





PAGES 13, 14, 15

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महाशय चूनीलाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट एवं महाशय धर्मपाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट द्वारा संचालित एवं संवर्धित संस्थान

 महाशियां दी हट्टी प्रा0 लि0, (दिल्ली, गुड़गांव, फरीदाबाद कुंडली, नागौर) 🗕 सुपर डेलीकेसीज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड नई दिल्ली • माता चन्नन देवी अस्पताल, (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली) एम.डी.एच. इंटरनैशनल स्कूल (जनकपुरी एवं द्वारका, नई दिल्ली) • महाशय चूनीलाल सरस्वती बाल मंदिर (हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली) • माता लीलावंती सरस्वती विद्या मंदिर (टेगौर गार्डन, नई दिल्ली) • महाशय धर्मपाल विद्या मंदिर (बेदगी, कर्नाटक) 🗕 श्री संजीव गुलाटी चिकित्सालय एवं शोध केन्द्र (ऋषिकेश) • माता लीलावंती वैदिक संस्कृति प्रशिक्षण केंद्र (उदयपुर, राजस्थान) • माता चन्नन देवी आर्य कन्या गुरूकुल, (पिल्लु खेड़ा, हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. दयानन्द आर्य विद्या निकेतन (आसाम, एम.पी., झारखण्ड एवं नागालैण्ड) 🗕 एम.डी.एच. गऊशाला (अजमेर, नागौर–राजस्थान) 🗕 माता लीलावंती श्री कृष्ण वैदिक कन्या विद्यालय (खुशीपुरा, मथुरा) एम.डी.एच. परिसर निर्वाण न्यास (अजमेर, राजस्थान) महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. वेद रिसर्च फाउण्डेशन (कालीकट, केरल) 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल हार्ट इंस्टीट्यूट (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली) • एम.डी.एच. पार्क, (नागौर) • महाशय धर्मपाल अंतरराष्ट्रीय अतिथि गृह, ग्रेटर कैलाश, नई दिल्ली • महाशय संजीव कुमार धर्मार्थ औषधालय, नालागढ़ (हिमाचल) • महाशय धर्मपाल यज्ञशाला आर्य समाज, त्रिनगर, नई दिल्ली

 महाशय धर्मपाल स्वावलंबन गृह, सिरसा जेल, सिरसा (हरियाणा) • महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. सर्वोदय विद्यालय मलारना चौड़ (राजस्थान) • गुरुकुल यमुनावट मंझावली फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र हल्दीघाटी मार्ग उदयपुर 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल एम. डी.एच. सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र नागोर • श्री सत्य सनातन वेद मंदिर रोहिणी नई दिल्ली • स्वामी आत्मानंद वैदिक गुरुकुल मलारना चौड़ (राजस्थान) 🗕 श्री गोपाल गौशाला लोहारू, भिवानी (हरियाणा) 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल ओपन एअर थियेटर, भिवानी जेल (हरियाणा) 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल चेरिटेबल ट्रस्ट टंकारा (गुजरात) • महाशय धर्मपाल चेरिटेबल ट्रस्ट अजमेर (राजस्थान) 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल भवन आर्य समाज खजूरी खास, नई दिल्ली महात्मा रामलाल ट्रस्ट इंदरपुरी (दिल्ली)
 महाशय धर्मपाल चेरिटेबल सोसाइटी दीमापुर (नागालैंड) 🗕 सनातन धर्म मंदिर गुरुग्राम 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल सेवा भवन आर्य समाज डीसीएम रेलवे कालोनी, नई दिल्ली 🗕 महाशय धर्मपाल संस्कृत भवन गुरू विरजानंद संस्कृत कुलम हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली



 महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं खेल संस्थान सोनीपत (हरियाणा) • युगपुरुष महाशय धर्मपाल एम.डी.एच. चेरिटेबल डायग्नोस्टिक मवन X-24 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीटयूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली 110092 • महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) चेरिटेबल कैंसर हॉस्पिटल कड़कड़डूमा दिल्ली (अंडर डेवलपमेंट) X-25 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीटयूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली -110092 • विश्वारा कन्या गुरुकुल रुड़की जिला रोहतक (हरियाणा) • श्री महयानन्द कन्या गुरुकुल महाविद्यालय चोटीपुरा, (उत्तर प्रदेश) • संजीव गुलाटी स्मृति चिकित्सालय वन्देमातरम कुंज गंगा भोगपुर तल्ला पौड़ी गढ़वाल (उत्तराखंड) • महर्षि दयानन्द वेद–विद्या आर्य गुरुकुल नली खुर्द(करनाल)

CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

Nitin Kumar Koli S/o Kishan Ram Koli R/o F- 12A01, Tower F, Ajnara Homes, Sector 16B, Greater Noida West, U.P. 201306 have my name change to Nitin Koli for all purpose.

0040607060-1 LVan Lata W/o Nitva Nand Rout R/o 2-D 11 WH, NIT, Faridabad have changed my name ot Vanlata Rout 0040607910-1 LVISHESH S/O.RAHUI RANIAN VARSHNEYA/ANAMIKA VARSHNEYA, ADD-C.12/2,4TH-FLOOR, BLOCK-C, BPTP-PARKLANDS,SECTOR-85, FARIDABAD, HARYANA, 121002. Changed my name to VISHESH KANT VARSHNEYA.

0040607912-5 I, hitherto known as Pramod Kumar Mehto son of Shri Sogarath Mehto R/o Khasrano.10/13/2,Gali No.19,A-Block,Kamal Vihar,Kamalpur Majra, Burari, Delhi-84, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ram 0040607910-12 Pramod. I.VINOD KUMAR S/O-BABU LAL R/O-16/484E BAPA-NAGAR PADAM SINGH ROAD KAROL BAGH DELHI-110005, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VINOD 0040607916-3 BAGDI.

I,Sonali Chauhan,D/O Jitender Chauhan R/O.flat.no.905. tower-17,Lotus Boulevard Sec-100,Noida pin 201304, have lost my 10th Marksheet CBSE Board roll.no.8121587 year.2010-11.

0040607907-8

I,Satpal Yadav,S/o Bhoru Ram Yadav R/o 790.Sector-9. R.K. Puram, Delhi-110022 have changed my name to Satpal. 0040607907-1

I.Sadha Singh S/o Fauja Singh R/o 804, Tower-1, Panchsheel Pratishtha, Sector-75, Noida (U.P) have changed my name to Sadha Singh Talwar for all purposes. 0040607897-1

I,SAIMA,W/0 MOHAMMAD FUROAN.R/o 1498.PHATAK LOHARU GALI QASIM JAN LAL KUAN, DELHI-6, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SAIMA FUROAN.

0040607907-3

I,Ravi Kumar S/o Khushal Singh R/o-EE-2780, Jahangirpuri Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Ravi Singh, for all 0040607910-8 purposes.

I,Radha Reddy,spouse of,S Venkata Subba Reddy, R/o.Vill-Sirigiri Palle, Post-Govindaya-Palle, Teh-B Kodur, Distt-Kadapa.AP-516193.have changed my name, from Radha Reddy to Siddamurthy Radha Reddy.vide-affidavit date-25/3/2022 at SDM-Preet Vihar,Delhi. 0040607907-9

I,Qurratul Ain,W/o-Mohd Danish,R/o-26-A Second-Floor, Ghafoor-Nagar, Jamia Nagar.New Delhi-110025.have changed my name, from Ourratul Ain.to Ourratuluim Saifi, for all purposes.

I,Purva D/o-Sharad Sharma, House.No.472/17.Hans-Enclave, Gurgaon, (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name

I,GULAB,S/O.SHEKH HARUN ADD-197,A T HUTS RAKHI MARKET RAMA ROAD ZAKHIRA RAMESH NAGAR WEST DELHI 110015. Changed my name to DULARE. Permanently

0040607912-3 I.Jitender chauhan.S/O Late shri.Anand Pal Chauhan.R/O flat.no.905,tower-17, Lotus Boulevard Sec-100, Noida-201304 declare that Jitender chauhan & Jitendra singh chauhan both are same person. In future I will be known by Jitender Chauhan, for all 0040607907-7 purpose. I,HEM RAJ BIDAUA ALAISE BIDALIA,S/O RAM KRISHAN BIDALIA, R/o.RZ-26B, DURGA-

VIHAR, PHASE-1, GALI.NO-18, NEAR-RADHA SWAMI SATSANG,NAJAFGARH,South-WEST DELHI-110043.have changed my name to HEM RAJ, for all, future Purposes. 0040607907-4

I,Ajay Kumar S/o Devender Pal Singh, R/o B-47,90A Kanti Nagar, Krishna-Nagar Delhi-110051, Have Changed My Name To Ajay Kumar Singh. 0040607907-10

I,Achla Shokeen W/o Virender Singh Shokeen R/o-113, Mangolpur Khurd, Delhi-110083, have changed my name 0040607910-4 to Achla I,ASHNA KAUR, d/o Rajan singh mehta.and.w/o HARSIMRAT SINGH SEHGAL,R/O-A-119, sector-62, Ansal sushant city.KUNDLI.SONYPAT (HARYANA),-131028.Have changed my name to ASHNA KAUR SEHGAL after-marriage, for all, future purposes. 0040607912-7

I,AJAY KUMAR,S/0 JANKI PRASAD, ADD, VILL KUSMHA. POST-MUNDERWA KUSHMHA BASTI,UP-272170,changed my name to PARSHU RAM. 0040607907-2

I, Rajesh Singh, S/o Chitter Singh, R/o GH-2, Baghban Appt., Flat No 144, Sector 28, Rohini, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar. 0070778567-1 I, Neha Singh, W/o Manoj Kumar Arva, R/o D.H. 148, Pallav Puram Phase-1, Pavil Khas, Uttar Pradesh-250110, declare that name of my Son has been wrongly written as Aviral Arya in my minor Son Aviral Arya, aged 11 years in his Birth Certificate. The actual name of my Son is Aviral Singh.

0070778571-1 I. NANKU S/o Shri Kallu, R/o A2/623, J.J. Colony, Madanpur Khadar, Sarita Vihar, New

Delhi-110076 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAJESH. 0040607880-1 I. Meena Rani alias Parveen . Kaur, W/o Pawan Kumar, R/o Gram Harigarh Bhorakh, Bhorak (17), Kurushetra,

Haryana-136128, have changed my name to Parveen Kaur. 0070778574-1 I, Kuldeep Singh S/o Inder Singh R/o A/74, First Floor, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-4, New

Delhi-110024, have changed my 0040607910-2 name to Kuldeep Singh Bombra. 0040607891-1 I, Ashish Yadav, S/o Lallan Yadav, R/o K No-896, Ali Nagar

I Seema Devi W/o Sh. Suresh R/o CN-708, Bazar Pana Village Karala, Delhi-110081 have changed my name to Seema Mathur for all purposes.

0040607862-4 I, Prem Lali W/o Radha Saran Agrawal R/o 6B/2, N.E.A Old Rajinder Nagar Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Prem Lata Agrawal. 0040606468-4 I,JITENDER S/O BHIM SINGH R/O 57, VILLAGE KAKANA BAHADARI, SONIPAT-131301.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO JITENDER SINGH. 0040607907-6

I,MOHAMMAD NADEEM S/O.. **OAYAMUDDIN 1270, PAHARI** IMLI CHOORIWALAN JAMA MASJID DELHI 110006, Changed my Minor son name, ABUZAR to ABUZAR NADEEM, permanently. 0040607912-2 I, JOY ELIZABETH KUJUR W/O ABHISHEK NOEL LAL, R/O FLATNO.711, 2nd-FLOOR, POCKET-6, SECTOR-2, ROHINI, DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED

MY NAME TO JOY ELIZABETH. 0040607907-5 I,Virander Singh,S/o Daryao

Singh R/o-113, Mangolpur Khurd, Delhi-110083 have changed my name to Virender Singh Shokeen 0040607910-3 Atika Sinha w/o Apurva Sinha R/o D2/802, Golf City, Plot No. 11, Sector 75, Noida have changed my name to Atika Bhatnagar. 0050194392-1 Amar Nath Khurana S/o Late Sh. Jai Ram Dass R/o H.No.74, East Avenue Road, East Punjabi

Bagh, New Delhi-110026 have changed my name to Amar Nath Arora for all purposes. 0040607862-3

Babli Verma W/OIt, Sh. Satva Pal Singh R/O of B-4181A Keshav Puram Tri Nagar Delhi 100000 shall henceforth be known as Kamlesh Devi affidavit no IN-

DL99575060223668U sworn before notary Rubina Yasmin dated 09.03.2022. 0050194271-1

LOST & FOUND

I,Jagdish Chander Sharma,S/o Sh.Narain Singh Sharma, R/o.B-33.Ph-I.Budh Vihar.Delhi-86. Prop.of AGNISHAMAN ENGINEERS.Plot.No.75.Sec-1. Pkt-D, DSIIDC Bawana Indl. Area, Delhi (Application No.54284).have lost-Allotment-Letter, Demand-Letter, Eligibility-Letter, Possession.Physical-Possession,Lease Deed Full Set,EMD Receipt & all challans etc. 0040607916-11

I, Uday Punj, S/o Sh. S.N.P Punj, R/o Chimos 55, Sultanpur Farms, New Delhi-110030 have lost the orginal sale deed dated 17.04.2008, executed in favour of Mr. Jack Coelho, for property bearing no.89/5, Saligao, Bardez. North Goa, Goa, admeasuring 2388 sqm. It was registered with the Sub-Registrar, Bardez vide registration no.2711 on 15.05.2008. Finders may contact on Mobile no. 0040607862-5 9810005238.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Sale Of 350 Square Meter Plot In Goa @ Rs12000 / square meter

0050194268-1

LOST AND FOUND

LUST AND FOUND To be known to all that my client, Smt. Rekha Rani Jassi Wio Sh. Kulwant Rai Rio DDA LIG Flat No. 28-D, 3rd Floor, Pocket-BG-3, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063 has been lost original documents i.e. Allotment-cum-demand Letter, Possession Stilp of Said flat. An FIR to this effect has been logded with Station House Officer, Crime Branch, New Delhi vide LR No. 244312/2022, dt. 23.03.2022. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents with the above named person at above in possession of original documents with the above named person at above Address/Mobile No. 9971571467 within 30 days from the date of publication o the same. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform o write to DDA's Deputy Director, LA.B (Housing) Branch, D.D.A., Www Dehih-110023. lousing) Branch, D.D.A., adan, INA, New Delhi-110023.

> SUDHIR K. SANEJ Advocate Chamber No. Y-68, Civil Side Tis Hazari courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known that my client Shri Dev Shankar Tiwari son of Shri Satya Narain Tiwari, resident of VPC Shivpur, Distt Pratapgarh and presently at 14/15, Pocket-12, Sector-82, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.) has debarred and disinherited his son namely Sh. Ranjeet Tiwari and his wife namely Nisha@ Vibha Tiwari D/o Sh. Chhama Shanka from all his properties, both family relations, movable and immovable and we have no control over his said son and his wife name mentioned above who have no respect an egard for him. G.S. Tiwari, Advocate

Ch. No. 283, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001

PUBLIC NOTICE e it known to all that my client Sanj harma S/o Sh. Fateh Chand Sharma F .No.126, Hari Nagar, Ashram, New Del 10014 has disowned/debarred his so .No.126, Hari Nagar, Asman, ... 10014 has disowned/debarred his amely Vishal Sharma, his wife Arti S' and Pawan Sharma for all purpose fr II movable/ immovable properties/ I movable/ immovaure property ue to their misbehavior/misconducte wards my client. If any body deals wit em, will do so at his/her/their own ris ponsible for any kind of act do

Sd Advoc E.No. D-3283/20 ber No. 836, Pa New Delbi-1100

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Smt. Bina Wadhwa, wife of Sh. Surinder Wadhwa is the absolute owner of the property mentioned below herein under the Schedule Vide an insurable Accessment Fr. Sch. (475) irrevocable Agreement To Sell (ATS dated 11.11.2020, Smt. Bin; Wadhwa has agreed to sell the stated property to Mrs. Sarika Arora, wife of Lt Sh. SR Arora, resident of 10 Shree Ram Kunj, 10/355, Sunder Vihar, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110007 Evelue Cent Calle Arons 10087. Further Smt. Sarika Arora as per the terms of said ATS, has expressed her willingness to have the Sale Deed and registration of the stated property executed in favor of her nominees Sh Pawan Kumar, SMC Subina Kumar, Mic Sh. Pawan Kumar, Smt Subina Kumar, W/o Sh. Pawan Kumar and **Sh Siddharth Kumar S/o Sh. Pawar Kumar**, all resident of B-1/72, Top Floor, Safdarjung Enclave, South West Delhi-110029. A part-paymen n respect of the below mentione property has already been made t Smt. Bina Wadhwa, wife of Sh

Smt. Bina Wadhwa, wife of Sh. Surinder Wadhwa. Therefore, any person/persons having any interest or claim in respect of the below mentioned property by way of sale, mortgage, lien, exchange, charge, gift, maintenance, inheritance, possession, lease, license, hypothecation, transfer of title or the like under any Agreement or other disposition or under any decree, order etc are hereby called upon to make the same known in writing to the undersigned at their office the undersigned at their offic within a period of 15 days of publication hereof failing which the claim of such person shall be deemed to have been waived and,

Public is also CAUTIONED not t leal with Mrs. Bina Wadhwa, wif of Sh. Surinder Wadhwa in respec of the property below mentioned nerein and create any further third party interest and/or claim of an kind of any nature, whatsoev the said property which will b contravention of law. If any person versons deals with Mrs Bin Wadhwa, wife of Sh. Surinde

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER PULWAMA NOTICE Whereas joint application has

been received from SUSIMAR RANI SAWD/D SOHAN SINGH tesident of #712/25 BDC, SEC TOR-26, CHANDIGARH CH-999999 (TRANSFEROR) An ABDUL RASHID WAN Sowicio GHULAM MOH UDDIN WANI Resident of RAJ PORA PULWAMA (Transferere for Transferi Re-registration o vehicle No. CH016M9572. Now therefore it is notified for eneral information that objection Fany to the proposed Re-registri tion of the said vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of Th Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Pulwoma within a period of 15 (Filteen) days of publication of the notice in the daily newspape Indian Express & SELLER PURCHASER



सार्वजनिक सूचना सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुवक्किल श्री मंगल सैन सुपुत्र ख. श्री पदम सिंह एवं उनकी धर्मपत्नी श्रीमती दीपा रानी दोनों निवासी नकान न०. 296— बी / 16, गली नं. 9. नेहरू नग बलजीत नगर, पटेल नगर, दिल्ली— 110008 बलजात नगर, पटल नगर, विल्ला– 110008 अपने पुत्री नन्दनी उर्फ पायल पत्नी श्री उज्जवल व मेरे मुवकिकल के साथ दुर्व्यवहार एवं दुराचरण कर के कारण व उनके अपराधिक गतिविधियों में शामित होने के कारण अपनी समुस्त चल—अचल संपत्ति भ हान के कारण अपना समस्त चल--अवल सपाते स बेदखल कर दिया है यदि कोई व्यक्ति इनसे किस्ते प्रकार का तेन- देन या व्यवहार करता है तो वह अपने जोखिम पर करेगा, सेरे मुवविकतां व इनवे परिवार के किसी सदस्य की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी। मेरे मुवविकल ने इस संबंध में थाना आनन्द पर्वत में शिकायता दर्ज करा रखी है।

प्यतमाराकायत ५७ करा रखा है। दिवाकर चौधरी (अधिवक्ता) चै. टी–33, तहसील रोड़, तीस हजारी कोर्ट

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Surender Kumar Gupta S'o Kunwar Sain Gupta and Rekha Gupta W/o Surender Kumar Gupta both R/o 6/164, Dhobi Wara, Maharam Mohalla, Farsh Bazar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032 has disowned their son Amit Gupta his wife Swati Gupta and their children namely Kush Gupta and Lavyansh Gupta from their avyansh Gupta from the novable and immovable assets ny clients will not be responsible or any kind of acts, done by then

PUBLIC NOTICE KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that my client sh.Hansraj Goswami, aged 55 years, s/o late Uday Goswami, Ry(0.c.1/3), Gali no.19. Khajoori Khas, Delhi-110094, is the sole and absolute owner of the land bearing Khasra No. 1092, measuring 10 Bighas 4 Biswas, vide jamabandi-1913-14, situated at Mauja Patti Bans Koli, Aram Bagh, Ran Jhansi Road, Delhi vide G.P.A registed vide no. 1361, in Addl. Book No.4, Volume No.4480, on pages 28 to 32 on dated 07.09.2019 with S.R. Geeta colony, Delhi and Will: registered vide no.7667 in Addl. Book no.3, Volume No.1617, on pages 130 to 133, on dated 03.09.2019 with S.R.4, New Delhi. Both the above documents have been executed by Smt. Amrtia Devi, now aged 125 years, w/o. Late Bulak Dass, R/o. vill, Kakkoli, P.S. samalkha, Disst. Panipat (HR) in favour of ny Client. My client and Smt. Amrita Devi documents have been executed by Smt. Amrtia Devi, now urof any body, who so may be, till date. It have come to the knowledge of my client share now they arowing (HB) and tone Murarilai Gupta s/o Late Srikishan Tola,R/o. 2214, sec.13, Bhivani (HR) and dothers may have forged, fabricated and false documents of the said property/land. Any body deal with any person to deal for sale & purchase of the said land or any part IOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS the th any person to deal for sale & rchase of the said land or any par ereof shall do it at his/her/their owr

PUBLIC NOTICE



Government of Jammu & Kashmir **Directorate of Floriculture Srinagar Kashmir** Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 - email: - kashflori@rediffmail. GIST OF Fresh e-Tender Notice No.65 of 2022 Dated: - 26/03/2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, e-tender is invited from interested parties/persons for Outsourcing of Entry Ticketing System of Club Park, Pahalgam of Floriculture Department Kashmir as per details given below: -

The participants have to quote their bid amount in the concerned BOQ:

S. Period of contract		Reserve Bid	Value of security	Cost of tender
No.		(Rs. in Lakhs)	deposit	document
1. 01 year from the date	of award of contract	11,89,000.00	1,18,900.00	500/- in the shape of e-challan

The bidding document (s) consisting of gualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.dirflorikmr.in www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	26.03.2022 from 1:00 PM to 15.04.2022 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	26.03.2022 from 02:00 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	15.04.2022 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	18.04.2022 at 02:00 PM

The security deposit money exceeding 2% shall be adjustable towards approved bid amount in favour of the successful bidder. The CDR's of the bidders who offer below the reserve bid shall be forfeited.

In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

Sd/-Accounts Officer, Member Secretary

DIPK-20073/21

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कायतिय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, चाईबासा

<u> शुद्धि पत्र</u>

दिनांक 25.03.2022

एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन ई० निविदा सूचना संख्या – Chaibasa/SVS Scheme Cluster /09 (3[™] Call Part-B), दिनांक 14.03.2022 तथा जिसका PR No. 266243 West Singhbhum (21-22)D है, में अपरिहार्य कारणवश निम्नलिखित संशोधन किया जाता है, शेष शर्त यथावत रहेगी।

क्रमांक	Clause	पूर्व में प्रकाशित	संशोधित
3	बीड प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 28.03.2022 अपराहन 4.00 बजे तक।	दिनांक 09.04.2022 अपराहन 4. 00 बजे तक।
4	अग्रधन की राशि एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि, समय एवं स्थान	दिनांक 30.03.2022, समय 2.00 बजे अपराहन तक। कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, चाईबासा/अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल, चाईबासा/क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, राँची प्रक्षेत्र राँची	दिनांक 11.04.2022, समय 2.00 बजे अपराहन तक। कार्यालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, चाईबासा/अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल, चाईबासा/क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, राँची प्रक्षेत्र राँची
5	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि	दिनांक 30.03.2022 अपराहन 4.00 बजे तक।	दिनांक 12.04.2022 अपराहन 4. 00 बजे तक।
			कार्यागचक अधिमंता

PR 267059 West Singhbhum(21-22)#D

कार्यपालक अभियंता पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल,चाईबासा

Ankit Gupta (Advocate CH. No. G-328, KKD Court

ISHWAR SINGH(advocat Chamber no. 308, karkardooma cou

Re-registration of Vehicle No GIOCONSIL Now therefore it is notified for seneral information that objections I any to the proposed Re-registra tion of the said vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of Th

Indian Express & SELLER

2

OFFICE OF THE

ASSISTANT REGIONAL

TRANSPORT OFFICER

PULWAMA

NOTICE

Whereas joint application has een received from DOLA A

HAMID S/WD/O ABOUL GAFAR

Resident of PLOT NO. 560/H

VRUNDAVAN SOCIETY MANEK

WADI CIRCLE BHAWANGAR

GJ-364001 (TRANSFEROR) And ZULFOAR ALL SWID/O MOHAMMAD JABBAR MALIK

Resident of WAKHERWAN PUL

WAMA (Transference) for Transfer

Assistant Regional Transpor

Officer, Putwarna eithin a period of

15 (Filteen) days of publication of the notice in the daily newspaper

Sd/-

Assit. Regional Transport Office Pulwama. No. ARTO/PUL/2359-60 Duted: 26.03.2022

PURCHASER

-

6

to Purva Sharma, for all 0040607912-1 purposes.

I,Pramod Singh, S/o Sh.Ram Singh R/o Q-23, SECTOR 12, NOIDA, have changed my name to PRAMOD KUMAR SINGH, for all future purposes.

0040607916-1

I,Narinder Kumar Lalwani,S/o Vishindas Khushaldas Lalwani R/o-Flatno.B-252 Gail Co-op. Housing Society Plot-GH9, Sect.56, Gurgaon-122011, have changed my name to Narinder 0040607910-5 Lalwani.

I,NIRMALA W/O-VINOD BAGDI R/O-16/484E BAPA NAGAR PADAM SINGH ROAD KAROL-BAGH.DELHI-110005 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NIRMALA BAGDI, 0040607916-2

I,NIKITA JAKHAR W/O

Vikramjeet Singh Malik R/O.C-501,Mahindra Apartments, VikasPuri, Delhi-110018, Changed My Name to NIKITA 0040607910-7 MALIK.

I.Kapil Kumar S/o Ashok Kumar R/o-106,West Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009.have changed my name to Prithvie Panjwani for all, purposes.

0040607912-10

I,Ballu Kamble S/o Rangro Kamble R/o-617,GH-1,Creative Heights, sec-29, Rohini, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Balu Kamble 0040607910-6

I,Anil Kumar,S/o-Sh. Sahib Singh,R/o-456,Bagdi Mohalla, Bharthal Village, New Delhi-110077.inform that my son's name on his educational documents is mentioned as Kul Bhusan instead of Krish 0040607912-8 Godara.

I,Amar Kumar,S/o Om Prakash, R/o Bhanaira, Modinagar, Ghaziabad.U.P.have changed the name of my minor son, from Parish Tyagi to Vivaan.

0040607910-11

I.RAHILA. D/O. MOHAMMAD NADEEM, 1270, PAHARI IMLI-CHOORIWALAN JAMA MASJID DELHI-110006.Changed my name to RAHILA NADEEM. Permanently 0040607912-4

I Krishan Kumar S/o Shri. Sunhari R/o H.N.8, Master **Rishal Singh Street, Village** Palla, Delhi 110036 have changed my name Krishan Pal to Krishan Kumar for all 0040607870-1 purpose.

Sunehra, Kanpur Road, Manasnagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226023, have changed my name to Chandra Prakash Yadav.

I, Anupam Kumar, S/o Sri Harsh Narayan Lal, R/o B-52, Flat No-7, Gali No. 9. Hindon Vihar. Sector-49, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301, has changed my name to Anupam Kumar

Srivastava. 0070778586-1 I, Aman, S/o Ram Khelawan, R/o House No-27, Ahuja Farm, Gadai Pur. Delhi-110030. that name of my Father has been wrongly written as Ram khilawan in my Secondary School Marks Statement cum Certificate. The actual name of my Father is Ram Khelawan.

0070778580-1

I, Akash Gupta, S/o Ved Prakash Gupta, R/o A-1/269, Pocket A1, Sector-4, Rohini, Delhi-110085. have changed my minor Son's name from Yatharth Gupta, aged 06 years to Yohan Gupta 0070778573-1 forever.

> I, ANMOL KHORWAL, S/o YATENDER KHORWAL, R/o- XG-1, Shiva Enclave, A-4, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063, have changed my name to ANMOL KUMAR KHORWAL for all 0070778581-1 purposes. I Sudha Gupta D/o Shri Moti

Chand Prasad R/O A-4, Second Floor, Dayal Bagh Colony, Faridabad, Haryana-121009 have changed my name Sudha Kumari to Sudha Gupta for all future purposes. 0040607879-1

I,RAHUL RANJAN,S/O.TRIVANI SHARAN VARSHNEYA.ADD-C-12/2,4TH-FLOOR, BLOCK-C,

BPTP PARKLANDS, SECTOR-85.FARIDABAD-HARYANA. 121002. Changed my name to RAHUL RANJAN VARSHNEYA.

0040607912-6

I Pardesi S/o Sh. Laxman R/o Flat No.354, Pocket-13, Phase-1, Manglapuri, Palam, New Delhi 110045. Have changed my girl child name from Gauri to Blessy for all purposes.

0040607863-1 I.MUHAMMAD SAHIL KHAN S/O-ATAULLA KHAN R/O-313/101N 1ST-FLOOR PLOT.NO-32 STREET.NO-15 TULSI-NAGAR INDERLOK.DELHI-110035.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SAHIL A KHAN. 0040607916-4

Contact 9422639034 Central / State Govt Employee / Pensioner applicable Broker 0070778590-1 Excuse



SIKH/PUNJABI

Chandigarh Mohali family looking for gualified cutsurd groom for fair beautiful sikh BC girl 94 5"3' Btech 21 Lakhs working in Delhi Groom working in Tricity NCR preferred Caste No Bar Wattsapp 8360178320

0050194005-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to General public that my client Anshul Aggarwal is purchasing property is R2-47, KHASRA NO 16/11, VILLAGE NAJAFGARH, ABADI NAPA BAZAR, NAJAFGARH, ABADI NAPA BAZAR, NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI, from SH, KRISHAN PAL and mortgaging with Banhan Lid, and SH, KRISHAN PAL does not have 1. Survivor Gerificate 0 dyaw Want and Probate of will of Agya Wanti related to said property. And if any person wortgage then he may contact the undersign within 15 days of publication of aid property in any manner or s nortgage then he may contact indersign within 15 days of publication is Notice

Sd/-For AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION Ch. No, 760, Dwaka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75 M:-9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE

e known to all that My client Mr. I an S/o D.N Trehan R/o 227 B, Ist Flats, Pocket F, Nand Nagri MIG Flats, Pocket F, Nand Nagri (G.T.E. Fordave), Dehi-11003 that he lost his Origina-Demand Letter, Allotment cum Possession atter vide File no. F-36(55) 89(YN RPS of Yopert YN0.227 B, 1st Floor, MIG Flats, Pocket You Carlos Flats, Pocket Jogde of 20.30 2022 vide LR No.244304/2022. Valice at large is requested that if any person and the said documents helvies may inform the same to the above person by witting at 0.3810768410, or at Email Id: enterthan@gmail.com about the said enterthan@gmail.com about the said enterthan@gmail.com about the said outputs of the person claiming any right, terest, objection with respect to this property an personally inform or write to Dy. Director AB) Housing or Director (H),Vikas Sadan, NA, eva Dehi within Filem days of Publication of is notice. Any objection or claim received evaluation and the vide. ny objection or oral. I be treated as null & void. Sd/-

Sd/-HINU MAHAJAN (Advocate Enroll No. D/3716/201 65A, Pocket J & K, Dilshad Garden Dell

Wadhwa in respect of the below mentioned property in her absolut ownership, control and possession he/she/they will be doing sc entirely at his/her/their own cost: and risk and peril. SCHEDULE DESCEDITION OF THE BEDGEFT

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY House bearing No 30 Poorvi Mar, admeasuring 420 sq meter (502.32 sq yards approx) situated in the residential colony widely the residential colony widely own as DLF City Phase-II, Tehsi District Gurgaon, Haryana-122003 District G PRAVEEN RASTOGI (Advocate ENRL No.D-244/06 RZ-97, Khushi Ram Parl

Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-11005 Mobile: 9810986643

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Property bearing Municipa 63 built on Plot No. 17-C, nicipal No neasuring 1000 sq. vds.4 Mohalla Model Town, within hadud Municipal Board, hadud improvement Trust, kaswa Ghaziabad, tehsil Khas, District eerut. U.P., hereinafter referred t

as the said property". Notice is hereby given to the General Public including Banks, Financial Institutions. etc. that, as informed by our clients Sh. Sanjay Bajaj S/o Shi Prem Kumar Bajaj R/o H. No.63 west nodel town, Ghaziabad, he is the owner and in possession of the said property by virtue of Gift Deed executed by Mr. Ram Kumar in respect of the said property and registered wit the concerned Sub Registrar of Assurances, as Document No. 5759, i Book No. I, Volume No. 1842/1850 pages 323/328 & 267/268, registere on 24.05.1975. According to the said Gift Deed, the Property bearing Municipal No. 63 built on Plot No. 17-C, measuring 1000 sq. yds., Mohalla Model Town, within hadud Municipa Board, hadud improvement Trusi kaswa Ghaziabad, tehsil Khas District Meerut, U.P. Our clients now intend to mortgage the said property with IDFC Bank, for availing loan facility. If any person, society, bank, financia institution or other institutions or an other party having any valid claim right, objection, title, demand and nterest by virtue of any sale, gif inheritance, possession, lis-pendence stay order or otherwise or any other right of whatsoever nature against th absolute ownership of our clients o the said property and subsequently rightful mortgage of the said property in favour of IDFC Bank by our clients are required/called upon to convey the objection(s) in writing by Registere AD post, to the undersigned, within _7 days, on address mentioned below along with all the supporting documents relating to such clain

failing which after expiry of _7_days from the publication of this notice, i shall be presumed that there is/are no claim(s) and such claim/s if any, shall be considered to be waived an abandoned and will not be acceptable in respect of the mortgage and o such claim, failing which after expir _7 days. wnership of the said property. Amit Kumar Khurana . Advocate

For M/s Intellective Law Offices, A-74, Lower Ground Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024

Singh S/o Late Sh. Sardar Gopal Singh House No. 16/63, Manav Kunj, Plot no 19, Gali No. 16, Mukundpur Extn. Part - II Delhi, has severed all relations from Sh. Ajit Singh (Son), Ms. Ritu Kapoor Daughter-in-Law) and Baby Prerita (Grand daughter) and has also debarred disowned them from all movable mmovable properties which belong to my client. Any person dealing with above said persons shall do so at his own risk and . consequences and my client shall not be esponsible for any of their act/conduct S.K. Gautam (Advocate) Ch. No. 697, Patiala House Cou New Delhi-110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Re: Plot/property No.5/356, are measuring 140.76 sq. mtrs. situated at Vaishali, Ghaziabad U.P., hereinafter referred to as the said property. Notice is hereby given to the Genera Public including Banks, Financia Institutions, etc. that, as informed b our clients Sh. Atul Jain S/o Shri Viia Kumar Jain R/o <u>313/63</u> F ANANI NAGAR INDERLOK ONKER NAGAR

NAGAR INDERLON OWNEN WAS A MOREN WAS TO ELHI-110305 and Sm. Shilpa Jain W/o Sh. Atul Jain Rio 3 1 3 / 6 3 F AN AN D NAGAF INDERLOK ONKER NAGAF NORTH WEST DELHI-110035 are eliticate the acid proceeding from Mi purchasing the said property from Mi Prashant Arya and Mr. Sushant Arya. Mr. Prashant Arya and Mr. Susha Arya who acquired the said propert after the death of their Mother Sm Anita Arya, who died on 20.01.202° And Smt. Anita Arya purchased th said property from GDA vide Sale Deed dated 09.07.1999 and registered with the concerned Sub Registrar of Assurances, a Document No.5529/553 in Book No.I,Volume No.994, page 300-305, registered on 09.07.1999 And after the death of Smt. Anita Arv and her husband Sh. Satyadev Arya also died, then GDA mutated the sai property in the name of Mr. Prashar Arya and Mr. Sushant Arya vid Mutation Letter dated 28.01.2022. Our clients now intend to mortgage the said property with IDFC Bank, fo availing loan facility If any person, society, bank, financia institution or other institutions or ar other party having any valid claim right, objection, title, demand and interest by virtue of any sale, gift, inheritance, possession, lis-pendence , stay order or otherwise or any other right of whatsoever nature against th absolute ownership of our clients o the said property and subsequent rightful mortgage of the said propert in favour of IDFC Bank by our client

5.

are required/called upon to conve their objection(s) in writing b Registered AD post, to the undersigned, within __7___ days, or address mentioned below along with all the supporting documents relatin

Amit Kumar Khurana, Advocate For M/s Intellective Law Offices, A-74, Lower Ground Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024



Corrigendum-1

RFP for Design, Engineering and Construction for Redevelopment of under pass Bridge (Mughal Puliya), near Gobar Chowki at Fatehabad Road, Agra (2nd Call)

With reference to the above mentioned tender published on 11.03.2022 in Hindustan Hindi and Indian Express, which is scheduled to be opened on 25.03.2022. Kindly find the Corrigendum on our websites https://etenders.up.nic.in, https://smartnet.niua.org; www.agrasmartcity.in. The revised dates are as follows:

1.	Last Date for submission of tender	:	04.04.2022 till 13:00 Hrs.
2.	Last date for Submission of Hard Copy of Technical Bid	:	04.04.2022 till 15:00 Hrs.
3.	Technical Bid opening date	:	04.04.2022 after 17:00 Hrs.
4.	Tender Document, Corrigendum, prebid query r	replie	es and other details shall be

Tender Document, Corrigendum, prebid query replies and other details shall be available on:- https://etenders.up.nic.in, https://smartnet.niua.org, www.agrasmartcity.in

Hard copy submissions shall be submitted before the date and time mentioned at ASCL office (Agra Nagar Nigam Premises, Near Sursadan, Agra-282002), to Mr. Atul Kumar Mudgil (Technical Officer)

Any clarifications related to the tender can be sought from Mr. Atul Kumar Mudgil 9818310618: / Satish Ajmire 9422918725

Nodal Officer Agra Smart City Limited, Agra

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, सरायकेला

<u>ई--निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना</u>

ई- निविदा सूचना संख्या - RDD/SD/SKELLA/08/2021-22

1.कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणीः

क्र०सं ०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख में)	अग्रधन की राशि (लाख में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	सरायकेला–खरसावाँ जिला के खरसावाँ प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत काँटाडीह–सीनी पथ पर नाला पर पुल निर्माण।	3,40,60,700.00	6,82,000.00	10,000.00	18 महीना
>	X:00				,

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 20.04.2022

- 3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 20.04.2022 से दिनांक 02.05.2022 अपराहन 5:00 बजे तक
- 4. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, सरायकेला ⁄ मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ0 एफ0 पी0 भवन, धूर्वा, राँची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 04.05.2021 अपराहन 05:00 बजे तक
- निविदा खोलने का स्थान मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ0 एफ0 पी0 भवन, धुर्वा, राँची
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 05.05.2022 अपराहृन 2:00 बजे
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, सरायकेला
- 8. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० 9431349277 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)
- 9. निविदा शुल्क राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निर्गत ड्राफ्ट या बैकर्स चेक जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल सरायकेला के पदनाम से देय हो देना होगा।
- 10.प्राक्कलित राशि घट बढ़ सकती है तदनूसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
- विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है। कार्यपालक अभियंता

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,

PR 267048(Rural Development)21-22*D

सरायकेला









UP extends free ration scheme for three months



Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Aditvanath in Lucknow on Saturday. Vishal Srivastav

MAULSHREE SETH LUCKNOW, MARCH 26

IN THE first decision at the first Cabinet meeting of his second tenure, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Saturday extended his government's free ration scheme for another three months.

The scheme, which gives ration over and above Central government provisions, was one of the BIP government's most appealing achievements in the recent elections. At about 15 crore beneficiaries, the scheme covers over 60% of the state's population.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had invoked the scheme in his speeches, reminding people of "Modi ka namak". The Opposition had countered this by warning voters that the scheme, extended till Holi, would end soon after the polls. Saturday's decision puts that fear to rest.

Announcing the extension, and calling it an example of the BJP's "double-engine sarkar (at the state and Centre), Adityanath **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

INSIDE



AKHILESH BECOMES OPPOSITION LEADER IN U.P. ASSEMBLY

MINISTER ARRIVES IN ADDU, LANKA VISIT BEGINS MONDAY New Delhi reaches out in Indian Ocean: Jaishankar in Maldives, next stop Lanka

Will sign pacts, inaugurate projects in Maldives; join BIMSTEC in Lanka: MEA

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN&

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

Jaishankar's five-day (March 26-30) visit to the two key maritime neighbours in the Indian Ocean region is part of India's attempt to pro-actively reach out with projects and initiatives to counter China's influence.

AT A time when the opposition party in Maldives, led by former Jaishankar and Maldives President Abdulla Yameen, has President Ibrahim Solih will inspearheaded an anti-India camaugurate a police training acadpaign, External Affairs Minister emy and a drug rehabilitation S Jaishankar arrived in the island centre built with Indian financial nation Saturday ahead of his assistance at Addu. a city in the travel to Sri Lanka on March 28. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Jaishankar with his Maldives counterpart Abdulla Shahid in Addu. @DrSJaishankar

Myanmar rulers in mind, India gets Lanka to hold online **BIMSTEC** meet

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will attend the fifth BIM-STEC Summit via video conference on March 30. Not wanting to share the stage with Myanmar's rulers, India is learnt

to have leaned on Sri Lanka, which is hosting the summit as the current BIMSTEC chair, to conduct it on a virtual platform. Besides India and Sri Lanka,

BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) includes Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Boarding school for homeless kids: Delhi Budget allots Rs 10 cr

SUKRITA BARUAH NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

THE DELHI government has set aside Rs 10 crore to set up a boarding school for children from homeless families living on the roadside, footpaths, under flvovers and stairs, or in open places of worship, pavilions, and railway platforms, who are deprived of basic facilities like shelter, food, and education.

"The government has taken sev-

also facilitate the children to live

along with education and try to

bring them into the mainstream

There were as many as

of the society."

Deputy CM and Finance Announcing the state Budget Minister Manish Sisodia on for 2022-23, Deputy Chief Saturday. Prem Nath Pandey Minister Manish Sisodia said,

INSIDE

'ROZGAR BUDGET': 5-YR PLAN TO CREATE 20 LAKH JOBS PAGE 6

Children.

At a press conference after the Budget, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "When you stop at a traffic light, a small child knocks on your window and asks you for money or tries to sell you something, no one pays any attention to them. Why? Because they are not voters, they **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Smoke from the airstrikes in Lviv on Saturday afternoon. Krishn Kaushik

Missiles shatter Lviv calm, and an opera

east of the city, leaving five peo-EXPRESS ple wounded. The first of the blasts hit **FROM THE**

around 4.45 pm, minutes after a public opera performance in front of the Lviv National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre and featuring a singer

KRISHN KAUSHIK LVIV, MARCH 26

FRONTLINE

then came the blast. Even as some people moved to the shelters, others rallied around, with shouts of "Glory Ukraine".

At the Ukraine Media Centre, set up in the top two floors of a three-storey bar by the government, the excitement Saturday from Kharkiv – the city that has was all about the lifting of an albeen at the receiving end of cohol ban, in place in Lviv since and continued to hang there for hours, visible from all around the city.

There was speculation regarding whether a telecommunication tower or an oil depot had been hit, both located just 2 km from the bar.

With more missile strikes later in the evening. Lviv's mayor

SUNDAY STORY PAGE 10 'We will win because



the war but readying for it. A city and its people living in a





REMAIN IN POWER: BIDEN ON PUTIN P12

35,000-40,000 children (homeless or without supervising adults) on the streets, according to a 2018 survey by NGO Save the



we can't lose'

Lviv is removed from transitory moment



THIS MAN CANNOT



CENTRE EXTENDS FREE FOODGRAIN SCHEME FOR SIX MONTHS PAGE 7

leave Ukraine, the city of Lviv was jolted out of its lull on Saturday afternoon as at least five Russian missiles struck just

A SAFE haven providing passage Russian invasion – was cut short for people seeking to enter or by air sirens.

The reaction was leisurely, with the city mostly untouched by the violence now treating these sirens as false alarms. But

the start of the war. The muffled bangs in quick succession in the evening caused a surprise. The severity of the attack only struck when a dark plume of smoke rose over buildings to the east,

Andriy Sadovyi tweeted: "We are waiting for information from the Military Administration. Please do not share photos videos. Stay in the shelters." CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Why service startups are taking a new route: Making products

MORE AND more compa-

nies are realising the com-

mercial value of customer

data. Extracting such data,

they not only get to un-

derstand consumer be-

haviour, but over time

haviour to generate

higher returns.

they can even direct be-

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

IN WHAT may seem like a natural extension in hindsight, Indian service startups are leveraging consumer data generated on their platform to understand market demand for specific products and expand their business into manufacturing. For instance, home services marketplace Urban Company plans to launch its own range of water purifiers and is set to officially announce the product for users of its app, sources said.

From making reverse osmosis (RO) filters used by its service



cided to expand into manufacturing water. There are plans to launch more products depending on consumer interest in water purifiers, and hiring for product development is on, the person said.

When contacted, Urban Company said it has been running a pilot for selling water purifiers since November last year. More than 1,000 users have purchased the product during the pilot, the company said, confirming its plan to make and sell water purifiers under its own brand. Similarly, social commerce

platform Meesho had earlier professionals during servicing, shifted focus from its reseller-led Urban Company has now de-CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Law university marks out gender-neutral spaces on campus

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD, MARCH 26

ALMOST SEVEN years after it gave a gender-neutral graduation certificate to a student on request. Hyderabad's NALSAR University of Law has designated a hostel floor as an inclusive space for accommodating LGBTQ+ students - just one of the steps planned under a new policy it is finalising.

Faizan Vice-Chancellor Mustafa said the detailed policy, which has been drafted, aims to create a safe and inclusive cam-

pus. The ground floor of the institute's GH-6 building has been made a gender-neutral space for students who self-identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. This building, a student hostel, may later become a fully genderneutral hostel. The university has desig-

nated the washroom at the academic block as gender-neutral too and is working to create more such spaces, the V-C told The Indian Express.

In June 2015, a BA LLB student had requested not to be identified by gender in the graduation **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

In loving memory...



Bhai Mohan Singh Ji (Bhai Sahib) 30th December 1917 to 27th March 2006

It was a very peaceful country: Punjab AAP MLA recalls her years in Ukraine as a medical student

DIVYA GOYAL GOPAL CHANDIGARH, MARCH 26

TWO DECADES ago, she was a medical student in Ukraine. Now, 39-year-old Dr Amandeep Kaur Arora is one of Aam Aadmi Party's 92 MLAs in Punjab, having defeated actor Sonu Sood's sister, Malvika Sood of the Congress, in Moga this month.

Dr Arora has a bachelor's degree in medicine and surgery from the Crimea State Medical University in the capital of Simferopol, annexed by Russia

in 2014. After completing her studies, Dr Arora returned to India in 2008. She cleared the Foreign Medical Graduates Examination (FMGE) in her first attempt and began practising medicine.

The MLA's husband and siblings are also medical graduates from Ukraine. Her husband Dr Rakesh Arora, who is now a government medical officer in Moga, was her university senior. while her sister Dr Harmanpreet Kaur graduated from the Luhansk State Medical University in the disputed



Dr Amandeep Kaur Arora's husband was her college senior in Crimea. Her brother and sister too studied in Ukraine. Express

Donbas region in eastern Ukraine. Her brother Dr Baljinder Singh graduated from the Uzhhorod National Medical

University in west Ukraine. The legislator has fond memories of her time in the east European country. "Unlike India, medical students do not face any ragging or harassment there. Senior students and teachers are very friendly and helpful. It was a very peaceful country and the people were very friendly. Here, we get tired of paying for extra tuition, but there the teachers CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

A True Indian Secular...Pioneer...Serving...

Analjit Singh, Chairman and Trustees Bhai Mohan Singh Foundation



THE SECOND PAGE

The Indian EXPRESS

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

IN BANGLADESH, AN ATTEMPT TO RESURRECT THE FAMED DHAKAI MUSLIN

The Dhaka muslin was the fabric of the emperors, worn not only by the Mughals but also flaunted by the

French queen Marie Antoinette. Some called it 'woven air', while others described it as the "skin of the moon"

TECH



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Chhattisgarh clears Rajasthan's mining project on forest land

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE RAIPUR JAIPUR MARCH 26

THE CHHATTISGARH government Saturday approved the second phase of mining in Parsa East and Kente Basan Coal Block, a day after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot flew to Raipur and held a parley with his counterpart Bhupesh Baghel. Over 1,130 hectares of the

pristine Hasdeo Aranya forests in Chhattisgarh will be diverted for this project.

The Rajasthan government owns coal mines in Hasdeo Aranya, the Mining Developer and Operator of which is Adani Enterprises. Phase I of the PEKB coal mine, which had a validity of 15 years, was allegedly exhausted within just eight years, necessitating phase 2 mining.

The Chhattisgarh government's permission for diversion of forest land comes after the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change cleared the project.

trip to Raipur. He told reporters "The District Collector and there that an "unimaginable cri-District Forest Divisional Officer of sis" is looming in his state.

Punjab: Sidhu meets 24 party

leaders, talks future course

VISUAL STORIES | DAILY BRIEFING

The approval comes a day

Chhattisgarh on Friday. PTI

Sarguja have been directed to take

necessary action by following the

conditions mentioned in the per-

mission issued as above," a state-

the action plan after ensuring

compliance of the conditions by

the District Collector and District

Forest Divisional Officer, the fi-

nal decision regarding starting

mining will be taken after thor-

Gehlot Friday made a 4-hour

ough consideration."

It added: "After examining

ment by the government said.

after Gehlot met Baghel

during a short trip to



best described as refined Abbas-Mustan

BOLLYWOOD REWIND

MERA SAAYA

When Raj Khosla pulled

off a twist that can be

FROM PAGE ONE Jaishankar

southernmost atoll of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Addu is a stronghold of the Maldivian National Party and former President Mohamed Nasheed, who is Speaker of the Majlis, the country's Parliament. He is a vocal supporter of close ties with India.

Last year, the Modi government approved a proposal for opening an Indian consulate at Addu.

Jaishankar's visit, during which he will also hold talks with Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid, "will see the signing of several agreements related to bilateral development co-operation inauguration/handing-over

and launch of a number of key India-supported projects", the Ministry of External Affairs said.

The Maldives stopover comes at a time of protests there that the government has "sold out" to India, and a determined pushback by President Solih, Nasheed and the ruling MDP against these protests.

Dubbed the "India Out" campaign, the protests have received active backing from Yameen and his Progressive Party, especially since his release from house arrest after he was exonerated from corruption charges.

During his presidency, Yameen wooed China and gave his foreign policy a Beijing tilt. He hopes to make a comeback at the next election and has made this his main political platform.

After dropping a plan last month to pass a law to ban the protests as anti-national and punish the protestors with a jail term, the MDP decided earlier this week to disallow an "India Out" rally in Male scheduled for Friday. With a friendly government

ence.

zones.

with Male.

\$500-million Greater Male

Connectivity project, the largest

infrastructure project in the

country that links three islands

claims a large Indian military

presence in Maldives and that

the government is planning to

hand over the Uthuru Thilafalhu

The Maldives government

has clarified several times that

there are no military personnel

in the country other than crew

and maintenance required to fly

three Dornier surveillance and

rescue aircraft, and a team of

to Colombo comes days after

India extended a \$1-billion credit

facility to Sri Lanka which is in

the middle of a severe economic

crisis. It follows the visits to India

Lanka import food, other essen-

tial commodities and medicines

provided a total financial assis-

Meanwhile, Jaishankar's visit

atoll to the Indian Navy

military doctors.

month.

since January.

The anti-India campaign

cally", repairing its economy. While in Sri Lanka, Jaishankar will also participate in the BIM-

STEC ministerial meeting in Colombo on March 29. **BIMSTEC meet**

Nepal and Bhutan.

While it was earlier supposed to be held in-person, the summit was postponed due to the pandemic. With the Covid situation improving, the summit was then rescheduled for March-end. Senior BIMSTEC officials will meet on March 28. followed by meetings of the foreign ministers on March 29.

"The Covid pandemic related challenges, and the uncertainties within the international system that all BIMSTEC members are facing, imparts greater urgency to the goal of taking BIMSTEC technical and economic cooperation to the next level. This is expected to be the main subject of deliberations by leaders at the Summit," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement.

The leaders are also expected to discuss the establishment of basic institutional structures and mechanisms of the group, it said.

Over a year after the coup in Myanmar, India has made a nuanced shift to distance itself from the regime -- although not condemning it directly, but raising concerns on the democratic process being undermined by the military junta in Nay Pyi Taw. In recent months, as Modi met US President Joe Biden for the bilateral summit at the White House last September, the nee-

dle moved a little for Delhi. With Washington leaning on Delhi, India finds itself in a tight spot on Myanmar. Aware of Beijing's growing political, military and economic footprint in Mvanmar. it does not want to

right now.

Boarding school are not a vote bank. No government pays any attention to them. Today, we will make a Rs 10 crore residential state of the art facilities school for them."

He said children first need emotional and psychological support. "All attempts to pick them up from these traffic lights have failed because they have lacked humanity. They get picked up, put in jail, put in childcare centres. No one is there to ask after them, and they return to the same situation. This school will be one where they will get 5-star facilities, and these children will be brought to the mainstream and given respectful lives and be made good citizens," Kejriwal said.

Sisodia has allocated Rs 16,278 crore for education for the next financial year. Like the previous years, the sector has received 21.47 per cent or a lion's share of the budget. It is a little lower than 23.74 per cent or Rs 16,377 crore allocated in 2021-

The boarding school for the children will be the second residential school to be set up by the Delhi government – the first being its new Armed Forces Preparatory School, which is currently in the process of admitting the first batch of students. The aim is to provide a stable environment in which children from marginalised and insecure circumstances can study.

The national capital state's accomplishments in education have emerged as a significant poll plank as the Aam Aadmi Party hopes to make its foray into other states. In Punjab, where it recorded a thumping win, education reforms had featured prominently in its election man-

over years by delivering food. This allows it to set up a network of food stores near high-demand customer neighbourhoods. The stores will keep the highest selling items in each locality, with cooking timing for these items estimated to be 2-4 minutes given demand predictability.

WELLNESS PLATFORMS **USED ZOOM TO THRIVE**

Zoom became a popular

video collaborative tool

during pandemic

Competitor Swiggy has already successfully experimented with a cloud kitchen network across select locations.

Blinkit, which pivoted to deliver groceries in under 10 minutes, has opened a web of dark stores across cities based on consumer data it had gathered as an e-grocer in its earlier avatar Grofers. Workers in these dark stores had earlier told The Indian Express that different dark stores may have different high priority items depending on localities

being served. Community security platform MyGate, equipped with data of residents of residential societies using its services, had also introduced communityspecific services such as enterprise resource planning solutions for Resident Welfare Associations to help with accounting, billing, and expenses tracking, among others. The startup had also launched a service called MyGate Club where big brands could interact with residents via curated experiences

Not every data-driven expansion into the branded product segment may be successful. In March last year, Zomato had started selling nutraceuticals under its own brand name which it shut down within six months after a muted response from customers.

Law university certificate. NALSAR (National Academy of Legal Studies and

while her mother is a home-

so many other formalities such

as buying a piece of land, get-

ting a ration card made in Bihar

etc that made us choose

Calling on the Central gov-

ernment to help medical stu-

dents who have returned from

Ukraine, Dr Amandeep says, "It

is not their fault that the war

started. Final-year students

must be given their degrees af-

ter taking online exams by

Ukrainian universities because

otherwise they won't be able to

appear for FMGE and their year

will be wasted. For others, the

government must try to adjust

them in colleges here because

parents can't put the lives of

their children in danger by

sending them back. Our govern-

ment in Punjab and Delhi will

try to do the best possible for

She adds, "If we want our stu-

dents to stay here, we need more

seats, more medical colleges,

and a fee regulatory law to stop

the exploitation of students by

private colleges. For Ukraine

medical graduates, it has never

been easy. The FMGE test is too

tough and most questions are of

medical officer in an Army

Polyclinic but quit her job before

contesting last month's state

polls. Asked what motivated her

to join politics. Dr Amandeep

says that in 2012 she realised the

extent of the drugs problem in

The legislator worked as a

postgraduate level.'

Ukraine.'

them."

begins, Ash Barty retires, big announcement

Game Time: IPL 2022

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Discussing the latest season of the IPL, retirement of Ash Barty, and a big announcement for listeners of this podcast

Punjab while dealing with cases

shall not be conditional and persons belonging to gender and sexual minorities shall have full rights to access and inhabit spaces that their cisgender counterparts do without any mobility restrictions, it says. Genderneutral washroom facilities are to be provided as and where possible, in commonly used university spaces.

The university cannot insist on gender-based dress code or hairstyles in any educational, academic or curricular space.

The interim policy states that the university shall provide support – financial, academic and medical— to students who are medically transitioning.

AAP's MLA

take extra classes in the evening to clarify doubts. Compulsions make students leave our country. They won't if the system here is good enough and if it is possible for a common student to afford medical education." she tells The Indian Express.

Given her background, Dr Amandeep understands why Indian medical degree aspirants travel to Ukraine.

"In my time, private medical colleges asked for donations of Rs 30-40 lakh straightaway in one go and tuition fee was extra. In Ukraine, it cost Rs 30 lakh. When I hear stories of Ukraine returnees today, I feel the situation is still the same. Medical education is far beyond the reach of students and those from middle class or poor families cannot even think of becoming doctors. Medical education in Ukraine

people get ration twice a month under the PMGKAY and then under the NFSA. In December 2021, just ahead while ration was provided at a

in India," she says. The MLA is from the

able accommodation in alignment with their preferred gender identity. Accommodation facilities

of overdose. "That is when I realised how drugs were eating up the youth of Punjab and how the system was completely rotten. I joined the AAP in 2015 but continued to practise."

Ration scheme

said: "The first decision of the newly formed Government in Uttar Pradesh is dedicated to 15 crore poor people. The scheme was to end in March 2022, thus the first Cabinet meeting of the new government has decided to extend its benefits for three months, till June 22.'

The extra cost to the state exchequer would be around Rs 3.000 crore for the three months. The 3.16 crore ration card-

holders in the state are covered under two schemes - the PMGKAY (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna) and NFSA. While subsidised ration under the NFSA is an ongoing process, the PMGKAY was launched during the Covid lockdown, in April 2020, and entitles cardholders to 5 kg of wheat and rice and 1 kg of chana. On Saturday, the Centre announced the extension of the PMGKAY for a further six months. Under the NFSA, cardholders get 35 kg of food grains -20 kg of wheat and 15 kg of rice - per month per card. Since the beneficiaries of both are almost the same, it effectively means

of the polls. UP had extended the benefits. Under the usual course, subsidised rate of Rs 3 per kg of wheat and Rs 2 per kg for rice, the Adityanath government costs almost half of what it does made the entire subsidised ration under the NFSA free. It additionally announced provision of 1 lt of refined oil and 1 kg of of Chandumajra in Rajpura. Her father is a retired Army officer salt per household.

Kapurthala district on Saturday. Sukhpal Khaira, the Congress MLA from Bholath who was present at the meeting, said it was part of an effort to ensure the party's revival in Punjab.

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA

MORE THAN 20 Punjab

Congress leaders, including for-

mer state unit chief Naviot Singh

Sidhu, met at Sultanpur Lodhi in

JALANDHAR, MARCH 26

After facing a debacle in the recently concluded Assembly elections. Congress leaders are lobbying to appoint Khaira as the leader of opposition. Some members said Sidhu should be appointed Punjab Congress chief following his removal from the post by the Congress high command earlier this month.

A former MLA told The Indian *Express* that they discussed the debacle as well as future plans and expressed their consent to



Electric Loco Shed, WCR Tughalakabad, New Delhi कोरोना को है हराना, तो टीकाकरण जरूर करान

idence of former MLA Navtei Singh Cheema at Sultanpur Lodhi. "We are sure the party will take future decisions on merit and honesty in accordance with the mandate of 'badlav' (change)," said Khaira in a tweet.

make Khaira the LOP and Sidhu

the Punjab Congress chief since

Khaira said that 24 "like-

minded" Congress leaders - in-

cluding MLAs, ex-MLAs, 2022

election candidates and the for-

mer PCC chief - met at the res-

he has a clean image.

Following the meeting, Sidhu tweeted, "We will fight for the rights of Punjab with good intentions and sincerity #JittegaPunjab."

Some Congress leaders took potshots at the meeting. Congress MP from Ludhiana Ravneet Singh Bittu tweeted a picture of Sidhu's meeting captioning, "Vele Di Namaz, Kuvele Diyan Takkran."

BEANT SINGH KILLING SC asks Centre

to take call on Rajoana mercy plea by April 30

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has directed the Centre to take a call on Balwant Singh Rajoana's mercy petition, filed in 2012, by April 30. The petition seeks commu-

tation of his death penalty to life imprisonment in the assassination case of former Punjab chief minister Beant Singh. The apex court said that if

the decision is not taken by April 30, the Secretary concerned of Ministry of Home Affairs and the Director (Prosecution), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) shall remain personally present, along with the records, before it on the

next date of hearing. A bench of justices UU Lalit, Ravindra Bhat and PS Narasimha, which was hearing a petition by Rajoana, said that despite earlier orders issued by

the court, nothing has been done in the matter and that the counsel appearing for the Union of India has no clear instructions. PTI

in Male since 2017, India has isolate the Nay Pyi Taw regime. Delhi believes it can, with partbeen well positioned to build back influence in the country, viner countries, engage the junta. tal along with Sri Lanka, to India's initial response was Delhi's strategic interests in a resofter than usual. Hours after the

gion where China is also encoup in February last year, the MEA said it had "noted the degaged in establishing its presvelopments in Myanmar with Other than the police traindeep concern".

ing school, and the drug rehab Weeks later, the Indian misclinic, India has undertaken a sion in Yangon tweeted, on February 28 last year, that the host of other projects in Addu city, including an airport, road "Embassy of India is deeply sadprojects, drainage and land dened by loss of lives in Yangon reclamation. Another project beand other cities of Myanmar toing financed in Addu by India is day". This was after at least 18 the development of eco tourism people were killed as security forces opened fire on protesters. India is also building the according to the United Nations.

> But, on December 7, Delhi said it was "disturbed" by the verdicts relating to Myanmar's ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi and others. Underlining that the rule of law and democratic process must be upheld, New Delhi said any development that "undermines these processes and accentuates differences is a matter of deep concern".

Suu Kyi was sentenced to a four-year jail term by a Myanmar court, which held her guilty of inciting dissent in the first of a series of verdicts.

In what was India's first official outreach to Myanmar's military-ruled regime, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla went to Myanmar on December 22-23. He sought a meeting with Suu Kyi, which the Myanmar military declined.

India has refrained from diby Sri Lanka's Finance Minister rect criticism of the Tatmadaw, Basil Rajapaksa and Foreign Myanmar's military, as it is wary Affairs Minister G L Peiris last of Beijing's growing influence and the high stakes involved in The assistance is to enable Sri maintaining peace and security along the India-Myanmar border. It feels that instead of confrom India. With this, Delhi has demning the military leadership in Myanmar, it should work with tance of \$2.4 billion to Sri Lanka partner countries to lean on the military to work together to re-It has also conveyed to solve their differences in a peaceful and constructive manner.

Colombo that Indian investments in renewable energy, So, even as it wants to work ports, logistics, infrastructure with Myanmar's junta regime, it and connectivity will help Sri does not want to share the stage Lanka build capacity "holistiwith the leadership at a summit

ifesto.

Another key announcement was the proposal for a School Science Museum to be set up in Chirag Enclave, for which Rs 50 crore has been allotted. "With this, many such topics of science among students and teachers. which may seem like the world of magic through books and videos, will be easily understood by them by visiting this museum. This School Science Museum will play an important role in developing curiosity and interest in science among chil-

dren," he said. Sisodia also said the government is commencing work to convert all its classrooms to digital ones, and that Montessori labs will be set up in 100 schools. While he did not announce any new schemes or projects in higher education, he said the process of admitting 250 sportspersons has been started at the new Delhi Sports University, and that the government is trying to start B.Ed. courses at its recently inaugurated Delhi Teachers University from the next session.

Service startups

model to selling products directly to end customers, like Amazon and Flipkart. From selling unbranded products, it is now learnt to be partnering with smaller brands to start offering branded products on its platform.

According to sources, over 60 per cent of Meesho's transacting users are from its direct selling business. The company is looking to leverage this by partnering with smaller brands to launch branded products on its platform. Meesho did not respond to questions.

Before Urban Company and Meesho, several startups have leveraged data generated on their platform to expand into newer categories to increase revenues and attract investors.

Zomato recently plunged into 10-minute food delivery aided by the insight generated

Research) then used the honorific prefix of 'Mx'.

Officials said this was the beginning of the institution's efforts to become more inclusive. The university now has an interim policy in place to address the concerns of the LGBTQ+ community.

Mustafa said: "We have requested students to identify themselves, and based on their preference we are creating safe and inclusive spaces for everyone. As per the trans policy that we are adopting, there will be more changes in the campus."

The "Policy on Inclusive Education for Gender and Sexual Minorities" has been drafted by the university's Trans Policy Committee.

This policy states that the university has to enhance the representation of gender and sexual minorities in all spheres - student bodies, faculty members, support staff and academic curriculum and reading materi-

The categories of male and female hostel representatives are to be abolished and replaced with 'residence representatives' for each hostel (boys' hostel, girls' hostel and gender-neutral hostel).

The committee suggested that the university appoint a gender and sexual minorities officer on its recommendation. This officer will also act as a complaint officer. A Gender and Sexual Minority Committee shall also be formed after the final policy is cleared.

As per the interim policy, self-identification, requiring no more than a written self-attested declaration to that effect, will be the basis for recognition of gender identity and sexual orientation in the university.

Name and pronoun change options shall be available to anyone who wishes to do the same, regardless of their declaration of gender identity.

The interim policy states that the University shall ensure that students have access to a reason-

Missiles shatter

maker. "A student from a poor Head of Lviv region's military adfamily cannot even think of beministration Maksym Kozytsky coming a doctor in India. Though I belonged to a Jatt Sikh confirmed the missile attacks. family that owns agricultural On his official Telegram channel, he posted: "Information that land, I had two more siblings. Here, the expense might have there was an impact on a resitouched Rs 1 crore. In Ukraine, dential building or other infrawe spent around Rs 30 lakh. structure facilities has not been confirmed. According to prelim-Moreover, there were no MBBS seats here and I got a seat in inary data, five people were indentistry in Punjab. I got a seat jured." He also said that the In Patna (Bihar) too, but my threat of a missile strike was still parents thought it would be on, asking people to stay indoors unsafe there. Also, there were or in shelters.

There was no word about the kind of missiles used or the actual targets.

But there was no doubt regarding what the blasts signified, being the closest the Russians had come to attacking Lviv. They signalled that Moscow was not averse to hitting high-value targets within the city - notwithstanding its location so close to the NATO borders, and notwithstanding the number of foreign journalists stationed there to cover the war.

At 70 km, Lviv is much further from the Polish border than the International Peacekeeping and Security Center, also called Yavoriv military base, which was attacked by Russian missiles on March 13. But given the importance of the city, the missile hits Saturday marked the march of the war into western Ukraine.

Russia also seemed to be sending a signal further west, with the attacks coming just before US President Joe Biden delivered a speech in Poland.

The last strike near Lviv was on March 18, when missiles had hit the airport just outside the city and targeted an aircraft repair plant, with no casualties.

With war now finally at the doorstep, the people of Lviv though seemed resigned and stoic. Only a few sought out the safety of shelters, the others soon resumed what they were doing. ignoring the first responders rushing towards the spot.

DCW SENDS NOTICE Woman alleges Court acquits accused, says rape inside night shelter

JIGNASA SINHA NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

A FORMER caretaker of a night shelter run by the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) has alleged she was raped, molested and threatened at the facility, located in North Delhi. The woman, who is in her 20s, has further alleged that a 'mentally challenged' resident at the shelter was also raped by one of the accused.

In a police complaint, she has alleged she was removed from her job on March 4 after she approached the director, a woman, regarding the two alleged incidents. The shelter is managed by an NGO and all four accused the director, a man accused of raping the woman and two others accused of molesting and threatening her – work with it.

against the director and three officials based on the complaint and DUSIB is conducting an enquiry.

"I worked at (the NGO) and during that time... sir raped me on January 8. Before this, sir and (another accused) touched me inappropriately and molested me... during a New Year's party at the shelter, (an accused) forced himself on me. That day, I managed to escape. The next day, I approached director ma'am about the incident. She threatened to file a false case against me and asked me to leave her office. I called ma'am the next day but she cut my call. When I met her at the

ANAND MOHAN J NEW DELHI, MARCH 26 shelter and requested her to help

me get a medical (test) done, she ACQUITTING A man accused of threatened to kill me. The same trying to revive militancy in day, sir and (another accused) Puniab. a Delhi court has found gaps in the prosecution's case for trying to implicate him by attributing meaning to his telephonic conversations about crops, the weather, and watering of fields.

Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana acquitted Trilochan Singh, a driver, who was arrested in a Delhi Police Special Cell raid in 2007 as part of its investigation into the 2005 Satyam Cinema and Liberty Cinema bomb blasts. ASJ Rana said the "meaning attempted to be ascribed by the prosecution to the general words like plot. khet, fasal, paani, etc can only be accepted when it rules out the possibility of any error on the part of the police official". The court said the "the pos-

sibility of any enthusiastic police officer misinterpreting plain and simple words on account of suspicion and over zealous approach cannot be ruled out".

A total of nine persons were accused, out of which eight pleaded guilty. Trilochan decided to contest his case filed under IPC sections 121A (conspiracy to commit offences or to overawe, by means of criminal force or the show of criminal force, the Central Government or any State Government), 120B (punishment of criminal conspiracy), as well as sections of the UAPA Act and the Arms Act.

FAX:- 0522-2668017/2668078

Notice

ADMISSION NOTICE 2022-23

The court said 'the possibility of any enthusiastic police officer misinterpreting plain and simple words on account of suspicion and over zealous approach cannot be ruled out'

2005 Satyam-Liberty blasts:

prosecution attributed

meaning to general words

conversations between a convict, Baljeet Singh, and Trilochan. The court said that on a plain and simple reading of the transcripts, "any conspiracy to commit a terrorist act is not discernible to an ordinary man". The prosecution had claimed that the accused persons knew that they were under surveillance and were hence speaking in coded words. The court, however, agreed with the defence counsel that the "interpretation of the coded words is based upon the police officer's personal subjective interpretation".

The court said there must be some credible material available on record justifying the meaning ascribed to plain and general words by the prosecution. "The words should have either been established as standard phrases in lingua franca used by the criminals or at least there must be a pattern discernible in the words used so that they can be interpreted in a particular manner," the court said. It said that in the absence of any material on record. "the doubt attached with the perhaps prejudiced or at least

by the prosecution cannot be dispelled with".

THE CITY

5

The Special Cell had registered the FIR alleging that the accused persons were connected to . Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), a terror outfit based in Germany. It was alleged that BKI had negotiated with militant outfit, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and conspired to overawe the Indian government. The Special Cell had claimed that Trilochan was in touch with BKI outfit member Baljeet Singh, who planned to kill a Sikh religious leader, Baba Pyara Singh Panihari Wala, and some others and to revive militancy in Punjab.

The prosecution cited a tele-

'How are your fields?" and he replied, "They are really good. I keep watering them." The prosecution had alleged this was code for "men have been prepared" and the "work will be done". On Trilochan telling Baljeet, "It is very cold there is a need for clothes", prosecution said this meant "Baljeet was talking about handing out weapons to Trilochan". The conversation ends with Baljeet saying, "You wear socks and not pyjamas underneath. Your system is entirely different." to which Trilochan agrees. The prosecution had alleged that Trilochan was a driver employed with Haryana roadways and usually wore kurta-pyiama or a pant-shirt, and this conversation was to "misguide





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27 years

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Folice Station

उत्तर प्रदेश प्रदूषण नियन्त्रण बोर्ड क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय: महर्षि दयानन्द नगर, निकट सैण्टमेरी स्कूल, आदमपुर-चक्कर रोड, बिजनौर

सन्दर्भ सं. 789/L-23/जनरल-2022

पर्यावरणीय अनापत्ति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिए आम सूचना सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मैसर्स बिन्दल्स पेपर्स मिल्स लि0, ग्राम-चांगीपुर तहसील–चांदपुर, जिला–बिजनौर, उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा इंटीग्रेटेड इकाई, चीनी इकाई की स्थापना क्षमत 10000 टी0सी0डी0 एवं सह ऊर्जा उत्पादन क्षमता–12 मेगावॉट तथा आसवनी इकाई क्षमता 150 के0एल0डी0 एवं सह–ऊर्जा उत्पादन क्षमता–3.5 मेगावॉट के साथ स्थापना किये जाने के सम्बन में परियोजना की पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति प्राप्त करने से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई हेतु प्रस्ताव उ०प्र० प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है, जिसके सम्बन्ध में पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी अधिसूचना संख्या-एस0ओ0-1533, दिनांक-14.09.2006 यथ संशोधित एस0ओ0–3067(ई) दिनांक–01.12.2009 के अनुपालन में पर्यावरणीय अनापत्ति जारं करने से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई किया जाना आवश्यक है। इस सूचना के अन्तर्गत लोक सुनवाई से पूव क्षेत्रीय आग जनता को किसी भी आपत्ति/सुझाव हेतु 30 दिन का नोटिस दिया जाना प्राविधानित है लोक सुनवाई पैनल की संरचना भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी उक्त अधिसूचना संख्या-एस0ओ0-1533 दिनांक-14.09.2006 यथा संशोधित एस0ओ0-3067(ई) दिनांक-01.12.2009 के प्राविधानों के अनुरूप होगी। उक्त उद्योग के परियोजना प्रस्ताव से सम्बन्धित अभिलेख निम्नलिखित कार्यालयों मे अवलोकनार्थ उपलब्ध है

अ) कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी, बिजनौर।

- ब) कार्यालय महाप्रबन्धक जिला उद्योग एवं उद्यम प्रोत्साहन केन्द्र, बिजनौर।
- ्स) कार्यालय अपर मुख्य अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, बिजनौर।
- ्द) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, पंचम तल, केन्द्रीय भवन सेक्टर-एच, अलीगंज, लखनऊ।
- य) उ०प्र० प्रदुषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, टी०सी०-12वी, विभूति खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ।
- ्र) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उ0प्र0 प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, महर्षि दयानन्द नगर, निकट सैण्टमेरी स्कूल आदमपुर-चक्कर रोड, बिजनौर।

अतः समस्त सर्व साधारण एवं विशिष्ठ नागरिकों को इस नोटिस के माध्यम से सूचित किया जाता ह कि अपर जिलाधिकारी (प्रशासन), बिजनौर की अध्यक्षता में प्रस्तावित परियोजना स्थल मैसर्स बिन्दल्स पेपर्स मिल्स लि0, ग्राम-चांगीपुर, तहसील-चांदपुर, जिला-बिजनौर, उत्तर प्रदेश य दिनांक-05.05.2022 को समय प्रातः 11:30 बजे लोक सुनवाई की कार्यवाही आहूत की गयी है जिसमें तत्समय लागू कोविड–19 से सुरक्षा हेतु जारी दिशा निदेशों के अनुपालन के साथ उपस्थित होकर कोई भी व्यक्ति अपनी मौखिक या लिखित सझाव/आपत्तियाँ प्रस्तत कर सकते हैं अथवा क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उ०प्र० प्रदुषण नियन्त्रण बोर्ड, बिजनौर अथवा बोर्ड मुख्यालय, उ०प्र० प्रदुषण नियन्त्रप बोर्ड, टी0सी0-12वी, विभूति खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ में सुझाव/आक्षेप प्रकाशन की तिथि रं 30 दिन के अन्दर लिखित रूप से दे सकते हैं।

क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी

दिनांक: 26.03.202

PIMPRI CHINCHWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PIMPRI, PUNE-411018

Expression of Interest for Design Competition for Creating Walk Through Video of the Visuals containing Advertisement Hoardings of the selected Corridor

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

In recent years, aesthetic considerations form undeniably one of the mportant aspects of urban experience. Design of the Hoardings and the location where they have been installed play a vital role in the innovative aesthetic experience of the city.

In that context, PCMC is hereby issuing this Express of Interest (EoI) for Design Competition for Creating Walk Through Video of the visuals containing Advertisement Hoardings of the selected Corridor'.

Interested eligible Competitors shall submit their proposals in accordance with the details provided in this EOI. The proposals shall be evaluated by a committee formed by PCMC and three winners will be identified. Prize of Rs. 5,00,000/-, Rs. 4,00,000/- and Rs. 3,00,000/- will be given to 1st, 2nd and 3d winner respectively. The design received from winning competitors will be the intellectual property of the Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation.

For further details please refer http://www.pcmcindla.gov.in

Advt. No. 1466

F-345

Date : 23 March, 2022

- Rajesh Patil. IAS (Municipal Commissioner) Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation Pimpri-411018

Adv. PCMC-23/03/2022 **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA** PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS AUTHORITY Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Website: www.plantauthority.gov.in PLANT GENOME SAVIOUR AWARDS 2020-21 & 2021-22

Under section 39(1) (iii) of PFV&FR Act, 2001 read with PPV&FR (Accognition and Reward from Gene Fund) Rules, 2012 and PPV& FR (Community Award from Gene Fund) Rules, 2018. INDIA'S HIGHEST AWARD/REWARD/RECOGNITION FOR FARMER(S) AND FARMING COMMUNITIES A unique aspect of Farmers' Rights in PPV&FR Act, 2001 which provides the facility to award, reward and recognize the farmers engaged in conservation of genetic resources of land races and wild relatives of economic plants and their improvement through selection.

1. PLANT GENOMIC SAVIOUR COMMUNITY AWARD

THE AWARD: - A maximum of five awards in a year each consis ting of cash of Rs. 10.00.000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only), a citation and a memento WHO CAN APPLY:- A community of farmers who are engaged in the conservation of genetic resources of landraces and wild relatives of econo plants and their improvement through selection and preservation and the material so selected and preserved has been shared with others for vari-

2. PLANT GENOME SAVIOUR FARMER REWARD/RECOGNITION

BRIEFLY Man 'thrashed' in road rage, accused held

New Delhi: A 33-year-old man was allegedly thrashed and his turban fell off after a scuffle broke out between him and three persons in South Delhi's Saket area. Police said the man was waiting at a traffic signal on his scooter when a car hit his vehicle. The car driver and the man allegedly got into a fight during which the accused hit him. The accame to the shelter home at 6 pm and threatened to kill me... I didn't file a complaint because I was scared," the FIR quotes the woman as alleging. She alleged that on January 23, one of the accused allegedly raped a 25-yearold mentally challenged resident at the shelter. "When I came for duty in the morning, she told me she was experiencing a lot of pain and was bleeding," reads the FIR. The woman told The Indian

Express: "I showed her photos of all staffers and she pointed towards one... Later, in March, they removed me from the job without a reason." Police officers said they are looking for a counsellor to take the second woman's statement. "We will file a separate FIR once that is done." said an officer. The Delhi Commission for

mentally challenged resident of

the shelter were raped. This is

very serious and warrants urgent

action," reads the notice sent by

DCW chairperson Swati Maliwal.

DCP (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi

said, "We have lodged an FIR and

investigations are on." DUSIB

member Bipin Rai said: "All four

accused work with an NGO. We

will remove the NGO and appoint

someone else to manage the

building. We have received the

woman's complaint."

(www.sqpgi.ac.in)

\$

ADVT No. I/63/Rectt/2021-22

An FIR has been registered Women meanwhile sent a notice to DUSIB and Delhi Police over 'serious lapses" at the shelter. "She has alleged that she and a

cused and his friends then fled the spot. Police said they took the man's complaint and arrested the accused driver for rash driving and outraging religious beliefs.

Pataudi double murders: 'Mastermind' arrested

New Delhi: More than a month after two liquor businessmen were murdered in Pataudi, police Saturday said they have arrested the 'mastermind' of the case. Police said Ajay Jaildar, who allegedly has links with gangsters Kala Jathedi and Lawrence Bishnoi, had allegedly plotted themurder to establish his supremacy in liquor business. Preet Pal. ACP crime, said "Probe has found Jaildar planned the double murder and arranged shooters... He was in touch with certain gangsters and we are probing all angles. So far probe suggests he wanted to usurp liquor business and establish his dominance."

19-year-old shot dead

New Delhi: A 19-year-old was allegedly shot dead by his friend in front of a school in Dwarka Saturday. Police said a group of boys were fighting outside the school when one of the boys pulled out a pistol and fired at the victim. Police said they registered a case and have arrested the main accused. ENS



this portal, please contact help line number '18001025026' and '011-41106131, 03340609118, 09330102643 and Authorised Officer- 8986185704 Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://ibapi.in and www nstcecommerce.com Date : 25.03.2022 Place : Patna



Authorised Officer

Indian Bank

THE RECOGNITION:- A maximum of 20 recognitions comprising of citation, memento and cash amount of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only). WHO CAN APPLY:- Farmers application engaged in the conservation of genetic resources of landraces and wild relatives of economic plants and the improvement through selection and preservation and the material so selected and preserved has been used as donors of genes in varieties registerab

Improvement in dogs selection ratio preservation and the material as detected and preserved national so denotes a doubt of organism variables in variables registerated under the PPVXFR Act, 2001 (Duly to be forwarded by specified authorities and certificate from concerned institute to be attached). HOW TO APPLY- Application form and detailed guidelines may be downloaded from the website of the Authority www.plantauthority.gw.in or may be obtained in person or by post on any working day from the office of PPV&FR Authority. New Delhi or its offices at fanchi, Guwahati, Palmapur, Pune and Shivamogga (Please see the address from website) between 9:00A.M. to 5: 30 P.M. Applications may be submitted either in Hindi or English. There is no application fee. Only complete form with supporting document(s) is to be submitted

APPLICATIONS TO BE FORWARDED THROUGH: Chairperson/Secretary of the concerned Panchayat, Biodiversity Management Committee concerned District Agricultural Officer or Director of Research of concerned Central/State/Agriculture University or concerned District Agriculture University or concerned District Agriculture University or concerned District Tribal Development Office. However in case of applications for Plant Genome Savior Community Awards it can also be forwarded through concerned Zonal Project Directories Indian Council of Agricultural Research (Now Director- Agriculture Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI)-ICAR with official seal. ect Directo

Last Date of Submission: The duly filled in application form along with supportive information, evidence/documents/details/proof of the claims mad should reach the following address within 3 (three) months from the date of publication of the advertisement.

(Uma Kant Dubey) Deputy Registrar

Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare, Govt. of India S-2, 'A' Block, NASC, DPS Marg, Opp. Todapur, New Delhi-110 012. Contact No : 011-25842846; E-mail: <u>uk.dubey@gov.in</u>

davp 01146/11/0006/2122

OFFICE OF THE A.D.M & COMPETENT AUTHORITY, CUTTACK **ADVERTISEMENT**

No. 62/OPID Date 23.3.2022

Invitation of online claim application from the depositors of M/s Golden Land Developers Group of Companies (i.e. M/s GLP Developers Limited and M/s Golden Land Developers Limited) for identification of genuine depositors.

The General Public of the State of Odisha are hereby informed that, in order to comply the orders dated 23.12.2015 passed by the Learned Designated Court, (under OPID Act.) Cuttack in I.A. Case No. 06/2014 filed against M/s Golden Land Developers Group of Companies and others and in order to initiate necessary action for identification of the genuine depositors and to ascertain their actual claim, online claim applications are invited from the depositors who have invested money in different deposit scheme of M/s Golden Land Developers Group of Companies i.e. M/s GLP Developers Limited and M/s Golden Land Developers Limited and have been defrauded by these company. which neither returned their deposits nor provided them with any land / plot as promised.

Applicants can submit their online claim applications through the Odisha Government website www.opid.odisha.gov.in on their own or by taking assistance of a "Mo Seva Kendra (MSK)" This website will remain open from dt.04.04.2022 at 11.00 AM to dt.03.06.2022 at 12.00 midnight for submission of online claim applications. The fees for submission of online claim application through the "Mo Seva Kendra", are indicated below, which has been notified by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of Odisha vide their Notification No. 558/E&IT dated 12.02.2021. The Offline / physical applications in this regard shall not be entertained.

The applicants should attach self-attested scanned copies of the relevant documents in support of their claim as indicated in the online application form. The authority may, in case, where feel necessary, refer any claim of deposit to Income Tax Department or other appropriate authority for verification. In case, it is noticed that any application is fake or based on false information, the applicant shall be liable for criminal action as per Law and the same application will be cancelled. Incomplete/defective applications are liable for rejection.

Fee prescribed for submission of online application through the Mo Seva Kendra.

1. Online application fill up and uploading	- Rs.20.00.
2. Printing of each page (Black and White, A4 size or less)	- Rs.5.00.
3. Scanning of each page (A4 size)	- Rs.3.00.

N.B.: If the applicant encounter any technical problems while submitting online application he/she may contact in Toll Free Number 18003456770 / 155335, between 10.00 AM to 06.00 PM every day except Sunday for assistance.

> Sd/-Additional District Magistrate & **Competent Authority, Cuttack** OIPR-24178/11/0020/2122









PLAN TO EMPLOY 20 LAKH PEOPLE IN 5 YEARS

Budget offers jobs booster for long Covid

GAYATHRIMANI NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

AS THE capital emerges from Covid's long shadow, the Delhi budget presented on Saturday focused on the need to create and provide jobs and boost economic recovery. It was with this aim that Manish Sisodia, the Deputy CM who also holds the Finance portfolio, christened it a 'rozgaar budget', attempting to lay out a roadmap to provide jobs to 20

lakh people in the next five years. The Rs 75,800 crore budget for financial year 2022-23 saw an increase of about 13.3 per cent as compared to the revised estimates of previous financial year's budget of Rs 67,000 crore. At 21.5% education got the highest allocation yet again, followed by

health at 13 % and transport and roads at 13%. Allocation to all three heads saw a slight decrease - between 1 and 2.5 percentage points - as compared to the previous financial year.

Sisodia said that under the rozgaar budget, the aim was to increase Delhi's working population from 33% to 45%. "I am presenting an agenda to create new jobs for the people of Delhi and to boost economic recovery from the damage caused in recent years due to Covid, GST, and demonetisation. This will encourage trade, industry and business and will create a large number of employment and business opportunities for the citizens of Delhi. The schemes and proposals presented in this budget will not only provide new entrepreneurship opportunities to the youth of Delhi, but will also benefit the already established enterprises and businesses," he said.

Sisodia said Rs 800 crore has been allocated to create job opportunities and employment. The government is planning to launch an 'employment audit' in all its departments and agencies to review the work done and jobs provided each financial year, he said.

"Currently, the total population of 1.68 crore and 56 lakh people have some employment. Our aim is to make this 76 lakh. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, we are aiming to increase the percentage of the maining 96% of the self-emworking population of Delhi from the current 33% to 45% in the next " said Sisodi

the government's plan of redeveloping five traditional markets. developing a bazaar portal which will open up the global market to

Delhi traders, creating a garment hub in Gandhinagar, developing traditional food hubs and food trucks that will operate till 2 am.

The CM said that the budget not only takes into account job creation, but also addresses increasing costs by providing free education, healthcare, electricity, water, and travel for women.

Presenting the budget, Sisodia said, "We have dealt with the pandemic but we are all aware of the severe damage it has caused to the social and economic progress of the entire country. Delhi is no exception to this. In the last two years, for immediate relief, some ex-gratia help has been given to the aggrieved and needy families/people by arranging financial assistance, ration, food etc., but immediate help is just an instant help, people need jobs." Sisodia said the aim of the

budget and policies was to not just provide jobs, but to enable others to do the same, but said there was a difference in the way the Delhi government views this.

"When we say that our children become job givers not job seekers, I want to make it clear here that we are not talking about making them self-employed like those self-employed in our country over the last few decades. Famous economic journalists Anshuman Tiwari and Anindya Sen Gupta have written in their recent book 'Ulti Ginti', "Swarozgari Bharat ka sabse andhera kona hai". The Delhi government is aware of the bitter reality of the accreditation of self-employment... I also want to inform the House that every second person among the workers of India is self-employed... and out of our self-employed population, 60

percent are engaged in agricultural work and the remaining 40 percent have small shops or practices like running a workshop, providing some service or the other, hawking, repairing, retailing, carpentry, blacksmith, an electrician, a painter or running a salon. Out of all these self-employed people in the country, only 4% are able to provide employ-

ment to other people. The re-

eir work or their family mem

bers are working with them

without any salary. I am not say-

ing that this is wrong. It is good to

run your household by being self-

prehensive solution that we need

at the national level. To create

nine crore new jobs, we have to

create entrepreneurial self-em-

ployment on a very large scale

which means we will have to cre-

elected Punjab finance minister

Harpal Singh Cheema and

attendance. They were invited to

understand the process of budget

preparation and presentation,

said AAP members.

The Assembly also saw newly

ate entrepreneurs "he said

DELHI BUDGET 2022-23: ADDING TO THE PRIORITY LIST





Chief Minister Kejriwal, Deputy CM Sisodia at the Delhi Assembly on Saturday. PTI

BUDGET ALLOTTED FOR SCHEMES/ PROJECTS

PROJECTS AND SCHEMES ₹8,817 cr Transport gets boost (20%) ₹7,310 cr Education (17%)

₹5.567 cr Medical and public health (13%) ₹6,710 cr Water supply, sanitation (15%)

■ ₹ 10 crore for boarding school, ₹50 cr for school science museum

∎₹800 crore for all employment generation policies.

₹1,900 cr for four new hospitals, ሪ ₹475 cr for mohalla clinics,

polyclinics ₹ 160 cr for hospital information and management and health card

20 lakh jobs to be created in five years

KEY SCHEMES AND POLICIES

Redevelopment of all retail markets like Chandni Chowk, Sadar Bazar in the next five years. Rs 100 crore allocated, aims to create 1.5 lakh jobs

Delhi as the destination of films. To conduct a film festival from coming year

food like chole bhatoore, gol gappas, tikki etc. It will operate from 8 pm to 2 am Launching Delhi Bazaar

for retail and wholesale

economy. The government

shops to give discounts. ₹250

Delhi Food Truck Policy to

promote nightlife like

Mumbai's, and sell street

will give SGST refunds to

markets to boost the

crore allocated

portal where shopkeepers and traders can sell their products online. It aims to benefit 10 lakh vendors in the city. ₹20 crore

allocated Increasing cloud kitchens

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

with land, plug and play facilities, ease in licensing and regulations process Delhi Film Policy to

promote tourism, brand Delhi Shopping Festival to be organised every year for six to eight weeks separately

Health budget sees marginal dip after Water supply and sanitation rank high sharp increase during pandemic

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

A MAJOR chunk of this year's health budget has gone towards expansion of health infrastructure in Delhi. A total of Rs 1,900 crore has been allocated for construction and remodelling of hospitals, whereas Rs 475 crore has been allocated for setting up new mohalla clinics and polyclinics.

The total outlay for the health sector stood at Rs 9.769 crore for 2022-23. This is, in fact, a decline of 1.6% over Rs 9.934 crore allocated to the sector last year. This is the first time the health budget ployed are their own workers in has gone down since the AAP government came to power There had been a jump of nearly 29% in the healthcare outlay last year amidst the pandemic. Notably, no allocation has been made for Covid vaccination. which received a Rs 50 crore allocation last year. The outlay for infrastructure of four new hospitals and redevelopment of 15 existing ones will add around 16,000 hospital beds, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said in his budget speech. The four hospitals in the pipeline are a 2,716-bed facility at Siraspur and three 671-bed ones speaker Kuktar Singh Sangwan in at Madipur, Hastsal, and Iwalapuri. The government had allocated Rs 1,293 crore for the expansion of tertiary care facilities in the previous budget.

And now they want to earn

second, concrete steps should be

On Kejriwal's statements on

uploading The Kashmir Files on

YouTube, MP Ramesh Bidhuri

said, "Why has he not uploaded

his advertisements and develop-

said Kejriwal, who "made fun" of

Hindus and Kashmiri Pandits in

the Assembly, will meet the

same fate as the Congress, Lalu

Prasad Yadav and Mulayam

Kejriwal has shown his anti-

Hindu mentality," he said.

"This is not the first time

Singh Yadav.

Addressing protesters, Gupta

ment works on YouTube?"

can go back to their homes."

As for primary care, the government allocated Rs 475 crore for setting up more mohalla clinics and polyclinics. Of the 1,000 clinics planned during the first term of the AAP government, 520 have been set up so far. The government has not allocated funds vet for its mahila mohalla clinic project - neighbourhood clinics for women where they can seek gynaecological consultations which was announced last year but work could not begin amidst the pandemic.

"We have to understand that India's new poverty is coming from disease. Every year, 5.50 crore people in India, that is 4.6% of the entire population, becomes poor due to disease Of these 72% are poor only because of the expenditure on basic medical care. This is why there is a need for mohalla clinics and why they were successful in Delhi," Sisodia said. Experts point to two key areas that the government needs to focus on in order to make Delhi healthy. Dr M C Misra, former director of AIIMS, Delhi, said, "It is good that the government is increasing health infrastructure. But we also need to audit whether whatever they have already set up is working properly. After all, a hospital bed is not just about a hospital bed. Do they have doctors, nurses and other staff? Initially, mohalla clinics used to draw staff from Delhi govern-



Sisodia at Vidhan Sabha to present the Delhi budget 2022-2023. Prem Nath Pandey

ment hospitals. That does not help. We need to see whether all the services such as emergency care, routine surgeries are in fact happening. Outsourcing is not an rt sometim

family members," Sisodia said. There will also be a 24x7 toll-free helpline for cardholders to book appointments in Delhi hospitals.

₹43.600 CRORE

development(8%)

₹3,434 cr Housing & urban

₹4,924 cr Social welfare and

₹1,156 cr Rural development,

agriculture

₹3,336 cr Energy

₹2,346 cr Other

security (11%)

The government also allocated Rs 15 crore for Aam Aadmi Yogshala. "450 yoga teachers trained by DPSRU, Government of Delhi, are teaching voga daily to more than 15,000 people according to their time and convenience," Sisodia said.

Shailaja Chandra, former health secretary of Delhi, said, "Delhi already has a large network of public hospitals - more than any other city in India. That is not to criticise setting up more hospitals and mohalla clinics but the thrust on building infrastructure seen as a solution to reduc.

increase this year. The budget also makes a pro-

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

THE OUTLAY for water supply

and sanitation in the 2022-23

budget has seen an increase as

compared to the previous finan-

cial year. The proposed outlay for

this year is Rs 7.610 crore. around

10% of the total budget estimate

for the year. In comparison, the

outlay for the 2021-22 financial

year was Rs 3,274 crore, which

was 5% of the total budget out-

been proposed for water supply

and sanitation projects, with the

outlay for water supply schemes

being higher than that for sanita-

A total of Rs 6.710 crore has

vision of Rs 705 crore to revive the Najafgarh drain. Floating wetlands and aerators will be deployed in the drain to treat the water, and the area will be developed as a tourist destination.

In his budget speech, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia identified 24x7 clean drinking water and the clean Yamuna as "two more big dreams" that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has given to the people of Delhi. "Better management of water coming to Delhi from outside, and better harvesting of rainwater will ensure 24 hours water in the coming three years," he said. The work of "providing 100% sewer in unauthorised colonies" will be completed

To this end, the budget speaks

about positioning Delhi as a retail and wholesale hub, with a special focus of the food business.

After the budget. Keiriwal said employed but this is not the comit was a miracle that the budget had increased 2.5 fold in seven years. "We aim to create 20 lakh new jobs in the next five years. Just saying it takes courage. This was not an electoral promise, this was the budget. And we have presented a framework to create jobs," he said, thanking Sisodia.

The government will focus on eight sectors for job creation -- retail, food and beverages, logistics, supply, travel and tourism, entertainment, real estate, and green energy. Kejriwal briefly outlined

DU graduate jumps to death off flyover

Gurgaon: A 23-year-old woman died after allegedly jumping off Rajeev Chowk flyover in Gurgaon on Saturday afternoon. The reason for the alleged suicide is yet to be ascertained, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Sapna, a resident of Hans Enclave in Gurgaon, police said. She was pursuing a professional certification course in management accounting and had done her graduation from DU.

According to police, the incident took place around 2.30 pm.

DCP (East) Virender Vij said, "It appears to be a case of suicide. She parked her scooter on the flyover and jumped off it. She suffered injuries on head and body and was rushed to a hospital, where she was declared dead on arrival. No suicide note has been recovered. Her family has not

mentioned any reason for the death. The post-mortem will be conducted tomorrow." Police have initiated inquest proceedings under CrPC section 174. Police said she had some marks on her wrists suggesting that she had slit her wrists before jumping. ENS

BJP versus CM as Kashmir Files row simmers in capital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

crores by making a movie on SENIOR BJP leaders, MPs, and their pain. Over Rs 200 crores have been earned. We have two party workers led by state president Adesh Gupta staged a demands: put this movie on protest near the Delhi Vidhan YouTube so everyone can watch Sabha against Chief Minister it, and whatever has been earned Arvind Kejriwal's statements on should be used for the rehabilitathe film The Kashmir Files, even tion of the Kashmiri Pandits. And as the latter said the BJP was politicising the plight of taken so that Kashmiri Pandits Kashmiri Pandits.

Former Union Health Minister and MP Harsh Vardhan said: "The development that took place in J&K in the past seven years has not happened in 60 years since Independence."

During a press conference after the budget, when asked about his statement on The Kashmir Files, Kejriwal said, "In the last 20-25 years since the Kashmiri Pandits' exodus, the BIP has been at the Centre for 13 years. In the last 8 years, the BJP has been in the Centre. Has even one family been rehabilitated in effective, but even for that we need an external audit to see what is actually happening." He said the government needs to find a workaround to provide care at par with its autonomous Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences at a much lower cost. Other than health infrastruc-

ture, the Delhi government also allocated Rs 160 crore for setting up a cloud-based Hospital Information Management System and a QR code-based ehealth card. "This will help in identifying patients and getting basic information about their disease with geo-tagging. This system will also help in getting information about family trees, that is

ing the incidence of diseases has left out public health and preventive health altogether. Delhi has the highest prevalence of lifestyle diseases topped by obesity even among kids. Investment in yoga is good but it is not enough to take care of the large proportion of people who are falling prey to hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. A few cvcle tracks are just not enough when there aren't any pavements in most places even to walk."

"Pollution also affects health very adversely... The government must find ways to disincentive travelling alone in cars along with measures like congestion tax," she said.

tion. Water supply projects include rehabilitation of existing water treatment plants, replacement of the old distribution system, and managing leakage.

lav for that year.

The outlay for water supply subsidies to the consumer is around Rs 602 crore. The water bills of around 6.5 lakh consumers are zero every month under the scheme of providing 20kilo litres of free water per month. The outlay for sewerage and

drainage projects includes the state government funding for the third phase of the Yamuna Action Plan that aims at cleaning the river. The allocation to provide sewerage facilities in unauthorised colonies and interceptor sewers has also seen an

speaker, Abbi said, "It is not fair

to the speaker, but if some fight

broke out at the event, who

would have been responsible?

The speaker, regardless of who it

is, should also have thought that

if permission was denied, should

he have delivered the lecture

there? He also did the wrong

thing by standing on the road

Bhushan said authorities had

informally told the organising

students that the talk would not

be permitted. "Soon after they

publicised the talk, the univer-

sity authorities at the top must

have received some instruction

from their political bosses say-

ing how can you allow Prashant

Bhushan to give a talk here... I

went today because it was my

duty and responsibility to meet

the students and talk to them,

since their permission had been

cancelled without any good rea-

that a speaker whose views are

against this government will not

"Today was a classic example

and delivering a lecture."

by the end of the year. He said that in two years "the Yamuna will be completely cleaned". Manoj Misra, former Indian Forest Service officer and convenor of the Yamuna live Abhiyaan, said, "Any effort to improve the sewerage network is welcome. The claim to rejuvenate the Yamuna in two years will have to be taken with a pinch of salt. Taking care of the pollution load in the river is just one aspect of rejuvenating the river

since it is an ecological challenge. But the only thing that is in the Delhi government's hands is to reduce the pollution load in the river. It should be good enough if that is taken care of."

DU's Law Faculty cancels Prashant Bhushan 3 doctors in shortlist for AIIMS top job decision was unfair to the

New Delhi: Three doctors have been shortlisted to take over from Dr Randeep Guleria as the director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences. They include head of the AIIMS trauma centre and orthopaedic surgeon Dr Rajesh Malhotra, head of the department of endocrinology Dr Nikhil Tandon, and the executive director of (Translational Health Science and Technology Institute) and a professor of gastroenterology Dr Pramod Garg, according to officials in the know of the matter.

A four-member committee had received applications of 32 doctors, including 12 from within the institute for the position.

Dr Guleria was to complete on March 24. which was extended for a period of three months till the new director is finalised. "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," an internal memorandum said. ENS

ARANYA SHANKAR NEW DELHI, MARCH 26 Kashmir? No one. What the BJP has done is politicise the issue.

DELHI UNIVERSITY'S Law Faculty Saturday cancelled a talk by senior advocate Prashant Bhushan on 'Challenges to The Indian Constitution' 20 minutes prior to the event, citing "unmanageable behaviour" by students. Bhushan, however, alleged there was pressure to cancel the event given the topic, and his stand against the current dispensation.

After he was denied entry to speak inside the Law Faculty campus, Bhushan ended up delivering a short lecture outside on the road. In a notice issued less than half an hour before the talk was scheduled at 11 am. Law Faculty Dean Usha Tandon said, "This is to notify that the permission to hold the program organised by some students of CLC (Campus Law Centre) relating to Indian 'Challenges to Constitution' to be held today stands cancelled. As per the decision of the meeting of the Committee on Seminar and



Bhushan delivered a short lecture outside, on the road

Conference Rooms Booking, the cancellation is in light of the developments and the unmanageable behaviour of the students since March 25...

Vivek Raj, a student and one of the organisers, said: "We had permission to hold the event in the seminar hall. We had been asking for the key since yesterday evening but we were refused. We told them that the room has been closed for the last two years because of the pandemic, so we need the keys to clean the room and get it in order. We then started a protest, after which the authorities called the police.'

"Yesterday during the ruckus, Deputy Proctor Gunjan Gupta told us that the decision was taken at the top to cancel the event. Today in the notice they are saving it's because of our behaviour," he alleged.

Asked for the reason behind cancellation, Gupta refused to comment, saying, "I'm not the right person. You should talk to the authorities." Proctor Rajni Abbi, a former Delhi mayor from the BJP, said the topic or Bhushan himself was not the reason for cancellation. "Yesterday the students created a ruckus. They had an altercation with police and misbehaved with me... I don't think in any reasonable manner we could have handed over the keys to them yesterday. If something untoward happened at night, if they got drunk, who would have been responsible? They created a huge problem in the library; they were banging doors. Because of this we decided to cancel. If students misbehave. they will not be allowed whether it is Prashant Bhushan or anyone else in the country," she said.

be permitted to speak in this university," he said. Asked if such a last-minute

son."



THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022 GOVT & POLITICS

Congress to run three-phase campaign against price rise from March 31

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

LUCKNOW, MARCH 26

pointed Leader of Opposition in

elected leader of the SP legisla-

Earlier in the day, he was

The SP is the largest

Opposition party in the 403-

member Assembly with 111

MLAs. With six MLAs of Suheldev

MLAs of the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the

the UP Legislative Assembly and

leader of Samajwadi Party is ap-

HARIKISHAN SHARMA

IN THE careful balancing of caste

and regional representation in

the Yogi Adityanath government,

the scales have tilted against

long-time BJP leaders. From over

70 per cent representation in the

2017 Adityanath Cabinet, BJP

cadre strength has dropped to

berths joined the BIP following the

Modi wave win of 2014, including

Friday with 53 members, includ-

ing the CM, his Deputies Keshav

Prasad Maurya and Brijesh

Pathak, 16 Cabinet ministers, 14

Ministers of State (Independent

Charge) and 20 Ministers of State.

In 2017, he had a smaller team, of

46. but a much higher number of

Among the 16 Cabinet minis-

ters now, seven — Surya Pratap

Shahi, Suresh Kumar Khanna,

Swatantra Dev Singh, Baby Rani

Maurva, Dharmpal Singh,

Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary and

Yogendra Upadhyaya - are long-

time BJP workers, having been

with the party or Sangh Parivar

since the 1980s and 1990s.

Cabinet ministers (22).

several who joined recently.

Many who have got Cabinet

Team Yogi 2.0 took oath

less than half in the new one.

NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

"Akhilesh Yadav, a member of

SP-led alliance has 125 seats.

the Uttar Pradesh Assembly.

party legislators in Lucknow.

THE CONGRESS on Saturday announced a three-phased campaign – 'Mehngai-mukt Bharat Abhiyaan' – against price rise, under which it will organise rallies and marches across the country from March 31 to April 7.

Congress general secretary and chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said at a press conference here that in the first phase of the campaign, Congress workers and others would protest outside their houses and at public places on March 31.

He said people would garland LPG cylinders, beat drums and ring bells to highlight the issue of inflation and seek to draw the attention of the "deaf BIP government against the insurmountable increase in the prices of cooking gas, petrol and diesel".

"The Congress president, in consultation with the party general secretaries and state incharges, has decided to champion the people's cause in a threephased programme - Mehngai-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan," he said. From April 2 to April 4, the

Congress, along with NGOs, religious and social organisations, and resident welfare bodies, will organise dharnas and marches at the district level across the country, he added.

On April 7, the party will organise "Mehngai-mukt Bharat" dharnas and marches at all state headquarters, Surjewala said.

"The people of India have been betrayed, duped and deceived by the Modi government. After keeping the prices of petrol, diesel, gas cylinders, piped natural gas and CNG unchanged for 137 days to secure the votes of people, the last one week has been a nightmare for every household," he added.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS MP WINS SANSAD RATNA AWARD

New Delhi: Andaman and Nicobar Islands MP Kuldeep Rai Sharma was awarded the Sansad Ratna Award 2022 in New Delhi on Saturday. Sharma said the award is recognition of his hard work in his constituency. He said he has also worked towards the rights of children in the area. The award

LAST MONTH, Rajasthan Chief

Minister Ashok Gehlot an-

nounced his government's intention to enact the Raiasthan

Guaranteed Right to Services

and Accountability Law that civil

society organisations have been

demanding for quite some time.

Soochna Evum Rozgar Adhikar

Abhiyan's (SR Abhiyan) **ARUNA**

ROY and NIKHIL DEY, who

started pushing for this law

Jawabdehi Yatra, explain the

need for an accountability law in

interview with HARIKISHAN SHARMA, the

the statewide

In an

through

India. Excerpts:

In 2017, as many as 16 of the Flection Cahinet ministers fell in thi by Chief Commissioner of India, Sushil category Chandra, in the presence of Of the remaining 9 Cabinet Minister of State for Parliamentary ministers in the new Adityanath Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal. ENS government, two – Ashish Patel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SAMAJWADI PARTY chief Akhilesh Yadav, who quit his Lok Sabha membership to stay as MLA, was on Saturday ap-

Akhilesh appointed UP Leader of Opp:

'Our goal is to fight for issues of people'

Akhilesh Yadav with newly elected SP MLAs. PTI

ture party at a meeting of the pointed Leader of Opposition... under Section 1(h) of the Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Members Emoluments and Pension) Act 1980," Principal Secretary (UP Vidhan Sabha Bharativa Samai Party and eight Secretariat) Pradeep Dubey said. "We are taking the pledge that

the goal of the Samajwadi Party's '111' is to fight for the issues of people," Akhilesh tweeted in Hindi. Akhilesh had won from

Karhal constituency in Mainpuri district in the recently concluded Assembly elections in the state. He had defeated Union minister and BJP leader SP Baghel by over 60,000 votes. On Tuesday, he had resigned as Azamgarh MP.

The meeting of SP MLAs in which Akhilesh was elected leader of the SP legislature party, meanwhile, brought to fore the differences between Akhilesh

Less than half in Team Yogi are long-time BJP workers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

WITH AN aim to establish 100 new Sainik schools across the country in a partnership model, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Saturday approved the setting up of 21 such schools, in partnership with NGOs, private schools or state governments. The academic session for

these new schools is scheduled to begin in the first week of May. "The objectives behind Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's vision of setting up 100 new Sainik schools is to provide quality education to students in tune with the National Education Policy and give them better career opportunities, including in the Armed Forces. It also gives an opportunity to the private sector to work hand-in-hand with the government towards nation building," a

press release from the MoD read. Unlike the existing Sainik schools that are completely residential, seven will be day schools and the rest will have residential arrangements.

Besides their affiliation to the respective education boards, the ols will function under th aegis of Sainik Schools Society Assembly on Saturday. and will follow the rules and regforegone conclusion as Congress ulations in partnership mode prescribed by the society. chose to stay out of contest.

Govt extends PMGKAY for six more months

FREE FOOD GRAIN SCHEME: PREVIOUS 5 PHASES **HARIKISHAN SHARMA** NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

THE CENTRE on Saturday ex-

tended for six months its free

food grain scheme. Pradhan

Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna

Yojana (PMGKAY), the popular-

ity of which is considered as one

of the factors playing a signifi-cant role in the BJP's return to

Ministry of Consumer Affairs,

Food and Public Distribution said

the Union Cabinet, chaired by

Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

has decided to extend the

PMGKAY till September 2022 in

"keeping with the concern and

sensitivity towards poor and vul-

of India lies in the power of every

citizen of the country. To further

strengthen this power, the gov-

grain) is provided to each bene-

ficiary each month free of cost.

The beneficiaries are those cov-

ered under the National Food

Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

till September 2022."

Later in the evening, the Prime

nerable sections of society".

In a statement, the Union

power in Uttar Pradesh.

Period Allocation Phase Financial (Lakh MT Implication (Rs crore) Phase-I April-June, 2020 121 46,061 Phase-II July-Nov, 2020 201 76,062 May-June 2021 Phase-III 79.39 26603 Phase-IV July-Nov 2021 198.78 66279 Dec, 21-Mar 2022 159.05 53344 Phase-V 759.22 Total 268349 19 months

the scheme is over and above their entitlements under the NFSA.

This will be the 6th phase of the PMGKAY. Phase-V of the scheme was to end in March 2022. The Centre had launched the PMGKAY in April 2020 during the first wave of Covid-19.

Describing the PMGKAY as the Minister tweeted, "The strength world's "largest food security programme", the ministry said, "The government has spent approximately Rs 2.60 lakh crore so far ernment has decided to continue and another Rs 80.000 crore will the PMGKAY for six more months be spent over the next 6 months till September 2022 taking the to-Under the scheme, 5 kg of tal expenditure under PM-GKAY to nearly Rs 3.40 lakh crore." food grains (wheat, rice, coarse

"This will cover nearly 80 crore beneficiaries across India and like before would be fully funded by the Government of India," the ministry said.

About 80 crore beneficiaries Giving the reasons for extendare covered under the scheme ing the scheme, it said, "Even and the quantity provided under though the Covid-19 pandemic



Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami with Ritu Khanduri in Dehradun on Saturday. PTI

Uttarakhand Assembly gets first woman Speaker

Dehradun: BJP MLA Ritu Khanduri, the daughter of former chief minister B C Khanduri, was elected unopposed as the first er of Elttarakhand

Her election to the post was a

In her maiden address to MLAs soon after her election, Khanduri exhorted first-time legislators to utilise the five years of their tenure in learning about legislative pro

Dhami congratulated her.

cedures and participate enthusi-

astically in debates in the House.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh

nomic activities are gathering momentum, this PM-GKAY extension would ensure that no poor household goes to bed without food during this time of recovery.' "Under the extended PM-GKAY each beneficiary will get additional 5 kg free ration per

has significantly abated and eco-

person per month in addition to his normal quota of foodgrains under the NFSA. This means that every poor household would get nearly double the normal quantity of ration," it said.

According to the ministry, the government had allocated about 759 LMT of free food grains under the PMGKAY till Phase 5.

"With another 244 LMT of free foodgrains under this extension (Phase 6), the aggregate allocation of free food grains under the PM-GKAY now stand at 1.003 LMT of food grains," the ministry said.

After Uttarakhand, all states should implement **Uniform** Civil Code, says Giriraj

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, MARCH 26

UNION MINISTER Giriraj Singh on Saturday said Bihar and other states should try to implement Uniform Civil Code as announced by Uttrakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.

Keeping one of the pre-poll promises, Dhami's Cabinet earlier this week announced that a committee of experts will be formed on Uniform Civil Code. If implemented, Uttrakhand will be the second state in the country to do so after Go

"We thank

Dhamiji... Every

state of the

country should implement it [Uniform Civil

Code]. Let it be

one-state, one-

law," Singh told

reporters here. When asked



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with deputies Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak after their first Cabinet meeting in Lucknow on Saturday. Vishal Srivastav

(Apna Dal) and Sanjay Nishad (NISHAD Party) – are members of BJP alliance partners; while seven others - Chaudhary Laxmi Narayan, Jaivir Singh, Jitin Prasada, Rakesh Sachan. Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi'. Arvind Kumar Sharma and Anil Rajbhar – joined the BJP post 2015. Two of them (Prasada and Sachan) joined in the last one year.

Again, while in the last tenure of the Yogi government, both the Deputy CMs were long-time BJP leaders, Brijesh Pathak, named as Deputy CM this time, moved from the BSP to the BJP only in 2017. Pathak incidentally had criticised the Adityanath governhandling of Covid-19 and

since 2015, at least three were part of the BSP government led by Mayawati (2007-2012). They include Jaivir Singh, Nand Gopal Gupta, and Laxmi Narayan, who has also been in the Lok Dal, Congress and Loktantrik Congress Party, and served earlier in BJP-led governments.

Some of the seven non-BJP cadre inducted as ministers were also part of the Adityanath government last time.

Cabinet ministers with long BJP background who were dropped this time were Siddharth Nath Singh, Shrikant Sharma and Ashutosh Tandon.

"Though I am an MLA from SP, I was not invited to the meeting. I tried to contact SP leaders but I have not got any information about it..." said Shivpal. After being at loggerheads since 2017, the uncle-nephew duo

and his uncle Shivpal Singh Yadav.

had decided to bury their differences ahead of the Assembly elections. Shivpal, who had formed a new party after quitting the SP in 2017. won from his traditional Jaswant Nagar seat in Etawah on an SP ticket this time. Asked about Shivpal's absence in the meeting, SP state president Naresh Uttam Patel said, "Only SP MLAs were called for today's meeting. On March 28, a meeting of MLAs of the alliance partners, irrespective of whether they had contested on 'bicycle' (SP symbol) or their party symbols, will be held "

MoD nod for setting up 21 new Sainik schools; academic session to begin in May

had even written letters to the state government on the matter. Among the new ministers who have been in the BIP only

were several factors at play. "The composition of the Council of Ministers has kept in mind caste, social and regional balance.

state or a uniform law for the

Like RTI, this is a subject that

can be legislated either centrally

or in the states. We began the

campaign for an accountability

law and grievance redress to-

gether at the state and Centre...

accountability law, will you

undertake the yatra in other

Absolutely! Many campaigns

and networks from different

states have already reached out

to the SR Abhiyan for organising

public discussions on the need

for an accountability law at the

state level. In the current politi-

cal framework, it is essential for

the Opposition to not just react

to the BJP's politics of hate but

also to demonstrate a positive

and constructive agenda of re-

form that upholds democratic

participation and citizen-centric

governance. The accountability

law is such an opportunity.

respond positively to your

demands, will you campaign

The hope is also that the law

in Rajasthan will force the Centre

to respond more positively to

such a demand that is bound to

grow in different parts of

India...We believe that this law

is an essential part of a participa-

tory democratic framework, as

tively for a law of this nature.

FULL INTERVIEW ON

If the Centre does not

for such a law?

If Rajasthan enacts the

states?

entire country?

ODISHA

BJD sweeps urban local body polls

Ruling BJD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BHUBANESWAR, MARCH 26

THE BIJU Janata Dal won the urban local body (ULB) elections in Odisha by a landslide, clinching all three corporations and 73 other ULBs. This came just weeks after the party swept to victory in rural polls, forming zilla parishads in all 30 districts in the state.

Elections were held in a total of 109 ULBs, including 105 notified area councils (NACs) and municipalities, and counting was held on Saturday. Counting for Dhamnagar NAC was postponed pending re-polling in some booths due to disruptions

EXPLAINED strengthens 🔲 🛑 its hand THE BJD'S landslide wins in the rural and urban polls hold importance with Assembly and general elections just two vears away. The previous ma-

during the elections. Apart from the BJD, the BJP won 16 ULBs and Congress won seven.

Leaders of the BID - the ruling party in Odisha – said the victory was widely anticipated. "The outcome is a reflection of

the people's trust in the leadership and the party. It shows that people have faith in the uninterrupted commitment of the party and its leadership for the welfare of all sections of the society," Panchayati Raj and Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena said. In the mayoral elections,

which were held directly for the first time in the state, the BJD won all three.

Giriraj Singh

PTI

about possible resistance from ally JD (U) and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar towards any such bid, the Union minister said, "This country has always believed in 'Sarve Santu Niramaya' and 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and, thus, has always believed in secularism. What some people are following now is political secularism."

The BJP Begusarai MP, who recently upset ally JD(U) by saying that Hindus are not safe in Begusarai following a crime incident, said: "I will try to speak up for rights of Hindus. I have been talking about law on population control. I do not know the party line but I will continue to speak my mind."

ior elections in the state had seen BJP make strong inroads, challenging BJD's prospects in the state. The recent results,

however, have placed BJD in a decisive position with neither BIP nor Congress making a significant impact.

After success of 'Bulldozer Baba' in UP, 'Bulldozer Mama' rolls into MP politics

IRAM SIDDIQUE BHOPAL, MARCH 26

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister

Yogi Aditvanath was bestowed with the sobriquet "Bulldozer Baba" during the campaign for the recently concluded elections in Samajwadi Party as a jibe, the BJP Adityanath government's policy of using the machine to raze illegal

long as people would fight to protect democracy they will campaign persistently and acwww.indianexpress.com Madhya Pradesh CM

party tries to build up Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan as someone who is tough on crime.

of our daughters)."

The term "Bulldozer Mama" made its appearance earlier this week when BJP MLA Rameshwar Sharma placed a row of bulldozers outside his government bungalow in Bhopal along with a hoarding that read, "Beti ki suraksha mein jo banega rora, mama ka bulldozer banega hathora (Uncle

The hoarding was put up after the district administrations named in an FIR filed following

State BJP president V D Sharma told The Indian Express, "The state under the leadership of Shivraj Singh Chouhan has always dealt with criminals with an iron fist and he will continue to do so.'

Although Chouhan's supporters deny that Madhya Pradesh is following in the footsteps of its neighbouring state, several times in the past Madhya Pradesh has adopted laws and policies first enacted in UP from the Freedom to Religion Act, 2021, to the Property Recovery Act; an MP Anti-Gangster Bill has been proposed on the lines of the UP Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Opp to back positive reform agenda'

'Accountability law a chance for

Aruna Roy

Constitution...The Committee

on Personnel, Public Grievances,

Law and Justice that examined

the Right of Citizens for Time

Bound Delivery of Goods and

Services and Redressal of their

redress.

stated it.

cover all

tractors etc. The law is leveraging

the existing supervisory struc-

ture to enforce accountability.

accountability law for each

Do you want a separate

government

servants or a

Grievances Bill. 2011.

which was the first

legislative attempt

to define citizens'

rights to grievance

Does the draft law

clearly

you restart the Yatra? We ended with the declara-

Nikhil Dey

What is the purpose of the Iawabdehi Yatra?

The Jawabdehi Yatra is being organised by the Soochna Evum Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan for the second time in Rajasthan to demand an accountability law in the state. In the first vatra in 2016, all 33 districts of the state were covered over 100 days...Nearly 10,000 grievances were filed. The Jawabdehi Yatra to date has kept a track of these complaints and the quality of redress. The first Yatra's success was evident in the commitment of passing an accountability law finding a mention in the Congress's Assembly election manifesto...Despite the above assurances, when no law was passed for three years, the SR Abhiyan decided to organise the second Jawabdehi Yatra to push the elected government to honour its commitment. Before being prematurely halted due to Omicron, the second Yatra covered 12 districts in 18 days.



How are you reaching out to the people right now? Will

tion that the Yatra is temporarilv suspended but the Andolan continues... After

the Rajasthan Assembly commenced its Budget session, the SR Abhivan began a dharna in Jaipur with the dual objective of demand-

Budget session as well as educating people about the proposed Act and its importance. We have been encouraged by the fact that the chief minister reiterated during his Budget speech on

The accountability law flows clearly from

THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW ing a law in the

section of the lower

February 23 the government's intention to pass the Rajasthan

Why do we need an accountability law? Do we provisions for it?



bureaucracy? The law covers any functionary and body involved in the

the

delivery of public services, or is acting on behalf of the state in the delivery of goods or services, Guaranteed Right to Services or fulfilling other state responsiand Accountability Law. bility. Thereby it covers publicprivate partnerships, sub-con-

need to make constitutional



the state. First mentioned by the decided to adopt the moniker and promote it as an affirmation of the

properties of criminals. The campaign paid off as the BJP returned to power in UP in a convincing fashion. Now, the sobriquet seems to have found a space in the political discourse in Madhya Pradesh as the saffron



New Delhi

in Sheopur, Seoni, and Shahdol razed the houses of three rapeaccused, and, on March 18, Raisen district officials demolished the allegedly illegal homes and shops of some Muslims

their clash with some Adivasis. On March 23, as the BJP government completed two years in power, Chouhan visited Sharma's home and was greeted with chants of "Bulldozer Mama (uncle) Zindabad". The CM seemed to relish the sobriquet and later thanked the MLA in a tweet, saving, "Uncle's bulldozer has always CM's bulldozer will hammer worked. It won't stop till all criminals are swept away. We won't those who impede the security

spare anti-social elements."

Vitran Nigam

Limited

Sd/

दिनांकः 26.03.2022

Dated: 15.03.2022

Traction Distribution / Bengalu



3. Tender No. 22-DDU-SRDEN-I-21-22 Name of work with its location : Provision of deep tube well with pipe line and pump house at BBU under ADEN/II/DDU, Approx cost of the work : ₹43,00,132.57 , Earnest

Money:₹86,000/-4. Closing Date & time for submission of etender : 14.04.2022, Up-to 12:00 hrs. 5. Website particulars of e-tendering www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager ECR/Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya PR/01892/DDU/Engg./T/21-22/44

IN THE COURT OF THE XXXVIII ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT HOSKOTE C.C.NO.4408 /2016 BETWEEN : COMPLAINANT Mr. IRIS COMPUTERS LIMITED AND : ACCUSED : P.G. MICRO SYSTERMS PVT LTD, Notice of Proclamation Warrant to

THE ACCUSED 1. PG.MICRO SYSTEM PVT LTD, SCP-22 Sector-14 Market, Near Huda Office, Gurgaon, Haryana Rep its Directors. 2. SANJAY JAIN. Directore Authorized Signaturies, PG.MicroSystem Pvt Ltd, SCP -22 Sector -14 Market, Near Huda Office, Gurgaon, Haryana. and Also at : C-66/8, Miajlis Park, Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi - 110033. 3. RAJESH KUMAR PANDEY, Director P.G.Micro System Pvt Ltd., C-13, Gali No.5, Miajlis Park, Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi-110033. Take notice that, the complainant has institute he above case against you under section 138 (NI. Act, hence you are hereby directed to appea in person or through a pleader on <u>30.03.2022 a</u> <u>11.AM</u> before this court to answer the said claim ke notice that in default of your appearance, th bove case will be heard and consequences wi

Given under my hand and the seal of the cou his 25th day of march 2022. By Order of the Court, Sheristedar XXXVIII A.C.M.M., Court, Bangalore.

ollow

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

OPEN TENDER Batch No. 112/21 E-Tender Notice for supply of materials-"participation in through" web portal of IREPSwww.ireps.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials. The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr

S.N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Published on/time	Closing
					on
01	11210003B	Inhibited mineral insulating oil	71555 Ltrs.	10.03.22/23:45:31	18.04.22
02	04225003B	Bolster assembly complete with bolster web stiffener	300 Nos.	16.03.22/13:15:14	25.04.22
03	03210119	Motor for traction motor cooling blower for locomotive		21.03.22/12:05:03	18.04.22

Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS www.ireps.gov.in before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above porta

PR/01895/HQ/Store/T/21-22/48 Principal Chief Material Manager/ECR/Hajipur



Office of the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, P.W.D., NAINITAL-263002

ग्रांक 904/ 41-एम-02/21-22 शुद्धि-पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 100/41 एम-02/2021-22 दिनांक 06.01.2022 द्वारा आमत्रिंत राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक ई–निविदा जो कि दिनांक 12.01.2022 को अपलोड होनी थी, दिनांक 08.01.2022 से आर्दश आचार संहिता लाग होने के कारण अपलोड करने की प्रक्रिया अग्रिम आदेशो तक स्थगित की गयी थी। वर्तमान में आदर्श आचार सहिंता समाप्त हो चुकी है। अतः कार्य की राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक ई-निविदा (E-Tendering) दिनांक 30.03.2022 से https://www.uktenders.gov.in पोर्टल पर ऑन लाईन उपलब्ध होगी। नेविदा से संबंधित अन्य शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी। हस्ता/-

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता द्वितीय वृत्त, लो०नि०वि०,



Tender Notice Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-II) SHP, Maneri, Uttarkash invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary o tenders is given below :

Tender No: 01/EE(Civil-II)/SHP/Maneri/2022-23 Name of work:- Annual M&R of Pilangad-I (2x1125 Kw) SHP in Bhatwari, Distt-Uttarkashi.

Estimated cost: Rs. 24,25,656.47 (Excluding GST) Date of availability of bid document on website : 28.03.2022 Last Date for submission of bids: 26.04.2022

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender document can be downloaded from the nigam website "www.ujvnl.com" Executive Engineer (Civil-II)SHP, Maneri

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

🕅 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🌆 **E-TENDER NOTICE**

e-tender Notice No. 87 of 2021-22 (Open)-Engg/DDU. On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/ Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and

other public sector undertakings. (i) Tender No. 72-DDU-SR DEN-II-21-22 Name of work with its location : Balance work of FOB and raising of UP & DN PF from RL to HL at PRY station in GC section under ADEN/Gaya. (ii) Advertised Value ₹2,14,49,321.32, (iii) Earnest Money ₹2,57,300/-, (iv) Closing Date & time for submission of e- tender : 14.04.2022, Up-to 12:00 hrs. 5. Website particulars of etendering: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager/ ECR/Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya PR/01891/DDU/Engg./T/21-22/32

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in	
Ph : 011-24368638, 24368641	SHO
Fax: 011-23011334	P.S. K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi
DP/1370/RD/2022	Ph.: 011-27571162, 8750870327

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy. CEE/JUDW acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. 56/W/Elect/19-20/T/04/RT/GSW. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on website **www.ireps.gov.in** & can be en/downloaded. The Tenderers/bidders will have to make payment toward Tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like Net Banking/Debit/Credit Cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual/offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Cash Deposit receipts etc. are not permitted.

Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online) The security deposit money exceeding 2% shall be adjustable towards approved bid amount in favour of the successful bidder. The CDR's of the bidders who offer below the reserve bid shall be forfeited. In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

> Sd/-Accounts Officer, Member Secretary

> > Dated:-25.03.2022

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

NIDAR UTILITIES PANVEL LLP `'||' TUCO

12th Floor, Knowledge Park, Hiranandani Business Park, Powai, Mumbai - 400 076, Maharashtra, India. www.tuco.in

NIdar Utilities Panvel LLP, a Distribution Licensee invites e-tenders against the Tender Specification No. NUPLLP/Short/22-23/ET/25 at www.mstcecommerce.com for purchase of Short-Term power upto 5.50 MW RTC for the period 16 April 2022 to 31 July 2022 as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India dated 30 March 2016 and amendments thereof.

The tender documents will be available to the Bidders only through e-tender website viz.www.mstcecommerce.com. Bids are to be submitted on www.mstcecommerce.com only and the hard copy of the Technical Bid is to be submitted on the above mentioned address. All the other details, terms & conditions are mentioned in the tender document.

Date:	Sd/-
27 th March 2022	Authorised Signatory

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: 32/P-69/2021-22/TMC/HQ/

NCR/Prayagraj Dt. 23.03.2022 OPEN TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, North Central Railway, Subedarganj, Prayagraj-211015, invites the following -Procurement Tenders

The complete information along with tender document of this E-Procurement Tender are available in website on http://ireps.gov.in. upto 15:00 hrs. of the due date of tender opening).

S. N.	Tender No.		Brief Description	Tender Value	Earnest Money
1.	TMC 1332122	deso tend Plas	ous type of Hydraulic Pump. Details of pription, make and quantity as per er document [Acceptable Make: sser, Veljan Denison, Parker- ison Only]	₹	₹ 20,600/-
2.	TMC 1342122	deso tend	Cutting Chain Assembly Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document [Acceptable Make: Plasser or Equivalent]		₹ 1,98,000/-
	Quantity		For SI. No. 1 & 2: As per Section IV of tender document		cument
Date of Opening: For Sl. No. 1 & 2: 2		For Sl. No. 1 & 2: 22.04.2022			

Note.: 1. The complete information along with Tender document of above E- Procurement Tender is available on website https://ireps.gov.in upto 15:00 hrs. On the due date of tender opening. 2. Following condition has been included in Tender Document vide Railway Board Letter No 2001/RS(g)/779/7 Pt I Dated: 29.06.2017 "Whenever tender is floated with purchase restriction from sources approved by nominated authorities and there exists a suspected cartel situation by approved sources or the rates available from approved/sources are adjudged unreasonably high, despite fair efforts as permissible, the purchaser reserves the right to place order on firms outside the approved vendors list, without any restrictions." 3. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, venders are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III Digital Signature Certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 4. This tender notice has also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in. 5. Allocation for Security deposit and Earnest money is "Deposit Misc Stores 00844523. 6. In case of any difficulty nelpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 320/22(R)

f North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPRO NCR

Name of wor	k	Lighting and Wiri be developed as		ing arrangement of stores Depot, JUDW to Model Depot		
Tender Type Tender Sale Closing Date Pre-Bid Required		Open Bidding System 21.04.2022 at 15:30 hrs. Date Time of Uploading Tender No Pre-Bid Query till date		Single Packet System		
				30.03.2022		
					N.A.	
Advertisement Value		₹47,09,477/- including all taxes GST etc.	Tendering Section		Tender & Works/ Electrical branch Jagadhri Workshop	
Earnest Money		₹94,200/-	Validity of offer		45 Days	
Tender Document Cost		NIL (as per Part-I clause No. 3 of Indian Railways GCC July 2020)		90 Days		
Bidding Start Date		15 Days before opening of tender as per IREPS provisions		21.04.2022 upto 15:30 hrs.		
Tender Opening date & time	are no	ny time thereafter 15:35 hrs. on dt. 21.04.2022. The tenderers not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserve right to open the tender at any time after closing of tender.				
No.: 56-W/Ele	ct/19-2	20/T/04/RT/GSW	D	ated: 26.03.2022	653/22	
	SER	VING CUSTO	М	ERS WITH A	SMILE	

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ E-Tender No. PRYJ-Sig-031-2021-22 Sr. Divl. Sig. & Telecomm. Engneer/Works Dated: 25.03.2022 North Central Railway, Prayagra Dated: 25.03.2022

E-Tender Notice

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Coordination / North Central Railway/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite E-TENDER on prescribed form for the following works upto 12:00 hrs. on the opening date of E-Tender mentioned therein The details of the Tender are as under:-

S. N.	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost of Work (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Tendr Form (Rs.)	Comp- letion Period	Date of Opening of Tender
1	031	S & T work in connection with construction of ROB in lieu of LC- 10'C' on MNJ-BRE section & LC-72 'C' at railway km. 997 / 13-15 at SSL station of Allahabad Division of North Central Railway.	6362117/-	127300/-	0/-	06 Months	21.04.22
2	Availability of tender form: Tender forms are available on www.ireps.gov.in						
3	Earnest Money to be deposited : The prescribed amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above must be deposited along with the tender form Online through Internet Banking or Online Payment gateway only. The tenderer(s) should note that, in any case, the Earnest Money in any other form than specified above shall not be acceptable. Tenders without earnest money shall be summarily rejected.						
4	Time & Place of Opening of Tender: Tender will be opened through E- Tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj at or after 12:30 hours. In case tender opening date happens to be holiday, Tenders will be						

ppened on the next working day. 5 Validity of offer : 45 days from the date of opening

Right of Railway to deal with tender: Railway administration reserves the rights to postpone/modify or to cancel the tender without assignin 332/22 (P www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.ir 🚺 @ CPRONCR

MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR

(Telefax: 0194-2496089, E-mail ID: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in) Gist of e-tender

NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/375/e-tendering

DIPK-20083/21

MHCHD/TS/13093-98

Dt:-25-03-2022 DIPK-20057/21

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt.. CPWD. Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost. (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rupees)	EMD Amount (in Rupees)	Time of Completion (in Days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Replacement of Faulty After-Cooler Assembly of 750 KVA (Cummins Make) DG Set no.03 at Govt. Super Specialty Hospital, Srinagar.	5.51	200	11000	3	MC/Plan/ 7631-33, Dt:16.03. 2022	MED/K/TS/ 216, Dt: 23-03-2022

Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the of departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 25.03.2022 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 25.03.2022 (18.00 hrs).

Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 26.03.2022

(10.00 hrs) to 31.03.2022 (14:00hrs) in two (02) covers. Opening of Bids :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 31.03.2022 at 16.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

> Sd/-Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

ARC, DG (S) CABINET SECRETARIAT

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED ON PLAIN PAPER FOR SALE OF VEHICLES "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"

SL.NO	REGN. NO	MAKE & YEAR OF PURCHASE	BID SECURITY (₹)
1.	DL-12C-5582	Maruti SX4, 2011	5000/-
2.	DL-12C-5066	Ambassdor Car, 2011	5000/-
3.	DL-1V-0594	Tata Mini Bus,1988	5000/-
4.	DL-12C-8180	Ambassdor Car, 2012	5000/-

2. BANK DRAFT TOWARDS EARNEST MONEY DRAWN IN FAVOUR OF DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTS, CABINET SECRETARIAT, PAYABLE AT SBI RK PURAM, NEW DELHI MAY BE ENCLOSED ALONGWITH SEALED TENDERS ADDRESSED TO "JOINT SECRETARY (ADMN), ARC, DG (S), CABINET SECRETARIAT, GOI, EAST BLOCK-V, R.K.PURAM, NEW DELHI-110066". ALSO A COPY OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE IS REQUIRED TO BE ATTACHED ALONGWITH THE TENDER.

3. THE ABOVE VEHICLES AT SL.NO. 01 TO 04 CAN BE INSPECTED BETWEEN 1100 to 1600 HRS ON 04.04.2022 TO 05.04.2022 AT "ARC, MAHIPALPUR, (PALAM), NEAR AEROCITY METRO STATION". SEALED TENDERS INDICATING THE AMOUNT & GST OF EACH VEHICLE SEALED IN ENVELOPE MENTIONING WITH QUOTE FOR VEHICLES & BIDDERS NAME & ADDSS MAY BE SENT THROUGH SPEED POST ONLY AND ADDRESS TO "JOINT SECRETARY(A), ARC, DG (S), CABINET SECRETARIAT, GOI, EAST BLOCK-V, R.K.PURAM, NEW DELHI-110066". TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED UPTO 1700 HRS ON 27.04.2022 AND WILL BE OPENED ON 29.04.2022 AT 1500 HRS. DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIGHEST BID WILL BE ON 04.05.2022 AT 1200 HRS. SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE FULL PAYMENT BY BANK DRAFT DRAWN IN FAVOUR OF DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTS, CABINET SECRETARIAT, PAYABLE AT SBI RK PURAM, NEW DELHI WITHIN ONE WEEK AND COLLECT THE VEHICLES IMMEDIATELY FAILING WHICH EARNEST MONEY WILL BE FORFEITED. IN CASE OF UNSUCCESSFUL BIDDERS, THE EARNEST MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED BY REGISTERED POST WITHIN 2 WEEKS. THE BOARD OF OFFICERS FOR THIS AUCTION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL TENDERS WITHOUT ASSIGNING ANY REASON. GST NO. OF OUR DEPARTMENT IS 07DELD08317B1D1.

🚳 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🖗 **E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Divisional Railway Manager (Engg) E.C. Railway/Samastipur for and on behalt of the President of India invites Open Tender from experienced and financially capable tenderers for the following works in E-Tendering mode of IREPS web portal of Indian Railways.

S. No. 1, Tender Notice No. : TC-25-2022-SPJ, Name of work : At Samastipur-Improvement of community hall in G.F railway colony. Tender Value (In ₹) ₹22,53,831.93, Earnest Money (In ₹) ₹45,100/-, Completion period of the work 04 Months

S. No. 2, Tender Notice No. : TC-26-2022 SPJ, Name of work : Construction of Relay Room (3.1m×3.1m), IPS Room (3.1m ×3.7m) and DG/Battery Room (3.1m ×3.7m at LC No. 40 (SPJ-BGDS), 24 (ARG-NRN) 19 and 21 (SBV-SBM), 28 (SBM-SHC), 3 and 33 (ARG-BGDS) and LC No. 15 (NWC ROA) in the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-III/SPJ in connection with "Interlocking of LC Gate 34 Nos. having TVU more than 20 thousand in SPJ Division. Tender Value (In ₹) : ₹99,25,747.76, Earnest Money (In ₹) ₹1,98,500/-, Completion period of the work 14 Months.

S. No. 3, Tender Notice No. : TC-27-2022-SPJ, Name of work : Mansi-Saharsa TRR(P)-2.709 Km. Samastipur-Khagaria TRR(P)-1.149 Km. Tender Value (In ₹) ₹50,45,309.43, Earnest Money (In ₹) ₹1,00,900/-, Completion period of work : 06 Months.

S. No. 4, Tender Notice No. : TC-28-2022-SPJ, Name of work : Supply of welding portion (52kg/90UTS) and othe accessories for welding of rail joint by SKV process with Single Shot Crucible Method in connection with various P.Way. Tender Value (In ₹) : ₹1,64,68,501.35, Earnes Money (In ₹) : ₹2,32,400/-, Completion period of the work : 12 Months.

S. No. 5. Tender Notice No. : TC-29-2022 SPJ, Name of work : Construction of 4 unit officer transit house at Samastipur. Tender Value (In ₹) : ₹67,03,864.97, Earnest Money (In ₹) : ₹1,34,100/-, Completion period of the work : 08 Months.

1. Last Date & time for receiving of Tender in E-Tender mode on IREPS web portal:20/04/2022 upto 12.00 hours. 2 Opening Date & time for E-Tender 20/04/2022 after 12:00 hours. 3. Website particulars where complete details of tender & tender doucment can be seen on Website www.ireps.gov.in Amendments/ modifications if any shall not be published in the newspapers but the same be uploaded

in the website. Sr. Divisional Engineer/I ECR/Samastipur PR/01899/SPJ/Engg./T/21-22/76



Sd/

Joint Director (A)

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022

EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY

JHARKHAND Three Maoists shot in Latehar

Ranchi: Three Maoists were shot dead by the security forces at a forest in Jharkhand's Latehar district on Saturday, police said. The Maoists belonged to Tritiya Prastuti Committee (TPC), "As per preliminary information, it was known that among the three deceased, one was sub-zonal commander' and another was area commander of the banned outfit," police PTI said.

MADHYA PRADESH EOW raids teacher's house

Gwalior: A government school teacher, whose house was raided by the Economic Offences Wing of Madhya Pradesh police on Saturday for alleged disproportionate assets, has turned out to be the owner of 20 colleges, an official said. The raids were carried out at the house and other premises of Prashant Parmar, he added. PTI

UTTAR PRADESH Four held for video of Som

Meerut: Four men have been arrested in Meerut for allegedly creating and sharing an objectionable video featuring former Sardhana legislator Sangeet Som on social media. Police team has been sent to Telangana to arrest a cloth vendor, said to be the main FNS accused.

NHRC ORDER TO U.P. 5 years after 'frame-up', journalist gets

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, MARCH 26

Rs 2 lakh relief

MORE THAN five years after a handcuffed journalist was paumiliated with

Minority tag for Hindus: SC hearing on March 28, govt yet to file counter-affidavit

Plea says Hindus in minority in 7 states, one UT, but can't avail of schemes for them

ANANTHAKRISHNANG. NEW DELHL MARCH 26

THE UNION government is yet to file its counter affidavit in the Supreme Court in a petition which has raised the politically sensitive prayer to identify minorities at the state level as laid down in the 2002 TM A Pai case and grant minority status to Hindus in states where their numbers are lesser. Censured by the top court last time for dragging its feet in the matter, the BJP-led government has instead sought to shift the onus of dealing with the question from one

ministry to another. On January 7, an SC bench of Justices S K Kaul and M M Sundresh had given the Centre four weeks as "last opportunity" to reply to the petition filed by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay in

August 2020. As the Centre failed to file any response even after this, the SC on January 31 imposed a cost of Rs

7,500 on it, to be deposited with the SC Bar Association Advocates Welfare Fund and gave it one "further opportunity" of four weeks. Conveying its displeasure, the Bench also told Additional

Solicitor General K M Natarai. who appeared for the Centre, You have to take a stand". "Definitely we will take a

stand. It is almost ready. Only because of the (Covid-19) situation we could not get it signed," the law officer had replied.

But with the matter due for hearing again on March 28, an Office Report drawn up by the SC Registry has noted that no counteraffidavit has been filed, though the January 31 order was communicated to all the three respondents - Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Law and Justice and Ministry of Minority Affairs.

"The counsel for the Ministry of Minority Affairs has neither filed counter affidavit nor submitted proof of depositing Rs 7,500 with the Supreme Court Bar Association Advocates Welfare Fund. to date."

that no one had even filed "vakalatnama" on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. It added that "however, an office memorandum... dated October 9, 2020, from Rajendra Kumar Bharti, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs...has been received stating therein that the subject matter of the ... petition is related to the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004, and the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, which comes under the purview of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Minority Affairs, respectively. As MHA... has no role to play in the matter, it is requested that Ministry of Minority Affairs... may deal with the matter in consultation with Ministry of Education and Ministry of Law and Justice... and also protect the interest of MHA in the writ petition".

Upadhyay had moved the SC with his prayer first in 2017 and sought quashing of the October 23

day and night and delivering two

vaccines to the world while secur-

vaccine in India free of cost. These

two tweets of two leaders of two

parties indicate the two ideologies.

On one hand there is

Narendrabhai who credited scien-

tists for using their knowledge and

science for developing the vac-

cines... On the other is the Congress

arousing suspicion in people's

1993 government notification issaid the March 25 report, adding sued under Section 2(c) of the National Minorities Commission (NCM) Act declaring Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis as 'minority'. He said Jains were also added to the list in 2014, but not Hindus, though they are minority in seven states and one union territory, as per 2011 Census.

The SC then asked him to approach the NCM which took the stand that it "does not have the jurisdiction to deal with the prayer..." and that under Section 2(c) of the NCM Act, only the centre can declare a community as a 'minority'. Upadhyay again moved the SC where a bench headed by then Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi sought the assistance of Attorney General K K Venugopal. But by the time it was listed

next for hearing, CJI Gogoi had demitted office and the new Bench headed by his successor CJI SA Bobde dismissed the plea without assigning any reasons.

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA, ATRIMITRA& SWEETY KUMARI RAMPURHAT KOI KATA MARCH 26

A DAY after the Calcutta High Court ordered a CBI probe into the killings in Birbhum district's Bogtui, a 30-member team of the central agency visited the village on Saturday and started investigation into the case.

Bhadu Sheikh, a deputy pradhan owing allegiance to the state's ruling Trinamool Congress, was murdered on Monday, triggering attacks in the village where assailants set several houses on fire that charred at least eight people to death.

CBI deputy inspector general (DIG) Akhilesh Singh, who along with the team reached the nearby Rampurhat town on Friday night, said, "We have started our investigation. But we cannot say anything on the matter right now.

Over a dozen agency sleuths visited the Rampurhat police station where two cases have been registered in Sheikh's murder and the retaliatory attack. They collected details of the probe carried out by the police and the special investigation team (SIT) before the central agency was asked to take over the case.

The officials along with two other officials also went to

CFSL experts collect samples in the presence of CBI officers at Bogtui village in Birbhum district, Saturday. Partha Paul

forensic experts stayed for hours inside the charred house from where seven bodies were recovered. They used a 3D scanner machine and collected samples from the house and other dwellings that were set afire.

BIRBHUM KILLINGS: DAY AFTER HC ORDER

CBI takes over probe,

team visits village

The CBI on Friday registered an FIR under Sections 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder), 147 (rioting) and others of the Indian Penal Code on the complaint of sub-inspector Dhruba yoti Dutta of the Rampurhat police station.

Twenty-one people have been named in the FIR.

A senior district police official said, "The CBI was handed over the post-mortem reports of the bodies but they may get fresh autopsies conducted.' Later, the CBI DIG along with

also likely to visit Batashpur where relatives and victims of the killings are staying to record their evewitness accounts. Mihilal Sheikh, who lost his eight relatives in the retaliatory incident, said, "We came to know that a CBI team will visit

the Rampurhat police station

and held a meeting with inspec-

tor general of police (Western

range) Bharatlal Meena and

Birbhum superintendent of po-

the Rampurhat court to prepare a

case for an appeal to hand over the

22 suspects arrested by the police

in the two FIRs. The CBI team is

Also, an agency team went to

lice Nagendra Tripathi.

us. We will help them in every possible manner." The SIT has arrested 22 people, including TMC block president Anarul Sheikh, in the two FIRs.

into SPO's

SRINAGAR, MARCH 26

SUSPECTED MILITANTS on Saturday killed a Special Police Officer (SPO) and wounded his brother in a shootout in Central Kashmir's Budgam.

tants barged into the house of the SPO Ishfaq Ahmad at Chadbugh village of Budgam and fired indiscriminately on him. In the shootout, the police officer and his brother were crit-

Both were taken to a hospital in Srinagar where doctors declared the SPO dead on arrival. The SPO's brother is in critical condition, they said.

younger brother Umar Jan (a student) were fired upon by terrorists at their residence in village Chadbugh area of Budgam. However, Ishfaq Ahmad succumbed to his injuries and attained martyrdom. Area cordoned off, search operation in progress."

added that the university, in all likelihood, will adopt the entrance test given that it is funded by Union government and the ALIGARH MUSLIM University MoE has clarified that CUET will not impact reservation at AMU. (AMU) had written to the University Grants Commission

Starting this year, CUET is the only gateway for admissions to undergraduate programmes across 45 central universities.

When asked whether central universities that reserve seats for minorities, such as AMU and Jamia Millia Islamia, will also have to adopt CUET, UGC Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar had told reporters that the test is compulsory and will not affect reserved seats

such institutions.

top court.

give instruction in Muslim theology and religion besides promoting cultural and education advancement of Muslims as per the AMU Act, the university recognises certificates of almost 151 madaris/institutions and their passouts are eligible to get admissions at various courses of AMU. The letter stated that their eligibility to appear in CUET will be adversely affected if the centralised test will not admit them.

In the reply sent to him, the MoE stated that the interim order by SC on status quo to be maintained in admission process cited by the AMU in its original es not har the AM etter participating in any test for selec-In his letter written to the tion of candidates but is mainly UGC on February 21, AMU viceapplicable in context of reservachancellor Tarig Mansoor wrote tion quota which will not be affected as university will follow its that the question of admissions in AMU is subjudice in the own rules, eligibility and quota Supreme Court and that the unifor admissions. Citing that the versity be left out of the CUET students of madaris/institutions until the matter is decided in the who are currently eligible will continue to be so, the letter stated He also said that in order to that CUET will be used only for fulfil its objective of promoting preparing the merit list of candi-

in May last year after the police

found his role in a theft case at the

complainant's house, "said Dausa

plainant, a resident of the Alwar

district, has claimed that she was

taken to Dausa where she was

gangraped. "The complainant

has said in her FIR that the per-

son, who was jailed last year,

took her to a hotel in Dausa

where three persons raped her

apart from two other men who

were already present there. The

MLA's son is one of the accused.

At the time when the person was

sent to jail last year, the allega-

Kayal added that the com-

additional SP Lal Chand Kayal.

Gujarat is BJP's home, Congress wiped out, nowhere in sight: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GANDHINAGAR, MATCH 26

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Saturday asked a gathering in Gandhinagar to take a "pledge" to "bring BJP government back to Gujarat once more", ahead of the Assembly polls in the state scheduled later this year.

Shah, who was in his constituency to inaugurate and lay foundation stones of a slew of projects worth Rs 350 crore, claimed that Gujarat is "BJP's home" and it "has been and will be". Taking repeated digs at Congress and its MPRahul Gandhi at the three events where Shah addressed the public and BJP workers, the Gandhinagar MP

said, "Congress party has been wiped clean, cannot be seen anywhere in sight," while referring to the BJP's recent poll victory in four of the five states.

Referring to the recently released Hindi film The Kashmir Files, Shah at an event orgainsed by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation said "Have you a



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel at Sola Civil Hospital, Saturday. Nirmal Harindran

seen the Kashmir-wali film? Those who havent, see it, because vou'll know that under Congress rule what kind of torture and terror was prevalent in Kashmir."

Shah claimed that the leadership of PM Narendra Modi ensured protection with vaccination to 130 crore population of India, as a result of which "no lives were lost" in the Covid-19 third wave. Taking a dig at Rahul at an event for laying foundation stone of a railway overbridge in Kalol, Shah said "Rahulhaha had tweeted 'this

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com Militants barge

home, kill him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

On Saturday evening, mili-

ically wounded. is Modi vaccine'. Modiji tweeted thanking scientists for working ing 130 crore population with the

"SPO Ishfaq Ahmad and his olice said in a tw

AMU likely to adopt CUET after govt declines exemption request

ALIFIYA KHAN PUNE, MARCH 26

casteist slurs by the Etah police in public, the Uttar Pradesh government has given a Rs 2-lakh compensation to him on the direction of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

The human rights body also ordered departmental inquiry against police personnel who implicated journalist Sunil Kumar in a molestation case.

"We paid Rs 2 lakh to Sunil Kumar as directed by the NHRC. The inquiry into the matter is going on and departmental action will be taken against cops if found guilty," said Additiona Superintendent of Police, Etah, Dhananjay Singh Kushwaha, adding that the amount will be recovered from the police personnel responsible for the act. In a complaint to the NHRC.

Sunil Kumar (35), who works for a local news channel, said he was framed by the police in a case related to molestation of a girl after he conducted a sting operation in which a few police personnel were seen taking money from vehicles loaded with animals.

Will attach properties of those who 'wilfully' shelter militants: J&K cops

ference between wilful harbour-

ing of terrorists and one done

are for properties where it has

been proved that the house

owner/member had wilfully pro-

vided shelter/harboured terrorists,

in most cases for days together and

The attachments being done

under duress," police said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR MARCH 26

THE JAMMU and Kashmir Police have said they would attach properties of people who "wilfully" give shelter to militants.

After facing criticism following its initial announcement on attachment of properties, police clarified on Saturday that such action would not be taken against those who have been forced to

shelter militants "under duress". On Thursday, police said on an official Twitter account that they had started the process of "attachment of some immovable properties which have been used for purpose of terrorism as per section2(g)&25 of ULPAct[Unlawful Activities Prevention Act]". "Don't give shelter or harbour

that it was not done under any terrorists/terror associates. Legal action will be supplemented by duress whatsoever," police said in its clarification. "The attachment property attachments as per proceedings always come after in-»," the police statement added. With the statement attracting vestigation procedures in any case criticism, police issued a clarificaare at advanced stage.

tion on Saturday and said there While police and paramilitary forces have been demolishing had been "misinformation.rumours floated by certain guarters houses where militants are holed regarding information provided by up during gunfights, police have Srinagar Police with respect to ininow started to book the owners tiation of attachment of properties of such houses under anti-terrorused for purpose of terrorism". ism laws on the grounds of giving "It is clarified that Srinagar shelter to militants. Police are well aware of the dif-

In cases of "forced entry", police have put the onus on house owners to "prove duress".

"Further, in regards the issue of so called 'forceful entry' of terrorists into any house or other structure, the house owner or any other member claiming duress should timely inform the authorities about the same," police said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

FOLLOWING COMPLAINTS from

a right-wing group, a university

in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar dis-

trict is looking into a video of a

student allegedly offering namaz

University has constituted a six-

member committee to inquire

into the alleged incident. A video

that purports to show this has

Sohgaura said: "The six-member

committee will make its recom-

mendations within three working

days. Based on their report, further

course of action will be decided."

University registrar Santosh

Harisingh Gour Central

BHOPAL, MARCH 26

on the campus.

been shared widely.

Kashmir Valley has seen a sudden spurt in militants attacks this month. This is the third incident in Central Kashmir's Budgam in past fortnight. On March 10, suspected militants abducted and killed Army soldier Sameer Ahmad Malla from Lokipora village of Budgam.

Malla, who was posted in Jammu. was home on leave when he was abducted on March 8. His body was found two days later.

IIT Madras scholar alleges sexual assault, 8 booked

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA CHENNAI, MARCH 26

A RESEARCH scholar at the IIT Madras accused her fellow scholar of sexually assaulting her repeatedly and also harassing her at work place along with his accomplices, including two of her professors, for nearly four years after she joined the institution in 2016.

The institute said it was "coop-

SC restrains Tripura police from acting against students who tweeted on violence

DEBRAJ DEB AGARTALA, MARCH 26

THE SUPREME Court has restrained the Tripura Police from taking any action against four students who had posted on social media against the alleged communal violence in the state last year. A Bench of the apex court

comprising Justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant Friday heard four separate petitions and issued the order, tagging them all with rest of the petitioners who sought recourse from the Supreme Court.

"Pending further orders, there shall be a stay of further proceedings in case dated November 3, 2021, West

Agartala Police Station, Tripura," a record of the proceedings reads. The full-fledged order is not yet available. The apex court

also ordered to tag the petition with writ petition filed earlier on the issue Speaking to The Indian Express,

a senior official of the state police said this evening that reports of the apex court order had come to his attention but refused to comment on it, saying he hadn't yet received the full order copy. "I shall get the order copy on Monday and shall be able to comment on it then," the official, who didn't wish to be named, said.

Advocate Sharukh Alam, who moved the case on behalf of the petitioners, Friday said they received notices under Section 41A

of the CrPC and submitted that the apex court had earlier protected others over similar action.

The court asked if all four petitioners had any common FIR against them, which the counsel confirmed. On February 7. the Supreme Court had pulled up the state police for serving similar notices to people over their posts and comments on social media centering alleged communal tension and violence in Tripura in the aftermath of vandalism in Bangladesh last year.

The apex court had also warned the state government's counsel saying it would summon officials of the state police and even the Home Secretary if harassment to people on the subject continued.

MP varsity probes 'namaz by student on campus'

According to Sohgaura, the university has received complaints over the video in which a female student can be seen offering namaz.

In its complaint to the university, right-wing group Hindu Jagran Manch said: "The university is a place for education. A few days ago, there was communalism being spread in the country after the hijab issue flared up. The Karnataka High Court has barred such activities in educational institutions. Now, even Sagar university has witnessed namaz being offered inside the university. Hindu Jagran Manch condemns this and demands that stringent action be taken... such things should not be repeated and if so in future there

will be protests."

Education (MoE) on March 15 clarified that the common entrance test will not affect the university's inherent power to admit students of its choice as per existing eligibility criteria and quotas.

(UGC) last month seeking ex-

emption from Central University

Entrance Test (CUET) citing,

among other reasons, a subju-

dice matter in the Supreme

Court pertaining to its admis-

sions, an internal communica-

tion accessed by The Indian

not granted by the government

However, AMU's request was

he Ministry of

Express has revealed.

According to a senior AMU official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, the ministry's reply will be placed before the committee set up by the university's Academic Council for consideration. However, the official

erating with the investigating authorities" and that it has extended "all support" to the victim during

the external investigation, even after her scholarship period ended. Apart from the physical and

mental trauma at the institution and during a trip to Coorg, the scholar was prevented from using the laboratory equipment to work on her thesis, the woman claimed.

The police have filed a case, naming eight persons in the FIR.

Kamboj: BMC Commissioner owns assets in US

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, MARCH 26

BJP LEADER Mohit Kamboj, who has been served a notice by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation for unauthorised construction in his residential building, has accused BMC Commissioner IS Chahal of having properties in the US and has demanded a probe against him.

"If the tax department has found evidence of tax evasion, then such misdoings could not have happened without the consent of the BMC Commissioner,' Kamboj said.

Meanwhile, Chahal said that the allegations levelled against him were baseless.

Rajasthan Cong MLA's son among 5 booked for 'gangrape' of minor

dates.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, MARCH 26

Oriental and Islamic studies and

A CASE has been registered against five people including the son of a Congress MLA from Rajasthan for allegedly gangraping a 15-year-old girl in February last year, said police on Saturday.

According to the police, an FIR in this regard was registered in Dausa district on Friday.

The incident has also prompted the National Commission for Women to ask the Rajasthan police to arrest all accused at the earliest.

tions related to gangrape were The Congress in New Delhi said it would act sternly against not leveled by the complainant. Following the theft, money anyone accused of criminal activity in its party and not spare them irrespective of their position, unlike the BJP.

Claiming that the Congress does not have the culture of shielding criminals, Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the party would take action after the investigation into the alleged crime. The complainant has said in

the FIR that the incident took place in February 2021. Five people have been booked in the case including Deepak Meena, the son of MLA Johari Lal Meena. One of the accused had been sent to jail

worth Rs 15 lakh along with jewellery were recovered from the accused," said Kayal. "The complainant said that the accused also made a video of the gangrape and threatened her," said the SHO of the police station where the case has been registered. "A case has been registered for offences including gangrape and relevant sections of the IT Act. SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) and the POCSO

The victim and the MLA's son are from the same community, said the SHO.

Act." the SHO added.





THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022

10 SUNDAY STORY



(Clockwise from top left) Maksym Stodolia, a former journalist, is now a volunteer, organising training in self-defence, distributing aid supplies; remnants of Lviv's Soviet past can be seen in its trams, old cars; an arts school for children has been converted into a volunteer base; a band performing in front of the Lviv National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre, a common sight at most open spaces in Lviv even now







WE WILL WIN BECAUSE WE CAN'T LOSE'

Among the westernmost cities of Ukraine, and now the world's entry point into the country, Lviv is removed from the war but readying for it. KRISHN KAUSHIK captures a city and its people living in that transitory moment when the past, which lingers in Lviv's Soviet remnants, is set to make way for an uncertain new teers over to teach basic first aid. Medicines coming in from all of Europe are sorted and delivered to Kharkiv, Chernihiv and Dnipro cities, among others. Stodalia says he desperately wanted to join his friends on the front. "But they told me to stay in Lviv and help, send medicines, and other important things."

Volunteers say that while help has been unprecedented, sometimes the quality is an issue. Stodalia shows a combat helmet that has seen the Vietnam War and is now unusable. Alex Manzyuk, 34, who handles medical aid, says often all they can retrieve from donated medical kits are gloves and gauges, even as demand has been rising. Germany is the leading donor, sending the best quality equipment.

Among those helping out is Carlos Fransisco, who has this evening brought food and tea for seven soldiers who have come from Peru, his native country. He claims to have coordinated movement of more than 200 soldiers from Peru and other nations to the frontlines.

Tony Soza, 42, has come from Lima. Soza says he was a soldier with the Peruvian army for 15 years, and later joined American private companies which were part of the US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — during 2006-2009, and 2012-2013, respectively. These tours paid him US\$1500-\$2000 per month. In Lviv, he was not looking to fight, but help, Soza says. For now, along with six other soldier friends, he is providing security for evacuation of the Peruvian Embassy staff. He says they are doing it for free, but with their "expenses" covered.

the Les Kurbas Academic Theatre is housed in a beige five-storey building, which looks less baroque than the rest of Lviv. Closer than 300 metres from the city centre, it has suspended its programmes to provide shelter to Ukrainians fleeing the war launched by Russia, now on for more than a month.

Founded in the 13th century, Lviv was named by the King of Ruthenia after his son Lev, which meant lion. Which is why it is called the Lion City locally. Now, a month into the war, as Russia destroys Ukrainian cities, Lviv, which has been largely untouched so far, despite three explosions on the outskirts on Saturday, has become the world's entry point into the country.

Among the westernmost cities of Ukraine, Lviv is also reflective of the crossroads of history and geography, and the clashing geopolitics of world powers, that mark this region. If the Russian invasion has turned most of Lviv's residents against an overbearing Moscow, the remnants of the city's Soviet past are still visible. Like most of Ukraine, people here know both Russian and Ukrainian; the younger generation has picked up English from Hollywood films and TV shows, but hardly any of the elderly know it. Unlike the Latin script used in the rest of Europe, Ukrainians use Cyrillic, like Russia. And while being part of the West is a dream that has got new wings, in a city that is nearly all white, one of Lviv's favourite street foods like in large parts of the former Soviet republic - is kebab, a throwback to the bloc's Caucasus links.

However, the heavy Russian hand has ensured — at least for now — the levelling of these many different layers into one common, Ukrainian identity.

Across Lviv, like the Les Kurbas Academic Theatre, people have opened their doors to countrymen fleeing the war; others have picked up arms to join it. Mayor Andrii Sadovyi says the city, with a population of around 7.1 lakh, has provided shelter to around 2 lakh people since the war began. More than 37 lakh have passed through on their way to other countries.

Ukrainian President Volodymir Zelenksyy, the face of the country's fightback, is everywhere. While nobody brings him up, unless asked, his photos can be seen at volunteer centres, on tote bags, as posters in bars and on street billboards.

At the theatre, a dozen-odd temporary beds are lined along the walls, including on the stage, sheltering about five families from Kharkiv and capital Kyiv. The theatre's lead actors are its principal volunteers; two of

IT'S WAR

FEB 24: Russian forces launch a "special military operation", invading Ukraine's Donbass region from Crimea in the south and Russian territory in the east. Russia also bombs several cities, including Kharkiv, port city of Odessa, and Ukrainian capital Kyiv

Explosions are also heard in Lviv oblast (province)

FEB 25: Russian forces enter from the north towards Kyiv, from the east towards Kharkiv and Sumy. lin the south they reach Kherson, and move to Mariupol

them sing Ukrainian folk songs for the refugees, hoping to ease their pain.

The story of Alina Gaivoronskaya, 29, among the refugees at the theatre, is common now, with other families that have been split and uprooted. A sales manager from Kharkiv, among the first cities targeted by Russia, she left her home on the 11th day of the war, when bombing came to her neighbourhood. Gaivoronskaya first moved to the outer part of the province and, when war reached there too, managed to take a train to Lviv.

"When I left, my home was not damaged, but now I don't know," she says, worried for her parents who live outside Kharkiv and have not been able to leave.

Gaivoronskaya, who doesn't know English, hopes to make her way to Germany. "It's safe," she says, adding helplessly, "I don't know what I will do."

Antony Tsiona, 24, a documentary filmmaker, is helping translate what Gaivoronskaya is saying. From Kyiv, he is capturing the experiences of those like her, to convey the trauma of his countrymen. Tsiona's parents, both actors, met at the theatre, and his father is now its director.

In its appearance, Lviv is like any other quaint town in these parts, with cobblestoned streets not really conducive to driving, small cafes and bars, grand churches, MARCH 1: Russian troops continue to make progress along these ingress lines, continuously pounding many of these cities with cruise missile, rockets, artillery shells and ballistic missiles. They reach the outskirts of Kyiv

MARCH 11: Airport and airfield in Lutsk hit by Russian missiles. Lutsk is about 150 northeast of Lviv, and a little over 110 km from Polish border

MARCH 13: Russia fires missiles at the International Peacekeeping and Security Center, also called Yavoriv military base, 30 km northwest of Lviv,

university buildings, opera houses, museums. The difference lies in the ancient trams still trundling across the city, the old Soviet vehicles visible on the streets, jostling with the Porsches, BMWs and Bentleys — 31 years after Ukraine left the Soviet Republic.

In a street on the eastern part of the city, an old man is selling Soviet-era coins — 1 ruble can be bought for 20 Ukrainian hryvnia. In his bag, he carries a small album, containing an old photograph of him shaking hands with what seems to be former US president George H W Bush. A closer look reveals it is Bush Senior's wax model.

H W Bush had been the US president in 1991, when the Soviet Union came apart. He is most remembered in Ukraine for giving a speech weeks before the country voted for independence, warning against "suicidal nationalism". This was seen as support for the USSR, which was hoping to retain influence over its rebellious republics.

The coin-seller isn't the only one out on the business-as-usual Lviv streets. There are musicians playing at most open spaces, with the plaza in front of the Lviv National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre a coveted spot, couples walking dogs, youths taking selfies. On Friday, the war has been particularly easy to forget; it has been almost 72 hours without any air siren.

The sirens are sounded at detection of any

and just 10 km from Poland's border. A military training facility, it has hundreds of International Legion volunteers training. The attack kills 35 and injures over 130. No foreigners are killed

MARCH 18: Russia attacks airport just outside Lviv. Missiles target an aircraft repair plant. No casualties

Russia's progress towards Kyiv, Kharkiv, Mariupol, Chernihiv, Sumy etc has largely been stalled. But street fighting and shelling is on.

in-bound Russian aerial attack. On Friday, the peace is finally broken around 4:30 pm, but perhaps lulled by their relative safety, few pay heed.

And yet, war has been inching closer. Russia has attacked a military station and an airport near the city, and on Saturday, hit a telecommunications tower, while its ally Belarus has deployed forces that are seeking to march into Lviv from the north.

Outside the city's limits, a group of youth are readying themselves for just such an eventuality. Neither members of armed forces or the territorial defence that many civilians have joined, they are volunteers teaching locals self-defence.

Maksym Stodolia, 20, a journalist who lives on the outskirts of Lviv, is a member of the Galizian Arma, which is coordinating training in self-defence and medical aid, and supply of donations like night-vision goggles and bullet-proof vests to soldiers on the frontline, and medicines and surgical equipment to cities facing Russian pounding. There are many such organisations across Ukraine now.

Stodalia says the Galizian Arma was created by army veterans with battle experience, and now has over a hundred volunteers. They have converted an arts school for young children into their base.

On Friday, they had two American volun-

However, Soza adds, he is open to joining the war, "for good money". He claims another group from South America is already on the frontlines in Ukraine.

After the Ukrainian government announced an International Legion, asking foreigners to join the fight against Russia, it is believed to have received nearly 40,000 applications. Military experts say the actual number of foreigners on the frontlines though is no more than a few thousand.

The other big group here from different parts of the world is journalists, whose number runs into hundreds. With the war also being fought on the information front, Ukraine has set up a media centre in a threestorey bar in Lviv. Important officials hold regular interactions, facilitating information about refugees and providing needed help.

Alcohol sales were banned within city limits after the war began, till Saturday, and the stacked bars across Lviv would not sell any. However, as many marvelled, being in the city felt like a vacation, given the abundance of choice and availability of what was needed, unlike the eastern parts which have borne the brunt of Russia's attack.

There are sobering reminders of this though, especially in news of journalists killed on the front. The latest to die is a Russian journalist who used to work for an independent media platform, taking the toll to five in the past month.

Lviv itself is prepared for the long haul and the cost of that. Two days before the war began, Bohdan Tykholoz, a philosopher and literary critic, wrote in the local newspaper *Lviv Now* that Ukraine will win and Russian President Vladimir Putin will lose.

He wrote about how for Ukrainians it was about fighting for their homeland. He talked about Putin's mortality and Russia's feet of clay.

"Our forests will become hiding places, fields battlefields, cities and villages traps and labyrinths, every stone a weapon, every action resistance, and every word a manifesto of dignity and freedom," Tykholoz wrote. "We will win because we can't lose."



DPINION

Fifth

COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH Twitter@tavleen_singh

New heroes

in New India

LAST WEEK marked a month since

Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The Ukrainian

president made an appeal for people who

loved freedom and democracy to come

out into their cities, their streets and their

squares bearing symbols of support for

Ukraine. In India the day passed without

anyone doing this as has every day since

Vladimir Putin began his horrifying war

against the people of Ukraine. It is so evil a

war that maternity homes, hospitals, and

shelters marked 'children' have been

bombed. Flourishing, beautiful cities have

been reduced to rubble. But these atroci-

ties evoked in India barely audible noises

of sympathy, condemnation, or concern.

that has seemed unmoved by the horror

of what is happening in Ukraine. Ordinary

Indians seem equally impervious. It is my

unhappy task to spend some time every

day on Twitter because it is today's public

square. And what has astounded me is the

number of people who are not part of the

BJP's troll army who have expressed ha-

tred of the West and deep sympathy for

Russia. Putin's argument that he was

forced to invade Ukraine because NATO was inching too close to Russia's sphere of influence has more support in India perhaps than in any other democratic country.

Having spent my formative years in an

India that was deeply anti-American and

passionately pro-Soviet, memories of that

time have returned in floods every time I

made my excursions on social media. I cut

It is not just the Government of India

Across **THE AISLE**



PCHIDAMBARAM Website: pchidambaram.in Twitter@Pchidambaram IN

Why cannot India say that the war is unjustified? Why cannot India appeal to Russia to stop raining bombs on the civilian population and destroying homes, schools and hospitals? Why cannot the Prime Minister travel to Moscow and Kyiv and try to mediate a cease fire like the Prime Minister of Israel who is making a brave attempt to do so? What has rendered India so incapable of any initiative and so impotent to intervene?



Since then, of course, there have been many wars in the world – big, small; short, long; on own territory, on the border, in a far away land; proxy wars etc. The one eternal truth that emerged from these 20th/21st century wars was that there will be no winner at the end of the war. War appears to offer no solution to any festering problem. Despite India's convincing victory in the 1971 war, India and Pakistan remain bitter rivals locked in a territorial dispute. Despite two superpowers taking turns to 'liberate' Afghanistan, that country is under the firm control of the Taliban.

POT & KETTLE

Thirty years after Russia supposedly threw off the yoke of the Communist Party, Russia's ruler is a former member of the feared intelligence agency of the former Soviet Union. Mr Vladimir Putin has been in office since May 2000 and wields absolute power. Under Mr Putin's rule. Russia has annexed Crimea. recognised the two break-away 'republics' of

the Donbas region of Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk), prised two regions from Georgia (Abkhazia and South Ossetia), and extended military assistance to Syria to quell a civil war. However, nothing prepared the world for the war that Russia is waging on Ukraine.

It must be admitted that everything that Russia has done in the last 20 years, the Western countries, especially the United States, had done in the 20th century. Regime change was a favourite pastime of American presidents. Instigating civilian unrest, engineering military coups, plotting political assassinations, installing puppet regimes, imposing economic sanctions - nothing was forbidden. The most deplorable and unjustified war waged by the United States was in Vietnam. In 2003, the US invaded Iraq on the blatantly false pretext that Saddam Hussein had accumulated weapons of mass destruction.

CAUSE IS NO CAUSE

What is unfolding in Ukraine is a heart-rending tragedy. The origins of the Russia-Ukraine war may be traced, partly, to the unrelenting expansion of NATO. At the end of the Cold War, unified Germany took the place of West Germany and the then US Secretary of State James Baker assured Russia that NATO will not 'move an inch beyond Germany'. The German border was 5,439 kilometres away from Russia. Since 1999 NATO has expanded to include 14 new member-countries. As Georgia and Ukraine tilted towards the 30-member NATO, and the organisation too seemed willing, Russia drew the red lines. If the two countries joined NATO, Russia will be staring at NATO across its border. Far from NATO not moving an inch beyond Germany, NATO would have arrived within an inch of Russia.

Russia was genuinely concerned about its security and it received no credible assurances from the US or other NATO countries, but no one had crossed the Russiadrawn red lines. In fact, when Russia annexed Crimea (which was part of Ukraine) and two regions of Georgia were absorbed into Russia, the US and the NATO countries quietly acquiesced. There was no reason for Russia to escalate its opposition to Ukraine and start a destructive war.

The extent of devastation and destruction in Ukraine caused by the war is horrendous. Of Ukraine's population of 44 million, nearly 3.5 million have fled the country and another 6.5 million (including half of all children) have been displaced from their homes. Towns have been razed: the port city of Mariupol has been reduced to a rubble. Millions are stranded without food, water or medicine. Thousands have been killed. Yet, Ukraine's President and the people are defiant and have refused to surrender. Whenever the war ends, there will be no winner. Certainly, Russia will not Ukraine. On the contrary, Russia would have earned a hostile neighbour and a persands of young soldiers and billions of rubles worth of military hardware, many quietly left the country and its economy would be crippled. Russia will gain neither security nor respect.

DIMINISHED INDIA

As an Indian I feel helpless. I am clueless about the Indian government's policy. In my view, no argument can justify the war. So, despite the six principles outlined by the External Affairs Minister, why cannot India say that the war is unjustified? Why cannot India appeal to Russia to stop raining bombs on the civilian population and destroying homes, schools and hospitals? Why cannot the Prime Minister travel to Moscow and Kyiv and try to mediate a ceasefire like the Prime Minister of Israel who is making a brave attempt to do so? What has rendered India so incapable of any initiative and so impotent to intervene?

This essay is not intended to be a scholarly analysis of the conduct of foreign policy. This is a personal view that I hold and that I have heard from several thoughtful observers: the silence in the face of a grave moral challenge and the repeated abstentions in world fora have diminished India.



FEAR OF EC

For nearly a year the Gandhis haughtily ignored the G23 letter, but have now adopted a more conciliatory tone. The attempt at some sort of rapprochement is probably motivated less by the belated realisation of the party's rapid decline and more because of apprehensions that an open confrontation or split would offer a pretext for the Election Commission to intervene and freeze the Congress symbol, accounts and properties. Legitimacy of leadership cannot be demonstrated merely by a show of hands, as is the Congress's normal practice, the constitutional procedure would have to be strictly adhered to. The de facto president, Rahul Gandhi, is reluctant to take formal charge as he does not want to shoulder blame for the Congress's poor performance. On the other hand, the paranoid Gandhi family remains firm that they cannot hand over charge to anyone other than a very trusted loyalist, but one with some stature is hard to find. Incidentally, when Rahul attended the CWC, he was taken aback to find that though the meeting was deliberately packed with many special invitees, the only voices defending him were Ashok Gehlot and Mallikarjun Kharge. While leaving, he remarked in an aside to his companion that the silence weighed heavy.

ously silent over the Aam Aadmi Party victory in Punjab. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, NCP leader Sharad Pawar, Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin, SP leader Akhilesh Yadav and Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik were among the few prominent leaders who graciously congratulated Bhagwant Singh Mann.

FORGOTTEN NAMES

Among the several nuggets that author Pramod Kapoor brings out in 1946, his meticulously researched history of the short-lived Royal Indian Navy (RIN) mutiny, is that Admiral John Henry Godfrey, who headed the RIN at that time, was the inspiration for spy thriller writer Ian Fleming's character 'M', the boss of his swashbuckling hero James Bond. In real life, Godfrey as Director of Naval Intelligence in 1939 appointed Fleming as his assistant and treated him as his son. Godfrey was made the scapegoat by his naval bosses in London and replaced the day after the mutiny ended. Another interesting character in the book is Rishi Dev Puri, a good-looking daredevil who played a key role in fomenting the mutiny, but was discharged from the navy three weeks before the actual event. His influential family whisked him away to Shimla to run the family owned Devicos Hotel on the Mall. Incidentally, Puri, who once earned a living as a professional piano player in London, was the younger brother of Vidya Vikas Purie, who, along with his children, founded the India Today media empire.

HEADLIŇE MANRAJGREWALSHARMA manraj.grewal@expressindia.com

history

AS THE AAP government in Punjab orders its offices to put up photos of its mascot Bhagat Singh, what is little known is that there was another, a revolutionary who also died young, who was his hero.

Kartar Singh Sarabha was 19 when he was hanged to death in Lahore in 1915. By then, the engineering student from University of California, Berkeley, was a writer, publisher, co-founder of the Ghadar movement and a freedom fighter.

Prof Chaman Lal, who has penned a book on Sarabha, says Bhagat Singh's Naujawan Bharat Sabha would never start a meeting without first garlanding Sarabha's photo.

Dr Gurbhajan Singh Gill, a poet-historian, recounts how Bhagat Singh's mother Vidyawati told him he always carried Sarabha's picture in his wallet. "He used to tell her that Sarabha was his ustad."

Bhagat Singh was seven when he first saw Sarabha. Newly returned from the US, with a fire in him against the British empire, the 18-year-old would visit Bhagat Singh's father Kishan Singh. The court ruling convicting Sarabha mentioned that Kishan Singh had given Sarabha Rs 1,000 for his movement. "It was a very princely sum for those days," Prof Lal points out. Dr Gurdev Singh Sidhu, an authority on the Ghadar movement, says Sarabha was born into a highly educated family -one of his uncles was a doctor in the British army while another was a senior officer in the forestry department. Sarabha, who lost his father at three and mother at 12, was brought up by his grandfather Badan Singh Grewal, who moved him from Malwa Khalsa high school to Arya High School, Ludhiana, before packing him off to Cuttack where his uncle was posted. At Ravenshaw Collegiate School in Cuttack, his teachers included the famous nationalist Beni Madhab Das, who inspired Subhas Chandra Bose, a year his junior. "A sharp and gregarious youngster, he must have been influenced by the two," says Prof Jagmohan Singh, Bhagat Singh's nephew, who has been doing research on him. From Cuttack, Sarabha headed to Berkeley, to pursue Electrical Engineering in 1912. Soon he came into contact with Lala Hardayal, an acclaimed Sanskrit scholar, Sohan Singh Bhakna, a farmer, and Pandurang Sadashiv Khankhoje, an agricultural scientist who formed the Pacific Coast Hindustan Association in 1913. It was a precursor to the Ghadar

The Boy General who was Bhagat Singh's hero



Bhagat Singh (left); and Kartar Singh Sarabha, hanged at the age of 19

Party, that was formed on July 15, 1913, with the express aim of overthrowing the British government in India. Sarabha, who had by then left studies, was its youngest founding member.

The party set up a printing press in San Francisco, and brought out its first issue of The Ghadar in Urdu on November 1,

This horrific war must end be a winner. It will not be able to 'annex' manent enemy, it would have lost thouvoung and talented Russians would have



versities were not ashamed to expound hypocritically upon the 'evils' of capitalism in the drawing rooms of Delhi. This had something to do with the East India Company mindset that developed collectively under the British Raj. Then came our shift from grim socialist economic policies to more liberal ones and India changed. Or so we thought.

It appears now that the change was illusory. Beneath our obvious affection for American colleges, culture, food, airport novels and Hollywood appear to remain intact political ideas that have a more definite connect with autocracies than democracies. While trying to make the case on social media that we should at least be horrified by the way Putin has attacked civilian targets, I have found myself subjected to an avalanche of tweets that order me to shut up because there is no difference between what the Russians are doing and what the Americans did in Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. But there are differences. Big, vital differences. It was the American media that attacked its own government for its wars. In Russia journalists who criticise Putin end up jobless or dead. It is the strength of American institutions that halt the possibilities of an autocrat taking charge. We saw this most recently when Donald Trump tried to cancel a general election to stay in power. What has disturbed me most in the past month is to see the number of young Indians on social media who seem to believe that autocracy is a better idea than democracy. So, I have not only been told to shut up about my sympathy with Ukraine but to remember that the Prime Minister knows best what is in India's national interest and a 'presstitute' like me has no right to question this. This contempt for dissidence has been manifesting itself for a while on social media. It is not just well-known BJP trolls who screech their hatred of 'libtards' and liberal values but genteel housewives, doctors, teachers, writers, and students. It is as if they have not noticed that as a country that proudly claims to be the world's largest democracy, liberal values are to be cherished and not treated with disdain. Could it be possible that in the 'new' India it is autocrats like Putin and Xi Jinping who have become the new heroes? Ukraine's only crime was that it demanded the right to be a free and democratic country instead of one bullied into submitting to the will of autocratic Russia. It is extraordinary and very sad that Indians, with no known political allegiances, do not see where India should stand. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced in the past month. Women and children have died horribly in shelters that would not have been attacked under the international rules of war. And, vet the only voices of sympathy for Ukraine I hear in India's public square are those that say that we cannot speak out openly against Putin's atrocities because we rely on Russia for our military supplies. Dissent is so absent from the conversations in India today that there are not even questions asked about why we have not moved away from our debilitating dependence on Russian armaments decades after the Soviet Union died. Putin's ugly war has revealed a side of India that proves those international watchdogs of democracy right when they label 'new' India as being only 'partly free'. Listen to voices on social media and you will discover that most Indians wear this label as a badge of honour.

INDIVIDUAL CLOUT

The only G23 rebel with whom Rahul Gandhi has interacted is Bhupinder Singh Hooda. While he dismisses other party rebels as armchair leaders with no grassroots support, Gandhi realises that the Congress will be in trouble in Haryana without Hooda, who wields sizeable influence in his bastion of Sonipat-Rohtak and is the only prominent Congress Jat leader in the state. While the elder Hooda is with the rebels, his son Deepender remains in the Gandhi camp. Another prominent Congress family is also divided. But here the father is backing the Gandhis, while the son demands introspection by the high command. But this family's differences are not for public consumption.

IGNORING AAP WIN

It is customary for chief ministers to congratulate their newly elected counterparts in other states. But many Opposition leaders, vying for leadership of the non-BJP, non-Congress space, were conspicu-

SAVARKAR PLACE?

BJP MP and president of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, has taken note of the fact that a prominent circle in the heart of New Delhi still carries the British roval family's surname, Windsor. Sahasrabuddhe has written to the New Delhi Municipal Corporation demanding that Windsor Place, which is in any case a confusing address as it incorporates bungalows standing at the intersection of several prominent roads, including Janpath and Ashoka Road, should be re-named after Veer Savarkar. The New Delhi Municipal Committee authorities are believed to be considering the request sympathetically.

BALANCING ACT

In the last lap of SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's campaign, party MP Jaya Bachchan made some fiery speeches against the ruling BJP, accusing it of telling nothing but lies and hiding its weaknesses by pointing a finger at others. Perhaps to compensate, Amitabh Bachchan flew down for Yogi Adityanath's swearing-in ceremony held on Friday.

2013, followed by the Punjabi edition on December 13. Susan McMahon's book Echoes of Freedom: South Asia Pioneers in California mentions how besides his role in bringing out the paper, "Sarabha was one of the most active fundraisers in the organisation, holding meetings in the rural areas where the farmers donated generously."

Sarabha worked shoulder to shoulder with the much older Ghadri "babas", who began to call him 'Bala Jarnail (Boy general)'.

With World War-I breaking out in July 1914, the Ghadris decided to return to India, with the plan of stoking mutiny among Indian soldiers. Sarabha sailed back in October 2014, and began to crisscross the country. "He went anywhere where there was a cantonment with Punjabi soldiers. He was absolutely fearless, people called him a dynamo. He could cycle for 100 km a day," says Prof Chaman Lal.

He was often accompanied by fellow Ghadar party member Vishnu Ganesh Pingle from Pune. The two had met in California.

By February 2015, the British authorities had got a whiff of the conspiracy, and began to arrest Ghadar party members, da jo chade gaj ke, bani sir sheran de ki jaana bhaj ke (Men who are brave like a lion, don't run)." It resonated so much with Sarabha that he decided to return and was arrested early March.

ahead of their plan to stage an uprising on

February 21 after capturing Mian Mir and

cops and headed out to Russia. Lore has it

that Sarabha and his friends were close to

Peshawar near Afghanistan when they

began to hum the song "Singh naam sher

Sarabha managed to hoodwink the

Ferozepur Cantts.

The trial into what came to be called the Lahore conspiracy case resulted in the execution of 24 Ghadris.

The first FIR filed against Sarabha by the British police says he had two books, one was Indian Sociologist published by Shyamji Krishna Varma, who had set up India House in London, and the second, Speeches from the Dock, featuring Irish freedom fighters who were executed.

Prof Chaman Lal says the judges, seeing his young age, asked him to think over his statement. "Sarabha made a much stronger statement the next day, leaving no one in doubt about his intention. When asked about the three colours of the Ghadri flag, he said they represented liberty, equality and fraternity."

Subsequently, he was awarded the death penalty. When his grandfather visited him, he made light of the sentence, telling him how everyone has to die but he would be immortalised in death.

Sarabha was hanged with six others including his friend Pingle, on November 16, 1915.

she SAID **RINKUGHOSH** rinku.ghosh@expressindia.com

IT IS bandied about like a miracle mantra for righting all wrongs, but the term "women empowerment" itself sounds disempowering at best, a condescension at worst. Women don't need to be empowered, they are the power. And that, in longheld patriarchal hierarchies, takes time to manifest itself, working its way up like a trellis through gaps called opportunities. Empowerment robs the woman of her agency and seems like a charitable gift bestowed by the man or society at large. The assumption being that had they not considered her worthy enough of attention, she would not get there. The woman then seems like the recipient of favours and is expected to be grateful for a good turn done

Empowerment? No thanks

by somebody else.

Last week, British-Iranian aid worker Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe understood this the rather hard way. After a long-drawn series of diplomatic efforts, Zaghari-Ratcliffe arrived in the UK from Iran after six years of incarceration. She was ostensibly picked up for spying, but Iranians used her as a bargaining chip to extract something from the UK. All she did on her return was protest against being used as a tool of British diplomacy and ask why she couldn't have been brought home much earlier. Expected to be demure and thankful to the authorities for negotiating her release, she was trolled for being "ungrateful" and for questioning her "saviours".

So, what is it that had everybody gunning for her? For one, she said it like it is, implying that her release was delayed to prolong negotiations over the UK's repayment

of a 400 million-pound debt it owed to Iran. Two, she contradicted her husband Richard, who thanked the British government for getting his wife home. "What's happened now should have happened six years ago," she thundered. Third, she spoke her piece looking good, neatly turned out, bright nails and all, looking every bit the fighter than the victim. And although former foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt said that Zaghari-Ratcliffe didn't owe anybody gratitude but the system owed her an explanation, she was judged, shamed and abused for not conforming to the stereotype that is so casually handed out to women to wear. A poster unbelievably read, "BTW - wish I looked that good when I am 'broken'. #sendherback.' Some even lambasted her for allowing herself to be caught, by "stupidly" travelling to a hostile country in the first place.

Everybody forgot that while she stood

free on a podium, she fervently appealed that other political prisoners be freed from Iran. She just reminded everybody that she was grateful that her imprisonment had given her an opportunity to understand their plight, that civilised London society was ungrateful to those in captivity, who provided them daily fodder to rant against injustice at global high tables.

Zaghari-Ratcliffe reminded us of many of other unthoughtful words that we like to 'empower" women with. Some of them are "woman boss" or "bosswoman", making her look like a sub-species of bosses and somehow less capable or different. If she is too "bossy", then you undermine her original vision as being unrealistic and impractical. Then there's "mompreneur." The maternal traits in a woman certainly don't make her different from any other aggressive entrepreneur. Besides prefixing "mom" makes

her look cutesy and needy for some serious consideration because she has fulfilled her primary social responsibility to the human race by birthing and raising a child. It is about under-cutting her self-worth, definitely not enabling it. And the one we get routinely is, 'She's a strong woman." Next time you say that to anyone, remember that she appears so because she has run out of options in life. Women don't need to be gender-qualified for the roles they play, the attitudes they embody or the personality they become. They certainly don't need words that sound encouraging but imply that they finally deserve something.

The word gratitude is derived from the Latin word gratia, which means grace, graciousness or gratefulness depending on the context. Today's context demands that we be gracious. Not only to Zaghari-Ratcliffe but to all women out there.

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022 12 THE WORLD

IN A FIRST, ICE SHELF COLLAPSES IN EAST ANTARCTICA

For the first time since satellites began observing Antarctica nearly half a century ago, an ice shelf has collapsed on the eastern part of the continent, scientists said. The collapse of the 450-square-mile Conger ice shelf in a part of the continent called Wilkes Land occurred in mid-March. It was first spotted by scientists with the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and appeared in satellite images taken on March 17, as per National Ice Centre in the US.

TOPOFTHE WORLD



Taylor Hawkins. AP

US **Foo Fighters** drummer Taylor Hawkins dead

Los Angeles: Taylor Hawkins, for 25 years the drummer for Foo Fighters and best friend of frontman Dave Grohl, has died during a South American tour with the rock band. He was 50. There were no immediate details on how Hawkins died, although the band said in a statement on Friday that his death was a "tragic and untimely loss." Foo Fighters had been scheduled to play at a festival in Bogota, Colombia, on Friday night. Hawkins' final concert was Sunday at another festival in San Isidro, Argentina. "His musical spirit and infectious laughter will live on with all of us forever," said a message on the band's official Twitter account. "Our hearts go out to his wife, children and family." AP

NORTH KOREA US urges China, Russia to slam North Korea

Washington: China and Russia should tell North Korea to avoid more "provocations" after it resumed intercontinental ballistic missile testing this week, US State Department spokesperson Jalina Porter said on Friday. At the UNSC meeting on Friday, US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said the US would propose a resolution "to update and strengthen" Security Council sanctions. She declined to specify what those new measures might be.

city to suffer a nuclear attack. Japan, the only country at-AGENCIES tacked by atomic weapons, has

CALLS RUSSIAN PRESIDENT A BUTCHER This man can't remain in power: **Biden says in challenge to Putin**

AGENCIES WARSAW, MARCH 26

PRESIDENT JOE Biden, in a challenge to Russian leader Vladimir Putin, on Saturday called for his removal, saying, "For God's sake, this man cannot remain in power."

Biden also used a speech in Poland's capital to make a vociferous defence of liberal democracy and the NATO military alliance, while also saying Europe must steel itself for a long fight against Russian aggression.

In what was billed by the White House as a major address, Biden spoke in front of the Royal Castle, one of Warsaw's notable landmarks that was badly damaged during War II.

He unleashed an angry tirade against Putin for the claim that his invasion is intended to "de-Nazify" Ukraine. Biden called that claim "a lie," noting that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is Jewish and his father's family was killed in the Holocaust.

He borrowed the words of Polish-born Pope John Paul II and cited anti-communist Polish dissident and former president, Lech Walesa, as he warned that Putin's invasion of Ukraine threatens to

bring "decades of war." 'In this battle we need to be clear-eyed. This battle will not be won in days, or months, either," Biden said. The crowd of about 1,000 included some of the Ukrainian refugees who have fled for Poland and elsewhere in



US President Biden meeting Ukrainian refugees in Warsaw on Saturday. AP

forces. Asked what he thinks of

Putin and of what has happened

in Mariupol, Biden said simply:

the midst of the brutal invasion. "Today, Russia has strangled democracy and sought to do so elsewhere," he said. "We must commit now, to be this fight for the long haul," Biden said.

He marveled at the spirit and resolve of Ukrainian refugees in the aftermath of Russia's deadly invasion as he embraced mothers and children and promised

MOSCOW CONDUCTS

DISPUTED WITH JAPAN

RUSSIA WAS conducting

drills on islands claimed by

Tokyo, Japanese media said

Moscow halted peace talks

sanctions over Russia's inva-

with Japan because of its

on Saturday, days after

MILITARY DRILLS ON ISLES

enduring support from Western "He's a butcher.' "Your freedom is ours," Biden powers. Biden called Putin "a butcher" in response to a questold Poland's President, Andrzej tion after meeting with Duda earlier, echoing one of that Ukrainian refugees in Warsaw, including several from Mariupol, the city that has been flattened by days of shelling from Russian

country's unofficial mottos. At the Presidential Palace in Warsaw, the two leaders spoke

of their mutual respect and shared goals to end the Russian invasion of Ukraine. "Although times are very difficult, today Polish-American relations are flourishing," Duda said.

He also met with Ukrainian ministers in his first in-person encounter with the country's top leaders since the Russian invasion began on Feb. 24, part of what American officials hope will be a powerful display of the United States' commitment to Ukrainian sovereignty.



THE MAYOR of Ukraine's north-

gency treatment. "They can't survive here due to the severity of their wounds, they need urgent evacuation," he

by bombing



On the outskirts of Kyiv on Friday following a Russian attack. AP

ZELENSKYY ADDRESSES DOHA FORUM

Russian forces take Chernobyl workers' town; fighting rages in Mariupol

GLEBGARANICH& NATALIA ZINETS MARIUPOL/LVIV, MARCH 26

RUSSIAN FORCES have taken control of a town where workers at the defunct Chernobyl nuclear plant live, the governor of Kyiv region said on Saturday, and fighting was reported in the streets of the besieged southern

port of Mariupol. However, intense fighting was reported in a number of places on Saturday, suggesting there would be no swift let-up in the conflict, which has killed thousands of people, sent some 3.7 million abroad and driven more than half of Ukraine's children from their homes, accordng to the United Nations.

Russian troops seized the town of Slavutych, which is close to the order with Belarus and is where

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy compared the destruction of Mariupol to the destruction inflicted on the Syrian city of Aleppo by combined Syrian and Russian forces in the civil war. "They are destroying our ports," Zelenskyy said, warning of dire consequence if his country -

workers at the nearby Chernobyl

plant live, said Oleksandr Pavlyuk,

On the other side of the coun-

try, in Mariupol, Mayor Vadym

Boichenko said the situation in the

encircled city remained critical,

with street fighting taking place in

the centre. The city has been dev-

astated by weeks of Russian fire.

In an address on Saturday to Oatar's Doha Forum, Ukrainian

the governor of Kyiv region

one of the world's major grains producers - could not export its foodstuff. "The absence of exports from Ukraine will deal a blow to countries worldwide." REUTERS

IN BRIEF

UK to send vital food supplies for besieged Ukrainian cities

The UK will provide GBP 2 million in vital food supplies for areas of Ukraine encircled by Russian forces, UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said on Saturday. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said the decision follows a direct request from the government of Ukraine, with the supplies covering a rapid donation of dried food, tinned goods and water. Warehouses in Poland and Slovakia are being readied to supply these goods from early next week. "This vital donation of food and supplies will help support the Ukrainian people in the face of Russia's barbaric invasion," said Truss. PTI

Thousands of Russians in Prague protest against the war

Thousands of Russians marched through Prague on Saturday, waving

sion of Ukraine. Russia's Eastern Military District said it was conducting military drills REUTERS on the Kuril islands with more than 3,000 troops and hun-LVIV, MARCH 26 dreds of pieces of army equip-

> ern city of Chernihiv said on Saturday 44 severely wounded people, including three children, could not be evacuated to safer areas for treatment since the city

BAHAMAS

William says backs any Caribbean decision on future

Nassau: Britain's Prince William has said he supports and respects any decision Caribbean nations make about their future. as Belize, the Bahamas and Jamaica consider cutting ties with the British monarchy. At the end of a tour with his wife Kate, William. Queen Elizabeth's grandson, acknowledged the relationship between the three Caribbean states and the Crown was changing. "Next year, I know you are all looking forward to celebrating 50 years of independence - your Golden Anniversary," he said in a speech in the Bahamas capital Nassau. REUTERS

China says no survivors in plane crash with 132 on board

Beijing: Chinese authorities officially confirmed on Saturday that there were no survivors in the crash of a China Eastern 737-800 earlier this week with 132 people on board.

The announcement by an official of the Civil Aviation Administration of China at a latenight news conference was followed by a brief moment of silence. Investigators have identified 120 of the victims through DNA analysis, state media reported.

Construction excavators dug into the crash site Saturday in the search for wreckage, remains and the second black box. Searchers found the cockpit voice recorder on Wednesday but have yet to find the flight data recorder. AP

regularly spoken out against nuclear armaments. "When the possible use of nuclear weapons by Russia is increasingly real, I believe Ambassador Emanuel's visit to Hiroshima and his experience of seeing the nuclear reality will become a strong message to the international society," Kishida told public broadcaster NHK. "I believe

REUTERS&NYT

TOKYO, MARCH 26

JAPAN'S PRIME MINISTER Fumio

Kishida said on Saturday the

prospect of Russia using nuclear

weapons was "increasingly real",

welcoming a visit by the US am-

bassador to Hiroshima, the first

our visit was meaningful." He said Russia's war in Ukraine shows the difficulties of creating a world without nuclear weapons.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, Dmitri A. Medvedev, the former Russian president and vicechairman of Russia's Security

Council, said the country was prepared to use nuclear weapons against the US and Europe if its existence was threatened. Russia's defence minister, Sergei K. Shoigu, also mentioned Russia's nuclear weapons in remarks released on Saturday.

ment, Russia's Interfax news

agency said Friday. Japan's

Foreign Ministry and PMO

could not be reached outside

business hours to comment

on the exercises. REUTERS

had been cut off by Russian forces.

The city near the Belarusian border has been effectively surrounded, local authorities said on Friday, warning that it had become impossible to evacuate civilians or bring in humanitarian aid because a bridge linking the city to Ukraine's capital to the south had been destroyed

said. He said there were still up to 130,000 people without heating, electricity or water supplies in Chernihiv, which he said was under heavy bombardment by Russian forces. The city had a pre-war population of around 290.000, he said.

Speaking on national televi-

sion, Chernihiv Mayor Vladyslav

Atroshenko said the situation

was particularly critical for 44

wounded people needing emer-

Reuters could not independently confirm his accounts.



Prague. Reuters

tion is tabled," he said. Rashid

termed the Opposition "foolish" for submitting the no-trust mo-

tion against Prime Minister Khar

and said that the move has taken

the Prime Minister to a level of

popularity where "it is the right

the white-blue-white flag that has become a symbol of protests against Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Carrying signs that read "Killer" over a picture of President Vladimir Putin and chanting "No to War", protesters walked from Prague's Peace Square through the centre of the Czech capital. Police put the number of marchers at about 3,000. Reuters

Taliban blocked

unaccompanied

flights: Officials

women from

KATHY GANNON

ISLAMABAD, MARCH 26

AFGHANISTAN'S TALIBAN rulers

refused to allow dozens of



Nepalese foreign minister Narayan Khadka, left, and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Kathmandu on Saturday. AP

Wang Yi meets Nepal's leadership, signs 9 MoUs

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE KATHMANDU, MARCH 26

NEPAL AND CHINA on Saturday signed nine agreements, including construction of railway line from Kerung-Kathmandu- a key project under the Belt and

Road Initiative The two sides signed nine MoUs following the meeting between Foreign Ministers Narayan Khadka and Wang Yi, who arrived in Kathmandu on Friday night on a three-day visit. Yi's visit comes ess than a month after Nepal's Parliament ratified the \$500 mil-

lion US grant against China's advise. **Besides extension of the railway** line from Kerung along the Tibet border right up to Kathmandu, the two sides also decided to conduct fresh feasibility study for construc-

tion of transmission line.

Minister Yi, who also met Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba . handed over Pokhara International Airport, the first outside Kathmandu. The airport has been built at a cost of Rs 14 billion, which China loaned to Nepal.

Yi will also be meeting President Bidhya Devi Bhandari besides two former Prime Ministers, Pushpa Kamal Dahal of the Maoist Centre and KP Oli of the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist.

Officials said China has also agreed to enhance technical cooperation to Nepal. Apart from the Pokhara airport, the Chinese side will soon be handing over the Arniko highway after repair.Nepal has agreed to let Chinese health workers provide health and medical services to Nepal as well.

Saudi airstrikes hit Yemen's Houthis after Jiddah attack

ASSOCIATED PRESS SANAA, MARCH 26

A SAUDI-LED coalition fighting Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen unleashed a barrage of airstrikes on the capital and a strategic Red Sea city, officials said on Saturday. At least eight people were killed.

The overnight airstrikes on Sanaa and Hodeida – both held by the Houthis – came a day after the rebels attacked an oil depot in the Saudi city of Jiddah, their highest-profile assault yet on the kingdom.

Brig. Gen. Turki al-Malki, a spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition, said the strikes targeted "sources of threat" to Saudi Arabia, according to the staterun Saudi Press Agency or SPA.

He said the coalition intercepted and destroyed two explosives-laden drones early Saturday. He said the drones were launched from Houthiheld civilian oil facilities in Hodeida, urging civilians to stay away from oil facilities in the city.

Footage circulated online showed flames and plumes of smoke over Sanaa and Hodeida. Associated Press journalists in the Yemeni capital heard loud explosions that rattled residential buildings there

Pak Interior Minister advises Imran to call polls after budget three to seven days after the moing the federal budget for fiscal

year 2022-23 was his own opin-

ion and should not be taken as the

ruling Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

Saturday, Rashid said that voting

against Prime Minister Khan can

trust would be presented in the

He said that he was giving the

"The voting is held between

Talking to reporters on

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, MARCH 26

PAKISTAN'S INTERIOR Minister (PTI)'s stance. the Dawn reported. Sheikh Rashid on Saturday said that he has advised Prime Minister Imran Khan to call elecon the no-confidence motion tions after presenting the budget, claiming that the crickbe held on April 3 or 4. eter-turned politician's popularity had increased following the likely dates for vote on the pre-Opposition's submission of a nosumption that the motion of notrust motion against him. National Assembly on March 28.

Rashid, however, said the idea for early elections after present-

FOREX CRISIS Lankan newspapers run out of newsprint, suspend publication

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO, MARCH 26

SRI LANKA'S TWO major newspapers on Saturday suspended their publication over newsprint shortage and price escalation caused by the country's all-time worst foreign exchange crisis.

The Island, an English daily along with its sister Sinhala paper Divayina, ceased to print as the newsprint scarcities and price escalations hit the media organisation. "We regret to in-

form our readers that we have been compelled to suspend the publication of The Island print edition on Saturday until further notice in view of the newsprint shortage," Upali Newspapers

Limited said in a statement. Sri Lanka is facing its all-time worst foreign exchange crisis after the pandemic hit the nation's earnings from tourism and remittances. The import costs of newsprint also rose remarkably since the government's decision early this month to float the Sri Lankan rupee against the US dollar.



women who arrived at Kabul's international airport Friday to board domestic and international flights were told they couldn't do so without a male guardian.

Some of the women were dual nationals returning to their homes overseas, according to one of the officials. Women were denied boarding on flights to Islamabad, Dubai and Turkey on Kam Air and the state-owned Ariana Airline, said the officials.

The order came from the Taliban leadership, said one official. By Saturday, some women traveling alone were given permission to board an Ariana Airlines flight to western Herat province, the official said. However, by the time the permission was granted they had missed their flight, he said.

The airport's president and police chief, both from the Taliban movement were meeting Saturday with airline officials. "They are trying to solve it," the official said. AP



EXPLAINED Economy hits rock bottom

SRI LANKA is facing an acute

economic and energy crisis

triggered due to shortage of

foreign exchange. A sudden

rise in prices of key com-

New Delhi







THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE



ARTS etc Inked For Glory An interview with the filmmakers of Writing with Fire, India's Oscar nomination in documentary feature this year

POINT OF VIEW The Myth of Bad Behaviour Shelja Sen on why we are not just accountable for our children; we have to be accountable to them



PEOPLE LIKE US

Director Nagraj Manjule on his latest film, nurturing talent and his cinematic universe that propels his method of storytelling

Alaka Sahani

NAGRAJ Manjule watched the video of Ankush Gedam dancing during a Ganpati immersion procession in Nagpur's Gaddigodam area, the filmmaker

was instantly captivated by his unbridled energy, swagger, and spirit. It was 2017 and Manjule was in the process of finalising the cast of Jhund, which tells the story of a sports teacher(Amitabh Bachchan)training young slum-dwellers of Nagpur to play football and unwittingly propels them towards a better life. In the next few days, the filmmaker received several other videos of then 24-yearold Gedam running and playing football. They were sent by Manjule's associate and younger brother, Bhusan, with the message: "Don mil gaya (We have found Don)".

Before the making of *Jhund*, Gedam was drifting through life after Class XII – taking up odd jobs as a delivery boy and working in

eateries - while nursing the ambition of joining the police someday. Manjule found Gedam's screen presence fetching, even though his look with long hair was developed later. "Be it the casting for Fandry (2013), Sairat (2016) or just-released Jhund - my belief is that we should choose an actor who appears close to the character. But they need not be identical," says the Pune-based director, known for "authentic casting" to imbue the storytelling with his signature raw and realistic vibes.

The 44-year-old director's casting motto combined with his sharp instinct has set a benchmark when it comes to introducing new faces on the Indian screen. He has tried fresh casting since his very first work, the National Award-winning short film Pistulya (2010), when he cast young Suraj Pawar, who belongs to the backward Pardhi community from Ahmednagar, in the titular role. He later played Pirya in Fandry (2013) and Prince in Sairat (2016). In Fandry, Somnath Awghade, who had dropped out of school after Class VII then, essayed the character of Jabya, a teenager infatuated with an upper-class girl,





SQUAD GOALS

(Left) Nagraj Manjule ; in the film, Amitabh Bachchan trains young slum dwellers in football

though acutely aware of his lower caste identity. In Sairat, too, he introduced Rinku Rajguru as feisty Archie, and Akash Thosar as the affable Parshya. Rajguru was a Class VII student and Thosar was pursuing his bachelor degree when they made their landmark debut. They are also in *Jhund* – Rajguru as a football player from a remote village and Thosar as a local toughie – which featured nearly 30 newcomers. The debutants include Sayli Patil, Priyanshu Kshtriya (Babu), Allen Patrick, Angel Anthony and Kartik Uikey.

Before these handpicked prospective actors face the camera on Manjule's sets, they undergo extensive training, rehearsals, and workshops. Prior to the making of Fandry and Sairat, most of the young actors in the cast lived with Manjule and other members of his team. The comparatively bigger cast of Jhund lived in a bungalow in Pune's Kothrud for nearly a year. "Whenever we write a story, we create a world that's based on the imagination. At times, it's based on real life, then you add your imagination to it and build the characters," says Manjule, who has now set up a farmhouse in Narhe, in the outskirts of Pune, and hosts multiple creative activities there.

Fondly called "Anna" by the young actors. Manjule's tried-and-tested method involves a lot of hand-holding, boosting their morale, and even enacting the scenes. "I didn't know anything about acting. I used to just follow Anna's instructions while shooting for Fandry. For Jhund, I had to learn how to play football and practised for nearly one-andhalf years," says Awghade, who plays the role of Imraan in Jhund. Unlike him, Gedam was an experienced football player and had taken part in slum tournaments. The 29-year-old, however, was not sure if he could cry on camera, having failed to do so once during his audition. "In one crucial scene, I'm drunk, sad, crying, and, also, angry over not getting my passport. Anna not only showed me how to do it but also gave them the confidence to handle different emotions at the same time," recalls Gedam.

From the onset, it is evident that Jhund is not merely a sports film. It's a social drama that makes a plea for society to be more inclusive and empathetic towards those living on the margins.

» CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE











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New Delhi



S



EYESPY EVERY FORTNIGHT, WE PICK, YOU WATCH



Shubhra Gupta

Shubhra Gupta is film critic with The Indian Express

'Indian filmmakers retaining decisionmaking roles is a huge part of this moment'

The filmmakers of India's first Academy Award-nominated documentary feature on their subject

Tanushree Ghosh

The Marvels of a Missus

The series never strays too far from its leading lady and her struggles to break into the all-boys comic club

'M MISSING Midge, she who headlines the Amazon Prime show, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, which has topped off its penultimate Season 4 with a dazzling caught-in-the-snowflakes-in-NYC act. The motormouth female comic, with her rat-a-tat lines, and fabulous outfits, works hard to make us forget an indifferent Season 3. She waltzes into an illegal strip club with a solo set, managing to make it a somewhat respectable space, much to the horror of its rough-and-tumble regulars. She talks down a much more established rival, never abandoning her sartorial sharpness even at her lowest: the costumes and the window dressing in the series are a constant delight

There's a special joy in watching a woman looking all comers in the eye, battle-and-riposte-ready, and our Midge, played with sparkly bio by Rachel Brosnahan, possesses that ability in spades. Despite all the low blows and buffetings, sometimes created by her own inability to see sense, Midge Maisel refuses to give up.

For those not up to speed with the happenings in Midge's not-so-marvellous life, here's a quick recap. What does an Upper West Side Jewish housewife in the late '50s-early '60s America, with a handsome husband and two good-looking children, and surrounded by nosey, loving, constantly-interfering parents and in-laws do when she finds herself without said spouse (who is having a bit on the side in the office), and without the money to support herself? Her discovery that zero prospects can be turned into a rollicking stand-up act is a revelation. From that moment on, Midge is set on a learning curve, living without the comfortable crutches a woman of her class has taken for granted, playing with the spotlight, digging into her life experiences for comic gold, and wielding anger as a weapon.



Was the Academy's recent diversity policy key in Writing With Fire's selection? Rintu Thomas, 35: After the whole #OscarsSoWhite (movement, since 2015), the

Academy's documentary branch took its diversifying efforts most seriously, with more people of colour, more women as voters, from outside of the US, and that has a huge bearing on films like Writing With Fire (WWF) or Attica this year, or Collective and The Mole Agent last year. Sushmit Ghosh, 39: We are the only film

that doesn't have a big producer, streamer or a studio behind it. The nomination, a big win in itself, has opened up a conversation, panindustry, about how far an independently produced film can go and what the meaning of independence truly is.

Non-fiction filmmakers are rarely invited to film-industry roundtables. Rintu, as part of Maitri, a female-first initiative between MAMI (Mumbai Academy of Moving Image) and Amazon Prime, how do you see your role?

Thomas: It was a thoughtfully curated table. I realised I was the only one from the world of non-fiction but it was a joy to reach across and share notes of our shared struggles as women writers, producers, creators. Usually, a table like this would have a string of well-known names and I appreciated how this was a different experience. Therefore, the importance of - and our role as - gatekeepers who open doors and keep it open, share knowledge so that not everybody has to reinvent the wheel

The camera stays at the journalists' eye level. Talk about the film's feminist lens.

Ghosh: Feminism believes in the sanctity, equity and dignity of all life. Those are the kind of characters we met while filming WWF. It's interesting that this film on an all-women journalistic collective has been shot by two male cinematographers. Aesthetically, Karan (Thapliyal) and I decided to shoot the film from Meera, Suneeta and Shyamkali's perspective. As we followed them, we were constantly bent down as we filmed the world from their imagined eyes. The world looks much more imposing, the stakes much larger as the women take on patriarchy and oppression in the spaces they inhabit. The scenes, in long takes, stays more on the women's faces as they responded and reacted to the world around them.

What visible changes, in the course of filming over four years, did you witness?

Ghosh: The fact that Dalit women are stepping out of their homes to work as journalists is in itself a reimagining of cultural conversations. You see the literal impact of their work in one of the first montages of the film where roads get built, access to water is ensured to farmers and electricity is supplied to homes. The mainstream media in these regions is almost entirely composed of male journalists,





why aren't there any showdown?

Thomas: An incredible amount of power and strength in the film's narrative comes from the way the women at Khabar Lahariya lift each other, in mentoring that's firm yet gentle. I find the imagery of women-led institutions missing from our popular culture. When it comes to representing women's relaman with political aspirations, in the film.

Ghosh: Satyam is an extremely complex, grey character, definitely not black or white. Having him in the film was important because of Meera's interest in him. She was interested in a long-form journalistic piece that explored the story of young men and women and how they are looking at the world that we are in right now, and what the future of the youth can be. We framed these choices that our youth face in two characters - Satyam and Suneeta. Both have difficult circumstances but choose radically different paths in chasing their dreams.

Earlier this week, Khabar Lahariya said in a statement that the film 'eclipses', 'distorts' their work. What do you have to say?

Ghosh: We absolutely agree that the film does not fully capture Khabar Lahariya's 20year-long journey. We were on the ground filming with them during 2016-19, as they transitioned from a print to digital news agency. The film is located in this time frame and it speaks to their power and agency both as women and as journalists with a rich history of rural grassroots journalism. The film the Khabar Lahariya journalists viewed in January 2021 is the same film that premiered at Sundance and has been shown globally (including those where Khabar Lahariya journalists were present and engaged in conversations about the film) and that the Khabar Lahariya team watched more recently. The safety and protection of Khabar Lahariya's work has always been at the forefront of our filmmaking process, which we've led with care and constant communication with the Khabar aware that the power dynamic is always tilted in favour of the person behind the camera. In 13 years as documentary filmmakers, our approach has been to invest a lot of time in making that relationship as equitable as possible. It always starts by acknowledging our role as outsiders to the realities of our protagonists and waiting for the moment when they choose us as the tellers of their story. We took the same approach to WWF, a story on media makers.

The Indian documentary has been on a rise in the last two years, how do non-fiction filmmakers navigate the shrinking spaces in India?

Ghosh: Countries in Asia like Indonesia or South Korea have a robust culture of supporting documentary filmmakers. Ironically, India is one of the largest film-producing countries in the world and yet we don't have a single public funding grant made available to documentary filmmakers. This an opportunity for mainstream production houses to fill this void and set up funding infrastructure for documakers, provide bursaries for student filmmakers, amplify the work happening at DocedgeKolkata, which remains the go-to place in India for feature documentaries.

And that's why one needs international networks and collaborations?

Thomas: For the first year of filming, we self-financed it. After the first few schedules, we realised this was going to be a longer-term project, its scale was growing. We kept writing proposals and pitching at several markets and forums, where we were asked, 'who is your US or European producer?' Changing the language around Indian filmmakers telling their own stories while retaining key producing and decision-making roles, which was important for us, is also a huge part of this Oscar moment.

MIC DROP

We never see Midge rumpled even when she is ruffled

Revenge is what she wants. Getting her own back at the forces that have left her grappling with pending bills grocery, milk, dry-cleaning - and a big loan from in-laws (Kevin Pollak and Caroline Aaron) who have restored her to her plush apartment. Her ex-husband Joel (Michael Zegen) and his pregnant Chinese girl-friend hover uneasily. Then there's her agent Susie (Alex Borstein, consistently terrific), who often seems to be at cross-purposes with her ambition. Her mother's (Marin Hinkle) tentative stepping into the highly competitive field of matchmaking, and her father's (Tony Shalhoub) hilarious foray into journalism (with a column in The Village Voice, no less, which gets a great Nixon vs Kennedy scene) also get space, and the episode in which their sex lives become a punchline is a hoot.

The best comedies are always more than just gags and funny lines, and characters trembling on the border of being caricatures: they tell you about manners and mores. New York-based Jewish families of the time would have had no difficulties in recognising themselves in the Maisels and the Weismanns, with their constant squabbling and stepping on each other's toes. Privacy? What's that? The cabal of matchmakers who have divvied up NYC among themselves, keeping a sharp eye on eligible bachelors and potential brides feels familiar. Our Sima Aunty, self-styled matchmaker par excellence, who currently holds such sway on the global market, could have learnt a thing or two from these ladies and their ferocious commitment to the cause of moneyed matrimony.

What's truly interesting is just how conservatism and modernism plays out in the America of the time. When Midge is forced to fend for herself, she is up against a philandering husband, disapproving parents and in-laws, and sundry other naysayers. How do women groomed strictly to be perfect wives and mothers, carve out an identity for themselves? We never see Midge, who is back to being called by her 'proper name' Miriam, in this season, rumpled even when she is ruffled. The person who is allowed to be messy and unkempt is the mannish Susie, with her dodgy mobster pals. The rundown club's strippers are never portrayed in an undignified fashion. They may be wiggling and jiggling, and baring their flesh, but they are people with a paying job.

But this series, created by Amy Sherman-Palladino and produced by husband Dan Palladino, never strays too far from its leading lady, whose struggles to break into the all-boys' club of stand-up comedy has been mined from real-life people and situations of the time. Sixty years on, how much have things changed, for women who want to stand up and be counted? It is a question worth asking.

usually from dominant castes. In a scene, Suneeta reports on a murder with nuance and sophistication, while her male peers bumble around trying to find an angle for their story.

Female solidarity is heartening to see. But

tionships, it's mostly through the lens of them being competitive with each other. In this story, we share an alternative narrative - one that foregrounds trust and friendship.

Tell us about positioning Satyam, a young

one of their looks by Sanjay Garg (Raw Mango) for the 94th Academy Awards, which will be aired in India on March 28

INFOCUS

(Top) Meera Devi in

a still from the film;

directors Rintu

Thomas and

Sushmit Ghosh in

Lahariya team, from our first meeting to recent weeks, and are committed to continuing to engage with and address all concerns.

Your thoughts on cultural appropriation? Thomas: We go into this process deeply

PEOPLE LIKE US

...

sports film. It's a

social drama that

asks society to be

more inclusive and

those living on

the margins

...

» FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

THIS AMBITION is reflected in the way the film captures the nail-biting match between Gaddigodam's team and that of an elite college in the neighbourhood. "We designed everything in detail - the movement of the ball, the emotion of the players, and the response of the crowd," he says, about the seguence which was shot over two weeks.

Elaborate designing and detailing have also gone into drawing a convincing performance from the group of novice actors sharing the screen with Bachchan, the orig-

inal angry young man of Indian cinema. "I had rehearsed with them prior to the shoot. They knew they had to act without any fear of the camera or being intimidated by Bachchan Sir's presence," says Manjule, and adds that the credit goes to Bachchan for putting everyone at ease.

Manjule tells Jhund's story with a certain mellowness and sass. His slum dwellers exude confidence. Dressed in their finery, they scale the wall to enter the college playground where their match

with its students is being held. The director attributes the shift in his tone to the characters' demands. "Fandry's Jabya has an inferiority complex but he can hurl a stone too. Sairat's Parshya is delicate but also daring. In Jhund, Don, Babu, Raziya, and Monica are different from them," he says, about his new bunch of characters who are assertive, irrespective of all the adversities they encounter.

As someone who is aware of the faultlines in our society, does Manjule feel a rage? "There is rage but not blind rage. I had frustrations when I was young. As I went for

higher studies and started doing better, I learnt that it is not always necessary to lash out," he says. After a pause, he adds: "Yatna hai dil mein (there is pain in my heart). However, at different stages of life, you feel and react differently." That could be the reason that when Bachchan's character tells his proteges that they can't spend their entire life fighting, it rings a bell among the characters who had never shied away from courting trouble earlier. Hot-tempered Don, when harassed by a local muscleman, advises his friend Imraan to say sorry and end the matter. "This is a realisation that I had myself," says Maniule.

While the movie traces

the initiatives taken by Vijay Barse, founder of *Jhund* is not merely a Slum Soccer, the writer-director has let several autobiographical elements seep into the script. Though many people assumed Monica's trouble alluded to the controversy surrounding the National Register of Citizens (NRC), empathetic towards Manjule says that the story track was inspired by his struggle. "I had to run around for the caste certificate and to get my passport done. A number of my relatives work in stone quar-

ries. They still don't have official identification documents," he says.

For Manjule, who has written scripts of all his directorial work. every story has its own distinct nature. "That's sacrosanct for me. I want to maintain the story's uniqueness and temperament. Usually, I don't start writing a script until the story has taken shape in my mind," says Manjule.

Addressing the criticism that the story of *Ihund* meanders in the second half, Manjule says: "Who says that every story has to be told in a certain way? When the title of my

THREE'S **COMPANY**

Manjule's tried-and tested method of direction involves a lot of hand-holding and boosting the morale of the actors

film is Jhund, you should expect the story of jhund (a group of characters)."

There is a perceivable change in the way Jhund handles romance, almost with a touch of fairy tale. Manjule, however, disagrees. "Does it come across as a fairy tale because this boy (Don) hasn't studied much and thoda atpata sa hai (a bit peculiar) while the girl (Bhavana) is rich and drives a Mercedes? I had once written a poem about how our simple dream becomes a fairy tale. Loving a girl is not an impossible dream. I would give credit to Bhavana that she steps down from higher status in society and falls in love with Don. She can, perhaps, help him lead a better life. If this is a fairy tale, there should be more of them," says Manjule.

Manjule is happy that his movies have initiated conversations regarding some key social issues. "Without a diagnosis, you won't find the cure. What I try to say through my movies, probably concerns many people. It's not about me alone. When dinosaurs attack human beings in a movie, no one has anything to say. What can you tell a dinosaur? It is imaginary. But my stories are about us, about people around us," he says.

The director, who has been called "an excellent storyteller" by actor Aamir Khan and "fearless" by director Anurag Kashyap, however, does not rule out experimenting with different kinds of stories and genres in the

future. Manjule's next movie, Ghar Banduk Biryani (2022), features him as an actor. Apart from making an appearance in all his feature films, he has acted in several other movies including Highway (2015), The Silence (2016), and Naal (2018).

For Manjule, acting is a welcome break before he takes up the ambitious project on Shivaji Maharaj. "Today, I understand Shivaji better. He dreamt big. He and his ideologies have united the people of Maharashtra in spite of all the societal divisions," he says. In a much-talked-about scene in *Jhund*, Bachchan is shown paying his respect to Shivaji Maharaj, Jyotirao Phule, Shahu Maharaj and Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

Just like sports, cinema has the power to transform lives. After Manjule nurtured the talent of the youngsters in his cast and drew out compelling performances that has given them a new identity, almost all of them today aspire to have a career in movies. Thosar and Rajguru have already worked on several projects after Sairat. Awghade, who went back to school after filming Fandry, plans to learn the ropes of filmmaking after completing his graduation. It's the same for Gedam. "My life was too hard earlier. Now, people, who never cared about me, have been calling me to compliment my work. I am enjoying this phase of my life. I am ready to take up any kind of job that I get in the world of cinema," says Gedam.





Flipping the gaze back on the myth of bad behaviour

We are not just accountable for our children, we have to be accountable to them



BY SHELJA SEN

AUNAK WAS six years old when he was punished by his teacher for "bad behaviour". He was made to sit in his class during break time for a week. And what was the "bad behaviour"? Raunak had not been regular with his homework, and in the class, rather than sitting and working, he would be found staring out of the window. Things came to a head when Raunak tried his best to write a few lines, but his teacher immediately scratched it out with a red pen and wrote, "Shoddy work." Raunak was devastated and started crying, and when other children started making fun of him, he reacted by hitting a child and running out of the class.

When I met Raunak, I was struck by Raunak's playful energy, glee and confidence, despite what had happened in school. He shared his love for insects with me and how he wanted to grow up to be an "entomologist" (he had to explain to me what it meant). A part of me relished the conviction of his dreams, and another part could not stop wondering; "Will this confidence start fading away as the world starts convincing him that he is not good enough? How will his dignity be stripped off in the coming years with the single story of being "lazy", making him doubt his own dreams? Will there be a time, many years from now, when he would come back to me – slouched shoulders, sapped of all his joyous energy, struggling with depression, drugs or self-harm as a reaction to years of judgement and invisibility? Misunderstood, dismissed and diminished just because he did not fit in with society's idea of a good child. Sounds farfetched? Let me deconstruct this drama of "bad behaviour" to explain.

Each child is wired and inspired differently: Raunak's parents described him as an exceptionally bright boy but assumed that he was lazy as he could not keep up with the school work. Raunak told me that he struggled to write, and no matter how much he tried, his teacher was always unhappy with his work. My initial assessment was that Raunak had graphomotor difficulties (also called Dysgraphia), which made it difficult for him to hold his pencil correctly and, therefore, making the writing process painful and exhausting. Most "bad behaviour" classified as "does not sit still", "refuses to study", "gets bad grades" speaks of children who are wired differently. They are not doing this on purpose



tures do not play to their skills and strengths. Children are not passive recipients of hardships: The more intense the anguish, the stronger the response. Raunak told me, "I want my teacher to like me, but she does not like me." This statement made with a tremulous voice and drooping corners of the mouth brought an instant lump in my throat. How often have I heard this statement from children when they do not get the message of what I call WOW (acronym) - You are worthy as you are, you are original and unique, and you are welcome, you belong. When children do not get the message of WOW, they do what they can to protect themselves. They might withdraw, try to please others or lash back as a way to keep themselves safe. Take any "bad behaviour" from shouting, rudeness, hitting, lying, stealing, drug use, and you will find a story of a child trying to find a way to survive,

numb the pain or respond to abuse. Stories not only describe children's lives but shape their lives too: When we start telling single stories about children, not only do we diminish and overlook their abilities, but it also makes them live their lives according to these problem stories. Raunak, at the age of six, had started believing that he was "dumb", "lazy", and though at this age he was able to shrug it off with his playful energy, in time, maybe, that could become the dominant story of his life. Children start internalising these stories and measuring their

SOUL SEARCH Children's behaviour always makes sense: "Bad behaviour" is not a call for judge-Rather than jumping ment but an opportunity for us to see what to conclusions, let's is implicit in the pain. Anger might hide pain stay curious. When of not being seen, frustration as a testimony we meet a child who to seeking meaningful friendships, and hithas got the label of ting out as a way to not let shame define them. We have to stand up to the dominant 'bad behaviour', let's narratives around children's "bad behaviour" not ask 'what's as they are extremely dangerous. So rather wrong with him?' than jumping to conclusions let's stay curibut wonder, 'what is ous. When we meet a child who has got the he trying to protect?' label of "bad behaviour" let's not ask "what's wrong with him?" but wonder, "What is he trying to protect? Is this the only thing that is

helping him to keep going? How is it sustain-ing him to live with the pain?" This power drama has no villains: I would like to clarify that it is important that we do not blame Raunak's teachers, classmates or even his parents for his experiences. There are no binaries of good-evil as we are all indoctrinated into this dominant idea of a "good child/bad child" and pushed to promote it. Even psychologists, psychiatrists and therapists can be recruited into this dangerous manufacturing of good behaviour and fixing children. Requests and referrals for "needs anger management", "get better grades", flood our systems and unwittingly, we can become the teeth and claws of this dangerous beast. It is the institutional violence against children that we have to stand up and not let it divide us. Raunak's parents decided that rather than

apologising, they had to become advocates for their child. They worked hard with the school management and teachers until there was a higher acceptance of his neurodivergence, acknowledgement of his richer stories and inclusion of him as a valued member of the class. I admired their commitment to their child but I also cannot but feel annoyed about what an uphill task it is for every parent who takes on that role. What about our role in this? Every time we judge or diminish a child, we misuse our power. The scary bit is that nobody is there to hold us responsible as we are all complicit in this drama of power.

GETTYIMAGES

We are not just accountable for our children; we have to be accountable to them too. So, I am leaving you with a few questions to reflect on:

 What role do I play in being complicit to this drama of power?

■ What can I do when faced with "bad behaviour" without diminishing or dismissing the child?

■ What role do I play in making this world a safer space for each and every child? Imagine, if we always put children first. As Nelson Mandela put it, "There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.'

> Shelja Sen is a narrative therapist, writer co-founder, Children First. In this column, she curates the know-how of the children and the

DOWNIN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

Here Comes the Sun

It's what gives the wood spider dewdrop necklaces and rainbow bridges in the skies

T REALLY is something we should try to do every day or at least as frequently as possible. Watch the sun come up at dawn and go down again at dusk. For no two sunrises and sunsets are the same. Unfortunately, we have built our cities (especially the big ones) and fashioned our lives in such a way that dawn and dusk gazing is virtually impossible. At dawn we're still asleep and will rear up like cobras if awoken, at dusk we're usually battling traffic on our way home from work. But dawn and dusk watching can serve as a tonic far better than anything else.

Take the hills and mountains: Still snuggled in bed, you are awoken by the melodious whistle of the blue rock thrush singing from the roof of the cottage opposite yours. Soon enough, other birds join in and when you hear the maniacal call of the great barbet, yodelling right across the valley to his ladylove, you know you'd better get up. Outside it is crisp and cool as a salad. In the pearl grey-blue haze, you can barely discern the majestic panoply of the mountains floating halfway across the sky. But wait a few minutes. The sky lightens to peach and suddenly the imperious silver mountain is etched in tangerine-gold as the first misty rays of the sun touch it. You watch mesmerised as adjoining peaks quietly illuminate. All too soon they are silvery white and half-hidden by the teal blue haze in the sky — and already there are low banks of clouds drifting across.

You shift focus. A gold and black dragonfly, profusely bejewelled from wingtip to wingtip, waits stock-still on the stem of a plant, waiting for the sun to warm its mighty flight muscles. A ladybird, pearled with dew, trundles laboriously like a Volkswagen Beetle, investigating the heart of a great maroon dahlia. The wood spiders are squatting in the centre of their dewdrop necklaces draped over the foliage. On the ground, a fuzzy brown woolly-bear caterpillar spangled with silver dew makes its way across the fragrant soil. The leaves in their myriad shapes from hearts to scimitars backlit by the sun look



or because they are lazy or "dumb". They are worth according to them, robbing them of neurodivergent, and typical classroom struc- their sense of agency of their own life.

youth she works with. She can be reached at shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com

'It will take time for new work to start coming with the same energy as before'

Sunil Shanbag on theatre in the post-pandemic era, rebuilding the stage and reflecting on new stories

Dipanita Nath

DURING THE pandemic, as several members of the theatre community came together to help artistes in distress, Mumbai-based theatre director Sunil Shanbag encountered an elderly loknatya performer whose deep sense of selfrespect was preventing him from taking help.

"Don't give me charity, give me a job," he said. The performer had a chronic medical problem for which he had to take medication every day. When he realised that his son had lost his job during the pandemic, he be-

gan to look at his medicines as a luxury. He stopped taking the pills and, within a week, his health started to fail.

"What kind of a job can you give a 75-year-old who is ill and all theatres have shut down? These were some of the difficult moments during the pandemic," says Shanbag, who was a part of TheatreDost, an initiative that supported 600 families over six months.

Two years after the first lockdown in India, World Theatre Day 2022, on March 27, is being marked by artistes who are returning from a devastation. Theatres are open but the cracks are evident, in the form of fellow artistes who died or left the scene, financial difficulties and a shaky infrastructure. Shanbag is among the veterans of the art form who are now helping rebuild the stage. Excerpts:

For the last two years, World Theatre Day

has been marked by anxiety and uncertainty. Are you in a more hopeful mood this year?

I am an optimist so I don't have to make the extra effort and I feel a great sense of pride in the creative community, across art forms. People have shown resilience and the ability to fight and bounce back. For instance, Mumbai's set workers and technicians are a part of a small union and it became easy to work through them to contact those who needed support. The pandemic told us that unless we have representation and support systems, the future will be difficult.

> Do vou see a return to the normal now that theatres are open?

There is a fair amount of activity since the government allowed auditoriums to operate at 100 per cent occupancy. Many of the bigger theatre companies are now slowly coming back. It has created confidence. But two years is a long time for a system that is mostly entrepreneurial and not supported

by the state or otherwise, where the economics is guite poor, and which is dependent a lot on daily-wage workers. In Maharashtra, the lavani and tamasha artistes have suffered hugely. The biggest impact was on the daily wage workers - the technicians, set boys, booking clerks, managers, ushers and others.

Will these experiences result in theatre now telling new kinds of stories?

Theatre does not react instantly. There is a



STAGE RIGHT

(Left) Sunil Shanbag; a file photo of one of his directed plays, Deewar, staged in Mumbai

lot of self-reflection but it will take time for new work that deals with the experience of the last two years. Many actors haven't come back to the city from their villages and towns. Films and television supported a lot of actors during the lockdowns, but they block actors contractually for long periods of time making it hard for them to commit to live performances. Theatre in Mumbai has always depended on the balance between film and TV work, and theatre. That balance has been upset. Those theatre people who moved to doing other work will find it hard to justify a return to the uncertainties of theatre. Many took up alternative work like running taxis, food services, selling spices, and so on.

What about new performers?

In the absence of accessible formal train-

ing, most theatre people learn by doing. Even actors, who have trained formally in an institution, often find that they have to unlearn and relearn in regular productions. For most of two years, where were the productions for them to perform in?

Why aren't you creating a new play?

In our view of theatre, creating a play is not the only way to be in theatre. There are multiple projects happening that are focussed on the ecosystem. We are developing a residency in Kashid, on the coast south of Mumbai, which we hope will nurture new work. I am also working with a new university which is starting a visual arts major, to help develop the course and design a black box space. But, yes, in the middle of all this, I am hoping a new play will come.

POCKETFUL OF SUNSHINE Watching the sunrise or sunset can actually be good for your well-being

like a treasure-trove of jagged emeralds. All too soon the sun is platinum bright, the black shadows and the dawn has changed to day. But your mood has been lit up for the rest of the day.

Early that evening there is a rainstorm that clears soon enough. From the west, the sun shoots gilded rays across the dark green valley, as in the east, the great gunmetal clouds still glower like a massed battalion in dignified retreat. A rainbow spans the sky like a suspension bridge as parakeets shoot across it dart-like. On the other side of the valley, a locked white house glimmers faintly in the fading light as the sky now turns to Prussian, washed with brushstrokes of pink. Dusk swiftly gives way to darkness, silence and stillness and already the first stars begin to prickle and wink as a fingernail moon hangs, sharp as the blade of a scalpel. Here at least, there is peace on earth.

Sunset and dusk on the coast can be so different. At first, the entire ocean ahead is a vast pulsating sheet of beaten gold. Swiftly the blinding light softens until you can actually look at the sun - first shooting a bar of pure bullion across the restless water and then, like a frosted tangerine taken from the fridge, slowly sinking into the grey-blue sea. The wavelets, frothy and lace-like, sigh and hiss quietly as they expire in a welter of rainbow bubbles at your feet, they are done for the day. But you, sitting on the damp dark sand or gingerly on a jagged rock are mesmerised by the sun - watching until it sinks into the water and gradually disappears.

Even hard-core city-dwellers need not deprive themselves of these treasures. On a late-evening flight from Ahmedabad, I remember being stunned when the entire sky outside the vast terminal window suddenly flamed lava-gold. It lasted but a few moments, but held one transfixed. Those on red-eye or pre-sunset flights need only to look out of their aircraft windows for a show they are unlikely to forget. In the city canyons, giant plate-glass skyscraper facades blaze like sheet flame gloriously if briefly.

There is a magnetic, hypnotic effect that both dawn and dusk have that is impossible to resist, a spell cast over all that beholds them. Photographers know this only too well and unleash their cameras only now. Every dawn brings with it a new beginning, it is time to step out, and every dusk a serene closure, it is time to return home. Either way, they tell you that you are a part of the great scheme of things, which in these bleak and hostile times can be so redeeming and comforting.



The statement comes

son-in-law Rishi Sunak,

Exchequer, was accused

Vladimir Putin's regime

"I welcome commitments al-

ready made by a number of firms

to divest from Russian assets - and

I want to make it crystal clear that

the government supports further

signals of intent. I am urging firms

to think very carefully about their

investments in Russia and how

they may aid the Putin regime -

and I am also clear that there is no

case for new investment in

Russia," Sunak had said in a state-

ment issued by the UK govern-

Ukraine began on February 24 this

year, several companies from

across the world have announced

they would either temporarily re-

strict or stop providing services to

Russia and its citizens. On the other

hand, countries have imposed

economic sanctions and seized as-

sets belonging to Russian compa-

nies and their businessmen.

Since the Russian invasion of

ment on March 13.

by the British media

UK's Chancellor of the

after co-founder NR

Narayana Murthy's

of profiting from

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022 16 ECONOMY

SECTOR WATCH AVIATION

Scheduled foreign flights resume today: India to connect with 63 countries

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

SIX INDIAN airlines and 60 foreign airlines will start connecting India with 63 countries Sunday onwards as the aviation regulator DGCA has published the final schedule for international flights. The scheduled international flights will resume after a two-year suspension. imposed in March 2020 on account of the Covid pandemic. According to the new sum-

mer schedule, foreign airlines will operate 1,783 weekly flights, while Indian carriers will operate 1,466 departures every week. Market leader IndiGo will operate 505 departures per week, followed by Tata Group-owned Air India at 361 weekly flights, and its subsidiary Air India Express at 340

flights per week. The resumption of scheduled international operations is expected to happen in a staggered manner. As per the last schedule prepared before the pandemic hit, a total of 4,700 international flight departures were being operated every week from Indian airports with the split between international and domestic being approximately 50:50. Till Saturday, international flights in India were operating through air bubble arrangements with 37 countries.

The countries that get added as a result of scheduled operations include Iran, Malaysia, South Korea, Poland, Myanmar, Turkey, Yemen and Egypt. Even as scheduled operations replace air bubble flights, the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will continue to be applicable for international arrivals into India.

Dubai-based Emirates which has the biggest operations in India for a foreign airline – will operate 170 flights week Shariah-her tered Air Arabia will operate 140 flights, including 30 Air



THE RESUMPTION of scheduled international operations is expected to happen in a staggered manner. As per the last schedule prepared before the pandemic hit, a total of 4,700 international flight departures were being operated every week from Indian airports.

Arabia Abu Dhabi's flights from the UAE capital. Sri Lanka Airlines will op-

erate 128 weekly departures, while Oman Air will operate 115 flights every week from various destinations in India to Muscat.

Among European carriers,

British Airways will operate 49 departures per week, while German carrier Lufthansa will operate 32 flights a week. Air France will fly 20 flights every week, and its group airline KLM will fly to Amsterdam from India 18 times a week.

Connecting India to Southeast Asia, Singapore Airlines will fly 65 times a week from Indian airports, its lowcost arm Scoot will operate 38 departures. Malaysian carrier AirAsia Berhad will operate 71 flights, while Malaysia Airlines will operate 30 departures a

week. Thailand, one of the top tourist destinations from India, will also see connectivity through Thai Airways and Thai Smile, with weekly departures of 36 and 21, respectively.

A significant connectivity is also being provided between India and African countries with airlines such as Air Tanzania, Egypt Air, Ethiopian Airlines, Rwand Air and Kenya Airways operating weekly flights.

Among the US-based carriers. United Airlines and 28 flights and seven flights every week, respectively.

GOVT ENTERS INTER-MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS Revenue impact, India Inc concerns slow Aus FTA talks

KARUNJIT SINGH NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

A PROPOSED interim trade agreement between India and Australia in advance of a full-fledged Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is facing delays, as the government has had to enter inter-ministerial discussion about the impact the proposed agreement on domestic industry and revenue implications of reducing duties on certain imports from Australia, according to officials aware of developments.

At the start of trade negotiations, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal had announced that the two countries were aiming to conclude an interim or early harvest trade deal by December 2021. In a joint statement issued by India and Australia on Monday, both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison "re-committed to concluding an Interim CECA (Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement) at the earliest," and a full fledged agree-

ment by the end of the year. India has been pursuing early harvest agreements in FTA talks as a way to address easy issues in trade first, so industry can start benefiting



JNPT port, near Mumbai. Key exports to Australia include petroleum products, pharma products and gems & jewellery. File

from lower tariffs quickly.

"Certain departments including the department of revenue are concerned (about lowering duties). That is being sorted out," said an official requesting anonymity. The official said that any agreement would likely require a relaxation in tariffs on coal which accounted for 77.5 per cent of imports from Australia in the first 10 months of the fiscal.

"I don't foresee coal becoming an issue because it has to be a part of the agreement otherwise they cannot meet WTO requirement of covering substantially all the trade (between two countries)," the of-

ficial said. WTO rules require that any trade agreement eliminate trade barriers including duties on substantially all the trade between two countries.

India largely imports coking coal from Australia which attracts a Customs duty of 2.5 per cent. Other key imports from Australia include gold, copper ore and inorganic and organic chemicals and LNG. Fruits and vegetables are also an important part of imports from Australia accounting for about 1.6 per cent of imports in the first 10 months of the fiscal. India will likely seek to exclude agricultural

products from any trade agree-

ment with Australia. Australia's Trade Minister Dan Tehan had said in February that Australia understood that dairy, wheat and beef were sensitive issues for India.

India's key exports to Australia include petroleum products, pharmaceutical products and gems and jewellery. India is seeking lower tariffs for exports from labour-intensive sectors including textiles and leather products as one of its key priorities in ongoing negotiations. India is also looking to secure a more relaxed visa regime for Indian students and professionals looking to study or work in Australia.

Another official who did not wish to be quoted said India was wary of entering into a deal too quickly, keeping in mind issues that have arisen from past trade deals. "Getting the best deal is our top priority, so that we avoid the unfavourable FTAs we signed in the past. FTAs are going to last for a long period and it's in fact good that absolute due diligence is be-

India has sought to review FTAs signed with South Korea, Japan and the ASEAN group of nations which have resulted in increasing trade deficits with these trading partners.

Fuel prices hiked: 4th rise in 5 days

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

PETROL AND diesel prices were hiked by 80 paise a litre each on Saturday, the fourth increase in five days as oil firms passed on to consumers the spike in cost of raw material.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 98.61 per litre as against Rs 97.81 previously while diesel rates have gone up from Rs 89.07 per litre to Rs 89.87, according to a price notification of state fuel retailers.

All the four increases since the ending of a four-and-half-month long hiatus in rate revision on March 22, have been of 80 paise a litre These increas

Infosys: No active business relationships with Russia entities

Houston: Crude prices rose more than 1 per cent to over \$120 a barrel as traders reconciled the impact of a missile attack on an oil distribution facility in Saudi Arabia with a possible release of reserves by the US. Brent crude settled up 1.4 per cent, to \$120.65 a barrel. REUTERS

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI MARCH 26

OIL RISES TO OVER \$120

CRUDE WATCH

INFOSYS SAID it had a small team of less than 100 people in Russia caters only to global clients and that it does not have "any active business relationships" with any local enterprises there. The company also said it had committed \$1 million towards relief efforts for the victims of war in Ukraine.

"Infosys has a small team based out of Russia, that services some of our global clients, locally. We do not have any active business relationships with local Russian enterprises. A key priority for Infosys in times of adversity, is to continue extending support to the community. The company has committed USD 1 million towards relief efforts for the victims of war from Ukraine," the company said.

The statement from the Bengaluru-headquartered company comes after co-founder NR Narayana Murthy's son-in-law Rishi Sunak, who is the UK's Chancellor of the Exchequer, was accused of profiting from Russian President Vladimir Putin's regime by the British media. Sunak is married to Murthy's daughter Akshata Murthy.

Earlier this month, Sunak had in a statement asked companies from the UK to refrain from making new investments in Russia.

> Voda Idea shareholders okay ₹14.5K cr fundraise

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

SHAREHOLDERS OF Vodafone Idea have approved a proposal to raise Rs 14,500 crore, the debt-ridden telecom operator said in a filing on Saturday.

Shareholders approved the proposal at the extraordinary general meeting held on Saturday.

It had placed special resolution of issue of equity shares worth Rs 4,500 crore to the group firms of promoters Vodafone and Aditya Birla Group for transaction at the EGM. As part of its fundraising. VIL had sought shareholders' a to raise Rs 10,000 crore through sale of equity or through a mix of ADR. GDR and FCCBs. WITH PTI

Number of recognised startups at 65,861 now from 726 in FY17

Number of recognised startups has risen from 726 in 2016-17 to 65,861 as on March 14 this fiscal, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha



THE GOVERNMENT had launched 'Startup India' initiative on January 16, 2016, with an aim to build a stronger ecosystem for

then add 12 to 14 every year mak-

number of people with warmth

and affection and kindness," he

have services from metros to Tier

II and III cities. There will also be

flights from metros to metros so

that the aircraft is moved around

the system, the CEO had earlier

said. Dube had said the airline

targets to start overseas flights in

the second half of calendar year

2023 once there are 20 planes in

"We are very excited and serve

To begin with, Akasa Air will

ing it 72 in five years.

further said

its fleet.

nurturing the startup culture that would further drive economic growth, support entrepreneurship, and enable large-scale

employment opportunities

"SUSTAINED GOVERNMENT efforts in this direction have

resulted in increasing the number of recognised startups from 726 in FY 2016-17 to 65,861 in FY 2021-22 (as on 14th March 2022)," Goyal said

SPREAD ACROSS 56 diversified sectors such as IT services, finance technology, technology hardware, enterprise software, artificial intelligence, and nanotechnology

THE STARTUP India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials. market entry and commercialization...Rs 945 crore has been allocated under the scheme for a period of four years starting from 2021-22

ing done," the official said.

Recognised startups are spread across over 640 districts and have reported a creation of more than seven lakh jobs with an average of 11 jobs being created by them Source: Govt data/PTI

Akasa Air to launch Domestic coal supply to be made

the steepest single-day rise since the daily price revision was started in June 2017.

like Httar Pr sh and Puniah period during which the cost of raw material (crude oil) soared by about \$30 per barrel. WITH PTI

In four increases, petrol and

diesel prices have gone up by Rs

3.20 a litre. Prices had been on a

freeze since November 4 ahead of

the assembly elections in states

A pump in Guwahati. Auto

fuelprices were raised by 80p each on Saturday. PTI file

BRIEFLY —

Vaishnaw, growth

New Delhi: The economy can grow consistently at 8 per cent for 20 years, leading to the generation of up to 1.5 crore new jobs and bringing out 3.5 crore people out of the poverty every year on the basis of the capital investment strategy of the government, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday.

NCLT president

New Delhi: New-age technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) could be used for early resolution of matters, including insolvency cases, National Company Law Tribunal president Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar said.

PRESSTRUSTOFINDIA HYDERABAD, MARCH 26

AKASA AIR is all set to roll out its commercial operation from June, its CEO Vinay Dube has said here.

ops from June: CEO

Speaking at an interactive session on the sidelines of Wings India 2022. Dube on Friday said the

airline hopes to have a fleet of 72 aircraft in the next five years. "We hope to launch our first

commercial flight in the month of June. We are working very closely with Ministry of Civil Aviation, DGCA (Director General of Civil Aviation) to get our licensing done," he said replaying to query. He further said the airline plans to have 18 aircraft on ground as ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MARCH 26 part of its fleet within 12 subsequent months of launching and

THE POWER Ministry on Saturday said it will not be possible to supply coal other than on proportionate basis to make up any shortfall.

The Ministry of Power in a statement said it is monitoring the coal supply situation in the country and has taken steps to ensure adequate coal supply and coal stocks based on the domestic coal received from Coal India Ltd (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) and captive coal mines.

As per the decision taken in the ministry in consultation with

European Union to seek to cut

Russian gas use by two-thirds this

year, by finding gas elsewhere and

Production in captive coal mines allotted to power plants may be maximised to the limit permitted by the Ministry

on proportional basis: PowerMin

state gencos, IPPs (independent power producers) and central gencos, domestic coal supply will be made proportional to the coal received from CIL/SCCL for all the gencos and it will not be possible to give more coal other than on proportionate basis to make up any shortfall, it added.

boosting renewable energy.

While the Mediterranean rim

states pressed for a cap on whole-

sale gas prices to shield poorer

households, opponents said this

would entail public cash subsidis-

European Commission with ur-

gently assessing what short-term

options, from price caps to tax re-

bates, could help reduce gas and

The leaders charged the

ing fossil fuel generation.

electricity prices.

It has issued a circular direct-

ing certain actions to be taken on priority to enhance the supply of domestic coal

Firstly, production in captive coal mines allotted to power plants may be maximised to the limit permitted by the ministry.

Secondly, it has been decided that a lesser number of rakes would be made available to such power plants where there is slackness in prompt unloading of coal from rakes.

This step has been taken to maximise the utilisation of available railway rakes. Therefore, this aspect may be monitored at the state government level and unloading of coal may be ensured within the given norm. WITH PTI

Sebi plans reducing timelines for open, buyback offers

New Delhi: To reduce the overall time taken for the completion of open and buyback offers, markets regulator Sebi has suggested changes in the timelines for procedural activities, including a lesser time period for tendering shares. The proposed changes would

buyback offers, the time period

be "investor-friendly".

Sebi building, Mumbai. As pe bring down the overall time taken for completion of open offers to 42 the regulator, the changes would be 'investor friendly'. File working days from the current 62 working days, while in the case of

In this regard, the watchdog will reduce to 36 working days from 43 working days at present. has issued a consultation paper, As per Sebi, the changes would and comments have been sought till April 15. PTI

Yatra Online IPO

New Delhi: Yatra Online Ltd has filed draft papers with markets regulator Sebi for an initial public offering that includes fresh issue of shares worth up to Rs 750 crore. The initial public offering (IPO) would also have an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 93,28,358 equity shares.

Toyota hike

New Delhi: Toyota Kirloskar Motor on Saturday said it will increase prices of its entire model range by up to 4 per cent from April 1 to offset the impact of rising input costs. The company noted that prices are being hiked due to the rising input costs. PTI

Energy crunch: EU struggles to find short-term fix

REUTERS BRUSSELS, MARCH 26

EU LEADERS failed on Friday to agree a short-term solution to the energy market crunch made worse by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but did offer a compromise for Spain where spiralling fuel prices have led to 12 days of trucker blockades.

An intense debate on whether to cap energy prices, pitting some southern countries against Germany and the Netherlands, pushed the second day of an EU summit into the evening, with Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez at one point walking out of the meeting room.

In the end, they settled on trade-off and left a number of issues unresolved.



Debris of a burning house, destroyed after a Russian attack in Kharkiv, Ukraine. AP

The war in Ukraine has pushed energy prices to record highs and prompted the

Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi told a news conference af-

ter the summit that the EU executive would discuss options with large oil and electricity companies. "We expect to have some pro-

posals by May," he said. Spain and Portugal did secure permission to implement temporary measures to curb their electricity prices

Threat list: FCC adds Kaspersky, some China telcos

Washington: The Federal Communications Commission has added Russia's AO Kaspersky Lab, China Telecom Corp and China Mobile International USA to its list of communications equipment and service providers deemed threats to US national security.

The regulator last year designated five Chinese including companies Huawei and ZTE Corp as the first firms on the list, which was mandated under a 2019 law. REUTERS

Fujifilm bets on imaging solutions to detect diseases

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

FUJIFILM IS leveraging its imaging solutions for prevention and early detection of disease

It recently launched the "Never Stop" campaign, which seeks to sharpen the accuracy of diagnostics by using its advanced tools of AI and IoT for digital radiography, endoscopy, ultrasound, MRI and CT systems. The company says it's creating an ecosystem of precise, intelligent and accessible solutions for better outcomes.

said, "Fujifilm India has always been at the forefront of healthcare innovation. For us, it has been about celebrating the 'Never Stop' spirit of people and inspiring them to learn the possibilities that good healthcare can bring. We want to shape the future of healthcare in India with our leading tech, equipment and solutions and this campaign captures the sentiment perfectly. With this, we want to further strengthen our commitment to deliver sustainable products, drive social changes and never stop innovating solutions for a better world."

Koji Wada, MD, Fujifilm India,

New Delhi

Sport/Calendar

Prannoy combines trick shot with class to enter Swiss Open final

SHIVANI NAIK MARCH 26

HS PRANNOY made a tournament final for the first time in five years. He was at the 2017 US Open Sunday in what seems like eons ago. not knowing that the next one would take half a decade to fetch up.

But like all of India's earnest men's singles players living in the shadow at times and luckless often, Prannoy never stopped loving badminton, a game he sculpts and savours and nurses and nurtures into fragments of perfection. Like the 'Jerry shot' that came off spectacularly when he beat Anthony Ginting 21-19, 19-21, 21-18 at the Swiss Open Super 300 final.

The Jerry shot was christened 'Jerry Special' by doubles specialist Pranav Jerry Chopra soon after the Saturday semis at Basel. That provenance might be one mighty chortle and a bit of a lark, but the trick shot came into being in one of the multi-shuttle practice sessions that India's trainees singles and doubles at Hyderabad undertake, where they attempt to master a variation of deception with endless repetitions. Trick shots still need tasering crackles to work.

"I've been practicing it for the last few years, and worked on it. It's a tough, tricky, risky shot but only in the last two tournaments have I tried it out in a few rounds." On Saturday, it flummoxed one of the fastest players on the circuit, Indonesian Anthony Ginting.

Ginting is very fast. And then some more. There's deception on his speed and he can come to the net in a blink. "He gets shots very quick even on defense. The annoying thing sometimes is you are tired, but he wants to push the pace, and it's tough to get him to slow down.'

Enter Jerry Special. Prannoy, usually stationed mid-court or fore court at any rate, takes a step towards a face length incoming shuttle. His leg movement though is a hoopster's classic feint. The right leg begins to move laterally right, and the entire body momentum would have the opponent believe that's where the bird's flying. But the racquet face turns and the shuttle goes cross the other way. It is extremely tough to pull off, but thrice in the semis, it completely stumped Ginting, one of the best at anticipation and interceptions.

Prannoy had shown good attacking fervour, even while defending stoutly as he took the opener. End of the second, Ginting overtook him and forced a decider. Prannov might rue the wild cross thwack smash that straggled way wide. "I thought Sh*", that's a



India's H.S Prannoy beat Indonesia's Anthony Ginting 21-19, 19-21, 21-8 in the Swiss Open semifinal, Express file

bad shot to execute. But I immediately moved on to thinking how to make the next game longer. I knew I was fitter than him."

As it turned out, Prannoy got a good lead, Ginting hopped in close, but the Indian was far too confident on the day. Not rushing, eschewing risks, retrieving a lot, Prannoy was back.

"Last few months all Indian men are doing well after a long gap of time. There's been lots of criticism of us and people were annoyed with us. But we've all stepped up," he said.

The All England had been a tad disappointing with a first round loss. "I wanted to play a little deep into the week. I've lost to players in the last six months who've played very well on that day. Lakshya, Loh Kean Yew and Axelsen. But I never doubted myself. I knew I was on the right track."

Indian support has been consistent throughout the European swing - Germany, Birmingham and Basel. "I hope it's an all India final (Srikanth in the other semi). But if it's the Indonesian (Jonatan Christie), then I know the crowd will cheer for me," he chuckled

Prannoy has taken it a round at a time, and not set targets. "But ultimately winning matters," he states.

Ginting can hit whimsical form - very tricky on done days, very ordinary on others. Saturday was a good Anthony Ginting day. But Prannoy was much better. And reinforced with a 'Jerry Special' trick.

SPORTLINE: 10 franchises, at least 50 cricketers united by online fantasy games, IPL's new cash cow

Cricket's fantasy land

MIHIR VASAVDA MARCH 26

KOLKATA KNIGHT Riders are one of the most valued brands in the Indian Premier League, and their shirts have often reflected the sectors going through a period of boom. In 2008, when the IPL was launched, the prominently-placed Nokia logo on the purple jersey indicated how momentous the year was for the smartphone industry. Fourteen years later, they tell the story of the growth of another industry - fantasy gaming.

On Saturday, when KKR open their 2022 campaign against Chennai Super Kings at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium, their players will sport shirts with the logo of real-money gaming app WinZO emblazoned on them. And it's not only them - each of the 10 franchises and at least 50 former and current players - from legends like Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Virat Kohli to relative newcomers like Ruturaj Gaikwad and Rahul Tewatia, and even BCCI president Sourav Ganguly - are associated with real-money gaming platforms, asserting the rise of a sector that for most of its existence in India operated in a legally grey area.

'For one standalone category to go all out like this, it's unprecedented," says sports marketing consultant Abhishek Ponia.

Given the IPL's unique space and positioning in the Indian sport's scene - no other domestic competition captures eyeballs in such a manner - it has invariably been a vehicle for different products and brands who often plan and design heavy-duty campaigns around the league.

Over the years, "a lot of the money has flown in from traditional to new-age brands,' Ponia says, with digital start-ups now a dominant force.

While cryptocurrency is talked about as the next big trend, going by examples seen across the sports industry in the West, no category has been as in-your-face as fantasy sports through its advertising blitzkrieg, especially during the IPL.

As per a Mint report, fantasy gaming platforms spent roughly Rs 200 crore just on TV and digital ad campaigns during the previous season of the IPL while some platforms spent as much as 70 per cent of their promotional budget during the league. "I haven't seen anything like this." Santosh Desai, a social commentator and leading ad professional, says. "Until a few years ago, I don't think anyone would have remotely imagined fantasy sports would be spending the kind of money that they are.'

Evident conflicts

Desai points at the 'adjacency to the business' – the platforms pay money to players



Kolkata Knight Riders players will sport jerseys with the logo of real-money gaming app WinZO emblazoned on them. KKR

and teams to endorse their games and attract users, who pay money to the platforms and predict the performance of the players and

The legality of this business model, which bears resemblance to betting, has been challenged in multiple courts. Yet, their rise has been staggering, even - rather, especially during the pandemic. The recent favourable verdicts, wherein the courts have decreed that these games require a certain level of skill and hence do not amount to betting, have only added to their momentum.

According to consultancy services firm KPMG, the number of online gamers in India is expected to rise from 360 million in 2020 to 510 million this year. Last year, the industry generated revenues of \$1.8 billion and that figure is likely to increase to \$3.84 billion over the next five years. Dream 11, which has a sponsorship tie-up with more than half of the IPL teams and has half-a-dozen cricketers on its roster, reported revenue of Rs 2,070 crore for FY2020, according to Fintrackr.

"Venture capital liquidity has come to the fore and there has been heavy funding of start-ups, especially digital start-ups," Ponia says. "They have been able to put that money into IPL to be able to market themselves at that scale and level. It's common that if in a particular industry one company goes after it in a big way, the others don't want to miss out else their market share will get affected. Hence, if Dream 11 puts in a lot of money, others will do the same.

As the competing platforms scramble for eyeballs, the IPL, its franchises, the players and even the broadcasters have been the beneficiaries, financially speaking. And with their aggressive marketing tactics, the fantasy gaming platforms have been able to multiply their revenues through user fees.

'Combining passions'

"In a sense, it combines passions - one of which is subterranean, gambling – and the

While cryptocurrency is talked about as the next big trend, going by examples seen across the sports industry in the West, no category has been as in-yourface as fantasy sports through its advertising blitzkrieg, especially during the IPL.

other is cricket. It puts together these two things, and does so in a much more legitimate and socially acceptable way than it is otherwise the case," Desai says, adding that it has also changed how fans engage with the game. "It's just so easy to do, an ideal timepass. It hooks you in.'

The addictiveness of these games, which are easily available on phones, has been a cause for concern. A New York Times report earlier this year chronicled the struggle of a fantasy gamer in the US, who began playing casually but became a compulsive bettor as years passed by.

It's something that is speculated to happen in the Indian context as well. Ponia feels the rise of online gaming platforms is a "stepping stone towards the day that sports betting could be legalised in India".

"There has been a surge in surrogate betting brands. This implies there is heavy interest from Indian users in betting websites,' he says

In November 2020 then finance minister Anurag Thakur - now in charge of the information and broadcasting, and sports ministries - was quoted as saying by Press Trust of India that his "suggestion will be to legalise betting and gambling activities." Days later, Niti Aayog, the government's think-tank on policy issues, released a draft that spoke about regulating online fantasy sports.

The government has made it compulsory for gaming platforms to have proper disclaimers in their ads regarding the financial risks involved. While these warnings appear along with the ads on TV, such disclaimers seem to be missing when logos of these companies appear on team jerseys.

Desai says the fantasy gaming sector 'needs an injection of responsibility because of its inherent nature".

"It's not the easiest thing in the world to do but it's desirable to do," he says. "Wherever there's commercial potential, everything else becomes subservient. There's enough the IPL has going for itself without necessarily needing this to be an important part of it. The BCCI should have its eye out and draw some boundaries.'

Right now, however, it's all a fantasy land.

BRIDGE

Dealer: West Vulnerable: None						
NORTH						
★ KJ8	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH		
 ◆83 ◆ A984 ◆A984 	4H Pass	dbl Pass	Pass Pass	4S		

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2366 QUICK CLUES Give in (4)



Sunday March 27 of those days when it becomes

YOUR WEEK AHEAD ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You must be able to get on with plans which may have had to be put on ice. perhaps because of increasing complications in your public or professional life. Possibly you

This may be a tricky time of year for other n people, but not for vou. You will be under some pressure at home and work, yet Jupiter's presence offers you protection. You will be

teams.



North doubled 4H for takeout and South bid 4S. Under the circu South has a terrific hand and should be very pleased to bid game the queen of hearts to East's king and South's ace. With a dia ne. West leads and a heart loser, South wishes to hold his spade losers to one. What is his

The West Hand: S-7H-0J1076542D-K07C-8 The East Hand: S-Q1052H-K D-J1065C-9652

A popular line of play is to lead the ace prior to finessing the jack. The idea is that if East has the singleton queen, you do not want to finesse right away, losing to the queen and later to the ten. Is this a good plan, playing the ace of snades now?

Horrible plan. West opened with 4H. He has lots of hearts. He does not have four spades too. If someone does have four spades, it will be East. If you play the ace of spades and East has four to the Q10xx, you are going down. How do you play this spade suit to best advantage?

Based on the bidding, which tells you that East is the one who may have four spades, you should lead to the jack. If it loses to the queen, your next play in spades will be the king. When West shows up with one spade, you will finesse East out of his ten spot, thus holding your spade losers to one.

If your spades are A5432 opposite the KJ6, playing the ace and finessing the jack is usually correct. Having the nine in your hand gives you more to think

Dealer: South Vulnerable: East/West

NORT ♠ 10 ● A2 ◆ QJ ♣KQ	8 2 762	SOUTH		
WEST Pass Pass Pass	NORTH 1H 2D 3C Pass	EAST Pass Pass Pass	SOUTH 2H 3NT	

South declares 3NT with a harmless club lead. That lead, however, does not give anything away. South started with seven sure tricks and he still has seven sure tricks. Spades, diamonds, and hearts offer hope.What are the odds on these chances?

JUMBLED WORDS

13. Ruins(6) 15. Black tea (5) 16. Currently (2,7) 18. Promise to come at a later date (4,5) _Sam : the US Government?(5)

Small, acid fruit (10)

10. Depart hastily ? (4,3)

12. Religious doubter (7)

11. State of USA(7)

- 23. ____ the cheque : get money in exchange for the cheque?(6)
- 25. Pre-programmed in responses (7) A composite picture (7)
- 28. Kalyanji's brother and musical

partner(7) 29. Provoked(10) 30. Coal-mining waste (4)

DOWN

- Disintegrates (5,5)
- Mandela's predecessor (2,5) Serve as referee (9)

ACROSS

- Get up(5) Prickly shrub(7)
- Come to understand (7) Currency of China (4)
- Detest (6)
- 14. Elongating, inflating or magnifying (10)
- 17. Expressionless or impassive (5-4)
- 19. Spell at wicket (7)
 20. Pancakelike bread of India (7)
- 21. Cheerful(6)
- 22. A fortress(7)
- 24. Dog-like carnivore (5) 26. Marne mine (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS Neat piece of mathematics (4)
- 3. Yet revellers often have a great time
- in them (5.5)
- 10. Treatment for the injured in dirty
- rugby match? (7) 11. Absolved, having got quietly
- smashed(7) 12. Where journalist works, officially
- (2,5)13. Keep it and earn breaks (6)
- 15. Hero gets a point for a change while working in the farm ?(5)
- 16. Baggage that might be convenient in court?(4-5)
- 18. One might net flounder in darker
- hours(5-4) 21. In a scattered Royal Air Force it's

ົທ

- below(5)
- 23. Jersey athlete (6)

- 25. It provides an opening for a parachutist (3-4)
- 27. Try to make a little yarn go a long way?(4,3) 28. Wild gale causing air to rise in the
- country(7)29. By means of it the present may have been brought home to one
- (6,4) 30. Totter's tool by the sound of it (4) DOWN
- 1. Minor tuba jars against E flat instrument(10) Detailed popular measure (2-5) Religious leader and scholar
- needing his hair restyled (9) Defeated party more relaxed (5)
- 6. At this point the jerk holds unorthodox views(7) 7. Shows how Salome's dance
- progresses(7)Warbled about broken down arms,
- perhaps (4) Spot desktop computer (6) 14. Ethnological definition of the
- British Grand Prix (6,4) 17. Sounds like it sees, yells, and desserts(3,6)
- 19. More like a Spanish architect, only more colourful?(7) 20. Opening with a spinner might be

- very good (3-4) 21. Brave man, perhaps, and in distress 22. Knocked down under the carpet, perhaps(7)
 - 24. Bring Father back to hang buckets on maples again(5)
 - 26. Letters calling for an answer? (4)

Solutions to 2365

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Letting, 5 Closure, 9 Make off, 10 Aspired, 11 Aasvogels, 12 Eager, 13 Odourless, 16 Sated, 17 Vases, 19 Thundered, 22 Churl 23 Upper hand, 26 Taffeta, 27 Subside, 28 Sceptre, 29 Decagon. **Down**: 1 Lumbago, 2 Takes to, 3 Iroko, 4 Gaffe, 5 Ceausescu, 6 Oppressed, 7 Upright, 8 Endured, 14 Resilient, 15 Entourage, 17 Vacates, 18 Scuffle, 20 Rearing, 21 Dudgeon, 24 Posed, 25 Rebec. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Gaggers, 5 Car park, 9 Ivanhoe, 10 Top-hole, 11 Principal, 12 Easel, 13 Enlivened, 16 Solar, 17 Ruler, 19 King's head, 22 Tamil, 23 Directive, 26 Assegai, 27 Linctus, 28 Nametag, 29 Halides. Down: 1 Glimpse, 2 Glacial, 3 Ethic, 4 Sleep 5 Cotyledon, 6 Represses, 7 Arousal, 8 Kneeler, 14 Very-light, 15 No kidding, 17 Retrain, 18 Lump sum, 20 Emitted, 21 Dresses, 24 Ralph, 25 Canal.

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difficult to isolate what is important and what is not. Trivial events will be blown up out of all proportion, while significant developments are played down.

Monday March 28

You have just experienced a financial fright, and you'll lose no time in repairing the damage. Children will look to you for inspiration, so do your best.

Tuesday March 29

You have been pulled in two directions, unsure whether to press ahead or to hold back. According to all current indications these pressures are now lifting, and you should be free to make your own choices.

Wednesday March 30

There's an underlying build-up of energy. Try to bring long-standing projects to completion soon.

Thursday March 31

You may find yourself the centre of attention today, but what's really significant is the way in which you may be under the spotlight over the next twelve months.

Friday April 1

The more you listen to your imagination, even when it doesn't quite make sense, the easier you'll get your future hopes into some sort of clear perspective.

Saturday April 2

You're on a positive path and you need to be straight with partners and colleagues. If you do decide to pry and probe, be sure not to inadvertently offend people.



vill feel your way forward with much more certainty next month so, until then, you may happily continue with your responsibilities with care.

You have a reputation

for being thoroughly reliable and

completely honest.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Now that anywhere up to eight

planets are lining up to support

your finer qualities, you will be

pleasant it will be to receive such

appreciation! Focus on tasks

which are most important and

Abrilliant

number of other vital planets,

decisions that much easier to

take. Hopefully, close relations

will rally round to give you all the

extra support and assistance that

Jupiter, the most

helpful of all the

planets, is in the

twelve-vear cycle, much to your

satisfaction. This could explain

the brink of something big, in

spite of, or perhaps because of,

everything that has happened

make an entirely fresh start. You

are probably ready for a change,

especially in your romantic

situation. Why is it, you may

wonder, that people seem

misunderstand your hopes?

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

consistently able to

A new personal

astrological phase is

as an ideal time to

beginning, so see this

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

why you now feel as if you are on

crucial stages of its

should make all awkward

you need in the present

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

circumstances

last year.

relationship between

Mercury, ruler of bright ideas, and a

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

recognised for the tower of

strength that you are. How

leave the rest for later.

able to apply your unbeatable balancing act to apparently irreconcilable problems, making everybody happy in the process.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

You may have encountered annoying delays for quite some time now and, as a result, your inner equilibrium may have been upset: such is the effect of the deep and compulsive planet Pluto. However, this week's dynamic planetary picture suits you down to the ground, so you should have hope in your heart.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

As a Sagittarian, you must have become aware of the fact that you have much in common with Gemini, your opposite sign, including your reluctance to settle down. Now you share something else as well: your concern with money It could even be time to forge a positive new financial partnership. In love, play it cool.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You might now feel that the odds are stacked against you vet, although vou are facing a number of problems, the truth is that you are doing well. If there is any problem at all, then it is a partner's pessimism. You need to enthuse people with the sense that success is only a step away.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19)

There will be so much for vou to enjoy, experience

and achieve, now that the planets are focusing on your sign. Spectacular celestial aspects will surely guide and protect you, enabling you to readily accept all the many changes now taking place in both personal relationships and at work.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Difficult indications are receding. Jupiter, your benevolent ruling planet,

reminds you that once again the tide of fortune is running strongly in your favour, especially in all romantic affairs. This is one of those rare times when you may put aside your cares and dedicate yourself to love. And why not?

The continuing presence of that powerful planetary trio, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, in inspiring regions of your chart, is bound to make your emotional life complex. You

have two choices: either battle against your many contradictory impulses, or you may happily go along with whatever happens.

New Delhi





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. ω another one. - Dolly Parton (5,6) If you don't like the road you're walking 4 TARPON UDOKU

LTAAR EEIRGV **ETUIS**

> - Dolly Parton Answer: If you don't like the road you're walking, **start paving** another one. SOLUTION: ALTAR, SUITE, PATRON, GRIEVE



3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;

5s = Very Hard; 6s =

Genius

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, MARCH 27, 2022 **18** SPORT

PLAYING TODAY

Indian Premier League DC vs MI, 3:30 pm, PBKS vs RCB, 7:30pm, Live on Star Sports Network

Veterans' day out on opening night

Ajinkya Rahane's mini blitz cancels out Dhoni's quickfire fifty as KKR beat CSK by six wickets

SYNOPSIS: Umesh Yadav's powerplay burst, MS Dhoni's 50 but it is Ajinkya Rahane's 44 that helped KRR seal a win

ABHISHEK PUROHIT MUMBAI, MARCH 26

A TWO-wicket powerplay burst by Umesh Yadav followed by Chennai Super Kings' mid-innings stumble and struggle to score against spin meant they put up only 131 despite MS Dhoni's fifty. Riding on Ajinkya Rahane's 44, Kolkata Knight Riders cantered to the target to beat the defending champions in the opening game of the Indian Premier League 2022 by six wickets.

Dhoni brings the crowd alive

MS Dhoni is nearing 41 and hadn't played a competitive game since the IPL 2021 final last October. And he walked in at 61 for 5 against Varun Chakaravarthy and Sunil Narine, two spinners he has found perhaps the hardest to tackle over the years. The crowd - despite the restricted capacity which meant the bottom tiers were almost entirely vacant – began to cheer for him as soon as he started to descend the dressingroom steps. Even as Dhoni scratched to 2 off 10, the crowd tried to get him going by chanting his name. Meanwhile, Narine kept ripping carom balls past his outside edge. Dhoni's first boundary came off a misfield at mid-off but even then, he was on 15 off 25 going into the final three overs.

Finally, to the fans' utter delight, he woke up, prospering against the pace of Andre Russell and Shivam Mavi even as the dew began to make an impact. He delayed his cut and slap-pull to beat the sweeper and deep square leg respectively. He lunged at a dipping full toss to ensure he sliced over extra cover into empty spaces. The highlight was



Ajinkya Rahane's 44 off 34 at the top of the order effectively shut CSK out and ensured KKR had the buffer to absorb some blows along the way. PTI

an almost-helicopter clip off Russell that split the gap between deep midwicket and long-on for four. Dhoni would end on 50 off 38, his first half-century in the IPL in three years. It increased CSK's innings run-rate marginally from 5.55 to 6.55, and would make no difference to the outcome of the game, but it did bring Wankhede alive for a while. Dhoni's acceleration was also noteworthy as the man who replaced him as captain, Ravindra Jadeja, managed an unbeaten 26 off 28.

Umesh bosses the powerplay

Umesh Yadav did not get a single game in IPL 2021. He got a mere two games in IPL 2020. But with Pat Cummins and Tim Southee unavailable for this game, he was right in the mix for the IPL 2022 opener. KKR coach Brendon McCullum had spoken about his solid powerplay record due to his ability to swing the new ball and take early wickets.

And Umesh set the tone right at the start of the tournament with a somewhat erratic -- not out of character - opening over interspersed with some seriously good deliveries. At the end of the powerplay, his figures read 3-0-12-2. The very first delivery was a noball and a couple of wides were to follow in the first over. But he also kept the batsmen guessing, getting one to cut in and cramp them and then getting the other to swerve away sharply.

Ruturaj Gaikwad followed one such massive curler that was headed head high to the lone slip and only managed to tickle it through. The left-handed Devon Conway wasn't allowed room to hit to his strengths square of the wicket. Off the first ball of Umesh's third over, a frustrated Conway tried giving him the charge but only ended up chipping tamely to mid-on.

On another night, Umesh will inevitably go for runs but on the first night of the league, he was completely switched on.

CSK stumble

After Umesh's strikes had left CSK at 28 for 2, Robin Uthappa had sort of revived them to 49 for 2 in the eighth over. It wasn't a blitz but Uthappa had played a lovely pickup off Umesh that just sailed over the deep square leg boundary, and was looking in reasonably good nick. Ambati Rayudu had just launched Chakaravarthy casually beyond the deep extra cover rope.

Then Uthappa – probably attempting one of his walk-and-tap singles to long-on walked past a Chakaravarthy wide that slipped down the leg side and was stumped. Next over, Rayudu was run out after a mixup with Ravindra Jadeja, who first began to jog, causing Rayudu to respond, and then abandoned the idea. Local man Shivam Dube came in and immediately tried to take on Andre Russell's heavy short ball that got big on him and spooned it to short midwicket. In the space of three overs, CSK had gone from 49 for 2 to 61 for 5. And fortunately for them, the score could have been worse had KKR capitalised on a couple more run-out opportunities. The situation would allow Chakaravarthy and Narine to get in some more quiet overs to finish with a combined damage of only 38 runs in their 48 deliveries.

Rahane seals the deal

Ajinkya Rahane may have lost his India Test spot but he can still be pretty useful in such middling T20 chases. His 44 off 34 at the top of the order effectively shut CSK out and ensured KKR had the buffer to absorb some blows along the way. Rahane was typically strong through extra cover and straight down the ground but the standout was a pull off Adam Milne that ended in the upper tier beyond deep square leg. He even brought out the reverse-sweep for four against Jadeja, but gave it away when he whipped Mitchell Santner straight to midwicket.

Brief scores: Kolkata Knight Riders 133 for 4 (Rahane 44, Bravo 3-20) beat Chennai Super Kings 131 for 5 (Dhoni 50*, Umesh 2-20) by six wickets



Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game

Two sides of same coin

(leading KKR for the first time) and Ravindra Jadeja (replacing someone named MSD) did seem to feel the pressure at the toss. Iyer seemed more composed - he has after all a season of captaincy for Delhi Capitals under his belt but he also forgot the three new caps given this season. "Myself, Billings, and ... I forget the name!". Shortly he remembered and yelled out, "Rahane". Well, it was Rahane who he replaced in

the Test team recently. Jadeja seemed more under the pump. He averted the gaze of the host Danny Morrison, who as ever was hyping up everything in his now-familiar accent and tone, preferring to look mainly at the side towards the pitch as he answered. There was another comeback

Two new IPL captains Shreyas Iyer man of sorts. Ravi Shastri, commentator turned coach, turned to commentary again from this IPL. Were there nerves? You must be kidding! As ever, he boomed. Not surprising as he once told about his first-ever day in the commentary box many decades ago. When did you feel at home Ravi? "The first day itself. I felt like I belonged here... Yeah there were butterflies. And you were doing it with the big boys, yaar. There was (Tony) Greig there. There was Chappell, Stackpole there. Guys who had done television. Barry (Richards) was there. Thommo (Jeff Thomson) there. Henry (Blofeld) was there in Sri Lanka. The triangular series. You knew. Immediately when you went there, you knew you can hold your own."

Learning on the job

For Chennai Super Kings, change of captaincy has happened, but as the franchise's chief executive Kasi Viswanathan told this paper, the change of guard would be gradual. MS Dhoni has handed over the reins to Ravindra Jadeja, but he would mother-hen the latter to grow into the job. The lead-up to the IPL-15 opener offered a glimpse. As the two teams did their warmups, CSK head coach Stephen Fleming got into a deep on-field conversation with Dhoni. The newly-appointed skipper wasn't in the frame, happily doing the knocking in one of the practice nets. Jadeja will learn on the job under Dhoni's tutelage, the master passing on experience, and tricks, to his pupil. Through the dressing room glass shield at Wankhede, TV cameras smartly captured one of those moments; between



his food morsels, the ex-captain talking to his successor and Jadeja listening intently. CSK have a clear transition plan, by the time Dhoni hangs up his playing boots, the chosen one would be his own man.

Sandhu trails Thippong by two shots

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

AS EXPECTED at the Delhi Golf Club, the first couple of pages of the leaderboard were inundated with Indian names. But all of them were chasing an unheralded Thai going into the final round of the DGC Open

Coming into the event, not many would have heard of Nitithorn Thippong, and with good reason. The 25-year-old had never led an Asian Tour event before coming to Delhi. but a two-under par 70 on Saturday took the golfer from Bangkok to an eight-under aggregate and a two-shot lead over India's Aieetesh Sandhu at the Lodhi Course.

only 11 players breaking par. If one goes by pedigree and past record,

Gaganjeet Bhullar (fourth at four-under) has to fancy his chances. Nine wins on the Asian Tour (the most by an Indian) and local knowledge should count for something. Thippong didn't have everything going

his way, and had to grind out a decent round. 'I just focus on my process, just play, and have fun. I didn't hit many greens today, but I made a lot of great up and downs, I think I made almost all my up and downs," he reflected.

Sandhu went backwards in relation to par with a round of one-over 73, and it was an eagle at the par-five 14th hole that gave him the chance to be in the final group, sandwiched between the two Thais.

Chandigarh said. "I hung in there today, didn't really have my best day. Off the tee, with the irons, and with the putter, everything was kind of average. But I'm glad I'm still up there and I'll have a shot to win tomorrow, so that means a lot.'

Veer Ahlawat, the leader at the halfway mark, had a disappointing day with a 78, but only five shots behind Thippong.

Bhullar was in an upbeat mood after finishing his third round with a birdie. "The last four to five holes were playing really tough and the moment you missed the green there, making an up and down was not easy. I'm glad I finished the round with a birdie on the 18th," he said. "On such days, it's very important to gauge the conditions early on in the round. I've played in worse conditions in Europe so I used that experience today. I kept telling myself that no one is going to hit low scores, so just keep making fairways and greens and keep making



Not that Thippong was the only one from his country in contention. Settee Prakongvech's 70 was enough to put him in sole possession of third spot, a further shot back, on a day when dropped shots were more frequent than birdies and eagles with

The winner of the 2017 Yeangder Tournament Players Championship fought through the day to stay in the running.

"A difficult day. The wind was off, the course was firm. It was a very good test out there today," the 33-year-old from

Messi scores with a mis-hit on return

BUENOS AIRES: ARGENTINA SCORED twice in three minutes late in the second half, including a curiously mis-hit effort from Lionel Messi, to cement a 3-0 win over Venezuela in Friday's World Cup qualifier in Buenos Aires. Argentina had already qualified for Qatar before Friday's game and were on top throughout against the last-placed side in the South American qualifying group and the only one of the 10 South American sides never to reach the World Cup finals.

They got the breakthrough their pressure deserved 10 minutes before half-time when Nicolas Gonzalez knocked home Rodrigo De Paul's inviting low cross from six meters out.

Substitute Angel Di Maria scored a lovely second in 79 minutes when he ran on to a through pass from De Paul and then chipped the ball over three Venezuelan defenders from outside the box. Messi himself got the third three minutes later when he chested down a Di Maria pass before sclaffing the ball past a helpless keeper, Wuilker Farinez. "We are very happy," said De Paul, "we love playing in this shirt. The best thing about this group is that it treats every game as a final." "This is what it's all about. Never letting up." The defeat was Venezuela's 10th in their last 12 games and the win extended Argentina's unbeaten run under coach Lionel Scaloni to 30 games going back to July 2019. The home side, who were without four players suspended for breaching COVID-19 quarantine rules ahead of September's suspended game against Brazil, has never lost to Venezuela in eight home qualifiers. The two-times world champions and current Copa America winners will be joined in Qatar by Brazil, Ecuador and Uruguay, while Peru, Colombia and Chile are battling for fifth place and a playoff spot against a team from the Asian confederation.

Giroud on target

Olivier Giroud defied the doubters again as he marked his France comeback by scoring his 47th international goal when the world champions beat Ivory Coast 2-1 in a friendly on Friday. Giroud, who had not been called up since his country were knocked out in the last 16 of the European Championship last year, cancelled out Nicolas Pepe's opener to move four goals shy of Thierry Henry's France all-time scoring record before Aurelie Tchouameni wrapped up the win in stoppage time. The AC Milan forward, who rarely disappointed coach Didier Deschamps despite limited playing time when he was at Chelsea, was included in the squad following Karim Benzema's injury.

REUTERS



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