karnataka Legislative Council B K Hariprasad. After the meeting, AICC general secretary in charge of the state, Randeep Surjewala, said the party would restart its 100-km 'Mekedatu

Yatra' from February 27.

The party had stopped the yatra in January in view of the rising Covid-19 cases, and after some of its leaders contracted the disease. Surjewala said the party has also decided to launch a series of protests highlighting unemployment, price-rise, corruption and scams in Karnataka.

"We had a detailed discussion on the state of political affairs in Karnataka. How the (Basavaraj) Bommai government is mired in deep-rooted corruption, it is a 40 per cent tender commission government and how the crypto-currency scam has reached the highest echelons of power and the government being completely mum," Surjewala told reporters.

## Plagiarism accusation: HC asks Twitter to remove US-based historian's posts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE DELHI High Court on Thursday ordered the micro-blogging site Twitter to take down certain tweets of historian Dr Audrey Truschke within 48 hours after hearing an application moved by Indian historian Vikram Sampath who last week filed a suit against her and other academics.

The court on February 18 had restrained Truschke, Dr Ananya Chakrabarti and Dr Rohit Chopra from further publication of their letter accusing historian Sampath of plagiarism with respect to his two-volume biography of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. The court also had said that the defendants would not post anything defamatory against him on any platform, online or offline.

BENGAL STUDENT LEADER'S DEATH

## Were following officer's orders, say arrested cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 24

THE HOMEGUARD and the civic police volunteer, who were on Wednesday arrested in connection with the death of student leader Anis Khan, said on Thursday that they had visited the latter's Amta residence "on the instructions of the officer-in-charge". They did not, however, name the OC.

Speaking to reporters on the way to a court where they were



Dr Audrey Truschke

On Thursday, the court heard Sampath's application seeking takedown of the tweets posted after the injunction order was passed last week.

While Advocate Jawahar Raja, representing Chakrabarti, argued against passing any order for removal of tweets citing freedom of speech, Twitter told the court that it would not come in the way of the court's orders.

The letter written by the three

US-based academics on February 11 was addressed to the Royal Historical Society where Sampath is a fellow. They asked the Society to subject Sampath's body of work to scrutiny.

Seeking damages of Rs. 2 crore and 100 rupees and permanent injunction against the defendants, Sampath said that the letter was part of an "international smear campaign" to discredit him because "he has shown the academic courage and gumption to challenge the prevailing narrative around a historical figure". The court was told that he has given references to the work of other scholars.

After hearing Sampath's counsel last week, Justice Amit Bansal had said he made a prima facie case for grant of an interim injunction and the publication of the letter has been causing "considerable damage" to his reputation.

## Beaten up for voting BSP in UP, claims Dalit family

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 24

A DALIT family in a Mathura village has alleged that they were attacked in their home last Sunday for voting on 'elephant' — the poll symbol of the BSP. The police, however, said the incident was not linked to the elections. An FIR has been registered against seven persons of the village.

"We received information that some people were attacked in a house on Sunday. The FIR was filed on the basis of the complaint given by the family which said

that the accused objected to their vote. During the investigation, it was found that the assault took place over an issue regarding a cricket match. Further investigation is pending," said Circle Officer (Goverdhan) Gaurav Tripathi.

Police also said that they have video statements of family denying that the incident was linked to the polls. As per the FIR, a group of seven entered the family's house and began assaulting them. "They told us that we had voted for 'elephant' instead of the candidate we were told to support... They fired multiple rounds in the air to disperse the crowd," the FIR stated.

UNTITLED 1969 PAINTING NOW MOST EXPENSIVE WORK OF MODERN INDIAN ART; WORKS BY TYEB MEHTA, ARPITA SINGH ALSO BREAK RECORDS

# Gaitonde work from Glenbarra Art Museum sets new record for Indian art

BENITA FERNANDO  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

AN UNTITLED oil on canvas from 1969 by VS Gaitonde sold for Rs 42 crore on Thursday evening, making it the highest price achieved for a work of modern or contemporary Indian art globally.

The painting was among 57 lots that went under the hammer at auction house Pundole's in Mumbai.

Works by other Indian artists — Tyeb Mehta, Akbar Padamsee, Arpita Singh,

Somnath Hore and Jagdish Swaminathan — also made records for the artists.

Gaitonde's bluish painting, reminiscent of large expanses of sky or sea, is from the collection of Masanori Fukuoka, a Japanese fish processing businessman. Fukuoka set up Glenbarra Art Museum in Himeji, Japan, in 1991, with works of 60 Indian artists.

The expansive collection includes important works by artists such as Gaitonde, Tyeb Mehta, K K Hebbar, M F Husain, Jogen Chowdhury, Ganesh Pyne and Arpita Singh. The auction

catalogue pays homage to the collector, including extensive images of Fukuoka in the company of the artists and the artworks he collected.

The museum routinely deaccessions (removes and sells) works from its collection. These works, as art critic Ranjit Hoskote notes in the catalogue, embody "high points and turning points" of artists' careers. Before deaccessioning, Fukuoka is known to carefully consider the options by displaying the works for a period of time to see which ones he is drawn to. Dadiba Pundole, owner of



Pundole's, said, "The depth of bidding across the sale fulfilled Masanori's dream of bringing a broad range of Indian artists into the sphere of international awareness and recognition. The sale witnessed an encouraging level of bidding from international institutions that reaffirms a growing interest in Indian art worldwide."

The auction also saw intense bidding for three works by Tyeb Mehta — a sculpture, a drawing and a painting, all themed

The untitled painting that was sold for Rs 42 crore

around a bovine figure. The painting, Mahishasura (1995), is part of the artist's Mahisha series from the late 1990s. Mehta uses the legendary battle between goddess Durga and the shapeshifting buffalo-demon Mahishasura as the starting point to create a work that is notable for simultaneously conveying both combat and embrace. Now among the top Indian artworks, Mahishasura sold for Rs 32 crore, beating the artist's previous record of Kali (1989) in 2018.

Jagdish Swaminathan doubled his record with the triptych,

titled 'The Altar', from 1988, selling at Rs 22 crore. A Somnath Hore bronze sculpture, 'Wild Boar', sold for Rs 1.6 crore, and an Arpita Singh canvas, 'My Lily Pond' (2009), sold for Rs 9 crore setting records for both artists.

Previously, in 2020, a similar auction of works from the Glenbarra collection at Pundole's created a record for Gaitonde. An untitled work from 1974 sold for Rs 32 crore, then the highest-selling Indian artwork internationally.

Gaitonde has consistently broken records in recent years. Art adviser Farah Siddiqui Khan

said this particular 1969 work is "exceptional" because of its provenance, rarity and its debut in the auction market. She said, "Gaitonde's work has, over a significant period, increased in terms of its value. But it comes as no surprise because he is considered a pioneer modern master. His work was subtle and abstract, which resonates a lot globally as well."

She added, "Also, it goes to show that on a day when the world is in chaos and globally markets went into panic, top quality art offerings always have collectors."



Classifieds

PERSONAL

**I,hitherto** known as Shubham, S/o Sh.Sushil Chauhan R/o Shop.Plot.No.D-8, Third-Floor, Pandav-Nagar, New Delhi-110092, have Changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Shubham Chauhan.

**I,Sudhir** Tyagi,S/o Babu Ram,R/o,H.No.783,Near-Khandeshwar Mandir,Landa Pada Burari-Noth,Delhi-110084, have changed my name,from Sudhir Kumar to Sudhir Tyagi,for all,future purposes.

**I,Shiv** Kumar,S/o Naresh Kumar R/O-173-A, Pocket-J&K Dilshad Garden,Delhi-110095,Have Changed My Name To Shiv Kumar Yadav,For All Purposes.

**I,Shailly** Sabharwal W/o Vipul Arya R/o-11/3,Pant Nagar, Jangpura Delhi-110014 have changed my name to Shailly Arya for all,purposes.

**I,Shallia** Mittal W/O Shri Anil Jindal R/O C-122,Mahendru Enclave, G. T. Karnal Road, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Shailla Jindal.

**I,Shahin** Khan S/O,Wakil Khan R/O,A-65, J.J.Colony, Bawana,Delhi-110039,have changed my name to Sahib Khan.

**I,Sagar** Singh S/o Manoj Kumar R/O Chhaprauli Dehat(Now In Nagar), Baghpatt Chhaprauli, U.P.-250617,have changed my name to Sagar Kumar.

**I,Roshni** Sunar Bishwakarma D/o Prakash Bishwakarma R/o-16 F/F, Ishwar Colony G.T.B.Nagar Delhi-110009 changed my name to Roshni Bishwakarma.

**I,Ratan** Chand S/o Mahinder Singh R/o-Z-75, Vishnu-Garden Extn.,Delhi-110018,have changed my name to Narinder Singh for all future purposes.

**I,Pappu** Kumar,S/o Ram Babu Prasad R/O,H.No.22, North-Block, Vipin Garden,Uttam-Nagar, New Delhi-110059,have changed my name to Suraj Srivastava.

**I**is for general information that I,Aravind Kumar,S/o Sh.Borang Lal Rathi,R/o Village-Goharpur Post-Office Kurnali District-Shamli,U.P.251305,declare that name of my Wife has been wrongly-written as Annu Rathi in my service record.The actual-name of my Wife is 'Anita' which may be amended accordingly.

**I**is for general information that I,Rajender Kumar,S/o Shri Vishan Dass R/O H.No.29, New Nandwani Nagar, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as Rajinder Kumar and Bishan Dass in my Service Record. The actual name of mine and my father are Rajender Kumar and Vishan Dass respectively, which may be amended accordingly

**I,Bhagwati** Devi,W/o-Jai Bhagwan,R/o-A-216,New Ashok Nagar,Delhi-110096,do hereby inform that my,name was wrongly,mentioned as Bhagwati in Power of Attorney, while it is correct in other documents. This is also to certify that Bhagwati and Bhagwati Devi is same person, belongs to me.

**I,Bambode** Suresh Rajoi,S/O RAJAJI R/O-58C,CBI COLONY, VASANT VIHAR,New Delhi-110057,inform that Name is my,wife has been wrongly-written Sumitra in my,service book. Actual name of my,wife is Shital Devi,which,may be amended accordingly.

**I,** Vamika Malik W/O Sh. Nimish Malik R/O 15A/4, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi 110026, do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that my name has been spelled wrongly. The correct name spelling is Vanika and not Vamika for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22.2.2022.

**I,** Satyawati Agarwal, W/O, Late Mr. Nawal Kishore Agarwal, R/O 3 Silver Oak Avenue, Westend Green, Rajokari phase-1 Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that both the names i.e. Satyawati Agarwal & Satyawati Agarwala are indicating and referring myself as a same and one identical person, not to different person and shall hereafter be Known As Satyawati Agarwal for the purpose of passport.

**I,** Tara Shanker Joshi, S/o Pan Dev Joshi, R/o 107-B, Pocket C-1, Mayur Vihar, Delhi-110096, have changed my minor Son's name from Rihaan aged 04 years to Tanmay Joshi forever.

**I,** RENU GOYAL W/O-DEEPAK GOEL R/O E-5/96, SECTOR-16, ROHINI, DELHI-110085 have changed my name to RENU GOEL.

**I,** DEEPAK GOYAL S/O-UMA SHANKAR R/O E-5/96, SECTOR-16, ROHINI, DELHI-110085 have changed my name to DEEPAK GOEL.

**I,** Ram Gopal S/O Jaiveer Singh, R/o Bhupendra Puri, Gali No- 3, Nand Nagri, Modinagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh- 201204, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sagar Prajapati.

**I,** ROHAN, S/o MAHADEV THAKUR, R/o- 382, 2nd Floor, Street No-12, West Guru Angad Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to ROHAN THAKUR for all purposes.

**I,** RASHMI VERMA, W/o GOVIND PRASAD SINGH, R/O-A-131, Raja Vihar, Badli, Samai Pur, North West Delhi-110042, inform that RASHMI VERMA and RASHMI both are same and one person.

**I,** RANDEEER SINGH CHAUDHARY, S/o RAJPAL SINGH, R/O- F-1, Jawahar Park, Khanpur, New Delhi, South Delhi-110062, have changed my name to RANDHIR SINGH for all purposes.

**I,** Pratish Kumar Srivastava S/O Anjani Kumar, R/o 259, Nikat Modal School, Satya Premi Nagar, Nawabganj, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh- 225001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Prashish Srivastava.

**I,** Pawan Kumar S/o Jai Bhagwan R/o T-6/1003, Panchsheel Pratishtha, Sec-75, Noida Gautam Budh Nagar have changed my name to Pawan Kumar Jindal for all future purpose.

**I,** Gita Verma D/O Sh.Om Parkash W/O. Rakesh Kumar born on 17/11/1970 residing at D-61, Street- 2, East Chander Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Geeta vide affidavit dated 22/02/2022 At Delhi.

**I,** DINESH KUMAR, S/o RAMNARAIN, R/o H.NO. 1370G/1, jind bye pass , shiv colony, Rohtak, Haryana-124001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DINESH PANCHAL.

**I,** Ashok Kumar Bharati, S/o Lal Dhari Ram, R/o 533/1, Gandhi Nagar, Gidhauri New Basti, Chandauli, Mugalsarai, Uttar Pradesh-232101, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kartik Yadav.

**I,** Raunag Singh S/o-Amrit Pal Singh R/o-385, Block-C, Paramount Golf, Sector-Zeta-1, Greater-Noida, Surjpur, Gautam Buddh Nagar,Uttar Pradesh-201306 have changed my name to Ronak Singh for all purposes

**I** Ratanachit Sachdev alias Rattanjit Katari D/o Sh. Hardarshan Singh Sachdev W/o Sh. Monik Katari R/o 34 F, Ashoka Avenue, Sainik Farm, New Delhi-110062 have changed my name to Rattanjit Katari for all purposes.

**I,** Virandarp Singh Nehra S/o Partap Singh Nehra R/o H.No.234, Rajouri Apartment, Mayapuri, Delhi-110064 have changed my name to Virender Nehra.

**I,** Vaisakha Singh Kukreja S/o Sh. Aya Singh R/o C-21, Duggal Colony, Khanpur, New Delhi-110062 have changed my name from Vaisakhi Ram Kukreja to Vaisakha Singh Kukreja for all purposes.

**I,** Shivani Saxena W/O Ankit Shankar Bisaria Employ as NS-24479 Capt R/o H No- 50, Green Park Mains, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh-243006, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Shivani Bisaria.

**I,** SAURAB KUMAR S/O Umesh Prasad Dikshit, R/o A block 205 Silver Pearl Apt Ksrp Quarters, Choodasandra Circle, Hosa Road, VTS : Bangalore South, PO: Electronics City, Bangalore Karnataka -560100, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as SAURAV DIXIT.

**I,** SATVIR SINGH RATHI, S/O HARPAL SINGH RATHI, R/o C-31, SHIV VIHAR, SHANTI NAGAR, KARAWAL NAGAR, DELHI-110094. I have changed the name of my minor daughter PEEHU CHOUDHARY aged about 8 YEARS and She shall hereafter be known as ANAYA RATHI.

**I,** Nimish Malik S/O Sh. Giridhari Lal Malik R/O 15A/4, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi 110026, do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that my name has been spelled wrongly. The correct name spelling is Nimish and not Nimesh for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22.2.2022.

**I,** MANISH KUMAR, S/o SHRI RAJA RAM SHARMA, R/o 201, SHIV LOK PURI, KRISHNA PUBLIC SCHOOL, KANKER KHERA, MEERUT, UTTAR PRADESH-250001. I have changed the name of my minor daughter SHRADDHA BHARDWAJ aged about 7 years and shall hereafter be known as MIHIKA BHARDWAJ.

**I,** MANISH KUMAR S/O SHRI RAJA RAM SHARMA, R/o 201, SHIV LOK PURI, KRISHNA PUBLIC SCHOOL, KANKER KHERA, MEERUT, UTTAR PRADESH-250001. I have changed the name of my minor Son SHAURYA BHARDWAJ aged about 3 YEARS and He shall hereafter be known as SHRISH BHARDWAJ.

**I,** SARGAM D/o Anil Kumar, R/o House No.56, Block-B, sector-Beta-1, Greater Noida UP, have changed my name to SARGAM SANIL as per weekly gazette notification no.31 dated August 3, 2019.

**I,** Angela Massey D/O, Arun Massey R/o Hp-18/8C, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Angela Sharma for all purposes.

**I,**DEEPAK GOEL S/O-UMA SHANKAR R/O E-5/96, SECTOR-16, ROHINI,DELHI-110085,have changed my minor daughter's name,from KHUSHI GOYAL to KHUSHI GOEL.

**I,**DEEPAK GOEL S/O-UMA SHANKAR R/O E-5/96, SECTOR-16,ROHINI, DELHI-110085 have changed my name to DEEPAK GOEL.

**I,** SAURABH GUPTA S/o Sh. Yogeshwar Dass Gupta R/O-98A, Pocket-C, Sidhartha-Extension, New Delhi-110014 have changed my name to SOURABH GUPTA.

**I,** MATTA PARVATHI W/O SIMACHACHALAM R/O K N PALEM, 2/9, ISLAMPETA, VISAKHAPATNAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-530031, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as GIRADA PRAVATHI.

**I,** KM Madhu D/O Krishna Mohan Thakur, R/o Vijayipur, Ballia City, Uttar Pradesh- 277001. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Madhu.

**I,** Gautam Sonkar, S/o Ramesh Chandra Sonkar, R/o D/24, Chaparamohal, Kanpur Cantt., Kanpur Nagar Uttar Pradesh-208004, have changed my name to Ekalavya Singhania.

**I,** Bilafred Toppo S/O Korneliyas Toppo R/O A-50, Gali No.18, Madhu Vihar, I.P. Extension, Delhi-110092 have changed my minor son's name from Birbal Toppo to Anuj Toppo for all purposes.

**I,** Joginder Rathi S/O, Braham Singh R/O 237, Gali No.-9, Chander Lok, Mandoli, North East Delhi-110093 have changed my name to Joginder Pratap Singh for all purposes.

**I,**Umesh Devi Tomar W/o, no.2967957N SEP Ram Ratan Singh Tomar R/o,H/no C-6/214,Yamuna Vihar,Delhi-53, have changed my name to Umesh Tomar for all,purposes.

**I,**Lost my original property document, sale deed of property number 1333 to 1336, Gali-Ambey Wali, Main Road Farash Khana, Delhi-110006. Finder contact: Rehan Mirza S/o Gulzar Mirza, 1404, Farash Khana, Delhi. M-9999896000.

**I,** Sukhbir Singh Bhatia son of Late Baldev Singh C/o Surinder Singh Bhatia, 38-A, Pocket-A, Sukhdev Vihar, New Delhi-110025 have lost original Share Certificate No. 286, issued by Public Sector Employees Cooperative Housing Society Ltd. and original Possession Letter issued by the said Society for Flat No.2831, Overseas Apartment, F-9, Sector-50, Noida. Finders may contact at the above address or mobile No.8884133270 or 9312235617.

**I,** Ratanachit Sachdev alias Rattanjit Katari D/o Sh. Hardarshan Singh Sachdev W/o Sh. Monik Katari R/o 34 F, Ashoka Avenue, Sainik Farm, New Delhi-110062 have changed my name to Rattanjit Katari for all purposes.

**I,** Neeetu Aggarwal W/o Sh.Radhey Shyam Jindal D/o Sh.Madan Gopal R/o 4980/40, Darya Ganj, Central Delhi-110002 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Tanvi Jindal to Tanvi Aggarwal for all purposes.

**I** Krishna Rani w/o Sh Ramjiadass r/o 212 HUDA Sector-9 Bahadurgarh Haryana-124507 have declared that my name is incorrect on Income Tax PPO book of Late Sh Ramjiadass The correct name is KRISHNA RANI r/o 212 HUDA Sector-9 Bahadurgarh Haryana-124507 for all future purpose this will be applicable

**I** Km Vandna Singh alias Vandna Singh alias Vandna D/o Sh. Banke Prasad Singh W/o Sh. Anil Kumar R/o B-4/230A, Lawrence Road,Keshav Puram, Delhi-110035 have changed my name to Vandna for all purposes.

**I,**MANNU SETH, S/O,RAJINDER KUMAR SETH, ADD-C-9/104,YAMUNA VIHAR DELHI-110053, changed my name to MANNU KUMAR SETH, permanently.

**I,**BHAGWAN SINGH,S/O FATEH SINGH BHANDARI, ADD-X-27,A.SHYAM VIHAR PHASE-1 NARAJGARH,NEW DELHI-110043.Changed my name to BHAGWAN SINGH BHANDARI, permanently.

**I,**Bhavna Kakkar, W/o Anish Gupta Employ as Assistant Professor, R/o House No-98, Om Vihar, Phase-1A, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110069, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bhavna Gupta.

**I,**Ashok Kumar Verma, S/o Rajinder Verma, R/o Belbhariya, Kamhariyakala, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh-273303, have changed my name to Krishan Verma.

**I,** Nishu Sharma alias Nishu, D/o Shiv Charan, R/o House No-1753, Nehru Vihar, Sampla (36), Rohtak, Haryana-124501, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nishu Rani.

**I,** MATTA VENKATESH S/O SIMHACHALAM, R/O 2-9, K N PALAM, ISLAMPETA, VISAKHAPATNAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-530031, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as GIRADA VENKATESH.

**I,**Smriti Garg W/o Akshay Goel R/o 52, Kapil Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Smriti Goel.

**I,**For Juris NextGen Law Offices E-5&LGF, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-I New Delhi-110048

**I,**SAURABH GUPTA S/o Sh. Yogeshwar Dass Gupta R/O-98A, Pocket-C, Sidhartha-Extension, New Delhi-110014 have changed my name to SOURABH GUPTA.

**I,**MATTA PARVATHI W/O SIMACHACHALAM R/O K N PALEM, 2/9, ISLAMPETA, VISAKHAPATNAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-530031, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as GIRADA PRAVATHI.

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**I,**BHAGWAN SINGH,S/O FATEH SINGH BHANDARI, ADD-X-27,A.SHYAM VIHAR PHASE-1 NARAJGARH,NEW DELHI-110043.Changed my name to BHAGWAN SINGH BHANDARI, permanently.

**I,**Bhavna Kakkar, W/o Anish Gupta Employ as Assistant Professor, R/o House No-98, Om Vihar, Phase-1A, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110069, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bhavna Gupta.

**I,**Ashok Kumar Verma, S/o Rajinder Verma, R/o Belbhariya, Kamhariyakala, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh-273303, have changed my name to Krishan Verma.

**I,** Nishu Sharma alias Nishu, D/o Shiv Charan, R/o House No-1753, Nehru Vihar, Sampla (36), Rohtak, Haryana-124501, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nishu Rani.

**I,** MATTA VENKATESH S/O SIMHACHALAM, R/O 2-9, K N PALAM, ISLAMPETA, VISAKHAPATNAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-530031, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as GIRADA VENKATESH.

**I,**Smriti Garg W/o Akshay Goel R/o 52, Kapil Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Smriti Goel.

**I,**For Juris NextGen Law Offices E-5&LGF, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-I New Delhi-110048

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
"This is for the information of general public that my client (1) SHRI NARESH KUMAR S/O LATE PACHIA RAM & (2) SMT. KAMLESH W/O SHRI NARESH KUMAR BOTH R/O NZ-94, HARJAN COLONY, TILAK NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110018 have severed at their relations and connections with their son ARUN URF RAMBO, because he is out of control of my clients and have debarrd him from their all movable and immovable properties.  
"Any body dealing with him at his/her/hier own risk and cost and expenses. My clients shall neither liable nor responsible for his acts, deeds and things under any circumstances"  
Sd/- M.K. JHA (ADVOCATE)  
G.F. SR.I, Authority Building Dist. Centre, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The General Public is hereby informed that my client Smt Kanta Devi Jain Widow of Late Shri Subhash Chand Jain R/o CGA-051 DLF Capital Greens, 15, Shivaji Marg, New Delhi-110015 is going to transfer/registered the property No CGA-051, and parking No. PA2070/PA2070/PA1008 and Flat no CSP/1509, and Parking No EG/1078 situated at DLF Capital Greens, 15, Shivaji Marg, New Delhi-110015 in favour of Smt Kanta Devi Jain. Her husband Shri Subhash Chand Jain, the other co-owner of the above said property has expired on 16.03.2021. If any person have any objection or claim regarding the same, may contact my client at her mobile No: 9540467328 or DLF lid within 21 days of publication of this notice. If my client will not be responsible for any type of claim/ litigation regarding the said property. (Kshiti Tyagi) (Advocate) Ch.No.1317, Lawyers Chamber Block, Rohini Courts, Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Know to public at large that my clients Sh. Ashok Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Shrichand Sharma and his wife Smt. Mumti Devi both R/o RZF10, Street No. 20, Sadh Nagar-II, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have severed all their relations with their son namely Mr. Vatan Sharma and also disowned him from all their movable/ immovable properties with immediate effect and he is also being disobedient with my clients and my clients shall not be responsible for any acts and deeds of him.  
VIKASH BHARTI (Advocate)  
Ch.No. 814, Dist. Court Dwarika, New Delhi -110075

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General public is hereby informed that this person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 45 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Build: Medium, Face: Long, Wearing: Pink Blue Shirt, Blue Jacket, Blue Jeans and Bare foot, was found dead at Trauma Center Hospital, Civil Lines, Delhi on 20.02.2022.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General public is hereby informed that this person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 45 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Build: Medium, Face: Long, Wearing: Pink Blue Shirt, Blue Jacket, Blue Jeans and Bare foot, was found dead at Trauma Center Hospital, Civil Lines, Delhi on 20.02.2022.



## CRUDE WATCH HIGH INTERNATIONAL PRICES

# When crude oil boils, everything heats up: What changes for users

**SANDEEP SINGH & KARUNJIT SINGH**  
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI, FEB 24

BRENT CRUDE prices breached the \$100-per-barrel mark on Thursday, for the first time since September 2014, following Russian President Vladimir Putin authorising a military operation in the Donbass region in Ukraine. Oil prices surged and the stock markets crashed globally.

While oil surged over 40 percent to \$101.2 (earlier in the day around 10 am IST) since December 1, 2021, when it was trading at \$70.4, the Sensex at the BSE fell by 2,702.15 points, or 4.72 per cent, to 54,529.91.

### Why has crude jumped?

The spike has been driven primarily by fears of supply side disruptions as the threat of Russian invasion in Ukraine looms large following Putin's deployment of troops to separatist areas Donetsk and Luhansk in Ukraine. A Russian invasion of Ukraine could not only disrupt crude supplies globally but also lead to sanctions by the US and Europe.

Brent crude rose \$5.5, or 5.7 per cent, to \$102.4 a barrel by 1:21 pm ET, after touching a high of \$105.79.

### How will it impact the Indian economy?

There is going to be an inflationary impact. India imports more than 80 per cent of its oil requirement, but the share of oil imports in its total imports is around 25 per cent. Rising oil prices will impact the current account deficit. The rise in crude oil prices is also expected to increase the subsidy on LPG and kerosene, pushing up the subsidy bill.

### How do high oil prices

## CRUDE: FROM 0 TO 100

**MID-APRIL 2020:** Price of a barrel of West Texas crude went below \$0 as sellers had to pay to get rid of it

**LESS THAN 2 YEARS:** Brent crude futures hit \$100 a barrel on Wednesday for the first time since 2014



### impact consumers?

High crude oil prices contributed to the increase in petrol and diesel prices that hit record highs across the country in 2021. Pump prices fell in November as the Central government cut excise on petrol and diesel by Rs 5 and Rs 10 per litre, respectively, and most states followed by cutting value added tax. Petrol and diesel are retailing at Rs 95.3 and Rs 86.7 per litre, respectively, in the Capital. Higher crude prices could result in higher fuel prices.

### What can be the impact on investor sentiment?

Investor sentiment has taken a beating over the last few days in line with rising crude prices. Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have turned net sellers and have pulled out a net of Rs 51,703 crore from Indian equities between January and February, leading to decline and volatility in equity markets.

Fund managers say markets are likely to remain volatile in the near term over the geopolitical concern.

## RUSSIAN INVASION in Ukraine triggers risk-off sentiment, Sensex tanks 4.7%

**ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

STOCK MARKETS witnessed the biggest crash in nearly two years as the Russian invasion of Ukraine sent key indices plummeting by 4.7 per cent.

With crude oil prices crossing the \$100 mark per barrel, the Sensex dived by 2,702 points at 54,529.91 and the NSE Nifty index crashed 815 points at 16,247.95. Investors who cut their positions worried over the possibility of a prolonged crisis in Ukraine and its impact on the Indian economy, lost Rs 13.4 lakh crore in a day as market capitalisation declined to Rs 242.24 lakh crore.

While foreign investors pulled out over Rs 6,400 crore, domestic institutions pumped in Rs 7,600 crore on Thursday. All sectoral indices suffered huge losses with the realty index crashing 7.27 per cent, bank 5.53 per cent, auto 6.05 per cent, IT 4.58 per cent and energy 5.02 per cent. Small-cap index plummeted 5.77 per cent and mid-cap index by 5.53 per cent due to heavy losses. The volatility index, VIX, rose 30 per cent, the most since September 2016.

According to Nilesh Shah, group president & MD, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company, it's difficult to predict the bottom of the market in a scenario like war. "Events will shape the movement. The best thing for an investor is to follow asset allocation principles. This is likely to



The BSE in Mumbai on Thursday. Sensex falls 2,702 points, closes at 54,529.91. AP

be a buy on dip market albeit with lot of volatility in the near term," Shah said.

Analysts said investors should stay invested if they have long-term investment plan and mutual fund investors should continue SIP without breaking investment. On the other hand, the correction will give an opportunity to investors to pick up good quality stocks at attractive levels. "Investors should wait and watch the unfolding situation before taking any major commitments. Buying should be confined to stocks/segments which are fairly valued or have good earnings visibility," said VK Vijayakumar, chief investment strategist, Geojit Financial.

### Global markets crash

The rouble-denominated

## BIGGEST MARKET crash in nearly 2 years; crude oil crosses \$100

MOEX stock index slumped 43.3 per cent intra-day before recovering to close 25 per cent down, at below 2,300.

The rouble eased 3.8 per cent to 84.27 against the dollar as of 0932 GMT, having earlier hit a record low of 89.60 in highly volatile trading.

On Wall Street, as of 1:33 pm ET, the Dow Jones was down 659.06 points, or 1.99 per cent, at 32,472.70 while the Nasdaq Composite was marginally up 13.69 points, or 0.1 per cent, at 13,051.18.

Oil prices jumped on Thursday, with Brent rising above \$105 a barrel for the first time since 2014. Brent crude rose \$5.5, or 5.7 per cent, to \$102.4 a barrel by 1:21 pm ET, after touching a high of \$105.79.

## Re falls 99p, gold surges

Mumbai: The rupee plunged by 99 paise to close at 75.60 against the US dollar after Russia launched military operations against Ukraine. Sustained foreign fund outflows, heavy selling in domestic equities and elevated crude oil prices weighed on investor sentiment, analysts said.

Gold, a safe haven asset, jumped to 13-month high. Gold rate surged Rs 1,656 to Rs 51,627 per 10 gram while silver jumped Rs 2,350 to Rs 66,267 per kg. In international spot market, gold price breached its \$1,925 hurdle and hit \$1,950 per ounce levels, around a 13-month high. **ENS**

## ROUBLE OFF record low, Dow cracks nearly 2%

# Airspace shut: AI evacuation flight to Kyiv turns back

Next plane unlikely as tension escalates

**PRANAV MUKUL**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

CITING "POTENTIAL hazard to civil aviation", Ukraine on Thursday issued a NOTAM (Notice to Air Missions) around 7:30 am IST, restricting all civilian flights to the region. As a result, an Air India evacuation flight, which departed for Kyiv a little after the NOTAM was issued, turned back while it was in Iranian airspace and landed in New Delhi around noon, India time.

### Reason for NOTAM

The NOTAM — a notice to pilots, ATC personnel and airline operations team about the condition of a particular airspace — was issued due to rising tensions given the build up of Russian forces near the Ukrainian border. While the tensions began a few weeks ago, Ukraine kept its airspace open for civilian flights allowing non-essential foreigners, including Indian students and families of embassy staff, to fly out.

### Evacuation flights

Air India was operating the second of its three planned evacuation flights to Kyiv to bring back stranded Indian citizens. As per flight tracking portal Flightradar24, as of 9:50 am IST, Thursday, Air India's was one of only three flights enroute Kyiv Boryspil Airport, and one of these flights — Ukraine International Airlines — from Baku diverted to an airport in Moldova, which shares its northern border with Ukraine.

### Air India's plan

While the airline hasn't officially announced the cancellation, the restriction may lead to its third flight on Saturday not operating. Even though the Ukrainian NOTAM has been made effective only till 5:30 am Friday IST, it may be extended given the escalating tensions.

### Alternate route via Qatar

The Centre said Indian passengers from Ukraine can return via Qatar, under the India-Qatar bilateral air bubble arrangement.

### MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

# Das: Inflation risks from rise in global commodity prices

**ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

THE RENEWED surge in international crude oil prices will require close monitoring as they pose a risk to domestic inflation, said the Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das as per the minutes of the meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) released on Thursday.

"We need to remain watchful of the risks to domestic inflation arising from rise in international commodity prices due to exogenous factors including geo-political developments," Das said in the MPC meeting held on February 10. The panel kept the key policy rates unchanged in the review.

Das said high commodity prices and supply side shortages could weigh on corporate profitability amid weak pricing power and unfavourable base effects



**SHAKTIKANTA DAS**  
Governor, Reserve Bank of India File

during 2022-23. "The global financial market volatility associated with monetary policy normalisation process in the advanced economies could further complicate the situation," Das said.

"Global risks include high oil prices, rising inflation and interest rates in major countries...", MPC member Ashima Goyal said.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](https://www.indianexpress.com)

## BRIEFLY

### T+1 settlement

New Delhi: Stock exchanges BSE and NSE will roll out shorter settlement cycle, or T+1 regime, from Friday, to help lower margin requirement for clients and boost retail investment in equities.

### Moody's, GDP

New Delhi: Moody's Investors Service raised India's growth forecast for calendar year 2022 to 9.5% and to 8.4% for the fiscal starting April 1.

### Twitter official

New Delhi: Samiran Gupta will lead Twitter's public policy and philanthropy efforts in India and South Asia.

### Cairn dispute

New Delhi: The Indian government has paid Cairn Energy Plc ₹7,900 crore to refund taxes it had collected to enforce a retrospective tax demand, ending a seven-year-old dispute. **PTI**

### Ola Electric plant

New Delhi: Softbank Group-backed Ola Electric plans to build a battery cell manufacturing plant in India with a capacity of up to 50 gigawatt hours (GWh), a source said, as part of its broader electrification push. **REUTERS**

### XLRI centre

New Delhi: Xavier School of Management (XLRI) inaugurated its Centre for Public Policy and Public Affairs (XLCP) on February 25, in an online event. **ENS**

# 3D manufacturing policy: Target of 500 items by '25

**ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

THE MINISTRY of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) aims to increase India's share in global additive manufacturing to 5 per cent within the next three years, with hopes that it could likely add \$ 1 billion to the gross domestic product by that time.

As per the National Strategy for Additive Manufacturing, by 2025, India will aim to achieve certain

targets such as 50 India specific technologies for material, machine and software, 100 new startups for additive manufacturing, 500 new products. In total, MeitY hopes that these new startups and opportunities will give jobs to at least 1 lakh new skilled workers over the next three years.

"We have taken some very clearly defined goals in this strategy...", IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said while releasing the strategy document.

3D printing or additive man-

## 3D printing uses computer-aided designing to make prototypes or working models of objects by laying down successive layers of materials

ufacturing uses computer-aided designing to make prototypes or working models of objects by



An armoured vehicle with the letter Z on it drives past a monument displaying a Soviet-era tank in Armyansk, Crimea on Thursday. Reuters

<2% of world's GDP accounted for by Russia and Ukraine

### NITIN PARANJPE IS NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

## HUL splits CMD post

Mumbai: Hindustan Unilever (HUL) on Thursday announced separation of the post of chairman of the board and the MD-CEO. Nitin Paranjpe, currently chief operating officer of Unilever, will be the new non-executive chairman of HUL, with effect from March 31. The Nomination & Remuneration Committee (NRC) of the HUL board recommended his appointment to the board, which accepted the recommendation.

Sanjiv Mehta, who was earlier chairman and MD, will continue as MD and CEO. On February 15, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) made the splitting of the post of chairman and man-

aging director (CMD) voluntary.

Paranjpe will take on a new role as chief transformation officer & chief people officer, leading the business transformation, and heading the HR function for Unilever effective April 2022. He is also a member of the supervisory board of Heineken NV.

"We welcome Nitin back to HUL as the non-executive chairman. He brings in huge knowledge and experience which will enrich the deliberations and add value to the Board," Mehta said.

"I look forward to working closely with Sanjiv and the board to further strengthen the company," Paranjpe said. **ENS**

## Sebi chief: ESG landscape key challenge to market

New Delhi: Sebi Chairman Ajay Tyagi said Thursday the trend of new age technology companies, that are generally loss making, accessing public market is a key challenge to capital markets.

Speaking at a Sebi-NISM

Research Conference, he also said the flourishing landscape of ESG (environment, social, governance) investments is another major challenge to the capital markets due to absence of uniform ESG evaluation matrices. **PTI**

KERALA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION			
Transport Bhavan, Fort P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-695023			
E-TENDER NOTICE			
Name of Item		e-Tender ID	Last Date of Bid submission
Crank Shaft grinding machine		2022_KSRTC_471587_1	06.00 PM 03.03.2022
Horizontal line Boring Machine		2022_KSRTC_475311_1	
Vertical Cylinder Honing Machine		2022_KSRTC_475295_1	
Hydraulic Press with all accessories		2022_KSRTC_475352_1	
For the detailed tender document visit: <a href="http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in">www.etenders.kerala.gov.in</a> , <a href="http://www.keralartc.com/tenders/purchase">www.keralartc.com/tenders/purchase</a> , e-mail : <a href="mailto:sr@kerala.gov.in">sr@kerala.gov.in</a>			
			sd/- Chairman & Managing Director 24.02.2022

National Dairy Development Board				
PB No. 40, Anand - 388001, Gujarat Tel: 02692-260 148/149/160 Fax: 02692-260 159 Website: <a href="http://www.nddb.coop">http://www.nddb.coop</a> , Email: <a href="mailto:purchase@nddb.coop">purchase@nddb.coop</a>				
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)/LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB)				
Bids are invited on behalf of Service Recipients/ NDBB from eligible bidders for the works listed below:				
Sr. No.	Description of works/ Bid Reference	Esttd. Cost (₹) incl GST/ Duration	Event Start/ Close Date	Bid submission / opening date & time
I	<b>Design, Supply, Installation, Testing &amp; Commissioning works for the following:-</b>			
A	2 X 8 TPH CNG Cum LDO fired boiler and other accessories at Hyderabad Telangana. NDBB:HO:PUR:LCB:115/2021 (ET/115)	629 Lakh/ 12 Months	25.02.22/ 21.03.22	21.03.22 15:00 hrs. 21.03.22 15:30 hrs.
B	11/0.433 KV Substation for Bypass Protein plant at CFP Ghania Ke Banger, Punjab. NDBB:HO:PUR:LCB:116/2021 (ET/116)	46 Lakh/ 07 Months	25.02.22/ 21.03.22	21.03.22 15:00 hrs. 21.03.22 15:30 hrs.
C	Sewerage Treatment Plant at NDBB Bangalore NDBB:HO:PUR:LCB:109/2021 (ET/109)	72 Lakh/ 3 Months	25.02.22/ 21.03.22	21.03.22 15:00 hrs. 21.03.22 15:30 hrs.
II	Providing Security Services at NDBB Kolkata NDBB:HO:PUR:LCB:112/2021 (ET/112)	85 Lakh/ 12 Months	01.03.22/ 22.03.22	22.03.22 15:00 hrs. 22.03.22 15:30 hrs.
For further details pertaining to IFB and for downloading the bid document, please visit these websites: <a href="http://www.nddb.coop">www.nddb.coop</a> and <a href="http://www.msccommerce.com/eproc/home/nddb">www.msccommerce.com/eproc/home/nddb</a> For any clarification please contact General Manager (Purchase), NDBB, Anand-388001 NB: Any corrigendum/modification etc. will be posted only on these websites.				

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-Tender Notice	
Tender No : 84, 92,93,95/2021-22/KWA/PHC/D3/IVM(RT1). 1)JIM -2021-24 "Anadu and Nanniyode panchayaths"- Phase III - Cleanwater pumping Main /Gravity main & clear water Pumpsets package I & II ( 2 ) Construction of OHSR at Alumkuzhi, providing Distribution Network, FHPC Package IV & VII ( 3 ) providing Distribution Network, FHPC Package IX(4) JIM 2021-2024 - phase - 3 -Laying of clear water pumping main from Aruvikkara WTP to Myladumpara OHSR and transmission main to OHSR, Aruvikkara to Vellarikonam, Kummil WTP to Myladumpara and Supply Erection and Commissioning of Pump sets and allied work & Interconnection works at Vazhappilly, Distribution Networks, Construction of OHSR and Sumps etc EMD: Rs. 2 Lakh, 2 Lakh, 2 Lakh, 5 Lakh. Tender fee : Rs. 10000, 10000, 10000, 15000. Last Date for submitting Tender : 17-03-2022 03:00pm. Phone : 04712322303. Website : <a href="http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in">www.kwa.kerala.gov.in</a> , <a href="http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in">www.etenders.kerala.gov.in</a> Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram	
KWA-JB-GL-6-1098-2021-22	

कार्यालय नगरपरिषद् हनुमानगढ़ – राजस्थान	
क्रमांक एक:15(विकास)/2021-22/26628	दिनांक :- 21.02.2022
<b>-- ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 89 /2021-22 :-</b>	
नगरपरिषद् हनुमानगढ़ द्वारा ई-निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 26029-26036 दिनांक 16.02.2022 द्वारा राशि 326.16 लाख रुपये को 01 कार्य करवाये जाने हेतु योग्य फर्म/संस्था/एन.जी.ओ. से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया द्वारा दिनांक 22.03.2022 को सायं 3:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाकर दिनांक 23.03.2022 को 3:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी वेबसाइट <a href="http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in">http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in</a> व <a href="http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in">http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in</a> पर देखी जा सकती है तथा निविदा के प्रपत्रों को भी डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। (एनओआईबी DLB2122A7601 ) सूचीनोपन संख्या (कुल 01 कार्य) DLB2122ASOB26772	
राज.संवाद/सी/21/12085	आयुक्त, नगरपरिषद् हनुमानगढ़

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# India's tightrope walk between the West and Russia

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

AMID THE Russian attack on Ukraine, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed for an "immediate cessation of violence" in his phone call to Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday and called for concerted efforts from all sides to return to the path of diplomatic negotiations and dialogue.

He expressed his "long-standing conviction that the differences between Russia and the NATO group can only be resolved through honest and sincere dialogue", the PMO said.

This was a fine balancing act as it called for "immediate cessation of violence" — something the Western bloc would appreciate.

India is in a diplomatic dilemma with key strategic partners on both sides. Modi held a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security on Thursday to take stock of the situation.

Earlier in the day, India expressed "regret" — an upgrade from expressing "concern", but stopped short of condemnation of Russia's attack on Ukraine. External Affairs minister S Jaishankar got calls from the European Union's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and

Security Policy Josep Borrell and British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss. The ambassadors of the G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, UK, and US) and Ukraine met in Delhi to express solidarity on what they called "Russia's unjustifiable military aggression".

With pressure piling from the western bloc, led by the US, this is a test for New Delhi to make a strategic choice — principles and values on one side, and pragmatism and interests on the other side.

## Statement at UNSC

India's statement at the UN Security Council, made in an emergency meeting, said, "The Security Council had met two days ago and discussed the situation. We had called for urgent de-escalation of tensions and emphasized on sustained and focused diplomacy to address all issues concerning the situation."

At the meeting, India's Permanent Representative at the UN T S Tirumurti said, "However, we note with regret, that the calls of the international community to give time to the recent initiatives undertaken by parties to diffuse tensions were not heeded to. The situation is in danger of spiralling into a major crisis. We express our deep concern

over the developments, which if not handled carefully, may well undermine the peace and security of the region." He called for "immediate de-escalation and refraining from any further action that could contribute to a worsening of the situation".

The rest of his statement was about advocating diplomacy. The West views this as condoning Russia's actions and as double standards given that India raises the issue of "territorial integrity and sovereignty" when it comes to China.

Earlier this week, India had not condemned Russia's statement of recognition of the separatist regions of Donetsk and Luhansk.

## Partners on both sides

While there is concern about Russia's "muscle-flexing", New Delhi does not want to jeopardise the close military ties with Moscow. Although India has diversified its new purchases from other countries, almost 60-70% of its military supplies are from Russia.

India has a historical relationship with Russia, spanning seven decades. While the relationship has stagnated in some areas and atrophied in others, its strongest pillar is of the defence basket.



Visitors outside Ukraine's Embassy in New Delhi on Thursday. An estimated 16,000 Indians are still in Ukraine. PTI

In fact, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has held informal summits with only leaders of two countries — Putin and China's Xi.

India can't afford to alienate Russia particularly when Indian and Chinese troops remain in a border stand-off. Russia has emerged as a key diplomatic player amid the tension. India's External Affairs and Defence ministers have met their Chinese counterparts in Russia in the last year and half. Russia is also key to India's engagements in Afghanistan.

India's ties with the West, led by the US, are crucial as well. Many American platforms have been used for reconnaissance and surveillance along the India-China border. Winter clothing for 50,000 troops has been sourced from these western strategic partners.

## Russia-China axis

India is worried about the Russia-China axis too. Its purchase of the S-400 air defence system from Russia is aimed at preventing attacks from China and Pakistan.

India is also conscious that the hostility between the West and Russia is likely to push Moscow further in the direction of Beijing.

The West's approach towards Russia after the annexation of Crimea in 2014 brought

Moscow closer to Beijing, and India has always felt it was the West that led to this. The Sino-Russian quasi-alliance has been possible due to anti-Chinese rhetoric from Washington, collapse of oil prices, and Russia's growing dependence on Chinese consumption.

Russia has been calibrated in its statements on issues China is sensitive to, such as Huawei's 5G rollout, Hong Kong and Covid-19. Beijing and Moscow, however, do not always see eye to eye with each other. China does not recognise Crimea as part of Russia, and Moscow, formally speaking, takes a neutral stance on Beijing's claims in the South China Sea.

## Indians in Ukraine

Another concern for New Delhi is the Indian community in Ukraine, mostly medical students. The Indian Embassy in Kyiv has stated collating information on the students, as part of preparations for any hostilities. As per government estimates, about 16,000 Indian nationals are still in Ukraine — only about 4,000 students have been able to leave in the last few weeks. The government is trying to help many of them leave through land borders in neighbouring countries — Poland, Romania, Hungary and Slovak Republic.

## EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

# Economy in time of war

Inflation is expected to increase, and markets will likely remain volatile in the near term. But India's medium- to long-term economic prospects are not altered, and investors should not sell in panic, say experts



SANDEEP SINGH

NEWS OF Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Thursday morning triggered panic among investors everywhere. The Sensex at the BSE fell 2,702 points or 4.7% to close at a six-month low of 54,529.

While markets will likely remain volatile in the near term in line with geopolitical developments, experts feel that since India is not party to this external event and is not impacted directly, its medium- to long-term economic prospects are not altered — and investors should not sell in panic.

However, there are some concerns.

## Inflation risks

Brent crude shot past the \$100 per barrel mark for the first time in eight years on concerns over supply. Russia is the world's second largest oil producer.

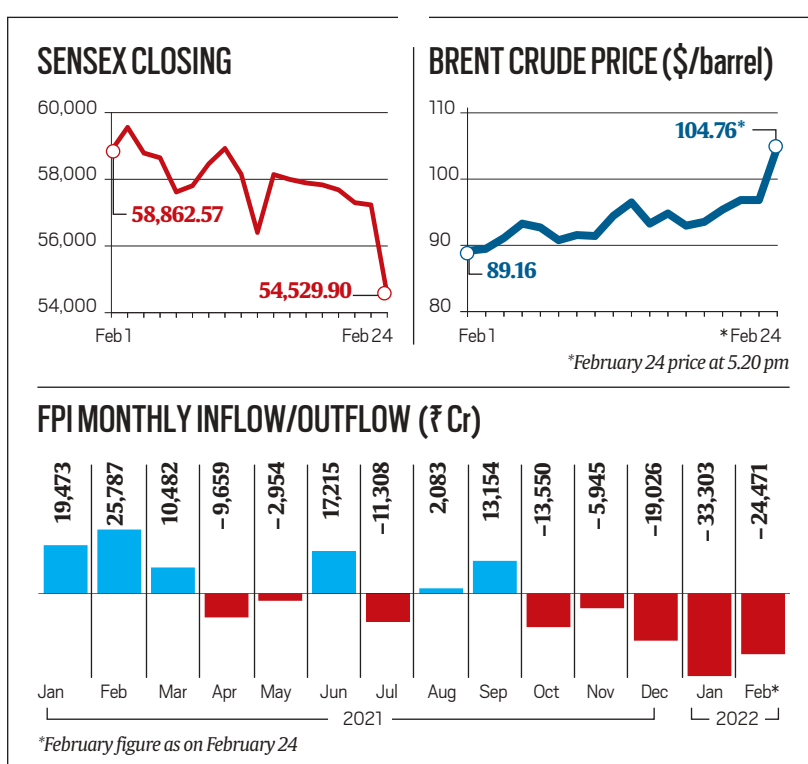
Rising oil prices could speed up already rising inflation. India imports more than 80% of its oil requirement, but the share of oil imports in its total imports is around 25%. Rising oil prices will also impact the current account deficit, which is the difference between the values of goods and services imported and exported.

While increases in domestic fuel prices have been put on hold as five states vote in Assembly elections, the recent surge in global crude could intensify the pressure on the state-owned oil retailers. Calibrating price hikes is now more complex, given the cascading inflation impact that could follow the increase.

Also, sanctions on Russia by the West could impact its trade with the world — and result in a rise in the prices of other commodities and products, including wheat, edible oil, and metals. India imports most of its requirement of sunflower oil from Ukraine, and the two countries now at war are also two of the world's biggest producers of wheat.

## Economic recovery

The rise in crude prices poses inflationary,



fiscal, and external sector risks. Oil-related products have a share of over 9% in the WPI basket — and according to Madan Sabnavis, chief economist at Bank of Baroda, a 10% increase in crude would lead to an increase of around 0.9% in WPI inflation. A larger oil import bill will impact India's external position; it is also likely to increase subsidies on LPG and kerosene, pushing up the overall subsidy bill.

Some experts, however, argue that India's economic fundamentals remain strong, and the war will not have a significant impact on the economy. There is a view that with the third wave of Covid close to its end and most restrictions having been withdrawn, there will be an uptick in consumption and domestic growth, quickening the pace of recovery.

## FPI sentiment, rupee

Foreign portfolio investors have been selling their holdings in Indian equities over the last four months after the US Federal Reserve announced an increase in the pace of withdrawal of stimulus followed by a hike in in-

terest rates beginning March 2022. Investors started pulling out funds from emerging economies to park them in US treasuries and benefit from the expected rise in bond yields.

Geopolitical concerns have intensified the outflow of funds over the last two months. Out of the total FPI pullout of Rs 82,745 crore beginning November 2021, Rs 57,774 crore was withdrawn between January and February 2022. This outflow is likely to continue over the coming days. On Thursday, FPIs pulled out a net of Rs 6,448 crore from Indian equities, leading to the fall in the markets.

## DII behaviour

As FPIs pulled out on Thursday, domestic institutions emerged as net investors. According to provisional data released by the stock exchanges, DIIs invested a net of Rs 7,667 crore on Thursday, which is more than what the FPIs pulled out. Over the last two months, DIIs have invested a net of Rs 55,551 crore in equities.

Experts say that the current geopolitical

concerns will not impact long-term fundamentals and prospects of businesses, and investors should take the fall in markets as an opportunity to invest in mutual funds and high-quality blue chip companies.

## Equity investors

While markets may remain volatile, retail investors should look at the DII investment pattern, investment advisors say. If DIIs are investing amid the sharp fall in markets, retail investors too should not panic — and should increase their investments if they are underweight in equities.

On Thursday, while the Sensex fell 4.7%, mid and small cap indices at the BSE fell 5.5% and 5.8% respectively. In times of volatility, investors should avoid venturing into small cap stocks, and should invest through flexi cap and multi cap funds, as they invest across market capitalisations and would generate superior returns when the market recovers.

Investors must also remember that while early in the pandemic, the Sensex fell 14,300 points or 35% in the one-month period between February 25 and March 23, 2020, it rose to new highs over the following year.

With the fundamentals strong and concerns restricted mostly to external factors, experts say the markets will likely bounce back once the situation eases. However, investors should not take unnecessary risks.

## Gold outlook

In times of uncertainty and inflation, gold emerges as the asset class of choice for investors. It is important to note that at a time when equities have been falling, gold has risen sharply. The price of 10 g of gold in Delhi has risen 8.7% from Rs 47,507 on January 31 to Rs 51,627 on Thursday. Prices jumped 3.3 per cent on Thursday.

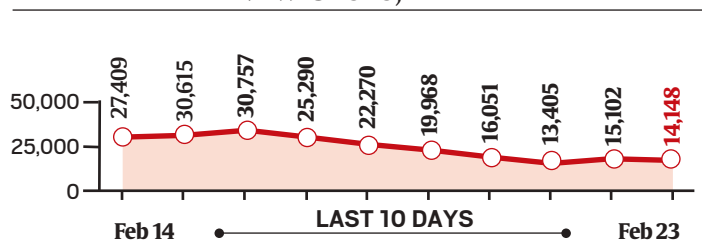
A report by Motilal Oswal Financial Services said gold prices are likely to rise further from current levels, as investors will move towards the safe haven following inflation-related concerns on higher crude prices and geopolitical tensions. "If the current situation further escalates, investors will cling on to safe haven asset or sit on cash, i.e. dollar. Along with geopolitical tensions, rising inflationary concerns has also been supporting precious metal prices on lower levels, hence supporting our view of buying on dips," the report said.

## TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

### DASHBOARD, AS ON FEB 23

<b>724</b> DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	<b>New cases</b> <b>14,148</b>	<b>Active cases</b> <b>1,48,359</b>	<b>Deaths</b> <b>302</b>
Weekly CFR: <b>0.37%</b>   Overall CFR: <b>1.21%</b>   Total deaths: <b>5,12,924</b>			

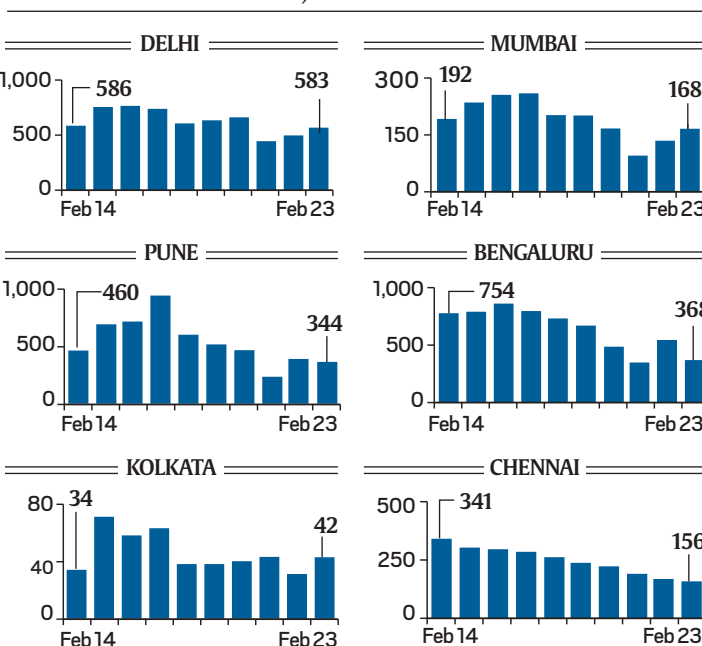
### NEW CASES, DAILY



### SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON FEBRUARY 22			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	5,023	48,152	188	10.84%
Maharashtra	1,151	11,604	23	1.51%
Mizoram	964	8,736	2	0.05%
Rajasthan	769	6,767	3	3.03%
Madhya Pradesh	690	5,629	2	1.34%

### CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS



### TOTAL TESTS

76,35,69,165

### TESTS ON FEB 23

11,55,147

### WEEKLY POSITIVITY

1.58%

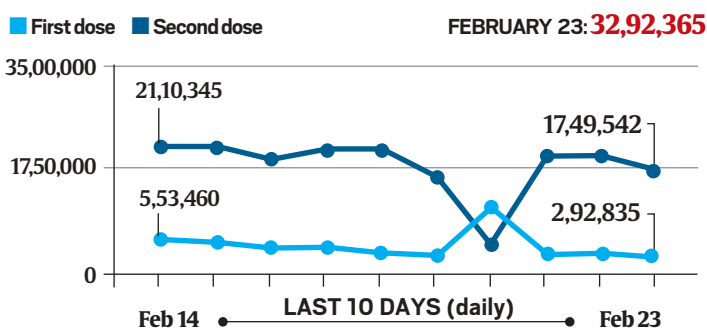
### OVERALL POSITIVITY

5.62%

### INDIA TOTAL DOSES

176,52,31,385

(Adults 1st dose: **90,83,78,842**; 2nd: **90,83,78,842**; 15-18 age group 1st dose: **5,42,63,490**; 2nd: **2,47,48,744**; precautionary: **1,95,66,729**)



RASHESH SHAH

the news that the Russians were retreating, and so the markets were not prepared. Hence, when this morning's situation unfolded, there was panic.

The near-term concern is the spike in oil prices and inflation, although I am not too worried. I see the outflow of foreign portfolio investors as a medium-term concern. They have been selling heavily over the last couple of months, and while that did put pressure on the rupee and the stock mar-

kets, it was absorbed well by the markets.

I do not think the current geopolitical event changes India's prospects in the long term. Nothing changes fundamentally. India is not caught in the crossfire, and it has not taken sides.

Exports are strong. IT services exports are more than oil imports, and even the economic cycle is turning. The quadruple balance sheet — government, RBI, banks and corporates — is strong now, and there is a push for infrastructure spending.

I would say that the markets may remain volatile in the near term on account of geopolitical concerns — but my sense is that over the coming weeks, smart investors will use the decline in the markets as an opportunity to invest in good companies.

Rashesh Shah is chairman and CEO of the Edelweiss Group



NILESH SHAH

THE KEY impact of this war for India is higher energy prices. India imports 4 million barrels of oil per day, and if oil prices go up by \$10 per barrel, it means an impact of \$40 million a day. Inflation remains a concern and it will also impact our current account deficit — and that will lead to further depreciation of the rupee. It will also result in a higher fiscal deficit due to the inability to pass on the increase in the oil subsidy burden due to the rise in oil prices.

Indian markets, which delivered higher returns in comparison to all other markets, have been witnessing profit booking by foreign portfolio investors, and they have pulled nearly Rs 1 lakh crore

over the last five months.

Following the correction, if the Indian markets were earlier trading at a premium over their historical valuations, they are now trading near their historical valuations. But no one knows where the bottom is — it will all depend on how the war unfolds, and when it ends. Hence, investors need to follow the basics of asset allocation. If the correction comes, they can look to slowly increase their allocation to equities, and be long-term investors.

One aspect that investors can take comfort in is the fact that over the last few years the capacity of the economy to sustain at higher levels of crude oil prices has gone up. Also, corporate profitability is good, and companies are deleveraged; that should help the markets going forward.

(Nileshe Shah is MD, Kotak Mahindra AMC)







## WORLD REACTS

“Today in concert with our allies we will agree to a massive package of economic sanctions designed in time to hobble the Russian economy. Our mission is clear: diplomatically, politically, economically – and eventually, militarily – this hideous and barbaric venture of Vladimir Putin must end in failure”

**BORIS JOHNSON,**  
UK PM

“We will respond without weakness to this act of war, with calm, determination and unity. The events are a turning point in the history of Europe and our country will have deep and lasting consequences for our lives. In the military, economic and energy domains, we will be without weakness”

**EMMANUEL MACRON,**  
FRANCE PRESIDENT

“President Putin has chosen a premeditated war that will bring a catastrophic loss of life and human suffering. Russia alone is responsible for the death and destruction this attack will bring, and the US and its allies and partners will respond in a united and decisive way. The world will hold Russia accountable”

THE WHITE HOUSE

“The war with Ukraine has been unleashed to cover up the robbery of Russian citizens and divert their attention away from the country's internal problems, from the degradation of its economy”

**ALEKSEI A. NAVALNY,**  
RUSSIAN OPPOSITION POLITICIAN

“Our hearts go out to the citizens of Ukraine, who got into this situation without any wrongdoing on their part”

**NAFTALI BENNETT,**  
ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER

“This is a grave breach of international law, and a serious threat to Euro-Atlantic security. NATO will do all it takes to protect and defend all allies.”

**JENS STOLTENBERG,**  
NATO'S SECRETARY GENERAL

“If indeed an operation is being prepared, I have only one thing to say from the bottom of my heart: President Putin, stop your troops from attacking Ukraine. Give peace a chance. Too many people have already died”

**ANTONIO GUTERRES,**  
UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

# Putin ‘chose’ war: US, Europe move to slap new sanctions on Russia

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
FEBRUARY 24

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden on Thursday announced a new round of sanctions targeting Russia after its invasion of Ukraine, charging that Russian leader Vladimir Putin “chose this war” and that his country will bear the consequences of this action.

The sanctions target Russian banks, oligarchs, and high-tech sectors, Biden said. The United States and its allies will block assets of four large Russian banks, impose export controls and sanction oligarchs.

The penalties fall in line with the White House's insistence that it would look to hit Russia's financial system and Putin's inner circle, while also imposing export controls that would aim to starve Russia's industries and military of US semiconductors and other high-tech products.

Biden, for now, held off imposing some of the most severe sanctions, including cutting Russia out of the SWIFT payment system, which allows for the transfers of money from bank to



G7 leaders take part in a video call on Thursday. AP

bank around the globe, or Russia's energy sector.

Biden announced the sanctions as Ukraine's government reported mounting casualties as Russian forces attack from the east, north and south.

In Britain, Prime Minister

Boris Johnson announced a freeze on the assets of all large Russian banks and plans to bar Russian companies and the Kremlin from raising money on British markets.

Britain will also ban the export to Russia of a wide range of

high-tech products, including semiconductors, and prohibit the nation's flagship airline, Aeroflot, from landing at British airports.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called the invasion a “barbaric” attack on an independent nation that threatened “the stability in Europe and the whole of the international peace order.” The European Union scheduled an emergency summit in Brussels to consider sanctions.

Von der Leyen said she would propose “massive and targeted sanctions” that would block the country's access to key technologies and financial markets and freeze Russian assets in Europe.

“We want to cut off Russia's industry from the technologies desperately needed today to build the future,” von der Leyen said.

In the days before the attack, Germany suspended approval of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline from Russia, and the EU imposed sanctions against hundreds of Russian lawmakers and other officials and institutions from the defense and banking worlds.

Canada imposed sanctions that will target 58 people and en-

ties, including members of Russia's elite and their families, the paramilitary Wagner Group and major Russian banks. The punitive measures, announced after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attended a virtual meeting of G-7 industrialized nations, will also affect members of the Russian Security Council, including key cabinet ministers. Separately, the UN is expected to vote Friday on a resolution condemning Russia and demanding the immediate withdrawal of all its forces. But Moscow is certain to veto the measure.

Von der Leyen insisted all Western powers were in lockstep on the crisis. Even Hungary, an often recalcitrant member of the EU, promptly condemned the attack, raising hopes that the 27 states would quickly achieve the required unanimity for the sanctions package.

Oil prices climbed by more than \$5 per barrel. Brent crude briefly jumped above \$100 per barrel in London for the first time since 2014 over fears of a disruption of supplies from Russia, the No. 3 producer.

## It's a de-escalatory move, not aimed at occupation, says Russia envoy

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24



Russian envoy Roman Babushkin

RUSSIA'S MILITARY operation in Ukraine is a “de-escalatory move” as their army is stepping into Donetsk and Luhansk only to save the people of these regions and that they have no intention of occupying the neighbouring nation, Russian envoy to India Roman Babushkin said on Thursday.

In an exclusive interview to *The Indian Express*, hours after the Russian action invited condemnation from across the world, Babushkin, who is the chargé d'affaires at the Russian embassy in New Delhi, said, “It's not an escalation. The escalation took place in the last eight years. What the Russian military has done is actually a de-escalatory move.”

Babushkin, who is serving his second stint in New Delhi, added, “These are targeted military operations. Neither cities nor civilians are being targeted. The ordinary civilians in Ukraine have nothing to worry about. We will be targeting only Ukrainian defence structures.”

On the sanctions by the Western countries, the Russian envoy said, “There have been so many threats of sanctions over the last several years. Now, it has become a routine.”

On the safety of Indian students in Ukraine, he said, “That's not our domain. It will be better to approach the authorities in Kiev. As I said, our military is not

targeting the civilians.”

The airports in Ukraine bordering Russia have been shut, he said.

“The Russian action fully corresponds with the international law, including the principle of self-determination. Free expression and the will of the people are the highest forms of democracy. Same is the case with Crimean people.”

“As far as the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity are concerned, let us not forget the unanimously adopted UN declaration on the principles of international law of 1970, which says that these principles should be strictly followed in respect of all states whose governments represent all peoples who live on their territories. Since 2014, it was clearly not the case with the authorities in Kiev,” he said.

Their response to those in the West who groundlessly blamed Russia for violations of international law is that they did not have moral right to do so, he added.

“They are obviously the ones who seriously undermine the international order by using unilateral sanctions, interfering in domestic affairs, practising regime-change policies and supporting revolutions,” the envoy alleged.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting with Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan in Moscow. AP

## Imran meets Putin in Moscow

Moscow: President Vladimir Putin met Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in the Kremlin on Thursday in his first face-to-face talks since the start of a special Russian military operation in eastern Ukraine and the two leaders discussed the main aspects of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on current regional topics, including “developments in South Asia”.

Khan began his engagements in Moscow by laying a wreath at “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”,

hours after the Russian President ordered a special military operation in eastern Ukraine, ignoring last-minute appeals and warnings from the West.

During the meeting in the Kremlin, the leaders of the two countries “discussed the main aspects of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on current regional topics, including developments in South Asia”, said a brief statement issued by the Russian President's office - Kremlin. **PTI**

## China offers subtle nod in support for ally Russia

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
FEBRUARY 24

CHINA'S GOVERNMENT on Thursday offered a subtle nod in support of the Kremlin's interests in Ukraine, after earlier seeking to maintain a delicate balance even as Russia pressed forward with its attack.

In a phone call on Thursday, Russia's foreign minister, Sergey V. Lavrov, told his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, that his country had been forced to take “necessary measures to protect its interests” after the US and NATO “broke their promises,” according to a brief summary of the call released by Chinese state media.

Wang maintained his earlier position, reiterating China's respect for territorial integrity of all countries. But he also acknowledged the “complex and special historical context” of



Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying. Reuters

Ukraine and said he understood Russia's “legitimate” security concerns.

A spokeswoman for China's Foreign Ministry on Thursday also declined at a regular news briefing to condemn Russia's actions, saying that the background of the issue was “very complicated.” The spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, did not describe the attack as an “inva-

sion,” calling that term “preconceived wording.” And she sidestepped a question about whether the attack was a violation of Ukraine's sovereignty.

More than six hours after the attack began, the top article on the website of the official People's Daily newspaper was about Inner Mongolia's new commercial policy. And the website of the official *Xinhua* news agency led with an article about an upcoming meeting of China's rubber-stamp Parliament.

China's reticent stance reflects the dilemma facing Beijing. On one hand, it has long enjoyed friendly relations with Ukraine and has held up the principle of noninterference in other countries' affairs. There are also concerns about further alienating the EU and aggravating an already tense relationship with the United States.

## ‘For us, Ukraine is same as Pakistan for India..’

**ALEXEY KUPRIYANOV**, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, spoke to **NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN**

**What is the situation in Ukraine right now?**

This morning President Vladimir Putin announced the start of the operation against Ukrainian forces for the de-Nazification and demilitarisation of Ukraine. But we do not know yet how far this will go. It means a change of leadership of Ukraine that will be more friendly to Russia. And the formal reason was Ukraine's failure to fulfill its obligations under the Minsk Agreement over the past 7 years. **What does demilitarisation and de-Nazification mean?**

In Russian political discourse, the thesis about the happenings in Ukraine in 2014 is that it was actu-

ally a coup d'etat, a forcible change of power. And this was supported by far right groups, a lot of which fought in Donbass against Russians. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy tried to balance his position between the far right and the more peaceful groups in Ukraine. And just a month and a half ago, he closed the last channel of peace in Ukraine, the pro-peace channel, so that's why Putin called this a Nazi or a Nazi-supported regime.

The Ukrainian economy is highly militarised. Some Ukrainian politicians and military officials have been talking about the restoration of Ukraine as a military state. That is what Putin meant when he said demilitarisation and de-Nazification of Ukraine. Now Ukraine has an about 550,000-army. And by de-Nazification he meant there will be a change of power – new elections in Ukraine. **What do Russians think about**



Alexey Kupriyanov

**Putin's action?**

It's not a full-scale invasion as yet. This is something like the Syrian campaign. And till now we see only air strikes, targeted air strikes – something like surgical strikes in the Indian sense.

When you carry out air strikes, you don't need any great public support – the US didn't need it in their campaign against Iraq. Modi did not need public support, did not take Parliament's support for surgical strikes. So until the [time the] scale is limited, the problem of public support is not an issue. **Where do you see it all heading?**

If it is full-scale sanctions, problems with SWIFT, problems

over our banks, it will be one thing. If these are softer sanctions, meant to find a resolution to the problem, it's different. The Russian economy is quite strong, we have low national debt, we have our own system, we don't have any great loans from the western market. What will happen further, I can't say now.

**How do you see China's response to what has happened?**

China is in a really uneasy position. It has problems with the US and some other NATO countries. For China, support of the Russian position is inevitable. China is one of those that has benefited from the European crisis because after this, US and European countries will have to focus on the European situation and the US will not be able to change its focus to the Pacific. **What is the Russian expectation of India?**

India has quite a rich and uneasy history about the restora-

tion of Indian writ and Indian ownership over some territories – we remember Goa, Hyderabad, the Sikkim referendum, and so on. In all these cases Russia supported India. And so we understand the Indian position now – India is our old good friend, and at the same time we understand that India has no choice but to be close to the US. So we think as a whole India will continue its neutral line.

**Does Putin want to re-integrate Ukraine into Russia?**

I don't think so, because for us, in fact, it needs a political solution. The Ukrainian issue has to be decided by compromise, not by incorporation. I am sorry for this analogy, but for us, Ukraine is the same as Pakistan for India. And so we are going to have our peaceful Pakistan, and pro-Indian Pakistan on our border.

**FULL INTERVIEW ON**  
**www.indianexpress.com**

## Police clash with protesters against US grant in Nepal

**GOPAL SHARMA**  
KATHMANDU, FEBRUARY 24

NEPAL'S PARLIAMENT postponed on Thursday debate on \$500 million in U.S. aid that critics say undermines sovereignty as protesters opposed to the proposed funds clashed with police outside the assembly, officials and witnesses said.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a U.S. government aid agency, agreed in 2017 to provide the aid in a grant to fund an electricity transmission line and road improvement project.

The aid does not need to be re-

paid and Washington says it comes without conditions.

But opponents, many wary of U.S. influence in the region, say the aid would undermine Nepal's laws and sovereignty, as it would not have sufficient oversight over the projects. Major political parties, including those in the ruling coalition, are divided over whether to accept U.S. grant, which has yet to be ratified by parliament.

“Thursday's session of parliament has been postponed for Friday afternoon at the government's request,” parliament official Rojnath Pandey said. **REUTERS**

## BLOCKADES IN CANADA END

# Trudeau revokes emergency powers

**ROB GILLIES**  
TORONTO, FEBRUARY 24

CANADIAN PRIME Minister Justin Trudeau announced Wednesday he is removing emergency powers police can use after authorities ended the blockades at the borders and the occupation in Ottawa by truckers and others opposed to Covid-19 restrictions.

Trudeau said the “threat continues” but the acute emergency that included entrenched occupations has ended. His government invoked the powers last week and lawmakers affirmed the powers late Monday.



A police officer mans a checkpoint near Parliament Hill. AP

“The situation is no longer an emergency, therefore the federal government will be ending the use

of the emergencies act,” Trudeau said. “We are confident that existing laws and bylaws are sufficient.”

The emergencies act allows authorities to declare certain areas as no-go zones. It also allows police to freeze truckers' personal and corporate bank accounts and compel tow truck companies to haul away vehicles.

The trucker protest grew until it closed a handful of Canada-U.S. border posts and shut down key parts of the capital for more than three weeks. But all border blockades have now ended and the streets around the Canadian Parliament are quiet.

“We were very clear that the use of the emergencies act would be limited in time,” Trudeau said. **AP**

## Pak tycoon's son gets death for killing diplomat's daughter

**SAJJAD HUSSAIN**  
ISLAMABAD, FEBRUARY 24

A PAKISTANI court on Thursday sentenced to death the scion of a prominent industrialist family, the main accused in the high-profile murder case of Noor Mukadam, the daughter of a former Pakistani diplomat, who was killed last year after she refused to marry him.


The Sessions Court in Islamabad convicted Zahir Jaffer on the charges of premeditated murder of Mukadam.

Mukadam, 27, was Jaffer's

friend who was enraged when she apparently refused to marry him. Noor's beheaded body was found at the residence of Jaffer on July 20, 2021.

On the complaint of the victim's father former ambassador Shaukat Mukadam, police registered an FIR against Jaffer and arrested him under the charges of premeditated murder, the website of Aaj TV, a Pakistani news channel reported. On Thursday, court announced the verdict he had reserved on Tuesday on the completion of the case, convicting Zahir under Section 302 of the Pakistani Penal Code. **PTI**



**ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LTD**  
VIDYUTH SOUDHA: VIJAYAWADA

**TENDER NOTICES**  
APGENCO invites the following tenders :  
1) NIT No. 610000953 : "Outsourcing of Services for Operation, Maintenance and Up-Keeping pertains to A&MM circle, Dr.NTTPS for a period of Two (02) years i.e. for the period from 01.04.2022 (or) from the actual date of commencement of work to 31.03.2024" through APGENCO e-procurement platform.  
Estimated value of Work: Rs. 1,60,96,522/-  
Bid Schedule available Date & Time: From 18:00 Hrs on 19.02.2022 on onwards  
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time: up to 13:00 Hrs on 02.03.2022  
2) NIT No. 610000954 : "715 MT of Filter Alum (Non Ferric) to Dr.NTTPS (O&M), Dr.NTTPS (Stage-IV), RTPPI(O&M) and RTPPI(Stage-IV) of APGENCO for the year 2022-2023" through APGENCO e-procurement platform.  
Estimated value of Work: Rs. 1,17,76,050/-  
Bid Schedule available Date & Time: From 16:00 Hrs on 19.02.2022 on onwards  
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time: up to 15:00 Hrs on 02.03.2022  
For further details visit website: [www.apgenco.gov.in](http://www.apgenco.gov.in) or <https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/irj/portal>

## National Forensic Sciences University, Delhi Campus (LNJN NICFS)

(Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)

### Forensic Science Aptitude and Calibre Test 2022 (FACT) & FACT Plus

NFSU Delhi Campus(LNJJN NICFS) will conduct an All-India qualifying test FACT and FACT Plus for persons having Post Graduate degree in specified disciplines of Science (including Forensic Psychology) from recognized Universities or Colleges. The services of qualified candidates may be utilized on need basis to assist Forensic Scientists in expediting the disposal of pending cases at various CFSLs and FSLs in India. It is a screening test like UGC-NET/GATE. Candidates eligible as per eligibility criteria may apply for the Test. Registrations are open from 07th February, 2022 (11.30 a.m.) to 28th February, 2022 (05.30 p.m.) and date of online examination ison 20th March, 2022 (10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)  
For eligibility conditions, examination centres, fee structure, other details and application form etc., please visit our website: [www.nfsu.ac.in](http://www.nfsu.ac.in) /[www.nicfs.gov.in](http://www.nicfs.gov.in) and link "FACT & FACT Plus 2022" on the home page. Help line No. is 011-27521091.  
Davp-19125/11/0003/2122



**Form No. INC-25**  
**AVAADA RIJAM SAR PRIVATE LIMITED**  
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS AZURE POWER FORTY SIX PRIVATE LIMITED)  
CIN: U40300DL2017PTC311156  
Registered Office: 510/735, Suryakiran, Katurba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – 110 001  
Registered Office Tel. No.: 011- 8617-2300, Corporate Office Tel. No.: 022-8445-8000  
Email Id: [avaada@rijamsar.com](mailto:avaada@rijamsar.com) Website: [www.avaadaenergy.com](http://www.avaadaenergy.com)

**NOTICE**  
Before the Central Government  
Northern Region  
In the matter of the sub-section 4 of Section 13 of the Companies Act 2013 and clause a of sub-rule (5) of Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules 2014  
AND  
In the matter of Avaada Rijam Sar Private Limited (Formerly known as Azure Power Forty Six Private Limited), having its registered office at 510/735, Suryakiran, Katurba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – (110 001), India, the Petitioner.  
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the Company proposes to make application to the Central Government under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013, seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 22 February, 2022 to enable the Company to change its registered office from the "Delhi" to "State of Uttar Pradesh".  
Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the Company may deliver either on the MCA 21 portal ([www.mca.gov.in](http://www.mca.gov.in)) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of objection to the Regional Director at the B-2 Wing, 2nd Floor, Parvati Nagar, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110003 within fourteen days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the Applicant Company at its Registered Office at the address mentioned above.  
For and on behalf of  
For Avaada Rijam Sar Private Limited  
(Formerly known as Azure Power Forty Six Pvt. Ltd.)  
Rajesh Bhatt Dineshwar  
Director, DIN: 09133422

**284/TD/2021**  
**NOTICE UNDER CLAUSE (a) OF SUB-SECTION (5) OF SECTION 15 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003 (the Act)**  
An application for grant of Category-'III' licence for inter-State trading in electricity in whole of India has been made before the Commission by AEI New Energy Trading Private Limited, Block E-14 Floor, Units No. 1401 to 1421, International Trade Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi 110 019.  
2. A copy of the application, along with its annexures and enclosures, made by the applicant for grant of inter-State trading licence by AEI New Energy Trading Private Limited, before the Commission can be accessed at the website [www.aeittrading.in](http://www.aeittrading.in) or inspected by any person in the Commission's office by following the laid down procedure.  
3. On consideration of the material available on record, the Commission is satisfied that prima facie the applicant qualifies for grant of licence for inter-State trading in electricity and by order dated 23.2.2022, the Commission has proposed to grant a Category-'III' licence to the applicant for inter-State trading in electricity in whole of India.  
4. Notice is hereby given in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act to invite suggestions or objections, if any, to the proposal to grant licence for inter-State trading in electricity as aforesaid by the Commission to be received by the undersigned latest by 15.3.2022 at the above noted address. The objections or suggestions received after the specified date shall not be considered.  
5. The Commission will fix the date for final disposal in due course and the person who files the suggestions or objections may in his discretion attend the hearing, for which no TA/DA shall be paid by the Commission  
(Sanoj Kumar Jha)  
Secretary


**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
**EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME**  
**STATION HQ (ECHS CELL) AF STATION SARSAWA**  
**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**  
1- ECHS invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinic AF Station Sarsawa, Saharanpur (UP) PIN-247232 for a period of one year for ESMs candidates and eleven months for civilians.  


Appointment	Minimum Qualification	No. of Vacancy	Fixed Remuneration
Clerk	Graduate/class I clerical Trade( Armed Force)	01	16,800/-


**2. For Terms & Conditions, Application Form & Remuneration:** Kindly see our website [www.echs.gov.in](http://www.echs.gov.in) for additional details, contact Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) AF Stn Sarsawa at Tele No. 01331-244067, Mobile no. 7409562737 and E-Mail id : [oeichspolysarsawa@gmail.com](mailto:oeichspolysarsawa@gmail.com) . Also approach ECHS Polyclinic AF Stn Sarsawa. Preference will be given to ESM candidates.  
**3. Last date of receipt of Application as per format given at our website:** Application as per requisite format alongwith self attested photocopies of testimonials in support of Educational Qualifications and Work Experiences to be submitted to OIC, Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) AF Stn Sarsawa by 1200 Hrs on 11 March 22. Any application received after 11 March 22 will not be accepted.  
**4. Interview Date, Timing & Venue:** Interview will be held on 16 March 22. Candidates must reach Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) at 0900 Hrs for interview to be held between 1000 Hrs to 1200 Hrs. Candidates must bring all the original certificates/mark sheets/degree/ Matric, 10+2 & Graduation/ Post Graduation / Diploma / Course, Work Experience, discharge book, PPO, service records and 02 PP Size colour photos at the time of interview. No TA/DA is admissible. Only candidates meeting the Qualitative Requirements may apply.


**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**  
**SAMAGRA SHIKSHA**  
STATE PROJECT OFFICE, KBC BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS,  
OPP. RAITHU BAZAR, PATAMATA, VIJAYAWADA, ANDHRA PRADESH


**Request for Proposal**  
e-procurement notice No. SS-16021/50/2021-CMO SEC-SSA, Dt. 24.02.2022 Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh is inviting Request For Proposal for procurement and supply of Uniform cloth under the scheme of "Jagananna Vidya Kankuka" to all the students (approximately 47.88 lakhs in number) studying classes I to X in Government management schools in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the year 2022-23. For details please visit <https://tender.aeprocurement.gov.in> from 25.02.2022. Tender/RFP form can be downloaded from website. Eligible firms shall upload the prescribed format as per the schedules given in the above said site. **Contact No.** 0866-2428599.  
Sd/- State Project Director  
R.O.No.704PP/CL/ADVT/11/2021-22 Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh


**E-Tender Notice**  
No. 75 of 2021-22 (Open)-Engg/DDU  
On line ( through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings-  
Tender No.64-DDU-SRDEN-II-21-22,  
(i) Name of work with its location: Balance work of FOB and raising of UP & DN PF from RL to HL at PRY station in GC section under ADEN/Gaya,  
(ii) Advertised Value: Rs. 21449321.32,  
(iii) Earnest Money: Rs. 257300.00,  
(iv) Closing Date & time for submission of e-tender: 16.03.2022 Up to 12:00 hrs.,  
(v) Website particulars of e-tendering: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
Divisional Railway Manager  
East Central Railway, DDU  
PR/01739/DDU/ENGG/T/21-22/32


**Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences**  
Raebareilly Road, Lucknow-226014 (U.P.)  
TELEPHONE: (0522)-2494009, 2494304 FAX NO.: 2668017, 2668078  
Email : [registrar@sgpgi.ac.in](mailto:registrar@sgpgi.ac.in)  
Notice  
Application for Advertisement No. I-51/ACAD/2021-22  
Online Application forms link is going to be active from 26.02.2022. Please visit SGPGI Website [www.sgpgims.org.in](http://www.sgpgims.org.in) / [www.sgpgi.ac.in](http://www.sgpgi.ac.in)  
Adv. No. I/56/ACAD/2021-22 Director


**KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN**  
REGIONAL OFFICE SALAWALLA HATHIBARKALA, DEHRADUN-248001  
Website : [www.kvsonlineadmission.kvs.gov.in](http://www.kvsonlineadmission.kvs.gov.in) Email: [kvsonlineadmission@gmail.com](mailto:kvsonlineadmission@gmail.com)  
Tel: 0135-2749510(DC)/2743182(AI)/2743181(AO)  
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Regional Office) Dehradun  
Admission Notice: 2022-2023  
Online Registration for Admission to Class I in Kendriya Vidyalayas for the Academic Year 2022-2023 will commence at 10:00 am on 28.02.2022 and will close at 7:00 pm on 21.03.2022. The admission details are available in website <https://kvsonlineadmission.kvs.gov.in> and Android Mobile App. Minimum age for admission in Class-I will be 06 years as per NEP 2020.  
The official Android Mobile App for KVS Online Admission for Class-I for the academic year 2022-2023 and instructions for downloading and installing the App will be available at <https://kvsonlineadmission.kvs.gov.in/apps/> The app will be available at the above URL and also at the Google Play Store. Parents are requested to go through the instructions for using the portal and mobile app carefully before using them.  
Registration for Class-II and above will be done from 08.04.2022 (Friday) to 16.04.2022 (Saturday) upto 4:00 pm if vacancies exist (in offline mode).  
For Class XI, Registration forms may be downloaded from Vidyalaya Website as per the schedule for admission 2022-2023 available on KVS(HQ) Website (<https://kvsangathan.nic.in>)  
Reckoning of age for all Classes shall be as on 31.03.2022. Reservation of seats will be as per KVS Admission Guideline available on the Website (<https://kvsangathan.nic.in>).  
Under present situation of COVID -19, the directions issued by Competent Authority (Central/State/Local) are to be followed. Accordingly, the parents are requested not to visit Kendriya Vidyalayas physically to avoid gathering. All information regarding Admission, Registration form will be available on Vidyalaya/KVS (HQ) website under common document for download.  
For Class-II and above, kindly fill the Registration form, Scan it and send it to concerned KV through email only.  
Contact Principal/Admission In-charge only when called in the given time slot.  
Deputy Commissioner


**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**

**E-Tender Notice**  
E-tender is invited on Behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work:-  
e-Tender No.: ECR-CAO-C-S-ETEN-70-21-22, S.No.: 1, Name of work: Construction of 6 Nos. RUB/LHS in lieu of existing level crossing No. 21/C/E at KM-248/9-11, 22/C/E at KM-349/21-23, 28/C/T at KM-372/19-21, 33/C/E Km 387/23-25, 35/C/27 Km 402/25-27 & Lo Nos. -36/C/27 at Km 404/27-29 in between PKA-MPO section of Dhanbad division on ECR., Approx cost of the work in (Rs.): 41,65,58,736.71, Cost of tender from in (Rs.): 0.00, Earnest money in (Rs.): 22,32,800.00, Period of work completion: 15(Fifteen) Months, Date and time for closing of tender: 15.03.2022 at 15.30 hrs.  
Any e-tenders which is sent by Post/ Courier/ Fax or by hand will not be accepted. All such manual submission of tender even if it is on firm's letter pad or received in time will not be accepted. The above e-tender document alongwith full information is available on website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. Note: In case of any discrepancies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing, for latest corrigendum/ corrections etc in connection with this e-tender. Any change/addendum/ corrigendum will be published on IREPS website only.  
CAO/Con/South  
EC Rly. MHX, Patna  
PR/01741/CONS/ENGG/T/21-22/44

**"IMPORTANT"**  
Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

**E-Tender Notice**  
No. 75 of 2021-22 (Open)-Engg/DDU  
On line ( through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings-  
Tender No.64-DDU-SRDEN-II-21-22,  
(i) Name of work with its location: Balance work of FOB and raising of UP & DN PF from RL to HL at PRY station in GC section under ADEN/Gaya,  
(ii) Advertised Value: Rs. 21449321.32,  
(iii) Earnest Money: Rs. 257300.00,  
(iv) Closing Date & time for submission of e-tender: 16.03.2022 Up to 12:00 hrs.,  
(v) Website particulars of e-tendering: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
Divisional Railway Manager  
East Central Railway, DDU  
PR/01739/DDU/ENGG/T/21-22/32


**Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences**  
Raebareilly Road, Lucknow-226014 (U.P.)  
TELEPHONE: (0522)-2494009, 2494304 FAX NO.: 2668017, 2668078  
Email : [registrar@sgpgi.ac.in](mailto:registrar@sgpgi.ac.in)  
Notice  
Application for Advertisement No. I-51/ACAD/2021-22  
Online Application forms link is going to be active from 26.02.2022. Please visit SGPGI Website [www.sgpgims.org.in](http://www.sgpgims.org.in) / [www.sgpgi.ac.in](http://www.sgpgi.ac.in)  
Adv. No. I/56/ACAD/2021-22 Director

**पंजाब नैशनल बैंक**  
...मरसे का प्रतीक !  
CIRCLE SASTRA PATNA SOUTH (8298), Patna  
Chandrapura Palace, 2nd Floor, Bank Road, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna-800001  
**POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property)**  
Whereas  
The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice(s) on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/date of receipt of the said notice(s).  
The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice(s) is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned each against account.  
The Borrower's /Guarantor/Mortgagor's attention is invited to provision of sub-setion (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.  
The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amount and interest thereon.  
(Amount in Rs.)  

Sr. No.	Name of the Account/Borrower /Branch	Owner of the property	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice Affixed	Amount outstanding as on date of Demand Notice
1.	M/s Abhiram Sharma & Sons Service Station, Prop.- Sri Ramashankar Sharma s/o Sri Abhiram Sharma, Guarantor: Sri Umesh Chandra Pathak s/o Sri Ramdev Pathak BRANCH: SUKHIYAWAN (174000) A/c No. 1740008700000113	Sri Umesh Chandra Pathak s/o Sri Ramdev Pathak, R/o Moh.: Sidharth Colony, PS: Mufasil Gaya, Thana No. 316, Khata No. 14, Plot No. 142(old) 2168(new), Ward No. 32/40 (52), Total Area 2001 sq.ft. vide Sale Deed No. 4683 dated 06.05.2009, Boundary :- North: Proposed 10 feet wide road, South: Ranger Sahib, East: Sangeeta Singh w/o Sanjeet Kumar, West: 12 ft. road.	24.05.2021	18.02.2022	₹ 20,93,780.70 (Rupees Twenty Lac Ninety Three Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty & seventy paise only) as on 31.03.2021 and interest thereon + other charges	


Date : 24.02.2022  
Place : Patna

(Authorised Officer)  
Punjab National Bank

**State Bank of India**  
**STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (SAMB), PATNA**  
5th Floor, Zonal Office Building, J.C. Road, Anta Ghat, Patna-800001  
APPENDIX – IV – A  
(See Proviso to Rule 6(2)(8)(6))  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable/Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2)(8)(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described movable/Immovable property hypothecated/mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the PHYSICAL POSSESSION of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 28.03.2022 (Monday). Other details of the e-auction are as under:  

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower(s)	Amount of Demand (as per SARFAESI notice)	Description of the property	Name of Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Date of 13(2) under SARFAESI Act	Reserve Price below which the property will not be sold EMD Bid Increment Amount
1.	M/s Maa Padmawati Agro Foods Private Limited	₹14,20,39,936.25 as on 30.09.2016 together with further interest from 01.10.2016, incidental expenses, cost, etc. less deposit/recovery made if any	Plant and machinery of M/s Maa Padmawati Agro Foods Pvt. Ltd. situated at Rarhua, PO-Siris, PS-Barun, Distt- Aurangabad (Bihar).	Guarantors: Sri Mintoo Gupta, Sri Brij Mohan Julka, Mrs. Rajni Gupta, Sri Govind Gupta, Sri Arjun Gupta and Legal heirs of Late Rama Rani-Sri Bablu Gupta, Neelam Gupta, Sri Gopal Gupta & Sri Mintoo Gupta.	30.11.2017	₹3,79,80,000/- ₹37,98,000/- ₹50,000/-
2.	M/s Raven Tracom Private Limited	₹5,99,90,176.82 as on 31.08.2018 together with further/future interest from 01.09.2018 incidental expenses, cost, 411, Area-2½ decimal, Mauza-recovery made if any	Residential land and building vide Sale Deed No.4226 dated 20.04.1995, Khata No.-218(New), Khesra No.-4854 (Old)/740(New), Thana No.-411, Area-2½ decimal, Mauza-Kanhaul, P.S. Mithanpura,	Mortgagor: Late Siya Ram Sharan Singh Saroj (Guarantor Since deceased).	13.09.2018	₹85,47,000/- ₹8,54,700/- ₹50,000/-

Muzaffarpur, Bihar and Sale Deed No.-4227 dated 20.04.1995, Khata No.-218(New), Khesra No.-4854(Old)/740(New), Thana No.-411, Area-3½ Decimal, Mauza-Kanhaul, P.S. Mithanpura, Muzaffarpur, Bihar. Both Deed in the name of Late Siya Ram Sharan Singh Saroj (Guarantor Since deceased).

**State Bank of India**  
**STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (SAMB), PATNA**  
5th Floor, Zonal Office Building, J.C. Road, Anta Ghat, Patna-800001  
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 <b>DELHI JAL BOARD</b> <b>OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER(M)-7/EE(T)</b> <b>H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR</b> <b>PEERA GARHI CHOWK NEW DELHI-110041</b> <b>NIT No. 102/EE(T)/ACE(M)7/(2021-22)</b> <b>Press Notice Tender</b>								
S. No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.)	EMD	Tender Fee's	Dt. of release of tender procurement solution/D. No.	Last dt./time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution		
1.	Repair and Annual maintenance of Kanjhawla BPS, JE store and demolition of abandoned OHT at Kanjhawla office complex in Mundka AC-08 under AEE(M)-08.	33,11,104/-	66,300/-	500/-	23/02/2022/ 2022_DJB_217260_1	08-03-2022 at 3.00 PM.		
2.	Repair and Annual maintenance of Karala filling point and JE store at Karala premises in Mundka AC-08 Under AEE(M)-08.	38,94,585/-	77,900/-	500/-	23/02/2022/ 2022_DJB_217275_1	08-03-2022 at 3.00 PM.		

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) **(SATISH KUMAR GUPTA)**  
 Advt. No. J.S.V. 1165 (2021-22)  
**"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"**  
 Sd/-  
**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(T)**

Office of the Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, CHATRA e-Procurement Notice Pre-Qualification Tender Notice (SBD)							
Tender Reference No. DWSD/CLTR/SVS/CTR/37/2021-22 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Call) Date : 24.02.2022							
Sl. No.	Particular	Details					
1	Name of Work	Detailed survey, designing and drawing, Construction of 1540 Nos. FHCT in Kanhachatti Block of Chatra District comprising of suitable R.C.C/Frame Structure ES&R, Distribution Lines, Source (as required) & 05 Years Operation and Maintenance all complete job "On Turnkey Basis" under D.W. & S. Division, Chatra for the Year 2021-22 under (J/M)					
	Group No.	No. of Panchayat	No. of FHCT	Estimated Cost (In Lac)	E.M Required (In Lac)	Cost of BOQ (In Rs.)	Time of Completion
	KNC/SVS/CLTR/05(A)	1	1540	453.45	4.53	10,000/-	09 Months
2	Date of Tender Uploading in Website	26.02.2022 at 5:00 PM					
3	Last date receipt of Bid	07.03.2022 upto 5:00 PM					
4	Last Date Submission Cost of BOQ and EMD (Hard Copy)	08.03.2022 upto 3:00 PM In the Office of - 1. Executive Engineer, D.W.&S. Division, Chatra and 2. Superintending Engineer, D.W.&S. Circle, Hazaribagh, 3. Regional Chief Engineer, D.W.&S. Department Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.					
5	Date of Opening Tender	09.03.2022 at 12:30 PM					
6	Name & Address of Opening Officer	Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, CHATRA (Jharkhand)					
7	Name & Address of Tender Inviting Authority	Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, CHATRA (Jharkhand)					
8	Contact No. of Procurement Office	+91-8609999672, +91-9931972161 or 06541-253273					
9	Helpline No. of e-Procurement Call	0651-2480345					
Only Registered contractor in this department participate in said tender. Further details can be seen on website <a href="http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in">http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> . <b>Executive Engineer</b> PR 264702 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22)D <b>D.W.&amp;S. Division, CHATRA</b>							

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Office of The Executive Engineer, Public Works Pune Electrical Division, Pune 1st Floor, New Central Building Annexe, Pune-411001 e-Mail ID: elpune.ee@mahapwd.gov.in Tel. No. 020-26126258 e-Tender Notice No. 66 / 2021-2022 BRIEF TENDER NOTICE	
The Executive Engineer, Public Works Pune Electrical Division, Central Building annexe, 1st Floor, Pune (Phone No. 020-26126258) invites bids from Electrical contractors in whose class mentioned in B-2 (Item Rate) Tender format. Bids document can be downloaded from website <a href="http://www.mahatenders.gov.in">www.mahatenders.gov.in</a> in Executive Engineer reserves all rights to accept or reject bids. Conditional Bids will not be accepted.	
<b>NAME OF WORK : Est. No. 115305 of 2021-2022 Providing Fire Fighting System, Fire Detection System in Existing and Proposed New Building of Bhujal Bhavan at "GSDA, Shivajinagar, Pune.</b> <b>APT AMOUNT : Rs. 10512808.00</b>	
<b>1) Period of Sale Documents &amp; Submission :</b> Dt. 25/02/2022 @ 11.00 to Dt. 24/03/2022 @ 17.30 <b>2) Pre-Bid Meeting :</b> Dated 16/03/2022 @ 12.30. By Video Conferencing held by Office of Superintending Engineer (Elecct), Pune Regional Circle, P.W.D. Date Bunglow, Government Milk Scheme Premises, Kirkee, Pune-411003. (Queries to be mail on <a href="mailto:elpune.ee@mahapwd.gov.in">elpune.ee@mahapwd.gov.in</a> Prior to before 09/03/2022 @ 17.00) <b>3) Date of Opening Bid :</b> Dated 28/03/2022 @ 11.00 At Office of Superintending Engineer (Elecct), Pune Regional Circle, P.W.D. Date Bunglow, Government Milk Scheme Premises, Kirkee, Pune-411003. <b>The detailed Tender Notice can be is available on <a href="http://www.mahatenders.gov.in">www.mahatenders.gov.in</a> (Any changes In the NIT will be published on above webslte).</b> Sd/- <b>- Sambhaji Laxman Ghorpade, Executive Engineer</b> Public Works Pune Electrical Division (dgipr/2021-2022/4649) <b>PUNE</b>	

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE क्रय यूनिट / PURCHASE UNIT - VI विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 013				
विज्ञा. सं. वीएसएससी/सोएमएसई/विज्ञा./11/2022 दि. 24.02.2022 ADVT. NO. VSSC/CME/ADVT/11/2022 DT. 24.02.2022				
भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिए तथा उनकी ओर से वरिष्ठ प्रधान, क्रय एवं भंडार, विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र (वीएसएससी), तिरुवनंतपुरम, निम्नलिखित के लिए निविदाएं आमंत्रित करता है:- For & on behalf of the President of India, the Sr. Head Purchase & Stores, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram invites Sealed Tenders for the following :-				
क्रम सं Sl. No.	निविदा सं./Tender No.	वर्णन/Description	मात्रा Qty.	निविदा शुल्क Tender Fee
01.	फाइल सं./File No: 4506 2021004326 01 [पिटी-एकल भाग / PT-SINGLE PART]	दो वर्षों के लिए न्यू लैंड, सोएमएसई में जैनिटोरियल कार्य के लिए कार्य पकेज (न्यू लैंड, सोएमएसई के सभी प्रक्रमण क्षेत्रों में झाड़ू मारना, वेट मॉपिंग, वाटर/सोप वॉशिंग, मकड़ी के जालों को हटाना आदि सहित) Work package for Janitorial work at New land, CMSE (Including sweeping, wet mopping, Water/Soap washing, Removal of cobwebs etc in all processing areas of New land, CMSE) for two years.	1 लॉट / Lot	रू./Rs. 590/-
02.	फाइल सं./File No: 4506 2021004328 01 [पिटी-एकल भाग / PT-SINGLE PART]	मेनलैंड, सोएमएसई में जैनिटोरियल कार्य के लिए कार्य पकेज (मेनलैंड, सोएमएसई के सभी प्रक्रमण क्षेत्रों में झाड़ू मारना, वेट मॉपिंग, वाटर/सोप वॉशिंग, मकड़ी के जालों को हटाना आदि सहित) Work package for Janitorial work at Mainland, CMSE (Including sweeping, wet mopping, Water/Soap washing, Removal of cobwebs etc in all processing areas of Mainland, CMSE)	1 लॉट / Lot	रू./Rs. 590/-
03.	फाइल सं./File No: 4506 2021004330 01 [पिटी-एकल भाग / PT-SINGLE PART]	सोएमएसई के कार्यालय स्थानों तथा कैंटीन में जैनिटोरियल कार्य के लिए कार्य पकेज (सोएमएसई के सभी कार्यालय और कैंटीन में झाड़ू मारना, वेट मॉपिंग, वाटर/सोप वॉशिंग, मकड़ी के जालों को हटाना आदि सहित) Work package for Janitorial work at office spaces and canteen in CMSE(Including sweeping, wet mopping, Water/Soap washing, Removal of cobwebs etc in all offices and canteen in CMSE)	1 लॉट / Lot	रू./Rs. 590/-
नोट : निविदा दस्तावेज के अनुसार विनिर्देशन तथा विशद निबंधन एवं शर्तें Note :- Specification and detailed terms & conditions as per tender document				
1, 2 & 3		निविदा प्राप्त करने की न्यत तिथि / Due Date for Receipt of Tender	दिनांक 24/03/2022 को 16.00 बजे तक 24/03/2022 up to 16.00 Hrs	
		निविदा खोलने की तिथि / Tender Opening Date	दिनांक 25/03/2022 को 11.00 बजे तक 25/03/2022 at 11.00 Hrs	

**विशेष टिप्पणियाँ/Special Note:-**

- दिनांक 04/03/2022 को 10.00 बजे पूर्वानंद सोएमएसई सम्मेलन कक्ष, सोएमएसई, वट्टिटूरकावु में एक बोली-पूर्व चर्चा होगी। इस बोली-पूर्व चर्चा में भागीदारी अनिवार्य है तथा इसमें भाग लेनेवाले सेवा प्रदायकों को निविदाओं पर हो आगे के मूल्यकन हेतु विचार किया जाएगा। बोली-पूर्व चर्चा में भाग न लेनेवाले सेवा प्रदायकों को बोलीयों पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। बोली-पूर्व बैठक में उपस्थित रहने को अपनी इच्छा को धुनि दिनांक 03.03.2022 को या उससे पहले ई-मेल द्वारा [psocsmse\\_pur@vssc.gov.in](mailto:psocsmse_pur@vssc.gov.in) को दिया जाना चाहिए।  
There shall be a Pre-Bid discussion on 04/03/2022 at 10.00 AM at CMSE Conference Hall, CMSE, Vattiyorkavu. Participation in the Pre-Bid discussion is compulsory and the tenders of those service providers who participate in the Pre-Bid discussion will be considered for further evaluation. Bids of those Service Providers who did not attend Pre – Bid Discussion will not be considered. Your interest for participating in the pre-bid meeting shall be confirmed by E-mail to [psocsmse\\_pur@vssc.gov.in](mailto:psocsmse_pur@vssc.gov.in) on or before 03.03.2022.
- यह बोली केवल केरल राज्य के बोलीकारों तक सीमित है।  
This bid is restricted to bidders in Kerala State only.
- कोटेशन मोहरबंद लिफाफे में प्रस्तुत किया जाना चाहिए। ई-मेल/फैक्स कोटेशन पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।  
Quotation should be submitted in a sealed envelope. Email/Fax quotation will not be considered.
- विस्तृत व्यौर हमारे वेबसाइट [www.vssc.gov.in](http://www.vssc.gov.in) पर [www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।  
Details are available in our websites: [www.vssc.gov.in](http://www.vssc.gov.in) and [www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in)
- शुद्धिपत्र, यदि कोई हो तो, हमारे वेबसाइट में ही अपलोड किया जाएगा।  
Corrigendum, if any shall be uploaded only in our website.

हस्ताक्षरित/Sd/-  
वरि. प्रधान, क्रय एवं भंडार/Sr. Head, Purchase & Stores

U.P.RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH) E-Tender Notice	
<b>Superintending Engineer, MMC, Harduaganj 'D'TPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)</b> 1. Short Term E-Tender No. SET-03/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2022, Online e-bids are invited for the Supply of Anhydrous Ammonia for Selective catalytic Reduction (SCR) system of 1x660 MW, HTPS, Kasimpur, E-tender will be uploaded up to 23.02.2022 on <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> . Estimated cost of work Rs. 20803500. EMD cost Rs. 105000. Last date of Tender 09.03.2022. <b>Note-</b> Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers/ their Authorized Dealer can participate in this tender. Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part- I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part-II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website ( <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> ) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website <a href="http://www.uprvnl.org">www.uprvnl.org</a> . The contactors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/ Division. Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. <b>Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)</b> पत्रांक : 07 /अधीअधि(मु0) / विज्ञापन / कैम्प-1(06) / 22 दिनांक 22.02.2022 <b>"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"</b>	

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001		Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001	
<b>O.A. No. 501/19 Dt. 14-02-2022</b> <b>VIJAYA BANK</b> (Now Bank of Baroda) Applicant Versus <b>SH. NIRAJ KUMAR &amp; ORS.</b> Respondent <b>Defendants</b> 1. Sh. Niraj Kumar S/o Sh. Manoj Kumar, E-5/738, Ground Floor, Gali No. 5, Ganesh Nagar-II, Delhi-92 Also at: 331, Ground Floor, Om Vihar, Phase-I, Shiv Shankar Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59, Also at: B-36, 2nd Floor, Madhuban Preet Vihar, Delhi-92 2. M/s Krishna Traders, E-5/738, Ground Floor, Gali No. 5, Ganesh Nagar-II, Delhi-92 Also at: 331, Ground Floor, Om Vihar, Phase-I, Shiv Shankar Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59 3. Smt. Vanisha Gava W/o Sh. Niraj Kumar, R/o B-36, 2nd Floor, Madhuban Preet Vihar, Delhi-92 4. Smt. Reena Devi (Guarantor) W/o Sh. Manoj Kumar, R/o D-15/674, Gali No. 4, Shakarpur, Delhi-92 Also at: House No. 181, Vill. Maunawapur Mahnar, PO-Sahdei Bujurg Vill-Vaishali, Bihar-844506 Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 43,11,047.53 (Rs Forty Three Lakh Eleven Thousand Forty Seven and Paise Fifty Three Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 04-08-2022 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence. <b>Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-</b> (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application / software; (ii) Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/and Recovery Officer-II shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself of DRT Official Portal i.e. <a href="http://drt.gov.in">drt.gov.in</a> . (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph.No. 23748478. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 14th day of Feb., 2022 By order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar, DRT-II, Delhi	<b>O.A. No. 502/19 Dt. 14-02-2022</b> <b>VIJAYA BANK</b> (Now Bank of Baroda) Applicant Versus <b>Smt. Vanisha Gava &amp; Anr.</b> Respondent <b>Defendants</b> 1. Smt. Vanisha Gava W/o Sh. Niraj Kumar, Sole Proprietor of M/s Tanisha Traders, D-15/674, 3rd Floor, Gali No. 4, Ganesh Nagar-2, Near Krishna Mandir, Delhi-92, Also at: 331, Ground Floor, Om Vihar, Phase-I, Shiv Shankar Road Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59, Also at: B-36, 2nd Floor, Madhuban Preet Vihar, Delhi-92 2. M/s Tanisha Traders Proprietor Smt. Vanisha Gava, D-15/674, 3rd Floor, Gali No. 4, Ganesh Nagar-2, Near Krishna Mandir, Delhi-92, Also at: 331, Ground Floor, Om Vihar, Phase-I, Shiv Shankar Road Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59 Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 29,17,017.43 (Rs Twenty Nine Lakh Seventeen Thousand Seventeen and Paise Forty Three Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 04-08-2022 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence. <b>Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-</b> (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application / software; (ii) Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/and Recovery Officer-II shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself of DRT Official Portal i.e. <a href="http://drt.gov.in">drt.gov.in</a> . (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph.No. 23748478. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 14th day of Feb., 2022 By order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar, DRT-II, Delhi		

U.P.RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH) E-Tender Notice	
<b>Superintending Engineer, MMC, Harduaganj 'D'TPS.</b> 1. Short Term E-Tender No. SET-02/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2022, Online e-bids are invited for the "Insurance policy for standard fire and special perils (Flood, Tempset & Inundation including all inbuilt perils & earthquake) (Fire declaration Policy) for risk coverage of Stock Inventory (spares) of 1x660 MW." The Cost (Book Value) is approx Rs. 230 crore. E-tender will be uploaded up to 19.02.2022 on <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> . Estimated cost Rs. 2500000 Only. E.M.D Cost Rs. Nil only. Last date of Tender 07.03.2022. <b>SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-I, HTPS, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH)</b> 2. E-Tender Notice No. ET-01/O&MC-IAHD 'C' TPS/HTPS/2021-2022, Online e-bids are invited for the Round the Clock Operation, Routine, Preventive & Breakdown Mechanical Maintenance Works of Ash Handling Plant of Unit No. 07, 'C'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur for a period of one year, E-tender has been uploaded on 19.02.2022 on <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> . Estimated cost of work Rs. 28,63,643.00 Only. Time period one year, EMD Rs. 57,275.00, Last date of Tender 04.04.2022 at 13:00 Hrs. <b>SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-II, D'TPS, KASIMPUR</b> 3. E-Tender Notice No. 36/O&MC-II/BMD-I/21-22, Online e-bids are invited for the "Break-down maintenance of ESP & Daily routine maintenance of ESP of Unit # 8 & 9, 2x250 MW" E-tender has been uploaded on 21.02.2022 on <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> . Estimated cost of work Rs. 7,51,000.00. Time period one year, E.M.D cost Rs. 15,100.00, Last date of Tender 23.03.2022 at 14:00 Hrs. Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part- I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part-II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website ( <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> ) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website <a href="http://www.uprvnl.org">www.uprvnl.org</a> . The contactors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/ Division. Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. <b>Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)</b> पत्रांक : 06 /अधीअधि(मु0) / विज्ञापन / कैम्प-1(05) / 22 दिनांक 21.02.2022 <b>"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"</b>	

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)		
Sl. Tender Inviting Agency/CE/MECH/COAL	Specification No. and Description of works / Materials	Est. date & time for submission of Tender
1.	COAL (Ship) - 99 / dt.21.02.2022, Time Chartering of Two Self Trimming Panamax Gearless Vessels for 3 months +3 months Option +/- 1 month Option, for transportation of coal. ITEM 1: One vessel with laydays from 20th to 30th April 2022 ITEM 2: Second vessel with laydays from 12th to 27th May 2022	28.03.2022 Up to 14.30 Hours
The tender Specification can be down loaded from the websites, <a href="http://www.tangedco.gov.in">www.tangedco.gov.in</a> , <a href="http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in">www.tenders.tn.gov.in</a> , <a href="https://tenders.gov.in/nicgeppapp">https://tenders.gov.in/nicgeppapp</a> at free of cost. Tender will be opened through the NIC Portal. DIPR/725/Tender/2022 CHIEF ENGINEER/MECHANICAL/COAL "சாத்தனம் கட்டுதல் கருவிகளைப் புகட்டும், சாத்தனம் புதிதில் எரித்திரும் புகட்டும்."		
IRCON INTERNATIONAL LTD. (A Govt. of India Undertaking) Web: <a href="http://www.ircon.org">www.ircon.org</a> , CIN - L45203DL1976G0008171 e-Procurement Notice		
e-Tender No. : IRCON/3017/SGBP/eTender/Works/VUPs/Stage-2/ET-01 Dated : 25.02.2022 e-tender is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for "Execution of Vehicle Under Passes at Km 320.100 & Km 331.500 of 4-Laning of Shivpur-Guna Section of NH-3 from Km 236.000 to Km 332.100 in the state of Madhya Pradesh (Stage-II)". <b>Estimated Cost of Work Rs. 50.14 Crore (Including GST)</b> <b>EMD Rs. 31.10 Lakh</b> <b>Last Date and Time of e-Bid Submission 21.03.2022 (15.00 hrs.)</b> For further details, visit website <a href="https://tenders.gov.in/eprocure/app">https://tenders.gov.in/eprocure/app</a> . Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the website. Chief General Manager/NW C-4, District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017, email- <a href="mailto:masood.ahmad@ircon.org">masood.ahmad@ircon.org</a>		

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.	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MANESAR	CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENT OF PARK IN NAWADA FATEHPUR VILLAGE IN MC MANESAR + 1 NOS. WORKS	23.02.2022 07.03.2022	98.40 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8851125640
2.	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MANESAR	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF OPEN GYM AND R.C.C BENCH OF VARIOUS VILLAGES IN MC MANESAR	23.02.2022 07.03.2022	23.07 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8851125640
7821/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: <a href="http://www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in">www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in</a> or <a href="http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in">www.etenders.hry.nic.in</a>						

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.	UHBVN	3 PHASE 11KV/433-250V, 16 KVA OIL IMMERSER, NATURALLY COOLED ALUMINIUM WOUND OUTDOOR TYPE DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS AS PER NIGAM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION NO. CSC-HIIR-VI/DH/HP&D/2020-21	18.02.2022 21.03.2022	EMD 2 LACS	<a href="http://uhbvsn.org.in">uhbvsn.org.in</a>	9467688888 <a href="mailto:cmrn@uhbvsn.org.in">cmrn@uhbvsn.org.in</a>
2.	UHBVN	3 PHASE 11KV/433-250V, 20 KVA OIL IMMERSER, NATURALLY COOLED ALUMINIUM WOUND OUTDOOR TYPE DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS AS PER NIGAM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION NO. CSC-173R/1-10DH/HP&D/2020-21	23.02.2022 28.03.2022	EMD 2 LACS	<a href="http://uhbvsn.org.in">uhbvsn.org.in</a>	9467688888 <a href="mailto:cmrn@uhbvsn.org.in">cmrn@uhbvsn.org.in</a>
7819/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: <a href="http://www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in">www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in</a> or <a href="http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in">www.etenders.hry.nic.in</a>						

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED e-Procurement Notice	
Tender Reference No.- JUIDCO Ltd/TENDER/CREM/KOLHAN/2970/2022/455 Date:- 24/02/2022	
1	Name of Work
2	Estimated Cost
3	Time of Completion
4	Date of Publication of Tender on Website
5	Last Date/Time of Submission of Bids
6	Last Date/Time of Submission of Bid Security and Tender
7	Date/Time of opening of Bid
8	Name & Address of office Inviting tender
9	Helpline Number of e-procurement Cell
Construction of Electric Crematorium (Gas Fired) at Adityapur, Chaibasa, Saraikela and Jugsalai under Kolhan Division, Jharkhand. Rs. 11,78,28,833.00 only (Rupees Eleven Crore Seventy-Eight Lac Twenty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Three Only) 12 Months (Including Monsoon & Mobilization Period) 25/02/2022 at 5:00 PM 22/03/2022 upto 5.00 P.M. 23/03/2022 upto 5.00 P.M. 23/03/2022 at 5.30 P.M. e-Procurement Cell JUIDCO Ltd., 3rd floor, Pragati Sadan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi. 0651-2225878 Further details can be seen on website <a href="http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in">http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> Sd/- <b>Project Director (Tech.), e-Procurement Cell, JUIDCO, Ranchi</b> PR 264765 Urban Development and Housing (21-22)_D	

GUJARAT METRO RAIL CORPORATION (GMRC) LIMITED (SPV of Govt. of India and Govt. of Gujarat) Block No.1, First Floor, Karmayogi Bhavan, Sector 10/A, Gandhinagar: 382010, Gujarat. (CIN): U60200GJ2010SGC059407 આણંદ મેટ્રો IFB No: GMRC/CONS/VDCT+STNS/PKG-CS6/PH-1/2022 Date: 25.02.2022	
Bids are invited from reputed and experienced Contractors for the following tender:	
Tender Name	Tender Fees
"Construction of 8.702 kms elevated viaduct and 7 nos. stations (Excl. E&M, Architectural Finishing and Roofing) from Majura Gate (Ch. 9090 m) to Saroli Dead End (Ch. 17791.851 m) under coridor-2 in connection with Surat Metro Rail Project Phase - I"	INR 50,000/-
Interested bidders are requested to visit <a href="https://gmrc.nprocure.com">https://gmrc.nprocure.com</a> , <a href="http://www.gujaratmetrorail.com">www.gujaratmetrorail.com</a> and <a href="http://www.gtai.ee">www.gtai.ee</a> for eligibility criteria, applying/ downloading the Bid document. Last date and time for Bid Submissions is 15:00 Hrs. on 16.04.2022. Any alterations in Eligibility Criteria cum Qualification Requirements, and terms of the Tender Document, or any amendment to the Tender Document, etc, will be uploaded on <a href="https://gmrc.nprocure.com">https://gmrc.nprocure.com</a> and GMRC's Website <a href="http://www.gujaratmetrorail.com">www.gujaratmetrorail.com</a> without any obligation or press notification or other proclamation. Sd/- <b>Managing Director, GMRC, Gandhinagar</b>	

DIRECTORACTE EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING CHHATTISGARH First floor, Block-4, Indravati Bhawan, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar Pin 492002 Telephone 0771-2510115 Email-dttrgg@rediffmail.com, <a href="http://www.cgiti.cgstate.gov.in">www.cgiti.cgstate.gov.in</a>	
Ref. No. 305/SPIU/DET/2022/742	Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur Dated-22 Feb, 2022
Invitation of Expression of interest (Eoi)	
State Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) invited proposals from a firm of Chartered Accountants having an experience of 10 years in the field of internal audit assignments, The Scope of work, term and conditions, etc. are detailed in the Eoi Information Document, which can be downloaded from our website i.e. <a href="https://cgiti.cgstate.gov.in/">https://cgiti.cgstate.gov.in/</a> The Complete proposal may be submitted in a sealed envelope at the address mentioned below. latest by 5.00 PM on 16, March 2022 along with documents Annexure II & III: State Project Director (	



# UEFA to move Champions League final out of Russia

The invasion of Ukraine has forced a rethink in many sports that were scheduled to take place in Russia in the coming months; evoking strong condemnation as well

## UEFA in solidarity with Ukraine

RUSSIA WILL be stripped of hosting the Champions League final in St Petersburg after launching a wide-ranging attack on Ukraine according to UEFA. An extraordinary meeting of the UEFA executive committee will be held on Friday to discuss the geopolitical crisis and when officials are set to confirm taking the May 28 showpiece game out of Russia. UEFA did publicly rebuke Russia and said it was dealing with the situation with the utmost seriousness and urgency. "UEFA shares the international community's significant concern for the security situation developing in Europe and strongly condemns the ongoing Russian military invasion in Ukraine," the governing body said in a statement. "We remain resolute in our solidarity with the football community in Ukraine and stand ready to extend our hand to the Ukrainian people." ?Wembley and Spurs stadium and London Stadium of West Ham are options.

## Energy giant sponsor dumped

As Russia's threats toward Ukraine had grown through the week, British government and fan groups had already called for the final not to be played in St Petersburg where the stadium is sponsored by Russian state-owned energy giant Gazprom. The company is also the main sponsor of Schalke but the German second-division club said on Thursday that the Gazprom logo was being removed from its jerseys. A senior Gazprom executive also quit the supervisory board of the Gelsenkirchen-based club after being a target of US sanctions. Matthias Warnig is CEO of the newly built but never operated Russia to Germany Nord Stream 2 pipeline which is a multi-billion dollar project of Gazprom and European companies. Critics said Schalke was used to popularize Gazprom in Germany as it pushed to construct the gas pipelines under the Baltic Sea which bypassed Ukraine. Gazprom has been a sponsor since 2006 and provided the cash that fueled a run to the Champions League semifinals in 2011. German newspaper Bild this week began covering the Gazprom logos on Schalke jerseys with Freedom for Ukraine to protest against Russia's deepening military intervention in Ukraine. UEFA's sponsorship by Gazprom is also under scrutiny.

## IOC condemns breach of truce



Schalke removed the logo from jerseys

The International Olympic Committee said it strongly condemns the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government which was intended to secure safe passage for athletes during the Games and in the long term promote the idea of working toward world peace. It runs until the end of the Paralympics which begin March 4. "This is a truly horrible situation and we are greatly concerned about our National Paralympic Committee and Para athletes from Ukraine," IPC President Andrew Parsons said. "Our top priority right now is the safety and wellbeing of the Ukrainian delegation with whom we are in regular dialogue." Russia has violated the Olympic Truce three times in 14 years fighting a war with Georgia over the disputed territory of South Ossetia during the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics, and launching a military takeover that annexed the Crimean peninsula of Ukraine after the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics closed.

## Hosting rights in doubt

Focus is turning to Russia hosting major sports events in the coming months. In basketball, Barcelona said its team would not fly to Russia for two games against Russian teams Zenit St Petersburg and CSKA Moscow on Friday and Sunday in the Euroleague. In rugby European organizers postponed Georgias match with Russia on Sunday in Tbilisi in the Rugby Europe Championship. The women's game between Spain and Russia on Saturday in Madrid was still on. The Ukrainian Premier League suspended football operations on Thursday. In a brief statement the league said the suspension was due to President Volodymyr Zelenskys decision to impose martial law. It did not give any planned date to resume.

AP & REUTERS

## RUSSIA INVADES UKRAINE

# India's top para-athlete worries for his second home, Kharkiv

Tokyo Paralympics bronze medallist Sharad Kumar fears for his longtime Ukrainian coach Nikitin and friends from University, at training base

## NIHAL KOSHIE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

ON EARLY Thursday when explosions were reported in Ukraine's financial hub Kharkiv as Russia launched an invasion, high jump bronze medallist from the Tokyo Paralympics Sharad Kumar feared for his long-time coach Nikitin.

One of the country's top-most Paralympians Sharad calls Kharkiv his second home. He trained with Nikitin for five years in Ukraine's second-largest city, studied business management at its top institute, learnt Russian, made friends and even experienced the tension of pro-Russian unrest in the region.

"I owe all my major medals to coach Nikitin and my training stint in Kharkiv. I used to train with Nikitin in Bangalore (in 2012) when he coached here. Once he left back home, I followed him to Ukraine (in 2017) because it is the 'high jump capital of the world'. Bohdan Bondarenko, the Rio Olympics bronze medalist, trained at the same school in Kharkiv, where I was coached," Sharad says after getting off a call with Nikitin.

The veteran coach told Sharad about looking for safety in an underground bunker because he could hear the bombs. "I feel helpless. I am hoping the coach and his family find a safe place," Sharad added.

He is also anxious because his friends and classmates in Kharkiv, many of them international students, are still stuck in their apartments.

"I got to know that there was a bomb going off next to the apartment in Rybalka where I used to stay," Sharad said.

"I am constantly talking to my friends in Kharkiv. All are crying on the phone saying 'we don't know what to do'. They are all stuck right now. They are from different parts of the world like Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan," Sharad said.

Sharad also struck friendships outside the Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute, where he had enrolled for an MBA course.

One of those who Sharad is trying to help get in touch with embassy officials in Ukraine is Aziz Mansoor Ali Amdawala, a quality control manager at a private firm.

When Amdawala moved to Kharkiv from



Tokyo Paralympics bronze medal winner in the high jump Sharad Kumar with coach Nikitin in Kharkiv, Ukraine, before the 2020 Para Games. Express

Vasai in Mumbai a couple of months ago, he didn't imagine his world would go upside down so fast.

"The building I am staying in is vibrating because of the shocks of explosions kilometres away. I woke up this morning to a loud blast and was afraid that our building could be hit. There has been tension in the region but none of us staying in Kharkiv expected it to turn into a war overnight," Amdawala said.

The first thing he did on Thursday morning was to buy some essentials from a store that was open. "As of now power and water supply are unaffected. There is food and water. Only if the sound of explosions could stop. Some Indian students I know called me to say that we should move out of Kharkiv. I told them to stay put because we don't know how it is outside Kharkiv. I don't know when I can get on a flight back home," he said.

Knowing that a top Paralympian in India is trying to help him move to a safer place is the only reason Amdawala is sane.

Sharad's masters in political science, with specialisation in international relations from JNU in New Delhi, and his stay in Kharkiv helps him understand what is happening on the ground in the Russian-Ukraine crisis. He found time to attend Russian language classes at the Kharkiv Polytechnic institute

when completing his business management course. Sharad can understand Russian and can string together words to make basic conversation.

"During my time in Kharkiv, I felt a number of people were for shared Russian culture and wanted close relations with Russia. Ukraine is like a buffer zone between the East and the West in the modern era. Kharkiv is like a traditional capital. Every winter there was tension in Kharkiv with protests between those who were pro-Russia and others who were not and stand-off near the border," Sharad said.

The 29-year-old from Patna has many takeaways from Kharkiv. "I used to train at the Htz School. If you want world-class facilities you have to go to the United States. But in Kharkiv it is the old Soviet Union approach of there being a method to the training," Sharad said.

He used to train at an indoor facility at the school from 10 am to about 1:30 pm, then go to the Polytechnic Institute to study. "It was so cold. Most of the time you had energy only to train, rest and recover. But I managed to study too and make friends. I won medals for the country because I was able to train in Ukraine. Hope normalcy returns soon and my coach and friends are safe."

# FI's Vettel won't race in Russia after their attack on Ukraine

## ASSOCIATED PRESS

BARCELONA, FEBRUARY 24



FOUR-TIME Formula One champion Sebastian Vettel says he will not race in the Russian Grand Prix in September after Russia

launched a widening attack on Ukraine earlier Thursday, hitting cities and bases with airstrikes or shelling.

After President Vladimir Putin defiantly announced he was launching a military operation Ukraines government said Russian tanks and troops rolled across the border. "I woke up to this mornings to news shocked. I think it's horrible to see what is happening. Obviously if you look at the calendar we have a race scheduled in Russia on Sept 25," Vettel said Thursday at preseason testing in Barcelona. "My own opinion is I should not go. I will not go," he said. "I think it's wrong to race in the country. I'm sorry for the innocent people that are losing their lives, that are getting killed for stupid reasons and a very strange and mad leadership."

The 34-year-old German is head of the Grand Prix Drivers Association, but says they have not yet discussed the matter. "I'm sure it's something we'll talk about," the Aston Martin driver said. "But personally I'm shocked and sad to see what's going on so we will see going forward but I think my decision is already made." World champion Max Verstappen agreed with Vettel but stopped short of saying he'd pull out.

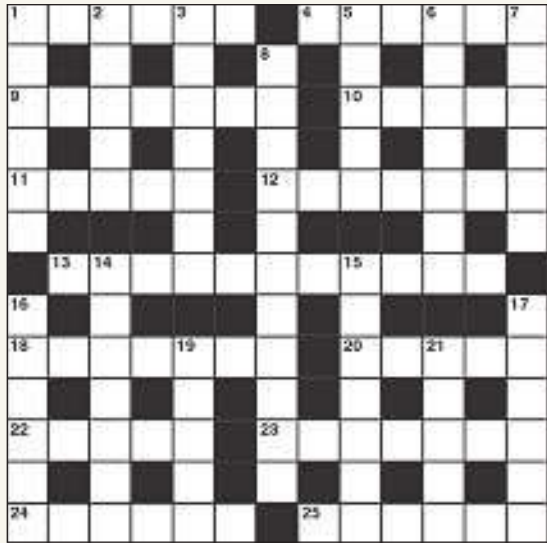
"I think when a country is at war it's not correct to race there, that's for sure," Verstappen said. "But it's not only what I think it's the whole paddock that is going to decide what we are going to do next."

Two-time F1 champion Fernando Alonso said, "We can make our own decisions for sure but eventually I think Formula One will do the best thing." "My wish is that somehow everything will stop very soon. We will have a meeting between us tonight, on how to cope and how to manage with it," Ferrari team principal Mattia Binotto said.

"Williams CEO Jost Capito urged F1 to choose wisely. "It's a very sad situation and our thoughts are with the people who are involved," he said.

"We think about the performance of our cars where other people are scared to lose their lives. We have to have this in mind and were all aligned on this."

## CROSSWORD 4673



### ACROSS

- 1 Creature found wild in Manila (6)
- 4 Tall buildings of the sort we designed (6)
- 9 The internet is back to irritate and fascinate (7)
- 10 A bell-shaped attachment (5)
- 11 Mount is in a bad way (5)
- 12 Much was written on this once (7)
- 13 Prepare to shoot and accept applause (4,4,3)
- 18 Perpetrator of a dark deed (7)
- 20 Cheeky display of embarrassment (5)
- 22 The vegetable is said to be overcooked (5)
- 23 Bill many get accustomed to being charged (7)
- 24 We backed in a vehicle and skidded (6)
- 25 Joins military formations around the East (6)

### DOWN

- 1 Sailor marries Elizabeth - a superior lady (6)
- 2 Article I have written about statesman (5)
- 3 A great step forward in equestrian posture (7)
- 5 Deck or dock (5)
- 6 Measure lawyers try to ban (7)
- 7 Excitement created by the coming down of an astronaut (6)
- 8 Tradesman's entrance (4,7)
- 14 A measure of space and time (7)
- 15 The point of no return (7)
- 16 A taxi's returning to get us. Count on it (6)
- 17 Sunglasses in slightly different colours (6)
- 19 New gold key for the house (5)
- 21 Turn and step out in reverse (5)

Solutions Crossword 4672: Across: 1 Insect, 5 Agree, 8 Plays with fire, 9 Liege, 10 Visible, 11 Moment, 12 Garret, 15 Lenient, 17 Therm, 19 Schoolmasters, 20 Apple, 21 Senator. Down: 1 Impel, 2 Statesmanship, 3 Eastern, 4 Thief, 5 Ashes, 6 Reimbursement, 7 Everest, 11 Melissa, 13 Artisan, 14 Stamps, 16 Elope, 18 Miser.

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## 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.

Without work, all life goes rotten. But when work is \_\_\_\_, life stifles and dies.

- Albert Camus (8)

KPYEO

\_\_\_\_\_

DORSS

\_\_\_\_\_

EMSYLL

\_\_\_\_\_

AABCSU

\_\_\_\_\_

SOLUTION: POKEY, DROSS, SMELLY, ABACUS Answer: Without work, all life goes rotten. But when work is soulless, life stifles and dies. - Albert Camus

## SUDOKU 4756

### Difficulty Level 2s

#### Instructions

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

### Difficulty Level

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



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4755



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)



This is very much a time to behave in accord with your true nature, and not necessarily let everyone else know what you are thinking. However, in financial discussions, you must take the right people into your confidence. And, after the last few days, that might not be easy.

### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)



Sometimes it's in your interests to refuse to be pushed. It is fortunate indeed that you didn't agree to a final settlement some time ago, because what is now on offer could well be the genuine article. The last thing you want to do is turn down a golden opportunity.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)



By all means off-load some of your family responsibilities, if only because now other people must shoulder their fair share of the burden. You need more time by yourself to pursue your own private interests. But time, at the moment, is a commodity in short supply.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)



Hopefully you should now be able to establish considerably more control over career and cash matters. You may even be prepared to concede that a recent struggle was not such a bad thing at all. You have to face the truth, but not at the cost of your own happiness.

### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)



Even when life is going well, you must make sure that you aren't getting out of your depth. If you are already stretched to the limit, do not put yourself out or try to defend those who have only themselves to blame for their current sticky predicaments.

### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)



Both your emotional needs and long-term financial arrangements are coming under scrutiny. Differences over spending priorities may be a cause of friction with partners or colleagues. On the other hand, if you stick to romantic encounters you could have a splendid time.

### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)



It may seem inconceivable that you were ever distraught over an emotional or partnership problem. Now you may switch your attention to more immediate matters, like how to pay for your current plans, and how to persuade people you live with that you know what you're talking about.

### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)



All your instincts and hunches urge you to keep major plans to a minimum, including travel proposals. Do not expect colleagues, friends or relatives to turn up trumps on your behalf. Only you can ultimately secure the goals that are now so important.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)



You may have come to feel that partners or close associates have only themselves to blame for a dilemma. However, that is no reason at all to be too proud to refuse to offer a helping hand. After all, there are people out there who have done you a good turn in the past.

### CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)



It seems to be some time since you were truly encouraged to prove just how independent and strong-willed you can be. However, now you must realise that being assertive is not the same as being self-interested. Above all, this is a moment for a complete and totally fresh start in every area of your life.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)



Current planetary activity denotes that certain childish and unenlightened individuals have been unable or unwilling to appreciate your true gifts. Ignore such insults and carry on with what you know to be right. Your grasp of the underlying truth is one of your gifts at the moment.

### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)



Consider settling your differences and accept an offer which allows you greater freedom to practise your skills. It is not in your nature to take on a role which denies you the chance to be an individual. However, it is now in your interests to work for a much better world.



## RODNEY MARSH CRITICAL

Australia wicket-keeping legend Rodney Marsh is in a critical condition at a Queensland hospital after suffering a heart attack on Thursday. The 74-year-old Marsh suffered the heart attack on the way to a charity event at Bundaberg in Queensland. He was rushed to the hospital by the organisers.

PTI

## BRIEFLY

## Harmanpreet, Mandhana lead India to consolation win

**Queentown:** Harmanpreet Kaur struck a much-needed half-century to get back among the runs as the Indian women's cricket team finally managed to beat New Zealand in the series-ending fifth ODI for a consolation six-wicket win here on Thursday. The Indian bowlers, who under-performed prior to the game, finally got their act together to limit New Zealand to 251 for nine in 50 overs. India chased the down the target in 46 overs courtesy Harmanpreet's 63 off 66 balls and Smriti Mandhana's 71 off 84 balls. Skipper Mithali Raj remained unbeaten on 57 off 66 balls.

**BRIEF SCORES:** New Zealand 251/9 in 50 overs (Kerr 66; Rana 2/40, Deepti 2/42, Gayakwad 2/61) lost to India 252/4 in 46 overs (Mandhana 71, Harmanpreet 63, Raj 54\*; Jensen 1/29) by six wickets

## Strandja Memorial: Nikhat, Nitu in semis

**New Delhi:** Former junior world champion Nikhat Zareen (52kg) and Nitu (48kg) entered the semifinals of the 73rd Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament but two other Indians bowed out after preliminary stage losses. While Nikhat defeated England's Charley Davison 5-0, Nitu pulled off an equally impressive victory by a similar margin against Italy's Roberta Bonatti. The 25-year-old Nikhat won a gold medal in the 2019 edition of the event. Earlier, Sumit Kundu (75kg) and Anamika (50kg) lost their respective preliminary stage bouts.

## Asian Cup qualies: Ind get favourable draw

**New Delhi:** The Indian team was on Thursday drawn alongside Hong Kong, Afghanistan and Cambodia in Group D of the 2023 AFC Asian Cup final round qualifiers to be played in Kolkata in June this year. The participating 24 teams have been divided into six groups. The six group winners and the five best second-placed teams will earn a ticket to the AFC Asian Cup in China in 2023.

**FIXTURES:** June 8: India vs Cambodia; June 11: Afghanistan vs India; June 14: India vs Hong Kong

## Odisha hold ATK Mohun Bagan

**Vasco da Gama:** Ten-man ATK Mohun Bagan failed to close the gap at the top after being held to a 1-1 draw by Odisha FC in the Indian Super League here on Thursday. It was an unhappy throwback on Thursday of sorts for the Mariners who were held to a 0-0 stalemate by Odisha in the first leg as well. Redeem Tlang (5th) opened the scoring for Odisha, who are already out of contention for a semifinal spot, but Joni Kauko (8th P) made it 1-1 from the spot at the Tilak Maidan Stadium. The result means ATKMB remained in third place with 31 points from 17 games, level with second-placed Jamshedpur FC, who will take on NorthEast United FC on Friday. Odisha remained in seventh spot with 23 points from 18 games.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

## Kishan, Iyer seize the day

Batsmen slam fiery fifties in the absence of regulars as India beat Sri Lanka by 62 runs in first T20I

ABHISHEK PUROHIT  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

WITH REGULARS such as KL Rahul, Virat Kohli, Rishabh Pant and Suryakumar Yadav absent, two batters grabbed their chance in the first T20I against Sri Lanka in Lucknow: Ishan Kishan and Shreyas Iyer. Kishan, who had a strike-rate of 110 heading into Thursday's match, finally cracked the opening puzzle this season with 89 off 56 deliveries, his highest T20I score. Iyer, who had been benched for two of the three West Indies T20Is, slammed an unbeaten 57 off 28, his fastest international fifty in the format.

An opening stand of 111 inside 12 overs between Kishan and captain Rohit Sharma (44 off 32) was capitalised upon by India taking 44 off the last three overs courtesy Shreyas Iyer. A total of 199 for 2 was always going to be tough against Jasprit Bumrah & Co; Sri Lanka lost Pathum Nissanka off the first ball of the chase to Bhuvneshwar Kumar and their pursuit never took off. The ball continued to grip in the second innings, negating the visitors' expected advantage of winning the toss, and resulted in a massive 62-run win for the hosts.

Sri Lanka managed 29 for 2 in their Powerplay, whereas Kishan had propelled India to 58 for 0 after the first six overs, of which his contribution was 39 off 22.

Over the past couple of seasons, Kishan has had to develop his off-side game; his go-to hitting areas were midwicket and square leg – they still are – but he's worked on his range on the other side of the ground as bowlers would go wider to deny him the slog.

"I was not good at playing shots through covers but I have worked a lot in this off-season. If I get the ball over there, definitely I'll go for it because it's something that you know every team plans for you. They know what is the weak spot and where they have to bowl to us. So we need to practice that in the off-season," Kishan had said during IPL 2020.

In Lucknow, Kishan's first three boundaries, successive ones off Chamika Karunaratne in the third over, were through the off side, both in front and behind square. He doesn't really lean forward but reaches out instead to squeeze the ball into the gaps, like he did to run it past short third man a few times. Another standout was how he used the wrists, even while lifting the ball over



Ishan Kishan scored a 56-ball 89 (10x4, 3x6) and posted a 111-run opening-wicket partnership with captain Rohit Sharma, who scored 44. PTI

midwicket where usually he gives it the big slog-swing of the arms.

Kishan had hit 56 off 32 as opener on his T20I debut against England in Ahmedabad last year. But he failed to fire at the top against New Zealand in the T20 World Cup, and kept getting stuck against West Indies at Eden Gardens – 35 off 42, 2 off 10 and 34 off 31.

For someone who becomes a runaway train when he gets going, Kishan – dropped on 43 – does have the tendency to suddenly stop in his tracks. It happened on Thursday,

where he went without a boundary for 10 balls after entering the 70s. It wasn't easy to hit, of course, when the bowlers took the pace off, but with Kishan, what can happen is he'll start swinging harder and harder instead of getting off strike.

You can see why they want him to kick-start the innings. He's opened all along for Jharkhand in T20s, so he has the experience, and strikes at 170.55 in seven opportunities at Mumbai Indians. He's spoken about trying to learn from Kieron Pollard and Hardik

## Ranji: 'Keeper-batsman Anmol puts a price on his wicket for Punjab

PRATYUSH RAJ  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

OVER THE past 18 months **Anmol Malhotra** waited anxiously for red-ball cricket to resume.



The pandemic-related cancellation of the 2020-21 Ranji Trophy season resulted in the wicketkeeper-batter experiencing sleepless nights. He worried about when his next First-Class game would be. The initial uncertainty about the on-going season made matters worse for him. He was itching to get back after an impressive debut season for Punjab in 2019-20. He scored 468 runs, including three half-centuries and one century. He also had 27 dismissals.

Malhotra is not a regular in the white-ball cricket for Punjab and he is also someone who doesn't have a lucrative IPL contract like his fellow teammates. "For a player like me, who is not a regular in the white-ball cricket, doesn't have an IPL contract, it has been a tough couple of years. I had a very good debut season, and the way things were going, I might have made

it to the India 'A' squad or the Board President XI squad," Malhotra told *The Indian Express*.

On a Thursday, on a greenish Kotla track against Haryana, the right-handed batter slammed his second First-Class century and was involved in a valuable 163-run stand with Mandeep Singh. Malhotra scored a 128-ball 100, while former Punjab captain Mandeep Singh remained unbeaten on 130.

When Malhotra walked to bat, Punjab were 165 for 4 and another wicket at that stage could have put Haryana on top. But Malhotra did what he does the best, drop anchor and rebuild the innings in the company of Mandeep. He broke the shackles with a couple of sixes off Nishant Sindhu's bowling and started a counter-attack. "It is a green top, and the ball was moving around the entire day. And at that stage, if we had lost a wicket, the match would have turned in Haryana's favour. Mandy *paji* (Mandeep) was solid at one end, and I decided to play shots from the other. It worked in our favour," said Malhotra.

Malhotra has played only 10 first-class matches but has formed a strong bond with his senior batter Mandeep. It was the third time the duo had shared a century partnership.

"I love batting with Mandy *paji*. There is a

## Other storylines

## RAHANE 0, PUJARA 8

Ajinkya Rahane, Cheteshwar Pujara, and pacer Ishant Sharma had disappointing outings in their respective matches. Ishant, playing for Delhi, bowled only four overs against Jharkhand. Rahane was out for a three-ball duck against Goa and Pujara scored only 8 in Saurashtra's first innings against Odisha.

## INDIA U-19 STARS

**Yash Dhull:** Following back-to-back centuries against Tamil Nadu, India Under-19 captain Dhull managed only five runs in the first innings against Jharkhand.

lot of assurance when he is at the other end. What worked in our partnership was our running between the wickets. We rotated the strike regularly and played perfect foil to each other," said Malhotra.

**Raj Bawa:** The all-rounder scored a fighting 32 against Baroda as Chandigarh got bundled out for a paltry 168. In reply, Baroda were 80 for 1 at the stumps.

**Vicky Ostwal:** The left-arm spinner, making his first-class debut for Maharashtra, went wicketless against Vidarbha. Batting first, Vidarbha were 270 for 3.

**Nishant Sindhu:** The Haryana all-rounder was taken to the cleaners by Punjab, leaking 94 runs in his 19 overs.

**Shaik Rasheed:** India Under-19 vice-captain and Andhra's No.3 Rasheed scored 23 runs on his first-class debut against Services. Andhra were 277 for 3 at the end of the day's play.

In his maiden season, at Valsad, where Punjab lost to Gujarat by 110 runs, Malhotra scored his maiden century and gave his team a fighting chance. His brave unbeaten 51 on a dustbowl at Patiala helped Punjab register a

four-wicket win over Andhra.

Malhotra has been known as the crisis man for Punjab since his junior cricket days. He was part of teams that won two Colonel CK Nayudu Trophies and an under-23 one-day cup.

He owes his temperament to the grind of junior cricket. Malhotra was a middle-order batsman and a budding leg spinner in childhood when his coaches, Kiran Kumar and Dilip Yadav, asked him to don the wicket-keeping gloves. "I was 10 and captain of our academy. We had no wicketkeeper available in one match, and I was asked to keep. From then on, leg-spin took a back seat," he shared.

Malhotra grew up in a middle-class working family in Patiala, where his father, Rajkumar Malhotra, was a manager in Punjab National Bank, while his mother, Rajneesh Malhotra, worked for the Indian Railways. "Even though no one in the family was into any sport, I received great support from my parents for cricket. During Covid-19, when there was no cricket, my parents supported me thoroughly. I want to give them a good life and hopefully one day a house of their own," he signed off.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Punjab 368 for 5 in 88 overs (Mandeep Singh 130 not out, Anmol Malhotra 100; Ajit Chahal 2/55)

## PERSONAL BEST

## Shot putter Krishna breaches 15m mark, takes silver at US Conference c'ship

SHIVANI NAIK  
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 24

IT IS the repeated, booming bombardment of monster shot put throws all around her – not just her Conference Championships silver-winning 15m indoor mark – that has India's Krishna Jayasankar elated about how her freshman season is going at the University of Texas in El Paso. Every time a famed name from NCAA ranks unfurls a big one at the wrap of American university's indoor track & field season, Krishna feels more revved up to improve her own performance.

"I got to see Jorinde van Klinken of Arizona State University, coached by Vikas Gowda's former coach, throw 18-19m. And then Turner Washington, a big star, was throwing 21 m. They both have their signature moves and have much superior strength and explosive power. I felt so bad throwing just 14m, that it pushed me to raise my targets immediately," she says of being amongst the world's elite and riffing off their performance. Krishna started the season at 14.10m, but over a series of meets, has hit the 15-mark, while heading into the out-

door season where her main event Discus will come up. "Shotput in US Collegiate is like Diamond League level. Very competitive. You have to throw 18m to be amongst the top," says the 18-year-old.

Scouted out by the El Paso University for a scholarship seat last fall, Krishna hiked up to the US from her base in Jamaica, where she was training the previous year. Daughter of tall basketball internationals from Chennai, Prasanna Jayasankar and Jayasankar Menon, Krishna hadn't felt the pangs of independent living so much, as when she initially shifted to Kingston.

"Jamaica will always be special because that's where I threw 48.27 and was picked by Texas. I'll miss the old ladies who I chatted with on public transport buses and I'll miss the Jamaican beef patty. But I was training around and watching big names like Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce and my training mentor buddy was Chad Wright, who finished 9th at Tokyo. And he drilled in virtues of staying patient for the performance to show up, and following coach's words to me," she recalls.

At El Paso, it was acceptance of the struggle. "The body is so tired at the end of training and academics every day, there's no time for self-



Krishna Jayashankar, 18, competes in the US collegiate level.

But every day, there's also the realisation that khudke bartan dhone hai, khana pakana hai (you have to do dishes, cook) and always a pile of laundry to be done," laughs the first Indian female to land a Throws scholarship in the US.

Training at Texas has been about doubling the intensity to build a base of strength and explosive power. Her coach Mika Laaksonen, a former UTEP graduate and hammer throw stu-

dent-athlete himself, has put Krishna on the path that American-European coaches follow: heavy emphasis on lifting. The endless plyometrics, and bar repetitions on the push press, incline squats over 4 sessions, leaves her giddy, fatigued and very sore. "Then you have ancillary exercises on hyperextension and then you run to classes and come back and cook," she narrates breathlessly.

Technique-wise, Laaksonen went all Physics-textbook on Krishna, she chuckles. "In the beginning, I was boggled when he spoke of orbit and linearity and it felt like a physics class. But I have full loyalty towards his teachings, so even if he suggests a tweak an evening before a meet – as he did at New Mexico when I got my personal best, I believed in him and followed his words," she says. "You need speed on throws no matter what. But what he's helped me with are weight transitions," she adds.

"When I look around and compare my discus throws, it's crap right now and technique looked awful. But the coach has assured me not worry, things will fall in place as the outdoor season takes off," she says of hectic activity a month from now. Krishna is targeting 53-55 m range, though she reckons her target

could be as close as qualifying for the 2024 Games. "After 50 m, every centimetre counts. I'm just grateful and acknowledge my privilege that I'm getting to train with the best," she says.

"An 11-year-old in 6th Grade had dreamt of this student-athlete life in a US college. I want to make the most of it."

Culturally, Krishna has picked pace in her speed of English. "My favourite words are 'Pardon me, Say that again' because they talk so fast here," she says, on rapid-fire mode herself. But moving to the US was different from what she had anticipated. "I had been to Miami and New York before. But El Paso is altogether different. This wasn't the America I had thought of," she guffaws. But she enjoys the familiarity of her regular Chipotle, and a sight that sends her into a double-take every now and then. "Whenever I go to the gas station, I can literally see Mexico across the road! It amazes me each time."

Perhaps the biggest shift in academics as she keeps her GPA targets ("you can't compete if grades fall"), was in the very basic requirement of typing out assignments. "In Indian CBSE, we write pen on paper. Here everything is on the computer. And I wasn't good at typing

and formatting at all," she laughs.

The indoor meet also saw her debut with a rubber shotput used instead of an iron ball. "The volume and area on the rubber one are higher, so you need bigger palms. I have very small hands so it was quite an adjustment initially," she recalls.

Her fellow University athletes come from Jamaica, Bulgaria, Finland, Puerto Rico, Kenya and Mexico, but Krishna has struck one of her best friendships with a teammate who fashions her braids. "I'd been wanting to try it ever since I was in Jamaica but never got the chance. They are very fancy and light, and I'll do them again for Conference outdoors. My teammate took around two hours, because my hair is pretty long and plus she had to add extensions," she says of her electric blue trails to the pretty braid pattern.

Krishna Jayasankar has made it to UTEP's 4th best throws with her silver. "But Samantha Hall is something of a legend here in discus. She wished me good luck, and I told her, Girl, I'm going to break your 58.50 metre record soon," she chuckles. Just like that, training amongst the elite, Krishna has her next target set.