## **The Indian EXPRESS**

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

**DELHI DEMARCHE AFTER OIC** 

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**SINCE 1932** 

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### DHAMI BEGINS TERM TWO

PM Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Uttar Pradesh CM-designate Yogi Adityanath, Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel at the oath-taking ceremony in Dehradun Wednesday. PTI PAGE 8

### India tops \$400-billion target for goods exports

**KARUNJITSINGH** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

AS INDIA surpassed its merchandise export target of \$400 billion set for FY2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday hailed the achievement as "a key milestone" in the country's "Aatmanirbhar Bharat journey".

The target was achieved with 10 days to spare - exports crossed \$400.8 billion on March 21 and there's a likelihood that CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**JOHNSON TA** 

& APURVA VISHWANATH

IN A ruling that could help shape

the debate on marital rape, the

Wednesday refused to quash

BENGALURU, NEW DELHI

Karnataka High

**HEAR VOICES OF SILENCE: COURT** 

Rape is rape, even if man

is husband: Karnataka HC

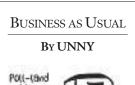


**HEADWINDS TO the** global economy due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, withdrawal of policy support by global central banks, and increasing protectionist measures could hit global trade sentiment going forward.

rape charges filed by a wife

against her husband, defying the

act; rape is a rape, be it performed





### Wang Yi's J&K remark: India hits

back, names him We don't speak in public on your

internal issues: MEA message to China

**SHUBHAJIT ROY** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

AT A time when New Delhi is still to confirm a visit by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, India Wednesday "rejected" what it said were "uncalled for" comments he made while referring to Jammu and Kashmir at a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Islamabad.

It reminded the leadership in Beijing that "India refrains from public judgement of their internal issues". This has been conveved in a demarche sent via



Wang Yi, Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Islamabad on Wednesday. Reuters

diplomatic channels, The Indian Express has learnt.

This could impact the fate of Wang's visit expected this week. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

### Lviv Ukraine's small haven of peace and transit for those fleeing war



**KRISHN KAUSHIK** 

exception in law, and, instead, called on lawmakers to hear the 'voices of silence." "A man is a man: an act is an

by a man the 'husband' on the woman 'wife'," a single-judge CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 THE FRONTLINE

LVIV (UKRAINE), MARCH 23 ABOUT 70 km from the border



A checkpost outside Lviv. Krishn Kaushik

with Poland, Lviv in Ukraine has become the main transit point for all those fleeing the war. Located in the western part of

the country, this city has largely been untouched by Russia's invasion. But on the road from the border, there are reminders.

The city's limits are guarded by volunteers and the police, with a checkpost marked by sand bags, barbed wire, concrete blocks, tyres and metal slabs. Smaller checkposts can be seen outside every village and town, even if some are left unguarded. Everyone is prepared, in case the war comes west.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

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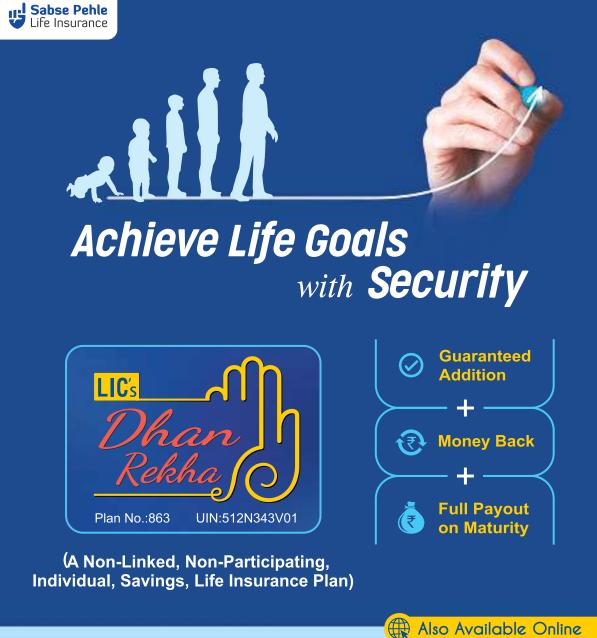


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#### INDIAN STUDENTS IN CANADA MORE LIKELY TO OBTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENCY

In 2021, Canada set a record by welcoming more than 4,05,000 permanent residents, and it is aiming to

TECH



**OPPO K10 REVIEW: ONLINE CHALLENGER** 

It has the potential to be a big challenger for a lot of budget phones

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**



Kangana had her share of ups and downs before her career really took off post Queen in 2014

**KANGANA RANAUT** 

### **EXPRESS** AUDIO

### Religious fanaticism to unemployment: RSS' concerns in 2022

Today we discuss the highlights from RSS' annual report, from its concerns about the growing influence of a "particular community" to its labour-intensive Bharatiya Economic Model aimed at tackling the unemployment crisis

### Odisha cameraman's killing: Case handed to CID-Crime Branch

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** BHUBANESWAR, MARCH 23

THE ODISHA DGP Wednesday handed over the investigation into the kidnapping and murder of a news portal's cameraman to the CID-Crime Branch.

This comes two days after former Odisha Information Service (OIS) officer Niranjan Sethi was arrested over the killing of Manas Swain, 28.

The prime accused in the case, Swain's former employer Sarmistha Rout, is still on the run. Rout, the owner and editor of a web portal and fortnightly magazine, allegedly got Swain killed as he was in possession of a chip which contained photos and videos related to her. The police are yet to recover the chip.

So far the police have arrested five people in the case. Rout's brother Parameswar was also arrested from Vijayawada Tuesday. He was brought to Odisha for questioning and is suspected to have helped Rout in escaping after the murder.

"Swain was allegedly kidnapped in Bhadrak district, it was said that he was killed in Bhubaneswar in Khurda district, and his body was buried in

Kota: A youth was killed and two

others injured when a group of

men allegedly attacked them

during a religious programme in

Rajasthan's Baran district on

Wednesday, police said. A scuf-

fle broke out between two

groups early on Wednesday dur-

ing a Qawwali programme, po-

Rajasthan: One killed at religious event

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Nayagarh district," DIG Crime Branch Sanjeeb Panda told reporters here.

"One team will look for Sharmishta Rout, owner of the web channel where Swain worked, while another will look into other aspects of the case. It is suspected that Rout has fled to some other state," he added.

Rout was summoned for questioning by the Bhadrak police after Swain's family had lodged a missing persons report. The police, however, said that they had no evidence to suspect her as an accused and she was

Rout is now the prime suspect after three of the accused said they had killed Swain at her behest.

On Wednesday, the police also seized Rout's car from the parking space of an apartment in Bhubaneswar.

Swain was allegedly kidnapped by Sarmistha and four others from Bhadrak district on February 7 when he went there for a wedding assignment. He was brought to Dayal Ashram near Sundarpada in the Capital city which is run by Rout and brutally assaulted over the memory chip. He succumbed

lice said. Around four-five youths

attacked Bantu (19), Golu (19)

and Mahafuj (19) with a knife

and injured them, police said.

The three were rushed to the dis-

trict hospital where doctors de-

clared Bantu dead and referred

Golu to Kota, Mahafuj is under

treatment at the hospital. PTI

### **FROM PAGE ONE**

### Rape is rape, even if man is husband: Karnataka HC

bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna of the Karnataka High Court said. "age-old...regressive" thought that "husbands are the rulers of their wives, their body, mind and soul should be effaced," the court said.

While the court did not explicitly strike down the marital rape exception, it forced the married man to face trial for rape charges brought by his wife. The husband had moved the High Court after a trial court took cognisance of the offence under Section 376 (rape).

IPC Section 375 that defines rape carries a crucial exemption: "Sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under eighteen years of age, is not rape.

In 2018, a similar case was brought before the Gujarat High Court in which a married man sought quashing of the rape case against him filed by his wife. Although the HC quashed the FIR to remove the rape charges, it gave a lengthy reasoning on the need to criminalise marital rape.

The Constitutionality of the marital rape exception is currently under challenge before the Delhi and Gujarat High Courts.

The "institution of marriage does not confer, cannot confer and in my considered view, should not be construed to confer, any special male privilege or a license for unleashing of a brutal beast. If it is punishable to a man, it should be punishable to a man albeit, the man being a husband," Justice Nagaprasanna said.

"A brutal act of sexual assault on the wife, against her consent, albeit by the husband, cannot but be termed to be a rape. Such sexual assault by a husband on his wife will have grave consequences on the mental sheet of the wife, it has both psychological and physiological impact on her. Such acts of husbands scar the soul of the wives. It is, therefore, imperative for the lawmakers to now hear the voices of silence," the court said.

This ruling came in the course of a judgment on a petition filed in 2018 by a 43-year-old man for dropping of charges of rape and sexual assault on a child brought against him by police in Bengaluru on the basis of a complaint filed by his wife in March

2017 after a marriage of 11 years. Following investigations of a complaint of rape, unnatural sex, and marital violence brought against the man by his wife, the police had filed a chargesheet against the man under Indian Penal Code sections for rape, dowry harassment, assault of a woman (IPC 376, 498A, 354) and under the POCSO Act for sexual offences against a child. The police dropped charges of unnatural

sex (IPC 377). The chargesheet was challenged in the High Court by the husband on the grounds that rape charges are not applicable against a man who is the husband of the alleged rape victim.

The HC ruled otherwise. "The contents of the complaint are an outburst of tolerance of the wife...In the teeth of the facts, as narrated in the complaint, in my considered view, no fault can be found with the learned Sessions Judge taking cognizance of the offenses punishable under Section 376 of IPC and framing a charge to that effect," the judge said.

"If a man, a husband, a man he is, can be exempted from the allegation of commission of ingredients of Section 375 of the IPC, inequality percolates into

### India tops \$400-bn target for goods exports

total exports for the fiscal may cross \$410 billion by the end of the month.

While topping \$400 billion, exports have registered a 37 per cent increase compared to \$292 billion in the previous fiscal and 21 per cent over the previous record high of exports of \$330 billion set in FY2019, prior to the pandemic. India's imports during the

period have also surged to a record high level of over \$589 billion during the fiscal, taking India's trade deficit to a record \$188.2 billion In a Twitter post, Modi said:

"India set an ambitious target of USD 400 billion of goods exports and achieved this target for the first time ever. I congratulate our farmers, weavers, MSMEs, manufacturers, exporters for this success. This is a milestone in our Aatmanirbhar Bharat journey." Officials said a preliminary

analysis showed that while commodity price hike had contributed to the rise in exports, many goods including auto components, motor vehicles, cereal preparations, buffalo meat, rice, carpets, processed fruits and juice also saw increases in overall export volumes despite stagnant or declining commodity prices.

INDIA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE (In \$ billion) ■Exports ■Imports TRADE DEFICIT 188.2 162.1 600 400 200 Note: Data for FY22 updated till March 21, 2022 Source: Department of Commerce

Experts noted that another key factor driving the surge in exports is the pent-up global demand that was unmet during major waves of the Covid-19 pandemic. Expansionary monetary policy by developed economies in response to the economic impact of the pandemic has also boosted demand for Indian exports.

Engineering goods were the largest contributors to the growth in exports, growing at nearly 50 per cent and expected to hit \$110 billion by the end of FY2022. Electronics goods exports rose by 42.8 per cent in the first 11 months of the fiscal, while gems and jewellery exports grew by 57.3 per cent boosted by a rise in gold prices. Export of petroleum products grew by 147.6 per cent, driven by a steady increase in crude oil prices. Other products which recorded strong growth

in exports include organic and

inorganic chemicals, readymade garments, meat and dairy products as well as marine products. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal highlighted that India had significantly boosted exports to key trading partners with outbound

cal and exports to the US increasing by 46 per cent. Trade expert Biswajit Dhar,

shipments to the UAE increas-

ing by 65 per cent during the fis-

been key growth areas. According to UNCTAD estimates based on national trade statistics, the positive trend for international trade in 2021 (calendar year) was largely the result of increases in commodity prices, subsiding pandemic restrictions and a strong recovery in demand due to economic stimulus packages. "As these

a professor at Jawaharlal Nehru

University in New Delhi, said

that high commodity prices,

particularly in the case of crude

oil and gold, had contributed

significantly to growth in total

value of exports. He noted that

headwinds to a global eco-

nomic recovery due to the on-

going Russia-Ukraine conflict

could, however, dent India's ex-

ports in the upcoming fiscal,

particularly in the case of sec-

tors like electronics and ma-

chinery exports which have

trends are likely to abate, international trade trends are expected to normalize during 2022," UNCTAD noted in a February 2022 update. A Sakthivel, president of the

Federation of Indian Export Organisations, said the achievement of \$400 billion in exports was the fulfilment of a "dream" and that exporters could look to target merchandise export of \$500 billion in the next fiscal.

### Lviv Ukraine's small haven of peace – and transit for those fleeing war

But inside the city's limits, people go about their daily lives. Of the over 3.5 million who have left Ukraine since the war began a month ago, most have gone through Lviv, and many continue to arrive in the city. From here, they take buses, cars and trains, or travel on foot, to cross over to Poland, and then move to Warsaw before leaving for other parts of

At the Hrebenne border point, which is meant for those on vehicles, families can be seen crossing from I lkraine on foot. The traffic towards Poland is considerably higher but some cars, both Polish and Ukrainian, are seen entering Ukraine too.

It was through Lviv that Svetlana Vasylenko entered Poland with her two children.

In Warsaw, as she takes a small calendar out of her bag, Svetlana chokes, her eves welling up. On that calendar, she has crossed out every day that she has been away from home near Kyiv, Ukraine's capital. She misses home, and her husband who is fighting the war and could not leave with her and their two children.

February 24, the day when the Russian invasion began, is encircled. Starting February 28, all the dates are crossed out.

The 41-year-old is heading further west to Germany with her 19-year-old daughter and 20-year-old son, to be with her parents who had fled earlier. Her 46-year-old husband, Alexander, could not leave his homeland, prohibited by martial law. Still, he managed to drive them to Ivano-Frankivsk, a town southeast of Lviv.

Svetlana's last photo with Alexander is from that day. Then, he went back to join the forces, taking the family dog with him. And she made her way to Lviv, with their children,



and onward till the three reached Warsaw on Tuesday.

"We never thought that it's possible...war in our country. I never wanted to leave my home, my country. I have a family. But I see that my children cannot go to school, because our school was bombed. I cannot go to my job, because of war. It was very difficult for me to leave Ukraine," she said. "But the children must go to school, must learn."

Before the war, Svetlana was an office manager while Alexander worked in a gear factory near Lviv. Now, she does not know if their home is still intact. She hopes to return home one day, "but at this time, I must live in another country, for the future of our children mavbe".

At the same time, she speaks to Alexander every day, and is worried about him. "He is scared about us, because I have never been to another country," she said.

It is not just the fear of death. Many are leaving because they don't want to continue without education for their children, jobs for them. Unlike in the past, there has

been a collective effort on part of the European Union to welcome the Ukrainian refugees, and give them shelter and food. On March 4, the EU placed Ukrainian refugees under "temporary protection", enabling access to benefits like jobs within its jurisdiction.

At Warsaw Central, as Svetlana waits for her train to Germany, 45-year-old Margarita Suchokava is buying a Ukrainian flag and a button signifying Poland-Ukraine solidarity, all for 15 Zloty (about Leaving her home in the

eastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, where she worked in a bank, Margarita arrived in Warsaw on March 2. She left Ukraine because "war came into our peaceful country". On the morning of

February 24, she said the sound of bombs couldn't be compared to anything she had heard before. "Such a scary noise, it made a lot of people take the decision to leave," she said. On March 1, a friend told her that he was leaving with his three children, and asked her to come along. In just 15 minutes, she decided to go, and left with just her passport and

Her sister and mother, who is weak and cannot travel, are still in Kharkiv. "Someone has to work, and support the family. I left not because I was afraid. I would love to protect my country...but somebody has to get a job and earn some money...every single city in Ukraine is broken," she said.

In Warsaw, she depends on the generosity of friends. "Now I live worse than in Kharkiv. Any hour, something bad might happen to my family," she said.

Margarita hopes to find work in an English-speaking country. "If that happens, it will be perfect." she says, before getting overcome by emotion.

"My soul is with my family and my country. I really want to go back home. We want to work in our country. We want to work for our country. But right now, I have no choice, she said.

Like Sevtlana and Margarita, 56-year-old Victor left his war-torn nation because there were no jobs left in his hometown of Mykolaiv. which has suffered incessant pounding from Russian forces.

He left on a "cramped immigration train", first to Lviv, and then to Warsaw, where he reached 11 days ago. At Warsaw Central, Viktor is dressed in a worn-out jacket, vest, pants and shoes, his front teeth missing, but another tipped in gold. "I am looking for a job," he said, declining to provide his full name.

In Ukraine, Viktor lived alone. Today, his two daughters and a son "are still feeling safe" in their provinces elsewhere in the country. "They don't understand the scope of the war,"

He left because he was afraid and "there was no work. no food". He used to "work with metal" and in Warsaw, can get free food and also possibly a job.

Viktor wants to go to Germany because he has heard that people there give out money to refugees. But he is not sure: he does not understand German, and does not want to go "that far from Ukraine".

treats woman equal to man and considers marriage as an association of equals. The Constitution does not in any sense depict the woman to be subordinate to a man. The Constitution guarantees fundamental rights under Articles 14, 15, 19 and 21 which are right to live with dignity, personal liberty, bodily integrity, sexual autonomy, right to reproductive choices, right to privacy, right to freedom of speech and expression. Under the Constitution, the rights are equal; protection is also

equal," the court said. Justice Nagaprasanna was appointed an Additional Judge of the Karnataka High Court in November 2019 and became a permanent judge in November last year. In 2020, he delivered a landmark ruling on gender equality holding that a married daughter would also be entitled to seek employment on compassionate grounds.

### Wang Yi on J&K: **India** names him in strong rebuff

He plans to be in Nepal from March 25 to 27.

In Islamabad for the OIC meeting, Wang said: "On Kashmir, we have heard again today the calls of many of our Islamic friends. And China shares the same hope.'

This drew a sharp reaction from the Ministry of External Affairs. Arindam Bagchi, spokesperson for the MEA, said: "We reject the uncalled reference to India by the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi during his speech at the Opening Ceremony (of the OIC meeting).

It is quite unusual to name a Foreign Minister while criticising a statement, and this reflects the hardening of position in New Delhi.

"Matters related to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir are entirely the internal affairs of India. Other countries, including China, have no locus standi to comment. They should note that India refrains from public judgement of their internal issues, Bagchi said.

While the reference to J&K as "internal affairs" of India and that China has "no locus standi" are standard templates in Indian government responses, the reminder that India refrains from "public judgement of their internal issues" is not used very often.

India usually does not criticise China over its internal issues including those related to Taiwan, Tibet, Hong Kong, human rights violations and atrocities against Uyghurs in Xinjiang province. So, this is a stern message to Beijing from New Delhi.

The MEA's sharp reaction to Wang's comments comes at a time when Beijing, after two years of the military standoff along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, has reached out to New Delhi to revive bilateral dialogue and set the stage for the BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) summit in China later this year.

Beijing has proposed a series of events to kickstart the dialogue, starting with possible high-level visits from both sides. China's ultimate and clear objective is to host Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the in-person BRICS summit which will be attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin as well. China, which also holds the chair for the RIC(Russia-India-China)trilateral this year, could also host the leaders' summit on the sidelines of the BRICS summit.

On March 19, India said ties with China cannot be "business as usual" until and unless the border standoff in Ladakh is resolved. This was the first comment from New Delhi -- it was made by Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla — after Beijing's out-

under the Constitution are to be

of Article 14 of the Constitution,"

Indian Penal Code of 1860. The

power over their wives," the court said. "Post Republic, India is gov-

erned by the Constitution," the court said. "The Constitution

Contact for Advt. Booking: M/s Friends Publicity Service such provision of law. Therefore, treated equally, be it a man, be it the HC stated. exception was "founded and re-The court traced the genesis it would run counter to what is a woman and others. Any mained on the premise of a con-(M): 9212665841, 9212008155 enshrined in Article 14 of the thought of inequality, in any proof Section 375 to Macaulay's Code tract in (Victorian) medieval law Constitution. All human beings vision of law, would fail the test that became the basis for the that husbands wielded their New Delhi 🔲 0-50 Good 🔃 51-100 Satisfactory 📘 101-200 Moderate 📗 201-300 Poor 🔲 301-400 Very Poor 🔲 401-500 Severe

## **Amid Ahir protest in Gurgaon, Hooda says** will move bill in RS seeking regiment

**PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA** GURGAON, MARCH 23

EXTENDING HIS support to the protest demanding the formation of an Ahir regiment in the Army, Congress MP Deepender Singh Hooda said he will move a private member's bill in Rajya Sabha.

"We will first discuss a proposal among all parties. I will table a private member's bill in Rajya Sabha for formation of an Ahir regiment. I am sure I will get the support of other MPs," said Hooda, addressing hundreds of people from the Ahir community, who had gathered at the protest site at Kherki Daula in Gurgaon Expressing his "complete support", Hooda said, "The farmers' agitation was successful because it remained democratic, peaceful, constitutional and united. Wo andolan raineeti se upar raha (The farmers' protest remained apolitical). I feel that if someone holding political office comes here, they should only support demand for Ahir regiment and leave aside politics.

The protest was organised under the banner of 'Sanyukt Ahir Regiment Morcha', a group of community leaders from the Ahirwal region in South Haryana, who have been holding an indefinite protest since February 3.

Manoj Yadav, founder-member of Sanyukt Ahir Regiment Morcha, said



A stretch of six kilometres on the Delhi-Gurgaon expressway was closed. Express

port from 36 communities, had taken a decision to start a nationwide agiwill go to all the states to campaign. In every village in the Ahirwal region, a board will be put up 'vote wahi paega jo Ahir Regiment banwaega' (those who will get the Ahir regiment formed, shall get the vote). The committee will write to the Defence Minister. This is a fight for the honour of 26 crore Yadavs. Our next meeting/rally will take place on September 23. If required, we shall go to Delhi too," he said.

Gurgaon traffic police had closed a stretch of six kilometres on the Delhi-Gurgaon expressway from Kherki Daula toll to Hero Honda Chowk and diverted traffic to alternate routes. Hundreds from the Ahirwal belt – Gurgaon, Rewari, Mahendragarh — in South Haryana, parts of Rajasthan and western Uttar Pradesh had arrived at the Kherki Daula toll plaza, which had been made non-operational by the authorities on Wednesday morning.

Raising 'Ahir regiment hakk hai hamara' (Ahir regiment is our right) and 'Jai Yadav Jai Madhav' slogans, the protesters perched atop buses, tractors and trucks, which they had parked near the protest site. The march was not carried out and a public meeting was held.

Rajesh Yadav, an unemployed youth from Rewari said, "Sikhs, Rajputs and Jats have their regiments along caste and community lines. Our demand is the same. This will also solve the problem of unemployment



### Real-time pollution data will be HC orders eviction available in capital from Aug 1

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

REAL-TIME DATA on sources of pollution in Delhi will be available from August 1, according to a communication from the Delhi government

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal chaired a review meeting with teams from IIT Kanpur, IIT Delhi, and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) that are part of a Real-Time Source Apportionment System and pollution forecasting project. The Delhi Cabinet had approved the project last year. The source-apportionment study will help identify sources of pollutants in the city, and determine the impact of sources like vehicular emissions, industrial sources, dust and biomass burning.

A 'supersite' will be set up at



The source-apportionment study will help identify sources of pollutants in Delhi. Archive

Pandara Road in Central Delhi, and work on the supersite will begin by the end of July on an area of around 36 square metres. The monitoring apparatus that will be set up at the supersite will keep tabs on pollutants and help trace their sources. Equipment for the project, like real-time ambient air analysers, and particulate matter and ion analysis systems, are being procured for the project.

Kejriwal said: "In Delhi, pollution remains in the 'moderate' category around October 9 every year. After that, the pollution level starts increasing suddenly. Looking at NASA's photos, it has been noticed that a large amount of stubble was burnt during that period. Whereas, the figures every time say that only 5% of Delhi's pollution can be blamed on stubble. In such a situation it is important to ascertain the actual contribution of stubble in Delhi's pollution and how many other factors contribute to pollution. This would enable real-time detection of factors causing pollution in the state, and help in controlling that source of pollution."

The forecasting system will provide hourly, daily and weekly pollution forecasts, and could help make policy decisions like imposing restrictions.

## Mandir premises

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI. MARCH 23

THE DELHI High Court has ordered the Delhi Police to proceed with the eviction of several unauthorised occupants of jhuggis and dharamshalas from Kalkaji Mandir premises from March 24.

"The eviction of the said occupants also has a sense of urgency in view of the fact that the Navratras will be commencing from April 2, and proper arrangements have to be made for the entry and exit of lakhs of devotees who visit the Kalkaii Mandir," said Justice Prathiba M Singh in an order.

The court said Kalkaji Mandir premises see a steady and high influx of devotees during the

Son his termine infernation

Navratra period, and the continued occupation of the jhuggis and dharamshalas would pose "enormous threat" to the safety and security of devotees.

The unauthorised occupants, nearly 40 families, had earlier been given three options in accordance with a court order and asked to either take flats on rent from the DUSIB or apply to DDA for purchase of EWS flats or take up flats on rent from the DUSIB. However, they allegedly refused to accept any of the options following which the court has now passed an order to evict them.

"The unauthorised occupants of jhuggis and dharamshalas, who are 142 and 46 in number respectively, are directed to cooperate with the eviction process," said the bench.

### 400 English teachers write to of people from Kalkaji V-C over 'loss of workload' Hindi/Modern Indian Languages

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

MORE THAN 400 English teachers in Delhi University have signed a letter to the Vice-Chancellor appealing to him to intervene in the "unprecedented loss of workload that English departments will suffer" with the Undergraduate Curriculum Framework (UGCF) approved by the University's statutory bodies.

English teachers in the University are alarmed by the UGCF, stating that the Ability Enhancement Courses pool that students can choose among in their first four semesters will have languages included in the eighth schedule of the Constitution, which does not include English. They have stated that this replaces the current system where both English and are offered as options to students "The AECC course was as-

signed 4 lectures — constituting a substantive workload of the English department in every college. The removal of English as an option in AEC will drastically reduce the workload of each English department in DU, thus threatening the livelihood of all ad hoc teachers working in colleges," reads their letter. Additionally, they have also

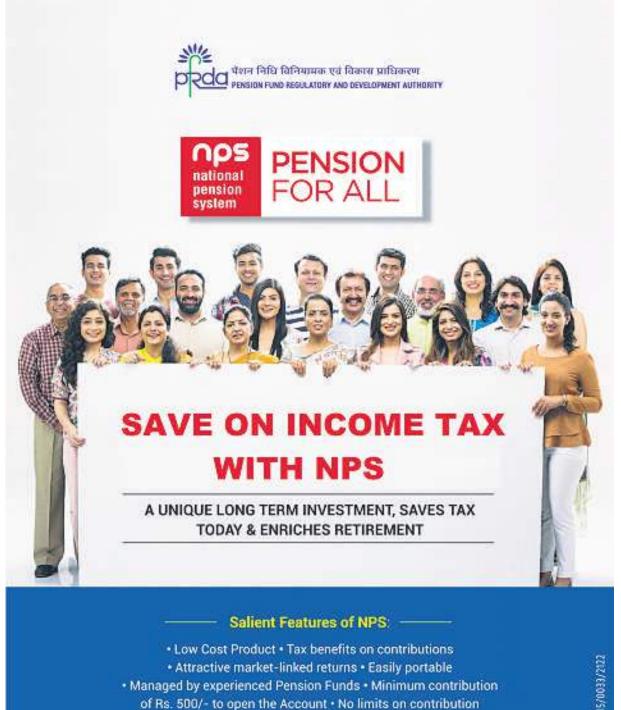
pointed out that core English papers offered in two of the first four semesters currently offered have been removed from the UGCF structure of the BA and BCom programme courses,

"Moreover, the compulsory English language courses that are offered at three levels, namely, A, B and C, depending on their proficiency level are now

being removed from the UGCFin this reducing the workload of the English department irreparably. In every section of BA and BCom Programme, a minimum of 30 lectures are lost: the loss is multiplied across every section," reads their letter.

According to Rudrashish Chakraborty, English teacher at Hansraj College and former Academic Council member, there are more than 500 ad hoc English teachers in DU who make up half of the total strength of English teachers in the University.

Appealing the Vice-Chancellor to intervene to ensure English remains in the AEC pool, and as a Core Language course in the BA and BCom programme courses, they have written that this will "crucially safeguard the livelihoods of hundreds of ad hoc teachers".



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#### DAY AFTER CABINET NOD TO UNIFICATION

## **Kejriwal targets BJP: If polls deferred in this** manner, there will be no point of democracy

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal Wednesday attacked the BJP over the civic body polls being deferred, and said that the AAP will quit politics if the BJP conducts elections on time and wins

This comes a day after the Union Cabinet gave its nod to The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2022, which aims to merge the capital's three municipal corporations. Earlier this month, a press conference scheduled by the State Election Commissioner to announce the MCD poll dates was called off at the last moment after the Centre expressed its intention to unify the three civic bodies.

"I challenge the BJP, if you have courage in you, get the MCD elections held immediately. If you win, we will leave politics there and then," Kejriwal told the reporters at the Vidhan Sabha on the first day of Budget session 2022-23. He also alleged that by delaying the MCD elections, the BJP has "insulted" the country's martyrs such as Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Raiguru, who sacrificed their life for freedom from the British and to establish a democracy in India.



Chief Minister Kejriwal with L-G Anil Baijal and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Wednesday. Prem Nath Pandey

"This situation is extremely painful and distressing to witness. If elections are deferred in this manner, then there will be no point to this democracy. The public will become voiceless. This country will be reduced to a laughing stock. Did Shaheede-Azam Bhagat Singh give his life for this day? Did he sacrifice all he had in him to see a country where a government is so distant from its people that it cancels elections? I want to remind BIP that the basic right of electing a government to power rests with people of this country, and no

matter what they do, the people will not forgive them," Kejriwal

On Twitter, too, the CM kept up the attack: "BJP first threatened the State Election Commission to defer elections and is ploying to delay them for months through an amendment. If elections get cancelled like this, will there be any point left to this democracy? Will it not make the public feel voiceless and suppressed? BJP's shameless act of deferring elections is downright disrespectful of the sacrifice our martyrs made for He said that the BJP was using unification of the three MCDs as a pretext to delay the polls. "Can they cancel civic polls citing this reason? If today they are giving such reasons to stop a small election, tomorrow they will delay state and national elections too." "Is the Election Commission

so fickle that BJP can make it defer elections in the name of unification of MCDs. If BJP will start losing Gujarat, can they cancel those elections too saying BIF wants to merge Gujarat and Maharashtra? This is highly unacceptable," he said. "I appeal to the Prime Minister with folded hands - there may not be Modi. Keiriwal tomorrow. Leaders like you and I don't matter but what matters is the country, its constitution and democracy, and that must be protected."

"Everyone knows the BIP was going to face a crushing defeat in the upcoming MCD elections," he said, adding that BJP calls itself India's biggest political party vet is afraid of a small party in a small election.

#### Sisodia, BJP spar

Following close on the heels of Kejriwal's statements, his deputy Manish Sisodia Wednesday challenged the BJP to conduct the civic polls imme-

"The BJP has been ruling the MCDs for the past 17 years, and it has only seen corruption all these years. The party has been ruling from when the MCD was a single organisation, and also when it was trifurcated, but the city has seen no development except deep-rooted corruption," said Sisodia.

Calling the BJP "corrupt" and "afraid", Sisodia said, "Don't run away from municipal polls. If you have courage, conduct the polls immediately. Delhi people don't care whether you hold the polls under one MCD or five. They want BJP-free MCDs that work for the development of the city, primary education, and

He added, "Despite being in power for 17 years, the BJP could not manage small schools, upgrade hospitals, pay salaries to sanitation workers and clear garbage. Sanitation workers, employees of MCD, and people in Delhi are tired of the party, and want to see a change in the way the corporation is run."

Sisodia further said Delhi people will wipe out the BJP in the civic polls this time: "Don't play dirty politics of unification and trifurcation to delay the

Responding to the AAP's al-

son Praveen Shankar Kapoor said, "The statements of AAP leaders over MCD polls reflect their frustration and lust for power. The statements do not show any concerns for civic em-

ployees.' Through the unification of the three corporations, the central government is trying to improve the financial health, and working sector. Soon all modalities will be completed and the election dates will be announced," said Kapoor.

In a statement, BJP state president Adesh Gupta said, "There is an atmosphere of joy and happiness on the decision to unify all three corporations. The corporation is again going to become stronger after ten years for which everybody is thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He added that the AAP government has ruined the condition of corporations in the past 10 years. "Whether it is safai workers, teachers or other departments employees, it was becoming difficult to pay their salaries. It's all because of the fact that Kejriwal government has deliberately crippled the corporations financially so that all development activities come to a halt and he gets political benefit out of it," he al-

### Bill on merger soon, Tiwari says provisions for funds from Centre

**ABHINAV RAJPUT** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE BILL on the unification of the three MCDs will be tabled in Lok Sabha in a week, and the Bharatiya Janata Party will soon be issuing a whip to ensure the presence of MPs, said a senior leader.

The Union Cabinet Tuesday gave its nod to a bill that aims to merge the three municipal corporations in Delhi. The details of the bill have not been made public yet.

The NDA, with its 380 parliamentarians in the Lower House, will not face any challenges to pass the bill.

The Aam Aadmi Party, which has been opposing the merger alleging that it has been done to avoid defeat by the BJP, has no Lok Sabha member to raise objections.

BIP leader Manoj Tiwari, who represents Northeast Delhi in the house, said that after the unification, the MCD will get funds directly from the central government, and the development of the city will be possi-

"When I was the president of Delhi BJP, I had promised the people that I would unify the corporations and channel funds directly from the Centre," said Tiwari referring to the Delhi MCD elections in 2017

#### **'SEC likely to decide** on MCD polls in April second week'

The State Election Commission of Delhi is likely to take a call on the civic body polls in the second week of April after going through the Bill for the unification of the three MCDs, sources said Tuesday. Sources also said there may be some reorganisation of wards which might delay the elections. According to sources, the number of municipal wards in Delhi is likely to be capped around 250. Currently, there are 272 wards in the city. PTI

"Today, with the union cabinet decision, there has been a huge relief to the corporation, and we will make good on the promise," he added.

Another senior BJP leader said the polls are likely to be delayed as the Centre may pitch for reduction of the wards leading to their delimitation.\ "The delimitation process

takes around six months," he

**BRIEFLY** -

Gautam

Gambhir

libraries

announces 5

New Delhi: Paying tribute

to freedom fighter

Bhagat Singh on his mar-

tyrdom day, BJP MP from

East Delhi Gautam Gambhir announced he

would open five public li-

braries in his constituency that will also

### Man held for killing 2 whose bodies were found inside drain

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

NEARLY FOUR days after two men went missing from their home in Kotla Mubarakpur, the Delhi Police found their bodies in a drain near the Indian International Centre at Lodhi Estate, Senior officers alleged they entered the drain to steal underground cables on March 18, but a third associate allegedly closed the lid when the duo got trapped inside and screamed for help.

Police arrested their third associate, Md Ateeque (25), Tuesday night after the two bodies were recovered. The deceased were identified as Md Khurshid (31) and Sajjad Ahmed (34).

DCP (New Delhi) Amrutha Guguloth said police received a PCR call from a man named Md Ashab, who said he found the bodies of his cousins in the drain.

"We reached the spot and the man complained his cousins had been missing since 3-4 days. Khurshid's family called and asked him to look for them. Ashab met Ateeque, but he didn't help. Only when he threatened to approach police Ateeque told them to go to Lodhi Estate," said the DCP. CCTVs were scanned and police found that the three men reached IIC on March 18. The three went inside the drain, but Ateeque came out soon after and closed the lid. The DCP added, "We found footage where it was clear that Ateeque was at the spot with the deceased and had covered the lid. We took him into custody and he confessed to the crime. He also revealed that after the incident, he again went back to the spot to collect his belongings and hide any evidence."

Ashab, Sajjad's cousin and Khurshid's distant relative, said, "Khurshid was supposed to go home to Bihar on March 18 for Shab-e-Barat celebrations. His mother called and told me he and Sajjad weren't taking calls. I went to their room and spoke to their friends, Alauddin and Ateeque. Both of them didn't say anything.'

He added, "We suspected Ateeque. He was avoiding our questions. I threatened to go to police, which is when he said they might be at Lodhi Estate... trapped somewhere. I took him to the spot. We opened the lid of a drain and found two bodies floating inside. Ateeque looked scared. I called police and told them everything."



### CLOGGED

A traffic snarl at Lodhi Road on Wednesday due to an ongoing road repair work in the area. Praveen Khanna

### AIIMS director Guleria's term extended by three months, search on for new chief

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE TENURE of the director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi, Dr Randeep Guleria, has been extended for three months or till the new director is selected.

An internal AIIMS memorandum stated, "He will complete his tenure on 24.03.2022. President AIIMS is pleased to extend his tenure w.e.f. (with effect from) 25.03.2022 by three months or by the time new director is appointed, whichever is earlier."



AIIMS director Dr Randeep Guleria

Dr Guleria took over as AIIMS director in 2017 and has been at the helm of the premier medical institute through the coronavirus pandemic. He is the only director of the institute to have completed the five-year term since the limit was introduced in 2007. Others, including the previous director Dr M C Misra, retired at the age of 65 years before completing the five-year term.

A search and selection committee is currently looking at applications for replacing the director. There are at least 12 doctors from within the institute who have applied for the position. The director-general of the Indian Council of Medical Research, Dr Balram Bhargava, is also in the running for the post. Others from the institute who have applied include Dr Rajesh Malhotra, director of the Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre associated with the hospital, Dr Nikhil Tandon, the head of the department of endocrinology, Dr M V Padma Shrivastava, chief of neurosciences centre, Dr A K Bisoi, professor of cardiothoracic and vascular surgery, Dr Sunil Chumber, head of the department of surgery, and Dr Sudhir Gupta, head of the department of forensic medicine. At least 19 people from outside the institute have also applied for the position.

### To curb accidents, dedicated bus lanes with Rs 10,000 fine lowed to ply in bus lanes.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

IN ORDER to curb accidents and ease traffic congestion, the Delhi government is going to start an intensive 'bus lane enforcement drive' for drivers of buses and heavy vehicles. Those found violating the rules will be slapped with a fine of Rs 10,000 or sixmonth imprisonment.

In the first phase, the transport department along with Traffic Police will start this drive from April 1 on 15 prioritised corridors such as Dwarka Mor to Janakpuri, Ashram Chowk to Badarpur, Aurobindo Marg to Andheria Mor. The department has identified 46 corridors where drives will be implemented in phases.

About 150 km roads of the national capital will be under the radar of the transport department's enforcement team.

The Delhi government had announced this initiative in August last year, and the Public Works Department created dedicated bus lanes in Delhi and sensitised bus drivers to drive on those lanes only

Following this, the PWD was directed to mark the bus lanes with long-lasting thermoplastic paints and properly identify the selected corridors by placing warning signage and boards at suitable places.

According to officials, the special drive will start from 8 am to 10 pm, and the buses and heavy carriage vehicles will be allowed to ply on the segregated and marked bus lanes only.

"No other vehicle will be permitted to ply in the said bus lanes during this period. Further, during the period from 10 pm to 8 am, other vehicles may be alHowever the buses and goods carriages will confine and ply in the segregated and marked bus lanes for 24 hours," said the offi-

Officials said that buses and heavy vehicles found plying on the other lanes will be liable for prosecution under section 192-A of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 which prescribes a fine of Rs 10,000, with an imprisonment for a term which may be extended to six months.

Besides, if any vehicle, other an buses, such as cars and scooters are found parked on the bus lanes, they will be towed by the enforcement team and a fine will be imposed besides the towing charge. The transport department

further said there will be two enforcement teams on the ground in two shifts to enforce traffic discipline on bus lanes. The teams will also have cranes for impounding vehicles on dedicated lanes.

Officials said the enforcement team will also record videos and take pictures of the vehicles violating rules as evidence

"The DTC and DIMTC, two bus operators of city bus transportation fleet, have been directed to sensitise drivers of the DTC and cluster buses to restrict/ply their buses in the earmarked bus lanes only to avoid challan/prosecution," said the official.

"We are committed to make Delhi roads safe for motorists, non-motorised transport and pedestrians. It would also help with reducing the traffic congestion on the road. I also urge bus commuters to wait only at the bus stops," said transport minister Kailash Gahlot

have WiFi facilities for poor children to study. The Shaheed Bhagat Singh Jan Libraries will come up at Anand Vihar, Shahdara, Trilokpuri, Viswas Nagar and Mayur

### Man, daughter found dead at their house

New Delhi: A32-year-old man and his 10-year-old daughter were found dead inside their house in Metro Vihar Phase-2 Tuesday. Police said the man allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself. His daughter was found lying dead on the bed with no visible external injuries.

### Woman held for 'sexually assaulting' minor boy

New Delhi: A 42-year-old woman has been arrested for allegedly beating and sexually assaulting a minor boy at Dwarka, police said. ENS

### WORK ON KEY STRETCHES PENDING

### City road infrastructure projects to get boost in this budget

#### **GAYATHRI MANI** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

AFTER EDUCATION and health, this year the AAP government will focus on Delhi's infrastructural development, especially roads and transport, sources say.

According to sources in the Delhi government, the Public Works Department (PWD) is likely to get a boost and a sizeable share of the amount to expedite road infrastructure projects that are either in the pipeline or planning stages and could not be taken up due to hiccups caused because of Covid, land acquisition problems and ban on construction activities. Lack of funds was one of the main reasons for the delay in these projects, said sources.

In last year's budget, the Delhi government earmarked Rs 9,394 crore, a 14% share of the total budget, for development of transport infrastructure, roads and bridges.



Construction of the Ashram underpass was one of the key projects. Gajendra Yadav

Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Manish Sisodia also proposed several schemes in the budget for improving road infrastructure and reducing traffic jams. One of the key projects was streetscaping of roads for which it earmarked an amount of Rs 500 crore. To ease travelling across the capital, it proposed the East-West corridor (elevated and tunnel road between Tikri and Anand Vihar), the North-South corridor (elevated and tunnel

road from Signature Bridge to the

airport) and an outer road running parallel to the Yamuna from Signature Bridge to Sarai Kale

Key projects also included construction of an underpass at Ashram Chowk, two underpasses between Wazirabad and Jagatpur, a pedestrian subway near Gandhi Vihar, extension of Ashram flyover to DND, and a bridge on Najafgarh drain.

Ashram underpass and extension of Ashram flyover to DND and streetscaping of seven

stretches on a pilot basis were started three years ago and were slated to be complete in 2021, but the projects are still under construction and have been delayed several times.

"Several key projects could not take place due to lack of funds, implementation of lockdown, labour and logistical issues and the ban on construction. Due to lack of funds, several contractors either left or refused to work till they got payment. We hope to get a boost in the budget this year, so we can start the pending projects." said a senior PWD official. The Delhi government will

also focus on completion of strengthening of all roads, pending projects and installation of LED screens and national flags. Extension of Barapullah phase III corridor from Sarai Kale Khan to Mayur Vihar Part I will also be on the cards, said sources, Sources said electric vehicle

infrastructure is also expected to get a push in the budget that will be presented on March 26.



**Uttarakhand ka Vikas** Mera Sankalp, Aapka Vishwas



Sarvashreshtha Bane tarakhand

Apna

Narendra Modi **Prime Minister** 

Dear Citizens of Uttarakhand,

I express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for reposing faith in us and once again, helping us register a historic victory in Devbhoomi Uttarakhand. The faith you have expressed in a soldier's son, coming from a simple family is an unmatched feeling. Your faith has infused a new energy in me and I assure you all that I will make every effort to channelize this energy towards the all-round development of the state.

I pledge to dedicate every moment of mine for the people of the state. Taking this forward to ensure the progress of the state, I have adopted the mantra of 'Optionless Resolution'. This resolution includes a list of duties and tasks to make the state the very best in the country and to fulfill the countless hopes and aspirations of the people. Embodying the concept of Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas-Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas, public satisfaction is our priority. We hope to achieve this by adopting the policy of 'simplificationsolution-dissolution'. We will ensure that we work with Antyodaya as our goal. I have full faith that with your support and cooperation under the leadership of Prime Minister, Respected Narendra Modi ji, we will definitely be successful in fulfilling these resolutions.

> No goal is big if you commit to it. No time to stop Its time to grow together.

I earnestly call upon all of you to participate in this journey of Uttarakhand's development and take the state forward on the path of progress.

> Bharat Mata ki Jai Jai Hind - Jai Uttarakhand

Vikalp Rahit Sankalp

**Pushkar Singh Dhami** Chief Minister, Uttarakhand



## 6 IN PARLIAMENT BUDGET SESSION

### FROM THE GALLERY

### FROM THE CHAIR

#### **LOK SABHA**

"Members sit late in the night to participate in the proceedings of the House. You sit and discuss demands for grants for hours. Now. let the Question Hour run."

SPEAKER OM BIRLA tells protesting Opposition MPs

#### **5 QUESTIONS**



MPs FROM ANDHRA PRADESH, CUTTING ACROSS PARTY LINES, EXPRESSED THEIR ANGUISH IN LOK SABHA OVER WHAT THEY CALLED THE CENTRE'S MOVE TO DISINVEST RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LTD (RINL). YSRCP MP MARGANI BHARAT SPEAKS TO **LIZ MATHEW** ABOUT THE ISSUE

#### What was the issue the MPs from Andhra Pradesh were agitated with?

The issue was about the privatisation of RINL as the government is planning 100 per cent disinvestment... The Centre has a stand not to privatise any PSU if its profit-making, but it is going against its own principle on this.

#### Why did you say that the $government \, was \, going \, for \, 100 \, per \,$ cent disinvestment?

The RINL does not have any captive mines. Odisha has the iron ore which is next to Visakhapatnam. If the Centre is willing to give us a capitve mine in Odisha, within no time, it can be profit-making. It has more than Rs 20,000 crore of debt on which RINL is paying highest interest rate of 14 per cent, which is not acceptable. No industry can survive with that. Why does the government have one stand for the South and one for the North?

#### Why did you say so?

SAIL has almost 14 captive mines and three iron ore ones. When it comes to RINL, there is none. Is this not a double standard?

#### Has the state government taken it up with the Centre?

Yes. The Chief Minister has given the suggestion to the Prime Minister to revive the plant. We have made a number of memorandums to the Centre over it. One has to remember the unscientific bifurcation of the state and the injustice that happened to the people in Andhra Pradesh...

#### Were you satisfied with the response given by the Centre?

The minister says that in the past decade, RINL has incurred Rs 7300 crore losses but he has forgotten the pandemic period when it made a loss of around Rs 3,900 crore only because the plant was shut for the entire one year. The Centre is forgetting that the RINL is paying an interest of Rs 3,000 crore per annum. Why cannot the government think of the option of going on equity in the lines of ONGC.

## Nehru should not have taken Kashmir issue to the UN, says Sitharaman in RS

#### **ANISHA DUTTA**

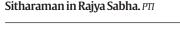
NEW DELHI MARCH 23

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday accused the country's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of internationalising the Kashmir issue by taking it to the United Nations. She targeted the Congress on the issue while replying to a discussion on the Budget (2022-23) for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in Rajya Sabha.

"It is an issue which should not have gone to a global forum. It is essentially an Indian issue. We could have handled it. We are handling it, and we are showing the difference now," she said.

 $In \, response, Congress \, MP \, An and \, Sharma$ said: "I would like to set the record straight. If the matter was taken to the UN Security Council, the issue was whether there would be a cessation of the military conflict or not. India did not accept the plebiscite."

'The UN Observers' Office was never given that sanctity. India conducted elections. There were elected governments in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Not only that, we fought wars and we made it very clear re-



peatedly, and this has been India's consistent position, prior to 2014, that Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh are an integral part of the sovereign state of India," he added.

Sitharaman also said the terror activities in I&K have declined by 61% since the abrogation of Article 370. "In 2021, the kind of figures we have achieved, I want to show that there has been an overall decline in activities that disturbed peace. There has been a 33 per cent drop in infiltration attempts (51 in 2020 versus 34 in 2021), 90 per cent decrease in ceasefire violations (937 in 2020 versus 98 in 2021). Terror-related incidents came down from  $244\,\mathrm{in}\,2020$ to 229 in 2021. There was 80 per cent decline in abductions by terrorists (from 10 in 2020 to two in 2021). The casualties involving police and security personnel saw a slide of 33 per cent (from 63 in 2020 to 42 in 2021). So, activities which have troubled Jammu and Kashmir for a very long time are on a decline," she said.

She said the people of Union Territory were enjoying benefits of about 890 Central laws that have become applicable in J&K since the abrogation of Article 370. "As many as 250 state laws were repealed and 130 were modified. As we are discussing this, a delegation from the Gulf Cooperation Countries is exploring investment propositions in I&K. So, activities for bringing investment, creating jobs and also for providing political representation are going on," she added.

The minister also rebutted the Opposition's charge that the BJP, too, shared the responsibility for the failure to check the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits in 1990 as it was supporting the then V P Singh-led government at the Centre.

She pointed out that terror killings were being carried out in Kashmir before 1990

when the National Conference was in power in J-K in alliance with the Congress and recalled the then governor Jagmohan's warning about dark clouds of terror overpowering the Valley.

She listed "seven major events" or killings of Hindus by terrorists in 1989 along with the related FIR numbers. "I just want to put the facts on record. The National Conference government with the support of the Indian National Congress was in power in J&K from November 1986 to January 18, 1990. And Governor Jagmohan reached J&K (on January 20, 1990) after the resignation of the then Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah...January 20, 1990, is when the Governor reached Srinagar," she said.

When the Leader of Opposition in the House, Mallikarjun Kharge, asked her to focus on the budget, Sitharaman said "just like the entire conversation focused on The Kashmir Files (the movie) and not on the budget", adding she had right to reply on all issues being raised by the Opposition.

The House later returned relevant Bills, completing the process of passage of the Jammu and Kashmir Budget that Lok Sabha had approved on March 14

### Opp protests fuel price hike for second day

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE OPPOSITION stalled the proceedings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha over the fuel price increase for the second day on Wednesday.

In Lok Sabha, protests were led by Congress, which, along with other parties, blocked the Question Hour and later walked out. A miffed Speaker Om Birla asked members to "stop the pre-planned stalling of the House".

Rajya Sabha, meanwhile, was adjourned till 12 pm amid protests. Chairman Venkaiah Naidu denied a discussion on the fuel price hike, saying it was a general discussion for demands for grants.

Opposition MPs including those from the Congress, DMK, Left parties and TMC came to the Well of the Lok Sabha when it convened and raised slogans against the price hike.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi, who was present at her front-row seat, was seen marshalling MPs from her party as well as other opposition parties.

On Tuesday, fuel prices were increased by 80 paise a litre. Liquified petroleum gas prices were increased by Rs 50 per cylinder. The LPG rate was last revised on October 6. The fuel prices were again increased on Wednesday by 80 paise a litre each.

When National Conference MP Hasnain Masoodi stood up from his seat to ask a supplementary question to the question listed against his name, Gandhi was seen instructing him to sit down — and he did. She also discouraged IUML MP ET Mohammad Basheer from raising a question. Observing the Congress leader's move to stop Masood, Union Minister Piyush Goyal quipped that Gandhi's party was always trying to block Kashmir from development.

After taking up the Question Hour amid the chaos, the Speaker at 11.25 am, asked the MPs to go back to their seats. He said he would give them a chance to speak during the Zero Hour. "This is Question Hour and you are expected to raise questions on people's issues during this time".

When the House met at noon, Congress's Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury wanted to raise the issue. The Speaker, however, did not allow him, saying the Opposition did not pay heed to his requests to let Question Hour run. Protesting this, the Opposition MPs from Congress, DMK, Left parties and NCP walked out.

In Rajya Sabha, Opposition members carried placards and shouted slogans following which the House was adjourned for the second consecutive day.

"I have received notices under Rule 267... regarding the issue of prices of cooking gas, petroleum, diesel and kerosene and also other essential commodities like pulses and edible oils. I have considered it and I find that this is not an issue to be discussed under Rule 267. It is a general issue...It has to be discussed during the discussion on Demands for Grants," Naidu said as Opposition members protested.



**Union Finance Minister Nirmala** 

### House panel flags low coverage of rural drinking water scheme in big states

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

A PARLIAMENTARY standing committee has expressed concern that in several large states, less than 40 per cent of rural households have a functional household tap connection (FHTC). The committee also expressed disappointment regarding under-utilisation of lal leevan Mission ([[M] funds, saying this would deprive targeted beneficiaries of access to safe and clean potable water at their homes.

The Centre had announced JJM in August 2019 with the aim of providing drinking water to all rural households in the country by 2024. "As on date, out of 19.18 crore, 8.96 crore

(46.48%) rural households have access to clean potable water supply at their homes," the Standing Committee on Water Resources, headed by BJP member Sanjay Jaiswal, said in a report tabled in Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

'The Committee, however, expresses concern over the plight of bigger states like Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu which are providing below 40% FHTCs to their households," the report said.

states and Union Territories like Haryana, Telangana, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Puducherry have achieved 100 per cent target of providing tap water connections to households, while states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat have achieved more than 90 per cent household coverage, and are "expected" to achieve 100 per cent coverage "very soon".

Regarding under-utilisation of JJM funds, the report said, "...During the fiscal year 2021-22, under Jal Jeevan Mission, Rs 50,011 crore was allocated at BE (budget estimate) stage which was reduced to Rs 45,011 crore at RE (revised estimate) stage, while the actual expenditure incurred was only Rs 28,238 crore.'

The utilisation of the fund was even lower in some states. According to the report, states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have utilised less than 25 per cent of central allocation.

The report said the committee was "dismayed" about the under-utilisation of funds, 'which clearly indicates lack of financial prudence and fiscal discipline, thus, adversely affecting the implementation and monitoring of the programme as a whole.'



### FRIENDLY FISTS

Rajya Sabha members Mary Kom and Rakesh Sinha at Parliament House complex on Wednesday. Amit Mehra

### The panel expressed appreciation that attes and Union Territories like Haryana, these and Union Territories like Haryana, attes atte

### **LIZ MATHEW**

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

WITH CIVIL aviation becoming a key component of India's development and its economy, the country will have at least 220 airports by 2025, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said even as he assured the Lok Sabha that the government is not on a "disinvestment path" but has only leased the airports. He said the move has brought additional revenue to the government, besides guaranteeing upgrade of the airports.

Scindia, while replying to an eight-hour debate on the demand for grants for the Civil Aviation Ministry in the Lower House, urged the chief ministers across the country to reduce the VAT on the Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) in their respective states, which, he said, would lead to increase in connectivity and the revenue.

"By now, 12 states and UTs have reduced the VAT on the ATF. Let me tell you the profit part of it: both Andhra Pradesh and Kerala have reduced the VAT and there is a 15 per cent increase in the connectivity in three months. more aircraft land and take off from these states. Jammu and Kashmir has reduced it



Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia in Lok Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

 $from\,26\,per\,cent\,to\,1\,per\,cent\,and\,the\,number$ of aircraft landing there for refuelling has gone up by 360 per cent," the minister said.

Pointing out that the Covid pandemic had affected the otherwise-flourishing civil aviation sector in the country. Scindia said it has picked up now. "In the last seven days, 3.82lakh passengers undertook air travel per day. We are now targeting to triple the passenger frequency to 50 crore in 2023-24. Our focus is going to be on inclusiveness, access and affordability," he said.

He added that in 2018-19, it was 35.5 crore,

and it fell by 66 per cent during the Covid time to 11 crore. In the pre-Covid time, it was 4.15 lakh per day but the sector had made up and the difference was just 5 per cent, but the Omicron wave hit it again. "From 3.90 lakh (passengers per day), it fell to 1.60 lakh," he said.

According to Scindia, who took over as the civil aviation minister in July last year, there were 74 airports in the country till 2014. "In the last seven years, 66 new airports have been constructed. We have doubled our capacity. By 2025, the number of airports will be 220. In the last one year, we have opened three new airports; there were three brownfield projects, too, and now we are going to have 13 new greenfield airports also."

With several Opposition MPs slamming the government for "disinvesting" airports. Scindia clarified that it has not disinvested which he said would get only one-time payment and would not get the assets back ever – but only leased them for 50 years. He said the Airports Authority of India receives Rs 904 crore every year as the lease fee and Rs 2,322 crore has already reached the GoI accounts with the leasing of six airports. "The airports will come back to us with the upgrade," he said.

He also stressed on the need for the private participation in the developments in the

Day after quitting LS, Akhilesh says will

sector. "The government alone cannot proceed on the development path," he said, adding that private firms have already invested Rs 34,000 crore in the sector. Highlighting schemes like UDAN which

has made air travel accessible to ordinary citizens, Scindia assured the House that the Union Finance Minister has assured budgetary support for the sector. He said 91-lakh people have availed the facility under the UDAN scheme.

The minister thanked the Indian Air Force, private airlines, Indian missions abroad and the NRIs for supporting the government's efforts to evacuate stranded Indians from the conflict zone in Ukraine since Russia attacked that country. According to the minister, Indigo operated 35 flights, Air India 14, Go First six, Air Asia three and Air India Express and Spicejet nine each.

Pointing out that the economic multiplier of civil aviation in India is 3.1 and employment multiplier is 6.1, he said that 15 per cent of pilots in India are women, as against the global average of 5 per cent. The minister said there will be 35 new cargo terminals in the country in the coming three years and India is trying to be a leader in the drone sector which could provide at least 5-lakh job opportunities.

### As VIP chief says joining NDA was 'mistake', all his three MLAs seek to merge with BJP

#### **SANTOSH SINGH** PATNA, MARCH 23

ON TUESDAY, Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) chief and Bihar animal husbandry and fisheries minister Mukesh Sahani said his move to switch from the RJD-led grand alliance to the NDA camp ahead of the 2020 Bihar Assembly polls was a "mistake". The EBC Mallah leader was perhaps anticipating a severe political blow the next day.

In a major setback for Sahani, all his three MLAs – Raju Kumar Singh (Sahebganj), Misri Lal Yadav (Alinagar) and Swarna Singh (Gaura Bouram) — met Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha on Wednesday evening, seeking their dissociation with the

VIP and merger with the BJP. In the 2020 Bihar polls, the BJP had allotted 11 seats to the VIP from its NDA quota. The VIP contested from these seats and won 4. The three VIP MLAs owed their allegiance to the BJP unofficially from the beginning.

Sahani, who had lost his own Assembly election, was made a Member of the Bihar Legislative Council (MLC) by the BIP to enable him to become a minister. The saffron party had however not given Sahani a fullterm MLC berth. His MLC tenure is to expire this July. Now that his party is not likely to be part of the NDA, he could not get another MLC term from the BJP and may well have to resign as the minister soon.

The inclusion of the three VIP MLAs in the BJP Legislature Party would make the saffron party the single largest party in the Bihar Assembly with 77 seats -2 more than than the RJD's 75 seats. Though the BJP had won 91 seats in the 2010 Bihar Assembly polls, it

is going to be the first time when the BJP becomes the single largest party.

The rebel VIP MLAs' move will have no impact on the fate of the Nitish Kumar-led JD(U)-BJP government in Bihar, as the NDA's tally will stand at 126 in the 243-member House.

The development would, however, give the BJP a psychological edge over the JD(U), even though the former has all along remained the senior alliance partner.

With the BJP winning the recent Assembly elections easily in four states, including Uttar Pradesh, the party has further reinforced its advantage over the JD(U), with the latter appearing to have exhausted all its options except another switchover to the RJD coalition, which would be unlikely with Tejashwi Yadav, who is at the helm of the RJD, taking centre stage in state politics on his own. FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

#### **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** LUCKNOW, MARCH 23

AFTER PAYING tribute to party ideologue

Ram Manohar Lohia on his birth anniversary on Wednesday, Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav said the people of Uttar Pradesh have "given a mandate to the party for continuing the struggle for them, and that the party will do so from sadan to sadak".

Speaking with reporters in Lucknow on his decision to retain the Karhal Assembly seat after resigning his Lok Sabha membership from Azamgarh, Akhilesh on Wednesday said, "The SP has been given a mandate for struggle. We have been given a chance to stay in the state Assembly. From the sadan (Assembly) to sadak (roads), we will continue our struggle.'

#### Akhilesh was elected to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly from Karhal in the justconcluded elections. Before getting elected to the House, he represented Azamgarh as an MP in the Lok Sabha.

take people's struggle from sadan to sadak

On Tuesday, Akhilesh had decided to retain the Assembly seat while giving up his Lok Sabha membership from the Azamgarh constituency.

Taking to Twitter on Wednesday, he said, 'Crores of people of UP have given us a moral victory in the Assembly polls. To honour this,

I will represent Karhal and always remain committed to the progress of Azamgarh." When asked who will the party field from Azamgarh Lok Sabha seat, which he vacated.

Akhilesh said: "The workers and leaders of the SP in Azamgarh will decide who will contest the bypoll from there when it happens." Asked about Chief Minister-designate Yogi

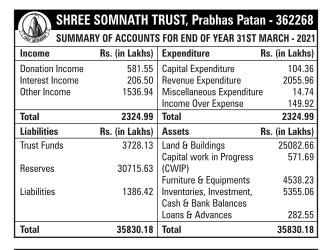
New Delhi

said, "The SP has been given a mandate by the people to struggle. The SP has been given the mandate to struggle for the people. And, as far as the organisation (oath ceremony) is concerned, happiness is necessary and they should celebrate, too. But, this is a government of continuity. And, in five years, if the government could not build a place that could inspire them, then at least they will be inspired by the works of the Samajwadis.' Talking about inflation, the SP chief said,

Adityanath's oath-taking ceremony, Akhilesh

"It is increasing constantly. The government Why is this happening?"

says it has no control over the prices of petrol and diesel. But, the prices of diesel and petrol have constantly been increasing due to the flawed policies of the government. And, if you assess the situation, then you will see that companies selling fuel are making profits.



State Bank of India Employees' (M. S. Patel) Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Mumbai. State Bank of India, Mumbai Main Branch Building Mumbai Samachar Marg, Fort, Mumbai - 400 023

#### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, Special General Body Meeting of members of the State Bank of India Employees' (M. S. Patel) Co-op. Credit Society Ltd., Mumbai, will be held on Sunday, the 10th April, 2022 at 04.00 p.m. at Auditorium, SBOA Public School, Plot No. 10, Sector No. 5, Near D.Y. Patil Hospital, Nerul, Navi Mumbai - 400706. All members are requested to attend the meeting. Notice is available on Society's Website www.sbimspatel.com and displayed at the registered office, for information. Bank's Identity Card is compulsory to attend the meeting. All guidelines related to COVID-19 should be followed.

Date: 06.03.2022

MUKESH BHATIA HON. SECRETARY & CEO

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State Bank of India having its Local Head Office at Chandigarh intends to hire three (3) New Hyundai Alcazar 1.5 MT Prestige 6 str (Diesel-Pelar White Colour) and Fifteen. (15) New Honda City ZXMT (Petrol-P White Colour) bearing taxi numbers on monthly hiring basis for the use of Senior Officials of the Bank posted at Chandigarh/Panchkula/Mohali for a minimum period of 3 years. Sealed Bids, alongwith earnest money vide draft/banker cheque favouring State Bank Of India (payable at Chandigarh) for Rs. 4,00,0004 (Rupees four lacs only) are invited from reputed/eligible/suthorized taxi/tour operators having minimum 3 years' experience in the line having at least 25 taxi number vehicles owned by them (as on 28.01.2022) & Annual Tumover for the last 3 preceding financial years should not be less than Rs. 3 crores per annum. The sealed quotations should reach the undersigned on or before 16.04.2022 by 04:00 pm. The price bid would be invited from eligible bidders through e-tendering. Bank reserves the right to accept/reject anytall quotations without assigning any reason thereof and no correspondence in this regard shall be entertained. The Bank's decision in this

The details of terms & conditions are available at Bank's website www.sbi.co.in →SBI in the news → Procurement News link or can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

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कागज कारखाना, नर्मदापुरम–461005 (म.प्र.) (भारत प्रतिभूति मुद्रण तथा मुद्रा निर्माण लिमिटेड की इकाई) भारत सरकार के पूर्ण स्वामित्वाधीन

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nder the page "Careers" **Human Resource Department** 

Varthana Finance Private Limited varthana (Formerly known as Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.,) Registered Office at : No. 5BC-110, Varasiddhi. Outer Ring Road, Service Road 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043. Website www.varthana.com, Email: care@varthana.com, Phone: 080-68455777, Branch Office: Block 57,Unit NO-14,2nd Floor, Kaveri Centre,(LandMark Telephone Exchange Building)Sanjay Place, Agra -282002.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] (For Immovable property) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the M/s Varthana Finance Private Ltd., (Formerly Known as M/s, Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.,) Agra, Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12)

read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated: 09-11-2021, calling upon the Applicants/ Co-Applicants/ Mortgagors, In Loan Account No. S17AGR-AGR-000226 and U21AGR-AGR-018651, 1). Durg Pal Singh Mahavidhyalya, Represented by Authorized Signatory, Village & Post Pinahat, Agra – 283123 (Uttar Pradesh), 2). Durg Pal Singh Shiksha Samiti, Represented by Authorized Signatory, Village & post Pinahat, Agra - 283123 (Uttar Pradesh), 3). Govind Singh, S/o. Dheeraj Singh, 47, Mar Muhalla, Pinahat Dehat, Agra - 283123 (Uttar Pradesh), 4). Munni Devi, W/o. Ram Kumar, Mar Muhalla, Pinahat Dehat, Agra – 283123 (Uttar Pradesh), 5). Ram Kumar Singh Chauhan, S/o. Durga Pal, Mar Muhalla, Pinahat Dehat, Uttar

Pradesh, Agra - 283123, to repay the mentioned amount in the said notice being a sum of Rs. 1,11,65,657/- (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Seven Only) as on 10-11-2021, to pay agreed contractual rate of interest together with incidental expenses, cost and other charges etc., as details mentioned in the Demand Notice, till the date of payment, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice

However the Applicants/ Co-Applicants/ Mortgagors herein above having failed to repay the full amount with interest/other charges, notice is hereby given to the Applicants/Co Applicants/Mortgagors in particular and to the public in general that the undersigned being Authorised Officer of the M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd, Agra, Branch has taken SYMBOLIC POSSESSION of the property described herein below in exercise of powers onferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 of the Security Interes Enforcement Rules, 2002 on 21st March 2022.

The Applicants/ Co-Applicants/ Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd. Agra. for an amount of Rs. 1,11,65,657/- (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Geven Only) as on 10-11-2021, together with agreed contractual rate of interest, as mention nerein above until the date of payment together with incidental expenses, cost and other harges. The Applicants/Co-Applicants/Mortgagors attention is invited to provisions of Section 3(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured Assets.

Description of the Immovable Property: Schedule 'A' Property: All that piece and parcel of the property constructed over Khasra No.1671, Totally Measuring 2.1680 Hectares, out of this 0.2940 Hectare ie.2940 Sq Mts, Situated at Mauza Vipravali Tehsil Bah, Dist. Agra, Bounded on : East By : Gata No.62,63,64,65, West By : Gata No.1707 & Gata No. 1708, 1709, 1710, North By: Collage Gate, South By: Gata No. 1708, 1709, 1710. Schedule 'B' Property: All that piece and parcel of the property Khasra No. 1707, Totally Measuring 0.7230 Hectare ie.7230 Sq Mts, Situated at Mauza Vipravali Tehsil Bah,Dist. Agra, property bounded on : East By : Gata No. 1671, West By:GataNo. 1714, Noth By Gata No.1708, South By: Gata No.1706.

Memorandum of Deposit of Title Deed Executed by Durgpal Pal Singh, Mahavidhalya Pinahat Tehsil Bah Distt Agra through Manager Shri Govind Singh S/o Shri Dhiraj Singh

R/o. Pinahat, Tehsil. Bah Dist. Agra dated 16-06-2017. Date: 24-03-2022, Place: Vipravali. Authorised Officer, Varthana Finance Private Limite



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### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### NOTICE

WHERE AS, Shri Rahul Singh, S/o Sh. Dhanpal Sing, Village and post office-Jhaberara mohala - Kumaharan, Tahasil-Roorkee Distt- Haridwar, Uttrakhand remained unauthorized absent duty from 01.08.2018 to till date and failed to report for duty at his working place WHERE AS, Rahul Singh, S/o Sh. Dhanpal Sing, has been inquiry letter vide no E/3/ADEN/JUDW DT 14.10.2021, 03.12.2021, 27.01.2022 and got served through ragistered letter. On the above noted address but it appears that **Shri Rahul Singh,** S/o Sh. Dhanpal Sing is evading the official letters.

This it is evident that said Rahul Singh, S/o Sh. Dhanpal Sing, is no more interested to serve the Railways and therefore by way of this publication is hereby informed to attend the Inquiry the office of ADEN/JUDW to report for dt 18.04.22 of the publication of the notice otherwise the Railway Administration shall proceed to take disciplinary action against said Shri Rahul Singh, S/o Sh. Dhanpal Sing.

L.NO-ADEN/JUDW/E/3/D&AR//SF-5/RAHUL SINGH Dt. 15.03.2022

**Assistant Divisional Engineer** N.Rly, Jagadhri Workshop, Inquiry Officer

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"ENTRANCE" on IGRUA website https://igrua.gov.in The last date of filling of ONLINE application is 18 May 2022 (fee pay

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प्रारूप 28 (नियम 92 (1) (क) (ii))

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना का प्रारूप

मध्यप्रदेश शासन, नगर पालिक निगम, ग्वालियर							
जनसंपर्क RO क्रमांक 109 दिनांक : 22-03-2022 766 दिनांक : 21/03/2022							
एन.आई.टी. क्रं.	निर्माण	समय व दिनांक	संभावित राशि	पूर्णता अवधि (माह)			
2022_UAD_ 191679_1	दक्षिण विधानसभा अन्तर्गत क्षेत्र क्र. 15, 16 एवं 19 में सी.सी. सड़क एवं नाली निर्माण कार्य।	प्रातः 10:30 बजे दिनांक 21.03.2022 से सायं 5:30 बजे दिनांक 18.04.2022 तक	4,20,40,192/-	12 माह			
2022_UAD_ 191692_1	दक्षिण विधानसभा अन्तर्गत क्षेत्र क्र. 17, 18, 20 एवं 21 में सी.सी. सड़क एवं नाली निर्माण कार्य।	प्रातः 10:30 बजे दिनांक 21.03.2022 से सायं 5:30 बजे दिनांक 18.04.2022 तक	4,20,40,192/-	12 माह			

इच्छक बोली दाता वेबसाइट http://gmc.mptenders.gov.in पर एनआईटी देख सकते हैं एनआईटी में संशोधन, यदि कोई होता है, तो केवल, वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किया जायेगा और समाचार पत्र में नहीं

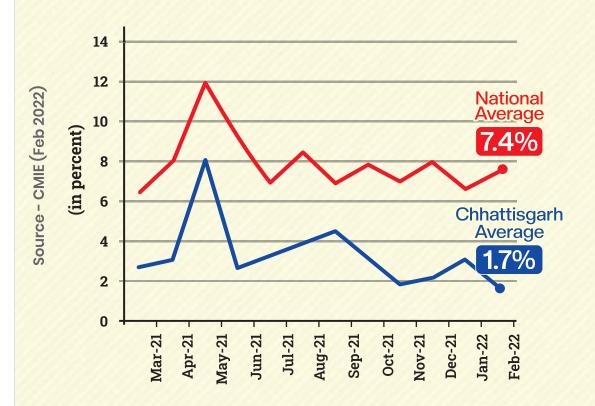
किसी भी स्पष्टीकरण की आवश्यकता हो तो कृपया नगर पालिक निगम, ग्वालियर में सम्पर्क करें। मुख्य समन्वयक अधिकारी. विधानसभा दक्षिण नगर निगम ग्वालिय



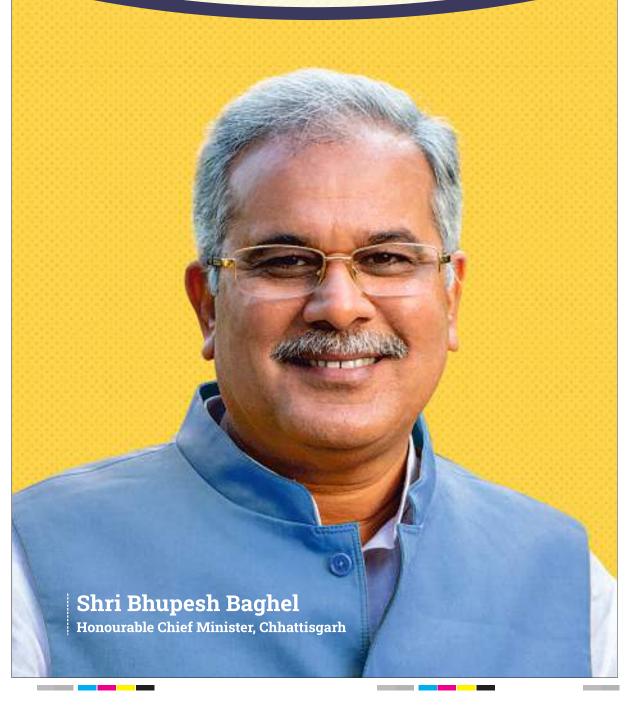
## **Chhattisgarh Model** WORKS

## One of the Lowest **Unemployment Rates** in the Country

### **Average Unemployment Rate**



### **Consistency of Our Efforts**





## 8 GOVT & POLITICS

## Dhami sworn in as Uttarakhand CM

Eight ministers also take oath at ceremony attended by PM, several Union ministers and CMs

**AVANEESH MISHRA** DEHRADUN, MARCH 23

PUSHKAR SINGH Dhami, 46, was sworn in as the 11th Chief Minister of Uttarakhand on Wednesday for the second term at a ceremony attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, several Union ministers and chief ministers of some BJP-ruled states.

Eight Cabinet ministers who also took oath along with Dhami Satpal Maharaj, Premchandra Agarwal, Ganesh Joshi, Dhan Singh Rawat, Subodh Unival. Saurabh Bahuguna. Rekha Arya and Chandan Ram Das. Agarwal, Bahuguna and Das are the new faces in the state cabinet that has an average age of 56 years.

Other than the Prime Minister, prominent among those who attended the event were Union ministers Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, Rajnath Singh, Prahlad Joshi; BJP presi-

**DELHI CONFIDENTIAL** 

MAKING A POINT

explain her demand more effectively.

TWIN TROUBLE

HEMA MALINI Wednesday raised the issue of artists from her

Mathura constituency in Parliament, trying to wear it on her

sleeve – literally. The actor-MP asked the government if it had

any plan to encourage Sanjhi artists from the Mathura-

Vrindavan area. Pointing out that artists from other parts of the

country like the Madhubani artists from Bihar and Warli painting artists from Maharashtra are promoted through tex-

tile products, the Mathura MP wanted Sanjhi art on textile as

well. After raising the issue in House, she met Union minister

Smriti Irani, and wished her on her birthday. She appealed to

Irani to extend support to artists from Braj region to get their

art on the textile products. Hema Malini, who came in a sari

with Madhubani art on it, said she wore that particular sari to

 $WHEN\,SOMEONE\,told\,Union\,Minister\,S\,P\,Singh\,Baghel\,that\,he$ 

looked like a don on Wednesday, he shared an interesting story

with a few fellow MPs at Parliament gate. According to Baghel,

when Telugu actor-turned-politician Chiranjeevi was an MP, many had told both about the similarities in their appearance.

One day, Chiranjeevi asked Baghel to accompany him to another

MP's residence for dinner but on the condition that he should

keep his mouth shut. Once there, Chiranieevi introduced Baghel

to the host as his twin who had come from abroad, Baghel

claimed the host MP believed him as long as he remained silent.

Later, when Chiranjeevi protested demanding a separate state,

Baghel was flooded with questions in his home state Uttar

Pradesh on why he wanted Andhra Pradesh to be bifurcated.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Pushkar Singh Dhami who took charge as CM of Uttarakhand on Wednesday. PTI

dent JP Nadda, Uttar Pradesh CM-designate Yogi Adityanath; and chief ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Madhya Pradesh), Manohar Lal Khattar (Haryana) and Himanta Biswa Sarma

First-time minister Saurabh Bahuguna, 43, is the son of former Uttarakhand CM Vijay Bahuguna and grandson of former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna. He represents the Sitargani seat and is one of the two youngest ministers in the state.

Spiritual leader-cum-politician Satpal Maharaj, 70, had served as the Minister of PWD, Tourism, Cultural and Irrigation in the last cabinet. Maharaj was also an MP from the Congress before he joined the BJP in 2014. He is both the eldest as well as the richest minister in the state Cabinet.

A secretary of the party's state unit, Dhan Singh Rawat had the portfolio of Higher Education, Cooperatives, Disaster Management, Dairy Development, and Protocols in the previous Cabinet. He had defeated state Congress president Ganesh Godiyal from the Srinagar assembly seat by 587

Former Assembly Speaker Prem Chand Agarwal will be a first-time minister. He has been an MLA from Rishikesh for three consecutive terms since 2007. Agarwal was the only minister on Wednesday who took the oath in Sanskrit.

Former soldier Ganesh Joshi was the Minister of Soldier Industrial Development, MSME, Khadi and Village Industries in the last Cabinet. This is his fourth stint as a member of the legislative Assembly. A matriculate, Joshi is the least-educated member in the Dhami Cabinet.

Subodh Uniyal served as the Agriculture Minister in the previous government. This is his second stint as a legislator from the Narendra Nagar constituency in Tehri Garhwal district. Unival was also the spokesperson of the Uttarakhand government.

The only woman in the new Cabinet, Rekha Arya, 43, is an MLA from Someshwar constituency and she was also a minister in the previous Cabinet.

A four-time MLA from the Bageshwar (SC) constituency, Chandan Ram Das will serve as

### POLL ARENA

Preprations at Lucknow's Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium for Yogi Adityanath's swearing-in as CM on Friday. The BJP is going all out to make the event a stepping stone for its 2024 Lok Sabha campaign. PM Narendra Modi is scheduled to attend. Sources said invites have been sent to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and all Union ministers and chief ministers of BJP-ruled states. Bhagwat is unlikely to attend. Vishal Srivastav

### President to address Gujarat House in special session today

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** GANDHINAGAR, MARCH 23

PRESIDENT RAM Nath Kovind will address a special session of Gujarat Assembly on Thursday. The address will be part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations of the Central government to mark 75 years of independence.

A senior official of Gujarat Assembly said that this will be the first address of the President

An announcement of this

to Gujarat Assembly ever.

was made by Speaker Nimaben Acharva from the floor of the House after Question Hour Wednesday.

As per the Speaker, the President's address will be part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations and will be held between 11 am and 12 noon Thursday.

For the special occasion, the Speaker also gave out certain instructions to the Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Wednesday, and asked the members to take their seats by 10.30 am. The President will arrive at the Assembly at 10.45 am. After his arrival in the House, a police band will play the national anthem. All the members of the House have also been instructed not to leave their seats till the President departs.

The Speaker also announced changes in the schedule of the House proceedings owing to the President's address. It was scheduled to hold two sittings on Thursday, but now, the House will hold one sitting after the President's address.

MP IAS officer

faces show cause

notice for tweet

on Kashmir Files

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 



Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann pays tribute to freedom fighters

## BHOPAL, MARCH 23 MADHYA PRADESH Home

in Hussainiwala on Wednesday. Express

### Can make Punjab graft-free in a month if people support: CM

**RAAKHIJAGGA** LUDHIANA MARCH 23

ON THE occasion of martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, Punjab CM Bhagwant Singh Mann launched an anticorruption helpline free) if people will support him

in this drive. Mann gave this number to the people of Punjab after paying respects at Hussainiwala.

He said, "The anti-corruption helpline number is 9501200200. I had promised you to give you a number on March 23 which will be an 'anti-corruption action line'. There can't be a better tribute to the martyrs by launching this number on this day as it is a start to make India and Punjab

He added that if the people

support him, he will make Punjab corruption free within a month. "If anyone asks for bribe from you in lieu of any work, don't refuse him/her but make a video of that demand and send it at this number Trequest you to send only corruption-related videos at this number. For the rest of the issues, there are many other departments as well for which you can get details on our website."

He added that regarding the video related to corruption, one staff will do a fair investigation in this matter and "if anyone is found guilty whether our officer, or our minister or even MLA, strictest possible action will be

taken against them". "I need the support of 2.75 crore Punjabis in this drive," he said, adding that "We are working hard day and night and we need your support to make Punjab once again a rangla Punjab. This will be an effort to pay tribute to martyrs by making Punjab 'corruption-free'."

Minister Narottam Mishra Wednesday said the government would serve a show cause notice to a PWD official who had tweeted on The Kashmir Files and suggested that a film should be made on the suffering of Muslims as well. IAS officer Niyaz Khan, Deputy

Secretary in the Public Works Department, tweeted: "Kashmir File shows the pain of Brahmins. They should be allowed to live safely in Kashmir with all honour. The producer must also make a movie to show the killings of large number of Muslims across several states. Muslims are not insects but human beings and citizens of country.'

Medical Education Minister Vishvas Sarang accused Khan of "firga parasti (sectarianism)" and called for his removal from the PWD. Following this, Mishra said: "He is violating the service conduct rules that binde officers. The government will issue a show cause notice.'

In another tweet on Sunday, the IAS officer congratulated the film's producers on the movie touching the Rs 150-crore revenue mark, and said they should "transfer all earnings to Brahmin children's education" and build homes for them in Kashmir.

In response, The Kashmir Files director Vivek Agnihotri asked Khan for an appointment. "We can meet and exchange ideas how we can help and how you can help with the royalty of your books and your power as an IAS officer," Agnihotri tweeted Sunday.

in turn, happened in two ways

### Aircel-Maxis case: Chidambaram, son get bail in cases by CBI, ED

New Delhi: A Delhi Court Wednesday granted regular bail to former Union minister P Chidambaram and his son Karti in corruption and money laundering cases filed by the CBI and ED respectively in relation to the Aircel-Maxis deal.

The court, which had earlier granted anticipatory bail to both the accused in the matter, accepted the bail bonds of Rs 1 lakh each in both the cases

The accused had moved application after they appeared before the court in pursuance of

harvested after April) as well.



Chidambaram and son Karti



summons issued against them after it took cognizance of the charge sheets filed by the probe agencies. The case relates to alleged irregularities in the grant of FIPB approval in the Aircel-Maxis

### Farm laws: Why SC panel report on 'silent majority' support does not add up

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

ON MONDAY, the report of the Supreme Court-appointed committee on the controversial farm laws was made public for the first time, and it talked about how the panel had recommended against their withdrawal, as a "majority" of the farm unions support them and a repeal would be "unfair to this silent majority".

However, a scrutiny of the report reveals that the consultation process through which the committee arrived at this conclusion was far from widespread, as it indicated. In fact, the committee "interacted directly", either through video conferencing or physically, with only 73 of the 306 farmer bodies (24 per cent) which it had invited for consultation.

The committee also claimed that of the 19,207 representation feedback on its portal, two-third supported the farm laws. But the report shows that out of the 19,207 responses, only 5,451, or 28 per cent, came from farmers.

Of these, the maximum responses were from Maharashtra (2,000-2,500), followed by 'Unspecified" location (a little over 2.000), and then Raiasthan. Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. These states saw negligible protests over the farm laws.

From three states, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Harvana, between 1,000 and 1,500 responses were received. Less than 1,000 was the figure for other states and Union Territories, including Punjab, which saw the maximum protests against the three farm laws.

Similarly, of the total 142 representatives who participated in meetings of the committee, only 78 were from farmers' organisations, while 64 belonged to industry bodies and other organi-

The 92-page report shows that the committee had invited 306 farmer unions and Farmer Producers Organisations (FPOs) for consultation. This list included the 41 farmers' unions spearheading the protest against the three laws, which boycotted



The committee 'interacted directly' with only 73 of the 306 farmer bodies it had invited for consultation. Express/File

"The Committee interacted directly with 73 Farmer Organizations, either through video conferencing or physically. These Farmer Organizations represented more than 3.83 crore

While it adds that of these, 4 Farmers Organizations, representing 51 lakh farmers (13.3 per cent), did not support the Act, 7 representing 3.6 lakh farmers (1 per cent) supported with some suggestions for modifica-

LAINEI

tions, and 1 representing 500 farmers was not clear on the farm laws, the report says: "... 61 Farmer Organizations, representing 3.3 crore farmers, fully supported the Acts — a

majority constituting 85.7 per cent of the total farmers."

However, as per various official estimates, the number of farmers in India is in the range of 9 crore to 15 crore. Even under PM-Kisan, the number of beneficiaries is 10.09 crore. The figure of 3.3 crore is hence about 30% or lower of the total farmers.

Besides, the committee says it received feedback from 5,451 farmers, 929 FPOs, 151 farmers unions and 12,496 other stakeholders online. "This feedback on the portal showed that around two-thirds of the respondents supported the Acts," the committee said. However, 5,451 farmers add up to only 28 per cent of the responses. The report says the commit-

fessionals or academicians, 10 representing private markets and state agriculture marketing boards, and 11 government officials and procurement agencies. Among the industry bodies that participated were Amul, ITC,

tee held 11 meetings between

January 21 and February 23,

2021, in which 142 people par-

ticipated, 78 of them from farm-

ers' unions and FPOs, 18 each

from industry bodies and state

FCI, Sugna Foods, Horticulture **Produce Exporters** Association. Venkateshwara Hatcheries, CII, FICCI, APEDA, Seafood, etc. Staying the implementation

of the three farm laws on January 12, 2021, the Supreme Court had constituted a four-member committee for "the purpose of listening to the grievances of the farmers relating to the farm laws and the views of the Government and to make recommendations". The committee was asked to submit its report within two months from the date of its first sitting

Two days later after the committee was announced, one of the members, Bhupinder Singh Mann, had recused himself. The committee submitted its

report on March 19, 2021. It was under wraps since. On November 19, 2021, the government announced the repeal.

#### Hussainiwala on Wednesday morning. On the ocassion, he said that Punjab can be made 'Bhrashtachar Mukt' (corruption

a massive seed germination fail-

ure. The situation was so bad that

according to the estimates of the

Soybean Processors Association

of India, which is the Indore-

based soybean processor's associ-

ation, around 20 per cent of the

43 lakh hectares under the crop

required resowing. From sub-

standard seeds to incorrect sow-

ing to inadequate levels of mois-

ture in the soil — there were

several reasons for the germina-

tion failure. The failure led to the

Bombay High Court passing stric-

ture department to think of ways

This compelled the agricul-

New Delhi

tures against the government.

How Maharashtra govt sowed seeds of prosperity for soybean farmers to ensure the availability of good quality soybean seeds to farmers for the next season. They planned to promote the cropping of soybeans in the Rabi season. The fact that the past two years have seen good rain meant that groundwa-

> farmers to act on this strategy. The plan to sow an additional crop in Rabi had two primary goals. One, to compensate for any losses that a farmer may suffer during the routine Kharif season. Two, to supplement farmers' incomes, even if there were no

ter levels were better and enabled

losses during the Kharif season. The boost to farmers' income, as explained by Dheeraj Kumar, state's Agriculture the Commissioner. At one level, the farmers had a soybean harvest when its prices were well above the MSP. This allowed farmers to earn a nifty profit. Two, the Rabi crop also saves the farmers from spending huge amounts on buying new seeds for the next Kharif crop. In other words, the Rabi crop is helping farmers to sell at a premium but also reducing their seed costs for the next season, according to Kumar. **FULL REPORT ON** 

www.indianexpress.com

#### Doke credits the state agriculture PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS department's extension services PUNE MARCH 23 which encouraged him and

DATTATREYA DOKE is eyeing windfall gains from his soybean crop. This farmer from the village of Dokewadi in Bhum taluka of Osmanabad said this year along with the Kharif crop (sown in June-July and harvested after September), he would have another crop ready for the markets by next April. This was possible because Doke has taken a second soybean crop in the rabi season (sown in December-January and of Rs 3,950/quintal.

other farmers in his area to go for a second crop of soybean.

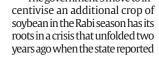
Thanks to the second soybean crop, Doke today has 42 quintals of soybean to sell at a time when the wholesale market prices in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh — the two biggest soybean-producing states in the country - range between Rs 7,200-7,500/quintal. That's a sharp premium over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

The second soybean crop,



which Doke had grown in onethird of his three-acre landholding, has allowed him to have more than the usual quantity of soybean to sell this time around.

The government's move to incentivise an additional crop of soybean in the Rabi season has its roots in a crisis that unfolded two years ago when the state reported





Dattatreya Doke's rabi soybean crop. Express

Submit report on

Birbhum killings in

24 hrs: HC to state

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

THE CALCUTTA High Court on

Wednesday asked the West

Bengal government to submit a

report on the killings at Bagtui

village in Birbhum district

ing Chief Justice Prakash

Srivastav and Justice Rajarshi

Bharadwaj also issued direction

to the government that security

arrangements should be en-

sured in the village under the

supervision of the Burdwan

stalled in the village, said the

HC that also asked Special

Investigation Team (SIT) prob-

ing the matter submit case di-

ary along with its report. The

court also ordered the Central

Forensic Laboratory to collect

samples from the place of

(PIL) was filed on Tuesday seek-

ing CBI inquiry into the incident.

matter was taken suo moto by

Chief Justice Srivastav. "It is a very

shocking and serious incident. It

has huge impact among the peo-

New Delhi: In the aftermath of

the violence in West Bengal's

Birbhum district, Congress

leader in Lok Sabha Adhir

Ranjan Chowdhury on

Wednesday wrote to President

Ram Nath Kovind, urging him

to invoke Article 355 of the

A public interest litigation

On Wednesday morning, the

CCTV cameras should be in-

A division bench compris-

KOLKATA, MARCH 23

within 24 hours.

district judge.

NCW asks Bengal

stringent action

New Delhi: The National

Commission of Women has

asked the West Bengal DGP

to intervene and take strin-

gent action in the Birbhum

violence incident in which

eight people, including

women and children, were

charred to death following

the killing of a TMC leader.

The commission also asked

the police chief to inform it

within 24 hours on the ac-

tion taken in the matter. PTI

The bench ordered the

Director General of Police (DGP)

and other top police officials to

meet the Purba Burdwan and

take suggestion on ensuring se-

ment should be given an op-

portunity to file investigation

report on Wednesday by 2 pm.

The Chief Justice said that the

security of victims' families and

eye-witnesses should be en-

The bench said the govern-

curity at Bogtui village.

sured by the police.

**Invoke Article 355 in West** 

Bengal, demands Adhir

ple," the Chief Justice said.

DGP to take

PM Narendra Modi

**Hope Bengal** brings Birbhum

violence culprits

EXPRESSING HIS condolences to

the families of Tuesday's Birbhum

violence victims, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi said he hopes the

state government will get the per-

petrators punished. "Main hinsak

vaardaat par dukh vyakt karta

hoon, apni samvedna vyakt karta

hoon, aur asha karta hoon ki rajya

sarkar Bengal ki mahaan dharti par

aisa jaghanya paan karne waalon

ko zaroor saza dilwayegi (Texpress

my condolences on the violent in-

cident in Birbhum, and hope the

state government will get those

who committed such a heinous

sin on the great land of Bengal

punished)," he said, while digitally

inaugurating 'Biplobi Bharat

Gallery' at Kolkata's Victoria

Memorial Hall on Wednesday

"I request the people of Bengal

to not forgive the criminals and

those who encouraged them," the

PM said, while also assuring the

state government of the Centre's

support in bringing the perpetra-

Remembering the martyrs on

the Shaheed Diwas, the Prime

Minister said that the tales of sac-

rifice of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and

Sukhdev inspire all of us to work

tirelessly for the country. "The

legacy of our past guides our pres-

ent, inspires us to build a better fu-

ture. Therefore, today the country

sees its history, its past, as a living

source of energy," he said. While

Modi joined via video conferenc-

ing, West Bengal Governor

Jagdeep Dhankhar and Union Culture and Tourism Minister G

Kishan Reddy were among those

present on the occasion.

evening.

tors to justice.

to justice: PM

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

DIVYAA

## Birbhum: 'Women, kids huddled in a room, but were still set on fire'

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & SWEETY KUMARI

WITH THE Calcutta High Court directing the West Bengal police to submit a report on the killing of eight people in Birbhum following a local TMC leader's murder, and the BIP taking aim at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over the incident, the family members of those targeted in Bogtui village told The Indian Express that the women and children who were killed had huddled together in one room but the

assailants "still set it on fire". The family members also alleged that ten of their kin were killed on Monday night, and not eight as claimed by the police – and that even those eight bodies were not handed over to them but buried by police late on Tuesday night in the village.

On Wednesday, an officer from Birbhum Police said that ten of the 20 people arrested in the case "have been remanded to police custody while the others have been sent to judicial custody". "The accused will be interrogated as the investigation proceeds," the officer said. They have been charged under several IPC sections, including murder, attempt to murder and arson.

Taking suo motu cognizance of the incident, the High Court directed the police to submit a detailed report on the incident by 2 pm Thursday.

According to the police and local residents, the killings were triggered by the murder of Bhadu Sheikh, the deputy pradhan, in Rampurhat on Monday evening, leading to at least eight houses in the area being attacked and set on fire.

"Our family members, women and children, our daughter and son-in-law who visited us, had all huddled in a room. which was the strongest in the house. But they still set it on fire, and all of them died. Our family is finished and only ashes re-

main. We are not in a condition to talk," Mihilal Sheikh, who said he had lost seven members of his family in the attack, told The Indian Express over phone.

According to Mihilal, those who were killed included his wife Roushanara Bibi and his eightyear-old daughter Omnehani Khatun: his mother Noor Nehar Bibi and his sister Rupali Bibi; his brother's wife Jehanara Bibi, their daughter Marjina and her husband Kaji Sajidur Rehman. Mihilal's account is yet to be officially corroborated.

Omnehani, who was called Tuli, was a Class 5 student in the Rampurhat girls' school, Marjina had married Sajidur, who hails from Nanur in Birbhum, in January this year, and the couple had reached Bogtui on Monday.

"Sajidur and Marjina had called on Monday afternoon to say they had reached. At night, my son called his friend to say there was trouble and asked him to call the police for help. I tried to call my son but could not reach him. In the morning, I heard they were dead. I want those responsible to be hanged," said Sajidur's father Kaji Nurul Jamal.

With most of the bodies charred beyond recognition, the only victim whose identity has been confirmed is Meena Bibi.

"Meena Bibi is the wife of Fatikh Sheikh, who is a distant relative. She was in an adjacent house with their two grandchildren Surjya Sheikh and Akash Sheikh, aged 4 and 6. While Meena succumbed to her injuries in hospital, there is no trace of the children. Where did they go? Or, where did their bodies go?" asked Mihilal, a smalltime businessman who also owns some land in the area.

Birbhum SP Nagendra Tripathi did not respond to multiple calls from The Indian Express seeking comment on the allegations. Sources in SIT formed to probe the incident said a forensic team visited the spot.

**FULL REPORT ON** 



At Bogtui village in Birbhum. Partha Paul

### 9 more arrested for violence, 10 accused sent to police custody

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** KOLKATA, MARCH 23

THE SPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT) of the West Bengal Police on Wednesday arrested nine more people in connection with the incident wherein eight people, including women and children, were charred to death after their houses were set on fire in Bagtui village of West Bengal's Birbhum district a day before.

Eleven persons were arrested on Tuesday for the violence that was triggered by the killing of Bhadu Sheikh, a deputy panchayat pradhan who was associated with the state's ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC).

The 20 arrested suspects were produced in the Rampurhat court that sent 10 of them to police custody and the rest to judicial custody. The suspects have been booked on charges of mur-



Veteran CPM leader Biman Bose along with other Left Front leaders at Bagtui village in Birbhum on Wednesday. Express

besides other sections of the Indian Penal Code.

The SIT officials said a forensic team visited the spot and collected samples on Wednesday.

Nine of the arrested accused are immediate neighbours of the deceased, the police said. While at least three are aged below 20.

Chief Minister's letter asking him

Two first information reports (FIRs) were filed in the episode – one over the deputy pradhan's killing and the other over the attack on the houses, they said.

In the case related to the recovery of the eight charred bodies, sections related to murder and arson were slapped against

#### Constitution to ensure that the state government functions in accordance with the provisions said in the letter Article 355 of the Constitution of the Constitution. "The law-and-order situation in West Bengal has com-

pletely broken down. It is very sad to note that during last month itself there were 26 po-



Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

The whole state is in the grip of fear and violence," Chowdhury

deals with an emergency provision by which the Centre can intervene and protect a state against external aggression or internal

The Prime Minister said that after 'Nirbhik Subhas' (an exhibition on the life and times of Subhas Chandra Bose at Victoria Memorial Hall to celebrate his 125th birth anniversary), a new pearl has been added to the Kolkata's rich heritage through Biplobi Bharat Gallery. He said that the gallery is a proof of the government's commitment to preserve the heritage of West Bengal.

He said that work on renovating the iconic landmarks of the state like Victoria Memorial, iconic galleries, Metcalf House etc. is almost over, "Let these symbols of our culture, civilisation continue to inspire the present and future generations of India, this is a great effort in this direction," he said.

He also made a special mention of his government's efforts to bring stolen antiques back from various countries.

### Mamata says will visit Birbhum village today

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** KOLKATA, MARCH 23

CHIEF MINISTER Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said she would visit Bogtui village in West Bengal's Birbhum district, where eight people were killed, on Thursday.

At a function in Kolkata, the CM said, "I wanted to visit today. Many of them (opposition leaders) have gone there. So I will not go till they are there. I heard they stopped at Asansol to eat langcha



Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata on Wednesday. CMO

(a sweet) on their way to Rampurhat. Since I don't want to fight with them, I will go there tomorrow (Thursday).

Calling it a conspiracy to malign the state's image, she said, 'Our government never wants such a bloodshed. We do not want bombings and clashes. It was done by those who are not in government. No one will be spared. I have made at least 50 calls to Rampurhat ever since I came to know about the incident. An SIT has been formed to probe the incident."

**Governor responds** 

to CM's letter Meanwhile, replying to the

to refrain from making "unwarranted statements" on the Birbhum killings, West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday wrote back to her saving he could not "fiddle in Rai Bhavan and be a mute spectator". He also questioned the state

government's decision to set up a Special Investigation Team to probe the death of the TMC panchayat deputy chief in Birbhum's Rampurhat and the retaliatory violence in which eight persons were killed.

### Opp leaders visit violence-hit village, BJP reiterates central probe demand Selim, who was the first to visit

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** KOLKATA, MARCH 23

MLAsvisited Bogtui village in Birbhum district where eight people were charred to death after their houses were set on fire a day before.

The legislators, led by Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari, inspected the burnt houses in the village. Demanding a probe by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) or the CBI into the incident, Adhikari claimed that CM Mamata Banerjee would visit the spot to destroy evidence.

The Opposition leader said he had written a letter to the Union home secretary on the issue. "It is a very unfortunate incident, a genocide. The SIT is part of the state police. President's rule is the only way to save Bengal," he said, blaming the CM for the incident.

CPI(M) state secretary Md

teracted with the local residents. "Why was the forensic team so late in reaching the spot? It is also suspected that police buried the bodies last night. The state government and the ruling party need to be taken to task," Selim said. Later, former Left Front chairman Biman Bose tried to visit the village but was stopped by the police from entering the area, citing inspection by the forensic team.

Bogtui village in the morning, in-

### sliding gate next to a small, par-

**HAMZAKHAN** JAIPUR, MARCH 23

FROM OVER 80 acres of land to 155 academic blocks with 62 lecture halls and 38 laboratories. These were some of the key features of the private Gurukul University in Sikar, according to a Bill brought by the Rajasthan government and listed for debate in the Assembly.

But the House found on Tuesday that the "state of the art" university existed only on paper leaving the Congress government red-faced and prompting Speaker CP Joshi to seek a mechanism to avoid a repeat.

The Gurukul University Sikar

Bill, 2022, which seeks to incorporate the Gurukul Shikshan Sansthan, Sikar, as a university, was tabled on February 24. On Tuesday, Rajendra Singh Yadav, Minister in charge of Higher Education, was scheduled to move a motion to pass the Bill.

As per the Bill, the university has 80.31 acres of land, with 28 administrative blocks, including offices of chairperson, president, pro-president, registrar, deputy registrar, assistant registrars, proctor, deans, etc., over 2,053.21 sq m.

The Bill claimed that the university has 155 academic blocks with 62 lecture halls and 38 laboratories, apart from tutorial rooms, computer labs, drawing

halls, workshop, seminar halls, five common rooms each for boys and girls, three libraries, three reading rooms, ten professors' cabins, a language lab, etc., spread across 17,947.93 sq m. It claimed the library has

about 50,000 books, apart from subscriptions to 36 newspapers and magazines, 56 physical journals and 23 e-journals -- and that there was a teachers'/ officers' residence on 740.05 sq m, a residential unit each for boys and girls, and a mess and cafeteria.

According to the Bill, the total area covered by the residential blocks was 40,70.27 sq m, and all three blocks together had a built-up area of 24,811,46 sq m. Other facilities, the Bill



Rajasthan Assembly finds university named in Bill is only on paper

Deputy Leader of Opp Rajendra Rathore at the site. Express

claimed, included health care, power back-up, projectors in classrooms, fire safety provisions and a firing range as well as facil-

ities for table tennis, chess, carrom, kabaddi, athletics, yoga, meditation and football -- and a gymnasium, among other things.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, the state government said: "With a view to keep pace with the rapid development in all spheres of knowledge in the world and the country, it is essential to create world level modern research and study facilities in the State to provide state of the art educational facilities to the youth at their door steps so that they can make out of them human resources compatible to liberalized economic and social order of the world." However, Deputy Leader of

Opposition Rajendra Rathore had found out that the university did not exist. Rathore's Assembly seat is

Churu in the Shekhawati region,

like Sikar where the university supposedly existed. While travelling between Churu and Jaipur, Rathore has to pass Sikar and take the road where the university was supposed to exist. According to Rathore, he vis-

its his constituency "every Saturday" since the Assembly session is on in Jaipur. The BJP leader said that he thought "probably my eyes have betrayed me since I kept looking for the infrastructure mentioned in the Bill." He called the local patwari (revenue official) to take him to the location where the university was supposed to exist.

At the land revenue numbers listed in the Bill, Rathore found empty land -- there was a rusty

tially constructed room without a roof. As evidence, he clicked

On Tuesday, Rathore and Leader of Opposition Gulab Chand Kataria reached the Speaker's chambers and informed him about their "sting". "It is the duty of the Opposition. When the Bill was listed in the LoB (List of Business), they came and said you have listed this in business, and in this Bill. these are the things that they have brought," Joshi told The Indian Express.

Subsequently, Joshi directed the Sikar District Collector to visit the spot. Once the official confirmed Rathore's claims,



Government of India

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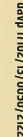
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## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

THE FIRST STEP IN EXCEEDING YOUR CUSTOMER'S EXPECTATIONS IS TO KNOW THOSE EXPECTATIONS.

— ROY H. WILLIAMS

### The Indian EXPRESS

S FOUNDED BY S RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

### UPHOLD THE LAW

Rampurhat killings underline need for CM Banerjee to take steps for purging West Bengal of its toxic political culture

NTHE CRIME at Rampurhat, West Bengal, both the victims and the alleged perpetrators are reportedly associated with the state's ruling party, the Trinamool Congress. Bhadu Sheikh, deputy pradhan, was murdered in Botugi village, and in the hours after Sheikh's murder, a group of people set ablaze houses of the suspects' relatives, killing eight people — all of them belonging to the minority community, and including women and children. The Bengal police has said that Sheikh's murder did not have a political angle, but the killings appear to be part of a larger dismal pattern in the state: In West Bengal, the electoral dominance of the TMC in rural areas has been accompanied by violence, factionalism and a deterioration of the rule of law, in many ways mimicking and deepening the political culture that became entrenched during Left rule. For Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, fresh from the glow of her comprehensive victory over the BJP in the state last year, the killings are a call to take urgent steps to bring an end to the political culture of violence and impunity in Bengal.

In over three decades of Left Front rule, CPM workers came to dominate nearly every aspect of social and political life, and the political Opposition was all too often dealt with violently. Banerjee's party appears to have only strengthened this way of doing politics. "Syndicate" culture — initially limited to certain construction projects in urban Bengal — has become a catch-all phrase that denotes the entrenched nexus between politics, corruption, organised crime such as extortion and distribution of political patronage. The lack of a cadre-based Opposition in rural areas means that personal and business rivalries find expression as violent factional conflicts. In this setting, the police apparatus appears to take its cue from the political masters: In Rampurhat, for example, questions are justifiably being asked about the absence of police forces in areas where arson and violence took place after Sheikh's murder. Given that it is the Party that controls and circumscribes all factions and facets, it is from its leadership that the process of reform must also begin.

Speaking in the aftermath of the killings, Banerjee said that "... the possibility of a larger political conspiracy to malign the image of the State cannot be ruled out and the investigation will make all-out efforts to unearth all those who are behind the occurrence of the incident". That sounds suspiciously like spectre-mongering. The police must bring the perpetrators to book, no matter what their political loyalties. And the TMC must make a beginning towards dismantling the Syndicate culture, to purge the violence from the state's body politic that continues to take a toll on its men, women and children. In her third term, with an impressive mandate, touted as a leader who could play a leading role in the national Opposition space, CM Banerjee has the political capital to rescue her state by unambiguously upholding the rule of law.

### CRUDE IMPERATIVE

Fuel prices need to be brought in line with market conditions. Elevated inflation will further restrict RBI's room for manoeuvre

FTER KEEPING PRICES on hold since November last year, retail prices of petrol and diesel were raised on Wednesday by Rs 0.80 for the second straight day. However, considering that global crude oil prices have surged over the past few months — according to the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell, the price of the Indian crude oil basket stood at \$113 in the third week of March, up from \$80.64 in November — retail fuel prices will need to be hiked considerably to bring them in line with global market prices. As per Crisil, with crude oil having averaged around \$100 in the ongoing quarter, retail prices of petrol and diesel would need to be increased by Rs 9-12 to ensure a full pass through.

The decision to keep retail prices on hold, despite surging global crude oil prices, and leaving oil marketing companies to absorb the losses does suggest that fuel pricing decisions continue to be driven not by commercial considerations, but by political compulsions. After all, retail prices were kept on hold till the conclusion of elections in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Goa, Manipur and Uttarakhand. To limit the impact on the end consumers, governments, at both the central and state level, could have offset some part of the price hikes by cutting the taxes imposed on petrol and diesel — in Delhi, for instance, on March 16, the excise duty and VAT levied on petrol was around Rs 43.4 per litre.

Higher crude oil prices, even if partially passed through, will be inflationary. The decision of oil marketing companies to increase the price of bulk diesel by Rs 25 per litre, even as it distorts the market, will also end up being inflationary, as prominent buyers of bulk diesel include transportation companies and the Indian Railways. Considering this scenario, the Reserve Bank of India will have to revise its outlook on inflation in the next monetary policy committee (MPC) meeting. In the last MPC meeting, held just days after the Union budget was presented, the central bank had projected inflation at 5.7 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2021–22, trending downwards thereafter to 4.5 per cent in 2022–23. However, with the consumer price index having already breached the upper limit of the RBI's inflation targeting framework in both January and February, it is now unlikely to mirror the trajectory laid out by the central bank. Elevated inflation will further restrict the RBI's room to manoeuvre. The longer the conflict between Russia and Ukraine persists, the longer crude oil prices remain elevated, the more challenging the policy environment will be.

### WHAT'S THE HURRY?

Apps promise the moon at our doorstep in 10 minutes. Can we be delivered of such insanity?

O, YOU WANT a plate of momos from a restaurant 5 km away and you want it right now? In 10 minutes? Time was when this kind of bratty, entitled behaviour would invite the wrath of sensible parents, and a week of nothing but dalsabzi. Now it gets rewarded by techbros out to make a million quick bucks. And so, app after app has been wooing customers with the promise of delivering anything — cigarettes, groceries, sanitisers, the moon — in 20 minutes or less. In this pointless game of fastest-orders-first, Zomato has rolled out an instant delivery service that promises hot meals, from kitchen to doorstep, in 10 minutes flat. Boss, who are you kidding? Even instant noodles take longer to make.

And really, what's the rush for? Why push underpaid, overworked gig workers to break speed limits to meet your unreasonable deadlines? Why burden rush-hour traffic with more frantic two-wheelers? We have heard the spiel, of course. The consumer is king, and companies are incentivised to serve their needs. But here's the thing: No one really needs to have stuff delivered to them in an instant. Ambulances, yes. Tomatoes and tortillas, no. This is a manufactured economy of instant gratification, aimed at soaking up venture capitalist funds. Surely, the best of Indian startup talent has better problems to solve and innovate.

So much frenetic activity in delivering anda-bread just underlines what we all know — speed is overrated, especially when it becomes its own intoxication. What the dudebros of India's startup culture need is a lesson in slowing down, and not racing the herd. Perhaps, a stroll in the sabzi mandi, followed by some mindful time in the kitchen doing some actual cooking might do the trick. As for the customers being peddled the cult of hyperconvenience, they ought to know that the promise that apps will deliver us leisure is a lemon — it may arrive in 10 minutes, but they still have got to make their lemonade.

## Changing face of money



Green bonds, digital currency hold promise. Groundwork will need to be done to fulfill it

Madan Sabnavis

THE COMING FINANCIAL year will be rather interesting as it might witness the fructification of several budget proposals. The most obvious one that comes to mind is the disinvestment of LIC which was supposed to have concluded in March but now looks likely to be completed in the next financial year. But the question is when will this be done?

The course of the war is not known and if this uncertainty has held back the IPO now, there is no guarantee that the situation will be better in April or May. In fact, as 2021-22 draws to a close, markets appear to have reverted to normalcy. In retrospect, the government could perhaps have launched the IPO.

The other two major budget announcements pertain to the issuance of sovereign green bonds and a central bank digital currency. These two launches will be a joint effort between the government and the RBI. While geopolitical turbulence might make the current moment inopportune for experimentation, the government seems firm on both the proposals and they will most probably be rolled out.

The sovereign green bond is a novel idea. It will be a part of the government's borrowing programme. The gross borrowing programme of the government is pegged at Rs 14.95 lakh crore. This money is raised by the government to finance the deficit which involves excess expenditure on both the capital and revenue accounts. But considering that money is fungible, it is hard to figure out where the borrowed money goes. In the case of sovereign green bonds, though, an exception has to be made. The SGB (sovereign green bond) raised will be part of the aggregate borrowing programme and has to be used for projects which are ESG (environment, social and governance) compliant. Hence, if the bond is being used to finance a power project or road, or in case it is used to finance revenue expenditure, it has to be ESG compliant. The groundwork for this should be done in advance.

The pricing of these bonds will be tricky.

panies have to make special investments that will push up costs. Or will it be the case of these bonds being priced at lower rates to aid ESG implementation? Further, given the low interest rates prevailing today — real returns on deposits are negative — the SGBs can be issued as tax-free bonds, open to the public. This will evince a lot of interest given that these are government-issued bonds. The RBI and the government have been trying to get retail investors to participate in the government's borrowing programme, and this move will expedite the process.

The central bank digital currency, also known as CBDC, is also an interesting con-

As these bonds are different from G-secs (gov-

ernment securities), they may have to pro-

vide a better return as all ESG compliant com-

known as CBDC, is also an interesting concept. It seems to be an outcome of the proliferation of cryptocurrencies. This has pushed several central banks into developing their version of digital currencies. This reasoning could be misleading because cryptos are an investment option, unlike a CBDC which is a substitute for currency. For launching such a currency, the RBI has to address certain fundamental questions.

First, is a CBDC going to replace currency at some point in the future? Is this just another option for the public or will physical currency disappear? One must remember that there are several sections in India that are not conversant with technology.

Second, if it is going to coexist with currency, how different will it be for the public from the digital payments that are being made today? This is a pertinent question because there seems to be a large volume of cash in the system post demonetisation. Will people need to choose between a mobile wallet and a CBDC wallet?

Third, any issuance of CBDC on a voluntary basis also raises a question on the security of the owner's information. Aadhaar is supposed to ensure that an individual's information is confidential, yet there is scepti-

cism. That's why CBDC has to be clear on the issue of confidentiality as it is bound to be a matter of concern. If it is not confidential, even a CBDC, given as a gift to a couple on their marriage will be tracked by the income tax department.

Fourth, what will be the future of the banking system as CBDC catches on? If people have to be incentivised to move voluntarily to the CBDC, the cash exchanged must earn an interest or else all money will go to bank accounts where a minimal interest rate can be earned. Will we require savings bank accounts with commercial banks in case all cash goes to the RBI? Will we then require ATMs for cash withdrawal? Will bank tellers become redundant? Will we need logistics companies that handle cash? These finer issues need to be addressed by the RBI as the widespread use of CBDC will progressively lead to lesser need for banks.

Fifth is the issue of security as any financial system that runs on technology can be hacked. It has to be foolproof and power failure resistant. Such systems have to be created and tested before a CBDC is brought in. There is a real danger of cyber fraud increasing as the majority of the population is not techsavvy. Similarly, there is always downtime for bank servers when banking transactions cannot be carried on. This cannot be allowed to be the case with CBDC as it has to be available on a 24 x 7 basis.

If they succeed at the central level, green bonds can be replicated by states. The arguments for CBDC are compelling on the grounds of keeping up with the central banks of other countries, and the possibilities of taking advantage of new technologies like blockchain. But before embarking on these measures, it might be useful to keep in mind the issues flagged above.

The writer is Chief Economist, Bank of Baroda and author of Hits & Misses: The Indian Banking Story. Views are personal



### COVID LESSONS FOR TB

Disease surveillance and prevention strategies can be deployed for both

### LANCELOT PINTO AND CHAPAL MEHRA

COVID-19 AND TUBERCULOSIS (TB) are remarkably similar. They are transmissible, airborne infections. Both are more likely to spread in crowded settings, and harm people with immuno-compromising conditions.

In the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic, 1.8 million people were reported to have succumbed to the virus. In the decade between 2010-20, 1.5-2 million individuals died every year because of tuberculosis. Yet, we seldom see the word "pandemic" used in the context of TB. The amount of money spent by governments for research and development in the first 11 months of the Covid-19 pandemic was 162 times the corresponding amount spent on TB in 2020. The difference in responses to the two pandemics can only be explained by the differences in the profiles of those who get infected. TB disproportionately affects people in low-income nations, the poor and the vulnerable

The increased burden on healthcare to manage Covid has led to a serious setback in TB control. Before the Covid pandemic, it was assumed that a third of all individuals with TB were undiagnosed, and were likely spreading the disease in their communities. In the past two years, case detection has dropped, suggesting that the proportion of such "missing cases" is likely to have increased. Lockdowns, the fear of healthcare establishments and the stigma associated with respiratory symptoms have possibly contributed to the increase in "missing cases". For those diagnosed, access to medicines has not always been easy. The redirection of human resources within the health system during the three Covid waves has left TB facilities understaffed leading to poorer

Test, treat and track has been a strategy successfully employed for Covid. We need to aggressively scale up testing with innovative strategies such as active surveillance, bidirectional screening for respiratory tract infections using the most sensitive molecular diagnostics, and contact tracing. The biggest victory against Covid has been the speed with which vaccines were developed, scaled up and deployed.

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quality and delayed care.

Studies have suggested that Covid may trigger pathways leading to reactivation of dormant TB bacilli. Historically, turmoil in society (such as wars), food insecurity, poverty and malnutrition have resulted in surges in the incidence of TB. We could, therefore, witness an increase in TB in the coming years.

On World TB day, we need to ask how best we can leverage the lessons learnt from Covid-19 to help gain a new momentum in TB control. We need to focus on the epidemiological triad: Agent, host and the environment.

Test, treat and track has been a strategy successfully employed for Covid. We need to aggressively scale up testing with innovative strategies such as active surveillance, bidirectional screening for respiratory tract infections using the most sensitive molecular diagnostics, and contact tracing. The biggest victory against Covid has been the speed with which vaccines were developed, scaled up and deployed. We need to replicate the same for tuberculosis, lobbying for funding from governments and industry to develop a successful vaccine for TB.

Malnutrition, poverty and immuno-compromising conditions such as diabetes are some of the factors strongly associated with TB. Over a hundred million Indians smoke tobacco — a strong risk factor for both developing TB, and dying from it. Social security programmes that work towards prevention of modifiable risk factors would possibly pay richer dividends than an exclusive focus on "medicalising" the disease.

Environmental factors which have been

spaces, educating individuals to avoid crowds when possible, and to encourage voluntary masking, especially in ill-ventilated and closed spaces. We must not lose this opportunity to invest in these measures, at a time when the sensitisation to their need is high.

neglected include ventilation of indoor

Covid has been a stellar example of how investments and actions can be swift, and public education can transform behaviour. Similar aspirations for TB can help turn this crisis into an opportunity to re-imagine our overburdened and underfunded systems. We need to actively engage the private sector, build bridges and partnerships as we did in the case of Covid.

All this, however, is easier said than done. India needs to triple the funding not just for TB but for health, nutrition and preventive services. The country needs to invest in state-of-the-art technologies, build capacity, expand its health workforce and strengthen its primary care facilities. It also needs to consider telemedicine and remote support as important aspects of health services. Most importantly, before embarking on any of this, it needs to build an open and collaborative forum where all stakeholders, especially affected communities and independent experts. take a lead role.

We have ignored TB for too long. It's time we acknowledge the magnitude of the disease, and work harder at offering individuals equitable healthcare access and resources that the disease warrants.

Pinto is consultant pulmonologist at Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai. Mehra is a public health expert

# Man Gunde Appirer and Appirer

INDIAN EXPRESS

### MARCH 24, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

### India-China Ties

CAUTIOUS INDIAN OPTIMISM about the prospects of improving relations with China is reflected in the annual report of the Ministry of External Affairs. Recalling the talks during the visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua in June last year and the visit of the Indian delegation led by Eric Gonsalves to Beijing in December, the ministry stressed that the boundary question is central to the relationship and an early settlement is desirable. "It is our hope that this dialogue will lead to the settlement of the outstanding problems which will enable full normali-

sation and further improvement in the ties between the two countries," the document states. Elsewhere, the report talks of the lack of substantive progress in the border

### CPI ON BJP

THE COMMUNIST PARTY of India (CPI) considers the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) more authoritarian than Mrs Gandhi, according to Indrajit Gupta who ruled out any alliance between the two parties. He was against the CPM's move to seek the BJP's help in the fight against the government because the BJP was more authoritarian in

addition to being communal. He said the BJP was not consistently anti-authoritarian in Kerala and in Baghwal by-election it had collaborated with Mrs Indira Gandhi's party.

### ARRESTS IN PAK

CHAIRMAN FATEHYAB ALI Khan of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan was arrested and authorities said about 20 Opposition leaders were being rounded up. Miraj Mohammad Khan, president of the Left Wing National Liberation Front was placed under house arrest.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

## THE IDEAS PAGE

### WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Cutting fuel duty flies in the face of the government's claim to be a green leader. - THE GUARDIAN It is also a regressive measure."

## A quota too many

Scheme that gives MPs power to recommend admission of students to Kendriya Vidyalayas undermines the quality of education, goes against constitutional provisions



#### Sushil Kumar Modi

THERE ARE VERY few issues on which legislative and judicial positions have wavered with such frequency over the years as the Special Dispensation Scheme for admissions in the Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs). Introduced in 1975, the scheme has been in constant flux as a result of the frequent changes in the standpoints of the KV's board of governors, its joint action committees, the law ministry and the human resource development ministry. The measure was abolished thrice, but on each occasion it was reintroduced. That a discretionary provision has witnessed so many changes — the latest amendment to it was as recently as 2016-17 - speaks of its inherently flawed nature.

Currently, the scheme allows every MP to recommend 10 students for admission to the Kendriya Vidyalayas. The scheme was reintroduced in 1998 after its first withdrawal in 1997. It was scrapped on two more occasions, including once at the instance of the Delhi High Court just after it was re-introduced in 1998. The number of students an MP could recommend for admission was increased from two to five in 2011, after the quota was restored a second time in 2010. This was further increased to six in 2012 and then to 10 students per MP in 2016.

Given that there are 543 MPs in the Lok Sabha and 245 MPs in the Rajya Sabha, a total of 7,880 admissions are executed through this quota every academic year. Since the scheme facilitates admissions over and above the class strength of the KVs, it distorts the student-teacher ratio in these schools. It's well-known that maintaining a healthy pupil-teacher ratio, especially at the foundational levels, is critical to ensure desired learning objectives. This has been reiterated by the New Education Policy 2020 which recommends a student-teacher ratio below 30:1 for schools. The policy sets an aspirational target of below 25:1 in areas with large numbers of socio-economically disadvantaged students. The MP quota hinders these objectives as it dilutes educational standards in the KVs.

The MP quota is an anachronism in today's India and must be dispensed with at the earliest. Initially conceptualised as a means of enhancing democracy by providing discretionary power to MPs, the quota has served little purpose to that end. Such a discretionary provision in admission practices discounts quality and goes against the spirit of transparency, consistency, and

A discretion accorded to an elected representative is based on the premise that the people trust the politician to ensure its best use. An MP is approached by people several times more than the quota allotted to him/her. Evaluating each proposal to determine the most deserving and meritorious ones is practically unfeasible. The use of this power is, therefore, prone to arbitrariness. The 7,880 seats under the MP quota could have served a better purpose if they had been allotted to meritorious students in a

transparent manner. Moreover, even after selecting 10 stu-



C R Sasikumar

dents as per the limit, an MP is forced to turn down a large number of applicants. This provokes public anger in the constituency as a number of people get rejected without a rational justification. As evinced by the experiences of many fellow parliamentarians, this quota has become an unpopular power with MPs, one which has overstayed its welcome.

Allotment of seats under the MP quota is also an inconsistent practice if one looks at the other central educational institutions of the country. MPs are not given such discretionary quotas in the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas or for that matter other central educational institutes in the country. It goes against reason to have such a provision exclusively for Kendriya Vidyalayas, especially because parliamentarians have not been provided with any jurisdiction in recommending admission of students in other educational institutions.

With its flagrant disregard for reservation limits, this quota also undermines a constitutional provision. Admissions through it fail to maintain fidelity to the constitutionally-mandated 50 per cent reservation criteria for the SCs, STs and OBCs. It also deprives the economically weaker sections of the right to 10 per cent reservation and ignores the right of the differently-abled students to 3 per cent hori-

zontal reservation. Bereft of any allegiance towards reser-

Since the scheme facilitates admissions over and above the class strength of the KVs, it distorts the studentteacher ratio in these schools. It's well-known that maintaining a healthy pupilteacher ratio, especially at the foundational levels, is critical to ensure desired learning objectives. This has been reiterated by the New **Education Policy 2020** which recommends a student-teacher ratio below 30:1 for schools. The policy sets an aspirational target of below 25:1 in areas with large numbers of socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

vation policies in the country, this quota has been depriving about 3,940 students of their constitutional right every year. As a result, it has undermined one of the principal reasons for establishing KVs: Giving admission to students from marginalised communities and disadvantaged sections. Abolishing it will be a welcome step towards respecting constitutional provisions and fulfilling the mandate of the KVs.

As our democracy has matured, we have done away with several discretionary powers given to political figures: These include scrapping the practice of allotting gas pumps and revoking the appointments and nomination powers of various ministers as recommended by the Group of Ministers in 2011. Even the Union education minister's discretionary quota for admissions was scrapped recently. Admissions through this quota had surged a staggering 27 times from 450 to 12,295 in 2020-21 until the Union Education Minister surrendered this quota. No admission under the minister's discretionary quota has taken place since then.

In view of these developments, it would therefore be proper to abolish the MP's discretionary quota under the Special Dispensation Admissions Scheme, this time

The writer, a former Deputy CM, Bihar, is a Rajya Sabha MP

## The will of the age

Nation yearns for a break from politics that destroys collegiality, consensus. It needs a leader to step up



#### ASHWANI KUMAR

IN A DEEPENING of India's electoral democracy, voters in the recently held assembly elections have scripted a new political narrative, catapulting Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as the challenger to a resurgent Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The BJP's success in stitching cross-caste alliances across states, buttressed by the seductive pull of Hindutva and nationalism, enabled it to duck anti-incumbency sentiment against  $the Yogi\,Adityanath\,government. The\, ``spell$ of an idea", presented as a promise of development and assurance of national security, and assiduously communicated and disseminated by the Prime Minister, added to the BJP's appeal as the voters' preferred choice in four of the five states, further cementing its position as the central pole of India's polity.

But it is the AAP's spectacular victory in Punjab that has caught the national imagination, alongside the stunning electoral defeat of Parkash Singh Badal, Sukhbir Badal, Amarinder Singh, Navjot Singh Sidhu and the then chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi from both constituencies. Their defeat represents a clinching denouement of the ancien regime and its politics. The AAP's Punjab victory has understandably fuelled its national ambitions. Its ability to lead or co-lead a possible alternative national coalition will test the sagacity of its leaders, their negotiating skills and the breadth of their vision over time. Clearly, the party's win in Punjab will endure only if it yields a stronger constitutional democracy in which the exercise of state power is accountable to the community's sense of justice and institutional constraints. And for the AAP to succeed as a party of change and renewal, it must embrace and broaden a politics of dignity that enables citizens to become moral agents of their freedoms and liberties.

The nation yearns for a break from the debilitative political discourse and affirmation of the inviolability of the testing standards of right and wrong. To recall Lord Hailsham, a former Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, in another context, "We have to face the questions, old and new, to which the prohibition and injunctions of conscience .... give rise, and we may note that new questions are constantly arising". The need to interrogate our democratic processes to ensure that the majority vote is a guarantee of freedom and fairness in a just society, rather than a legitimation of the state's encroachment of fundamental freedoms, is self-evident. After all, elections are democracy's signposts, not its destination. It is imperative, therefore, to reject a "manipulative conversation about our future", affirm the centrality of idealism in the pursuit of politics and assert the power of truth as the ultimate vindication of democracy.

The moment is right and history is turning a page. The resilience of our democratic politics to deliver the larger national goals of unity and inclusion will define our tryst with democracy. And electoral victories as a symbol of democratic resurgence must yield leadership defined by a largeness of vision and generosity of heart, befitting the challenges of our times. The discredited processes of political democracy that destroy collegiality and defeat consensus-building must yield to an overarching national aspiration for politics as a cooperative enterprise of national renewal. The end purpose of democratic politics is to create conditions for expanding the "circle of human dignity". A democracy in a state of perpetual conflict illserves this ennobling aspiration. The assault on individual freedoms spurred by intolerance, bigotry and fundamentalism, a weakening commitment to the constitutional ethic, diminishing empathy for the marginalised and a twisted definition of nationalism that pits freedom and dignity against national security as if these were mutually exclusive, challenge the fundamental assumptions of democracy. The nation needs an accommodative democratic politics, based on conciliation and consensus anchored in a constructive contest of ideas, as part of an ongoing national conversation. Securing a bipartisan commitment towards this end will be the test of leadership.

It is also incumbent upon the victors to recognise that "democratic triumphalism" is not an invitation to transgress constitutional constraints on the exercise of executive power. In the finer traditions of parliamentary democracy, the winners and the losers are both challenged to restore the credibility of a presently dysfunctional system and reinforce a larger construct of democracy in which people "construct their own ideal" and reject the personalisation of power. Those aspiring to lead the nation must recognise the non-severability of justice, freedom and dignity in the service of democracy. They must take the lead to invest politics with a larger moral compass and reverse the intellectual amorality that has robbed our democratic experiment of its elevating function. Nursing a flailing democracy to vigour is an "unending journey, guided by lights, warnings and insights", which will require a demonstrative commitment to man as "the measure of all things". Those who scoff at this "unrealistic utopian dream" may wish to remember that the truth of a conviction is best tested in its repeated assertion and that vindication of the ideal of democracy requires us to proclaim our convictions aloud.

Finally, leadership cannot be inherited or willed, nor can it rest on a flawed understanding of national sensitivities on issues that touch the nation's inner core. Compulsive cynicism and routine personal targeting of political adversaries diminishes leadership which, as Hegel reminded us, is about understanding the will of the age, telling the age what its will is and accomplishing it. Indeed, the leader of the nation must also be the leader of the times.

The writer is a former Union Law Minister. Views expressed are personal

## Understanding and trust

PM's ear-to-the-ground approach has resonated with voters

Aparajita Sarangi

THE ELECTION RESULTS from Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur have surprised many eminent commentators and experts. Their surprise is born out of ignorance of ground realities, both willful and unintentional. The fact that people re-elected their governments decisively, despite a once-ina-century pandemic, has been quite difficult to absorb and digest for them. For anyone who has observed India's approach to the pandemic and the public feedback in the last two years with objectivity, the results do not offer any surprise.

The results are an outcome of the "mutual understanding" model in India where Prime Minister Narendra Modi understood the people's requirements and ground signals like no one else did and the people reciprocated with unprecedented trust.

When the pandemic reached India's shores in March 2020, we saw numerous suggestions and ideas on how the country should tailor its policy prescriptions to mitigate the impact of the lockdowns and the accompanying economic distress. They ranged from cash handouts to loan and utility bill waivers. There was also a lot of clamour for big packages to bail out corporations. To be fair, there were identical recommendations to policymakers across the world. The difference was that most governments across the world followed this approach,

whereas India proved to be an outlier. Almost two years later, there is sufficient data to analyse the outcomes of the various policy prescriptions followed. Most of the models followed globally have turned out to be short-sighted, insufficient or flawed. As a result, developed economies are grappling with problems of high inflation, highinterest rates and high currency depreciation while their GDP growth rates didn't pick up as expected. On the other hand, India looks like an island of macroeconomic stability, with healthy growth numbers and inflation within the comfort zone. India's exports and incoming investments are at record highs.

India did not throw in the kitchen sink but used a cautious and calibrated approach. India's package, first and foremost, was targeted towards protecting the most vulnerable. PM Modi ensured this right from the first lockdown; people got gas cylinders, free ration and similar targeted benefits. While people across the board have now woken up to the game-changing impact of free ration, there was hardly any acknowledgement or appreciation of this scheme when it was rolled out. Biases do play a role in this, but it would be wrong to attribute this to only biases.

The reason such schemes were crafted by the government was PM Modi's deep un-

derstanding of the people. He understands society and people's behaviour, as well as the multi-dimensional aspects of poverty and the mindset of the poor. Contrary to the prescription of experts to go for demand-driven recovery, PM Modi opted for a resilient recovery by safeguarding the poor, the vulnerable and MSMEs. This is because he understood that when there is a crisis, people would opt to conserve their resources even if the government writes cheques worth billions of rupees. It is this understanding of society and people that ensures that Modi's policies stand out and give the maximum bang for the buck.

Similarly, the credit-linked guarantee scheme for MSMEs was able to protect 6 crore people during the last two years. For people with only a rich experience of textbooks, classrooms and TV studios, these policy choices appear counterfactual. But for common people, it seems that the PM is actually reading their minds when they are in distress and is standing up to support them during these unprecedented times. Because the PM understands them, people also understand that this is a never-before-seen pandemic, and so there is bound to be some distress. People, unlike Opposition parties or op-ed writers, have a good perspective on what a once-in-a-century crisis entails, so they look at the efforts made by the government to help them despite the disruptions

Many analysts have grudgingly accepted the significance of these schemes in the outcome of these elections. However, it would be incomplete to look at it only from a national perspective. Today, the world over, in the backdrop of the pandemic, leaders are facing discontent and anti-incumbency. This discontent is taking the form of various kinds of protests as well as a huge dip in the approval ratings of leaders. In this scenario, PM Modi has maintained one of the highest approval ratings across multiple surveys, such as those conducted by Pew and Morning Consult.

If leaders are to learn from the past and anticipate the future, the single most important take-away from the PM's governance is his ear-to-the-ground approach, which enabled him to correctly gauge people's aspirations and expectations without the distortion of intermediaries. This is supported by his ability to build impeccable governance mechanisms to deliver at the grassroots. If a leader can achieve this, the people's unstinted understanding, trust and support is a

> The writer is a former bureaucrat, MP and national spokesperson, Bharatiya Janata Party

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WELL SAID

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The new world disorder' (IE, March 23). Pratap Bhanu Mehta's brilliantly evocative article in today's IE is a must-read for all. I venture to predict that its opening sentence "Even as Ukraine faces extraordinary devastation, a new world disorder is becoming apparent..." — will be reckoned as the most quotable quote of the year! Fali Nariman, Delhi

### THE USUAL HYPE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'How BJP won four states' (IE, March 23). The fulsome praise of Narendra Modi's policies by the Assam chief minister — both belong to the BJP - holding them responsible for winning the assembly elections recently held in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa can be taken only with a pinch of salt. With Akhilesh Yadav going all guns blazing and the farmers exposing its wrong agrarian policies, the elections, especially in UP, seemed to be touchand-go for a bit. This is why the whole top BJP leadership was camping in Varanasi — the PM's constituency. The BIP did win elections there but with a reduced no of seats.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

### RAPID REFORM

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The real test' (IE, March 23). In an expected but still innovative education reform, the

Common University Entrance Test has been announced for admissions to undergraduate courses in all central universities. This will be a radical shift from an admission process that was based on board exam marks alone to one where these marks will have zero weightage. However, the UGC's surprise announcement to shift to CUET will dismay many Class XII students. With this year's CBSE board exam having been split into two terms, students face the heat of rules getting changed randomly. With CUET applications likely opening in April with the test itself taking place in July, the window for adapting the new system is very narrow.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

### FALSE HOPE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'War and prices' (IE, March 23). While we prefer to see the beneficial effects of the war for our farmers, the reality is that in the end, all this would lead to increased inflation and increasing input cost pressures for the economy as a whole. Higher prices are not enough to subsume the increased costs of fuel and fertilisers, thus upsetting the budgetary arithmetic. And it should be noted that higher prices are temporary but the crude and fertiliser costs don't seem to be going down in the near horizon. Let us not be disconnected from reality and live in our own bubble

Gaurav Gupta, Gurugram

### Shringla in US ahead of UN resolutions on crisis in Ukraine

**SHUBHAJIT ROY** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

FOREIGN SECRETARY Harsh Vardhan Shringla reached New York, hours before the UN General Assembly and the Security Council were expected to vote on draft resolutions on the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine early on

Shringla, who participated in the Security Council meeting on cooperation between the UN and the League of Arab States on Wednesday, will be key to negotiating three resolutions on Ukraine at the UN.

There are three resolutions at play now, two at the UN General Assembly and one at the UN Security Council. The Indian Express has learnt that the focus of all three resolutions is on the humanitarian situation.

The first one is sponsored by the French and the Mexicans and is said to be "strong" in its condemnatory language against Russia, and is supported by the West. The UNGA will again vote on a draft resolution titled 'Humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine' by Ukraine and co-sponsored by more than 70 states. The South African resolution is a "neutral at-



Harsh Vardhan Shringla

tempt" at the UNGA. South Africa has put forward a rival resolution for the UNGA that makes no mention of Russia. South Africa is a member of the BRICS grouping and had earlier abstained, along with India, at a resolution condemning Russia

There is a Russian resolution at the UNSC, which is critical of Ukraine, and it would be important to watch how it plays out.

All three resolutions are expected to come up in the early hours of Thursday.

Earlier, India's Permanent Representative at the UN, T S Tirumurti tweeted, "Delighted to receive Foreign Secretary @harshyshringla in New York. Foreign Secretary will participate in the UN Security Council meeting on cooperation between the UN and the League of Arab States."

The fact that Shringla has gone to New York when a series of Foreign Ministers are visiting India - Greece and Oman Foreign ministers are in Delhi - shows the importance India is attaching to this round of resolutions.

### Former CJI Lahoti dies at 81

New Delhi: Former Chief Justice of India Ramesh Chandra Lahoti died at a hospital here on Wednesday evening, family sources said. He was 81.

Justice Lahoti was appointed as the 35th chief justice of India on June 1, 2004. He retired on November 1, 2005. He was a former independent director on the board of directors of the Press

He was appointed as arbitrator by the Government of India in the Rs 20,000 crore high-profile tax dispute case with tele-

Born on November 1, 1940, he joined the Bar in Guna district in 1960 and enrolled as an advo-

directly to the bench in April 1977, from the Bar to the State Higher Judicial Service and was appointed as a district and sessions judge. After serving in the post for a

year, Justice Lahoti resigned in May 1978 and returned to the Bar to practice mainly in the High Court. He was appointed an additional judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on May 3, 1988, and made a permanent judge on August 4 the next year.

He was transferred to Delhi High Court on February 7, 1994, and later appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court

उ. प्र. पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन **ित्रा <u>निविदा सूचना</u> नि**म्नलिखित मुहरबन्द निविदाएं दो भागों में अनुभवी ठेकेदारों से निम्न कार्य के सम्पादन हेतु आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। प्रत्येक निविदा के प्रथम भाग में धरोहर राशि एफ.डी.आर./सी.डी.आर. (राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक) के रूप में अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल मेरठ के पक्ष में देय हो एवं इन्कम टैक्स एवं पैन नं., इन्कम टैक्स रिटर्न, जी.एस.टी. पंजीकरण प्रपत्र की छाया प्रति तथा अनभव सम्बंधी प्रपत्र अवश्य होने चाहिए अन्यथा की स्थिति में निविदा का भाग-2 विचारणीय नहीं होगा। निविदाओं के प्रपत्र निर्धारित शुल्क एवं नेधीरित धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस./एन.ई.एफ.टी के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मेरठ के पक्ष में State Bank of India, Cantt Branch, Meerut Account No. 11047201099, IFSC SBIN0000680 में भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। बैंक जमा की साक्ष्य यथा योज्य यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप मूल की प्रति निविदा के प्रथम भाग के साथ संलग्न किये जायें अथवा निविदा प्रपत्र कार्यालय समय में निविदा खुलने के एक दिवस पूर्व 16:00 बजे तक कार्यालय से ही अवापसीय निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य भुगतान कर प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। निविदाएं -अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में निविदा खुलने की निर्धारित दिनाँक को 14:00 बजे तक प्राप्त की जायेंगी और उसी दिन सार्वजनिक रूप से ठेकेदारों अथवा उनके प्रतिनिधियों की उपस्थिति में 15:00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। 1. टी-15/22-23 (**निविदा खोले जाने** की तिथि 23-04-2022) मुख्य अभियन्ता (पारेषण पश्चिम), मेरठ हेतु एक नग डीजल चलित कार, (चालक सहित) 12 माह की अवधि के लिए किराये पर उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 4000.00/- (रुपये चार हजार मात्र), निविदा प्रपत्र का जी.एस.टी. सहित मूल्य रु. 590.00/- अधीक्षण अभियंता विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, 130-डी विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ। ''राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचायें''। पत्रांक No. 706/वि.पा.मं./ETC/मेरट/ MT/TENDER दिनांकः 23/03/2022

cate in 1962. He was recruited

December 9, 1998.

CJI asked as advocate Manish उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि **ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सुचना** अनुभवी फर्मों/ ठेकेदार/ कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्यत पारेषण मण्डल मेरठ के अन्तर्गत निम्न कार्यों हेत ई-निविदायें (www.etender.up.nic.in) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती है। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, धरोहर राशि एवं निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क जमा करने तथा अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में www.etender.up. nic.in पर लॉग आन करें। निविदा का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:- ई-निविदा संख्या, कार्य का विवरण, निविदा के प्रथम भाग खलने की दिनांक, धरोहर राशि एवं निविदा का मृल्य (कर सहित) को क्रम में पढ़ा जाये। 1. टी-13/22-23 (अल्पकालिक):- भारतमाला परियोजना के अन्तर्गत दिल्ली-सहारनपुर-देहरादून इकोनोमिक कोरिडोर निर्माण में आ रही 132 के.वी. बडौत-निरपडा लाईन के टावर विस्थापन कार्य हेतु सर्वे से सम्बन्धित कार्य। यह कार्य विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अन्तर्गत किया जायेगा दिनांक 02.04.2022, रु. 1,000.00/-, रु. 295.00/- 2 **टी-14/22-23** (अल्पकालिक):- भारतमाला परियोजना के अन्तर्गत दिल्ली-सहारनपर-देहरादन इकोनोमिक कोरिडोर निर्माण में आ रही 220 के.वी. बडौत-मुरादनगर लाईन के टावर विस्थापन कार्य हेतु सर्वे से सम्बन्धित कार्य। यह कार्य विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अन्तर्गत किया जायेगा। दिनांक 02.04.2022, रु. 1,000,00/-, रु. 295,00/- तिथि परिवर्तन सचनाः- इस कार्यालय की निविदा संख्या टी.-05,06,07 एवं 08/22-23 के खुलने की तिथि अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिनांक 02.04.2022 की जाती है। शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, 130-डी, ''पारेषण भवन'' विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ। ''राष्ट्रहित मे ऊर्जा बचायें'' पत्रांक No. 706/वि.पा.मं./ETC/मेरठ /MT/TENDER दिनांकः 23/03/2022



टेण्डर नोटिस

महामहिम राज्यपाल उत्तराखण्ड की ओर से अद्योहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा वर्ष 2022 लीसा फसल से उत्पादित लगभग 15155.00 क्विं0 लीसा हेतु बद्रीनाथ वन प्रभाग की विभिन्न वन राजियो में लीसा संग्रह करने हेतु निम्नतालिका के अनुसार खाँली टिनों के क्रय की आवश्यकता है। अतः बद्रीनाथ वन प्रभाग ग उत्पादित लीसा संग्रह के लिए विभिन्न रेंजों हेतु खाली टिनों के क्रय बाबत टेण्डर इस कार्यालय के ात्रांक 3774 / 10—2, दिनांक 22.03.2022 से निर्धारित शर्तों के अनुसार निम्न प्रकार आमंत्रित किये

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सं0	नाम	संख्या	राशि	मूल्य
1	चमोली रेंज	14000 ਟਿਜ	16800/-	500/-
2	नन्दप्रयाग रेंज	17000 टिन	20400/-	500/-
3	पश्चिमी पिण्डर नारायणबगड रेंज	16000 टिन	19200 / -	500/-
4	मध्य पिण्डर थराली रेंज	22000 टिन	26400/-	500/-
5	पूर्वी पिण्डर देवाल रेंज	22000 टिन	26400/-	500/-
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निर्देशित किया जाता है कि प्रत्येक रेंज में खाली टिन क्रय हेतु पृथक–पृथक टेण्डर फार्म प्रेषित किये जायें। टेण्डर फार्म इस कार्यालय से दिनांक **05.04.2022** तर्क प्राप्त<sup>\*</sup> किये जा सकते हैं। समस्त पंजीकृत टेण्डर फार्म इस कार्यालय को दिनांक 07.04.2022 के सायं 5:00 बजे तक प्राप्त हो जाने वाहिए । निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् प्राप्त पंजीकृत टेण्डर फार्मो पर किसी प्रकार से विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। टेण्डर फार्म दिनांक 08.04.2022 को 12:00 बजे समिति के सम्मुख खोले जायेंगे, जिसमे टेण्डरदाता उपस्थित रह सकते है। विस्तृत विवरण हेतु वन विभाग की राजकीय वेबसाइट www.forest.uk.gov.in अथवा किसी भी कार्यदिवस के दीरान प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, बद्रीनाथ वन प्रभाग कार्यालय के नोटिस बोर्ड पर देखा / अवलोकित किया जा सकता है।

प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, बद्रीनाथ वन प्रभाग, गोपेश्वर

### **ONLY ONE EXIT, NO FIRE SAFETY MEASURES**

## 11 from Bihar die in Telangana godown fire

Workers trapped as shutter closed; 1 survives by jumping out of window

**SREENIVAS JANYALA** HYDERABAD, MARCH 23

**ELEVEN MIGRANT workers from** Bihar's Saran district died in a fire at a timber and scrap godown in Telangana's Secunderabad city in the early hours of Wednesday.

Secunderabad fire station officer D Mohan Rao said the department received a call about the fire at the godown in the Bhoiguda area around 3.45 am and, on arrival, found the godown's shutter closed. Twelve of the migrants used to stay in rooms on the first floor of the warehouse operated by Shravan Traders, officials said.

According to the firemen, shutter was the only way to get in or out of the warehouse. Its ground floor was stacked with bundles of plastic cables and electric wires, newspapers, and other plastic and metal scrap. Officials said they suspect a short-circuit caused the blaze, which was so intense that a mini truck used to transport the scrap was burnt to

The fire department finally managed to bring the blaze under control after three hours and found the bodies on the godown's first floor. While one of the 12 workers managed to escape, Rao said the rest probably asphyxiated in the thick smoke. Another fire department official told reporters

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

THE SUPREME Court on

Wednesday asked the Bihar gov-

ernment to submit a report about

action taken on the recommen-

dations of CBI, which had inves-

tigated the Muzaffarpur shelter

Justice of India, NV Ramana, also

disallowed a request for the re-

port to be submitted in a sealed

cover, and said an affidavit would

suffice. "Why sealed cover?", the

Kumar, ap-

pearing for

Bihar, said

the state

government

had acted on

Name of work and Location

Completion period

Approx, cost of

Date & Time for

uploading of

tender and

**Detailed Tender** 

ender Documents

A bench headed by Chief

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

home abuse case.

**MUZAFFARPUR SHELTER HOME CASE** 

that four to five bodies were found on top of each other near a spiral staircase that led to the ground

As the plastic scrap and other hazardous material in the godown kept catching fire, the police closed off the area and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation razed the entire godown to the ground using three bulldozers.

Hyderabad Police Commissioner CV Anand visited the site later in the day. He told the media that there were no firesafety measures at the godown. "For such an establishment, with so much combustible material. there was no fire safety. There was only one exit — the shutter. No one except the owners even knew that the workers were living on the first floor," he added.

Mourning with the migrant workers' families, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar announced ex gratia for them. While the PM and Nitish Kumar announced that each of the families would receive Rs 2 lakh, the Telangana CM announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh. Rao also directed Telangana Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar to arrange the transportation of the bodies to Bihar.

(INPUTS FROM ENS PATNA)

SC asks Bihar for action taken

report, but not in sealed cover

port in a sealed cover.

the recommendations of the CBI

and that he would submit the re-

matters concerning child abuse,

the court had in the past directed

that reports be submitted in

sealed covers. Justice Ramana

then said he was not concerned

with the names of victims, but

only with the officers against

whom action had been recom-

mended, and whether action

had been taken. He said this did

sexual abuse and physical as-

sault of women inmates of shel-

ter homes run by NGO Sewa

Sankalp Evam Vikas Samiti in

Bihar. The issue had come to

light in 2018 following a social

audit conducted by the Tata

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice

resident of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet System for the unde

Dv. Chief Engineer/Const., Northern Railway, Moradabad for and on behalf of the

Const./MB of Moradabad Division.

6.04.2022 at 11.30 Hrs.

No: 1-W/Tender-279/Dy.CE/C/MB Dated ; 22.03,2022
Serving Customers With A Smile

Martyr of CISF on 24th March

CT/GD MALKIT SINGH

DSP DURGAPUR 24-03-1997

CISF proudly remembers the supreme satrifice of

this brave-heart. On this day, he laid down his life

at the altar of duty while fighting with criminals.

His courage and bravery would remain an abiding

source of inspiration for the force. The force will

remain eternally indebted to him for this noblest deed.

eotechnical investigation, casting of test piles, initial load tes

on piles, carrying out Drawing and design of sub structure of

ROB at L-xing no. 249 & 300 and drawing & design of building retaining wall for various location in c/with Construction of ROB

at L-xing no. 249 & 300 on MB-LKO section, Provision of loco or

pit at Dehradun, sick line shed at Bareilly, RAC-SPC doubling of other various works in the jurisdiction of Dy Chief Engineer

06 months

Rs. 7930996.94

enders may be uploaded upto 11.30 Hrs. on 26.04.2022 date

n IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The bidders car

articipate in the e-tender. Technical cum commercial bid will be

he detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway ebsite i.e. www.ireps.gov.in Above tender document will be

vailable for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e

www.ireps.gov.in from 28.03.2022 to 26.04.2022. upto 11.30 Hrs. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender documents. The detailed tender notice also

ened immediately after close of uploading of tenders or

Institute of Social Sciences.

The case relates to the alleged

not have to be in sealed cover.

The counsel replied that in

A firefighter tries to douse the fire at the godown in Secunderabad on Wednesday. PTI

### Desperate, they lived there to save money

**SREENIVAS JANYALA** HYDERABAD, MARCH 23

LEFT DESPERATE by a lack of livelihood for almost a year because of the Covid-19 lockdown, at least 15 workers from Bihar's Saran district arrived in Secunderabad last year to work at a timber and scrap godown at reduced wages. The workers were from poor,

landless families, and had followed their relatives and friends to Hyderabad in search of work.

The Supreme Court bench,

also comprising Justice Krishna

Murari, was hearing an applica-

tion by Bihar-based journalist

Nivedita Jha seeking directions

to the Bihar government to pro-

advocate Shoeb Alam referred to

a similar incident of alleged abuse

reported recently from another

state-run shelter home and said

this was happening despite the

SC's intervention three years ago.

He said the CBI had probed cases

related to 16 shelter homes, but

conviction had happened in one.

mended departmental action

against many district magis-

trates and state government of-

ficials and called for blacklisting

of NGOs that were running these

shelter homes, Alam said.

The CBI had also recom-

Appearing for the petitioner,

duce the action taken report.

stay in two rooms on the first floor of the godown in the Bhoiguda area to save money.

According to 23-year-old Prem Kumar who was the lone survivor, told the police that he saved himself by jumping out of a small window on the first floor. At Secunderabad's Gandhi

Hospital, relatives and friends stood together in shock, struggling to process that their kin, whom they had met a week earlier on Holi, were no more. Sonu Kumar, 52, who seemed inconsolable after losing his 22-yearold nephew Pankaj Kumar in the fire. Pankaj, he said, was the only earner in his family, which lives in Purushottampur in Saran. Restaurant worker Ranglal

Ram, lost both his brother-in-law Deepak Ram, 36, and 21-yearold nephew Bittu Kumar. Deepak was from Sonepur in

Saran, his nephew litender Ram told The Indian Express, and had been travelling to Hyderabad for the last 12 years. According to litender, Deepak is survived by his wife and two children. "We migrant workers lost a

very kind and loving person to-

### case: Delhi court asks MHA to give records on phone tapping

**Judge corruption** 

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

ADELHI court Wednesday issued a notice to the Ministry of Home Affairs to produce the records related to telephonic intercepts of former Orissa High Court Judge IM Quddusi, accused in a corruption case. It said the telephonic conversations cannot be used as evidence if the interception orders did not comply with rules.

Quddusi is accused of trying to influence court proceedings over an application to grant admission rights to an UP-based private medical college, Prasad Institute of Medical Sciences, barred by the Medical Council of India.

Special Judge Anil Kumar Sisodia passed the order on a plea filed by Quddusi seeking access to the entirety of the Review Committee's records. The CBI case and charge sheet relies on telephonic conversations against the accused persons. Quddusi's lawyers had submitted that "prosecution has not provided the copies of the records of the Review Committee and in the absence of the same, the recordings cannot be used as evidence". The court said it had a duty to ascertain whether the MHA orders were legal or not, even if the CBI may not not have relied on the documents.

"In case the orders of interception passed by the Secretary, MHA were not sent for the review in compliance of the aforesaid rules, the said telephonic conversations would be illegal and cannot be used as evidence," the court said.

### SPL COURT REJECTS **CLOSURE REPORT.** ORDERS FIR AGAINST KARNATAKA MINISTER

Bengaluru: A special court in Bengaluru dealing exclusively with criminal cases involving the elected representatives has reiected a closure report filed by the state anti-corruption bureau (ACB) in a disproportionate assets case against Housing

Minister V Somanna.

Rejecting an ACB report of October 29, 2018, for closure of the case against Somanna, the special court ordered filing of a criminal case and issuance of summons to the minister for court appearance by April 16.

The case against Somanna was filed by an RTI activist in 2013, accusing him of acquiring assets disproportionate (204 per cent) to his known sources of income. Somanna is a five-time MLA from Bengaluru.

The ACB had earlier submitted a report to the court, stating that the income and expenditure was more than the assets of the

### KARNATAKA: BAN ON MUSLIM VENDORS

### Cong brought 'only Hindus' rule: Minister

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** BENGALURU, MARCH 23

AMID REPORTS of diktats banning Muslim vendors from participating in annual festivals in coastal Karnataka, the BJP-led Karnataka government said it was the Congress government that introduced the rule to not lease temple property to non-Hindus. A Congress MLA on

Wednesday raised the issue in Karnataka legislative Assembly, saying temple trusts banning Muslims from taking part in bidding for stalls was dividing the society. "The history of the coastal district has several examples where Muslims and Hindus have co-existed in harmony, and have celebrated festivals together. Some cowardly people are installing hoardings that Muslims are not allowed. It has set a bad precedent, but, fortunately, at some places the Hindus have taken a stand against such diktats," he said.

In reply, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister IC Madhuswamy said the government does not encourage the ban. "Rule 12 of the Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments Act-2002 states that no property, including land, building or site sit-

leased to non-Hindus. Citing these rules, posters and banners been put Madhuswamy said. "The government is not en-

uated near the premises shall be

couraging any such ban. If banners are put, we will take action," he said. Chief Minister Basavarai Bommai assured the House to look into the matter. Karnataka Home Minister

Araga Jnanendra has sought reports from local police, assuring the House that the government will keep a close watch on lawand-order situation. Hindu right wing activists allegedly forced some Muslim ven-

dors in Bengaluru's Upparpete to close shops from a temple premises. In Bengaluru's rural Nelamangala district, the Basaveshwara temple management is also facing pressure allegedly from Hindu right wing organisations to ban Muslim vendors at the annual festival, scheduled to be held next month. Jagadeesh, a member of the temple committee, said, "Some people came to us claiming to be Bajrang Dal activists and insisted on banning Muslims to do business during the annual festival. For generations, we have been living peacefully and without discrimination. We sent them back," he said.

accused, and that no corruption case was made out as a consequence. The court, however, ruled that the police had not calculated the disproportionate assets according to an approved formula for assessing disproportionate wealth.

### यू.पी. प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि. (स. १९९१)(१९१९) लि. हर्तान वेर्तिका स्टब्स (मेर्ट्स) (१९४४, १९४४ व्यक्त विक. १९५० व्यक्त इत्तर १९७७, १९६४ ११ (स. १९४४, १९४४, १९४४) मजांकः १३३८/पीशीएल/पीएप/कांशी/निविद्या शंव-०७ दिनांकः २१.०३.२०२२ ई-निविदा सूचना जनपद जालीन के ब्लॉक डकोर के ग्राम मुहाना एवं ब्लॉक डकोर वं

गम ऐर में कीशल विकास केन्द्र के निर्माण कार्य हेतु इस कार्यालय की ई-निविदा सूचना सं० 09/PM-12/UPPCL/2021-22 दिनांक 21.03.2022 द्वारा ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त निविदा http://etender.up.nic.in की वेपसाइट पर दिनांक 24.03.2022 से विनांक 29.03.2022 के अपराहन 02:00 वर्ज तक डाउनलोड/ अपलोड की जा सकती है। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य विवरण , निवम एवं शर्ते कारपरिशन की वेबसाइट www.upprojects.org पर दिनांक 24.03.2022 से देखी जा सकती है।

परियोजना प्रबन्धक, निर्माण हकाई-12, झाँसी



### **Nehru Memorial Museum** and Library

Cordially invites you to a Public Lecture

The Fake Narrative Around Khap Panchayats & Honour Killings

> Prof. Madhu Kishwar Senior Fellow, NMML

Friday, 25 March 2022 at 3:00pm Venue:

Seminar Room, Library Building Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Google Meet Link: https://meet.google.com/dkj-pecf-nwf All are Welcome

davp 09142/12/0046/2122

Rajasthan: Dalit man 'made to rub nose' on temple platform over post on Kashmir Files

**DEEP MUKHERJEE** JAIPUR, MARCH 23

> ELEVEN PEOPLE have been booked in Alwar district for allegedly forcing a 32-year-old Dalit man to rub his nose on a temple platform for remarks the latter had made in reply to comments in one of his Facebook posts, said officials on Wednesday. Seven of the 11 accused were arrested on Wednesday, said police. Rajesh Kumar Meghwal, 32, said the se-

> quence of events started after he uploaded a Facebook post related to The Kashmir Files on March 18. "I had watched the trailer of the film and had uploaded a post, in which I said the movie has shown atrocities against Kashmiri Pandits and is being made tax-free. That is fine, but there are also atrocities against Dalits and other communities. Why are movies such as Jai Bhim not made tax free?" Meghwal, a resident of Gokalpur village told *The Indian Express*.

> Meghwaladded that some people started posting religious slogans on his FB post.Later, Meghwal said he started receiving threats and was being pressured to apologise.

"Villagers and a former sarpanch started to mount pressure on me to apologise at the village temple. They assured me that I will not be roughed up. But they started heckling me and forced me to rub my nose at the platform of the temple against my wishes," alleged Meghwal.

Following the incident, based on Meghwal's complaint, an FIR was lodged at Behror police station and 11 people were booked.

### **SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**

can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.



General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Kalu, S/o Laliya, R/o: E-254, Camp No.-2, Nangloi, Delhi, Age: 28 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Wearing: Pink Shirt and Blue Jeans Pant has been missing/kidnapped since registered at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi

kidnapped person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped person please inform to the following:-Web-site: http://cbi.nic.in

E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.jn Fax: 011-23011334 DP/1515/0D/2022

04.12.2021 from the area of PS Nangloi, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 87-A, Dated 04.12.2021, has been Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing

P.S. Nangloi, Delhi Ph.: 011-25947225, 25949470

### No Covid curbs from March 31, but face masks to stay: Centre

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE CENTRE has decided to end all Covid containment measures under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, in view of the continuous dip in cases across the country. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare tweeted that the "use of face mask and hand hygiene will continue to guide Covid management measures".

The Centre first issued orders and guidelines under the Disaster Management Act for Covid containment on March 24, 2020, and these have been modified on various occasions.

"After taking into consideration the overall improvement in the situation and preparedness of the government to deal with the pandemic, the National Disaster Management Authority has taken a decision that there may not be any further need to invoke the provisions of the DM Act for Covid containment measures," Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla said in a letter sent to state chief secretaries on Tuesday.



A student gets inoculated at Bharati Vidyapeeth School in Navi Mumbai on Wednesday. Narendra Vaska

Accordingly, he said, after the expiry of the existing order on March 31, no further order will be issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs

"Over the last 24 months, significant capacities have been developed for various aspects of management of the pandemic, such as diagnostics, surveillance, contact tracing, treatment, vaccination, hospital infrastructure. And the general public now has a much higher level of awareness on Covid-appropriate behaviour. The states and UTs have also developed their own capacities and systems and implemented their detailed specific plans for managing the pandemic." he said.

"Over the last seven weeks or so, there has been a steep decline in the number of cases. The total caseload in the country stands at 23.913 only (on March 22) and the daily positivity rate has declined to 0.28 per cent. It is also combined efforts, a total of 181.56 crore vaccine doses have been administered," he said.

However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's advisories on Covid containment measures, including on the use of face mask and hand hygiene, will continue to guide the overall national response, he said. "In view of the nature of the disease, people still need to remain watchful of the situation. Whenever any surge in the number of cases is observed, states and UTs may consider taking prompt and proactive action at local level, as advised by the Ministry of Health from time to time. I would, therefore, advise all the states and UTs to consider appropriately discontinuing issue of orders and guidelines under the DM Act, 2005 for Covid containment measures," Bhalla said in the letter. "The states and UTs may con-

tinue to follow the standard operating measures and advisories that have been or are being issued by the Ministry of Health from time to time for containment measures, vaccination and other related aspects," he said.

### 4 kids of family die after eating 'poisonous toffees' found outside their home

**MANISH SAHU** LUCKNOW, MARCH 23

FOUR CHILDREN of a Dalit family died after allegedly consuming poisonous toffees that were found lying outside their home at Sinsai village in the Kasya area of Kushinagar district on Wednesday. All the children two sisters, their brother and a cousin brother – were below the age of seven, police said.

On a complaint lodged by the children's family, police have registered an FIR against three neighbours, also belonging to the Scheduled Caste. The three – identified as Prem, his brother Bala and a relative Chabas - have been booked for murder, poisoning and criminal intimidation, said police.

While the autopsy report is still awaited, police said they suspected that toffees were laced with some poisonous substance.

"Besides toffees and coins, vermilion was also there in the packet. Therefore, we suspect black magic could also be a reason behind the incident," said an officer involved in the probe.

The toffees and the wrappers are being sent to a laboratory for tests."After we receive the report, several things will become clear," Additional Director General of Police (Gorakhpur Zone) Akhil Kumar said.

The victims' family told the police that they suspected their neighbours to be involved in "poisoning" as they used to harass them and pick fights over trivial issues. "Two days ago, Prem and Bala allegedly abused me and threatened to kill ourentire family," said Rasgulla, who lost two daughters and a son. His brother Balesar lost his three-year-old son.

Police said the children spotted a packet containing four tof fees and some coins outside their house in the morning. The children brought the packet inside the house and their grandmother distributed toffees to them, according to the family. "After consuming toffees, they suddenly fell unconscious. They were rushed to a hospital where they were declared dead on ar-

rival," said a police officer. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed Kushinagar police to provide all possible help to the victim's family. District Magistrate (Kushinagar) S Rajalingam said a proposal is being sent to the government to provide monetary help to the victim's family

### UTTAR PRADESH, 6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW

Time Schedule for the Mop-UP Round UP Neet UG -2021

Time Sehedule for the Admission Through Mop-Up round in the State of Uttar Pradesh for Government and Private Medical/Dental Colleges /Institutions/ Universities for Graduate (MBBS/BDS) is as follows:-

	` ,
ate of Online registration	23rd March 2022 (From 4:00 PM) to 26th March 2022 (Till 2:00 PM)
ate of declaration of Merit list of egistered candidates	26th March 2022
ate of Allotment Government ledical / Dental	29th March 2022 (From 11:00 AM)
ate of Allotment Private Medical	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 (From 11:00 AM) to 31 <sup>st</sup> march 2022
ate of Allotment Private Dental	01st April 2022 to 02nd April 2022
dmission date	On Spot

- Candidates should register for mop-up round by depositing Rs-1000/-(Rs One thousand rupees) online by net banking/debit card/credit card/ on the NIC website https://upneet.gov.in
- Mop-up round would be conducted at Kalam Center in KGMU Lucknow Candidates should report 10:30 AM
- Only Those Candidates are eligible for Mop-up round who have not beer allotted MBBS Seats in first and Second round of UP Neet UG-2021 Counseling
- Candidates who have been allotted/Admitted /Not Joined/resigned from MBBS Seat in UP will not be eligible for the Mop-up round.
- Those candidates who have been already admitted in BDS course can participate in the mop-up round to upgrade thier course BDS to MBBS after resign from their seats.
- Candidates will have to produce certificates in original as well as one self attested photo copies of all documents at the time verification otherwise they will not be allowed to participate in mop-up round.
- Candidates should have the Bank DD of Rs 30,000/- for government (MBBS/BDS) seats and Rs. 200.000/- for Private Medical College seats & Rs. 100,000/- for Private Dental Colleges Seats in favour of Director General Medical Education & Training U.P payable at Lucknow as a security fee (Only CTS Bank DD will be accepted
- Candidates should complete their admission process by submitting their original documents on spot after allotment.
- Candidates who have submitted their security fee DD in first & second round of counseling at verification center and not allotted any seat, these candidates collect their security fee DD from their respective documents verification center and bring to the Mop-up round.
- 0. Candidates who wish to opt the seats in private medical college can prepare the DD in advance for tuition fee amount of Rs. 10.50 Lacs and security plus hostel fee of 4.5 Lacs in favor of Director General Medical Education & training U.P. payable at Lucknow. (Only CTS Bank DD will
- 11. After allotment candidates should deposit difference of tuition fee amount online to the Director General Medical Education & training U.P.
- 12. Candidates who wish to opt the seats in private Dental college can prepare the DD in advance for tuition fee of Rs. 2.00 Lakh.
- 13. If the BDS Seat of private dental remain vacant these seats will be filled by OBC/SC/ST candidates of other states
- I. Candidates can prepare their Demand Draft before 01-04-2022 due to Bank holiday on first April 2022.
- Mop-up round will be conducted up to availability of the seats
- 16. For further important and detailed information kindly visit the website https://upneet.gov.in & www.dgme.up.gov.in

**Director General** 

### Constantly review data of new Covid cases: Centre to states

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

WITH THE country continuing to report a decline in Covid-19 cases, the Health Ministry on Wednesday directed the states for constant review of emerging data of new cases based on sustained testing at the district level.

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan told chief secretaries of the states that restrictions and relaxations should be taken after proper analysis of the local situation, including emergence of new clusters, case positivity, the geographical spread of cases, and hospital infrastructure preparedness.

Bhushan specifically reiterated to the states that they need to watch the trajectory of cases in areas reporting positivity rate above 10% and bed occupancy more than 40% on either oxygen support or ICU beds - and implement containment and restric-

tion measures in these areas. "Taking into account the sustained and steep decline in Covid-19 cases across the country, the states have been undertaking varand economic activities. There is a need to follow a risk assessment based approach on the opening of economic and social activities without losing the gains made so far in the fight against the pandemic," Bhushan wrote.

Bhushan reiterated the continued focus on the five-fold strategy of Test-Track-Treat-Vaccination and adherence to Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

With a continuous decline in cases, Bhushan asked the states to resume social gatherings and congregations and offline classes

#### **GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM** OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT **ASSAM, GUWAHATI** No. CE/CC/WR/NIT/2019-20/1003/129

e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE FOR QUOTATION **REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS (RFQ)** 

SI.	Name of the Work	Lot/	Approx. amount in
No.		Contract No.	Lakh (Rs.)
	Supply & installation of Boundary pillars for demarcation of		1.616
	required land under Dibrugarh, Chirang & Barpeta Water	Lot 2	1.651
	Resources Division.	Lot 3	55.781

Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Guwahati, on behalf of Governor of Assam

Details may be seen at website - http/assamtenders.gov.in

. The Water Resources Department (WRD), ASSAM now invites online quotations from eligible Bidders for the lot/contract for the construction of works detailed above in the table. The bidders may submit quotations for any or all of the lots/contracts in these Requests for

Chief Engineer. Water Resources Department Assam Janasanyog/C/13807/21

### Gujarat govt tables data on Covid deaths, Congress seeks 'correct figures'

**PARIMAL DABHI** & AVINASH NAIR GANDHINAGAR, MARCH 23

Gujarat government put out correct figures of Covid-19 deaths in the state, when the former tabled data in the Assembly on Wednesday. The government said it had received 27,674 applications for assistance under the Mukhya-mantri Bal Seva Yojana (MBSY) meant for children rendered orphans during Covid-19 period of which it has sanctioned assistance to 20,970 of them.

Deputy Leader of Opposition Shailesh Parmar referred to the data and asked the government to reveal the exact number of Covid deaths in Gujarat. The official number of people who died of Covid as per the health bulletin on Tuesday was 10,942.

"On one hand, the government is saying that 10,942 people died (due to corona). On the other hand, 20,970 applications (under MBSY) have been sanctioned. In the Supreme Court, the government filed an affidavit on giving financial assistance of Rs 50,000 (to the families of those who died due to corona). That figure is 1.17 lakh. The government should tell the Gujarat Assembly how many people have died. Over 3 lakh people died due to corona in Gujarat," Parmar said.

Top sources told *The Indian* Express that, till Tuesday, the government had received 1,17,463 applications for ex gratia, of which 1,05,638 were approved and 10,654 were rejected. Later, in a press statement, the Congress alleged that the figures under MBSY exposed the fact that the figures of Covid-19 deaths were being concealed.

Under the MBSY, the Gujarat government is paying Rs 4,000 per month to each child that lost both parents during Covid-19 period owing to any medical condition and Rs 2,000 per month to each child who lost either parent for similar reasons, till they attain 18 years. It has defined the period from March 2020 till June 30, 2021, said a senior official of Social Defence division of Social Justice & Empowerment department.

### **APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR CELEBRATION OF BIRTH** ANNIVERSARY OF DR.B.R.AMBEDKAR

Government of NCT of Delhi is inviting applications for celebration of Birth Anniversary of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar on 14/04/2022 under "Scheme for Celebration of Birth/Death Anniversary of Eminent personalities".

Government of NCT of Delhi will provide assistance through empanelled agencies to the Organizations desiring to celebrate the event in the form of arrangement for tentage, sound, system, lighting, banners, chairs etc.

Eligibility:- NGOs/Organizations involved in social activities are eligible for the assistance.

### **Procedure for applying:**

The Organizations desiring to avail the assistance may submit their application duly recommended by area MLA submitted by the NGOs/Organization to the Department for the welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi, B Block, 2nd floor, Vikas Bhawan, I.P.Estate, New Delhi 02, by 31/03/2022 positively. Applications received thereafter will not be considered.

Selected NGOs/ Organizations have to provide photographs of the event organized by them and abide by stipulations of the department for proper organization of the event. Organizers will also be required to submit a declaration to the effect that Govt. guidelines/SOP applicable for organizing religious/cultural functions will be followed scrupulously to prevent spread of Covid-19.

**DIP/SHABDARTH/0747/21-22** 

#### **GOVT. OF BIHAR**

BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD I.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.

UNDER GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (UGMAC)-2021 for MBBS / BDS / B.V.Sc. & A.H. in Govt. Medical / Dental / Bihar Veterinaty Colleges and Private Medical / Dental Colleges of Bihar

Adv. No.- BCECEB(UGMAC)-2021/17 Dated 23.03.2022 Website: bceceboard.bihar.gov.in

### Important Notice for MOP-UP Round Counselling

Fresh Online Registration and submission of Application form are invited from such qualified, eligible & interested NEET(UG)-2021 candidates for appearing in the MOP-UP round Offline Counselling of Under Graduate Medical Admission Counselling (UGMAC)-2021, who are not admitted in any  $Medical/\,Dental\,Colleges\,of\,India, on the\,\,vacant\,seats\,of\,Government\,/\,Private\,Medical\,/\,Dental\,Colleges$ of Bihar / Bihar Veterinary College after admission on the basis of UGMAC-2021 Online 2nd round counselling from 13.03.2022 to 16.03.2022.

- 2. Eligibility criteria and instructions and other details are available in the prospectus of UGMAC-2021 which can be downloaded from the Board's website beeceboard.bihar.gov.in.
- 3. Those candidate who are admitted in any Govt./ Pvt. Medical / Dental College of India are not eligible for MOP-UP round counselling.
- 4. Those candidates who have already duly submitted the online application form earlier for UGMAC-2021 and are not admitted in any Govt. / Pvt. Medical / Dental Colleges of India and are interested to take admission in Medical / Dental Colleges and Bihar Veterinary College on the basis of MOP-UP round counselling of UGMAC-2021 are also required to do fresh Registration and duly submit the application form with requisite fee.
- Seat Matrix of vacancies after completion of 2nd Round Counselling will be available on Board's website from 24.03.2022 If any further vacancies arise, the Seat matrix of updated vacancies shall be uploaded on the Board's website on 05.04.2022 (10:00 A.M.) before starting of MOP-UP Counselling. The details of programme / process / fee etc. has been uploaded on the Board's website: bceceboard.bihar.gov.in vide adv. No. BCECEB(UGMAC)-2021/16 Dated 23.03.2022.
- The concerned candidates are requested to download the details and go through it and complete the process accordingly as per the details of above advertisement for attending the MOP-UP counselling. **Controller of Examination**

#### Varthana Finance Private Limited (Formerly known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.,) varthana Registered Office at: No. 5BC-110, Varasiddhi, 3rd Floor, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES Security Interest Act, 2002, read with Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is here by given to the public in

HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043. Website www.varthana.com, Email: care@varthana.com, Phone: 080-68455777 Branch Office: No. 1162 & 1163, Tower B-1, 11th Floor, Spaze I Tech Park, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurugram – 122018.

general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd Gurugram, (Formerly known as Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd), will be sold on 12-04-2022 (Tuesday) between 1-00 p.m to 2-00 p.m., "As is Where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis, for recovery of dues of below mentioned Loan Account. The details of the Borrower(s)/ Mortgagor(s) Secured Assets/ Dues/ Reserve Price/ Auction date & time, EMD & Bid increase amount are

Name of The Borrowers/Mortgagors: 1. M/s. Gautam Convent Middle School, Rep. by its Authorised Signatory, 2. M/s. Galaxy Educational Society, Rep. by its Authorised Signatory, 3. Lajjawati B, W/o. Bhambili, 4. Dinesh Kumar, S/o. Bhambili, 5. Rajesh

Loan A/c No. S19GUR-GUR-007873. Details of Total Outstanding Amount in Rupees: Rs. 55,44,251/-{Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Two Hundred Fifty One Only) as on 19-03-2022, together with future agreed contractual interest plus legal costs/ charges, till realisation of entire

Details of the Immovable Properties: Schedule 'A' Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Khewat No. 78 Khata No.96, Mustatil No.38, Kila. No.2/1/1 (4-16), 9/2/2 (4-10), Khasra No.453 (1-0) & 679 (0-2), Iand admeasuring 1 Kanal 5 marla (760 Sq.yds) Situated at Gahlab Village, Hathin Tehsil, Palwal District (Haryana) and bounded on, East By: Road, North By: Other Property, West By: Other Property, South By: Road.

The Reserve Price for Schedule 'A' Property will be Rs. 40,00,000/- and the Earnest Money Deposit will be (EMD 10% of

Known Encumbrances, if any: Nil. Schedule 'B' Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Khewat/Khata No.769/829, Mustatil No.88, Kila No.18 (8-0) 19 (8-0) and 20 (8-0), Land area measuring 6 Marla that is 183 Sq.Yds, Situated in Bhamnikhera Village, Palwal Tehsil & District (Haryana) and bounded on, East By: Road, North By: Road, West By: Other Plot, South By: Other Plot.

The Reserve Price for Schedule 'B' Property will be Rs.7,79,500/- and the Earnest Money Deposit will be (EMD 10% of Reserve Price) Rs.77,950/-. Known Encumbrances, if any: Nil. Intending bidders should submit their EMD amount along with KYC documents (PAN Card and Aadhaar/Voters ID/Driving Licence)

and Rs. 1,000/- being Non-refundable Tender fee by way of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn on a Scheduled Bank, favouring "M/s. Varthana Finance Private Limited", payable at Gurugram before 5.00 p.m. on or before 11-04-2022 (Monday). The Auction will be held at: M/s. Varthana Finance Pvt. Ltd., No. 1162 & 1163, Tower B-1, 11th Floor, Spaze I Tech Park, Sector  $49, Sohna\,Road, Gurugram\,-\,122018., on\,12\text{-}04\text{-}2022\,(Tuesday)\,between\,1\text{-}00\,p.m.\,to\,2\text{-}00\,p.m.$ 

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in Company's website i.e.: www.varthana.com The prospective bidders may contact the Authorised Officer Mr. Mittin Kakkar - Phone No. 8685050505 and Mr. Raman Arora

hone No. 7827926395 for further details/information. Authorised Officer, Varthana Finance Private Limited Date: 24-03-2022, Place: Gurugram



MEANWHILE

### MORE WEAPONS NO SOLUTION TO WAR: POPE

Pope Francis on Wednesday said the war in Ukraine showed that humanity had to shed a strange instinct for "self-destruction" and that buying more weapons was not the ultimate solution to any conflict..." "May the Lord send his spirit to make us understand that war is a defeat of humanity, that we have to defeat all those who make war ...," he said.



**Julian Assange** 

### WikiLeaks' Assange gets married in jail

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange married his long-term partner Stella Moris inside a British high-secuprison Wednesday at a small ceremony attended by just four guests, two official witnesses and two guards. Assange is being held in jail while US authorities seek his extradition to face trial on 18 counts relating to WikiLeaks' release of vast troves of confidential US military records and diplomatic cables more than a decade ago. "I am very happy and very sad. I love Julian with all my heart, and I wish he were here," Moris said outside the gates of Belmarsh prison following the cer-**REUTERS** 

### Wreck of sunken **Gulf whaler** discovered

Mississippi: Awhaling ship from Massachusetts sank near the mouth of the Mississippi River about 15 years before Herman Melville introduced the world to Moby Dick. Nearly 190 years later, experts said, it was still the only whaler known to have gone down in the Gulf of Mexico, where the threat of enslavement at Southern ports posed a risk for Black and mixedrace men who often were part of whaling crews. Researchers checking out odd shapes during undersea scanning work on the sandy ocean floor believed they had finally found the shipwreck about 113 kilometres offshore Pascagoula in Mississippi.

### **PAKISTAN**

#### Man arrested for Hindu girl's murder in Sindh

Karachi: A man has been arrested for murdering an 18-year-old Hindu girl when she resisted a bid to abduct her in Pakistan's southern Sindh province, according to a media report on Wednesday. Pooja Kumari Oad was said to have been shot after she put up resistance to the attackers in Rohi, Sukkur in Sindh on Monday. The suspect, Wahid Bakhash Lashari, was arrested and an FIR registered.

#### **SOMALIA** Somali forces repulse attack on airport

Mogadishu: At least three police officers were iniured when a gunfire rang out on Wednesday as Islamic extremists attacked the international airport. Somali security forces repulsed the assault. killing two armed attack-Somali Police Commissioner Gen. Abdi Hassan Hijar said. Al-Shabab, Somalia's Islamic extremist rebels, claimed responsibility for the attack inside Mogadishu's Abdulle International Airport, saying its fighters attempted to invade a compound that

is home to several diplo-

### **ZELENSKYY SAYS HUMANITARIAN CONVOY ATTACKED**

## Mariupol in flames as Biden heads to Europe

1 lakh civilians trapped in port city; US President will press allies to help impose more sanctions

**AGENCIES** 

LVIV, MYKOLAIV, KHARKIV, MARCH 23

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden flies to Europe on Wednesday for an emergency NATO summit on Ukraine, where invading Russian troops are stalled, cities are under bombardment and the besieged port of Mariupol is in flames.

Four weeks into a war that has driven a quarter of Ukraine's 44 million people from their homes, Russia has failed to capture a single major Ukrainian city, while Western sanctions have ostracised it from the world economy.

Moscow says its aim is to disarm its neighbour, and its 'special military operation" is going to plan. It denies targeting civilians.

Worst hit has been Mariupol, a southern port completely surrounded by Russian forces, where hundreds of thousands of people have been sheltering since the war's early days, under constant bombardment and with food, water and heat supplies cut. More shelling and gunfire shook the city again Wednesday, with plumes of black smoke rising from the western outskirts, where the two sides battled for control of multiple suburbs. A shopping mall and buildings were hit, in-



A Ukrainian firefighter sprays water inside a house destroyed by shelling in Kyiv on Wednesday. AP

juring four people, the city administration reported.

During a brief exchange with reporters at the White House before departing for Brussels, Biden said possibility of Russia deploying chemical weapons "I think it's a real threat." Jake Sullivan, Biden's national security adviser, said the president would coordinate with allies on military assistance for Ukraine and new sanctions on Russia. One new sanctions option that Biden is looking at is to target hundreds of members of the Russian State Duma, the lower house of Parliament, according to a US official. The official added that a final decision hasn't been

made and that the new sanctions would be rolled out in coordination with Western allies.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy meanwhile said Russian forces not only blocked a humanitarian convoy trying to reach besieged Mariupol with desperately needed supplies on Tuesday but took captive some of the rescue workers and bus drivers.

He said the Russians had agreed to the route ahead of time. "We are trying to organise stable humanitarian corridors for Mariupol residents. but almost all of our attempts, unfortunately, are foiled by war, leaves Russia Kremlin envoy

Kremlin veteran Chubais quits over

Chubais

has resigned and left Russia with no intensource said on Wednesday, the first senior official reported to

have quit since Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine a month ago Anatoly Chubais was one of the principal architects of Boris Yeltsin's economic reforms of the 1990s and held senior business and political roles under President Vladimir Putin. He had been Putin's special envoy to international organisations since 2020. Chubais hung up the phone when contacted. The source did not say why he had quit or where he was. AGENCIES

shelling, or deliberate terror,' Zelenskyy said.

Zelenskyy added that 100,000 civilians remain in the shattered city of Mariupol that has been struck from the air, land and sea. Repeated efforts to get desperately needed food and other supplies to those trapped have often failed.

Putin aide: Will use nuclear weapons if Russia's existence is threatened

**REUTERS** MARCH 23

RUSSIA'S SECURITY policy dictates that the country would only use nuclear weapons if its very existence were threatened, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told CNN in an interview on Tuesday.

"We have a concept of domestic security and it's public, you can read all the reasons for nuclear arms to be used. So if it is an existential threat for our country, then it (the nuclear arsenal) can be used in accordancewith our concept," he said.

"There are no other reasons that were mentioned in that text," he said in a further reference to the country's security concept.

Russia on Wednesday condemned what it called a "reckless" Polish proposal to send international peacekeepers into Ukraine and warned that it could lead to a direct clash between Russian and NATO forces, Asked about the initiative. Peskov said: "It would be a very reckless and extremely dangerous decision.' He told reporters on a conference call that any possible contact between Russian and NATO forces "could have clear consequences that would be hard to repair".

### Fearing Russian reaction, Israel blocked Pegasus for Ukraine and Estonia

THE NEW YORK TIMES KYIV, MARCH 23

THE ISRAELI government reiected requests from Ukraine and Estonia in recent years to purchase and use Pegasus — the powerful spyware tool — to hack Russian mobile phone numbers, according to people with knowledge of the discussions.

Israel feared that selling the cyberweapon to adversaries of Russia would damage Israel's relationship with the Kremlin, they said.

Both Ukraine and Estonia had hoped to buy Pegasus to gain access to Russian phones, presumably as part of intelligence oper- country's foreign policy goals.

ations targeting their menacing neighbour in the years before Russia carried out its invasion.

But Israel's Ministry of Defence refused to grant licences to NSO Group, the company that makes Pegasus, to sell to Estonia and Ukraine if their goal was to use the weapon against Russia.

A senior Ukrainian official familiar with attempts to acquire the Pegasus system said Ukrainian intelligence officials were disappointed when Israel declined to allow Ukraine to purchase the system, which could have proved critical for monitoring Russian military programmes and assessing the

### Putin gets Chinese backing to stay in G20, may attend summit ting better. So far, his intention

ANGIETEO&STANLEY WIDIANTO JAKARTA, MARCH 23

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin plans to attend the next G20 summit in Indonesia later this year and received valuable backing from Beijing on Wednesday in a pushback to suggestions by some members that Russia could

be barred from the group. The United States and its Western allies are assessing whether Russia should remain within the Group of Twenty major economies following its invasion of Ukraine, sources involved in the discussions told Reuters.



Vladimir

Russia would probably be vetoed by others in the group, raising the prospect of some countries instead skipping G20 meetings, the sources said

Russia's ambassador to Indonesia, which currently holds the rotating G20 chair, said Putin intended to travel to the Indonesian resort island of Bali for the G20 summit in November. "It will depend on many, many things, including is... he wants to," Ambassador Lyudmila Vorobieva told a news conference.

Asked about suggestions Russia could be kicked out of the G20. she said it was a forum to discuss economic issues and not a crisis like Ukraine.

"Of course expulsion of Russia from this kind of forum will not help these economic problems to be resolved. On the contrary, without Russia it would be difficult to do so."

China, which has not condemned Russia's invasion and criticised Western sanctions, defended Moscow on Wednesday, calling Russia an "important

### NATO: 7k to 15k Russian

**EASTERN BORDER MAY GET MORE TROOPS** 

### troops killed in Ukraine Meanwhile, NATO will likely

**AP&REUTERS** KYIV, MARCH 23

NATO ESTIMATED on Wednesday that 7,000 to 15,000 Russian soldiers have been killed in four weeks of fighting in Ukraine, where the country's defenders have put up stiffer-than-expected resistance and denied Moscow the lightning victory it hoped for.

A senior NATO military official said the estimate was based on information from Ukrainian officials, what Russia has released — intentionally or not and intelligence gathered from open sources. The official spoke on condition of anonymity un-But any move to exclude the Covid situation, which is get-member" of the G20. REUTERS der ground rules set by NATO.

decide on Thursday to ramp up military forces on its eastern flank, the head of the alliance said, while also warning Russia against using nuclear weapons.

NATO has sharply increased its presence at the eastern border of the alliance, with some 40,000 troops spread from the Baltic to the Black Sea, and is seeking to deploy four new combat units in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia.

"I expect leaders will agree to strengthen NATO's posture in all domains, with major increases in the eastern part of the alliance. On land, in the air and at sea,' NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg told a news conference.

### Taliban cancel girls' higher education despite pledges

ASSOCIATED PRESS & PTI KABUL, MARCH 23

AFGHANISTAN'S TALIBAN rulers decided against opening schools to girls above the sixth grade, reneging on a previous promise and opting to appease their hardline base at the expense of further alienating the international community.

The unexpected decision, confirmed by a Taliban official Wednesday, came at the start of the new school year in Afghanistan. It is bound to disrupt Taliban efforts to win recognition from potential international donors. The international community has been urging Taliban leaders to open schools and give women their right to public



Girls have been banned from school beyond class 6 in most of the country since the Taliban's return. AP file

space. A statement by the ministry earlier in the week urged "all students" to come to school.

The decision to postpone a return of girls going to school in higher levels appeared to be a concession to the rural and deeply tribal backbone of the hardline Taliban movement, that in many parts of the countryside

How will move affect Taliban?

significant blow to the credibility the Taliban had been trying to build with international donors in recent months. And it could threaten the billions of dollars of humanitarian aid that have helped keep millions of Afghans from famine as the country grapples with economic collapse.

THE MOVE is likely to deal a

are reluctant to send their daughters to school.

Imran says won't resign as three allies

turn of girls to school came late in night on Tuesday, Waheedullah Hashmi, external relations and donor representative with the Taliban-led administra-

UN Secretary-General Antonio

The decision to cancel the re-

tion, told The Associated Press.

"It was late last night that we received word from our leadership that schools will stay closed for girls," said Hashmi. "We don't say they will be closed forever.'

Guterres on Wednesday regretted Taliban's announcement suspending education for young girls in Afghanistan, saying it is "deeply damaging" for the country. In a statement, Guterres urged the de facto authorities to open schools for all students without any further delay. "I deeply regret today's announcement by Taliban au-

indicate they will vote against his govt Poll code breach: Pak EC slaps fine

> body has imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on Prime Minister Imran Khan for violating election code of conduct by addressing a rally in Swat ahead of the local government election in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.

Pakistan had on March 15 barred him from visiting Swat to address a public rally, but the premier ignored the directives and addressed a rally a day later, the Express Tribune reported. According to the new ECP code of conduct, no public office holder can visit the districts where elections are being held.

### S Korea's total Covid cases top 10 mn; 500k cases in past 24 hours

**HYONHEE SHIN** SEOUL, MARCH 23

SOUTH KOREA'S total coronavirus infections topped 10 million, or nearly 20% of its population, authorities said on Wednesday, as surging severe cases and deaths increasingly put a strain on crematories and funeral homes nationwide.

The country has been battling a record Covid-19 wave driven by the highly infectious Omicron variant even as it largely scrapped its once aggressive tracing and quarantine efforts and eased social distancing curbs.

The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA) reported 490,881 cases for Tuesday, the second highest daily tally after it peaked at 621,205 on March 16. The total caseload rose to 10,427,247, with 13,432 deaths, up 291 a day before.

The country's infection and death rates are still far below those recorded elsewhere, as almost 87% of its 52 million residents are fully vaccinated and

63% have received booster shots. But the death toll nearly doubled in just about six weeks, with daily fatalities peaking at 429 last Friday, fuelling demand for fu-

neral arrangements. The health ministry on Monday instructed the 60 crematories nationwide to operate for longer hours to burn up to seven bodies from five, and the 1,136 funeral parlours capable of

storing some 8,700 bodies to ex-

pand their facilities. **REUTERS** 

New Delhi



### WHO: Cases rise for 2nd straight week, deaths fall

Geneva: The number of new coronavirus cases globally increased by 7per cent in the last week, driven by rising infections in the Western Pacific, even as reported deaths from Covid fell, the World Health Organization said.

There were more than 12 million new weekly cases and just under 33,000 deaths, a 23per cent decline in mortality, according to the UN health agency's report on the pandemic

issued late Tuesday. Confirmed cases of the virus had been falling steadily worldwide since January but rose again last week, due to the more infectious Omicron variant and the suspension of Covid protocols in numerous countries in Europe, North

America and elsewhere.

### One black box found in China plane crash

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** WUZHOUA, MARCH 23

CHINESE AVIATION official said Wednesday that one of the two "black box" recorders had been found with its casing severely damaged, two days after a China Eastern flight crashed in the coun-

try's south with 132 people aboard. The exterior is so damaged that investigators were not able to tell whether it was the flight data recorder or the cockpit voice recorder, said Mao Yanfeng, the director of the accident investigation division of the

Civil Aviation Authority of China. Mao gave no information about the condition of the recording device inside. An all-



An emergency worker puts an orange black box recorder into a plastic bag. AP

out effort is being made to find

the other box, he said. Recovering the so-called black boxes — they are usually painted orange for visibility — is considered key to figuring out what caused the crash.

**SAJJAD HUSSAIN** ISLAMABAD, MARCH 23 PAKISTAN PRIME Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday said he will

not resign at any cost and claimed to have a "surprise" up his sleeve for the opposition, even as at least three allies of the ruling coalition have indicated to vote against his government during a no-trust motion, which would come up for discussion in Parliament later this month.

"I will not resign under any circumstance. I will play till the last ball (...) and I will surprise them (opposition) a day before as they are still under pressure," Khan said. Talking to reporters, he said

the Opposition has laid all of

their cards, but the no-confi-

Prime Minister

**Imran Khan** dence motion against him would not be successful. "My

Pakistan

any of my cards yet," he said. Around 100 lawmakers from the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) submitted the no-confidence motion on March 8. Meanwhile, at least three allies, including the Muttahida Qaumi

trump card is that I have not laid

Movement-Pakistan, the Pakistan Muslims League-Quaid and the Balochistan Awami Party with their 17 members have indicated to join the Opposition.

### of Rs 50k on PM Islamabad: Pakistan's top election

The Election Commission of

**Deaths** 

Weekly

positivity

3.43%

10.49%

0.38%

0.44%

0.39%

=== BENGALURU ====

78,42,90,846

**OVERALL POSITIVITY** 

181,56,01,944

8,86,468

3,03,976

1,02,285

March 22

March 22 total: 33,13,290

**5.48%** 

62

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

**DASHBOARD, AS ON MARCH 22** 

NEW CASES, DAILY

New cases

1,778

CASES IN THE STATES

159

156

104

92

CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 7 DAYS

 $80^{-68}$ 

2,000

**State** 

Kerala

Delhi

Mizoram

Maharashtra

Karnataka

150 7 -

TOTAL TESTS

TESTS ON MARCH 22

INDIA TOTAL DOSES

First dose Second dose

49,043

AGE GROUP 15-18

(Adults 1st dose: 91,20,63,635; 2nd: 78,71,14,377;

15-18 age group 1st dose: 5,63,96,784; 2nd: 3,61,18,886;

1,02,285

21,520

March 13

Age group 12-14 1st dose: 52,10,775; Precautionary: 2,20,10,777)

6,77,218

**A**DULTS

15,00,000

7,50,000

5.00.000

2,50,000

Active cases

23,087

Weekly CFR: 1.43% | Overall CFR: 1.20% | Total deaths: 5,16,605

**LAST 10 DAYS** 

**ON MARCH 22** 

**Active cases** 

6,180

1,486

1,159

488

1,880

= PUNE =

**WEEKLY POSITIVITY** 

LAST 10 DAYS (daily)

LAST 10 DAYS (daily)

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0.36%

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

### SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

## The Ahir Regiment demand

The extraordinary bravery of the Ahirs in the Battle of Rezang La in 1962 gave a halo to the community. The demand for their own Regiment has found support from politicians seeking leverage with them.

#### MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 23

AN ONGOING agitation by members of the Ahir community disrupted traffic on a 6-kilometre stretch of the Delhi-Gurgaon highway on Wednesday. The protesters have been camping near Kherki Daula toll plaza in Gurgaon since February 4, demanding an Ahir Regiment in the Indian Army.

### What is the genesis of the demand for an Ahir Regiment?

The Ahirwal region, which includes the southern Haryana districts of Rewari, Mahendragarh, and Gurgaon, and is associated with Rao Tula Ram, the Ahir hero of the revolt of 1857, has traditionally contributed soldiers to the Indian Army in large numbers. The region has seen the loudest clamour for the creation of an Ahir Regiment, even though the demand has also been raised in other states with sizeable Ahir populations.

The community was brought into national limelight after the story of the bravery of the Ahir troops of Haryana in the Battle of Rezang La in 1962 was widely known. Most of the soldiers of C Company of the 13th Battalion of the Kumaon Regiment perished fighting the Chinese onslaught, but broke the enemy's advance to Chushul.

Members of the community have long argued that the Ahirs deserve a full-fledged Infantry Regiment named after them, not just two battalions in the Kumaon Regiment and a fixed percentage in other regiments. The demand got a boost during the 50th anniversary of the 1962 War in 2012 when the saga of the Ahirs' heroism was recounted repeatedly, and has received renewed traction in the 60th anniversary year. Various political parties have thrown their weight behind the demand in recent years.

### What is the history of the Ahirs in the Indian Army and Kumaon Regiment?

Ahirs are recruited in the Indian Army in various regiments including fixed class regiments (one or more castes in fixed numbers) like Kumaon, Jat, Rajput, and mixed class regiments (of all castes) like the Brigade of the Guards or The Parachute Regiment in the Infantry and various other regiments, and in Corps like Artillery, Engineers, Signals, and Army Service Corps.

Ahirs were initially recruited in sizable

Ahirs were initially recruited in sizable numbers in the 19 Hyderabad Regiment, which was the predecessor of the Kumaon Regiment. This regiment had earlier mainly recruited from Rajputs from Uttar Pradesh



Honorary Captain Ramchander Yadav and Havaldar Nihal Singh, two of the survivors of the Battle of Rezang La, at the war memorial in Rewari in 2012. Ravi Kanojia/Archive

Punjab

Haryana

UP

AHIRWAL

REGION

Delhi

Mahendragarh

Gurgaon

and Muslims from the Deccan plateau among other castes.

In 1902, the regiment's links with the Nizam of Hyderabad were severed after Berar was converted into a permanent base for the British. In 1922, in another reorganisation of the Indian Army, the composition of the 19 Hyderabad Regiment was changed, and Deccan Muslims were removed from it. In 1930, the class composition was changed again to one company each of Kumaonis, Jats, Ahirs, and Mixed Class.

On October 27, 1945, permission was given to change the name of the Regiment, and it became 19 Kumaon. Following Independence, it was named the Kumaon Regiment.

The 13th Battalion of the Kumaon Regiment, which gained fame in Rezang La, was the first battalion to be raised after Independence. It was raised in October 1948 with Kumaonis and Ahirs in equal proportions. In 1960, after the transfer of Ahirs from 2 Kumaon and 6 Kumaon, 13 Kumaon became the first pure Ahir battalion in the Kumaon Regiment.

### What was the role of Ahirs in the Battle of Rezang La?

The Ahirs of 13 Kumaon deployed at Rezang La in Eastern Ladakh resisted the Chinese attack on them until almost the entire company of 120 troops had been wiped

The battle was fought on November 18, 1962 at a height of 17,000 feet. The illequipped troops of the Charlie Company of 13 Kumaon under the command of Major Shaitan Singh fought ferociously against hundreds of attacking Chinese soldiers. Out of the 117 troops killed, 114 were Ahirs, and only three survived with serious injuries. The killed Ahir troops belonged to the Rewari-Mahendragarh belt of Haryana.

When the winter ended and the bodies of the dead soldiers were recovered, many were found holding on to their weapons in the trenches after their ammunition had run out. Major Shaitan Singh was awarded the nation's highest gallantry award, Param Vir Chakra, posthumously, eight soldiers re-

ceived the Vir Chakra, and several others were awarded the Sena Medal and Mentioned-in-Despatches.

### What position have political parties taken on the demand for an Ahir Regiment?

Over the past decade, support has come from parties across the spectrum, but especially from ones with a presence in Ahir areas of influence — in Haryana, UP, Bihar, and even Maharashtra.

In 2018, then Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Rao Inderjit Singh had written to then Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asking her to consider the demand for an Ahir Regiment.

On March 15, Congress MP Deepender Hooda told Rajya Sabha: "History of Yaduvanshi bravery does not need to be proven to anyone. The Ahirwal region of Haryana and Rajasthan have always been at the forefront of the defence of the nation..." Earlier on February 11, Shyam Singh Yaday, BSP MP from Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, had

In Bihar, where the demand has been raised periodically, Raj Lakshmi Yadav, the daughter of Lalu Yadav and Rabri Devi, brought it up before the 2020 Assembly elections. The SP promised an Ahir Regiment in its manifesto ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

raised the demand for an Ahir Regiment.

### What has been the Army's response to the demand?

The Army has rejected the demand for any new class or caste based regiment. It has said that while the older regiments based on castes and regions like the Dogra Regiment, Sikh Regiment, Rajput Regiment, and Punjab Regiment will continue, no new demands on the lines of an Ahir Regiment, Himachal Regiment, Kalinga Regiment, Gujarat Regiment or any tribal regiment would be entertained.

Lt Gen RS Kadyan (retd), former Deputy Chief of Army Staff who served in the Rajputana Rifles, said there was no need to tinker with the existing system. "Why whip a running horse? The Army is doing well with the present composition and therefore there is no need to add new regiments based on class or caste," he said.

Gen Kadyan said that while the military does not subscribe to the colonial theory of 'martial races', which led to the creation of single class or caste regiments, the regimental system has stood the test of time, and has acquired an Indian nationalist character. Politicians should not pursue "narrow political gains" using the Army, he said.

### Why Mariupol matters to Russia in the war

**SONAL GUPTA**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE RUSSIAN onslaught has turned Mariupol into "ashes of a dead land", the city council said on Tuesday, describing the stepped-up shelling and bombardment since the defenders of the city rejected Moscow's demand that they lay down their arms.

The port city on the Sea of Azov has been under siege by Russian forces for three weeks now. Between 100,000 and 200,000 people are believed to be trapped without water, electricity and heating, with about 80 per cent of the city's infrastructure destroyed. There is no definite count of casualties, but there have been reports of bodies in the streets and residents burying the dead in

What is it about Mariupol that attracts such ferocious Russian attention?



### Symbolic significance

Mariupol lies between Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014, and the Donbas, the eastern Ukrainian territories that Russian-backed separatists have controlled since that year. The separatists, whose territory lie barely 100 km away, had tried and failed to capture Mariupol in 2014. Then President Petro Poroshenko had declared Mariupol the regional capital of the Donetsk oblast after

Donetsk itself fell to the rebels. In 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees termed it a "city of solidarity" for welcoming people displaced by the war in the Donbas.

### **Economic importance**

Capturing Mariupol will give Russia enormous maritime advantage. Having already seized Crimea and with Kherson having fallen, Russia now dominates the Black Sea coastline — and it has launched attacks on the port cities of Mykolayiv and Odessa.

The fall of Mariupol will mean Ukraine will lose control of its entire coastline, and its maritime commerce will be cut off. The grain trade through the Black Sea is the lifeblood of the Ukrainian economy. Before the Russian onslaught began, Mariupol accounted for a fifth of Ukraine's ferrous metal exports. Mariupol is also home to two of Europe's largest iron and steel plants — Azovstal and

Ilyich — whose fate is uncertain.

### A prize for Putin

With the battlefield across northern Ukraine "largely static" according to Western military intelligence, a victory in Mariupol is important for President Vladimir Putin whose forces are estimated to have taken major and unexpected losses in the war so far.

US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan this week called Russia's invasion a "failure". "Russia intended to accomplish three basic objectives: first, to subjugate Ukraine; second, to enhance Russian power and prestige; and third, to divide and weaken the West. Russia has thus far manifestly failed to ac-

complish all three objectives," Sullivan said.
On Wednesday, the UK Ministry of
Defence said, "Russian forces are attempting
to envelop Ukrainian forces in the east...as
they advance from the direction of Kharkiv in
the north and Mariupol in the south."

### In Karnataka, a 2015 caste census, SC order on OBC quota tie up local polls

### JOHNSONTA

BENGALURU, MARCH 23

THE FINDINGS of an unpublished caste census carried out in Karnataka when the Congress was in power between 2013 and 2018 have assumed significance in the light of a recent Supreme Court order reiterating that reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in local bodies should be based only on empirical data on the numbers and backwardness of caste groups.

Elections to the Bengaluru city corporation, and many zila panchayat and *taluk* panchayat seats in Karnataka have been due for over a year.

In January, the Supreme Court had directed the Maharashtra government to submit data on OBCs available with it to the State Commission for Backward Classes to enable the commission to assess its correctness and make recommendations for the representation of these classes in the state's local bodies.

The court had also directed that "similar

dispensation be followed including regarding the compliance of triple test (*see below*) by all States or Union Territories, if they intend to conduct election of local Government and provide for reservation for OBC category".

### 2015 Karnataka survey

In April 2015, then Chief Minister Siddaramaiah commissioned a socio-economic caste census to assess the status of various caste groups in the state. The census, the first such exercise in 84 years, was led by H Kantharaj, then chairman of the Karnataka Backward Classes Commission.

A leaked version of the report indicated that the politically powerful Lingayats and Vokkaligas constituted only 9.8% and 8.2% of Karnataka's 6-crore population respectively (instead of the 17% and 15% that is usually assumed).

### The stakes in the state

The report was submitted in 2017, but Siddaramaiah's government did not release its findings, reportedly for fear of an adverse fallout in the Assembly elections scheduled

for the following year. The BJP had demanded the release of the report then and after H D Kumaraswamy's JD(S)-Congress government took over.

The Congress is now demanding that

Karnataka government should cite the Kantharaj committee in the Supreme Court, saying it meets the requirement of empirical data for reservation in local polls. Siddaramaiah, who belongs to the OBC Kuruba community, said recently: "The BJP government should use the report to argue before the Supreme Court and ensure social justice for the backward classes. There is no need for a separate survey."

OBCs are a key support group for the BJP in Karnataka. "Those who are elected in local polls tend to drive support for parties at the grassroots level," a government source said.

In elections to city and town municipal councils held in December 2021, prior to the Supreme Court's January 19, 2022 order in the Maharashtra application, the Congress had won 501 of the 1,884 wards in 58 municipalities, compared to the BJP's 433. In the two years prior to the order, elections were held

for city corporations in Belagavi, Dakshina Kannada, Kalburgi, Dharwad, Davangere, and Mysuru, in which the BJP did well.

### The SC's 2010 order

Beginning with a 2010 Constitution Bench judgment in a case where the validity of reservations for OBCs under Articles 243D(6) and 243T(6) was challenged, the Supreme Court has emphasised the need for political quotas to be backed by empirical data, unlike reservation for OBCs, SCs, and STs in education and employment.

The court said in 2010 that "identification" of "backward classes" under Articles 243D(6) and 243T(6) should be distinct from the identification of SEBCs (Socially and Educationally Backward Classes) for the purpose of Article 15(4) and that of backward classes for Article 16(4). Both these Articles empower governments to make laws for the uplift of backward classes.

"In the absence of updated empirical data, it is well nigh impossible for courts to decide whether reservations in favour of OBC groups are proportionate or not," the

court said. (K Krishna Murthy & Ors vs Union Of India & Anr, 2010)

### The Maharashtra case

While the 2010 order was not acted upon by states, in 2019-20, Maharashtra's move to reserve over 50% seats in local polls was disputed in court, In March 2021, a threejudge Bench of the Supreme Court set out a three-step rule to empirically establish the need for OBC quota: (i) a state commission must "conduct contemporaneous rigorous empirical inquiry into the nature and implications of the backwardness qua local bodies, within the state"; (ii) specify the proportion of reservation required to be provisioned local body wise in light of recommendations of the commission; and (iii) total "reservation (must) not exceed the aggregate of 50% of the seats". (Vikas Kishanrao Gawali vs The State of Maharashtra)

The Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress government issued an ordinance to get around the order, and reserved 27% of local poll seats for OBCs. The matter again reached the Supreme Court.

New Delhi

On December 6, 2021, the court ruled out holding local elections without empirical data (*Rahul Ramesh Wagh vs The State of Maharashtra*). On December 15, it ordered that all seats declared OBC by the state government be declared general for local polls. And on January 19, 2022, it said all states must follow the triple test condition laid down by the court in the March 2021 order.

### Situation in Karnataka

Karnataka's 33% reservation for OBCs in local bodies may now be under a cloud.

The terms of several local bodies ended over a year ago, including that of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in September 2020. Elections for 1,083 zila panchayat seats in 30 districts, and 3,903 seats in 175 *taluk* panchayats have been due since March 2021.

The BBMP polls were initially delayed on account of the BJP government moving to increase the number of seats from 198 to 243 through delimitation. The state has now cited the Supreme Court order seeking empirical data as a block to holding polls.

### Classifieds

#### **PERSONAL**

**I,satbir** yadav, s/o siri ram, r/o,House no-213 village naharpur.sector-7 Rohini. delhi, have changed my name to satyavir yadav, for all future puposes. 0040607497-5

I.Vishnu.S/o Shvam Sunder Sharma,R/o 11A/11G/3A,Ram Nagar, Rambagh, Agra-282006, (U.P.) Have Changed My Name To Vishnu Sharma, For Future.

0040607510-5

I,Vandana Bagre W/o Pankaj Kumar Bagre R/o Flat No.A3,512 Block No.13 Kailash Dham Sector-50, Noida, Distt-Gautambudhnagar, have changed my name to Vandana 0040607464-1

I,Tarun Kumar Saxena,S/o Jangu Lal,R/o-A-27,Street No.4.Chandan Vihar. Mandawali, Delhi-110092, have changed the name of my minor son from Tanisha Kumar Saxena to Tanishq Saxena, for

0040607508-6

I.TAHZEEBA PRAVEEN.W/O M SALIM JAWED, R/O IDGAH MOHALLA RAJGANGPUR, ODISHA-770017,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM TAHZEEBA PRAVEEN TO TEHZEEBA PARVEEN.VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED-22/03/2022, BEFORE NCT-DELHI.

0040607516-5

I,Shazia W/o Anasuddin R/o.G-30, second floor Nizamuddin West, New Delhi-110013, have changed my name to Shazia 0040607513-4

I,Sharanjit Singh, S/o Late Mohan Singh, R/o Flat No.A-84, Vishrantika Appt. Plot-No.5A, Sec-3, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078 have changed my name to Sharanjit Singh Sodhi.

0040607437-1

I.Shailesh Kumar.S/O-Devender Kumar Sharma, R/O-H.No-2232/1,B-Blk, Hanuman Kunj, Sant Nagar, Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name Shailesh Kumar Sharma for 0040607508-1 future.

**I,Sakshi** Taneja W/o Akhil Madaan, R/o 240, GF, M-Block. Vikaspuri, Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Sakshi

Taneia Madaan. 0040607497-3 I,SURESH KUMAR S/O SHIV CHARAN R/O HNO.132,II-FLOOR, ANAND VIHAR, PITAMPURA.DELHI-110034.

HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO

SURESH KUMAR BANSAL. 0040607497-8

0040607463-3

I.SHWETA SINGH.W/O-PRANAV OJHA, FLAT.NO.06111 TOWER-7 MAHAGUM MYWOODS GAUR CITY-2 SECTOR-16C GREATER NOIDA-WEST U.P-201306, Changed my name to SHWETA

SINGH OJHA.

 $\textbf{It} \, \text{is for general information that} \\$ I,Krishna Kumar,S/o Late. Shatrudhan Mahto R/o-T-1,New Block-38,Kalyanvas,Delhi-110091 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Shatrughan Mahto in my X.XII-Educational Documents.The actual-name of my late father is Shatrudhan Mahto, which may be amended 0040607497-9 accordingly.

I,Mohammed Usman,R/o Otr.No.861,3rd Floor,Sector-5, Pushp Vihar, M.B. Road, New Delhi-110017, inform that in my,minor son's (Mohammed Moin), school certificate my,name wrongly-written as  ${\tt Md.Usman.My\,correct,name\,is}$ Mohammed Usman, for all, future purposes.

It is for general information

0040607510-3

It is for general information that I.Gurpeet Singh, S/o Kuldeep Singh,R/o-WZ-27,Sant-Nagar, Tilak-Nagar, Delhi-110018, delcare that name of mine.my minor daughter and my wife has been wrongly-written as Gurpreet Singh Saathi. Tamanpreet Kaur Saathi and Mandeep Kaur Saathi in my minor daughter Tamanpreet Kaur aged-17-years in her educational-documents. The actual name of mine, my minor daughter and my wife are Gurpreet Singh, Tamanpreet Kaur and Mandeep Kaur respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

0040607516-6

I,No-9113610N,NK Arun Sharma, S/O Shri Krishan Lal Sharma. P/O/Tehsil/District-Udhampur. In my service records the name of my son has been wrongly mentioned as Reyansh Sharma instead of Bhavik Sharma, It Needs Correction. Objections be filled to concerned authorities within seven days.

I,Mohd Waseem/Wasim S/O,Islamuddin R/O,1212 Gali.No-14, Rajeev-Gandhi-Nagar New-Mustafabad Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Mohd Ashraf. 0040607513-9

l Saswade Mahendra Mohan S/O, Mohan Gajanan Saswade R/o 100, Jawan Co-housing Society, Sainik Nagar, Sadar Bazar, Satara, Maharashtra  $have \, changed \, my \, name \, to \,$ Mahendra Mohan Saswade for all purposes. 0040607442-1

I Saurabh Anand S/o Sh. Suresh Kumar Anand R/o B-323, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025 have changed the name of my minor son from Shhaurya Anand to Shaurya Anand for all 0040607397-5

I,Mohd Asraf S/O,Jamaluddin R/O,H.No-B-214,Gali.No-8, Block-B.Nikat Husaini-Masiid Babu-Nagar Mustafabad Gokal-Puri,Delhi-110094,have changed my name to Mohd 0040607513-8

I,SANJAY KUMAR VERMA,S/o PREM CHAND,R/o HOUSE.NO-C32/8 AMBEDKAR-VIHAR. JHORIPUR, DELHI-110094, have changed my name to SANJAY VERMA,S/o PREM SINGH,for all, future purpose.

0040607497-1

I.Rahul Sikka R/o G-131 Kalkaji Delhi-110019, Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name, From Meenakshi To Adhya Sikka,For 0040607510-4 Future.

I,Pramod Kumar Singh,S/o Sh.Ramsingh R/0,Q-23,Sector 12, Noida, have changed my name, from Pramod Singh to Pramod Kumar Singh, both name belongs to same person., for all, future purposes

0040607510-2

I.Pradeep Kumar.S/o Shri Niwas, R/o Kankrola (128), Bhangrola, Gurgaon, Haryana 122505, have changed my name to Pardeep Kumar, for all 0040607510-

I,POONAM W/O RITESH KUMAR MISHRA R/O HNO.20,KHNO.63, BLK-A,1ST-FLOOR,GURU-NANAK MARG,KEWAL-PARK EXTN.DELHI-110033.CHANGED MY NAME TO POONAM 0040607497-7

I.Neetesh Kumar Singh, S/o-Jai Prakash Singh, R/o-Block No.20.Flat No.5-F.Sushruta Nagar, Shantiniketan Apartment, Kalam Jote, Kalam Darieeling.West Bengal-734012, inform that in my driving Licence my name has wrongly mentioned as Neetish Kumar Singh instead of Neetesh Kumar Singh.

0040607508-4

I,Neeru Singh W/o Suresh Sinah R/o Flat-No.-603, Sector-37, Noida(U.P) have changed my name to Sarita Devi for all future purposes. 0040607420-1

I,NARESH KUMAR S/o.RAM KISHAN R/o. DD-20 KALKAJI EXTN.NEW DECHI- 110019, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NARESH KALSHI. 0040607463-1

I,Shayam Lal S/o Ram Kumar R/o WZ-106/114-115 (SF) Rajouri-Garden Extn., New-Delhi, have changed my name to Shyam Goyal.

0040607513-5

0040607497-4

I,Meera Devi,W/O-Ganga Dass Tanwar,R/O WZ-2,Nangli Jalib, Janak Puri, B-1, New Delhi 110058.That is Meera Devi and Meera Tanwar both Names belong to one and same 0040607508-3 person.

I.Manieet Kaur W/o Mandeep Singh R/o 145, Pocket-22, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-110085, changed my name to Simrandeep Kaur.

I,JAPJI KAUR W/O SH.AMRIT SINGH, R/O.H.N.13 WEST GURU ANGAD-NAGAR, GALI.NO.2,

DELHI.110092, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO JITENDER KAUR, ALL FUTURE PURPOSESE. 0040607516-3 I,JAGJEET SINGH BHAMRA,S/O

HAR IINDER SINGH RHAMRA R/O WZ-10C, NEW SAHIBPURA, MBS-NAGAR.TILAK-NAGAR. DELHI-110018, CHANGED MY NAME TO JAGJEET SINGH. 0040607513-7

**I,Heera** Mani Verma,W/o Munesh Chand, Add-RZ-866, Gali no 17, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045. changed my name to Neelam 0040607497-2

I.Faridan Begum W/O. Mohd Hanif R/O,RZC-49, Nihal-Vihar Nangloi Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Faridan.

0040607463-4 I,Anjali Gautam,D/o Subhash

Chand, R/o-RZ-84/397 Gali.No.1B,Shiv Puri,West Sagarpur, South West, Delhi-110046, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Subhash Chand Gautam in my educational documents. The actual-name of my father is Subhash Chand.

0040607513-10

**I,Amit** Kumar Sharma,S/o Chander Shekar Sharma.R/o Quarter.No.60B, 1st-Floor, Type-III,Police-Colony,Model-Town-II, Delhi-110009, have changed the name of my minor son Kovid Kaushik aged-09-years and he shall hereafter be known as Adhiraj Singh. 0040607513-2

I, Yogesh Sidhu, S/o Jatinder Jeet Sidhu, R/o Plot No-A-161, Flat, No-F-1, Swiff Apartment, Opposite Ram Vatika Park, Shalimar Garden Extn-2, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201005, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Yogesh Singh 0070778050-1 Sidhu.

I,Bimal Kumari W/o, No.7022103Ex NK ,Late Baldev Raj R/o, A-97, Lok Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-34, have changed my name to Bimla Kumari.vide affidavit dated.23.3.2022.

I, ANKITA JAIN, W/o SANCHIT SETHI, R/O- House No-48, Road No-42, Puniabi Bagh, West Delhi-110026 Have Changed my name to ANKITA JAIN SETHI for all purposes. 0070778057-1

I Devender Prakash S/o Hari Singh R/o New Adarsh Nagar, Bharawas Road, Rewari, Harvana-123401, have changed my name to Devender Parkash

0070778077-1

I,Devender Kumar,S/O-Karan Lal,R/O-H.No-2232/1,B-blk, Hanuman kunj,Sant Nagar, Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name Devender Kumar Sharma. 0040607508-2

I.Balvinder W/o Parkash Singh R/o-79 Radhey-Shyam Park, Parwana Road, East Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Balvinder Kaur. Balvinder & Balvinder Kaur is one & the 0040607497-10 same person

I,Ashish Agarwal,S/o Shri.Punam Chand Agarwal, R/o.H.No.IX/6269-A, Mukherjee Gall, Gandhi-Nagar Delhi-110031.have changed my minor sons's name,from Vedansh Agarwal to Hemant Agarwal, for all purposes, in future.

0040607510-6

**I,Ankur** Agarwal,S/o Shri.Punam Chand Agarwal, R/o H. No.IX/6269-A.Mukheriee Gali, Gandhi-Nagar, Delhi-110031, have changed my minor daughter name.from Maahi Agarwal to Maahie Agarwal, for all purposes, in future.

0040607513-3 I.Anita Goval Bela.W/o Shyam Goyal R/o WZ-106/114-115 (SF)Rajouri-Garden Extn., New Delhi, have changed my name to Anita Goval. 0040607513-6

I,Amit Kumar Sharma,S/o Chander Shekar Sharma, R/o Quarter.No.60B,1st-Floor,Type-III, Police-Colony, Model-Town-II,Delhi-110009,have changed the name of my minor son Akshat Kaushik aged-06-years and he shall hereafter be known as Aditya Singh.

0040607513-1

LMUKESH KUMAR S/O BISHAMBER, ADD-1/7228,K SHIVAJI PARK SHAHDARA ,DELHI 110032,Changed my name to MUKESH GOYAL, permanently. 0040607463-7

I,Ajay Kumr Ralli,S/o Joginder Pal Ralli R/o 43 (TF) Priya Enclave Shiv-Mandir Delhi. have changed my name to Ajay 0040607463-2 Ralli.

I, YOGESH S/o Sh. Babu Lal R/o 10819/17, Partap Nagar, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Yogesh Lalawat at for all future purposes. 0040607396-1

L Vaidehi Pramod Kuvalekar. W/O Puneet Kumar R/O 10 A Block, Dharampura Colony, Near Hanuman Mandir Dharamshala, Najafgarh Najafgarh, South West Delhi, Delhi-110043 have changed my name from Vaidehi Pramod Kuvalekar to Vaidehi Kuvalekar for all future purposes.

I. Sudha Yaday spouse of.Laxmi

0040607400-1

Narayan Yadav, R/o.H.No-340, Block-A, Sainik colony, Sector-49.Faridabad Harvana-121001, have changed my name from Sudha Yadav to Suresh Yaday vide-Affidayit dated.23/03/2022 at session Court Faridabad. 40607411-5

I, Siddhant Deb Biswas S/o Sh.Gautam Biswas, R/o.H.No-1301.T-8. Sector-88.RPS Savana city, Kheri Kalan, Faridabad, I have changed my name Siddhant Biswas to Siddhant Deb Biswas, for all future 0040607411-4

I, Salim Saifi S/o Mr. Asghar Ali R/o of H.No N-18, Jagat Ram Park,Laxmi Nagar Delhi-92 have Changed my son's name from Muhammad Zahoor to Muhammad Zahoor Saifi

I, Salim Saifi S/o Mr. Asghar Ali R/o of H.No N-18, Jagat Ram Park, Laxmi Nagar Delhi-92 have Changed my daughter's name from Maryam Fatima to Marvam Fatima Saifi Forever.

I, Sabetri Devi w/o Kundan Singh Rawat R/o H.No.50, Street No.19, Block C-1, Khajuri Khas, Delhi-110094, have changed my all future purposes.

I, Rekesh Kumar S/O Naresh Kumar, R/o Patti Ranga, Qilla Raipur, Ludhiana, Punjab-141201, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Rinku Dishawar. 0070778072-1

L Pankai Raja S/O Satendr

0040607450-1

Kumar, R/o 102 Aster 4, Supertech Emerald Court, Near G.Noida Express Way, Sector 93A, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Pankaj Verma. I, Parma Nand Goel@PN Goel@ Parmanand Goel, S/o Late Shri.Rameshwar Das,R/o-A-6

Sector-53, Noida, Uttar- ${\bf Pradesh\text{-}201301, state\,that}$ I.have been known as P N Goel Parmanand Goel and Parma Nand Goel. These are the name of one and the same person. That from today and in future, I shall be known only with the name of Parma Nand Goel, for all legal, and other purposes.

I,Sultana Tarunnam W/o Army No 14640390K Hav Shekh Akram Mansoori R/o Ward No-74,Aayesha Nagar Khajri Khiriya, Word No.74 New Ward Jabalpur City, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh-482002, Have changed my Date of Birth From 20/09/1978 To 20/12/1978.for all Future Purpose vide affidavit dt.07/03/2022,before

Notary Public Delhi.

0040607519-1 I, Hajira W/o Ghulam Nabi Teli R/o 19/21, 2nd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060 have changed my name

I, Kulwant Singh S/O Joginder Singh, R/o Village Nawan Qilla, Tehsil Shahkot, Jalandhar, Punjab-144703, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Balvir Singh.

0070778053-1

L Divva Shekhawat W/O Vishal Singh,R/O WZ-741,Devkunj Dada Dev-Road, Near-Bata-Chowk Palam. Delhi-110045. have changed my name, from Divya Shekhawat to Divya Bisht VIDE-ΔΕΕΙDΔVIT DΔΤΕD 23/03/2022,BEFORE NCT-DELHI.

0040607516-4 I, Bhaskar Kumar Jha S/o Sharvan Kumar Jha R/o Shiv colony, near Sai Mandir, Machli Gali, Raja Bazaar, B.V. College, Patna, Bihar-800014 declare that correct name of my father is Sharvan Kumar Jha and my correct name is Bhaskar Kumar Jha for all future purposes.

I, Avinash Abhimanyu Agrawal, S/o Abhimanyu Kumar Agrawal, R/o 414, Munshipura, Near Old Sales Tax Gali, Mau, Maunath Bhanjan, Uttar Pradesh-275101, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as HARSH AVINASH AGRAWAL. 0070778048-1

I, Ankit Jain S/O Sunder Lal Jain, R/o 706, West Guru Angad Nagar, Shakar Pur Barmad, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Ankit Kumar Jain. 0070778071-1

I, Navneet D/O Sohan Lal, R/o Post Office Ibrahimpur Tehsil Garhshankar Bagwain Hoshiarpur Punjab-144527. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Navneet Kaur.

I, JAIBEER, S/o JAI BHAGWAN, R/o-H.No-1515, Sector-52, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, have changed my name to JAIBEER MALIK for all

0070778056-1 purposes. I. Mahendra Mohan Saswade

R/o 100, Nakshtra, Jawans Cohousing Society, Sainik Nagar, Sadar Bazar, Satara have changed my minor son's name from Adwait Mahendra to Adwait Mahendra Saswade 0040607440-1

I, Ishwar Singh Sharma S/o Sh.Kam Singh R/o-H.No.Q-159, South City-1, Sector-40, Gurugram, Haryana, have changed my Name from Ishwar Singh Sharma to Ishwar Sharma vide Affidavitdated.22-03-2022 at Gurugram.

0040607411-3 I, Himani Lohani, W/O Pankaj Kumar Kapri R/o Plot No-38 Upper Ground Floor Front Side, Avatar Vihar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Himani Lohani Kapri.

0070778043-2

0070778078-1

I, Mahender Prajapati, S/o Hardev Prajapati, R/o 35-S, D.D.A. Flats Sarai Phoose, Near Queen Marry School, Tis Hazari, Delhi-110054, that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as Mahender Paraiapati and Hardev Parajapati respectively in my Educational Documents. The actual name of mine and my father is Mahender Prajapati and Hardev Prajapati

respectively.

I. Meena Mishra@Dave Mani, and Dave Mani @Meena Mishra, W/o Late Shri.SC Misra, R/o-259, Sidharth Enclave, New-Delhi-110014, state that I have been known as Dave Mani.Meena Mishra and Dave Mani@Meena Mishra.These are the name of one, and the same person. That from today and in future. I shall be known only with the name of Meena Mishra, for all legal, and other

purposes. 0040607411-2 I. Aditi Tiwari D/O Chandra Mohan, R/o 1371, Urban Estate Phase-2, Patiala, Punjab 147002. Declare that Name of Mine & My Father and My Mother has been wrongly written as Aditi & Chandra Mohan Tiwari and Usha in my Birth Certificate Registration No-11. The actual name of Mine & My Father and My Mother are Aditi Tiwari & Chandra Mohan and Usha Tiwari, which may be

amended accordingly. 0070778055-1

I hitherto known as Rishaad Wajahat Chaudhry alias Wajahat Rishaad Chaudhry S/o Siraj Azmat Chaudhry R/o S-12/B, Windsor Court, Galleria DLF Phase IV, Gurgaon, Haryana 122009, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as WAJAHAT RISHAAD CHAUDHRY.

0070778059-1

I,Sultana Tarunnam W/o Army No 14640390K Hav Shekh Akram Mansoori R/o Ward No-74, Aayesha Nagar Khajri Khiriya,Word No.74 New Ward Jabalpur City, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh-482002, Have changed my Name From Trannunbanu To Sultana Tarunnam for all, Future Purpose vide affidavit dt.07/03/2022, before Notary Public Delhi.

0040607519-2

l Hersimaren W/O Surinder Pal Singh R/O of J-3096 Ground Floor Sainik Colony Sector 49 Faridabad, shall henceforth be known as Harsimran Kaur affidavit no 47AA-270291 sworn before notary Faridabad dated 21/03/2022 0050194144-1

I, Hajira W/o Ghulam Nabi Teli

Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-

110060 have changed my name

R/o 19/21, 2nd Floor, Old

to HAJIRA TELI.

I Vanya D/o Sh Chander Prakash Verma R/o 812, Desire Residency, Ahimsa Khand 2. Indirapuram, Ghaziabad-UP-201014 have changed my name to Vanya Verma 0070778004-1

I Shradha Kumari D/o Yogendra Pal Singh R/o Gaon Chuharpur. Post Perai, Tehsil Gabhana, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh-202136, have changed my name to Shraddha Thakur 70778075-1

I,VIRENDER KUMAR MALHOTRA S/O OM PARKASH MALHOTRA R/O F-203,WINTER-HILLS APARTMENTS, SEWAK PARK, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO VIRENDER MALHOTRA. 0040607497-6

I.VINEY PAWAR, S/O.RAJENDER PAWAR, ADD-1/7227 C MOHAR SINGH GALLSHIVA II PARK SHAHDARA DELHI-110032, Changed my name to VINAY KUMAR PAWAR, permanently.

I,Preety Gehlot w/o Shivam

changed my name to Preety

Vaishya R/o GF-2 Ahlcon Apartment, Sector-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad UP-201010, have

0040607463-8

Vaishya Permanently. 0040607463-9 I.Nethi Malathi M Mani. D/o.Lakshmi Satyanarayana Murthy Nethi, W/o-Raja Vetcha, R/o-1726, 3rd-Floor, Sec.-52, Ardee City-Gate No.2, Gurgaon (Harvana)-122001. have changed my name to Malathi Vetcha. 0040607463-5 I.Lalita W/o Anil Ahuia.R/o E-19/352, Second-Floor, Sector-3, Rohini.Delhi-110085.have

Ahuja, for all purposes. 0040607463-6

I, A. Ali Nizam, R/o 46, Park End, Main Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092. have changed my minor Daughter's name from Ansha Nizam to Ansha. 0070778064-1

changed my name to Lata

#### LOST & FOUND

I Kanta Rani W/o Late Mohan Lal Flat-124 Pocket-F Sec-B2 Ground Floor DDA LIG Flat Narela Delhi-40 have lost above Property All Document (Description No.-L-339(2740)2006NPRS/NA). It any person found please inform. Mobile: 9810066211

0040607461-1 I, Shashi Kant Aggarwal, owner of Plot No:31/C Shed No:3, DLF Ind. AREA Phase:1, Faridabad ( HR), has lost the Sale Deed (Buildwell Corporation to Bhupender Singh), Title Document Copy and GPA copy. An FIR has also been registered in this respect bearing No.201881/2022, at Police Station, If any one found the said deed is requested to  $inform\,the\,under signed\,and$ will get appropriate reward. Thankyou Shashi Kant Aggarwal Ph: 9811776479

0040607441-1

I,Rajeev Gopalani,S/o-Sh. Lakshman Gopalani, R/o-W 167,GK-2,Delhi has lost my BBA(Builder Buver Agreement in the name of me, Ashok Harbux Dudani and Sandeep Mohandas Sahnani)and possession Letter of Flat H 1103 in godrej submit, Gurugram, Haryana-122006, finder contact-9810166900. 0040607508-5

PUBLIC NOTICE Portion) (said floor) of built on Proper bearing No-28/42, area measuring 570.25 Sq Yds, out of total plot are measuring 1140.49 Sq Yds, in Class—E Situated in the area of Village Madipu and the colony known as Punjab Bagh (West) New Delhi, hereinafter referred to as the said property". Notice is hereby given to the General Public

Notice is hereby given to the General Publicular Banks, Financial Institutions, et that, as informed by our clients Ms. Poonal Goel W/o Shri Vikas Goel R/o H No-2. Road No-42, Punjabi Bagh West, Punja Bagh S.O, West Delihi-110026 and Sh Vikas Goel Ski Stark Limps Codel H No-28, Road No-42, Punjabi Bagh We Puniabi Bagh S.O. West Delhi-110026. th are the joint owners and in possession of the Sham Dass alias Mr. Ghanshyam Dass ar (2). Mr. Ashok Kumar Goel and (3). Mrs. La Goyal & Mrs. Poonam Goel and (4). Mr Uma Goel & Mr. Vineet Goel in respect of the said property and registered with the concerned Sub-Registrar of Assurances, a Document No. 2021, in Addl. Book No. Volume No. 349, on pages 138-145 registered on 12.04.2006. According to the said Partition Deed, the Entire Ground Floor without roof rights of Western Half Portion (Front Portion) of the said property fell to the share of Mrs. Lata Goyal and Mrs Poonam Goel. Subsequently, Mrs Lata Goyal expired and her share devolved par only supplying legal heir viz. Share par only supplying legal heir viz. Share on her only surviving legal heir viz., Sh Vikas Goel. Thus, Mrs. Poonam Goe and Shri Vikas Goel became the join owner of the said floor without a objection/s or claim/s by any person general. In this connection, our clier general. In this connection, our clients have also informed us that 1/8th each of the said undivided property was purchased by Mrs. Poonam Goel and Mrs. Lata Goel from Mr. Anil Goyal vide two separate sale deeds registered as Document No.1630 and 1629 dated 23.03.2006 in the office of concerned Sub-Registrary of Assurances and the Sub-Registrar of Assurances and the Shri Anil Goyal became the owner of the 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the said property after expiry of himother, Smt. Vidya Devi alias Sm Vidyawati in terms of her Will date 10/01/1983. Smt. Vidya Devi alias Sm Vidyawati had purchased the 1/4th of th Vidyawath had purchased the 1/4th of the said property vide sale deed registered a document No. 15568 dated 23.11.1966 from Mrs. Prakash Kaur. Our clients now intended to mortgage the said floor with Deutsch Bank AG., for availing loan facility. If any person, society, bank, finance institution or other institutions or any oth party having any valid claim, righ objection, title, demand and interest b objection, title, demand and interest by virtue of any sale, gift, inheritance possession, lis-pendence, stay order o otherwise or any other right of whatsoeve nature against the absolute ownership o our clients on the said floor and subsequently rightful mortgage of the said floor in favour of Deutsche Bank ACI by our clients are required/called upon to by our clients are required/called upon convey their objection(s) in writing Registered AD post, to the undersigne Registered AD post, to the undersigned within 7 days, on address mentione below along with all the supportin documents relating to such claim, failin which after expiry of 7 days from the publication of this notice, it shall be presumed that there is/are no claim(s and such claim/s if any, shall b considered to be waived and abandone and will not be acceptable in respect of the processor. and will not be acceptable in respect of the

mortgage and ownership of the said floor

**PUBLIC NOTICE** ar Pradesh-201301, presently No. B-28, Sector-72, Noid have disowned, debarre d their son Vaibhav Kotra and vani Jain, from their all more e properties and have also se

Sd/- USHA RANI (Advocate) Seat No. 52, Central Hall, Tis hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

it known to all that my clients **Gulsha Ineja** S/o Sh. Sai Ditta Mal Suneja ar **Int. Seema Suneja**, W/o Sh. Gulsha Ineja both R/o H.No. 84A, Gali No. Suneja both R/o H.No. 84A, Gali No. 8
Ajay Park, Naya Bazar, Near BVM Publi
School, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043
have severed all relations with their son
amely Mohit Suneja & his wife Smi
Sonam W/o Sh. Mohit Suneja and hav
disowned & disinherited them from all their
movable and immovable property due to
unruly behaviour and out of control of m
clients. Whatsoever deals with him in an and consequences and my clients shall no be held liable for that. Sd/- SAHIL SHARMA (Advocate Ch. No. 440, Lawyer's Chamber, Distric Court, Dwarka, New Delhi-11007

Notice is hereby given that Bank of Baroda having its Sector-7 Branch, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 has sanctioned Housing Loan of Rs. 2,50,00,000/- (Rupees Two Crore Fifty Lakhs only) to Mr. Pallav Pradyumn Narang S/o Mr. Rakesh Kumar Narang and Mrs. Rupali Narang W/o Mr. Rakesh Kumar Narang both R/o House no 57 Block F-4 Sector-7 Robini Delhi-110085 secure the said housing loan, Mrs. Rupali Narang W/o Mr. Rakesh Kumar Narang propose to equitably mortgage with the Bank, property bearing A-1/20, entire first floor (without roof rights), admeasuring 500.69 sq.yards, Block A-1, situated at Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi-110029. Anyone claiming an interest in the said property or any part thereof by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment or otherwise howsoever is hereby required to make the same known to the Senior Manager, Bank of Baroda, Sector-7 Branch, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 and the undersigned at his below

B-7/74, Sector 4, Rohini, Delhi

given office address within 10 days from the

date hereof, failing which claim if any, shall

be considered as waived.

O.P. Tanwar (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEHEBY DECLARED THAT ENT MRS. MONICA SINGH W/O RVJEET SINGH RIO FLAT NO.5.YN SINGH ROAD.NEW DELHI ADD SARYJEET SINGH RIO FLAT NO. 5. VIMO.
JAI SINGH ROAD.NEW DELIH JADDHAF
NO 929369406695 (2) MS REEM,
CHADHA WIO AMIT CHADHA RIO 14/9
2nd FLOOR, PATEL NAGAR, DELH
10008 FORMERILY AT C-1489, INDRA
NAGAR, LUCKNOW (UP) AADHAR NO
404045648300 (3) MS MANISHA OBERIO
WIO SH. PARSHANT OBEROI RIO 14
A738, WEA, CHINA MARKET, KAROL
BAGH, NEW DELH AADHAR NO
KIRTI NAGAR, REW DELH BY VIRTUB
OF WILL OF SH. BRIJ MOHAN SETH OF
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OF WILL OF SH. BRIJ MOHAN SETH IANG
NEW DELH WIHCH IS DIE
NOOK 3 VOL NO 7489 PAGE 18 TO 21 OR
1801/12007. NY CLIENT ARE LEGAL
HEIRS OF SH. BRIJ MOHAN SETH IANG
KAMAL SETH WHO ARE THEIR
PARENTS. MY CLIENT ARE SELLING
KAMAL SETH WHO ARE THEIR
PARENTS. MY CLIENT ARE SELLING
THEIR SHARES TO MS. RISHH
MANOCHA WOO NITIN MANOCHA RICA SOR GOOD
SOR GROUND FLOOR, DERWALL NAGAR
GUJRANWALL ACOLONY, D
MUKHERJEE NAGAR MODEL TOW
MUKHERJEE NAGAR MODEL TOW UB GHUUND FLOOR, DERAWAL NAGAL AUJURANWALA COLONY. ON INHERBIEE NAGA MODEL TOMBURHERS, ADDHAF WALL AND STANDARD STANDARD

RAJEEV SAINI MOBILE NO 777533 WITHIN 15 DAYS OF BLICATION ONLY. LICATION ONLY.

Sd/- RAJEEV SAIN

Enrl. No. D/1002/08. ADVOCATE

B-1/13, SECTOR-16

ROHINI, DELHI-110088

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that Sabharwal Apartments Private Limited, M/s. Chawla Construction Company & Mrs. Lina Batra ("Owners") are negotiating with Mrs. Asha Satija and Mr. Himanshu Satija ("Buyers") for sale of (i) a premises admeasuring aprox. 2000 square feet situate lying and being on the basement of the building ("Building") constructed on plot of land admeasuring 300 square yards land admeasuring 300 square yards equivalent to 250.838 square meters or thereabouts situate, lying and being at Residential Plot No. 2, in Block No. D, in the lay-out plan of Delhi Union of Journalists Co-Operative House Building Society Operative House Building Society Limited (now in the colony known as Gulmohar Park, New Delhi and now within the limits of South Delh Municipal Corporation), New Delhi 110049 ("Plot") along with the righ to use and access a share bathroom constructed on stilt level o bathroom constructed on still level of the Building (ii) 10% (the percent) of the undivided, indivisible and impartible ownership rights in the Plot (collectively, the "said Premises"). All persons having any claim and/or objection against or in respect of the said Premises or any part thereof by way of sale, transfer, assignment, exchange, easement, right, interest, share, lease, sublease, tenancy, sub-tenancy, license, lien, mortgage, charge, icense, lien, mortgage, charg covenant, right of way, trust, gift inheritance, bequest, maintenance possession, agreement, lis pendens, family arrangement settlement, decree or order of an nature, are hereby requested to gi notice thereof in writing, along w harshit@khanduja.in within 10 (Ten) days from the date o publication hereof, failing which, the claim and/or objection, if any, of sucl person or persons will be considere

have been waived released Dated this 24th day of March, 2022 HARSHIT KHANDUJA, (Advocate

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL** TRANSPORT OFFICER **PULWAMA** NOTICE

Whereas joint application ha HAI S/W/D/O KALYANBHA FALIYA, PO, BORBAR, TA DABHOI, DISTT. VADODARA GJ-391107 (TRANSFEROR And FEROZ AHMA RESHI S/ **ABDUL AHAD RESHI** Resider RAJPORA PULWAMA (Transfereree) for Transfer/ Re gistration of Vehicle No GJ06HD9350.

Now therefore it is notified for general information that objec tions if any to the proposed Re registration of the said vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of The Assistant Regiona Transport Officer, Pulwama with a period of 15 (Fifteen) days of publication of the notice in the laily newspaper Indian Express **SELLER** PURCHASEF

Asstt. Regional Transport Office Pulwama. No. ARTO/PUL/2331-32 Dated: 22.03.2022

**LOST & FOUND** Sale Deed executed by S. Gurcharal Singh & Smt. Jatinder Kaur in favou of Smt. Sukhvinder Kaur in respect of Third Floor with roof rights of Property No. A-504/1, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-52 vide Sale Deed Registration No. 1792 in Addl. Book No. I, Volume No. 563 at Pages 113 to 119, on 07/03/2015 with SR-I, Delhi and Sale Deed execute V. Smt. Sukkvinder Kaur in Favour o

f any person found the document Contact co: Kamla Devi. M.No. 9868448728

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Oil & Gas

**Experience: 3+ Years** 

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the public at lar that my client, HARJIT SINGH S

SH. DARSHAN SINGH R/O A-330

NEHRU VIHAR CIVIL LINE

DELHI-110054 has debarred hi son HARPREET SINGH from hi

life, moveable or immoveable property situated in Delhi and

severed all his relations with hin

ecause he is not under the contro

esponsible for any act, deed and

SANDEEP DEDHA-ADVOCATE K-28, TIS HAZARI COURT DELHI - 110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

hinas done by him.

Chennai, Bhopal, Pune

Suman, Both R'unish R'ya, Rajeev Nagar, Securios, Victorios, Victorios, Victorios, Nagar, Securios, Nagar, Nagar, Securios, Nagar, Nagar,

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE EUBLIC NOTICE
General Public is hereby informed that under instructions from and on behalf of my clients BUTA SINGH S/o GUR BACHA SINGH, Sender Singh, both R/o D-121A, K.No. 9/22, Chander Vihar, Nilothi, Delhi-11, have disowned/deberd/discard their son GURMEET SINGH S/o Buta Singh, his wife AKVINDER KAUR and their children, R/o D-121A, K.No. 9/22, Chander Vihar, Nilothi, Delhi-110041, from all their immovable properties & moveable assets, & ceased all relations with him due to their dis-obedience and mis-behavior. Any body dealing with them, will do at his/her/ their own risks, costs and responsibility and my clients & all their other family members shall not be responsible for any acts done by themself.

4, C.S. Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for the information of general public that my client Sh. D. Shanmugam S/o Late Sh. Durai kunnu aged 43 year has disowned his son namely S. Saravanan S/o Sh. D. Shanmugam R/o 377A Sudhar Camp Near Krishna Market Kalkaji, South Delhi-110019 Presently Residing at 1788/8 Govindpuri Extn, New Delhi-110019 from his all moveable & immoveable property, assets & liabilities, due to misbehavior and

Abhishek Chauhan (Advocate E-188 (LGF), East of Kailash

**PUBLIC NOTICE** abusive act towards his elders and famile

Notice is hereby given to public at large that my Client Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. Plot No. D-17, Sector 3, Noida, U.P.-201301 is in process of advancing financial assistance (Loan) to Ajab Singh & Co. against mortgage of Property bearing No. B-125/1, B-125/2, B-125/3, B-125/4, measuring 400 Sq.yds. each (Total area measuring 1600 Sq.yds. (Khasra No. 279 and Property bearing No. 4, Khasra No. 586, measuring 431 Sq.yds. situated at Village Gokulpur in the abadi of Gokul Pur, Iliqag Shandara, Delhi 110094., belonging to Mrs. Maya Chouldary by Virtue of Gift Deed and other relevant documents.

other relevant documents. fany person(s) have any objection(s) claim(s) with respect to the right, title of nterest in the said property please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the number & addre entioned herein below, failing which

Md. Khairul Hussain (Advocate

**PUBLIC NOTICE** POSSESSION LETTER OF FLAT NO 79(CAT-III), ON GF, SECTOR-7, JASOL
DELHI, BELONGS TO SH. JAWAHAR LU
LUTHRA S/O SH. SHIV DAYAL, ARE LOS
PROPERTY IS MORTGAGED WITH PNB
THE LOAN AC OF MS SHAMKER STEE
THE DESCRIPTION OF ALLOTMEN
LETTER NO. F-175(44)91 SFS JL-III, I;
26.12.1991/31.12.1991, AND POSSESSIO
LETTER DATE D. 1105.2000, IF IT IS
CUSTODY OF ANYONE PLEASE HAM
OVER THE CONCERN. LE. ABHIN'L
LUTHRA S/O SH JAWAHAR LAL LUTHR
RO E-224, SAKET, MEERUT. FOR MOS
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IT
INFORMED THAT IF THESE PROPERI

Sd/- ANUJ KUMAR GOE ADVOCAT

"IMPORTANT"

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any manner whatsoever.

Head Office: Star House 1, Risk Management Department, Information Security Cell, 3rd Floor, East Wing, C-5 - G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East). Mumbai 400 051. Email: security.information@bankofindia.co.in.

TENDER NOTICE Bank of India invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for Empanelment of Insurar Broker for Cyber Insurance and Managing Cyber Insurance Cover & Claims. Last date for submission of Request for Proposal: 05.04.2022 by 4.00 pm. Full details are available on the Bank's Corporate Website: www.bankofindia.co.in under "Tender" Section from 23.03.2022.



Her physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, Age: 18 years, Height: 5'2" ft., Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Wearing: White Blue and grey colour Uniform. Any person is having information or clue about this missing kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-

> SHO P.S. Ranhola, Delhi Mob. No. 7065036128 DP/1522/OD/2022

with SR-I, Delhi and Sale Deed executed by Smt. Sulkvinder Kaur in favour of Smt. Rajin Rajput in respect of above said property, vide Sale Deed Registration No. 2363, in Addl. Book No. I, Volume No. 5685, at pages 166 to 173, on 25/03/2015, with the SR-I, Delhi and Sale Deed executed by Smt. Rajni Rajput in favour of Smt. Kamla Devi in respect of above said property, vide Sale Deed Registration No. 2004, in Addl. Book No.I, Volume No. 6115, at Pages 185 to 192, on 02/03/2016, with the SR-I, Delhi vide NCR Lodge LR NO. 242816/2022, dated 23/03/2022. If any person found the document Contact

New Delhi-110065

It is for the information of general public that my client Mrs. Nagamma W/o Sh. D. Shanmugam aged 42 year has disowned her son namely S. Saravanan S/o Sh. D. Shanmugam R/o 377A Sudhar Camp Near Krishna Market Kalkaji, South Delh-110019 Presently Residing at 1788/8 Govindpuri Extn, New Delhi-110019 from her all moveable & immoveable property/ assets & liabilities, due to misbehavior and abusive at frowards his elders and family esponsible in future for any act and deed: Abhishek Chauhan (Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

ny client(s) shall not be held resp

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC II
INFORMED THAT IF THESE PROPER
TITLE DOCUMENTS ARE USED
MISUSED IN ANY WAY, IT WILL BE
THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY, RISK,
THESE DOCUMENTS ARE NOT
POSSESSION OF GENUINE CUSTOD
OR THE OWNER OF THE PROPER

with advertisers or otherwise

Amendments/ Corrigendum, if any, will be kept on website only

General public is here by informed that this Shalini

Website:http://cbi.nic.in E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph. No.: 011-28363001, 28363002 Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Fax No.: 011-24368639

wer Attorney wer. No. 1990 No.

PUBLIC NOTICE is information to the general publi nat my clients Smt. Krishna Sharm that my clients Smt. Krishna Sharma and Shri Vinod Kumar Sharma both R/o 9-B, First Floor, Ujjawal Apartments, H-3 Block, Bijli Co-operative Group Housing Society, Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018, do hereby disown and debriher daughter Poonam Kaur and her legal heirs from all his/her movable or immovable properties/assets, My clients Smt. Krishna Sharma and Shri Vinod Kumar Sharma also severe their relations with their daughter Poonar and her legal heirs due to he f anybody deals with Poonam Kaur an er legal heirs than he/she will do it a

सार्वजनिक सूचना

नुबकील **श्री जय सिंह पाल** पुत्र श्री अतर संह व **श्रीमती कुसुम लता** पत्नी श्री जय सेंह पाल निवासी **मकान न. बी-111**,

गली न. 6, कादी विहार, कादीपु दिल्ली-110036 ने अपनी पुत्री प्रीत

पत्नी **श्री कपिल कुमार** की बुरी आदते दुर्व्यवहार व गलत कार्यों के कारण अपनी

ाल व अंचल संपत्ति से बेदखल कर दिया

. और सभी प्रकार के संबंध विच्छेद कर लिए है

यदि कोई व्यक्ति लपरोक्त से किसी प्रकार व

कार्य करती है तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी खुद प्रीर्त

**मांगेराम (अधिवक्ता)** दिल्ली हाई कोत

मोबाइल न. 9210389292

पाल व श्रीमती कुसुम लंता की होगी।

**SEARCH FOR MISSING** 

Girl (depicted in the photo) namely: Shalini D/o Ram Kumar R/o H.No. 210, Deepak Vihar Extn., Vikas Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 16.12.2021 from the area of P.S. Ranhola. In this regard D.D. No. 134-A dated 16.12.2021 has been registered at PS. Ranhola, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light

**⊗** \$113.41

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of March 22

**③** ₹67,822

SENSEX: 57,684.82 ▼ 304.48 (0.53%) NIFTY: 17,245.65 ▼ 69.85 (0.4%) NIKKEI: 28,040.16 ▲ 816.05 HANG SENG: 22,154.08 ▲ 264.80 FTSE: 7,489.29 ▲ 12.57 DAX: 14,352.72 ▼ 120.48

### INDUSTRY WATCH PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE

### 'PLI to account for 13-15% capex in key sectors in 3-4 years'

Incremental revenue

lakh cr likely under

PLI scheme sectors,

says Crisil Research

such as auto for electric vehi-

cles/fuel cell electric vehicles,

solar photovoltaics, and auto-

motive cell company (ACC)

batteries. The incentive-to-

capex ratio varies among sec-

tors ... is particularly attractive

for mobile phones, electronic

components, telecom equip-

ment, and IT hardware, which

have high dependence on im-

ports across value chains and

relatively lower domestic

base," said Hetal Gandhi, di-

Though some of the sectors

under PLI such as batteries and

speciality steel will require

greater commitment from the

companies if successful these

investments will ensure an

overall development of the

ecosystem even after the PLI

scheme ends, it said. "Aside

from supply-chain integration,

PLI will aid exports, too. Of the

15 sectors, nine show an export

potential, ranging from 20-80

per cent of the incremental

revenue generated. This, in

turn, can create an annual ex-

port potential of Rs 2 lakh crore.

or 6 per cent of the total ex-

ports of calendar 2021," it said.

rector, Crisil Research.

addition of up to Rs 35

**ENSECONOMIC BUREAU** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

INDIA IS likely to see an incremental revenue addition of Rs 30-35 lakh crore over the next 3-4 years of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes announced for various sectors, Crisil Research said in an analysis.

"The implementation of the PLI scheme will lead to a potential capital expenditure (capex) of Rs 2.5-3 lakh crore over the scheme period and will account for 13-15 per cent of average annual investment spending in key industrial sectors over the next 3-4 years," the global analytics company said in a note.

The Central government's flagship PLI scheme, which was announced in March 2020, is operational for 15 sectors such as electronics and mobile manufacturing, solar equipment, pharmaceuticals. medical devices, automobiles and auto components, among others. Of these, the capital investment in sectors such as mobile, pharmaceuticals, and telecom manufacturing has already started, while the rest of the sectors could see these investments starting April 2022, Crisil Research noted.

"PLI will spur green investments in India, with (nearly) 55 per cent of the scheme expected to be green, in sectors SHARES CLOSE AT ₹3,708.25 ON THE BSE

## **TCS' ₹18,000-cr buyback** oversubscribed 7.52 times

**ENSECONOMIC BUREAU** MUMBAI, MARCH 23

THE RS 18,000-crore share buyback programme of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) was

subscribed over 7.52 times. According to data provided by stock exchanges, 30.11 crore shares were tendered against the offer size of 4 crore shares.

Tata Sons is likely to get around Rs 12,960 crore from the buyback as it holds 72.19 per cent stake in TCS. TCS will extinguish 1.08 per cent of its equity under the buy-

The buyback is being done at Rs 4,500 per share, a 21 per cent **Parent Tata Sons** to get around ₹12,960 crore

TATA SONS is likely to get around Rs 12,960 crore from the buyback as it holds 72.19 per cent stake in TCS, which will extinguish 1.08 per cent of its equity under the buyback programme. The buyback is being done at Rs 4,500 per share, a 21 per cent premium to the last close of the TCS stock.

premium to TCS' last close. Shares of the leading Indian tech company on the BSE closed at Rs 3,708.25, rising

more than 0.2 per cent over the

previous day's close. "The estimated acceptance ra-

tio is 12 per cent, which indicates that if you request 100 buyback shares, the corporation will con-

IN A WRITTEN REPLY IN

THE RAJYA SABHA, Road

Transport and Highways

Minister Nitin Gadkari said

electric charging stations are

to be provided by developers

on national highways as part

of the wayside amenities

(WSAs)

March 19

to a separate question

chase at the \$4,500 buyback price," said Anuj Gaur, director of financial market training and education body IBBM.

Earlier, companies used to focus more on dividends than buybacks, but the government has started charging a 30 per cent tax according to the slab on dividends. Hence, companies have started giving benefits to their investors through buyback offers.

Taxation on buyback profit is lower than dividend taxation.

In 2020, TCS made a Rs 16,000-crore buyback where the acceptance ratio was 100 per cent for retail and 10 per cent for non-

### Fuel prices rise for second straight day

**ENSECONOMIC BUREAU** NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

PETROL AND diesel prices on Wednesday were hiked by 80 paise a litre each for the second straight day since the ending of an

over four-and-half month hiatus.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 97.01 per litre as against Rs 96.21 previously, while the diesel rate has rose from Rs 87.47 per litre to Rs 88.27, as per a price notification of state fuel retailers. In Mumbai, petrol price has been increased by 85 paise to Rs 111.67, while prices in Chennai went up by 75 paise to Rs 102.91. In Kolkata, rates increased to Rs 106.34 from Rs 105.51. The diesel price hike in Mumbai was 85 paise per litre. Rates differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

Prices of the two auto fuels differ state-to-state depending on the incidence of local taxes. On THE RISE MUMBAI DELHI

Tuesday, a record 137-day hiatus in rate revision ended, with an 80 paise per litre increase in rates.

Meanwhile, as per a Reuters report, oil prices rose about 5 per cent to over \$121 a barrel on Wednesday as disruptions to Russian and Kazakh crude exports via the Caspian Pipeline Consortium pipeline added to worries over tight global supplies. As of 1755 GMT, Brent crude rose \$4.83, or 4.2 per cent, to \$120.3 a barrel, and US West Texas Intermediate crude rose \$4.39, or 4 per cent, to \$113.70. WITHREUTERS&PTI

### Over 10L registered EVs, 1,742 charging stations operational

More than 10 lakh EVs were registered till last week, while over 1,700 charging stations (PCS) were operational in the country, Parliament was told

THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF **FEE PLAZAS ARE IN:** Rajasthan 122 Uttar Pradesh Madhya Pradesh

As per Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), a total of 1,742 public charging stations (PCS) are operational in the country as on March 21, 2022

**ACCORDING TO VAHAN 4** DATA, the number of electric vehicles (EVs) registered in the country is 10,60,707 as on

Source: Government data/PTI

816 fee toll plazas are operational on national highways across the country as on March 21, 2022, Gadkari said replying

### I-T searches Hero MotoCorp offices, Pawan Munjal's residence

#### **ENSECONOMIC BUREAU** NEW DELHI. MARCH 23

THE INCOME Tax Department on Wednesday conducted search operations on multiple premises of two-wheeler manufacturer Hero MotoCorp. Tax officials said the search operations were part of a tax evasion investigation against the company. The operations started in the morning hours.

The company, however, issued a statement later in the day, terming the exercise a "routine inquiry, which is not uncommon before the end of the financial year".

New Delhi: Shares of Hero MotoCorp closed down 1.07% in a largely weak broader market, **AGENCIES** 

Shares fall over 1%

Offices and residential premses of the company, including that of chairman and CEO Pawan Munjal located in Gurgaon, Delhi and a few other locations, were being covered, the tax officials said.

"Officials from the income tax department visited two of our offices in Delhi and Gurugram and

the residence of our chairman & CEO Pawan Munjal on Wednesday. We have been informed that this is a routine inquiry, which is not uncommon before the end of the financial year," the company said in its statement.

It further said Hero MotoCorp is an ethical and law-abiding corporate, and maintains the highest standards of impeccable corporate governance. "In keeping with this philosophy, we are extending our full cooperation to the authorities. We reassure all our stakeholders that it continues to be business as usual," the statement said. FE

### Sebi bars DCHL promoters, others

New Delhi: The Sebi has barred the promoters of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd (DCHL) from the securities market, for a period varying from 1-2 years, and levied fines totalling Rs 8.20 crore for various violations. The directions, passed through an order on Tuesday, are for fraudulent activities, understatement of loans by DCHL in its financial statements for the fiscal year 2008-09 to 2011lations of regulations

The Sebi imposed a fine of Rs 4 crore on DCHL, Rs 1.30 crore each on T Venkattram Reddy, T Vinayak Ravi Reddy, Rs 20 lakh on N Krishnan and Rs 10 lakh on V Shankar. **ENS**, **WITHPTI** 

### **BRIEFLY** -

### **ONDC** stake New Delhi: HDFC Bank, Kot-

ak Mahindra Bank and Axis Bank bought 7.84% stake each in open public digital infrastructure framework entity ONDC, investing Rs 10 crore each in the entity.

#### New Delhi: Uber launched its National Driver Advisory

**Uber council** 

Council to facilitate dialogue with drivers to address critical issues and improve their platform experience. SOP by CBIC

### New Delhi: The Central

Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has issued a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the scrutiny of Goods and Services Tax (GST) returns for financial years 2017-18 and 2018-19.

### Trade union

New Delhi: The Joint Platform of Central Trade Unions gave a call for a nationwide strike on March 28 and 29, to protest against government policies affecting workers, farmers and people.

### **RSE fellow**

New Delhi: Biocon Ltd executive chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw has been elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE), Scotland's National Academy, the company said on Wednesday. PTI

### HDFC home loan approvals cross ₹2 lakh cr in FY22 so far

**ENSECONOMIC BUREAU** MUMBAI, MARCH 23

HDFC LTD has approved retail home loans of over Rs 2 lakh crore during the period April 2021 to March 21, 2022, the highest ever in any fiscal, despite the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic.

thrust on digital initiatives and the inherent demand for housing helped it get back to normalcy

Washington: US Federal Reserve

Chair Jerome Powell said new

forms of digital money like cryp-

tocurrencies and stablecoins pres-

ent risks to the financial system of

the United States and will require

new rules to protect consumers.

panel organised by the Bank for

International Settlements, Powell

also said new technologies will

likely make electronic payments

cheaper and faster. But they could

also destabilise existing financial

eworks were not built with a dig-

ital world in mind," he said.

"Stablecoins, central bank digital

currencies, and digital finance

more generally, will require

changes to existing laws and reg-

ulation or even entirely new rules

New Delhi: Sun Pharmaceutical

Industries has said it, along with its

US-based arm Ranbaxy Inc, has

signed a \$485 million settlement

with two plaintiff groups regard-

ing Ranbaxy generic drug applica-

The company and its arm have

signed a binding term sheet with

two plaintiff groups, the Direct

Purchaser and End-Payor Plaintiffs,

resolving all claims against the

company, in the matter of "In re

Ranbaxy Generic Drug Application

tion antitrust litigation.

"Our existing regulatory fram-

institutions, he added.

and frameworks." AP

Speaking Wednesday on a

Digital currencies

regulations: Powell

Sun Pharma, Ranbaxy

Inc to settle US claims

will require new

Over 89% of retail loans are sourced online up from less than 20% pre-Covid, the company said

faster than expected, adding, "Over 89 per cent of retail loans than 20 per cent before Covid-19."

Renu Sud Karnad, MD, HDFC, said, "In the past one year we have

US Federal Reserve Chair

UK inflation hits

30-yr high of 6.2%

London: British inflation shot

up faster than expected last

month to hit a new 30-year

high. Consumer prices rose

6.2 per cent YoY in February

after a 5.5 per cent rise in

Antitrust Litigation", Sun Pharma

consumer protection, and civil

RICO class actions consolidated in

District of Massachusetts, in con-

nection with generic Diovan, a drug

for the treatment of hypertension;

generic Nexium, a drug for the

treatment of gastroesophageal re-

flux disease and peptic ulcers; and

generic Valcyte, a drug for the treat-

ment of cytomegalovirus disease, it

added. **PTI** 

There were multiple antitrust,

said in a regulatory filing.

January. **REUTERS** 

Jerome Powell APfile

seen strong pipeline of new launches surpassing pre-pandemic levels. The demand for housing continues to be from firsttime homeowners as well as those moving up the property ladder, generally into larger homes."

"We are seeing healthy demand across metros and nonmetros and demand is prevalent markets. The sweet spot for housing is still in the price range of Rs 50 lakh to Rs one crore," she said.

EOI No. REL/EoI/Empanelment of Partners 2021-22/04 Dated : 21,03,2022 RailTel invites e-Tenders from eligible bidders for "Expression of Interest (EOI)

for selection of Partners for Supply and Execution fo Signalling and Telecommunication work for Customers of RailTel Enterprises Ltd." EOI Notice & EOI document are available on www.relindia.in and www.railtelindia.com. Addendum/ Corrigendum will be uploaded in REL and

#### RISL invites ebids from the eligible bidders for the follow NIB No./ Date/ **Particulars** Estimated Start of sale Cost/EMD /Last date Unique bid no 7996/ 15.03.2022 RFP for Rate Contract for batteries replacement under buyback scheme 12.04.2022 of old batteries installed at RSDC P-I, P-II, P-IV and BTH, Jaipur and DR (RIS2122GLO Rs. 19.41 B00101)

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)

C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur.

Details can be seen on the websites <a href="http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in">http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in</a>, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. http://doitc.rajasthan.gov.in. submitted through http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.

### Raj.Samwad/C/21/13256 JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

CORRIGENDUM Following amendments regarding detail of the important dates of the bid have been made along with same clarification / amendments in the criteria of tender notice no. EE-(HQ)/16/2021-22 dated 25.02.2022 for the work 'Detailed Design, Content Development, Exhibit Construction, Testing and Commissioning of Gandhi Darshan Museum at Central Park, Jaipur'

Particular	Previous taken	Amended as	
Bid Submission on e-Procurement Portal of GOR (www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in)	21,03,2022 at 06.00 PM	05.04.2022 at 06.00 PM	
Date of Technical Bid Opening	23.03.2022	08.04.2022	
Date of Presentation by Bidders	28.03.2022	18.04.2022	

For detailed clearification / amendments please refer JDA's website www.ida.urban.rajasthan.gov.in and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. UBN No.JDA2122WLOB00590 Executive Engineer (HQ) Rej. Serrwed/C/13273/2021-22

**DELHI JAL BOARD** OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER(M)-7/EE(T) H-BLOCK LIDVOG NAGAR

18 E	PEERA GARHI C	HOWK N			10041	70 000 recor & #	
NIT No. 123/EE(T)/ACE(M)7/(2021-22)/ Short Press Notice Tender							
S. N	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.)	EMD	Tender Fee's	tender procurement	Last dt./time of receipt of tender through E- procurement solution	
1.	Providing/laying water carrying pipe line for tubewell installations and making platform & hoisting arrangements at Karala UGR and Filling point in Mundka AC-08 under AEE(M)-08.	40.00.605/	81,700/-	500/-	23/03/2022/ 2022_DJB_219402_1	30-03-2022 at 3.00 P.M.	
2.	Construction of room and toilet block and renovation of BPS at Punjabi Basti Mangol puri, feeding to water OHT Sultan puri under AEE(M)-10/ ACE(M)-7	35,09,065/-	70,200/-	500/-	23/03/2022/ 2022_DJB_219407_1	30-03-2022 at 3.00 P.M.	
Further details in this regard can be seen at <a href="https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in">https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in</a>   Solician By R.R.O. (WATER)   Solician   Solician							

(SATISH KUMAR GUPTA)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(T) 1330ED BT P.H.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 1296 (2021-22) "STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene **DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI** 

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIFE ENGINEER(M)-2 2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI-110093 PRESS NIT NO- 94 (2021-22) ast date/ time of receip Procurement solution Re-invited 2022\_DJB\_219318\_2 for maintenance of sewerage system in Se (AC-63) under AEE(M)-63 Re-invited

Last date/ time of receip of tender in of tender through Procurement solution 01-04-2022 nent of 10 nos unskilled workers for one year on contrac basis for maintenance of water supply Constituency (AC-63) under AEE(M)-63

Further details in this regards can be seen at https://delhi.govtprocurement.com ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)

V.K CHAUHAN "Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene'

New Delhi

Tender Notice No:-PCE/BLW(ET)/Publish/2021-22 /16 Dated-22.03.2023

E-TENDER

Dy Chief Engineer, Banaras Locomotive works, Varanasi on behalf of the president of India invites "Open" Tender through E-Tendering from the contractors. **S.No.:-** 1, **Tender No.:-** BLW-WAT-ET-011-21-22, **Name o** work:- Provision of rain water harvesting by providing deep recharge bore well in Design office & Adm area under SSE/W/Adm. and Provision of rain water harvesting bore well in workshop & provision of water PVC tank, water booth, Grills for windows in New LFS and provision of canop on north wall of new Paint booth under SSE/W/WS & SSE/Br. and up gradation of main gauge room & RI ward. Tender cost (Rs): 11582311.77, Earnest money (Rs).:-207900, Time of completion:nonth, Closing Date time of tender: - 13.04.2022 at 15:00 pm, Date of opening of tender: - 13.04.2022 at 15:30 pm. S.No.: - 2. Tender No.: BLW-WAT-ET-014-21-22, Name of work:- Repairing of damage Heav duty flooring in TMS & LAS in workshop under SSE/W/WS,**Tender cos** (Rs):- 8438467.55, Earnest money (Rs):- 168800, completion:- 8 month, Closing Date time of tender:- 13.04.2022 a 15:00 pm, **Date of opening of tender:-** 13.04.2022 at 15:30 pm. **Special Notice-** To see the detailed terms & conditions of tender and for

Dy. Chief Engine PRO/BLW/C-16 **★** | **F** |

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE Office of the Executive Engineer-1 (Lakes), Division, Room No, 306, 3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002. No: EE-1/Lakes/TEND/30/2021-22

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)** The Executive Engineer-1(Lakes), BBMP Invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the works detailed in the table below.

Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs) Name of the Work (in Rs.) Providing Chain link fencing to Balance reach at Ramapura Emergency Work at Sarakki Lake 100.00 2.00,000

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GOK e-Procurement portal <a href="https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in">https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in</a>
2) Tenders must be submitted online: 04.04.2022 upto (1)\_ 4:00 p.m. 3) Opening of Technical bids: 05.04.2022 at 4.30 p.m Further details can be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website: www.eproc karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer-1 (Lakes) STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE. Follow Physical





Date: 24.03.2022

Bids are invited from reputed and experienced Contractor for the **Tender Name Tender Fees** 

Supply of 9116 MT UIC 60/60E1, 1080 Head Hardened Grade Rails as per the specifications for Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project Phase-II" Interested bidders are requested to visit https://gmrc.nprocure.com

www.gujaratmetrorail.com, http://afd.dgmarket.com and GTAI for eligibility criteria, applying/ downloading the Bid document. Last date and time for Bid Submissions is 15:00 Hrs. on 10.05.2022. 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 https://gmrc.nprocure.com and GMRC's Website www.gujaratmetrorail.com without any obligation or press Sd/notification or other proclamation. Managing Director,

GMRC, Gandhinagar

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOTICE** 

xpression of Interest is invited by the r. Divisional Commercial Manager, Nor

Vestern Railway, Jaipur on behalf of th

President of India, for Supply, Operation and Maintenance of 03 nos. Battery operated Cars (BOC) along with BOC

perators/Drivers for carrying passenge

at Jaipur Railway station for period of 05 (Five) year on user charges basis. Details

of the subject EoI and application form ca

be obtained from office of Sr. Divisiona

Commercial Manager, North Western Railway, Jaipur, DRM's Office, Powe

House Road, Jaipur - 302006 Details ma

also be downloaded from websit www.nwr.indianrailways.gov.i

Application form can be submitted /dropped at office of Sr. Divisiona

Commercial Manager, North Westeri Railway, Jaipur, DRM's Office, Powe

House Road Jainur -302006 up to 15.0

ours of 25.04.2022 on all working days

Applications will be opened at 15.30 hrs o

Follow us at f Months | NWRailways | NWRailways\_

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🎉

**OPEN TENDER NOTICE** No. ECR\_SPJ\_ST\_T\_22\_PDB\_3S

DRM (S&T)/Samastipur invites open e

enders on behalf of president of India for

1. Name of work with its location:

Provision of Platform Display Board at

Samastipur (SPJ) Darbhanga (DBG) &

Saharsa (SHC) stations of Samastipur

division. 2. Approx. cost of the work:

Rs. 81,84,675/- (Rupees Eighty One

Lakh Eighty Four Thousand six Hundred

seventy five only). 3. Date & Time for

Submission of tender & opening of

tender: 06.04.2022 Up to 15:30 Hrs.

06.04.2022 at 16:00 Hrs. 4. Particulars

of website where full details of tender

may be seen : www.ireps.gov.in For

further details please visit the website

PR/01877/SPJ/S&T/T/21-22/32

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDERING NOTICE

Divisional Engineer/MWS for

Chief Workshop Manager, North

Eastern Railway, Mechanica

Workshop, Gorakhpur-for and o

behalf of President of India invite

open tender through on line (E-

S.No.-1. E-Tender Notice No. & Nan

of the work: 03-2022-03-01 Mechanica

Workshop-Carrying out Zone No.-9

rea mechanical workshop & Stor

Depot. for Maintenance of all work o

sheds etc. for P.E. 30-06-2022. Estimate

Cost (in Rs.): ₹ 63,00,000/-, Earnes

Money (in Rs.): ₹ 1,26,000/-, Last date

for submission of tender: 13-04-2022

The Details of above tender are also

available on Indian Railway websit

About any passenger amenity complair SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955

Never travel on roof and foot boards.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender for Mechanized washing of Linen of AC coaches of Four Trains originating from DHN including loading/unloading as well as transporting of linens & washing of Curtains of AC coaches of Dhanbad based trains

GeM Bid No. GEM/2022/B/2043358 Dated:21-03-2022

For and on behalf of the President of India, E-Tenders on "Two Packet System" are invited from the Firms/Agencies/

Contractors of repute having technical expertise and financial solvency for the following work:

following work:(I) Name of work with its location and completion period: Mechanized washing of Linen of AC coaches of Four Trains No. 13307/13308, 13351/13352, 13331/13332 & 13329/13330 originating from Dhanbad including loading/unloading as well as transporting of linens from Dhanbad Coaching Complex to trains on different platforms of Dhanbad stations and vigo verse.

platforms of Dhanbad station and vice vers washing of Curtains of AC coaches thanbad based trains for a period

Dhanbad based trains for a period of 01 (One) year. Completion period -01 years. (ii) Approx. Cost of the work: Rs. 4,70,62,313.35 (Rupees Four crore seventy lakh sixty two thousand three hundred thirteen and thirty five paise) only. (iii) Earnest Money to be deposited: Rs. 9,41,246.00 (Rupees Nine lakh forty one thousand two hundred forty six) only. (iv) Date & time for closing of e-tender: 19:00 hrs. on 31/03/2022 (v) Website particulars: <a href="https://gem.gov.in">https://gem.gov.in</a> No manual tender will be accepted against

No manual tender will be accepted again

PR/01879/DHN/MECH/T/21-22/44

Divisional Railway Manage

East Central Railway, Dhanbad

Chief Workshop Manage

Gorakhpui

pefore 15:00 hrs.

www.ireps.gov.in

CPRO/Yantrik-84

endering) for the following work.

Divisional Rail Manager(S&T

E. C. Railway, Samastipur

www.ireps.gov.in.

following work.

140-PR/2

#### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, **RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR**

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** 

e-Procurement No. 663 / Dated: 22.03.2022

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf **Odisha State Rural Roads Agency** invites **Percentage** (%) bids through e\_Procurement from eligible class of experienced bidders for construction of roads and CD vorks including maintenance for 5 years of rural roads under **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana PMGSY-III, Batch-I**. Construction of road and CD works including five year maintenance unde PMGSY-III, Batch-I Package no. OR-03-245

2 Class of Contractor. "A" and "B" Class 3 No. of packages. 1 No. of Package Approx. 206.24 Lakh (Information in DTCN will be Final) 4 Estimated cost Rs. 10,000/- (Non-Refundable) per set of package 5 Bid submission fee : Only through online in website. www.pmgsytenders.gov.in 6 Mode of submission of tender.

Date & Time of Availability of Tender | Last date & time | Last date & time Officer ntificatio on-line for bidding for seeking of submission of opening of tender No. clarification Original Technical Financia From То Bid Bid Chief Construction PMGSY 28.03.2022 12.04.2022 11.04.2022 18.04.2022 13.04.2022 Will be Engineer, Rural, Works Circle, Online By 1.00 P.M. At 10.00 intimated 11.00 A.M. 05.00 P.M. 1.00 P.M. later A.M. Sambalpur 52/2021-22

Summary of key dates are provided below

Special conditions 1- EPF registration is mandatory before drawl of agreement. 2- Rate quoted by the contractor shall be excluding GST. 3. Original Bid Security declaration form, Bid submission fee and original affidavits should be submitted at the O/o Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur Or O/o Executive Enginee Superintending Engineer of Concern Rural Works Division

Details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.pmgsytenders.gov.in

Subsequent modification/ corrigendum/ Addendum if required shall be appeared in the website only.

Sd/- Chief Construction Enginee Rural, Works Circle, Sambalpur



#### झारखण्ड सरकार कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, खुँटी।



ई० प्रोक्योरमेन्ट अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना T. Reference No.:- DWSD/KH-09(CLUS/SVS)/2021-22 (6<sup>th</sup> Call), Date 23.03.2022 Name of Work

Construction of Solar based Mini Pipe Water Supply Scheme (SVS) in different Block comprising of suitable R.C.C./Framed Structure ESR distribution line sources (as required) and FHTC all complete job in the different blocks of District- Khunti under D.W. & S Division, Khunti. Estimated Cost **Bid Security** Cost of Cluster Time of Completion Block (Lakh) BOQ (Rs) (Lakh) 9 Months + 1 Month 10,000.00 12 (A) MURHU (Trial & Run) B) Date of Tender Uploading on Website 26.03.2022/05.00 PM. Document Download Start Date from C) 26.03.2022/05.00 PM. Website Bid Submission End Date 09.04.2022/05.00 PM. D) Last date of Submission of Cost of BOQ E) 11.04.2022/02.00 PM. and EMD (Hard Copy) F) 12.04.2022/11.00 AM Date of Opening of Tender Executive Engineer, D.W. & S. Division, Khunti. Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender G) Contact No. of Procurement Office H) 06528-299928

कार्यपालक अभियंता,

### नगर परिषद् भीलवाड़ा दिनांक :- 09.03.2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

No.: 128-W/260/Tender Notice/39-W-IV/21-22 Dated: 22.03.2022

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND

DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD

**Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)** 

details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, ase visit website, www.tangedco.gov.in www.tantransco.gov.in www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app நான உரிது சுதந்தேரம் அடைந்தேரம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்தூம் படைந்தோம் ப

SSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of (a) 11KV HG Fuse sets w

olid core insulators (b) 33KV 800A D/B AB Switches with insulators (c) 11K

200A (TT) AB Switches with insulators (d) 11.0 Mtrs/365 Kgs PSCC Poles t

Nalgonda circle on e-procurement platform. For further details of each iter

above, please visit www.tssouthernpower.com, www.tender.telangana.gov.ir

DIPR No.2853-PP/CL-Agency/ADVT/1/2021-22, Dt:23-03-2022 Sd/- (U. BALASWAM)
CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&MN

Notice inviting Tenders (E- Tendering Process)

Specification No. and Description of
works/Materials

NO AUTORITY Works/Materials Submission of e-Tender

COAL - 104/ 2021-22, Dated 22.03.2022 Discharging of coal from the TANGEDCO vessels by Shore unloaders at Ennore Coal Terminal Private Limited (ECTPL) berth at Kamarajar port, Ennore and load onto trucks to NCTPS stock yard and onto rial wagons for onward movement to Mettur Units.

The tender Specification can be down loaded from websites, www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tantarasco.gov.in, www.tanders.tn.gov.in, https://tntenders.gov.ln/nlcgep/app at free of cost. Tender will be opened through the

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-IV, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf

Approximate Cost of work ₹29,99,627.04 Earnest Money ₹60,000.00

Construction of approach road & boundary wall for Hydroger Plant at Jind under ADEN/JHI (NIT 39-W-IV-21-22)

Bidding Start date for work no. Upto 15:00 hrs. on

05.04.2022 opening of e-Tender at 15:00 hrs. on

Above tender available on IREPS

609/22

site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

resident of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work.

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF T.S.LTD

M.64, M.65, M.66, M.67 4

T-2232

SI.No Tender Inviting Authority Specification No

CE/MM

Phone: 040-23431319, 1035, 1033, 1026, 1360.

2 SE/Transmission-IV

-: ई-टेण्डरिंग निविदा सूचना संख्या 12 (वर्ष 2021-22) :-

रवानों (नर-मादा) को पकड़ने, बंध्याकरण करने एवं रेबीज टीकाकरण कर पुनः निर्धारित स्थल पर छोड़ने का कार्य कार्यादेश जारी होने की दिनांक से एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए ई-निविद आमंत्रित की जाती है। नियम व शर्तें निगम की वेबसाईट ... www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है। निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम दिनांक 10.03.22 अपलोड करने की अंतिम दिनांक 31.03.22 तकनीकी बिड खोलने की दिनांक 04.04.22 है। निविदा वेबसाईट www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in से डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड हेत उपलब्ध है। तकनीकी बिड में सफल संवेदक की ही वित्तीय बिड खोली जावेगी।

UBN :- DLB2122WSOB25105

with its location

Date and Time of

submission of tender

and opening of tender | 19.04.2022

Website particulars, published e-tender

notice location etc. complete details of

tender can be seen and website where

the tender form can be downloaded

	कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड Corporation of India Ltd. ompany (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Online open E-Tender in Two Bid syste	ITICE (E-Tendering Mode Only) m for 'Hiring of five Commercial vehicles (with Yellow Number ise of CONCOR and Customs officials at MMLP Khatuwas, a are invited.
Tender No.	CON/Area-I/Vehicle at Khatuwas/2022
Name of Work	Hiring of five Commercial vehicles (with Yellow Number Plate) on monthly hire basis for the use of CONCOR and Customs officials at MMLP Khatuwas, Rajasthan.
Estimated Cost	₹ 69,32,520/- including GST
Period of the contract	2 Years
Earnest Money Deposit	₹1,38,700/- (through e-payment)
Cost of Document	₹1000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties (through e-payment)
Tender Processing Fee (Non-refundable)	₹4,090/- (inclusive all taxes & duties through e-payment.)
Date of Sale (On Line)	From 24.03.2022 at 15:00 hrs. to 07.04.2022 upto 16:00 hrs.
Last Date & Time of submission	08.04.2022 upto 16:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening	11.04.2022 at 15:30 hrs.
www.tenderwlzard.com/CCIL. Bidders	Alease log onto www.concorindla.com or eprocure.gov.ln or are requested to visit the websites regularly. CONCOR reserves thout assigning any reasons thereof. For complete details logon Senjor General Manager (C&O) Area I

#### THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH Information Technology Department

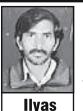
Ladakh e-Governance Agency (LeGA), Ladakh Tel/Fax:01982-255567,255568 E-mail:ladakhegovagency@gmail.com

#### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER e- NIT NO.: 01-LEGA(UTL) -OF-2022.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor, UT Ladakh, e-tenders are invited from the regis tered firms dealing with the Design, Development, Implementation, Operation and Maintenance of Web Portal for LG Dashboard, Administration of Ladakh which are

SNo.	SNo. Description Date					
2M0.	Description	Date				
i)	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	22/03/2022				
ii)	Pre-Bid Meeting (link will be provided to the interested Bidders)	28/03/2022				
iii)	Online Bid Submission Date of Start	01/04/2022				
iv)	Online Submission End Date	16/04/2022 (04.00 PM)				
The tender is available for submission at https://tenders.ladakh.gov.in/						

### **SEARCH FOR MISSING**



General public is hereby informed that a man namely Ilyas, S/o: Riyazuddin, R/o: H.No. A-11/50, Gali No. 43, South Gamri Extn. Usmanpur, Delhi has been reporting missing since 19.02.2022 from his house. In this regard DD No. 98-A dated 21.02.2022 has been lodged at Police Station New Usmanpur, Delhi. The

description of missing man is as under:

Name: Ilyas, Age: About 58 Years, Height: 5'7", Built: Thin, Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Pink Colour Shirt & Sweater, Yellow Colour Topa and Black Leather Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing man please inform P.S. New Usmanpur, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in

Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

Police Station New Usmanpur, Delhi

Ph: 011-22172410, 8750870722 DP/1428/NE/2022

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely MR. Basavaraja B.V. Raja, Prop. of Bathur Auto Needs G.M. Compound. P.B. Road, Devangre-577002, Karnataka has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case CC No. 509563/16 U/s 138 NI Act registered at P.S. Kashmere gate, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon that the said MR. Basavaraja B.V. Raja could not be found and where it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused MR. Basavaraja B.V. Raja has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused MR. Basavaraja B.V. Raja is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on 07.05.2022 **Bv Order** 

Ms. Visvesh.

SHO

LD. Metropolitan Magistrate, (NI Act-06) Central Room No. 1, Court Building, DP/2074/N/2022 (Court Notice) Annexe-2, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi राजस्थान ट्यूरिज्म डवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड

<u>ई-निविदा स्चना स. 11/2021-22</u> राजस्थान पर्यटन विकास निगम लि. जयपुर की ओर से राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के विभागों एवं सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से 'Online NIB' आमंत्रित की जाती है। इन कार्यों की अनुमानित लागत, निविदा बेचे जाने व प्राप्त करने की दिनांक, निविदा शर्ते आदि संपूर्ण विवरण वेबसाइट /ww.rtdc.tourism.rajasthan.gov.in&sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. पर देखी जा सकती है | ender ID – UBN No. TDC2122WSOB00063 TDC2122WSOB00064 TDC2122WSOB0000 DC2122WSOB00066 TDC2122WSOB00067 TDC2122WSOB00064

कार्यकारी निदेशक- कार्य

### **OSBI**

 $\hbox{Digital Transformation} \& \, \hbox{e-Commerce Department}$ Corporate Centre

CORRIGENDUM - 1 Please refer to EOI NO: SBI/DT&e-Comm./DB/2021-22/01 DATED: 09.03.2022 for 'ONLY YONO-THE NEW DIGITAL BANK (YONO 2.0)' for providing business, project management and technical consultancy services. Corrigendum - 1 dated 24.03.2022 can be accessed under Procurement news at Bank's website https://www.sbi.co.in. and e-Procurement agency portal https://etender.sbi/SBI/

Digital Transformation & e-Commerce Department



Due date & time for

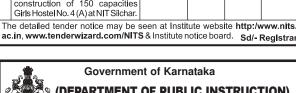
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SILCHAR

(An Institution of National Importance)
Assam – 788 010

Phone: (03842) 244879, Web Site: http://www.nits.ac.in
Fax: (03842) 224797, EPABX:233841-5129

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** E-tender invited from experienced and financially sound contractor/agency fo he following work Earnest

Time of Name of Work Money (In Rs.) completion (In Rs.) NIT No. NIT-F/Fstate/2021-22/19 Preparation of conceptual plan drawings & design, estimation, DPR/ Bid Documents/ tendering/ Finalization of bid documents 25,96,49,211/- 51,93,000/ 18.04.2022 and Execution of the construction of 150 capacities



#### (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION) KARNATAKA TEXT BOOK SOCIETY(R) No. 4, DSERT Building, 100 Feet Ring Road,

Hosakerehalli, BSK III Stage, Bengaluru - 560 085 Phone: 080-26422238 / 45 e-Mail: mdktbs2018@gmail.com

Website: www.schooleducation.kar.nic.in No: A8(3):KTBS/E-Pub-3Tender/13/2021-22

#### SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR DIGITILIZATION/CONVERSION OF **TEXT BOOKS TO E-PUB-3 FORMAT**

(Through e-Procurement portal only)

Tender is invited for Conversion of text books into e-pub-3 format for classes 1 to 10th Std. in all mediums in Tender for the year 2022-23. Eligible digital publishing organization having sufficient infrastructure as mentioned in the tender document, may offer their bidding up to 5.30 p.m. on 30.03.2022. Details of the tender are furnished in the tender document provided in e-portal as well as department website E-procurement portal address:

https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Portal Help line: +91-8046010000 +91-8068948777 Department Website: http://www.ktbs.kar.nic.in Sd/- Managing Director

Karnataka Text Book Society (R), Bengaluru



**Government of Jammu & Kashmir, DIRECTORATE OF SHEEP HUSBANDRY** E-mail- kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

Extension Notice

No-DSHK/ACCTS/2021-22/17148 Dt- 22.03.2022.

Ref No:-

DIPK-19925

- (1) E-Procurement Notice for Insurance of Imported Livestock (live Sheep) procured from Australia Vide no: Dshk/Supply/NIT/2021-22/16040-59 Dt-28.02.2022.
- (2) E-Procurement Notice for the supply of Clostridium Perfringens Vaccine, Inactivated I.P. (Type B, C & D, Enterotoxaemia vaccine) vide E DSHK/Supply/ 15818-839 Dt-21.02.2022 Nit No:

Both ( Cappiy) 10010 000 Bt 21:02:2022.					
S.No	Description	Date & Time			
01	Bid submission end date	29.03.2022(4.00 p.m)			
02	Opening of Technical Bids (Online)	30.03.2022( 2.00 p.m)			

The other terms and conditions of e-NIT will remain same.

Sd/ Chairman

**State Level Purchase Committee Sheep Husbandry Department** Kashmir

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY Principal Chief Materials Manager**

e-tendering

Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi-110001

Mail ID: salenr365@gmail.com

No. 117-S-Sales-Auction Programme- 2022-23

Dated. 17.03.2022

#### e-AUCTION NOTICE NO. April/2022 E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous Scrap, Non Ferrous Scrap, Other Misc Scrap,

Condemned Loco, Coaches and Wagons, Scrap Rail and other scrap P Way material. Used lead Acid Batteries/Used oil/Refused oil will be sold only to recyclers registered with State Pollution Control Board. Auction programme is as under. e-AUCTION DATES FOR 'April. 2022.

Time 1st round 2nd ro

Depot conducting auction	Time	1 <sup>st</sup> round	2 <sup>nd</sup> round	3 <sup>rd</sup> round	4 <sup>th</sup> round
Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257	11:00	5	12	20	28
Shakurbasti 011-27015387	11:00	6	13	21	29
Jagadhari 01732-252388	11:00	4	11	19	29
Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756	10:00	4	11	19	29
Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154	12:00	7	18	22	29
Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203	10:00	6	13	21	29
Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141	12:00	7	18	22	29
Sr.DMM/DLI 011-23365311	12:30	5	12	20	29
	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257 Shakurbasti 011-27015387 Jagadhari 01732-252388 Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756 Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154 Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203 Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257 11:00 Shakurbasti 011-27015387 11:00 Jagadhari 01732-252388 11:00 Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756 10:00 Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154 12:00 Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203 10:00 Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141 12:00	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257 11:00 5 Shakurbasti 011-27015387 11:00 6 Jagadhari 01732-252388 11:00 4 Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756 10:00 4 Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154 12:00 7 Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203 10:00 6 Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141 12:00 7	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257 11:00 5 12  Shakurbasti 011-27015387 11:00 6 13  Jagadhari 01732-252388 11:00 4 11  Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756 10:00 4 11  Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154 12:00 7 18  Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203 10:00 6 13  Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141 12:00 7 18	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257 11:00 5 12 20  Shakurbasti 011-27015387 11:00 6 13 21  Jagadhari 01732-252388 11:00 4 11 19  Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756 10:00 4 11 19  Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154 12:00 7 18 22  Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203 10:00 6 13 21  Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141 12:00 7 18 22

- 1. The details of item to be sold in auction will be available in catalogue at www.ireps.gov.in.
- 2. The intending purchasers may inspect the scrap material before the auction during working hours at nominated locations.
- 3. To participate in e-auction, purchasers need to get themselves registered with ireps. The details on last sold rates in auctions are available at www.railnet.gov.in.
- 4. For further details regarding registration and other conditions of e-auction, please visit Railway website 'www.ireps.gov.in'.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav 617/2022 **SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 

(D.S. Ramu) Dy. Chief Material Manager/S&P

New Delhi

#### क्रमांक :- 21988-93 भीलवाड़ा शहर को रेबीज मुक्त करने के उद्देश्य से नगर परिषद् भीलवाड़ा की सीमा से आवारा Mo. No.- 7717776462 I) Helpline No. of e-procurement cell नोटः—विशेष जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट **–** http://jharkahndtenders.gov.in पुर देखा जा सकता है। पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, खूँटी। PR 266738 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22)D Office of the Executive-Engineer कार्य की वार्षिक अनुमानित लागत - 180 लाख

**Executive Engineer** 

**Drinking Water & Sanitation Division** 

Khunti, Jharkhand.

Eligible class of

contractor

C Class

B Class

A Class

A Class

5000/

Time

One Year

18Months

18Months

24Months

### Drinking Water & Sanitation Division Khunti, Jharkhand Email- eedwsd.khunti@gmail.com

e-Procurement Notice- 5th Call Tender reference No- DWSD/KH-10(MVS)/2021-22, Date- 23.03.2022

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estima Cost (In Lal	t	Earnest Money (In Lakh)	Cost of BOQ	Time of Completion		
1)	Sindari Purnanagar Norhi and adjoining Village Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme Under DW&S DivisionKhunti on turnkey basis.	2863.33	28.64000		10,000.00	24 Months+3 month Trial & run		
A	Date of Publication of Tender on W	26.03.2022 up to 5.00 PM						
В	B Last date /Time for receipt of Bid (Online)  C Last date /Time for receipt of Bid (Hard Copy)			09.04.2022 up to 5.00 PM				
C				11.04.2022 up to 2.00 PM				
D	Place of receipt of Bid (Hard Copy)		Office of the Regional Chief Engineer, D.W. & S. Department Ranchi Zone.     Office Of the Superintending Engineer, D.W.&S. Ranchi Circle, Ranchi     Office of the Executive Engineer, D.W. & S. Division, Khunti					
E	Date of opening of Tender	12.04.2022 /11.00 AM						
F	Name & address of office inviting t	Executive Engineer, D.W. & S. Division, Khunti						
G	Contact no of Procurement offi	ce	06528-299928					
Н	Helpline no of e-procurement c	ell	07717776462					
	SAVE W	ATED	CAL	FILE				

SAVE WATER::SAVE LIFE Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

PR 266735 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22).D

E-Procurement Notice **INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)** 1. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Arki Distt. Solan H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system in 2 cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department

vesting tank, septic tank site development etc.

CAs can use the same in this tender.

Name of Work Estimated EMD 84000/ 50.96.956/ 5000/ C/o office cum residential accommodation for Agriculture extension office Arki Tehsil Arki Distt. Solan(SH:-C/o building portion site development, P/F WS & SI,Rain water harvesting ank,septic tank and soak pits etc. C/o PHC building Level-II at Bainj-Ki-Hatti, Tehsil Arki Distt. 1,67,13,899/ 2,19,700/ 5000/ Solan(SH:-C/o building portion civil work,WS & SI, Rain wate narvesting tank septic tank, Boundary wall and approach raod C/o Sr. Secondry school building at Loharghat, Tehsil Arki Distt. Solan(SH:-C/o building portion, Civil works, WS & SI, Rain 2.75.87.100/ 2.88.400/ 5000/ water harvesting tank etc.(

C/o Govt. Degree College building at Darlaghat, Tehsil Arki | 9,41,02,273/- | 9,88,600/- Distt. Solan(SH:-C/o building portion, WS & SI,Rain water har-

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website http://hptenders.gov.in Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities . "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: http://hptenders.gov.in Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized

**Kev Dates** 

. Date of Online Publication 23.03.2022 10.00 HRS 13.04.2022 10.30HRS upto 28.04.2022 18 HRS Documents Download Start and End date 13.04.2022 10.30HRS upto 28.04.2022 18 HRS Bid Submission Start and End Date Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of tender Documents 29.04.2022. up to 11HRS Date of Technical Bid opening ,Evaluation of Technical Bid 30.04.2022 11.30 HRS

followed by Opening of Financial Bid The tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 cover:

i) Cover I shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/Eligibility information"

ii) Cover 2 shall contain BOQ/Financial Bid where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

5. Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit(a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid documents and(b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit(EMD) and other Technical Documents in o/o the Executive Engineer, HP,PWD, Ark Divn. HP as specified in Key dates at Sr.NO.4 on Tender Opening Date failing which the bids will be declared non responsive,

- 6. BID OPENING DETAILS The bids shall be opend on 30.04.2022 .at 11.30HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, HP, PWD, Arki divn./Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle, HP, PWD, Solan HP by the uthorized officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and
- 7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held
- liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender. **Executive Engineer**

**HPPWD Division Arki** 

Distt. Solan H.P on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

### 'SPEECHLESS... WILL MISS YOU ON TOUR'

Reactions after Ash Barty announced her retirement

"I'm so supportive of Ash, and making a decision that is best for her and makes her happy. I can't wait to see what the next chapter brings, and to watch Ash achieve her dreams post-tennis."

**EVONNE GOOLAGONG CAWLEY,** AUSTRALIA GREAT AND LONG-TIME

"Dear Ash - you are leaving the tennis and sports world quite speechless and full of praise at the same time. Enjoy this chapter of your life after tennis - we will miss you, your smile and your beautiful game. Be happy champ, the Hall of Fame is waiting!'

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA, 18-TIME GRAND SLAM WINNER

"Since I never trust a tennis retirement, does anvone else think @ashbarty will be back and what year? AO (Australian Open) 2024 is my guess."

PAM SHRIVER, FORMER WORLD NO.1

"Ash, what can I say, you know I have tears right? My friend, I will miss you on tour. You were different, and special, and we shared some amazing moments. What's next for you? Grand Slam champion in golf?!"

SIMONA HALEP, TWO-TIME GRAND SLAM CHAMPION

"I particularly want to say 'thank you' to you, Ash, for inspiring a generation of young people and particularly a generation of young indigenous people in this country.'

SCOTT MORRISON, AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER

### 'I don't have physical drive, emotional want... I am spent'

World No.1 women's tennis player Australian Ashleigh Barty retires at 25

**CHRISTOPHER CLAREY** MARCH 23

ATTHE top of her sport, Ashleigh Barty is retiring from tennis.

In a stunning move, Barty, the No.1ranked women's player who won her country's major tournament, the Australian Open, in January, announced on Wednesday that she was leaving tennis for other pursuits.

"It was hard," she said of her decision. "But it's right and I know, and that brought me a lot of comfort knowing that this is right for me. But I'm very excited."

Barty, who turns 26 next month, posted a video to Instagram announcing her decision through a conversation with her compatriot Casey Dellacqua, a retired player, one of her closest friends and her former doubles partner. Barty said she also would hold a news conference.

"I'm so grateful to everything that tennis has given me - it's given me all of my dreams, plus more – but I know that the time is right now for me to step away and chase other dreams and to put the rackets down." It was the third time that Barty had stepped away from professional tennis but the first time that she had announced her retirement.

In 2014, at age 17, when she already was one of the top doubles players, she took an indefinite break from the tour. She was depressed and weary of the travel and the pressures generated by early success. During that 17-month hiatus, she played professional cricket, but with encouragement from Dellacqua she returned to tennis in early 2016 reinvigorated and began her climb to the summit under the guidance of a new coach, Craig Tyzzer, an experienced and unflappable Australian.

Barty also took an 11-month break from the tour at the onset of the pandemic, remaining in Australia instead of traveling to tournaments abroad even after the tour's five-month hiatus ended in August 2020.

But her surprise retirement announcement, coming with the tour back in full swing and shortly after her triumph in Melbourne, is clearly a decision that she has considered at length and made from a position of strength.

"There was a perspective shift in me in the second phase of my career that my happiness wasn't dependent on the results and success for me is knowing that I've given absolutely everything, everything I can," Barty told Dellacqua. "I'm fulfilled. I'm happy." Barty's victory at the Australian Open was a tour de force. She did not drop a set in seven matches, coolly navigating the pressure to



Barty is the No.1-ranked tennis player and won the Australian Open in January AP

Barty has spent a total of 119 weeks at No. 1, placing her seventh on the career list. She is the first women's player to retire while on top of the singles rankings since the Belgian star Justine Henin unexpectedly announced her retirement in May 2008.

become the first Australian to win the Australian Open singles title in 44 years. Typically poker-faced on the court, Barty made it clear just how much the achievement meant to her by howling with delight after finishing off her victory in the final against Danielle Collins of the United States.

"I know how much work it takes to bring the best out of yourself," she said to Dellacqua in the video posted Wednesday, It's just I don't have th at in me anymore. I don't have the physical drive, the emotional want and kind of everything it takes to challenge yourself at the very top level anymore and I think I just know that I'm absolutely, I am spent."

Barty has spent a total of 119 weeks at No. placing her seventh on the career list. She is the first women's player to retire while on top of the singles rankings since the Belgian

star Justine Henin unexpectedly announced her retirement in May 2008. Henin, like Barty, was just 25 years old and the reigning champion at two Grand Slam tournaments: the French Open and the U.S. Open in Henin's case. Henin later returned to the tour in 2010, although she never won another major title.

If Barty sticks with her decision, she will be the first player to win a Grand Slam singles title in her final match since Pete Sampras, the American star who did not play on tour again after winning the 2002 U.S. Open at age 31, announcing his retirement nearly a year later. Marion Bartoli of France retired at age 28 little more than a month after winning Wimbledon in 2013; Flavia Pennetta of Italy retired at age 33 in 2015 at the end of the season after winning the 2015 U.S. Open. Bartoli returned briefly to the tour; Pennetta did not.

For now, and perhaps for eternity, Barty has finished her career with \$23.8 million in prize money and 15 career singles titles, including three at Grand Slam tournaments. She won the French Open in 2019, Wimbledon in 2021 and the Australian Open this year, meaning that she won major singles titles on all three of tennis' primary surfaces: clay, grass and hardcourt. With her versatile game and tactical acumen, she was an all-court threat and also won the 2019 WTA Finals, the tour's lucrative year-end championship, on an indoor hardcourt in Shenzhen

### Ronaldo's World Cup future on the line

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** MARCH 23

AT 37 YEARS old, it's no secret time is running out for Cristiano Ronaldo.

Playing at a high level is not getting any easier, and the opportunities to compete in top tournaments are becoming scarce. Missing out on the World Cup, at his age, could mean he's never playing in soccer's showcase event again.

Portugal faces two must-win games in the European qualifying playoffs, beginning Thursday when it hosts Turkey. The winner then plays next Tuesday against the winner of European champion Italy vs. North Macedonia for a ticket to Qatar. Although no one knows if  $Ronaldo\,would\,still\,play\,in\,the\,next\,World\,Cup$ at age 41, not qualifying for this one would be one of the biggest setbacks of his career.

Ronaldo tried not to think past the task at hand, though. "Totally focused on the 2022 World Cup," he said this week on Instagram.

"As always, I'm proud to represent Portugal. We know it won't be easy. We have the maximum respect for the opponents that we will face and they have the same goals as us. But together we will fight to put Portugal where it deserves to be. Let's do it!" Ronaldo is trying to make it to his 10th consecutive major tournament. He is the only player to have scored at least once in the finals of nine top tournament in a row, a streak that started at the 2004 European Championship and includes four other Euros and four World Cups.

He is the active Portugal player with the most World Cup goals with seven, two shy of Eusebio. Portugal was relegated to the playoffs after a heartbreaking 2-1 loss to Serbia at home  $in \, the \, final \, Group \, Agame \, in \, November, when \,$ the hosts opened the scoring but conceded the



Cristiano Ronaldo.

deciding goal in the 90th minute. A draw would have been enough for Portugal, which is trying to qualify for the World Cup for the sixth straight time. Only two consecutive victories will do now.

"It's not the ideal situation, but it is what it is and we have to face it with responsibility," Liverpool forward Diogo Jota said. "We can't make too much drama about it. It's a soccer match and I believe we can win and make it to the World Cup." To make it harder for Portugal, coach Fernando Santos has a depleted squad heading into the game against Turkey because of injuries, suspensions and the coronavirus. His regular-starting defenders are both out — Pepe because of COVID-19 and Rúben Dias because of an injury. Santos also won't be able to count on goalkeeper Anthony Lopes, defender Nelson Semedo and midfielders Renato Sanches and Rúben Neves because of injuries, while defender João Cancelo is out because of a suspension.

Failure in the playoffs could also mean the end of the road in the national team for the 39year-old Pepe, and maybe even for coach Santos, who has been at Portugal's helm since

#### **QUALIFYING HIGHLIGHTS**

AS IT STANDS, only 15 of the 32 finalists have been determined for the Nov. 21-Dec. 18 tournament. They are: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Iran, Netherlands, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, South Korea and Qatar as

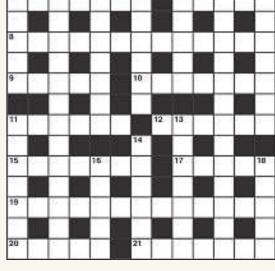
THE START OF Africa's World Cup playoffs on Friday sees Mohamed Salah's Egypt face Sadio Mane's Senegal in the first leg in Cairo. It's a rematch of the African Cup of Nations final last month that saw Senegal win on penalties. It's one of five home-andaway contests determining which teams go to the World Cup.

**RUSSIA WAS** banned from competing in the playoffs, so Poland was awarded a bye into Tuesday's final, where the team will host either Sweden or the Czech Republic. Ukraine had been drawn to play Scotland but that match has been postponed until June. The other two teams in that bracket — Wales and Austria – will meet in Cardiff, with the winner having to wait up to three months before taking part in the playoff

CANADA CAN clinch a spot at the World Cup for the first time since 1986 if it wins at Costa Rica on Thursday at the start of a triple-header.

**CANADA LEADS** North and Central America and the Caribbean with 25 points and the U.S. is four points behind in second place, ahead of Mexico on goal difference.

### **CROSSWORD 4696**



#### ACROSS 1 Vague idea linking differences

- An unusual term I deserve (5)
- 8 Is it used for playing currently popular tunes? (8,5) Natural outburst (5) 10 Unusually thin, I am getting
- Vitamin B(7)11 Reluctant as ever perhaps
- 12 British admiral joins the staff with French marshal
- 15 Monks and nuns may dwell this way (7)
- 17 One who has no place in a ship
- 19 Demolition of homes is a crime
- 20 They may be caught by crooks
- 21 Signs I'd put out for track runners to rest (7)

#### 1 Wrong times for such pieces of news(5)

- 2 Offer hospitality to all though cold in winter (4.4.5)
- 3 This turns out to sum up Panama for example
- 4 It may be pronounced with conviction (6)
- 5 I wander up to the New Zealander(5)
- 6 Possibly get into and remain in tight control (13)
- 7 A temporary occupation
- 11 Gets off with a slight upset 13 Apparent but not in a hospital
- room(7) 14 Jumps at openings
- 16 Call for a doctor maybe
- 18 Leaves young attendants (5)

Solutions Crossword 4695: Across: 1 Spiel, 8 Pleasure, 9 Given, 10 Disorder, 11 Steep, 12 Sea, 16 Snatch, 17 Crop up, 18 Yet, 23 Leant, 24 Purchase, 25 Throw, 26 Live wire, 27 Stern. Down: 2 Pointing, 3 Eyeteeth, 4 Sluice, 5 Rayon, 6 Guide, 7 Heart, 12 Shy, 13 Act, 14 Somewhat, 15 Turn sour, 19 Ensure, 20 Apple, 21 Brave, 23 Sharms

### **OVER THE HEDGE** by Michael Fry & T Lewis







## CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson DO WEST

### MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

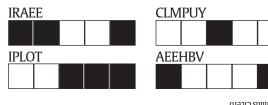






### JUMBLED WORDS

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.



Answer: Love is the attempt to form a friendship inspired by beauty. SOLUTION: AERIE, PILOT, CLUMPY, BEHAVE

#### Difficulty Level 1s Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9

UDOK

must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the

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

1			3		0			9
			1	2				4
П	3		П	П		1	2	
9		6				4		8
	5	2					9	
2				6	3			
6			8		2			7
5	8			4		9	6	2

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4782 4 8 2 9 6 1 8 9 3 6 5 4 2 7 7 1 9 8 5 3 9 2 7 6 3 4 2 7 6 8 3 4 1 9 5 4 9 3 6 5 1 7 8 2 9 6 1 2 7 3 5 4 8 3 5 8 1 4 6 2 7 9 7 4 2 5 9 8 3 1 6

### **DAY TODAY**

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) You cannot go wrong if you stick to an ndividualistic path. Only if you push your own interests to one side

and conform to a routine that doesn't suit you, will the planets kick up a stink. Romantic partners are keeping their secrets, so if you're anxious to know their intentions you may have to be patient.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

It's not surprising that Taureans often don't see eve to eve with other people. After all, this is one of the famously obstinate fixed signs.

However, if anyone is genuinely trying to reach agreement, do make allowances for them. You might even want to set a good example.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)** There are certain complications or

drawbacks relating to a financial matter but, on the whole, I think it is safe for you to proceed. Happily you're heading for a windfall within a few weeks. However. its size cannot be predicted, so don't get too excited.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Don't let anyone persuade you to forego certain benefits or rights. If you're going to give something up, and you probably will, it must be in a manner and at a time of your own choosing.

think other people will agree. LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) You may enjoy laying down the law

That much is clear. I don't

over personal issues, but you must allow other people their say. Nobody will thank you if things that go wrong are your responsibility, so share the burden, and then others will share the blame. And this is, by the way, a time when even the best plans might come

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) emotional as ever, is about to increase its role in your financial affairs. This is

astrological jargon for saying that domestic costs are likely to rise, but that money invested in the fabric of your home should be well spent. Good news from far away

New Delhi

BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
The odds now seem to be definitely on your side, though the outcome is not

assured. You should now decide what's right for you and then carry it through with the courage of your convictions. If money is involved then take every possible precaution to make sure that you are insured.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22) The Sun's current



nothing in astrology comes

without effort, you must expect someone in authority

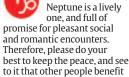
to disagree with your

arguments ready. SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)



or otherwise in need of assistance. Yet can you really stand and look the other way? It doesn't look as if you can, so lend whatever help is necessary.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) The relationship between Venus and



cosmic goodwill. AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19) Nobody should

from your sense of

expect you to play a when you have so much to give. However, I must say that all your planets are lined up in regions of your chart that are putting charity,

idealism and philanthropy

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Your chart is in a profoundly powerful position,

before self-interest.



but you don't always make the most of your many talents. As a Piscean, you know that you are a born worrier, but this may not be the best time to dwell on the future. Please live for today and stop thinking about what might happen tomorrow. Oh,

### B'DESH WIN ODI SERIES IN S. AFRICA

Bangladesh clinched their first one-day series in South Africa with a nine-wicket win in the deciding game. Bangladesh won the series 2-1 after bowling South Africa out for 154 and reaching 156-1 in only 26.3 overs. Captain Tamim Iqbal saw his team home with an unbeaten 87 not out. **BRIEF SCORES:** Bangladesh 156 for 1 (Tamim 87\*, Litton 48) beat South Africa 154 (Malan 39, Maharaj 28, Taskin 5-35) by nine wickets

A 10-team contest, 70 games, two host cities, changing corporate interest, T20 World Cup audition for players and the growing aura as the cricket world's most-important tournament. As a countdown to the start of cricket's richest league, *The Indian Express* brings together the varied threads of this unique reset season of reshuffled squads. Today: How IPL performances could dictate World Cup selection

## From RAC to confirmed seat

With T20Is at a premium & places up for grabs, several players will look to impress selectors ahead of the T20 World Cup

#### **SRIRAM VEERA** MARCH 23

CONSIDERING THAT India's T20 team is a farfrom-finished product in this World Cup year, the IPL presents a great opportunity for a number of players to stake their claims. From the opener to partner Rohit Sharma to finishers and spinners, not many spots are cemented yet. The management and selectors would have to not only assess performance but take judgement calls on whether performers in India can succeed on larger grounds in Australia.

#### Is Kohli the best No.3 for India?

So far, Virat Kohli has been an anchor batsman in his T20 avatar. A touch old-fash-

ioned in this frenetic format, he prefers to start slowly, build up, and then open up. The likes of him, Kane Williamson and Dawid Malan are a good fit in certain teams; but what about India? There



is a sameness, a stale similarity, in the top order with Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul and Kohli. Some teams have musclemen to follow, but India are still on the lookout for them. There is no Andre Russell (in his pomp). Even Hardik Pandya seems to be on the fringes. Without an explosive finisher and more importantly, the sameness at the top, Kohli will have to change his game a touch.

In another team, he could continue to do what he does but in this Indian team, perhaps the time has come for Kohli to show us his version 2.0.

Rohit Sharma is the captain and a proven success in T20s; there is no point in the opener changing his game drastically. Rahul can hit from the start when specifically given that role, but Kohli would still have to adapt and tweak his game a bit. Else, particularly if Rohit doesn't fire, they can meander a touch and flounder later in the absence of proven power-hitters. Rishabh Pant is there, but most teams have a few and India might still get there by the World Cup, but as of now it isn't clear who those batsmen will be. If Kohli can tweak and start stronger then he usually does, it can work in his and the team's favour. Else the pressure of run-scoring falls on Shreyas Iyer and Suryakumar Yadav — which isn't necessarily bad. But if Kohli can take up the role, the youngsters can sail along with him. Is Kohli the best No.3 for India?

The pressure on Kohli stems from those round him, from the combination of this Indian team, and it's time for him to show he can rise above all that. The Australian grounds might throw up batting-friendly pitches for the T20 World Cup but there would be more bounce than most other places and Kohli can prosper (more than others) in theory. This IPL offers him the opportunity to try to get into that role. Would he rise to the challenge?

### Who will partner Rohit Sharma?

As the last T20 World Cup showed, India tends to sink or swim with Rohit's form. Considering his last one year or so, India will twiddle their thumbs over his fitness. That leaves them with the question about his partner. Rahul has shown in the past in IPL, par-



The IPL presents a great opportunity for a number of players to stake their claims for the T20 World Cup in Australia later this year. AP

ticularly when not the captain, that he can don the all-out attacking role. When the team has depended heavily on him, as Punjab Kings did, he has had to temper his approach after the Powerplay. In an Indian team environment, he can carry the role of

The other option is Rohit's IPL opening partner, Ishan Kishan. He has shown he can be a frenetic hitter but it remains to be seen how effective he can be on the larger grounds in Australia, and against good pacers who can use that extra bounce on offer. The first choice for Australia is likely to be Rahul, unless Kishan dazzles in this IPL to stake his claim. Until a year back. Prithyi Shaw was in contention but he would need outstandingly consistent performances in the IPL to make

### Swing option: Bhuvneshwar or Chahar?

Since India are blessed with Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami, they can zoom in on one swing bowler and going by the events of the recent past, it seems they are thinking about Chahar. He has dazzled for Chennai Super Kings with the new ball, often bowling three overs at least at the start and has shown he can get the ball to curve away under lights. His batting too has come on really well. That leaves Bhuvneshwar with a lot of catching up to do in this IPL. He was the original swinger who was good enough to do the job in Tests before his fitness and India's requirements changed that equation. He has the skills to succeed in Australia: the

swing, the surprise bouncer and willingness to use it, and the ability to drag back his length and nip the ball back into right-handers when he wants to keep them quiet. But of late, the consistency has slipped a touch, and he would require a bumper IPL to move past Chahar, who also needs a good IPL to stay ahead in the race.

Shardul Thakur too can break through in this field if he has a stellar IPL. It will come down to how CSK uses him, but if he can perform with bat and ball, he can make a case. As yet, he hasn't inked himself as the swinging new-ball bowler or the consistent death bowler. He would need to somehow create a niche for himself to have a shot at the World Cup. With the lack of big hitters, his batting can then push him ahead of a few con-

### The spin puzzle

On paper, there are a lot of choices, but first India would have to determine what

they need from the spinner. Someone who can slip in a few relatively quiet overs or someone who can take out a couple of wickets. Most spinners going around try to get wickets by keeping the



run rate down, hoping the batsmen's rash urges nail them down. In his pomp, **Ravichandran Ashwin** can do both and has the confidence of the captain as well but in T20s, he also can settle into a containing role a tad too quickly. (Not that runs are really contained by most spinners, but the approach solely becomes that). That was one of the reasons the likes of Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav were given a long run in white-ball cricket. Chahal has shown even in Australian conditions (on previous tours) that he can winkle out wickets with his skill but of late, his confidence seems to have

It would be a credit to Rohit's captaincy and his one real challenge, in fact - if he can get Kuldeep in groove. But in the IPL, it's not in his hands, and Kuldeep's fortunes depend on Pant and Delhi Capitals head coach Ricky Ponting. It remains to be seen if they give him enough opportunities and whether he

es us with the highly-likely so nario of Ravi Bishnoi pushing past the contenders. India dabbled with the likes of Rahul Chahar and Varun Chakravarthy in the previous T20 World Cups and this IPL presents a great opportunity for Bishnoi to stake his claim. If he can consistently show that he can be trusted to not leak runs and take wickets, then with his wrist spin and extra bounce he can find himself with a shot at that World Cup spot. Hence, this IPL is also extra crucial for Ashwin to keep performing and showing his worth as someone who can bowl at any stage in a game to retain Robit's trust. In the end, it will come down to what Rohit wants in a spinner and if he has communicated that to the contenders, this IPL will allow us a

In a display of untempered ambition, Sunrisers seemed to go after every other player at the auction, only to be often outbid at the very last instant. They still managed to get a lot of their old squad back, plus some typically counter-intuitive buys, but minus Rashid Khan and David Warner, how far can Kane Williamson take them with his dodgy elbow?

**SUNRISERS HYDERABAD** 

FORECAST: DARK CLOUDS

The franchise has tasted ultimate IPL success twice, in 2009 as Deccan Chargers and in 2016 as Sunrisers Hyderabad. The latter avatar has made the playoffs six times in nine seasons but reached the final only twice. A decent bowling unit short on batting depth was propped up over the years by Warner's immense productivity, until it all came apart last year. Aided by Shikhar Dhawan, Jonny Bairstow and then Williamson, Warner would drag Sunrisers into the playoffs, where they would crumble against evidently better sides. The likes of Rashid and Bhuvneshwar Kumar could defend even 140 but the brittle middle order could as easily fail to chase the same target if the big guns at the top didn't fire.

Warner's history, so are Rashid, coach Trevor Bayliss and assistant coach Simon Katich in plenty of pre-season flux at the franchise. In the auction, Sunrisers bought back spin allrounder Abhishek Sharma for Rs 6.5 crore and splurged Rs 10.75 crore for keeperbatsman Nicholas Pooran. But yet again, despite the opportunity of a full auction to repair past mistakes, the batting familiarly appears thin on options while the bowling looks relatively well-stocked. The Rashid-sized hole anyway would be hard to fill for any team. It can't even be said that the only way from a last-place (eighth) finish in 2021 is up as the number of teams has now increased to 10.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Sunrisers need their Indian batting talent to fire, especially with Williamson's suspect fitness and some injury concerns among the main bowlers. For far too long, their domestic batsmen have put in mediocre performances, and undone the good work of the overseas batting stars. They almost never fire as a collective batting unit.

Sunrisers have retained Abdul Samad, repurchased Priyam Garg and spent Rs 8.5 crore to get Rahul Tripathi. The runs have to come from them, and Pooran has to quickly turn it around after his horror previous IPL, else Williamson has another long season of rebuilding from collapses ahead of him.

### Shetty-Rankireddy stun Football: Bahrain score All England champions

Basel: Seventh seed Kidambi Srikanth and Saina Nehwal made a winning start in the singles competition while Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy battled past All England champions Muhammad Shohibul Fikri and Bagas Maulana to progress in the Swiss Open on Wednesday. Srikanth defeated Mads Christophersen 21-16, 21-17. Parupalli Kashvap cruised to a 21-17, 21-9 win over France's Enogat Roy. In the women's singles, Nehwal beat Yaelle Hoyaux 21-8, 21-13. Third seeds Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairai Rankireddy got past Indonesia's Fikri and Maulana 17-21, 21-11, 21-18.

### Athletics: Sable betters GM Gukesh shocked steeplechase record

Thiruvananthapuram: Avinash Sable set a men's 3000m steeplechase national record with a timing of 8:16.21, shaving off 1.91 seconds from his own record set in Tokyo, to headline a string of good performances in the Indian Grand Prix 2 Athletics competition.

### late winner vs India

Manama: Bahrain scored an 88th-minute goal as they defeated India 2-1 in a friendly football match in Manama on Wednesday. After Gurpreet Singh Sandhu saved a penalty from Mahdi Humaidan, Mohamed Harden opened the scoring for Bahrain in the 37th minute with a volley from inside the box. Bahrain continued to pile pressure on India, who were playing their first match since October last year, but second half substitute Roshan Singh delivered a cross near the hour mark that was headed home by Rahul Bheke. Two minutes before the end of regulation time. Humaidan made amends for his missed penalty. India will play Belarus next on Saturday.

### by Lankan Liyanage

Manama: India's youngest Grandmaster D Gukesh suffered a defeat at the hands of Ranindu Liyanage of Sri Lanka in the second round of 19th Delhi International open chess tournament on Wednesday, Top seed Arjun Erigaisi recorded his second straight win, beating GM P Karthikeyan.

### REUTERS

LAHORE, MARCH 23

AUSTRALIAN FAST bowling pair of Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc carved through the Pakistan batting late on Wednesday, sharing nine wickets between them to hand the touring side a first-innings lead of 123 in the deciding third and final Test.

Captain Cummins bowled an impeccable line and length to pick up his seventh fivewicket haul in Tests while Starc spewed fire with his pace and reverse swing to take four as Pakistan were all out for 268, replying to Australia's total of 391.

The hosts lost their last seven wickets for 20 runs in a dramatic collapse in the final session of the third day at Lahore's Gaddafi

Australia openers Usman Khawaja and David Warner managed to see through three overs before stumps to take their side to 11-0, extending the lead to 134 overall.

"It's all a bit of a blur the last couple of hours," Cummins told the broadcaster. "We'll sit back and bat tomorrow. A lot like last game, we've given ourselves a good opportunity here, really in front of the game, so hopefully bat well and then try to take those last

With Pakistan appearing comfortable at

248-3, left-armer Starc triggered the collapse with a double strike to remove Fawad Alam and wicketkeeper Mohammad Rizwan and then also picked up the prized wicket of Pakistan captain Babar Azam for 67.

Cummins, who had taken the only wicket to fall on Tuesday, ran through the lower order to leave the sparse crowd stunned in silence.

### Wicketless session

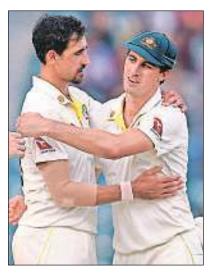
The collapse looked even more unbelievable after Abdullah Shafique and Azhar Ali struck resolute half-centuries, leaving Australia wicketless in the first session, to set up a good platform for Pakistan to post a sizeable total.

"I think we have to give credit to them. We always knew how good they are, especially Starc when it comes to reverse swing. Cummins is an all-round good bowler, he's a top bowler in the world right now," Azhar told reporters. "They kept bowling at the right areas.

they kept asking questions even of set batters. It was lovely to see good, fast, reverseswing bowling. Unfortunately we were on the receiving end."

The 37-year-old Azhar, playing his 94th Test but the first at his home ground, made 78 and added 150 for the second wicket with

Shafique. The 22-year-old Shafique, playing only



Who is the power-hitter?

will only punt on Hardik

Pandya, the allrounder, and

not Pandya, the finisher. In

that case, this IPL will give

us a verdict on him. There

is Deepak Hooda but the

decision on him would

come down to his potential

Apart from Pant, who have India got? Going

by recent selections, it seems that the selectors

to succeed on large Australian grounds.

Shahrukh Khan has been the other dazzler in

town and this IPL is huge for him to impress

the wise men. With India playing Venkatesh

Iver as a finisher and seemingly loath to try out

his bowling skills, he finds himself in a dicey

position. KKR too may not be willing to feature

in the role the national team uses him, and so,

he will have to depend a lot on the imagina-

tion of the selectors and team management to

visualise him as a finisher. Unless, he uses this

IPL to create welcome headaches for the man-

agement by excelling as a maverick attacking

opener. So will Pant, but the dearth of finishers

Who partners Bumrah in the end overs?

tenders but it can change this IPL. Either

through success or through failure. If Patel can't

reprise his magic from earlier seasons and if

someone else bursts through, that slot can be

up for grabs. The management/selectors

would also factor in Australian conditions to

Shami and Harshal Patel are the chief con-

has perhaps forced Pant's fate.

back up their choices.

Cummins, Starc spark Pakistan batting collapse

Captain Pat Cummins (right) picked up his seventh five-for in Tests while Mitchell Starc took four as Pakistan lost their last seven wickets for 20 runs. AP

his fifth Test, was out for 81, becoming the first wicket to fall in the second session of the day. The pitch offered some variable bounce but did not pose too many problems for the batters till the final hour of play.

New Delhi

Resuming on 90-1. Shafique and Azhar continued to be watchful but also punished any loose deliveries to keep alive the hosts' hopes of taking a lead in the first innings.

Steve Smith, who has had a tough time in the series with his catching, did not help the Australian bowlers' cause by failing to convert two opportunities at slip. Smith dropped Azhar, on 62, off leg-spin-

ner Mitchell Swepson and also saw an edge from Babar off Nathan Lyon fly past him with the batter on 20.

It took a spectacular return catch from Cummins to dismiss Azhar, who got past 7,000 runs in Tests during his knock.

"Last week (in Karachi) we thought the wicket may break up a lot more than it actu-

ally did," Starc told reporters. "Credit to Pakistan, they played really well, but we're in another position of oppor-

tunity ... we'd rather be in those positions where we've got options and we're pressing the issue than having to survive. It's a huge positive for this group in foreign conditions to be pushing the game.'

The first two Tests of the series — the first between the sides in Pakistan since 1998 – were drawn.

**BRIEF SCORES: Australia** 391 and 11 for 0 lead **Pakistan** 268 (Shafique 81, Azhar 78, Babar 67, Cummins 5-56, Starc 4-33) by 134 runs at stumps Day 3

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