

WITH TODAY'S  
ISSUE**IE 100 2022**  
THE LIST OF MOST  
POWERFUL INDIANS

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



## Social media user can seek action if account suspended with no notice: Govt

**SOFIAHSAN**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

STATING THAT a user can initiate proceedings against a social media platform for suspending his or her account without prior notice, the Centre on Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that a significant social media intermediary (SSMI) may only remove unlawful content, but not take down the account itself. The extreme step of suspending an account may be taken only if most of its content is unlawful, the Centre said.

Responding to a batch of petitions challenging the suspension of accounts by Twitter and other platforms, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said such action without prior notice amounted to depriving an individual of the right to freedom of expression. Social media platforms "discharging public functions" are duty bound to ensure there is no infringement of such rights, it said. "SSMIs must be held accountable for subjugating and supplanting fundamental rights like the right to freedom of speech and expression, otherwise the same would have dire consequences for any democratic nation. It is humbly submitted that liberty and freedom of any individual cannot be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### EXPRESS NETWORK

**CLASS 12 BOARD EXAM CANCELLED IN 24 U.P. DISTRICTS OVER PAPER LEAK****SARISKA FIRE UNDER CONTROL, SAY OFFICIALS**

PAGE 10

## PAKISTAN: RESIGNATION CALLS GROW

# No-trust vote looms, Imran Khan loses key ally to Opp — and House majority

### PM won't resign, will fight till last ball, says aide

**ASIF SHAHZAD & SYED RAZA HASSAN**  
ISLAMABAD, MARCH 30

A MAIN ally of Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan quit his ruling coalition on Wednesday and joined forces with the opposition seeking to oust him, robbing Khan of his majority in parliament as he faces a looming no-confidence vote.

Former cricket star Khan, 69, has been facing mounting do-



MQM's Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui (centre), with Opp leaders (from left) Akhtar Mangel, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Shahbaz Sharif and Maulana Fazlur Rehman in Islamabad, Wednesday. AP

mestic criticism of his performance, including the management of an economy beset by high inflation and rising deficits.

An increasingly united opposition has moved to force him from office in a no-confidence

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Army got Imran PM's job, why it's now tugging at the rug under his feet

**NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

IMRAN KHAN is on his last legs as Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Pakistan Army has asserted its dominance over the country's politics once again.

With the departure of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement

from the ruling coalition leaving the PTI-led government as a minority in Parliament, Khan is set to lose an Opposition no-confidence motion expected to be voted upon on April 3. Within his own party, 22 parliamentarians were supping with the combined Opposition parties Wednesday night.

Until late in the evening, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



### CURBS ON MUSLIM VENDORS

## Religious divide will destroy India's IT leadership: Biocon chief tags CM Bommai

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BENGALURU, MARCH 30**Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw**

IN THE first significant corporate voice of concern in India's technology capital over efforts by headline Hindutva groups to keep out Muslim traders from temple festivals in Karnataka, Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, executive chairperson of Biocon Ltd, has urged Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to resolve the "growing religious divide" in the state. She warned that the country's "global leadership" in tech and biotech was at stake.

Taking to Twitter on Wednesday, Shaw referred to a

report published in *The Indian Express* Wednesday: "Unease grows, Karnataka temple committees, traders admit pressure". "Karnataka has always forged inclusive economic development and we must not allow such communal exclusion — if IT/BT became communal it would destroy our global leadership," wrote Shaw, who heads

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## BJP wing attacks Kejriwal's home; plan to kill CM: AAP

### FIR filed against unidentified persons: Police

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE WAR of words in Delhi over Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's remarks on the film, *The Kashmir Files*, led to dramatic scenes outside his residence on Wednesday when nearly 200 protesters from the opposition BJP's youth wing, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), broke through police barricades and slammed the main gate, prompting AAP to accuse them of "trying to kill" the CM.

BJYM national president and Lok Sabha MP Tejaswi Surya led the protesters, many of whom were captured on CCTV breaking the boom barrier, and kicking and banging the main gate before throwing red paint on it. DCP (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi said a CCTV camera was also damaged.

Delhi Police have registered an FIR against "unidentified persons", and teams have been formed to nab the accused, Kalsi said. Late Wednesday night, five men were arrested from across Delhi in connection with the vandalism.

### LOOK WHO DELHI POLICE CAN'T IDENTIFY



BJYM president Tejaswi Surya with supporters atop a police vehicle outside Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's residence on Wednesday. @BJYM MORE REPORTS, PAGE 4

Kejriwal was not at home, but his family members were present during the protest, AAP leaders said.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said: "The BJP failed to stop Kejriwalji and failed to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Booked for murder in death of patient, doctor dies by suicide

### Local BJP leaders instigated patient's kin, put pressure to file FIR, says husband

**HAMZA KHAN**  
JAIPUR, MARCH 30

FOLLOWING THE suicide of a doctor in Dausa, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Wednesday removed Dausa SP Anil Kumar, even as the doctor's husband accused local BJP leaders of pressuring police into filing an FIR against his wife, lead-

ing her to take the fatal step.

Asha Bairwa, 22, had died following a delivery at Anand Hospital in Lalsot, Dausa, on Monday. Following her death, her husband Laluram Bairwa and relatives went back to the village with the body but returned to the hospital sometime later — with the body, and some local BJP leaders. As the protest intensified, the local police

**Dr Archana Sharma**

reached the spot and assured them of appropriate action and investigation.

Later, Dr Archana Sharma

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## When most looked the other way, a good samaritan risked his life — and died

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR****JIGNASA SINHA, AMIL BHATNAGAR & MALHAR MISHRA**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE HERO who once saved two children from drowning in a lake rescues three men from a toxic sewer.

If all had gone well, this was how the world would have hailed Satish Singh. But then, all didn't go well.

Late on Tuesday, 38-year-old Satish, a fitness trainer who be-

came an e-rickshaw driver after losing his job during the lockdown, died while attempting in vain to save two workers and their contractor from a sewer in outer Delhi.

Just a few years ago, his family said, Satish had jumped in a lake without a second thought to save the lives of two boys.

This time, local residents said, he was driving his e-rickshaw in Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar when he heard the men screaming for help from inside the sewer. While others were looking inside and making calls, Satish rushed to help.

"He saw two youths trying to climb down the sewer and



Satish Singh (left); grieving relatives at his house

stopped them. He said they would not be able to pull the men out because it would be tiring," said Moinuddin Qureshi, a fruit vendor, who was present at the spot.

"He asked them to step aside and went in himself."

Satish is survived by his wife Neha (35) and their three daughters, Tisha (14), Kritika (8) and Arvi (2). On Wednesday, at their Sardar Colony home in Rohini, Satish's mother, elder sister and wife said they were still "waiting for him to come home".

"He always believed in helping whoever he could. He was the sole breadwinner of the family. Our mother also stayed with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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# CHHATTISGARH MODEL

## SCRIPTING A NEW CHAPTER OF NYAY

Disbursement



### Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana

**FY 2021-22** - last installment  
₹1029.31 cr to 20.58 lakh farmers

Payment of ₹11,180.97 cr in last 2 years

**Increase in acreage, production & crop diversification**

Disbursement



### Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Bhoomihin Krishi Majdoor Nyay Yojana

**Second Installment**  
₹71.08 cr to 3.55 lakh registered landless farmers

Launching

### Mukhyamantri Shahri Slum Swasthya Yojana

60 new mobile medical units for municipal corporations & nagar panchayats

**More than 17 lakh people benefitted**

Launching

### Decentralisation for Effective Administration

4 new sub-divisions & 23 new tehsil

Launching

Online portal for review of settlement of time bound revenue related cases

On 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022



Disbursement

### Godhan Nyay Yojana

Transfer of ₹13.62 cr towards institutional purchase of cow dung

Payment of ₹226.18 cr towards institutional purchase of cow dung till now

**Repurposing cow dung  
Promoting organic farming  
New avenues of employment**



Disbursement

### Shahid Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangraha Samajik Suraksha Yojana

₹10.91 cr insurance coverage to 728 tendupatta collectors' families



**Shri Bhupesh Baghel**  
Honourable Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

# Pro Active - Pro People



VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS

70,121

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 63

OXYGEN SUPPORT 7

VENTILATOR SUPPORT 0

DELHI: TOTAL  
CASES 18,64,857

63

7

0

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	9,791	9,728
ICU BEDS	2,203	2,189

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Mar 29	95	96	0	21,331
Mar 30	123	106	1	24,706
<b>Total</b>	<b>459*</b>	<b>18,38,246</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>3,73,25,456</b>

\*Total active cases in Delhi

Noida	Mar 29	Mar 30
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A

Gurgaon	Cases	Deaths
Cases	35	32
Deaths	0	0

## PERMISSION FOR PROTEST WAS DENIED BY POLICE

## At CM house, how protesters got too close for comfort

MAHENDER SINGH  
MANRAL  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

DELHI POLICE has initiated an internal enquiry to find how 15-20 members of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), along with its national president and Lok Sabha MP Tejaswi Surya, got past the third barricade of the North district police and reached the main gate of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence in Civil Lines, where they broke the boom barrier and kicked and banged the main gate before painting it red.

The *Indian Express* has learnt that an application for the protest, filed by Hukum Singh, a BJP office bearer, was rejected by the arrangements cell of North district police, yet the group went ahead with it. "Based on the Special Branch inputs, the North district police made security arrangements after deploying 130 personnel, including one company of women personnel, along three layers of barricades. There were seven inspectors and an additional DCP rank officer supervising the protest," a senior police officer said.

Police lodged an FIR based on a complaint by sub-inspector Parveen Kumar against unidentified persons at Civil Lines police station. The FIR states that on March 29, BJP youth workers had given an application to DCP (North) for a protest outside the CM's residence on March 30. "In view of the law and order situa-



After (left) and during the protest in Civil Lines. ANI/Amit Mehra

tion, the leader of the protesters was informed about the rejection of the permission. As a precautionary measure, our staff from Civil Lines police station were stationed from 8 am. The youth workers of BJP started gathering with a tempo near IP college at 10.30 am to gherao the CM's residence to protest against a comment made by him in the Vidhan Sabha on the film *The Kashmir Files*, which the protesters found objectionable," the FIR states.

"Repeated attempts were made to persuade the protesters and their leader to not protest there, but they remained adamant to gherao the CM's residence. The crowd of protesters

was swelling and their leader started sloganeering using the PA (public announcement) system at a high decibel volume. A crowd of about 200 had gathered and to control them, barricading was put in place. Despite repeated explanations, some in the crowd started pushing back the police and broke the barricades and they blocked Alipur road," the FIR further states.

In the first two layers of barricades, police had deployed around 50 personnel, and 30 in the third barricade. "Around 11.45 am, they barged past the first barricade and reached the second. Around 12.45 pm, the crowd was dispersed after police used water

cannons. But in the meantime, around 20 men reached the third barricade and started demanding to go outside the CM's residence," an officer said.

The *Indian Express* accessed video footage recorded by the Delhi Police, which shows 15-20 protesters reach the third barricade and hit it, causing it to fall down. Security personnel stopped them even as some tried to enter from the side of the barricade.

The FIR states, "While attempting to remove them, some protesters moved towards CM's residence to gherao it. Attempts were made to stop the protesters by barricading at Flag Staff road,



but the agitated protesters got into a scuffle with police and broke through the barricades and moved towards CM's residence. Repeated announcements were made to appeal to the protesters to maintain law and order and about the possibility of people being injured and the permission being rejected, but they did not pay heed to them. In this way, the protesters violated government orders and directions of the police and reached near the gate of the CM's residence, breaking the barricades, the boom barrier and CCTV cameras. Protesters damaged government property and obstructed the police in carrying out its duties and engaged in a

scuffle with police."

All of this, senior officers say, happened within minutes. "Personnel at the second barricade received a message on the wireless set that around 15-20 members of the BJYM along with Tejaswi Surya had barged past the third barricade. Before police could rush to stop them, they reached the entrance gate of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence. Police asked them to clear the passage, but Surya sat down on the road. The police then removed them and asked them to sit in a bus. Some of them, including Surya, climbed the parked bus of the Delhi Police," the officer said.

## Kashmir Files echo in East MCD too as fists fly in House

ABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

FROM FISTFIGHTS to slippers being raised at each other, pandemonium broke out during the East Delhi Municipal Corporation house meeting Wednesday over a comment made by Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for his statements on *The Kashmir Files*.

A senior official said councillors of both parties had "manhandled" each other.

The house proceedings began by condoling the death of former chairman of the standing committee Ishwari Das Mahajan. Later, the AAP councillors alleged that Gupta had insulted Kejriwal at a rally. He was referring to Gupta's statement in which he had repeated party spokesperson Tajinder Bagga's abuse of Kejriwal. Gupta, though, had said that he did not associate with the comment.

Leader of opposition, AAP's Manoj Tyagi, while speaking, came near the chair of Leader of the House BJP's Satpal Singh. This led to an argument followed by supporters of both getting into a scuffle.



Some were marshalled out

The commotion lasted for around an hour after which three to four councillors were marshalled out, including Tyagi.

Mayor Shyam Sundar Agarwal said it was mostly nominated members who engaged in the commotion. "I have written to the L-G demanding a lifetime ban on them. But this time it was only AAP people who engaged in the fight. One of their councillors hurled a *chappal*." Tyagi alleged BJP members used "physical force" and "unparliamentary language" and "manhandled many AAP members, including women". He said he was thrashed by BJP members while speaking against Gupta's statement.

In the past five years, AAP and BJP councillors have clashed four times — thrice in the East MCD and once in the North MCD.

## BRIEFLY

Event on  
Shakespeare  
today

**New Delhi:** Professor Sir Stanley Wells, one of the world's foremost authorities on Shakespeare, and Dr Paul Edmondson, head of research at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, will deliver the foundation day lecture on March 31 to mark one year of the organisation, O, which aims to facilitate participation of individuals in the fields of theatre, poetry and music. The organisation was founded by Shakespeare scholar, writer and theatre director Lakshmi Krishnakumar.

Priest found  
dead in  
temple

**Gurgaon:** A 90-year-old priest was found murdered on temple premises in Kadarpur village on Wednesday morning. Police have registered a case of murder against unidentified persons. According to police, the incident was reported around 6 am when a local found him with his head severed from the body and called police. **ENS**

## 'He was never trained for this work': Families of 3 linemen who died in sewer grapple with loss

AMIL BHATNAGAR,  
JIGNASA SINHA & MALHAR MISHRA  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE MOOD outside Babu Jagjivan Ram hospital was somber on Wednesday as families of three linemen who died in a sewer in Outer Delhi's Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar a day later gathered to collect their bodies. According to police, two were linemen working with a private contractor to lay down telecom cables in the area, though their families said they neither had adequate training, nor equipment.

One of the deceased, Pintu Rao (30), was a daily wageer from Jharkhand. He lived in Delhi's Hari Nagar in a one-room shared accommodation with several male members of his extended family.

He is survived by his wife Sulekha and two children aged 12 and 9. "His family cannot travel 1,300 km for his body, so we will take care of the formalities," said Lilandhar Kumar, his nephew. The family said he had been working as a lineman for the last 5-6 years, earning Rs 800 a day.

"We came to know about the death early in the morning. I don't know what to do. We are uneducated people — we don't know much about safety equipment. He was never trained for the work. How was he supposed to know about the safety or dangers of

(Clockwise from top left) Suraj Kumar Sahni, Pintu Rao, and Bacchu Singh, who died inside the sewer on Tuesday. *Express*

what he was doing?" said Kumar. Pintu's friend Bacchu Singh (54), who also died Tuesday, had been working as a lineman for 10-12 years. His family said he was a recluse who didn't have many friends. His nephew Dharamveer said, "Uncle never got married and has no children. He lived with us. He made very less and around 3-4 years ago, he was injured doing similar work."

Both Pintu and Bacchu worked for a private contractor, Suraj Kumar Sahni, who also died inside

the sewer. His family said Suraj had been in the contracting business for a long time and was often assisted by his son Piyush.

"He has been a professional all these years. There have been no accidents earlier. This has come as a shock for all of us because work was supposed to finish on the same day and he would have been home. We are yet to come to terms with this," said his relative Nancy. Suraj is survived by his wife and two children.

2 die while  
working at  
sewage plant

**New Delhi:** Two labourers working at a sewage treatment plant in East Delhi's Kondli died after falling into a pit. Police said the incident took place at a sewage treatment plant under the Delhi Jal Board Wednesday afternoon.

According to police, the deceased, identified as Nitesh (25) and Yashdev (35), hailed from Uttar Pradesh and were called in the afternoon for repair work. Around two hours later, their bodies were fished out by DFS.

DFS Chief Atul Garg said his team received a call around 5 pm at the Dallupura fire station. The team rushed to the spot with two fire tenders. "The pit is 6x6 feet in area. Our team got ropes and other equipment to rescue them. They were sent to Lal Bahadur Shastri hospital, where they were declared dead," said the officer.

Priyanka Purohit, DCP (East), said the plant was under the DJB and legal action will be taken against the accused.

Meanwhile, a DJB official said they had outsourced the maintenance work at Phase-4 of the plant to an agency. "The workers were deployed by them. The bodies were taken to the hospital but couldn't be saved. The DJB is looking into the situation. By tomorrow morning, the agency will tell the DJB what had happened. As per the mandate, the compensation will have to be provided by the agency to the families of the deceased," said the DJB official. **ENS**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

A 39-YEAR-OLD man died after an SUV hit him on Janpath road Wednesday morning.

The man was crossing the road when the accused driver drifted towards him and hit him just as he reached the footpath. While the man was hit and fell, the driver fled the spot.

The deceased, identified as Girdhari, worked as a mason.

Police said they have arrested the accused driver, Arun, in the hit-and-run case.

DCP (New Delhi) Amrutha Guguloth said, "We received in-



A grab from the video

formation that a pedestrian was hit by a speeding car, being driven in a rash manner, around 8 am. The accident took place in Central Delhi's Janpath area. Staff from Parliament Street police station went to the spot and

## Man robbed of crores — again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

UNIDENTIFIED MEN robbed around Rs 2 crore from the employees of a Rohini-based businessman after forcibly snatching keys to their car on Tuesday. Just last month, five persons had robbed Rs 1.1 crore at gunpoint in broad daylight in North Delhi's Civil Lines — from the employees of the same businessman, with police making five arrests in the case.

The complainant said that on Tuesday night, he was going to his nephew's house from Chandni Chowk after collecting Rs 1.97 crore in cash. He was accompanied by his driver. "When they reached pocket 21 in Rohini

Police have found CCTV  
footage of the incident  
which shows a man  
talking to the occupants  
of a car after stopping  
his two-wheeler

Sector 24, an unknown person came on a scooter and started arguing with them. Later, two-three persons came from the rear and broke the driver's side glass and snatched the car keys. The accused opened the car's trunk, took all the money which was kept in three bags, and fled," DCP (Rohini) Pranav Tayal said.

Police have found CCTV footage of the incident which

shows a man talking to the occupants of a car after stopping his two-wheeler.

"Later, some more person came and take away the bags from the boot space. A case has been registered under IPC section 392 (punishment for robbery) and 34 (common intention) at Budh Vihar police station and investigation has been initiated," a senior police officer said.

The previous incident took place on March 3, when two employees of a businessman collected Rs 1.1 crore from a jeweller in Chandni Chowk. They were going back to their office on a scooter when a bike hit them. "Three men were on the bike. They pulled out pistols, threatened the victims and took the bags with money," said police.

## PARENTS FOUND COMPLICIT

## Cheating spiked during online tests, say Delhi teachers and principals

SUKRITA BARUAH &  
MALHAR MISHRA  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 29

AS CHILDREN in schools took exams online for two years, many had peers and parents helping them through, say teachers.

Now that they are back to school, teachers say they observe a marked difference between their performances in the classroom and what they saw in online tests, while principals say they need to put in substantial work to undo what they feel has become common practice during the pandemic.

Teachers and principals in five prominent Delhi schools told *The Indian Express* that the most difficult part of dealing with unfair

practices in online examinations was the role that they found parents playing in it.

"The first term examination that we held in 2020 was a very shocking experience for us. We were flabbergasted by the results. All the children scored unnaturally well and it became clear to us that this was not an honest assessment of their academic progress. From class 5 to class 12, we did not issue report cards to any student for that exam. Instead, we held a very strong one-on-one online PTM and told them that this is what happened and that we need their cooperation to prevent a repeat of this," said the principal of one of these schools.

Unconvinced with the quality of assessment through the course

of the pandemic years, for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 the school decided not to issue awards based on academic performances such as 'scholar badges' and 'scholar blazers' which are otherwise given out annually.

With primary and middle school children now returning to school, teachers say some of the observations are alarming. "They are struggling with writing tests offline. We can clearly see that there are huge learning gaps. On paper, these kids seemed brilliant, but now we know just how much of it was actually them and how much was through unfair means," said a language teacher for classes 6 to 10.

A class 11 and 12 teacher in another school said that weakened writing skills can be seen in

Schools attempted different ways to mitigate cheating, such as introducing an oral exam component in assessment. *Archive*

older students' offline answer sheets as well. "Ever since they've come back to school in the last couple of months, their performances are not as good. Their writing skills have suffered im-

mensely. In some sections of the papers which are very descriptive, you can see the difficulty that kids are having in answering. Kids who did well before the pandemic will end up doing pretty

well regardless, but I think it's the kids who were average to begin with who are showing a decline," she said.

While these schools required students to keep their laptop cameras on while writing online exams, teachers say what could be valid reasons often became excuses to shield cheating — poor network, a camera not working, an old laptop not having a camera. Four of the schools said that they had even caught parents and tutors helping students by dictating answers to them.

"One class 7 student had forgotten to switch off their microphone during a test and the teacher could clearly hear their father helping them. When she confronted him and told him that the student's test stood cancelled

and that she would have to come to school and retake it, he had a very aggressive response. These are huge mental setbacks that we have to confront and undo," said a principal.

Schools attempted different ways to mitigate cheating, such as introducing an oral exam component in assessment. But they said they faced challenges here too.

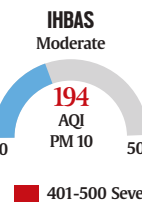
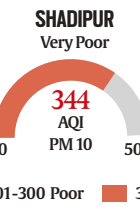
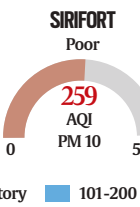
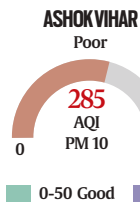
"Because we have a large number of students, we decided to conduct these with 4-5 students at a time. They would have earphones on and the teacher would ask them questions orally and they would write out the answers and show them to the teacher on the screen. Later we found out that some students had plugged in one ear to another de-

vice where their friends were listening in and telling them answers. The poor teachers were sitting there and cheating was happening right in front of them. After that we decided that we had to do this one on one," said the principal of one school.

The classes 6 to 10 teacher said that when she tried to conduct oral tests, she could overhear a voice search engine feeding the children answers to questions she was asking them aloud.

"The pressure starts at home. We have counselled parents one-on-one when we found that they had helped their children, we addressed this issue in orientations and parent teacher meetings, but this is something we will have to continue looking into," said one of the principals.





S K Y W A T C H  
FORECAST: Mar 31  
Clearly, Severe heat wave conditions at many places.

MAX: 40 MIN: 20  
8.0° C above normal 2.0° C above normal

5 accused shot in the knee by same police team in 3 months, court takes note, points to ‘vigilante justice’

ANAND MOHAN J  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

ADDRESSING A Delhi Police Special Staff team involved in the shooting of five suspects — all in the knee — in a span of three months, a Delhi court has observed that the prospect of a strongman delivering vigilante justice was antithetical to the rule of law.

Additional Sessions Judge Vishal Gogne was dealing with three separate bail orders in which the three accused persons had all made the same allegations against the Special Staff team of Dwarka district. They alleged they were illegally detained by members of the

team, blindfolded, and shot in their knees.

On these allegations, the court said, "The prospect of a strongman, local or parochial, delivering vigilante justice to suspected criminals being antithetical to the rule of law, no court of law can be dissuaded by the girth of the authority which may prima facie have vitiated the lawful exercise of power or deadly force."

The court said each complainant speaks a tale:

■ Aijaz had left with four men to Rajasthan to buy cattle on July 24, 2021, when he was intercepted by unknown men at the Bilaspur border, taken to a flat in Dwarka and interrogated about cattle theft before being

handed over to the Special Staff team. It is alleged the team took him and his brother to a forested area, and shot him in the left knee.

Police claimed the accused were cattle smugglers and when they intercepted his party, one accused shot a head constable wearing a bulletproof jacket, who in retaliatory firing shot him in the left knee.

The court observed: "The rule of law is the most sacrosanct holy cow, which police must protect."

"It does, however, appear that the cattle vigilantism, so apparent in the nation of late, has made an appearance as bovine policing within the national capital too," the court said. It noted

that the fact that no cattle were recovered is either an ironic coincidence or "portends something frightful".

■ Deepak Chauhan told the court that he was taken by the Special Staff on October 1, 2021, and kept in their office for three days. He alleged he was later taken to a cremation ground and shot in the knee. Police claimed he was going to supply weapons to a criminal gang, and when intercepted, he shot a head constable wearing a bulletproof jacket, who in retaliatory firing shot him in the left knee.

In this case, the court said it was quite peculiar to notice that an accused who was running away from police was somehow shot in the front portion of his

leg.

■ Bablu told the court that he was taken away from a tempo stand near the Mangolpuri bus stand by the Special Staff team on October 18, 2021, and shot in the right leg the next day. In this case, police alleged that they were chasing down two suspects involved in armed robbery cases and one of them fired at a head constable's bulletproof jacket, who in retaliatory firing shot him in the right knee.

In this case too, the court noted that he was shot in the front portion of the leg while running away, and noted that "clinical precision more commensurate with close-range gunfire cannot be ruled out".

The court said its attention was drawn to the striking similarities in all three FIRs and noted that it "defies the ordinary reasonableness for the court" to accept that three different teams, on three different dates operating under ACP (Operations) and DCP, ended up shooting five suspects "with clinical accuracy".

The court said it was mindful of a tendency of the accused to make allegations against police, but added: "Yet instances of custodial violence, wrongful implication and detention are an equally well-documented phenomenon in our country. In fact, countless commissions and judicial decisions have sought to address such tendencies."

AFTER CENTRE'S APPROVAL  
Vikas Kumar  
picked as new  
Metro MD

GAYATHRI MANI  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE CENTRE Wednesday approved the appointment of Vikas Kumar, a 1988 batch Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer, as the managing director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) for five years.

"I am directed to convey the concurrences of this ministry to the proposal of the Government of NCT of Delhi for the appointment of Vikas Kumar as the Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Pvt Limited (DMRC) for a period of five years with effect from April 1," read the approval letter by Yogesh Antil, deputy secretary with the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Kumar is currently the director (operations) at the DMRC, and worked as its executive director for several years before being appointed to the post in 2021. Kumar was selected and nominated by the selection committee formed by the Delhi government. Among the 35 candidates, including several directors of the DMRC and Indian Railways who applied for the post, 26 were shortlisted before Kumar was selected and found eligible for the top post of the DMRC. The Delhi government committee then forwarded its proposal to Lieutenant-Governor Anil Bajjal for his approval before sending it to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Developments for a final nod.

Kumar will succeed Mangu Singh, who will be retiring from the post of DMRC MD on March



Kumar is currently director (operations) at DMRC

31. Singh, 66, was appointed in 2012.

According to senior government officials, Kumar has been working with the DMRC since 2005 and has managed the operations of the entire 400-km of the Delhi Metro network. "We knew that the Centre will approve Vikas Kumar for the top post. Among all the candidates interviewed, he had a lot of experience, and he has worked with the DMRC for several years. He is talented and knows every nook and cranny of the Metro — from operations to construction and administration," said a senior government official.

After the Centre's nod, the Delhi government said it has appointed Vikas Kumar as the DMRC MD. "The government of GNCTD is pleased to appoint Vikas Kumar as Managing Director of DMRC in accordance with terms of Article 130 of the memorandum and Article of Association of association of DMRC for a period of five years," read the circular issued by Ashish Kundra, principal secretary cum commissioner, Transport.

DoE issues code of conduct for ‘Desh ke Mentor’ programme

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE DIRECTORATE of Education has issued a recommended code of conduct for mentors who have signed up for the government's flagship 'Desh ke Mentor' programme to regulate interactions between them and students assigned to them as 'mentees'.

In January, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights had written to the Delhi government asking it to suspend this programme "till the time when all loopholes pertaining to the safety of the children are overhauled". It had raised concerns over the possibility of enrolled children being exposed to abuse by people designated as mentors, with whom they are

supposed to speak regularly on the phone. While the government did not suspend the programme, it issued an advisory for parents to supervise the phone calls and had mandated that there be no physical meetings. Now, it has issued a 'code of conduct' for mentors, spelling out that they are not to initiate or encourage physical contact or sexual relations with a child and that they are not to share any pornographic material. The points also include not contacting children after 8 pm; not asking any child to meet alone; not asking personal details; not interacting with them "under the influence of intoxicating substances"; and not collecting photos, videos or stories of children and not uploading these on blogs or social networking sites.

Sacked over death of 3 patients, cardiologist says all were critical before reaching hospital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

EVEN AS an investigation is ongoing, the cardiologist who was sacked from Rajiv Gandhi Super-speciality Hospital has submitted a written representation to the hospital's director as well as the chief secretary of Delhi stating that three patients who died were in critical condition even when they came to the hospital. He states that he was removed from his post suddenly and without a fair trial.

As per the information provided by the doctor, the first patient came in an extremely sick condition from Meerut at 11:30 pm. His condition was assessed and he was recommended a bypass surgery. He died at 2 am while being managed medically.

The second patient, a 60-year-old man, had severe chest pain



A four-member committee, which was tasked with reviewing the incident, is yet to submit its report. Archive

and was initially taken to Lok Nayak hospital from where he was referred to Dr Ram Manohar Lohia hospital. With no CCU (Cardiac Care Unit) beds available at RML hospital, he was further referred to AIIMS, Safdarjung, or GB Pant hospitals. He was travelling across the city for nearly 36 hours before reaching Rajiv Gandhi hospital, where he was

admitted and died within 3-4 hours, also while being managed medically, the doctor has said.

The third patient, a 64-year-old woman, had had a heart attack in January when she was suggested to undergo a stenting procedure — a procedure where the blocked vessels of the heart are opened up by inserting a cylindrical mesh within. After in-

vestigations, she was taken to the cath lab for the procedure to restore blood flow to parts of the heart. The procedure was "100% successful" as per the doctor but she could still not survive.

The treating doctor, Dr Praveen Singh, managed to calm the distressed and angry relatives, according to the representation. However, the next day when he reached the hospital, his office was sealed and he was handed his termination letter. "You will appreciate neither any complaint from the patient's relatives to the hospital or medical council nor a police complaint," the doctor wrote in his representation.

The medical director did not respond to the development.

A four-member committee, which was tasked with reviewing the incident, is yet to submit its report. Hospital officials said the report is likely to be submitted within a couple of days.

30 Years of India - Uzbekistan Ties  
Multifaceted Cooperation based on  
Shared Past and Bright Future

India and Uzbekistan have deep historical and cultural ties. There are similarities that make their relations special. India is the most populous and centrally located state in South Asia and Uzbekistan enjoys the same status in Central Asia. The two have been the focal point of the civilization and state system of their respective regions.

On 18th of March of this year Uzbekistan and India marked the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. The Protocol on Diplomatic and Consular matters was signed on 18th March 1992. India was among the first countries to recognize the independence of Uzbekistan.

In May 2011, a Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership was signed between India and Uzbekistan. The document expanded the opportunities for boosting the cooperation across a broad spectrum of dimensions, including all aspects of political, economic, cultural-humanitarian spheres, which the two sides consider mutually advantageous.

Showing commitment to centuries-old traditions of friendly relations, today Uzbekistan and India demonstrate mutual interest to bring interstate partnership on the level of qualitatively new areas.

The two countries also witnessed important reforms in domestic and foreign policy in the last few years, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi since 2014 and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev since 2016.

The bilateral ties acquired further momentum after Prime Minister Modi visited Tashkent in July 2015, and again in June 2016 to participate in the meeting of the Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). It was followed by President Mirziyoyev's visit to India in October 2018 and in January 2019. In December 2020 a Virtual Summit was held between the two leaders.

**Similar Worldviews and Regional Initiatives**

One finds similarities between India and Uzbekistan's policy of military neutrality and maintaining a balance among various powers. Both pursue constructive and pragmatic foreign policy. Prime Minister Modi as well as

President Mirziyoyev have taken important initiatives in their respective country's relations with neighbours, regional and external powers, and international institutions. The two countries have achieved success in increasing foreign trade and investment.

India and Uzbekistan are aware of the importance of international transport corridors and infrastructure projects. India became part of the Ashkhabad Agreement in 2018. Uzbekistan has shown keen interest to join the International North-South Transport Corridor and in the Chahbahar Port project, both supported by India.

Both India and Uzbekistan support multilateralism in resolving global and regional issues and promote mutually beneficial cooperation based on dialogue, mutual trust, and respect. India supported the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, adopted by the UN, to bolster international cooperation in tourism, regional interaction, interfaith understanding, and sustainable development. Finally, on the issue of peacebuilding and reconstruction of Afghanistan, the two countries have similar approaches and policies. They have provided humanitarian assistance and support an inclusive government in Kabul, its socio-economic recovery, and integration into the global arena and regional connectivity projects. Both want cooperation, instead of competition in the larger region.

**Institutional Framework**

In order to promote comprehensive bilateral cooperation a number of important mechanisms have been created: National Coordination Committees to oversee the implementation of mutually agreed projects and initiatives; Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism (8th meeting held in New Delhi in July 2019); Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific & Technological Cooperation (12th meeting was held on 04 December 2020); India-Central Asia Business Council (Second meeting was held on 28 October 2020); and India-Central Asia Dialogue: the third meeting of the foreign ministers was held in New Delhi on 19 December 2021. It discussed steps to promote cooperation between India and



the Central Asian states in economics, digitalization, and cultural and humanitarian spheres. The special focus was the situation in Afghanistan.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Central Asian countries. India Prime Minister Modi, held the first India-Central Asia Summit with the Presidents of the five countries on 27 January 2022 in virtual format. The leaders agreed to enhance cooperation in the field of trade, defence and security, connectivity, finance, renewable energy, information, and culture. Summit meetings will be held every two years.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation has provided another platform for cooperation since 2017 when India became a member. As the current chairman of the SCO Uzbekistan plans to organise more than 80 events, boost intra-regional trade, and enhance security cooperation among member states. The Meeting of SCO Council of Heads of State will be held in September of this

year in Samarkand.

**Security and Defence Cooperation**

International terrorism, illegal human trafficking, smuggling, and organized crime are common challenges for India as well as the Central Asian States. An Agreement on Security Cooperation was signed during the visit of the Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan from 20-22 November 2019. Recent years have witnessed growing defence cooperation. Agreements and MoU's on Military Medicine, Military Education have been negotiated. Starting from November 2019 two rounds of joint military exercises "Dustlik" between India and Uzbekistan (November 2019 in Tashkent, in March 2021, in Ranihket, Uttarakhand). Third round of exercises is taking place in Khorezm region of Uzbekistan on 22-31 of March 2022.

**Trade and Investments**

The excellent political and cultural ties are not matched by the modest bilateral trade of about USD 442 million between the two countries. Indian exports include medi-

cines and pharmaceutical products, mechanical equipment, vehicle parts, services, optical instruments, and equipment. Uzbekistan exports fruits and vegetables, services, fertilizers, juice products and extracts, and lubricants to India. Since 2019 Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) is being negotiated by the two countries. Indian companies have invested in pharmaceuticals, automobile components, amusement parks, and the hospitality industry. India's GMR is keen to invest in airports, development of air corridor, and Navoi cargo complex in Uzbekistan; a pharmaceutical plant with an investment of USD 50 is under construction. Other areas of potential investments are agriculture and food processing, pharma and healthcare, mining and jewellery, as well as textiles and auto components. Amity University and Sharda University started campuses in 2019 in Tashkent and Andijan respectively. In December 2021 Sambhram Institute of Technology from Bangalore was inaugurated in Jizzakh. The Bukhara State Medical Institute named after Abu Ali Ibn Sino (Avicenna) opened its branch at the Indian International University in Noida. It should be noted that this university became the first Uzbek university branch established in a foreign country.

Indian companies are also involved in the energy/ power sector, research, technologies, start-ups, and innovations with Uzbek partners. Bilateral Investment Treaty is under negotiation between both countries. During the Covid 19 pandemic both Uzbekistan and India have provided friendly assistance to each other in challenging periods which consisted of very crucial and necessary pharmaceutical products and medical equipment.

Joint Working Groups on Textiles, Information Technology, Tourism, Civil Aviation, Space Cooperation, ICT, Solar Power, Oil and Gas and etc. hold regular meetings and are taking bilateral ties to newer heights. Tourism is a sector which has significant potential. The two countries have introduced e-Visa for each other's nationals. Medical tourism is an expanding sector. Organic cul-

tivation, cold storage, warehousing, and processing are emerging areas of India — Uzbekistan cooperation. India has started importing lemon and melon from Uzbekistan, which in turn is importing bananas and mango from India.

**Cultural Cooperation and People to People Ties**

India's soft power is a big asset that can be utilised to take forward our ties. Indian films and music are immensely popular and in the last few years, Indian filmmakers are using the historical and scenic beauty of Uzbekistan for shooting films. Education and technical training are important areas of mutual exchange. Uzbekistan has sent 2400 professionals under ITEC in premier institutes in India for training since 1993. Uzbek students also come for post-graduate courses and some Uzbek officials come for training in forensic sciences. ICCR and Kendriya Hindi Sansthan provide scholarships for Uzbek students. The Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for Indian Culture (LBSCIC) runs special courses in Indian languages, music, dances, Yoga, etc. Samarkand State University has set up an Indian Study Centre. Traditional handicrafts of two countries provide scope for mutual exchange. One of the largest festivals of the world the Surajkund International Crafts Mela has been regularly hosting Uzbek craftspeople for the past few years.

At present, there are about 1800 Indian nationals in Uzbekistan mostly in the pharmaceutical and hospitality industry; some in universities and colleges while others are serving as doctors in hospitals and in the oil and gas sector.

India and Uzbekistan are ancient civilizations, with growing economies and increasing regional and global profiles. They realize the importance of their bilateral cooperation for regional peace and prosperity. Hence this bilateral relationship is poised for a great future.

**Prof Sanjay Kumar Pandey**  
Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies  
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DELHI **CONFIDENTIAL**

STRATEGIC AFFAIR

LEUVA PATIDAR leader Naresh Patel's entry into Congress seems to be a matter of time. Although there is resistance in the party to the condition set by him — he wants Prashant Kishor to handle Congress's poll campaign in Gujarat — the party, it seems, has made up its mind to induct him. Those critical of Kishor in the Congress — and there are many — say he and Patel are working in tandem. Kishor, they claim, wants the party to project Patel as its face, and Patel wants Kishor as the poll strategist. Patel is chairman of Shree Khodaldham Trust, which manages the grand temple of Goddess Khodiyar, the patron deity of Leuva Patidar community, near Rajkot. The Congress believes his entry will help attract the Leuva Patidar community to the party. The politically influential community is concentrated mainly in the Saurashtra region.

MUSICAL FAREWELL

A DINNER Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu will host for 72 retiring members of the House on Thursday which will have a musical touch. In the morning, the House will bid farewell to the retiring members; in the evening they will all join for a get-together at Naidu's residence. At the dinner, some MPs are planning to exhibit their talent outside the political arena. So TMC's Santanu Sen will play the guitar and his firebrand colleague Dola Sen will sing Rabindra sangeet. DMK's Tiruchi Siva plans to enthrall everyone with some Tamil songs, and BJP's Rupa Ganguly, too, is set to sing. As will her party colleague Ramachandra Jhangra and NCP's Vandana Chavan. Then there will be a group rendition.

DISCUSSION BOARD

SENIOR CONGRESS leader Anand Sharma had a surprise meeting with party leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday. Sharma, Congress's deputy leader in Rajya Sabha, is retiring from the House. While there is a talk that he may be re-nominated from Haryana, there is no official word on it. But Rahul's meeting with Sharma was seen as a good gesture extended by him to the retiring veteran, who is a member of the 'Group of 23' in the party. They discussed the political situation, especially the party's prospects in Sharma's home state, Himachal Pradesh, which is scheduled to go to the polls later this year, and the state of affairs of the party in the Hindi heartland.

PM to visit Gujarat's tribal-dominated district on April 21

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, MARCH 30

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi is scheduled to address a rally in tribal district of Dahod on April 21, during a visit to the state, BJP state chief CR Paatil said in Gandhinagar on Wednesday. Addressing BJP workers from Vadodara, Chhota Udepur, Mahisagar, Dahod and Panchmahal at a party meeting, Paatil asked them to get as many people as possible to Modi's meeting. "During his visit to Gujarat, PM Modi will first attend an event in Dahod on April 21 morning... Jaswantsinh (Member of Lok Sabha Jaswantsinh Bhabhor) had requested the inauguration and foundation stone laying of development works in that area to be done by PM Modi. For months, it was delayed... Accepting his request, PM Modi has approved his visit to Dahod

on April 21 morning."

A release from the BJP stated that Modi will inaugurate and lay foundation of development projects worth Rs 2,400 crore during his April 21 visit, though it did not mention about his Dahod visit.

Urging the workers and page committee members to mark their presence in large numbers, Paatil said, "Let us join in maximum numbers. Twenty one days look less... the government will take care of the preparations but responsibility of numbers is of BJP workers. Let us make this a grand event."

The rally is being announced a day after the BJP government announced in the Assembly that the Par-Tapi-Narmada river-linking project was suspended after a decision by PM Modi. The tribals had been holding protest meetings in South Gujarat, led by Congress MLA Anant Patel. The last public meeting was held in Gandhinagar on March 25 where top Congress leaders were present.

Shivpal meets Adityanath as distance from SP grows

MAULSHREE SETH LUCKNOW, MARCH 30

IN A fresh twist to the reported differences with his nephew and Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) Shivpal Yadav met Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow on Wednesday.

The meeting took place at the CM's residence and lasted for about 20 minutes. It assumes significance as it was held in the backdrop of Shivpal's criticising the SP for not inviting him to the Legislature Party meeting, in which Akhilesh was elected the party leader, four days ago.

Akhilesh had invited Shivpal along with his alliance partners — Om Prakash Rajbhar, Pallavi

Patel and Rajpal Balyan — for a meeting at the SP Office on March 29, which Shivpal did not attend.

Although Shivpal remained tight-lipped after his meeting with the Chief Minister — he did not tweet the photo of the meeting — his party called it a "mere courtesy visit".

Asked about the meeting, PSPL chief spokesperson Deepak Mishra said, "Shivpalji is one of the senior-most members of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly and Adityanath ji, apart from being the Chief Minister, is also the leader of the House. So, no political meaning should be derived from their meeting. In the past too, the CM had sought his (Shivpal) experience as being a senior member of the House. It was merely a courtesy meeting as earlier in the day Shivpal ji had a meeting with the Speaker as well."

RUSSIA-UKRAINE

German NSA: Turmoil if countries define geography through history

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

CALLING RUSSIA'S attack on Ukraine a "blatant violation of international law", visiting German Security and Foreign Policy Adviser Jens Plötner on Wednesday warned about consequences on the global order if such behaviour goes "unchecked".

Speaking to a select group of journalists, Plötner, who met his counterpart, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, on Wednesday, said: "What are the lessons that countries — big and small — draw from this war. We don't want the big ones to be encouraged. Because we don't want smaller countries to fear that countries bigger in size can go back in history and geography, and say that the smaller country has no right to exist."

While the reference was to Russia and Ukraine, Plötner, when pressed, said he was referring to China as well. "My not naming countries is deliberate,"



NSA Ajit Doval with German counterpart Jens Plötner. ANI

he said. "If we start looking back in history, and then choosing to define the geography of our country, I think we're in for quite a period of turmoil internationally, if countries decide to turn back the clock. And that is why I think beyond the case of Ukraine, this is so important," he said. Saying India and Germany

EXPLAINED

Setting stage for PM visit

GERMANY HAS close ties with Russia, as well as dependence for its energy needs. Delhi has a similar dependence on Moscow for its defence needs. But, while Berlin has taken a hard stance on Russia's aggression, Delhi has maintained a tough balance between the West and Russia. The NSA-level talks set the stage for Prime Minister's visit to Germany soon.

have the "same genes", Plötner, who also met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, said he was talking to Indian interlocutors to "analyse the consequences of this war" and try and gain "common understanding". How this war will end is an "open-ended question", he said.

Questions over stability of world order, says PM

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

STATING THAT the "recent developments in Europe have raised question marks over the stability of international order", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday called for greater co-operation among BIMSTEC countries and said it was time to make the Bay of Bengal a "bridge of connectivity, prosperity and security".

Modi was speaking at the fifth summit of the Bay of Bengal



Modi speaks at the BIMSTEC summit on Wednesday. PTI

Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), hosted virtually by Sri Lanka in its capacity as the current chair of the re-

gional grouping. He said India would provide \$1 million in aid to augment the budget of the BIMSTEC secretariat.

Referring to Russia's attack on Ukraine, Modi said: "Recent developments in Europe have raised question marks over the stability of international order... In this context, it has become important to make BIMSTEC regional co-operation more active... regional security is very important now."

"With our region facing challenges of health and economic security, the need of the hour is

unity and cooperation," he said. "Today is the time to make the Bay of Bengal bridge of connectivity, bridge of prosperity, bridge of security," he said.

Besides India, BIMSTEC comprises Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan. The summit adopted the "BIMSTEC charter", which will give the grouping an international identity and formally state its purposes and principles. Modi said this was an important step in the direction of establishing an institutional architecture.

Kerala's new policy sets up wider availability of liquor in state

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 30

THE KERALA government on Wednesday ratified the new liquor policy for the next fiscal. The new policy facilitates manufacturing of liquor and wine from locally available fruits, opening up of new retail outlets and permitting liquor licence at IT parks.

By giving licence to manufacture fruit-based, low-alcohol content beverages, the government wants to give a boost to the cultivation of banana, pineapple, jackfruit, cashew and nutmeg in the state. Besides, the decision to permit bars at IT parks is envisaged to increase facilities at the premises, government sources said.

As per the new policy, the state-run liquor retailer, BEVCO, will be allowed to open more outlets across Kerala. At present, the state has 306 liquor retail outlets. The high court has pulled up BEVCO several times to reduce rush at these outlets and provide better facilities to consumers. Accordingly, the new outlets will have walk-in facilities for consumers. BEVCO has demanded 175 new outlets, but the final figure on new shops will be decided later. While selecting new locations for outlets, preference will be given to tourism hubs.

Ukraine discussed in Blinken-Jaishankar call

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

US SECRETARY of State Antony Blinken spoke with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday night, a day before Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov arrives in India.

The development comes on a day when US deputy NSA

Daleep Singh, a key architect of sanctions against Russia, met Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in Delhi.

After his call with Blinken, Jaishankar tweeted, "Just completed a useful conversation with @SecBlinken. Reviewed the progress on our bilateral cooperation. Discussed developments pertaining to the Indo-Pacific, Ukraine and the global economy."

UK Foreign Secy to arrive in India today 'Diplomatic push' on Russia invasion

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

UK FOREIGN Secretary Liz Truss will be in India on Thursday as part of a "wider diplomatic push" following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine last month, British diplomats said Wednesday.

The British Foreign Secretary will meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and convey that Russia's invasion of Ukraine underlines the importance of democracies working

closer together to "deter aggressors, reduce vulnerability to coercion and strengthen global security", a diplomatic source said.

"She wants to counter Russia's aggression and reduce global strategic dependence on the country ahead of key NATO and G7 meetings next week," the source said.

During her trip, Truss will hold talks to develop defence-related trade, including innovative security technology, strengthening defence ties with India.

She will also work to deepen cybersecurity and defence co-operation between the two countries, and announce a new joint cybersecurity programme, sources said.

The programme will aim to protect online infrastructure in both countries from attacks. India and the UK will work together to increase cyber security and carry out joint exercises to practise combating threats from cybercriminals and ransomware, sources said.

The British Foreign Secretary will also confirm plans to hold the first Strategic Tech Dialogue, a ministerial-level summit on emerging technology.

Sources said that the UK and India will also agree to closer maritime co-operation in the Indo-Pacific. The UK will join India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative and become a lead partner on maritime security issues, coordinating work with key partners in Southeast Asia.

Russia Foreign Minister begins two-day trip today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

RUSSIAN FOREIGN Minister Sergey Lavrov will be on a two-day official visit to India from Thursday, his first trip to the country since Moscow launched its invasion of Ukraine last month.

In a one-line statement issued to announce the visit, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated, "Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, Mr. Sergey Lavrov, will pay an official visit to New Delhi on 31 March-1 April 2022."

The focus of Lavrov's visit is

expected to be on India's purchase of discounted Russian crude oil and putting in place a rupee-ruble payment system for bilateral trade in view of Western sanctions against Moscow, sources said. In the talks, India is also likely to press for ensuring timely delivery of various military hardware and components of the S-400 missile systems by Russia.

Lavrov began a two-day visit to China on Wednesday, primarily to attend a meeting of foreign ministers of countries bordering Afghanistan. He is expected to arrive in New Delhi on Thursday evening after concluding his China visit.

our last round of appointments of in-charges, but we will make some announcements in the next few months," the leader said.

Local leaders of other parties like Congress, National Conference and PDP, who did not want to be named, admitted AAP appeared to be getting a foothold, even if it didn't translate into votes immediately. And that many from among their ranks were in touch with the new entrant.

A senior Congress leader and former legislator warned that the high command's delay over a decision on Azad's role in J&K may leave them with little choice but to go to AAP.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com



The success of AAP's rally is being largely attributed to its landslide victory in Punjab. Express

at least 3,000-4,000 people. "The hall was jam packed, and many more were standing outside."

In the 2014 Assembly elections in the erstwhile state, the BJP had made significant gains in

the Chenab region, comprising Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban districts, winning four of the six Assembly seats. The remaining two had gone to the Congress. The success of AAP's rally is





# Agriculture: Backbone of the Indian Economy

## Fertiliser push to agriculture growth



*The Government wants to maximise indigenous production of nitrogenous fertilisers to reach self-sufficiency in urea production, ensure their easy availability and promote balanced nutrient application, essential for sustained growth*

THE agriculture and the allied sector happened to be the most resilient to the economic downturn brought on by COVID-19, growing to 3.6 per cent in 2020-21 and improving to 3.9 per cent in 2021-22, according to the Economic Survey of 2021-22. Agriculture contributed to the expansion of the GDP to 9.2 per cent.

The Economic Survey also said that the growth in the allied sector is in line with the recommendations of the Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income. The agriculture and allied sector was the largest employer of workforce. The livestock, dairying and fisheries have been major drivers and are expected to redraw the contours of the agricultural economy. "The livestock sector has grown at a CAGR of 8.15 per cent over the last five years ending 2019-20. As revealed by the latest Situation Assessment Survey (SAS), the sector has been a stable source of income across groups of agricultural households accounting for about 15 per cent of their average monthly income," the Economic Survey said.

The latest SAS report has shown how the fragmentation of landholdings has led to alternate sources such as livestock, fishery and wage labour becoming significantly important for an agricultural household. "Increasing importance of allied sectors including animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries in growth and income of the farmers indicates that focus needs to shift more towards harnessing the potential of allied activities. There is also a need to improve productivity of small and marginal farmers through development and implementation of small holding farm technologies," the document said.

The Government's Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy is being used to promote crop diversification, which is facilitating the shift to high value and less water-consuming crops. The Government has taken measures to augment produc-



tion and domestic supply of oilseeds and edible oils, made interventions in the sugar sector and focussed on the food processing sector, which is not only a major market of agricultural produce but is also a significant employer of the surplus workforce engaged in agriculture. It has further extended the coverage of the food security network through additional provisions of foodgrains as part of schemes like PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY).

But a key accelerator of growth has been the Government's push on fertilisers. They replace the nutrients that crops remove from soil. Without them, crop yields and agricultural productivity would be significantly reduced.

Fertilisers constitute 20 per cent of the cost of cultivation of various crops, according to the Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP). Hence, their

role in ensuring food and nutrition security is well-recognised. The Government is pushing organic fertilisers but they are yet to reach the scale of commercial ones and till then a mix of both becomes important for food and nutrition security.

The urea sector contributes significantly to fertiliser production and consumption in the country. It accounts for 60 per cent of the total fertiliser consumption and 50 per cent of the total fertiliser imports in terms of volume. The total requirement was 340 LMT during 2019-20, out of which 92.40 LMT was imported as the domestic production capacity is 220 LMT. However, a total of 245 LMT of urea was produced in India during FY 2019-20, implying a capacity utilisation of 113.60 per cent.

Further, as part of securing significant domestic production, the Government has also taken the bold decision of establishing brownfield urea manufacturing units through joint ventures (JV) formed by several Navaratna and Mini-Ratna



Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

The first such JV is Ramagundam Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd (RFCL), owned jointly by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd (RCF), Engineers India Ltd (EIL), National Fertilisers Ltd (NFL) and FCIL. The plant has been commissioned with an annual production capacity of 12.7 lakh MT of urea. The Government has facilitated the formation of another JV company Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Limited (HURL) with Coal India Ltd (CIL), NTPC, and Oil India Ltd (OIL) as major shareholders and HFCL and FICL as minority shareholders. It is executing three brownfield urea manufacturing units at Gorakhpur in UP, Barauni in Bihar and Sindri in Jharkhand.

India's dependency on imports, at present, is 25% of our requirement of urea, 90% in case of phosphates, either as raw materials or finished fertilisers (DAP/MAP/TSP) and 100% in case of potash. The Government has been encouraging Indian companies to establish

joint ventures in countries which are rich in fertiliser resources for production facilities with buy-back arrangements and enter into long-term agreements for supply of fertilisers.

The Government wants to maximise indigenous production of nitrogenous fertilisers based on utilisation of indigenous feedstock to reach self-sufficiency in urea production, ensure easy availability of fertilisers to farmers at affordable prices and promote balanced nutrient application, which is essential for sustained growth. There are 32 urea manufacturing units in the country with a total re-assessed capacity of 232.94 lakh metric tonnes per annum (LMTPA). Out of 32 urea manufacturing units, 30 urea units are using natural gas as feedstock and 2 urea units are using naphtha as feedstock. It is expected that with the commissioning of all the under-construction brownfield urea projects in the public sector, India would achieve near self-sufficiency in meeting the demand of urea for its own consumption.

Meanwhile, organic farming is still at a nascent stage in India. About 2.78 million hectare of farmland was under organic cultivation as of March 2020, according to the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. This is two per cent of the 140.1 million ha net sown area in the country. Sikkim is the only Indian state to have become fully organic so far. The top three states — Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra — account for about half the area under organic cultivation.

Then there are pioneers like the Pune-based Jayant Barve, who developed organic manure with agricultural waste, fodder, oil cakes, turmeric peels, tobacco peanuts, flowers and animal waste. Having worked at the CSIR-NCL (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Chemical Laboratory) and taught students at the University of Pune, he is master of field science. Now his organic fertilisers are a hit in even Kenya and Namibia, and earns him Rs 10 crore a year.

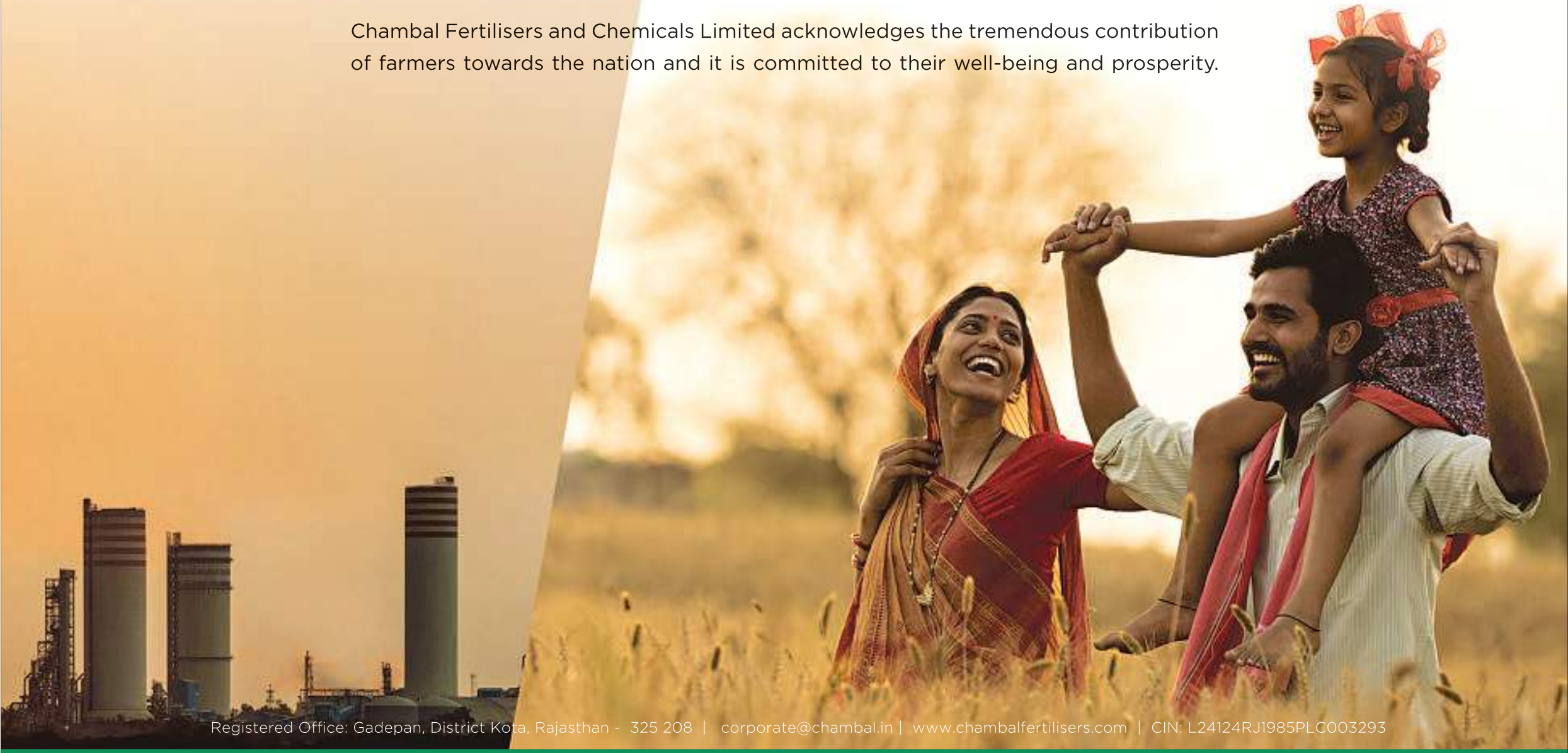
Padma Shri recipient Subhash Palekar formulated the concept of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF). This relies on natural solutions like earthworms, cow dung and urine, plants and other biological components. The benefits of ZBNF are especially valuable to small hold farmers who grow on their own land and owe their livelihood to their produce. By using only local and freely available substances for fertiliser, the costs of farming are much lower. Additionally, with intercropping being one of the tactics of ZBNF, it is believed that the land remains fertile and productive in the long term, and can produce healthy crops season after season.

This formula has now been adopted in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh, benefitting about 40-50 lakh farmers across the country. Plans are in place to bring at least six million farmers under this scheme by 2025-2026.



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# 9 IN PARLIAMENT

BUDGET SESSION

## FROM THE GALLERY

### 5 QUESTIONS



**ARUN KUMAR SAGAR, BJP MP FROM UTTAR PRADESH'S SHAHJAHANPUR, SPEAKS TO LIZ MATHEW**

**What was the issue you raised during Zero Hour?** National Highway 24 goes through my constituency. Currently, the Bareilly-Shahjahanpur-Sitapur highway is under construction. In fact, it has been under construction for the past 11-12 years. First, the contract was with one company, later it was changed, but the construction is not progressing properly.

**Is the delay the issue?** It is one issue. Because of that, there are long traffic jams. Sometimes vehicles are stranded for 12 hours. It is troublesome for people.

**You also talked about the poor quality of the highway** Yes, it is of very poor quality. It is muddy, and with one rain, everything goes off. Vehicles get stuck in mud, and there are a lot of potholes already. The administration involved in the road construction colludes with contractors and uses substandard materials, leading to the deterioration...

**Had you raised the issue with the government earlier?** I have written multiple letters to the ministry, NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) and even the NHAI chairman. I have met officials several times. Nothing has been done yet...

**Now, what is your next step?** I have written to Union Minister (of Road Transport and Highways) Nitin Gadkari. I do not think it is the same situation in other parts of the state. I am grateful to him for sanctioning roads in my constituency. But I would again request him to look into it and see that action is taken against those responsible for the delay and the damages.

## LS clears Bill to amend chartered accountancy, cost accountancy, company secy laws

**HARIKISHAN SHARMA**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

INDIA WILL have an accounting firm that is equivalent to the world's top firms, and the proposed amendments in laws governing chartered accountancy, cost accountancy and company secretary will "facilitate" that, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Wednesday. Replying to the debate on the Chartered Accountants, the Cost and Works Accountants and the Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in Lok Sabha, Sitharaman said, "We are hopeful that India will certainly have a Big Four equivalent company, and these kinds of amendments that we are bringing, are going to facilitate that."

The four major global accounting firms — Deloitte LLP, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young and KPMG — are known as the Big Four.

The Bill seeks to amend the existing Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959 and the Company Secretaries Act 1980. The Bill is aimed at providing mechanism for dealing with cases of misconduct in the three professional institutions — the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, the Institute of Cost Accountants of India and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India.

The Bill was passed by a voice vote in the House.

## No intention to make social media users' verification a must: Govt

**LIZ MATHEW**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

WITH THE Opposition suggesting to make verification of all social media accounts mandatory, the government on Wednesday said that it does not intend to do so in view of privacy issues, maintaining that its interest is in "balancing the issues of privacy as well as the interest of safety and trust".

"This is not an easy balance to achieve and we believe that this issue of mandatory verification is at the intersection of privacy, and safety and trust," Minister of State for Electronic and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar told Lok Sabha. "We believe that the rules that

were promulgated in February 2021 very effectively cast an obligation on the intermediaries to be able to detect and identify the first originator of any criminal activity. That is the obligation which has been cast through the subordinate legislation and while that matter has been challenged by some intermediaries, the government is robustly defending its position that this anonymity cannot be a blanket one and first origination should be possible as an obligation on the intermediaries," he said.

Chandrasekhar was responding to a question from Congress MP Manish Tewari, who asked if India would take the "first step and make verification of social

media accounts mandatory". Tewari pointed out that social media has been weaponised "by governments, certain political parties, non-State actors, and everybody who has a pernicious agenda in this world".

Chandrasekhar responded by saying he had no opposition to his view "excepting to point out very respectfully that this is one way of approaching this problem."

Sharing concerns raised by Congress member Abdul Khaleque, the minister said the Internet and technology have empowered people and transformed their lives and governance, but user harm, criminality and fake news type issues are also on the rise.

## Uproar in Lok Sabha as TMC MP alleges 'misuse' of central agencies

**LIZ MATHEW**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

TMC LEADER Saugata Roy raised the issue of "misuse of central agencies" by the Union government in the non-BJP ruled states, an issue West Bengal chief minister had taken up recently, triggering noisy protests from the BJP MPs, leading to uproarious scenes in the House. Speaker Om Birla also expunged certain words used by Roy.

TMC leader Mamata Banerjee recently wrote to chief ministers of non-BJP ruled states, express-

ing "deep concern over the direct attacks" on the country's institutional democracy by the BJP through the CBI, ED, Central Vigilance Commission and Income Tax Department. The letter came in the wake of CBI investigating the recent Rampurhat massacre in Birbhum in which nine people, including seven women and a child, were burnt to death following the murder of a TMC panchayat leader.

Among other demands raised by members in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday were release of the pending funds for Tamil Nadu, reinstating the

Moplah martyrs' names in the dictionary on martyrs of India's freedom struggle, increasing the salaries and payments of nurses and Asha workers, and a law to limit the number of guests at wedding functions.

DMK's Kathir Anand wanted the Centre to release the pending funds and extend the GST compensation to protect Tamil Nadu's economy. "The Union government owes around Rs 20,287 crore to Tamil Nadu under around 38 heads... How can a state government be run without the central government not allocating any funds? ..." he asked.

## LS passes MCD Bill, Shah says BJP workers not afraid

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE DELHI Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill-2022 that is aimed at unifying the three municipal corporations of Delhi into a "single, integrated and well-equipped entity", was passed in the Lok Sabha by a voice vote on Wednesday.

The Bill that seeks to amend The Delhi Municipal Corporation Act-1957 was passed after a heated debate in which 20 members participated.

Replying to the debate on the Bill, Home Minister Amit Shah rejected the Opposition's charge that "the Centre is encroaching on the federal structure and taking away rights of the states". "I would like to make it clear before the House that I have brought this Bill under the powers given under Article 239AA," Shah said.

He said the Centre brought this Bill because Delhi is a Union Territory. The Centre cannot bring such a Bill in Gujarat or Bengal, he said, adding that the Bill is "completely constitutional". "An attempt is being made to spread a big misconception, I reject it entirely," Shah said.

Earlier in the day, moving the Bill for consideration of the House, Shah said that the Delhi government is giving "step-motherly treatment" to all three municipal corporations of Delhi. Rejecting the Opposition's charge that the Bill has been brought with political motives, Shah clarified that the Bill is aimed at bringing reforms in the existing system. "Besides this, there is no other motive," Shah said.

Opening the debate, Congress member Manish Tewari opposed the Bill, saying it is beyond the legislative competence of Parliament. "If there is any House that has legislative competence to amend this law, it is the Delhi assembly," Tewari said.

Referring to the Bill's provisions regarding delimitation of wards after the unification of the MCD, Tewari wanted to know from the Home Minister as to which data will be used for delimitation. He asked, "Will the municipal corporation not be constituted in Delhi in the next two years?"

His colleague, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, too, hit out at the



Home Minister Amit Shah arrives at Parliament. PTI

government. "The crux of this legislative document clearly indicates that this government has been hell-bent upon encroaching upon the jurisdiction of the state, while undermining the co-operative federalism," Chowdhury said.

DMK MP Dr Veeraswamy Kalanidhi questioned the urgency to bring this Bill.

Opposing the Bill, TMC member Mahua Moitra said the Bill was in violation of Article 243U of the Constitution vis-à-vis the delay in conducting municipal polls in Delhi.

On the Opposition's charge that the BJP brought this Bill because the party was afraid of facing the MCD elections in view of the recent electoral win of AAP, Shah said, "BJP workers don't need to be afraid of anyone. We have formed governments in four states and we have full confidence that we will win under the leadership of Modi ji wherever elections are held."

BSP member Kunwar Danish Ali said "the government continues to attack the federal structure of the country". He alleged

that the government did not hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir on the pretext of delimitation and the same template is being repeated in Delhi.

Referring to observations made by the Opposition members regarding elections in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said that the elections will be held after the delimitation. "Hamein Rashtrapati shashan lane ka koi shauk nahin hai. (We do not wish to impose President's rule)," Shah said.

BJP member Parvesh Varma raised the issue of opening of liquor outlets by the AAP government in Delhi and alleged that the Delhi chief minister had misused Mid Day meal funds to build a swimming pool at his residence.

Congress member Ravneet Singh Bittu demanded that an inquiry should be conducted into the misuse of money in Punjab polls by the AAP leader and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal.

BJP member Nishikant Dubey accused the Opposition of mingling with the "ultra-Leftists".

## FB, WHATSAPP PLEAS AGAINST ORDER

# Social media sites predicting user behaviour raises concern: Delhi HC

**SOFIAHSAN**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE DELHI High Court on Wednesday expressed concern over the alleged sharing of user data by Facebook with other companies and referred to the Cambridge Analytica scandal that pertains to the use of such data for political purposes.

The observations were made during the hearing of Facebook and WhatsApp's appeals against a single-bench order declining to interfere with the Competition Commission of India (CCI) investigation into the messaging application's privacy policy. However, the court clarified that it was making the observations generally and not particularly with regard to the case.

The division bench headed by Justice Rajiv Shakti said that every citizen has a concern about the sharing of data by Facebook. "Cambridge Analytica weighs very heavily on us. I personally feel someone needs to look into it," said Justice Shakti.

The judge also expressed concern over the sites' capability to predict user behaviour. "Aside from this case, they (Cambridge Analytica) say they today have at least 5,000 data points on every citizen... that is what they did in America... that means they can now actually predict what you are going to do in a particular action," the court said.

Advocate Harish Salve, repre-

senting WhatsApp, submitted that the messaging app "does not have the problem" as it does not look at the user messages but Facebook itself states that you are putting your life in public domain.

In response to Salve's statement that he gets notifications whenever a "dear friend of his" lands in Goa, the court observed, "...but from there if they predict what he is going to do in Goa is a little bit of a problem. It is what they are able to do now".

The court adjourned the appeals filed by WhatsApp and Facebook after Salve submitted that since the Personal Data Protection Bill-2019 is pending consideration, the matter could be stood over. It also extended the interim order passed in favour of the companies earlier in respect of the notices issued by the CCI to them.

WhatsApp on July 9 last year had told the court that it will not be limiting the functionality of its messaging App in case a user does not consent to its latest privacy policy and will maintain the approach at least till the forthcoming data protection Bill comes into effect. The company also said that it will not compel users in India to accept the policy.

The CCI, last year, had come to a prima facie conclusion that the conduct of WhatsApp in "sharing of users' personalised data with other Facebook companies, in a manner that is neither fully transparent nor based on voluntary and specific user consent" appears unfair to the users.





## Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran

### Offers e-Auction of

#### Residential and Commercial Properties in Rohtak and Hisar Zones

**On 20th April, 2022**



Residential Properties in Rohtak Zone			Commercial Properties in Rohtak Zone			Commercial Properties in Hisar Zone			Residential Properties in Hisar Zone					
Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots			
1	4, Rohtak	13	1	3, Rohtak	5	1	11-AB (Phase-3), Hisar	8	1	4 (P-II), Hisar	5			
2	21-P, Rohtak	12	2	4, Rohtak	9	2	13-P, Hisar	2	2	5, Hisar	1			
3	25, Rohtak	9	3	5, Rohtak	29	3	14 (PKT-A), Hisar	15	3	9-11, Hisar	29			
4	27-28-26 (P-II), Rohtak	2	4	12, Bahadurgarh	4	4	Old Court, Hisar	2	4	16-17, Hisar	6			
5	13, Bahadurgarh	4	5	6, Panipat	13	5	15-AP, Hisar	1	5	33 (P-I), Hisar	15			
6	6, Jhajjar	7	6	12, Panipat	4	6	16-17, Hisar	20	6	6-II, Hansi	18			
7	9 (Part-A), Jhajjar	1	7	13, Panipat	11	7	UE-IISCI, Hisar	24	7	23, Bhiwani	5			
8	9 (Part-B), Jhajjar	3	8	25, Panipat	26	8	A-MKT, Hansi	12	8	19 (P-I), Sirsa	14			
9	6, Panipat	1	9	29, Panipat	16	9	13, Bhiwani	7	9	20 (P-III), Sirsa	20			
10	8, Panipat	2	10	7, Sonipat	14	10	23, Bhiwani	5	10	10, Jind	1			
11	12, Panipat	1	11	15-I, Sonipat	5	11	C Centre, Bhiwani	25	<div style="font-size: small;">           * The competent authority can withdraw any site from e-auction without any notice.            For any queries email us at <a href="mailto:eauctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com">eauctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com</a> </div>					
12	13, Panipat	5	12	23, Sonipat	7	12	19 (P-I), Sirsa	15						
13	17, Panipat	5	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>Loan Facility From Leading Banks</b>  <small>*Terms and Condition Applicable</small> </div>			13	20 (P-III), Sirsa	15						
14	18, Panipat	3				<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>Helpline Number: 8360516607 (9 AM to 5 PM), 1800-180-3030 (8AM TO 8 PM)</b> </div>								
15	24, Panipat	3	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>Registration will close one day before the scheduled date of e-Auction, at 5 pm.</b> </div>											
16	25 (P-II), Panipat	4	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>e-Auction Portal <a href="https://hsvphry.org.in">https://hsvphry.org.in</a> e-Auction will start at 10:00 AM</b> </div>											
17	7, Sonipat	5	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>EMD is calculated on base price, the first round of bidding will start from base price.</b> </div>						<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"> <b>Reserve Price are fixed by HSPV above base price and same will not be disclosed.</b> </div>					
18	12, Sonipat	3												
19	15 (I, II, III & IV), Sonipat	9	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; padding: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <div> <b>Chief Administrator</b>  <b>Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran</b>  <small>C-3, HSPV Complex, Sector 6, PanchNada 134 108, Haryana  <a href="https://hsvphry.org.in">hsvphry.org.in</a>   1800-180-3030   Hsvphry</small> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div> <b>The detailed information of the sites and terms &amp; conditions of e-auction will be available on</b>  <b><a href="https://hsvphry.org.in">https://hsvphry.org.in</a>.</b> </div> </div>											
20	23, Sonipat	3												



SC asks DGHS to correct anomalies in NEET-PG All India Quota counselling

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

TAKING NOTE of concerns by doctors who were allotted seats in the first two rounds of counselling for NEET-PG All India Quota (AIQ), that they were deprived of the opportunity to participate in the counselling for 146 additional seats as these were not made available during the initial rounds but were added to the pool only during the next mop-up round, and were being allotted to those lower in merit than them, the Supreme Court on Wednesday asked the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to "re-visit" this.

A bench presided by Justice D Y Chandrachud said, "The Union government has stated on affidavit that on February 25, 2022, and March 15, 2022, the DGHS received letters regarding the inclusion of new seats in some government medical colleges, as a consequence of which, 146 new seats became available for allocation in the mop-up round. As a consequence, students who were allotted seats in round 1 or round 2 did not have the opportunity to participate in the counselling for these seats. A decision was taken that the 146 new seats would be included in the mop-up round. As a consequence of this decision, these seats have been allocated to students lower in merit than those who were allotted seats in rounds 1 and 2 of counselling for the AIQ."

The SC also asked the DGHS to look into complaints that a notice issued by the Medical Counselling Committee on March 16 that barred candidates who had been allotted seats in rounds 1 and 2 of the state quota from participating in the mop-up round of the AIQ. Fixing the matter for hearing again on Thursday, the bench said, "Before this court decides upon the issue finally, an opportunity should be granted to the Union of India through the DGHS to set right the anomalies and to respond to the court at the earliest..."

Son of Bihar BJP leader dies after 'police beating', cops deny charges but register case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PATNA, MARCH 30

THIRTY FIVE-year-old son of a local BJP leader died at a hospital in Bihar's Bhojpur even as the family alleged that the man died due to police beating. Police, however, denied the allegation but registered a case against three unidentified policemen and a cook.

Rohit Singh alias Bablu Singh, son of BJP leader Pushpa Singh, died at Jagdishpur hospital in Bhojpur on Tuesday afternoon.

Bhojpur Superintendent of Police Vinay Tiwari told The Indian Express: "On the complaint of the deceased's mother, we lodged a case against three unidentified policemen and a private cook. We immediately started investigation after getting video footage that shows Bablu walking on his own to the hospital, which is also concurred by his mother. The hospital doctor said Bablu had been undergoing treatment for mental instability and drug-addiction complications. Though the hospital had referred the case on the morning of March 29, he could not be taken to another hospital".

Pushpa Singh, however, alleged that her son was beaten by policemen who live in a building near their house. "My son had arguments with some policemen and was beaten up by them. He later died during treatment at the hospital," she told reporters on Wednesday.

The SP said inquest showed no external injury. "We are waiting for postmortem report. His viscera has been preserved. A special investigation team is formed to look into the case. If the family identifies three policemen and postmortem establishes internal injury that could have been caused by beating, stern action would be taken against the accused", said the SP.

# Sariska Tiger Reserve not fire-prone, but burned despite early warnings

JAY MAZOOMDAAR NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE FIRE raging inside Sariska Tiger Reserve for around 72 hours was brought "mostly under control" by Wednesday afternoon. While the cause is still unknown, what remains a worry is the way the fire spread and destroyed around 10 sq km of forests despite timely satellite warnings and the availability of a real-time mobile application-based fire response system.

At six past two on Sunday afternoon, Rajasthan forest officers received two fire alerts on their mobile phones and emails from the Forest Survey of India (FSI), thanks to a NASA-ISRO-FSI collaboration on satellite data.

These were no routine alerts. Sariska Tiger Reserve is not prone to forest fires. In the last five years, Sariska received only three — one in 2018 and two in 2019 — satellite fire alerts. The two fire points flagged simultaneously at 2 pm on Sunday were 350 metres apart, and within an aerial distance of less than 1.5 km from the nearest forest chowki at Rotkala.

"The smoke should have alerted the field staff even before the fire grew big enough to be picked up by a satellite that alerted



Courtesy: Forest Survey of India

us at around 2 pm. Unfortunately, firefighting efforts began only in the late afternoon," said a forest official, on condition of anonymity.

Since May 2019, the Rajasthan forest department has been using an Android-based mobile application — Forest Management & Decision Support System — with a module for forest fire management. It allows field staff to respond to an alert and feed in real-time data on the severity of the fire, nature of management response, the extent of damage etc.

"Nobody used the API in Sariska. Instead, an impression was given on Sunday that the fire was under control. This allowed the fire to continue to spread on Monday and the windy conditions made things worse. The authori-

ties panicked by the afternoon and then an SOS went out for helicopters," said a senior forest official privy to the developments.

The two fire warnings on Sunday escalated to five on Monday and another six on Tuesday. The fire was moving south-east and, by early hours of Wednesday, travelled nearly 6 km.

DN Pandey, head of the Rajasthan forest force, said he was yet to receive reports on the "specific time" the fire was first attended to. "My officers are still inside the forest but I can tell you that the fire was tackled without delay. The use of the mobile application has also increased over time. What matters is timely action," he told *The Indian Express*.

In a press statement, Sariska

field director RN Meena said: "The fire is mostly under control. The major fire spots have been doused and it will be completely extinguished in the next few days. No wildlife or human casualties have been reported till now. A tigress living in the area was spotted yesterday with her cubs."

What probably saved Sariska was the fact that the fire began on a hilly slope and could move only "laterally or upward in a strip" — sparing the valley below. "Unlike high-altitude forests where burning logs roll down the slope, fire in a dry deciduous forest rarely moves downward since there is no heavy burning mass that can slide down," said an FSI official who did not want to be named. "But unlike the valleys of Sariska which are greener with higher moisture content, the hilly slopes are drier... So these areas burn easily. But, hopefully, the damage is not long-term..." he added.

After 15 fire alerts in less than 72 hours since Sunday, the latest satellite report at 1 pm on Wednesday showed no fire points. "The forest department... have to be on their toes and make the best use of available technologies and management tools. The next time the fire may not remain limited to high slopes," said conservationist Valmik Thapar.



Members of the fire-fighting team in Sariska. Deep Mukherjee

communicates the GPS coordinates of the fire affected areas to the pilots.

"Some of the men also suffered minor injuries while climbing the hills. We continued our efforts till 2 am..." said Gajendra Singh, a Border Home Guard from Jaisalmer.

Sariska Deputy Conservator of Forest Sudarshan Sharma said that 300 people including members of the forest guard, SDRF, civil defence, border home guards and local village residents are trying to douse the flames. "Eighty per cent of the fire... has been brought under control..." said DCF Sharma.

## Bees, smoke, steep climb: an uphill task to control fire

DEEP MUKHERJEE SARISKA (ALWAR), MARCH 30

DEEP INSIDE the Sariska Tiger Reserve, a group of exhausted men in fatigues lie resting on a line of mats inside an old temple.

Fresh on their minds are the events of the last few days — when they battled to control a fire that raged through 10 sq km of the reserve. "In many areas, the climb is so steep we have to hold on to branches, otherwise we would slip. Initially, the biggest problem we faced were bees, which came towards us trying to escape the

smoke. I got stung and the smoke made us almost suffocate," says forest guard Ravindra Kirad, who was taking a break before going off to another site to douse the fire.

At this temporary rest stop — base of operations at the Nahar Shakti Dham in the Akbarpur range, a core tiger habitat, reminders of the fire can be found close by.

Helicopters of the Indian Air Force make rounds overhead — their loud buzz distracting the rescue teams on the ground for a moment — as water is showered over the spots where the fire is still blazing. The forest department

communicates the GPS coordinates of the fire affected areas to the pilots.

"Some of the men also suffered minor injuries while climbing the hills. We continued our efforts till 2 am..." said Gajendra Singh, a Border Home Guard from Jaisalmer.

Sariska Deputy Conservator of Forest Sudarshan Sharma said that 300 people including members of the forest guard, SDRF, civil defence, border home guards and local village residents are trying to douse the flames. "Eighty per cent of the fire... has been brought under control..." said DCF Sharma.

## Have to study in entirety: Karnataka CM on online campaigns against halal

KIRAN PARASHAR BENGALURU, MARCH 30

IN THE backdrop of a growing online campaign against halal meat sold by Muslim traders in Karnataka, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday said that the issue has to be studied in entirety.

"It (halal issue) has just now started. We have to study in entirety, because it has nothing to do with any religion. It is a practice which is going on. Now, serious objections have been raised regarding it," he said.

When asked whether the issue can lead to disturbances, he said, "After all these incidents, the law and order in the state has remained intact. Various organisations will be doing their own campaigns, we know what to respond to and what not to. Where it is required, we will respond. We don't (respond), when it is not required."

A few right-wing groups in the state have given a call to boycott halal meat, ahead of "varshadodaku", the day after Ugadi



Karnataka, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai

when many communities in the state have a non-vegetarian feast.

Meanwhile, JD(S) leader and former chief minister HD Kumaraswamy hit out at the government for remaining silent over the issue. The state never witnessed such a divide between any religion and there was a harmonious relationship, he said. "People who eat non-vegetarian food in rural areas do not see whether it is halal meat or not. For all these years, it was not an issue and why has it cropped up now," he asked.

BJP national general secretary C T Ravi had Tuesday called halal food "economic jihad".

Meanwhile, various religious leaders met Udupi's Pejawar Math seer on Wednesday and requested to address the situation where Muslim traders are being targeted.

## PM speaks to Rajasthan CM, offers all help to douse blaze

ESHAROY NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Wednesday spoke to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and assured all help to control the fire in Alwar's Sariska Tiger Reserve, Union Environment Minister Bhopender Yadav said.

A massive fire spread over 8-10 square kilometres of the forest has raged in the tiger reserve over the last couple of days. "While the cause of the fire remains unknown, consistent high temperatures have worsened the situation. Sariska is known for tigers, but the fire poses a threat for the entire wildlife ecosystem and vegetation," said Sudarshan Sharma, Divisional Forest Officer, Alwar.

The IMD Wednesday said "heatwave to severe heatwave" conditions have been observed in most parts of Rajasthan, in many parts of Himachal Pradesh, in some parts of Haryana and Delhi, and heatwave conditions have been observed in parts of east Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and in isolated pockets of Uttar Pradesh and Jammu division. Over the past two days, Akola in Vidarbha, Churu in West Rajasthan and Pilani in East Rajasthan have recorded 43 degree Celsius temperatures.

Aarti Khosla, Director, Climate Trends, said the Sariska fire seems to be a case of extreme heat exacerbating the fire. "These temperatures are much ahead of any predicted seasonal heatwaves and speak of non-linear impacts of climate change. The India State of Forest Report-2021 claimed a 177% rise in the forest fire cases between November 2020 and June 2021 against the 2019-20 period," said Khosla.

## Karnataka: 7 invigilators suspended for allowing hijab in exam centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, MARCH 30

SEVEN TEACHERS were suspended in Gadag district of Karnataka for letting hijab-clad girls write the exam on Monday even as 22,063 absentees were recorded in the Class 10 state board exam on Wednesday.

Of the 8,68,206 students enrolled for the second language exam, 22,063 didn't turn up on Wednesday. In the first language exam on Monday, the absentees' number was 20,994.

Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Gadag district, GM Basavalingappa, said that seven

# Paper leak in UP Class XII Board exam, 17 held

Examination cancelled in 24 districts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, MARCH 30

THE CLASS XII English paper of the Uttar Pradesh Board examination was cancelled in 24 districts of the state on Wednesday after one out of the two sets of the question paper got leaked.

At least 17 people, including District Inspector of School (Ballia) Brijesh Mishra and a government school teacher, identified as Ajit Ojha, have been arrested.

The UP government has ordered a probe by the Special Task Force (STF) with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordering the police to invoke stringent National Security Act (NSA) against the accused.

"The English exam, which was set to begin at 2 pm during the second shift on Wednesday, has been cancelled over paper leak. The exam has been cancelled in 24 districts, where the leaked set of the question paper was distributed," a statement issued by UP Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad Director Vinay Kumar Pandey said, adding examinations will be held as per schedule in other districts.

The districts where the examination has been cancelled were Ballia,

Etah, Baghpat, Budaun, Sitapur, Kanpur Dehat, Lalitpur, Chitrakoot, Pratapgarh, Gonda, Azamgarh, Agra, Varanasi, Mainpuri, Mathura, Aligarh, Ghaziabad, Shamli, Shahjahanpur, Unnao, Jalaun, Mahoba, Ambedkarnagar and Gorakhpur.

"One out of two sets of the question paper was leaked. Therefore, the examination went on as per schedule in the remaining 51 districts of

the state," said an official. The examination in the 24 districts has now been rescheduled

to April 13, from 8 am to 11.15 am.

Following the cancellation of the exam, the government ordered the suspension of Ballia DIOS Brijesh Mishra.

"Varanasi's STF unit is carrying out the probe... Depending on the probe's findings, we may expand the investigation," Additional Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said.

A statement issued by Ballia police said that three cases have been lodged at three different police stations — Kotwali, Nagra and Sikandarpur in connection with the paper leak. The FIRs have been filed under IPC section 420 (cheating), and under UP Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 1998 and Information Technology Act, "police said.

On how the paper leak came to light, ADG Kumar said, "The district police chief and district magistrate of Ballia came to know that the paper was leaked. They then informed higher officials and action was taken," the ADG said.

A senior official in the UP Board said that the leaked question paper was also circulated on social media. "Once the paper was leaked, it was circulated to others through WhatsApp and other messaging applications," said the official.

The state Board has released helpline numbers and email addresses for students and parents. Students can write to [upboard-exam2022@gmail.com](mailto:upboard-exam2022@gmail.com), or can get in touch with officials on Facebook (Upboard Exam) and Twitter (@upboardexam2022) if they have any doubt, a senior official said.

This year, heavy security and elaborate preparations have been made to curb cheating and use of unfair means during the examinations that began last Thursday.

teachers were suspended after the electronic media highlighted the incident at CS Patil Girls High School. "The invigilators allowed headscarf in violation of the government orders. After some TV channels reported the incident, we suspended the teachers for violating the order," he said.

In Jevargi of Kalaburagi district, Sri Rama Sene filed a complaint against a Urdu teacher, Mohammed Ali, for allowing hijab at the examination centre. Ashok Bhajantri, Deputy Director of Public Instruction of Kalaburagi district, said, "A report has been filed by the Block Education Officer and I will look into it."

A source in the Education

Department said "they are being pressured by the media and right-wing groups to initiate action". "These members of right-wing organisations enter schools on the pretext of distributing free masks and then make videos if they come across students in hijab. The Jevargi incident is one such example."

Kalaburagi district reported the maximum number of absentees in the state. According to the data, of the 46,380 students enrolled, 2,401 remained absent on Wednesday.

Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board Director (exams) Gopalakrishna HN said there was no link in the absentees and hijab issue.

## Gujarat plans Bill to restrict movement of cattle in cities, towns

AVINASH NAIR & GOPAL KATESHIYA GANDHINAGAR, RAJKOT, MARCH 30

THE GUJARAT government plans to introduce "The Gujarat Cattle Control (Keeping and Moving) in Urban Areas Bill, 2022" in the ongoing session of the state legislature, entailing imprisonment up to a maximum of two years as punishment for those breaking the law, which aims to restrict movement of cattle in municipal corporation and municipality jurisdictions in the state. The Bill is slated to be tabled Thursday.

The maldharis (cattle-rearers) of Rajkot have opposed the proposed law and submitted memorandums to district collector saying that their occupation is "service to gaumata" and that such laws should be enacted only after maldharis have been provided with alternative facilities.

The proposed Bill by the urban development department not only aims to restrict the activities of keeping and movement of cattle in urban areas also

proposes to impose fines as high as Rs 5 lakh. It aims to keep a tab on "free-roaming" cattle that are a "serious menace" and threat to two-wheeler riders on city roads.

The proposed law that will licence, regulate and prohibit cattle movements, will be applicable to eight municipal corporations of Ahmedabad, Vadodra, Surat, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Jamnagar and Gandhinagar, and 162 municipality jurisdictions in the state. Once the law gets enforced, no person can keep cattle without a licence. This includes cows, buffaloes, goat, sheep, donkey, among others.

"We are aware that some accidents take place (due to cattle straying on city roads). But that can't be ground for punishing all the cows. The community that serves cows day and night depend on them for their livelihood," stated Kanaia Group, an organisation of maldharis in Bedipara area of the city, in their memorandum addressed to Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, submitted to Rajkot district collector on Wednesday.



NALINI RELEASE PLEA  
Has Governor forwarded Rajiv case convicts' files, HC asks Tamil Nadu govt

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

THE MADRAS High Court Wednesday asked Tamil Nadu to find out if the governor had forwarded to the President the files for the release of all seven Rajiv Gandhi assassination convicts — or only that of AG Perarivalan — with around four years having passed since the government recommendation.

Hearing a petition by one of the convicts, Nalini, the court sought clarity on the status of the individual files, which the then AIADMK government had sent to Raj Bhavan for the governor's nod in September 2018 after deciding to release all of them under Article 161 of the Constitution.

Nalini's counsel asked the court to declare the delay from the Governor "unconstitutional." The counsel argued that the Governor was committing contempt of Supreme Court orders every day by delaying a decision ever since the state government cabinet had decided to release all seven convicts who have served three

decades of punishment.

Nalini's petition cited an order by a constitution bench of the Supreme Court (Maru Ram vs Union of India, 1980) stating that the advice of the state government under Article 161 of the constitution binds the Head of the state. Citing four submissions filed by Nalini earlier, the counsel said her detention in prison with effect from September 10, 2018, "became unlawful and unjustified". The petition also said the Governor had not only violated SC orders but also "violated his oath or affirmation made and subscribed by him before entering upon his office."

In July 2020, responding to the long delay in the governor's decision, the HC said the Governor could not sit on the cabinet recommendation for so long. It issued a reminder that there is no time limit for the governor to decide on such issues only "because of the faith and trust attached to the constitutional post".

"If such authority fails to take a decision in a reasonable time, then the court will be constrained to interfere," it had said.

J&K ENCOUNTER  
'Journalist' among two killed, I-G says 'clear case of misuse of media'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MARCH 30

TWO LASHKAR-E-TOIBA (LeT) affiliated militants were killed in an overnight encounter in the Rainawari area of Srinagar, J&K Police said on Wednesday.

Police has identified the two as Rayees Ahmad Bhat and Hilal Ahmad Rah, both from Anantnag in South Kashmir.

Kashmir I-G, Vijay Kumar said that one of the deceased militants, Rayees Bhat, was carrying a media identity card indicating a "clear case of misuse of media". The photo on the identity card, purportedly found on the militant, identifies him as the Editor-in-Chief of an online news portal, 'Valley News Service', in Anantnag.

"It is pertinent to mention that Rayees Ahmad was earlier working as a journalist and was running online news portal 'Valley News Service' in Anantnag. He had joined terrorist ranks in year 2021 and was wanted by law in cases related to terror crime. He was also responsible for creating terror among the locals and had been



A woman looks at a damaged wall near the encounter site. PTI

coercing innocent citizens to sympathise with anti-national elements," a police statement said.

In August 2021, when Bhat went missing, his family had made appeals to the police as well as the general public for him to return home.

A person familiar with Bhat's work said on condition of anonymity that he "had no formal training in journalism but had started the website for information dissemination. The portal itself is not very prominent outside of the district."

Police said that incriminating materials, arms & ammunition

were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation.

I-G Kumar said that the militants "were planning to attack soft targets in Srinagar and timely action by Srinagar Police led to their elimination."

He added the number of terrorists operating in Kashmir Valley has seen a decline as "we are intensifying the operations to make the valley terror free."

Meanwhile, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated.

2 constables among 5 more J&K govt staffers sacked in interest of 'security of State'

BASHAARAT MASOOD  
SRINAGAR, MARCH 30

THE JAMMU and Kashmir administration on Wednesday terminated services of five more employees, deeming them as being purported "threat to the security of the State". The five include two policemen, a nursing orderly, a school teacher, and a computer operator.

They have been terminated under Section 311(2)(c) of the Constitution, which allows the government to terminate its employees without seeking an explanation from them, or ordering an inquiry into their conduct.

Over the last six months, the UT administration has terminated services of 33 government employees for purportedly being a threat to the security of the State. Among them, four come from Jammu division, and the others are from Kashmir Valley.

On Wednesday, the separate termination orders for the five were issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's order.

The terminated employees in-

Over the last 6 months, the UT administration has terminated services of 33 staffers

clude Shahid Hussain Rather, resident of Tangmarg in Baramulla district, and Tawseef Ahmad of Chakoora Pulwama in south Kashmir, both police constables; Sharfat Ali Khan, from Keran on the LoC in Kupwara, who worked as a nursing orderly; Arshid Ahmad Dass, resident of Brah Bandina in south Kashmir's Awantipora who was a school teacher; and Ghulam Hassan Paray of Lawaypora in Srinagar, who worked as a computer operator in the Revenue Department.

The five were terminated under Section 311(2) (c). While Article 311(2) says no government employee shall be dismissed or removed in rank except after an inquiry, sub-section (C) says that the clause will not apply where the President or the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that it is not expedient to hold such inquiry in the interest of the security of the State.

Panel approves procurement of 15 light combat helicopters

New Delhi: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the procurement of 15 indigenously developed Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) at a cost of Rs 3,887 crore.

The defence ministry said 10 helicopters will be for the Indian Air Force and five will be for the Indian Army.

"The CCS has approved procurement of 15 Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Limited Series Production at the cost of Rs 3,887 crore along with infrastructure sanctions worth Rs 377 crore," the defence ministry said.

"This helicopter is equipped with requisite agility, maneuverability, extended range, high altitude performance and around-the-clock, all-weather combat capability to perform roles of Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR), Destruction of Enemy Air Defence (DEAD), Counter Insurgency (CI) operations against slow moving aircraft and Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs)...and be a potent platform to meet the operational requirements of Indian Air Force & Indian Army," the ministry said. **ENS**



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# VOCAL FOR LOCAL



# Vocal for Local gains momentum

Leveraging PM Modi's clarion call, many industries and sectors have boosted local manufacturing and reduced their dependence on foreign manufacturers

INDIA HAS notched up a "momentous feat" of exports worth \$400 billion, a statistic that proves India's push on "Vocal for Local." Lauding the milestone in his monthly programme, *Mann Ki Baat*, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "This signifies India's capabilities and potential. It means that the demand for Indian goods is rising in the world. There was a time when the figure of exports from India used to be \$100 billion, at times \$150 billion, sometimes \$200 billion. It has now reached \$400 billion."

He said the success of small entrepreneurs was a matter of pride. "Many fruits and vegetables like Ladakh's apricot, Tamil Nadu's bananas and Himachal's millets are reaching the world. The list of 'Make in India' products is as huge as our potential and hard work of our farmers, manufacturers and industry," said the Prime Minister. He even cited how the GeM portal had changed India's product portfolio, illustrating the spirit of a New India. "Right from Bijapur's fruits and vegetables to the black rice from Chandoli, we are seeing exponential exports. The best part is that our exports are being supplied to new destinations like Denmark, South Korea, London, Kenya among other nations," he said.

Leveraging Prime Minister Modi's clarion call to go "Vocal for Local", many industries and sectors have boosted local manufacturing and reduced their dependence on foreign manufacturers, signalling a shift in the country's mindset. The momentum was seized by many sectors, particularly healthcare. Serum Institute of India's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, developed with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), are homegrown vaccines that vindicate Modi's clarion call and are a testimony to our innovative and scientific temper. In fact, with healthcare products being one of the most commonly targeted industry for counterfeiters,



going local has become a potent tool in India's fight against illicit trade in this sector. India's personal protective equipment (PPE) sector, grew from zero before March 2020 to 4,50,000 pieces a day by the beginning of July 2020. In three months, the PPE industry in India had become worth US\$1.4 billion, the second largest after China.

In July 2020, India's own "Made in India" 5G network was announced by Reliance Jio to be powered by indigenous-developed networks, hardware and

technology components. And to curb a high defence import bill and spur indigenisation of defence production, the Ministry of Defence announced the import embargo on 101 defence equipment in August 2020, leading to a massive push for Atmanirbhar Bharat.

For the first time, we are all set to be self-reliant in fertiliser production by 2023 as new fertiliser manufacturing units are being set up with an investment of Rs 40,000 crore to reduce dependency on imports. In one of his Mann Ki Baat programmes last year, Modi urged start-ups to develop indigenous apps to replace the ones that are in vogue today and are controlled by foreign companies, reiterating his commitment to Atmanirbhar Bharat.

He also urged start-ups and entrepreneurs to develop innovative toys and games to meet local demand and to explore opportunities in the global toy industry, estimated at around Rs 7 lakh crore.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry came out with a quality control order for the sector to stop flow of cheap sub-standard toys into the domestic market. The Government's efforts to indigenise the food industry have promoted local produce, helped standardise quality codes while completely filtering out lower-graded ingredients.

Even during the festive season, the people's endorsement of the "Vocal for Local" initiative was very enthusiastic as they moved away from buying Chinese products. This consequently led to our local business community manufacturing festival-related products, such as fancy lights, home decoration goods, kitchenware, appliances, furnishing, garments and apparel. This generated good domestic sales volumes. Besides, the Government has enabled several design and research centres to help our traditional craftspeople hone their skills, contemporise their designs and ensure quality upgrades for the international market. Clearly, "local" is getting "truly global."

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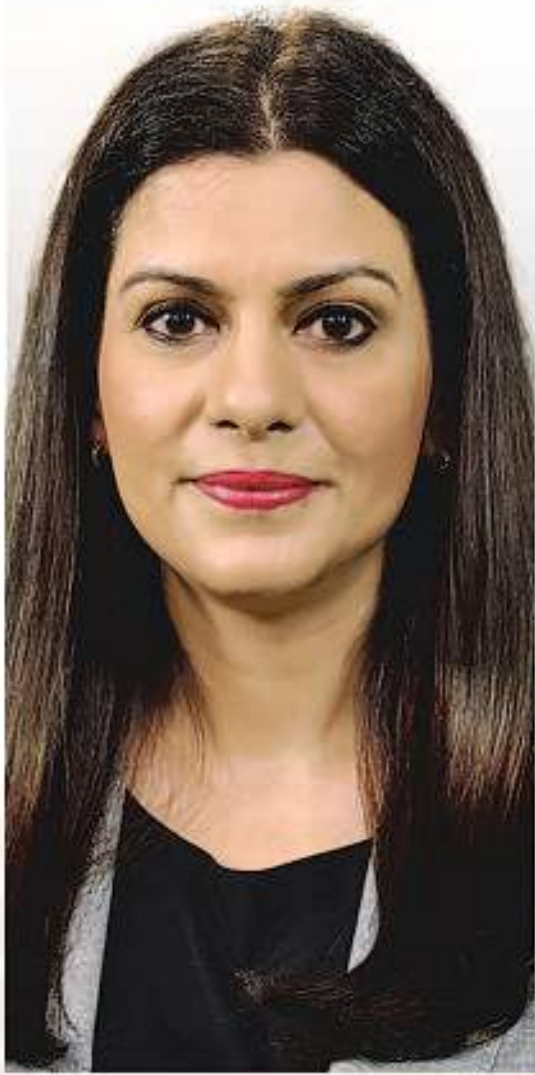
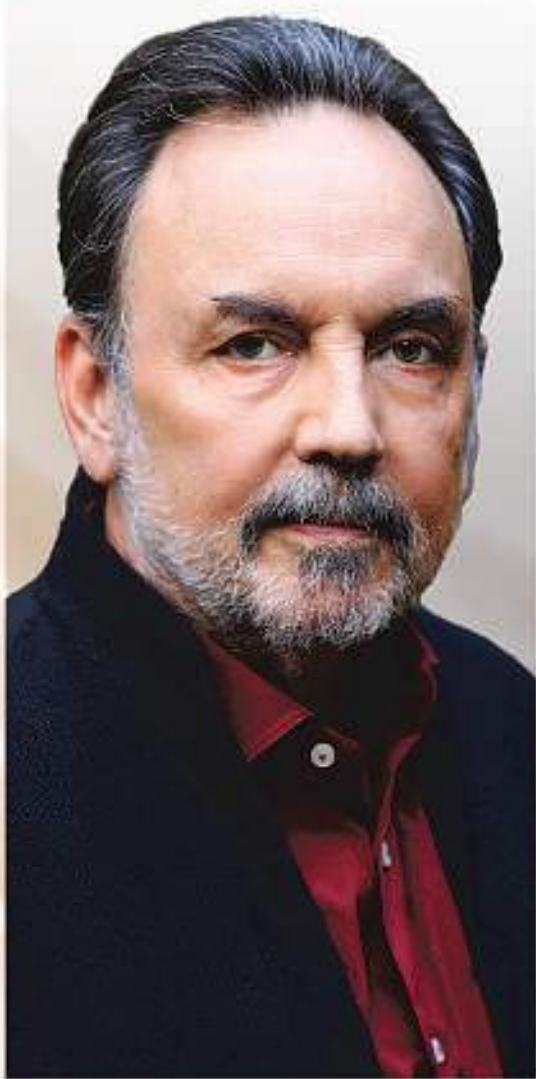


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SIX DOWN

First steps to solve Assam-Meghalaya border dispute are welcome. The bigger contestations remain

THE ASSAM AND Meghalaya governments have made an impressive beginning towards resolving a border dispute that has festered for 50 years now. The chief ministers of the two states have signed an agreement to settle six of the 12 contested spots on the 884-km border they share. True, the six other points of contestation are expected to involve longer and more complex negotiations. But that only highlights the pragmatism in not letting the perfect become the enemy of the good. The pact is a result of sustained talks and follow-up action between the two governments since last year, with the prodding of the Centre. It also suggests that both Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma and Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma, whose NPP is also an NDA partner in the state, have staked political capital in disentangling this knot. That's a striking — and refreshing — contrast from the situation in last July, when violence on the Assam-Mizoram border led to the death of six police personnel and descended into unseemly grandstanding by two CMs, both unwilling to yield an inch.

The many border disputes in the region are a function of history. While colonial Assam was a large lumbering landmass, administered to serve British revenue interests, several states were carved out from it after independence — as smaller tribes and local communities remained apprehensive about their interests going unrepresented in a vast political unit. Indeed, the map-making of the colonial-era ended up drawing random, arbitrary lines, leading to fault lines between communities that have only widened over time. Unfortunately, they also left a mark on the political boundaries that were drawn post-1947. As a result, nearly every state in the region has a disputed border with Assam. Land is a fraught issue in the Northeast, and often pits state against state in bitter disputes — the demand for a Greater Nagalim, for instance. Smaller states, especially, have remained anxious about not ceding territory. The contentions over the demarcation of Assam's border with Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram are more numerous and more intractable. While Assam has initiated conversations with them, they remain at a very preliminary stage.

The gains made in Assam-Meghalaya, therefore, are significant. They offer a roadmap to the other states, have the potential of bringing down the temperature, and denting the Northeast's image of a region of innumerable conflicts. That can only work to the region's advantage in inviting investment and pushing for an infrastructure boost. For both Sarma and Sangma, however, the test will be to sell the agreement to their respective domestic constituencies, and ensure that the residents on the border villages are not alienated in the process. While this is a good beginning, neither the Centre nor the leaders of the region must underestimate the task that lies ahead.

RESOLVING STRESS

IL&FS resolution needs to be examined carefully — it offers learnings for increasing effectiveness of process

IN 2018, THE collapse of IL&FS had triggered a panic in financial markets. With liquidity drying up, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), in particular, came under acute financial stress. Subsequently, the government constituted a new board, with Uday Kotak appointed as non-executive chairman, to manage the affairs of the beleaguered infrastructure behemoth. Now, almost three and a half years later, the process has successfully addressed the resolution of Rs 55,000 crore of the group's debt. Resolution of another Rs 6,000 crore of debt is expected to be finalised in the coming financial year. Considering that the group's total debt was just shy of Rs 1 lakh crore, this translates to a recovery rate that is higher than that observed under the IBC — at the end of December 2021, under IBC proceedings, financial creditors had realised only 33 per cent of their claims in cases where a resolution plan had been approved. However, as Kotak has pointed out, there are several learnings from this process.

For one, the process has been extremely time consuming. While some of it could be attributed to the pandemic, such delays in the resolution process, at times due to errant promoters trying to hold on to their firms by exploiting legal loopholes, can be observed even under the IBC. Data from the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India shows that as of March 2021, it took, on average, 465 days from the date of insolvency commencement to the approval of the resolution plan, while, at the end of December 2021, 73 per cent of the ongoing cases had exceeded 270 days. Though this represents an improvement over the timelines observed under the earlier framework, the process must be swift. The longer the delays in resolving a stressed entity, greater is the value erosion. Then there is also the issue of adherence to contracts. As Kotak has pointed out, "sovereign governments, particularly state governments, need to respect contracts." There are several examples of disregard for agreements. For instance, the Andhra Pradesh government has tried to renegotiate tariffs under power purchase agreements signed by the previous government.

Then there is the resolution process at the corporate group level. Considering the number of subsidiaries, the cross liabilities, the holdings structure, this can be a complicated process. While substantive consolidation can be considered — this involves merging all assets and liabilities of individual companies — this framework can also suffer from drawbacks. These issues must be addressed. Separately, the government should usher in a resolution framework to deal with the insolvency of financial firms.

NOT SO SMART

A hi-tech Tomorrowland may not be as alluring as it is made out to be

YOU CAN SEE it in the movies: A bright and shiny future, in which shops and hospitals are run by robots, closets automatically dry clean clothes and refrigerators notify when food items are about to expire. But Tomorrowland is no longer just a celluloid fantasy. In the Delta Eco Smart Village in Busan, South Korea, 54 households are part of an experiment to conceive and build a "smart city" that could serve as a model for similar projects elsewhere. The price for living in the world of the future? Oh, just some data you won't even miss about how you eat, sleep, consume and generally live. The 3D-printed cherry on top: No rent for two, maybe even three, years.

No doubt the allure of living an efficient, rent-free life in a smart technology-powered house is irresistible. It's bad enough that residents of most urban sprawls around the world have to pay with their bank accounts and their health to live in box-like rooms, breathe tainted air and crawl from one weekend to the next. To not have to worry about everyday niggles like buying groceries, replacing busted light bulbs, folding laundry and emptying out the bin is a dream.

But the movies have also served up a warning about such a future: An impossible dream, like in the *Matrix* series, or dystopia in a pretty package, a la *Wall-E*, where human beings have evolved closer and closer to vegetables in behaviour, if not likeness (and don't even get started on the privacy nightmare of data replacing money as currency.) Why should anyone even want to delegate the business of living to technology, no matter how smart it is? Life is, after all, the accretion of daily experiences — from the annoying I-forgot-to-buy-milk to the sublime I-found-love-at-the-dry-cleaners. For those who want to live a full life, to be fenced off from these, even by the smartest technology, would not be a smart thing to do.



RADHA KUMAR

THE INDIAN MEDIA, especially op-ed writers, have been surprisingly quiet on the planned visit of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. Less surprisingly, the ministry of external affairs has been equally quiet. Yet, a visit by Russia's top diplomat at a time when the country is at war is surely worthy of comment and more, serious questions.

What will Foreign Minister S Jaishankar discuss with Lavrov? According to the little information that is trickling out, the war on Ukraine is not the only issue on the agenda. Apparently, it includes Indian defence purchases as well as revitalising the rupee-rouble account.

To discuss arms purchases from a country while it bombs civilians and infrastructure in another country is surely a violation of even the low bottom line our leadership seems to have set. After prolonged silence, the Modi administration inched towards asserting support for sovereignty, territorial integrity and an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine. These principles, then, should top Jaishankar's agenda with Lavrov.

As I write, Russia-Ukraine talks have resumed in Istanbul. There have been some breakthroughs, but the chasms remain vast. Russian troops have halted their advance on Kiev and Chernihiv and the defence ministry has announced that it will "radically reduce" military activity around those two cities as a "confidence-building measure". There is progress on a treaty between the two countries covering all points of dispute, that will include international guarantors.

However, these are only very preliminary breakthroughs. Though Ukraine had given up its nuclear arsenal in return for security guarantees in 1995, Russia was able to annex Crimea in 2014 and launch its current assault. This time, Ukraine wants legally binding guarantees under the Vienna treaty, and for guarantors to include NATO members. Russia may have reconfigured its war aims to the "liberation" of the Donbas region, but that still entails prolonging the war. The talks process will take time and in the meantime Ukrainian civilians and troops on both sides continue to die.

It is in this context that Lavrov is visiting

As Russia's top diplomat comes to Delhi, there are many talking points, some tough questions

India. Quiet whispers have been doing the rounds that India can play the role of a mediator, but does the Modi administration have the political will to do so? Stressing a return to diplomacy is redundant when negotiations are already taking place. Urging a temporary ceasefire will certainly serve the immediate purposes of evacuation, especially from areas such as Mariupol, and the provision of sorely needed humanitarian aid. But it will also allow troops to regroup and re-provision, and may well prolong the war further.

For a time-bound ceasefire to be meaningful, it needs to be in force for the duration of negotiations. Our political and military strategists, including those in the Opposition, know well that no sustainable peace can be arrived at while one side tries to militarily force the other to acquiesce in its goals. That should surely be the first point for Jaishankar to delicately convey to Lavrov, along with a clear if equally delicate message that India cannot negotiate defence purchases until Putin ends his war.

This suggestion is not as outrageous as it sounds. The Russian Defence Ministry's declaration that the country has achieved a major war aim, to degrade the Ukrainian military, indicates Russia is looking for face-saving ways to de-escalate. If so, Putin could accept President Volodymyr Zelensky's offers to relinquish the aim of joining NATO, agree to Ukrainian neutrality and negotiate a resolution to the annexation of Crimea over a 15-year period. These are, of course, broad-brush offers; the devil will lie in the details. But they give President Putin the opportunity to announce a full ceasefire while claiming that other war aims have been, or are being, achieved through negotiation.

That is a point that Jaishankar can put to Lavrov, who is presumably well aware that the sooner this war ends, the better it will be for Russia. Will Putin listen? Highly unlikely. But that should not prevent us from discussing these or other suggestions. Successive Indian administrations have made it clear that India has no interest in isolating Russia, as has the Modi administration, and that should be a sufficient sugar-coat. If Putin chooses to ignore Zelensky's concessions, it

will be clear that his irredentist ambitions supersede the interests of his people, allies or friends.

Critics will immediately argue, incontrovertibly, that what I suggest will leave our army severely strapped. But it could equally well be argued that making arms purchases conditional on ending the war might add pressure without prejudicing the army's need. After all, Russia is not doing us any favours by selling us arms. If a promise to follow through on existing purchase agreements helps bring about a full ceasefire, then it is worth considering. Otherwise it is not.

As Putin's war has progressed, a number of tired not-so-true truisms have been dredged up about what a reliable defence partner Russia is. But dependability has been in short supply since Putin came to power. His administration has delayed deliveries, ratcheted up prices and excluded India from areas of key security concern, such as Afghanistan under the Taliban and access to central Asia. It has chosen China over India on every issue.

This is a rare moment of confluence for India's moral and strategic interests. With all eyes on it, China will not pursue its salami-slicing along our borders for a while. That gives us a little breathing space to diversify arms supplies. Which will better spur India's military modernisation: Continued dependence on Russian weaponry or strengthening security partnerships through the Quad and perhaps Europe? Our air force has already indicated preference for Rafale over MiG. Our navy has pioneered diversification, with lessons for our army. Are we really prepared to let extremely short-term interests narrow our military options? Can we possibly believe that our Quad partners or Europe will be as open to our needs as they might be, if we buy from a Russia that violates every rule of international law, not to mention our own principles?

There is a longer-term issue that should concern us too. Russia's adventurism could well revive old Cold War estrangements that we only recently stepped out of. But that is a subject for another article.

Radha Kumar is a writer and policy analyst



HARINDER HAPPY

INDIA'S APEX COURT, despite repeated requests from the Supreme Court Committee (SCC) on the contentious farm laws, did not make the latter's report public. This led committee member Anil Ghanwat to release the report earlier this month. This SCC was constituted when the farmers' protest was at its peak. The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) — an umbrella body of the protesting farm unions — had feared that the SCC could be an attempt to dilute the protest.

Some SCC members had already made comments in favour of the farm laws. They continued to remain vocal in their support and discredited the farmers' protests even while the committee was functioning. The report, in effect, is in line with those opinions as it suggested that the farm laws should not be repealed. It also recommended the government should not be concerned about the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Since the SKM had distanced itself from any kind of engagement with the SCC, the latter interacted only with farm unions that were either supporting the laws or wanted minor amendments. The committee gathered feedback on its portal and via email after a public announcement — this included a majority of non-farmers — and finally included the opinion of its members as "evidence-based analysis".

While analysing the responses, the SSC concluded that around 85.7 per cent of farmers' organisations are happy with the farm laws. The SSC report itself says it sent an invi-

THROUGH A COLOURED LENS

Supreme Court Committee on farm laws used dubious methodology, selective data

tation to 266 farmers' organisations, and only 73 responded to it, and 61 of these supported the laws. The fact is that more than 371 protesting farmers' organisations, led by the SKM, had boycotted this committee. This committee did not try to meet protesting farmers at any of the protest sites whereas, in the case of the Shaheen Bagh protest, the then Supreme Court-appointed committee members made multiple visits to protest sites. The SCC met only the farm unions that did not have any grievances. In the report's annexures, the committee has given details of the people engaged but it does not mention the names of the farm unions, or the leaders involved.

The committee did not reveal who it interacted with within Punjab, which has one of the finest APMC systems and procures much of its agricultural produce at MSP. Surprisingly, APMC boards and private markets of at least 10 states were engaged in the committee whereas the APMC board of Punjab was kept out. This shows the committee did not want to include the merits of MSP and APMCs in the report.

The SCC received 19,027 responses to its online questionnaire. Who are these respondents? Is this category of farmers a homogeneous group or was there any variation in landholding size, access to markets, cropping pattern, stratification based on caste, gender and age or in terms of so-called "rich or poor" farmers? Also, the reports stated that only 5,451 of these respondents were farmers and the remaining 12,496 were non-farmers.

committee does not specify who these other stakeholders are. Were agricultural labourers, agricultural labour unions and their leaders engaged by this committee?

The SCC claims to have received 1,520 emails. Again, who were the respondents? Had the committee issued any particular draft in which email suggestions were sought? Finally, in the name of "evidence-based analysis", these members have put their own opinions in this important report. The task of this committee was "listening to the grievances of the farmers relating to the farm laws and the views of the government and make recommendations". This was not done.

If not joining the committee's processes on the farm laws is wrong, then how correct is it to release a sealed report in the public domain, that too months after the repeal of the laws? Why this eagerness in releasing the report when the Supreme Court itself didn't make it public? It is worth mentioning another committee, which was accepted by the farmers and the SKM. This is the committee on MSP and other agriculture issues promised by the Government of India in its agreement with the SKM to end the protest on December 9, 2021. In over three months, there have been no developments in this regard. The sad culture of "committees" continues even in "Amrit Kal" and "New India".

The writer is a PhD scholar at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and is associated with the Samyukta Kisan Morcha

MARCH 31, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

MANEKA OUSTED

INDIRA GANDHI PERSONALLY asked Maneka Gandhi to "get out" of 1 Safdarjung Road immediately after Monday's elections to the Rajya Sabha were over around 2 pm. Sanjay Gandhi's widow told this newspaper. Maneka Gandhi said that the PM called her to her outer office and in the presence of several persons asked her to leave. She said she begged for two days' time to quit as she had no house to go to and her son Varun was running a fever. But Mrs Gandhi was adamant, she said. She said her unceremonious dismissal from the house she came to as a bride more than seven years ago had taken her completely by surprise.

STILL A GANDHI

"I AM STILL a Gandhi," declared Maneka Gandhi after she was thrown out of Mrs Indira Gandhi's house. Looking remarkably composed in a white Bengali sari, the 26-year-old widow of Mrs Gandhi's favourite son, Sanjay, said: "I am their *bahu* and I consider myself part of the Gandhi family. If my mother-in-law does not want me in the house, she has every right to throw me out. But I feel I have been unfairly thrown out." Maneka said she would return to 1 Safdarjung Road if Mrs Gandhi asked her back without conditions. "I have been told that I will not be allowed to meet anybody

including my relatives if I want to live with them. Ever since Sanjay died, my mail has been censored, my telephone tapped," she claimed.

BENGAL POLLS ON

THE SUPREME COURT on Tuesday dismissed the writ petitions filed by the Congress-I and allies against the publication of electoral rolls in West Bengal and criticised the Calcutta High Court for passing orders that "brought to a standstill the entire election process" in the state. The five-judge Constitution Bench, by a unanimous order, set aside all orders which stood in the way of the election process.









Mark Vande Hei after landing on Wednesday in Kazakhstan. *Reuters*

## US AND RUSSIAN ASTRONAUTS RETURN TO EARTH TOGETHER

A NASA astronaut returned to Earth on Wednesday with two Russian counterparts, emerging in a world where cooperation between Russia and the US to preserve the safety of astronauts and the International Space Station can no longer be taken for granted. Mark Vande Hei, the NASA astronaut, who spent 355 days in space, and his Russian crewmates, Anton Shkaplerov and Pyotr Dubrov, flew home together in a Russian spacecraft, guided by Russian flight controllers that landed in Kazakhstan. **NYT**

## POLAND TO END OIL IMPORTS; GERMANY WARNS ON GAS

*Warsaw:* Poland announced steps Wednesday to end all Russian oil imports by year's end, while Germany issued a warning about natural gas levels and called on people to conserve. Poland has taken the lead in the EU on swiftly cutting off Russian fossil fuels. "We are presenting the most radical plan in Europe for departing from Russian oil by the end of this year," Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki said. Germany has signed deals with several suppliers of LNG. Officials say they aim to end the use of Russian oil and coal this year and natural gas by mid-2024. **AP**

# Talks pragmatic, Zelenskyy-Putin meet likely soon: Ukraine negotiator



KRISHN KAUSHIK  
KRAKOV, MARCH 30

The key component of discussions between Russia and Ukraine in Istanbul was a multi-lateral security agreement backed by other countries as guarantors. However, Ukrainian officials said on Wednesday that there has not been any abatement of assault by Russian forces either in Kyiv or Chernihiv, as Russia had announced, and the trust deficit still remains.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in his daily statement on Tuesday evening, after the negotiations, that the "signals we hear from the negotiating platform can be called positive" but, he said, "these signals do not drown out the ruptures of Russian shells".

"Of course, we see all the risks. Of course, we see no reason to trust the words of certain representatives of a state that continues to fight for our destruction. Ukrainians are not naive people. Ukrainians have already learned during these 34 days of invasion and over the past eight years of the war in Donbass that only a concrete result can be trusted."

Speaking to journalists through a video link on Wednesday Mykhailo Podoliak, President's adviser and member of Ukraine's negotiating team, said through a translator, "We have not seen any abatement of fighting. We have seen the same assaults launched on our city. There are some minor manoeuvres, but they aren't common. Second, these could be tactical moves by units adjusting to regroup from other directions which has been denied to them



A building damaged by shelling on the outskirts of Mariupol on Tuesday. *AP*

as we have powerful defences."

They are willing to redeploy their troops to Donetsk, Luhansk and Mariupol, which are of great importance to them, since they are running short of reserves, they could regroup their forces, Podolik said.

He said if the assault is reduced, as Russian negotiators said, "we will consider that Russia, by making this decision, is making a step towards us and a step towards peace, towards ceasefire and withdrawal of troops from the territory of Ukraine".

Officials from Kyiv satellite city Irpin, and Chernihiv, also stated that there is no relief from the constant shelling and attacks from Russian troops.

Discussing the negotiations in

Turkey, Podolik said that "the key takeaways are that we have begun to talk pragmatically. There is a lot of discussions we have been fighting for 34 days, against a powerful Russian Army".

"We are talking constructively now, and it will not be fantasies but specific security guarantees, agreement made with countries that will take international legal obligations. And if a country attempts to attack us, we will also have clear protection in place. It is important that if we sign the international multilateral treat about security guarantee for Ukraine. It will also have its Army and security guarantees with allies standing with Ukraine, powerful armies with nuclear deterrent."

## Painting of Tipu Sultan victory over British sold

ADITI KHANNA  
LONDON, MARCH 30

A VIVIDLY illustrated painting depicting a historic victory of Mysore ruler Haider Ali and his son Tipu Sultan over the East India Company in 1780 went under the hammer in London on Wednesday for whopping 630,000 pounds.

"The Battle of Pollilur", which took place on September 10, 1780 as part of Second Anglo-Mysore War, was the centrepiece of the Arts of the Islamic World and India sale at Sotheby's auction house.

As a visual record of the battle and to commemorate his victory, Tipu Sultan had commissioned a painting of the Battle of Pollilur as part of a large mural for the newly built Daria Daulat Bagh in Seringapatam in 1784.

"What this painting has is the terror and anarchy and violence of battle. It's arguably the greatest Indian picture of the defeat of colonialism that survives. It's unique and fantastic artwork," said Sotheby's expert William Dalrymple, author of 'The Anarchy: The Relentless Rise of the East India Company'. **PTI**

same venue of the so-called Extended Troika: the China, Russia and the US plus Pakistan, a US State Department spokesperson said. That meeting does not include Lavrov and Wang.

The talks come against the backdrop of Russia's invasion and as Afghanistan suffers an economic and humanitarian crisis worsened by a financial aid cutoff following the Taliban takeover.

# China hosts Russia, US officials for talks on Afghanistan

AGENCIES  
BEIJING, MARCH 30

CHINESE FOREIGN Minister Wang Yi met his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov on Wednesday in the eastern Chinese province of Anhui, where China was set to host two days of meetings on Afghanistan, state broadcaster CGTN reported.

Lavrov had arrived earlier in China for talks hosted by Wang that were set to include representatives from Afghanistan's ruling Taliban as well as Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. "There is no ceiling for China-Russia cooperation, no ceiling for us to strive for peace, no ceiling for us to safeguard security and no ceiling for us to oppose hegemony," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing when asked to describe the limits of China-Russia relations.

Tom West, the US special representative for Afghanistan, will attend a separate meeting at the

these are some of the slogans and questions being raised by the teachers, principals and students of girls' schools, and women activists, protesting in Kabul against the rule barring schooling for girl students Class 6 onwards.

The fear of returning to a dark past is one reason. The other is the realisation that six months into the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, the world's attention has moved onto other issues and wars. As per some estimates, around 3 million girls in Classes 7 to 12 are out of school in the country.

"They are restricting schooling for girls because they know that once they do this, universities and colleges will empty on

their own in coming years," says Tamana Formuly, a science teacher at the Shams-ul-Huda

High School, which has seen 700 of its 1,000 girls barred. But this time, it's different, Formuly tells *The Indian Express*. "The fear of death is gone now. These protests won't stop till schools for girls are reopened."

Teachers like Formuly, some of whom have come under Taliban glare for their activism, are stunned at the ease with which the Taliban have stopped education for girls, the same as during their first stint in power nearly two decades ago, right under the noses of the United Nations and global leaders. "Despite all the promises made



A protest by teachers in Kabul. *Express*

by the Taliban to the world, even girls in big cities like Kabul and

Herat are being deprived of education," Formuly says.



## EDGING CLOSE TO SUPREME COURT SEAT, US JUDGE JACKSON WINS GOP VOTE

Maine Sen. Susan Collins said Wednesday she will vote to confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, giving Democrats at least one Republican vote and all but assuring that Jackson will become the first Black woman on the Supreme Court. Collins met with Jackson a second time after four days of hearings last week and said Wednesday that "she possesses the experience, qualifications, and integrity to serve as an associate justice on the SC".

## 4 MILLION FLEE UKRAINE, U.N. AGENCY

# Russia plays down talks, keeps up attack

## Strikes seen where Moscow vowed to ease combat

NEBI QENA & YURAS KARMANAU  
KYIV, MARCH 30

RUSSIAN FORCES bombarded areas around Kyiv and another city just hours after pledging to scale back military operations in those places to help negotiations along, Ukrainian authorities said on Wednesday.

The shelling — and intensified Russian attacks on other parts of the country — tempered optimism about any progress in the talks aimed at ending the punishing war.

The Russian military's announcement Tuesday that it would de-escalate near Kyiv and Chernihiv to "increase mutual trust" was met with suspicion from Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the West.

Soon after, Ukrainian officials reported that Russian shelling hit homes, stores, libraries and other civilian sites in and around Chernihiv and on the outskirts of Kyiv. Russian troops also stepped up their attacks around the eastern city of Izlyum and the eastern Donetsk region, after redeploying some units from other areas, the Ukrainian side said.

Olexander Lomako, secretary of the Chernihiv city council, said the Russian announcement turned out to be "a complete lie."

Five weeks into the invasion that has left thousands dead on both sides, the number of Ukrainians fleeing the country topped a staggering 4 million, half of them children, according to the United Nations.

Vladimir Medinsky, head of the Russian delegation, said Ukraine's readiness to consider

## BIDEN'S POINT PERSON ON RUSSIAN SANCTIONS TO VISIT INDIA

*Washington:* Top Indian-American US advisor and a key architect of Washington's punitive economic sanctions against Moscow, Daleep Singh, will visit India on Wednesday and Thursday to discuss the "consequences" of Russia's "unjustified war" against Ukraine and the development of an Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, the White House has announced. "Singh will consult with counterparts on the consequences of Russia's unjustified war and mitigating its impact on the global economy," said Emily Horne, spokesperson, National Security Council of the White House. **PTI**

neutral status would meet a key Russian demand.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov sounded a positive note as well but added, "We can't say there has been something promising or any breakthroughs."

After the Kremlin's announcement that it would scale back some of its military operations, Zelenskyy reacted by saying that when dealing with the Russians, "you can trust only concrete results." The skepticism appeared well-founded on Wednesday.

Oleksandr Pavliuk, head of the Kyiv region military administration, said Russian shells targeted residential areas and civilian infrastructure in the Bucha, Brovary and Vyshhorod regions around the capital. **AP**

## UK to withdraw judges from Hong Kong top court

*London:* Britain is withdrawing its judges from Hong Kong's top court, with the government saying Wednesday that remaining would "legitimise oppression". British judges have sat on the court since the former British colony was returned to China in 1997. A national security law was imposed on Hong Kong in 2020, prompting complaints that Beijing was eroding the autonomy that had been promised when the former British colony returned to China in 1997.

Pro-democracy figures have been imprisoned. They include Jimmy Lai, the 74-year-old former publisher of the Apple Daily newspaper, which shut down under government pressure, and organisers of candlelight memorials of the party's deadly 1989 crackdown on a pro-democracy movement.

The government said it was "no longer tenable for serving UK judges" to sit on the Court of Final Appeal because of the increasingly oppressive laws enacted by China. **AP**



People wait to get tested for Covid-19 outside a hospital in Shanghai on Wednesday. *Reuters*

# Shanghai expands Covid lockdown as new daily cases surge by a third

REUTERS  
SHANGHAI, MARCH 30

AUTHORITIES BEGAN locking down some western areas of Shanghai two days ahead of schedule, as new Covid-19 cases in China's most populous city jumped by a third despite stringent measures already in place to try to stop the virus spreading.

While residents in the east have been locked down since Monday, those in the west were previously scheduled to start their

four-day lockdown on Friday.

On Wednesday Shanghai reported a record 5,656 asymptomatic Covid cases and 326 symptomatic cases for March 29, up from 4,381 new asymptomatic cases and 96 new cases with symptoms for the prior day. China reclassifies asymptomatic cases if and when they later develop symptoms.

Shanghai authorities told a press conference on Wednesday that since the lockdown began on Monday they had conducted 9.1 million nucleic acid tests.

## AS PER ESTIMATES, AROUND 3 MILLION GIRLS IN CLASSES 7 TO 12 ARE OUT OF SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY

# ‘Protests against Taliban won’t stop till schools for girls reopened’

DIVYA GOYAL GOPAL  
LUDHIANA, MARCH 30

LAST WEEK the Taliban went back on their most-concrete promise yet to reopen high schools for girls, leaving many who turned up for class, only to be turned back, in tears. This time though the students have not retreated behind the doors of their homes as the government intended; many are out on the streets.

"You took my holy land, now don't take away my pen", "What is my crime that I should be denied education?", "No government is stable without the support of women", "If my sister can't go to school, neither will I..." —

UK

## Lawmaker comes out as first transgender MP

*London:* A lawmaker in Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party said on Wednesday he planned to change his gender identity to become Britain's first openly transgender member of parliament. Jamie Wallis, 37, who represents an area in Wales, said in a statement he was diagnosed with gender dysphoria and has "felt this way" since he was a child. **REUTERS**



INVOLVES 2.5 MN CREDIT CARDS, ₹50,200 CR DEPOSITS, ₹1.1 LAKH CR WEALTH BIZ

# Axis Bank acquires Citibank’s India consumer business for ₹12,325 cr

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, MARCH 30

IN A significant acquisition in the Indian banking sector, Axis Bank has acquired Citibank’s consumer businesses for Rs 12,325 crore.

The transaction comprises the sale of the consumer businesses of Citibank India, which includes credit cards, deposits and loans businesses in retail banking, wealth management and consumer loans. The deal also includes the sale of Citicorp Finance (India) Ltd, comprising the asset-backed financing business, which includes commercial vehicle and construction equipment loans as well as the personal loans portfolio.

Axis Bank will acquire 3 million customers of Citibank India to enhance the former’s presence in the key identified growth segments. Its cards balance sheet will grow by 57 per cent, with an additional 2.5 million Citibank cards, making it one of the top 3 cards businesses in the country.

The deal will add Rs 1,10,900-

## Axis set to get Citi’s 1.2 mn retail customers

*Mumbai:* With the mega acquisition of Citibank’s consumer business, Axis Bank will get high net-worth clients and bank accounts of the US bank’s Indian business, with the Citibank’s credit card programme making a valuable proposition in the entire M&A. Citibank said it will continue its presence in India through the institutional businesses and community initiatives.

Axis Bank, which has a branch network of 4,700, will get the 1.2 million retail customers of Citibank, which popularised the concept of credit cards and ATMs in India in the 1980s. On an overall basis, the proposed transaction will add 7 per cent to the bank’s deposit base (with 12 per cent increase in CASA) and 4 per cent increase in advances. **ENS** Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

crore assets under management from Citi Wealth & Private Banking products to augment and reinforce Axis’ Burgundy brand, making it the third largest by combined AUM in the wealth management space. The deal will involve addition of aggregate deposits of Rs 50,200 crore, of which 81 per cent is CASA (current and savings ac-

count). Further, the deal will include over 1,600 Suvudha corporate relationships with more than 1 million customers and an average salary of Rs 70,000 per month.

Axis Bank said it will gain access to 7 offices, 21 branches and 499 ATMs of Citibank across 18 cities. It will also absorb around 3,600 in-scope consumer employ-

ees of Citibank.

“Axis Bank looks at this acquisition as a healthy strategic fit,” it said. It will gain access to the large and affluent customer franchise of Citibank having a bouquet of fee-oriented and profitable segments, which include quality credit card portfolio, affluent wealth management clientele, meaningful deposits with 81 per cent being CASA, along with a strong consumer lending portfolio. After the acquisition, Axis Bank will have 28.5 million savings accounts, 2.3 lakh Burgundy customers and 10.6 million cards.

“The amplified scale and width of offerings, the diversified portfolio of products and global best practices will enhance customer experience, while greater synergies both on revenue and cost side will augment value for the new franchise. We look forward to collaborating with Citi’s experienced senior leadership team and diverse talent pool,” said Amitabh Chaudhry, MD & CEO, Axis Bank.

According to Axis Bank, the acquired portfolio would increase

Axis Bank’s credit card customer base by 31 per cent with an additional 2.5 million cards, which will, in turn, bolster the cards balance sheet position to be among the top 3 players in the Indian market.

“Axis Bank and Citibank together will ensure continuity of superior customer service levels, even post-closing of transaction, across all customer channels. Citibank’s customers will continue to avail all the rewards, privileges, and offers to which they were previously entitled,” it said.

“We continue to remain committed to contributing to India’s growth and development as we deepen our presence through our institutional businesses and our community initiatives,” said Citi India CEO Ashu Khullar.

In April 2021, Citigroup announced its exit from the consumer banking in the country (along with 12 other countries) as part of a global strategy to focus on institutional business. The bank had then said that it will continue with its wealth management and institutional business in India.

## Gadkari travels in hydrogen-powered EV, signals policy shift



Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari arrives at Parliament in a green hydrogen-powered car, during the second part of the Budget Session, in New Delhi, Wednesday. **PTI**

PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

UNION TRANSPORT Minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday travelled to the Parliament House in a Hydrogen-based fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV), in what could be interpreted as a strong indication of a shift in stance by the Centre that has so far backed conventional battery-powered electric vehicles, or BEVs.

### The vehicle

The Minister for Road Transport and Highways travelled in a Toyota Mirai vehicle, which sports three hydrogen tanks, and can be refuelled in an estimated five minutes. The car has a 124 kWh Lithium-ion battery pack and is powered by a 182 hp electric motor.

### Awareness about hydrogen

On Wednesday, Gadkari’s office posted on microblogging site Koo: “Union Minister Shri @nitin.gadkari ji visited Parliament House by Hydrogen based Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) today. Demonstrating the car powered by ‘Green Hydrogen’, Shri Gadkari ji emphasised the need to

spread awareness about Hydrogen, FCEV technology and its benefits to support hydrogen-based society for India”. Earlier this year, Gadkari had said in Goa that he would start using a vehicle that runs on green hydrogen as a pilot project. For the same, he said that Indian Oil Corporation had assured supply of green hydrogen.

**E.**

### Difference from other EVs

FCEVs use hydrogen gas to power an on-board electric motor, and combine hydrogen and oxygen to produce electricity, which runs the motor. Since they are powered entirely by electricity, FCEVs are considered EVs, but unlike BEVs, their range and refuelling processes are comparable to conventional cars and trucks.

### Policy stance

At the 3rd Re-inVest Conference in November 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced plans to launch a comprehensive National Hydrogen Energy Mission. In the FY22 Budget, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed launching a Hydrogen Energy Mission. Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Non-linking of PAN-Aadhaar by March 31 to attract penalty

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE INCOME Tax department on Wednesday said that taxpayers who had not yet linked their Aadhaar cards with their Permanent Account Number (PAN) and did not do so by March 31 would be required to pay a penalty between Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 after Thursday.

**Non-linking of PAN, Aadhaar will lead to the former being inoperative after Mar 31, and it will be re-operationalised after paying fines**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes said a late fee of Rs 500 will

be levied in cases where the Aadhaar is linked within the next three months or by June 30, 2022. A fine of Rs 1,000 will be levied thereafter. Non-linking of PAN with Aadhaar will lead to the former becoming inoperative after March 31, and it will be re-operationalised only after paying penalties, it said. According to official data from the income tax department, around 50 crore PAN have been linked with Aadhaar to date.

**WITH \$14.3 BILLION WORTH OF EXITS, however, 2021 was a record year for venture capital (VC) exits, more than 10 times of what was recorded in 2020**

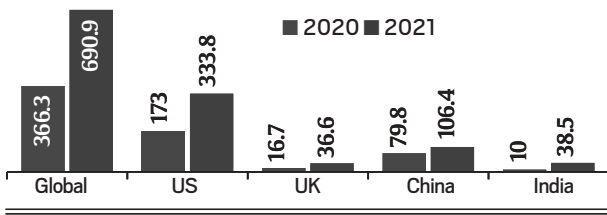
**CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY, FINTECH, AND SaaS (software as a service) accounted for the lion’s share VC investments at 75% of the overall deal value**

Compiled by ENS Economic Bureau  
Source: Bain & Co

## ‘VC investments surge by 3.8 times in 2021 to \$38.5 bn’

VC investments in India grew 3.8 times in 2021 over 2020 to \$38.5 billion in capital deployment, said a Bain & Co report

### YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH IN VC INVESTMENTS (IN \$ BN)



## City Union Bank marks SpiceJet SMA-1, recalls ₹100-cr overdraft

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

TAMIL NADU-BASED City Union Bank has marked the account of low-cost carrier SpiceJet as special mention account-1 (SMA-1), while deciding to withdraw the Rs 100 crore bank overdraft facility extended to the airline.

Lenders declare an account SMA-1 when interest or principal on loans are overdue for between 31 and 60 days.

A SpiceJet spokesperson said, “The Rs 100 crore facility is fully secured and backed by a Rs 100

crore fixed deposit. There has never been a default in service of this facility.”

The move by City Union Bank moves follows SpiceJet’s ongoing court case over a potential liquidation for non-payment of dues to Credit Suisse, and on account that the fixed deposit backing the Rs 100 crore facility was provisionally attached by the Enforcement Directorate in 2015.

In January, the Supreme Court stayed the publication of a Madras High Court order that directed winding up of the airline and gave it time to clear the dues.

In an earnings call on

February 4, City Union Bank MD & CEO N Kamakodi had said: “Our bank has a cash credit exposure of Rs 100 crores over SpiceJet Airlines, which was sanctioned in the financial year FY2014-15 based on the long standing customer relationship with then promoter Sun TV Group, which was collaterally secured by a fixed deposit in the name of the promoter. In March 2015, the Enforcement Directorate provisionally attached the fixed deposits. The trial court ruled against the Enforcement Directorate attachment, but the ED preferred to appeal in the High Court”.

## BRIEFLY ECLGSscope

*New Delhi:* The Finance Ministry expanded the scope of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) to help MSMEs in travel, tourism and hospitality.

## Fuel price hike

*New Delhi:* Petrol and diesel prices were hiked 80p a litre each Wednesday.

## Sebi ‘Manthan’

*New Delhi:* Sebi chief Madhavi Puri Buch launched 6-week ideathon ‘Manthan’ to promote innovation in securities markets. **PTI**

## INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, THE NETHERLANDS

# ‘Will support, facilitate India-EU FTA, situation to be win-win for all’

THE NETHERLANDS intends to support a free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union, the Netherlands Foreign Minister WOPKE HOEKSTRA said. In an interaction with AANCHAL MAGAZINE, Hoekstra said a “broader EU-India FTA would provide more opportunities for India towards the whole European continent ... the Dutch government could do, in facilitating that.” Edited excerpts:

**The Netherlands is the fifth largest foreign investor in India. What are your thoughts on having a bilateral investment protection agreement with India? Is there any timeline for a new agreement?**

These things sometimes take longer, even if everyone is working very diligently on it. I have been a Minister of Finance for four years and, therefore, I know from experience that any type of treaty even amongst the closest of friends sometimes does take quite a while to get to change and improve. What I would very much hope — and in which I would personally really want to invest and that the same is true for the whole Cabinet here — is to make sure that we create these types of arrangements with India. And, of course, some things you organise nationally, but a topic you touch upon, is also something that I would very much like to do with the European Union, presuming that would be interesting for India as well. An EU Free Trade Agreement is something we would clearly support. We are very, very impressed by the capabilities India has in terms of trade. I think there are many things that we share. There are many things that have provided tickets to work on an even better future. I have been to India also as a private citizen and I have many friends from India, from the time I spent at INSEAD ... I was truly impressed by the business sense and the knack for trade opportunities that are sensed both in India and also among my Indian friends ... the trades, and a knack for doing business is clearly something that also unites the Netherlands and India. There is a lot that we could do together in that realm and I am very much looking forward to that.

**India has reservations on opening up the dairy sector, which is the top export sector for the Netherlands. How do you see it getting resolved?**

Dairy is an area in which we have a long-standing tradition, we have a lot of expertise. We are humbled that many countries across the world in Africa and Asia make use of the export of our dairy products, be it milk or cheese or all sorts of things that are related to dairy. If in that specific area, we could increase our collaboration, then I will be delighted to do so. There is a great opportunity that dairy is, as many of us know, is vital for the young ones and also for toddlers, youngsters, people of our age, but also the elderly. So, if there is an opportunity, then let’s seek to make the most of it.

**How do you expect the India-EU FTA to affect the relationship between India and the Netherlands?**

We would very much support a free trade agreement between the EU and India because our assessment is that it would give an additional impulse to our already



Wopke Hoekstra

excellent bilateral relationship. Our business relationship is of tremendous importance, but I think a broader EU-India FTA would also provide more opportunities for India towards the whole European continent. And if there’s anything that I could do, that the Dutch government could do, in facilitating that, and helping all that, we would, of course, be delighted to do so. These things, in my view, are truly win-win. It is increasing the size of the pie, making sure that both nations benefit and, in this case, if we would come to any agreement with you, that would also mean the 27-plus. Of course, India will benefit and it will be for the better of our two nations, of all the nations involved and it will be better for all the citizens involved. Of course, that is what we should always have in mind, how do we make sure we create more prosperity, more stability and a brighter future for the next generation?

**India has a long relationship with the Netherlands, which is 75 years old now. But now there’s a crisis also in this region, with India abstaining from voting against Russia at**

Dairy is an area in which we have a long-standing tradition, we have a lot of expertise. We are humbled that many countries across the world in Africa and Asia make use of the export of our dairy products, be it milk or cheese or all sorts of things that are related to dairy. If in that specific area, we could increase our collaboration, then I will be delighted to do so. There is a great opportunity that dairy is, as many of us know, is vital for the young ones and also for toddlers, youngsters, people of our age, but also the elderly. So, if there is an opportunity, then let’s seek to make the most of it.

**India has a long relationship with the Netherlands, which is 75 years old now. But now there’s a crisis also in this region, with India abstaining from voting against Russia at**

**the UN. Because of this, does the relationship get affected in any manner? How does the Netherlands view its relation with India?**

To us, the relationship with India is of vital importance. India is truly one of the geopolitical powers in the world. We’re looking in all, not only at the size of India, but also of the dynamism that we see, the broad outreach that we see towards the world, in your own region, but also at large. And again, we are truly very impressed also by the business sense, and all the developments that we’ve seen in the last couple of decades, it’s truly very impressive. So, to the Netherlands, and also to the EU, the relationship is of vital importance.

Secondly, to me, it is crystal clear that if you look at all the assets that India has, and what it is providing to the world, it is clearly one of the nations, playing a very, very important role at the world stage. And what we would, of course, hope is that India would also want to engage on topics that are clearly front and centre in the newspapers, given the current crisis. I have an excellent relationship and a great dialogue with Foreign Minister S Jaishankar. And what we, of course, hope, generally speaking, is that all the peace-loving nations — all the nations that are fighting for stability, peace, democracy, prosperity like India, like the Netherlands, and like so many others, that we also make clear to everyone that this is not only important in Ukraine, this is not only important in the regions bordering Ukraine, but this is vital interest for the future of the world. And that is something that I underline in all my bilateral contacts. And I’m also very much looking forward to continuing this important and, by the way, extremely fruitful dialogue with India.

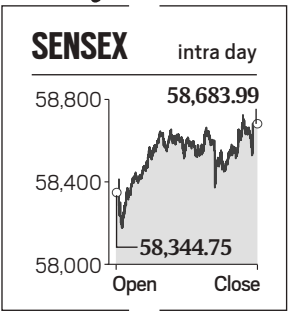
Full interview on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

(The correspondent was in The Hague on the invitation of the Netherlands government)

## Markets rally 1.2%

*Mumbai:* Domestic stock markets on Wednesday rose by 1.2 per cent as hopes rose for a negotiated end to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The SENSEX gained 740 points to 58,683.99 and the Nifty50 shot up 173 points to 17,498.25.

However, the rupee declined 21 paise to 75.94 against the US dollar as surging crude oil prices and fuel rate hikes by oil marketing companies fanned fears of inflation and rate hikes. However, a strong rally in the equity market cut the losses. While Asian mar-



kets gained, European shares fell as bond markets suggested pain ahead for the US economy. **ENS**

## Mutual fund schemes: Sebi brings in timelines for rebalancing portfolios

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, MARCH 30

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) Wednesday unveiled guidelines for the rebalancing of portfolios of the schemes launched by mutual funds.

According to Sebi, the rebalancing period will be applicable in the event of deviation from mandated asset allocation mentioned in the Scheme Information Document (SID) due to passive breaches. Barring overnight funds, all schemes will have a mandated rebalancing period of 30 days, in the event of deviation from man-



Sebi building, Mumbai. **File**

dated asset allocation mentioned in the scheme information document due to passive breaches. The mandated rebalancing period for all mutual fund schemes, except index funds and exchange traded

funds (ETFs) If the rebalancing is not done within the mandated timelines, justification in writing, including details of efforts taken to rebalance the portfolio should be placed before the investment committee concerned. The committee can extend the timelines up to 60 business days from the date of completion of the mandated rebalancing period. According to Sebi, if the portfolio of schemes is not rebalanced within the extended timelines, then the AMCs would not be permitted to launch any new scheme till the time the portfolio is rebalanced. They would also be disallowed from levying exit load.

## Covid-hit MSMEs get ₹6,062-cr booster

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

THE CABINET has approved a \$808-million (Rs 6,062-crore) support to revitalise Covid-hit micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) through a programme backed by the World Bank. Of the total assistance, Rs 3,750 crore (\$500 million) will be in the form of a loan from the World Bank and Rs 2,312 crore will be provided by the government.

The support for the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme, announced in Budget for FY23, will be extended over five years.

The programme aims at improving access of MSMEs to market and credit while bolstering institutions and governance related to the small businesses at the central and state levels.

An official statement after the Cabinet meeting suggests RAMP will address the generic and Covid-related challenges being faced by MSMEs by enhancing the impact of existing schemes for such entities and improving their competitiveness. **FE**



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until the truth is uncovered.  
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Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,  
Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the  
Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and  
Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with  
Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery  
Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

In the matter of O.A. No. 564/2020  
**PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK**  
Vs  
**ANKUR ENTERPRISES**  
Applicant  
Defendants

D-1 Ankur Enterprises Registered office  
at: 123-B, Inside Jaipuria Mall, Clock Tower,  
Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007, **Also at:** 17A,  
Ground Floor, Kamla Nagar, New Delhi,  
**Also at:** Municipal No. 7678, Singh Sabha  
Road, Subzimandi, Delhi-110007

D-2 Ravinder Kumar Singh, 123-B, Inside  
Jaipuria Mall, Clock Tower, Subzi Mandi,  
Delhi-110007

D-3 Karan Goyal, 22/3, Shakti Nagar,  
Malka Ganj, Delhi

Whereas the above named applicant has  
instituted a case against you and whereas it  
has been shown to the satisfaction of the  
Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in  
ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given  
by advertisement directing you to make  
appearance in this Tribunal **11-04-2022 at  
10.30 A.M.**

Take notice that in case of your failure to  
appear on the above mentioned day before  
this Tribunal, the case will be heard and  
decided in your absence.

**Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all  
the matters will be taken up through  
Video Conferencing and for that  
purpose:-**

(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall  
download the "Cisco Webex" application /  
Software;

(ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the  
next date of hearing qua cases to be taken  
by 'Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/ and  
Recovery Officer-II shall be available one  
day prior to the next date at DRT Official  
Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public  
Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the  
Advocates/Litigants can contact the  
concerned official at Ph. No.011-23748469.  
Given under my hand and seal of the  
Tribunal on this **06<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**  
By Order of the Tribunal  
DRT-III, Delhi

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**Govt. of Uttar Pradesh**

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**abhyudaya.varanasi@gmail.com for online general entry**  
**form, mentioning "UPSC Mains qualified candidates's Roll**  
**no ....." in the subject of email.**


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**MAHARANA PRATAP UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND TECHNOLOGY, UDAIPUR**  
Advertisement No. : 01/2022 Dated : 30th March, 2022  
**ADVERTISEMENT**

Applications are invited for recruitment on the post of Subject Matter  
Specialists (different disciplines) in the KV's of the University. The  
application form, duly filled in and complete in all respect alongwith  
requisite application fee, should reach the Registrar, Maharana Pratap  
University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur (Rajasthan)-313001 on  
or before **30th April, 2022** upto **5:00 P.M.** For detailed information please  
log on to University website <http://www.mpuat.ac.in> and for any updates,  
the candidates are requested to frequently visit the University website and  
no further communication(s) would be made in newspaper regarding this  
advertisement.

**REGISTRAR**

  
NO. D-39016/5/2017-GA  
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH**  
**DISABILITIES**  
**NOTICE**

**INVITING RATES OF DISPOSAL/SALE OF GOVERNMENT VEHICLE LAYING AT**  
**ANTYODAYA BHAWAN, CGO COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI.**

1. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities invites bid in sealed  
cover for the general public for the sale of the motor vehicle on an "AS IS  
WHERE IS BASIS".

Make/Model	Date of manufacturing	Colour	Registration number of the vehicle	Milage	Date of bid submission	Closing date of bid submission
SX4 VXI	Feb., 2013	White	DL2CQ 8165	2,04,968	5.4.2022	11.04.2022

2. Interested parties are requested to visit on 6th April, 2022 between 11.00 AM to  
4.00 PM at following places for assessment/inspection of the referred vehicle:-  
**5th Floor, Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003.**

3. The envelope containing the rate should be addresses to the undersigned and  
should be superscribed "Quotation for disposal/sale of vehicle may be sent by  
11th April, 2022 (11.00AM) at Room No. 11 B-4 Wing, Antyodaya Bhawan,  
New Delhi.

4. **Other terms & condition relating to the said bid may be seen in the website**  
**of the Department (i.e. www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in)**

5. The Department reserves the rights to reject any or all of the bids without  
assigning any reason thereof, and would not be responsible for any postal delay.

(S.K. Mahto)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India  
davp 38117/11/0067/2122

**NOTICE INVITING APPLICATION FOR ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS**  
**SANTUSHTI SHOPPING COMPLEX, NEW DELHI**

1. **Air Officer Commanding, Air Force Station New Delhi**, invites  
sealed application from resident Indian nationals for allotment of shops at  
Santushti Shopping Complex, New Willingdon Camp, Lok Kalyan Marg  
New Delhi-110003.

Shop No	Size	Shop No	Size	Shop No	Size
05	776 sqft	22	273 sqft	28	480 sqft
12	380 sqft	24 & 25	395 & 641	31	546 sqft
15	425 sqft		sqft Total =	38	422 sqft
20	204 sqft		1036 sqft		


2. The period of allotment will be three years as per the provisions of  
**Defence Shopping Complex (Maintenance & Administration) Rules, 2006.** The rates for allotment of the shop are fixed and will be charged as  
License Fee 160/- per sqft, Maintenance charges 60/- per sqft and GST  
@18%. In addition water & electricity charges will be charged as per the  
actual consumption. **The maintenance charge will be increased by 5%  
every year.**

3. The application form can be collected from Santushti Shopping  
Complex Office, on all working days starting from **01 Apr 22 from 1000  
hrs to 1630 hrs @ Rs 500/-** each (non-refundable). Earnest Money  
Deposit (EMD) equivalent to one month License fee i.e. (Area of shop X  
Rs 160/-psf) in the form of Demand Draft/Bankers Cheque issued by any  
nationalized bank or ICICI, HDFC and AXIS Bank is to be drawn in favour  
of "Santushti 412 Air Force Station New Delhi". Application form duly  
completed in all respects along with EMD, is to be submitted to SSC office  
on or before **1500 hrs by 18 Apr 22.** Applications form without **EMD will  
be summarily rejected.**

4. Any clarification regarding allotment of Shops will be addressed at  
the office of Santushti Shopping Complex between 1100 hours to 1600  
Hrs on all working days (Monday to Saturday) till **16 Apr 22.** The scrutiny of  
application will be held at Air Force Station, New Delhi on **25 Apr 22.**  
Applicants are to attend the process in person. **The allotment of Shops  
by draw of lot, if applicable, will be held at 1100 Hrs on 27 Apr 22 at  
Santushti Shopping Complex.**

5. For further details please contact Tele No. 011-20867237 or email on  
santushtishoppingcomplex123@gmail.com

6. **Air Officer Commanding, Air Force Station, New Delhi, reserves  
the right to withdraw shop and / or accept or reject any tender or  
application without assigning any reason.**

  
**Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd**  
Registered Office: Plot No 59 & 60- 23,22nd Cross, 29th Main  
BTM 2nd Stage, Bengaluru 560076. [www.vistaarfinance.com](http://www.vistaarfinance.com)


**DEMAND NOTICE**  
**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION**  
**OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002**

NOTICE is hereby given by Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd (VFSPL), that the following  
borrowers who have availed loan against property from Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd  
and failed to pay Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) of their loan to and that their loan  
account has been classified as Non-performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by  
Reserve Bank of India. The Borrowers have provided security of the immovable property  
towards the loan, the details of which are described herein below. The details of the loan  
and the amounts outstanding and payable by the borrowers to Vistaar Financial Services  
Pvt Ltd as on date are also indicated here below. The borrowers as well as the public in  
general are hereby informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Vistaar  
Financial Services Pvt Ltd, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following  
borrowers under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial  
Assets and enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the SARFAESI Act). If the following  
borrowers fails to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names within 60  
(Sixty) days of this notice along with further interest and other charges if any, the  
undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers conferred on the Secured Creditor  
under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take  
possession of the property and sell the same. The public in general is advised not to deal  
with property described here below.

Account No	Name of the Borrowers and Co-Borrowers	Total Loan Outstanding (in INR)	Total Loan Outstanding As On
0216SBM L01302	1. Mr/Mrs Pratap Singh 2. Mr/Mrs Ramsanehi Dharmraj 3. Mr/Mrs Ram Devi 4. Mr/Mrs Anusaiya Ramsanehi 5. Mr/Mrs Ramroop Lallo	Rs 51,05,687/-	16-03-2022

Description of the Secured Asset: All that piece and Parcel of Part Of Land and  
Building on Kharsa No.150, Khata no.29 Situated at Village Sarfabad, Pargana & Tehsil  
-Dadri, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttarpradesh, Plot area Measuring 100 Sq. Yards.  
Bounded as: East: Plot of Virendra, West: Rasta 10 feet wide, North: Plot of Nirdesh  
yadav, South: Plot of Dr.Bangali. Registration Details- Book No-1, Volume No -4095,  
pages no. 341-370 Doc/Serail No-1564, Dated-03/04/2014 with Sub Registrar- Noida  
1st,Registered in the name of Ramsnehi & Pratap Singh.

Date: 31-03-2022 For Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd.,  
Place: Sarfabad Authorized Officer

  
**National Highways Authority of India**  
(Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India)

**PUBLIC NOTICE ON REVISED USER FEE (TOLL) RATES AT  
SARSAWA TOLL PLAZA APPLICABLE FROM 01.04.2022**

The public are hereby informed that pursuant to approval of revised user  
fee rates vide letter dated 22.03.2022 of NHAI, the user fee for the use  
of section from Design Chainage 35.400 to Design Chainage  
86.855 (Gagalheri-Saharanpur-Yamunanagar (UP/Haryana Border) of  
NH-344 (Old NH-73) is going to be revised w.e.f. 01.04.2022 at  
Sarsawa Toll Plaza (Chainage 81.155, Sarsawa village, District  
Saharanpur) in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

Category of Vehicles	Fee for single Journey	Fee for return Journey within a day	Fee for monthly pass valid for 50 single journeys	Fee for commercial vehicles registered in district
Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	125	185	4160	60
Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	200	300	6715	100
Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	420	635	14075	210
Three Axles commercial vehicles	460	690	15355	230
Heavy Construction Machinery (HCM) or Earth Moving Equipment (EME) or Multi Axle Vehicles (MAV) (Four to Six Axles)	660	995	22070	330
Overized Vehicles (seven or more axles)	805	1210	26870	405

The rate for monthly pass applicable for local non-commercial vehicle  
residing within a distance of 20 Km for the Toll Plaza shall be Rs. 315.00

2. The above section was developed under public funds (The above  
section was developed as per provisions of Concession Agreement  
dated 27.05.2016 on Annuity basis and IE vide letter dated  
31.10.2020 certified the completed length of 51.455 Km. for putting  
on commercial operation). The above rates are applicable for a  
completed length of 51.455 km, which comprises of following:

Type of section	Length (km)	Equivalent Length (km) for which user fee is to be levied	Lane configuration
Straight Section	6.006	6.006	4-lane
Bypasses (costing > Rs. 10.0 Cr.)	43.394	65.091	4-lane
Structures (length > 60 m)	2.055	20.55	4-lane

3. The following concessions are available at above Toll Plaza:

(i) Return Journey within 24 hours from time of payment for all  
categories of vehicles (discount 25%)

(ii) 50 single journeys in a month from date of payment for all  
categories of vehicles (discount- 33%)

(iii) Pass at Rs. 315.00 (Rupees Three Hundred Fifteen only)  
calendar month for non-commercial vehicle residing within  
20 Km. from Toll Plaza.

(iv) Commercial Vehicle (excluding those plying under national  
permit) registered in the District of Toll Plaza (discount 50%).

4. The list of exempted vehicles is as given in the Amendment to Fee  
Rules dated 03.12.2010 vide GSR 950(E).


5. The vehicle, which is loaded in excess of permissible load, shall pay  
fee rates applicable as given Amendment to Fee Rules dt. 25.09.18  
vide GSR 920(E) and remove the excess load to make use of  
highway.

6. The Capital Cost of the Project is Rs. 2455.45 Crore out of which  
Rs. 99.04 Crore is recovered. The user fee (toll) rates shall be  
reduced to 40% on recovery of capital cost.

7. For any enquiry and/or giving complaints/suggestions, please  
contact:

**PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA,**  
Project Implementation Unit-Roorkee, 446/1, Jadugar Road,  
37, Civil Lines, Roorkee - 247667,  
Phone :01332-297844, E-mail: [piuroorkee@nhai.org](mailto:piuroorkee@nhai.org)

**BUILDING A NATION, NOT JUST ROADS**

  
**STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB)  
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001  
Ph. No. (Office) : 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax: 0612-2219385, E-mail : [sbi.05176@sbi.co.in](mailto:sbi.05176@sbi.co.in)

**[See Proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower and Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on **21.04.2022 (Thursday) for recovery of Rs. 1,32,58,083.00 (Rupees One Crore Thirty Two Lacs Fifty Eight Thousand & Eighty Three only) as on 21.09.2020 with further interest, cost, charges, other miscellaneous expenses etc, less deposit / recovery made thereafter, if any, due to the secured creditor from Borrower M/s Dr. A.B. Mishra Diagnostic Centre, Prop. Dr. Satyendra Nath Mishra S/o Late Dr. A.B. Mishra & Guarantor, Dr. Mrs. Urmial Mishra W/o Dr. Satyendra Nath Mishra.**

Sl. No.	Description of the property	Reserve Price
	(Property Id for e-auction : SBIN89616565586)	EMD Amount
		Bid Increment Amt
1.	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: All that part and parcel of the land/building in the name of <b>Dr. Smt. Urmila Mishra W/o Dr. Satyendra Nath Mishra vide Sale deed No - 1757 dated 14/02/2012 located at Mouza - Bajjala, Sasaram - Ara Road within Halka No - 05, Thana - Sasaram, Thana No - 162, Registration sub-District- Sasaram, Distt - Rohtas, Bihar, Chak Khata No - 44, Chak Plot No - 289, Area - 7 Kattha (21.875 Decimal). Boundaries of the land are:- North- Shri Pramod Dubey, South-Aniruddha Dubey, East- Ganga Deyal Dubey, West- Bihar Sarkar.</b>	₹ 99,00,000.00
		₹ 9,90,000.00
		₹ 20,000.00

**e-Auction Terms And Condition**

1. **Date of e-auction: 21.04.2022 (Thursday), Time: 12:00 Minutes from 12:00 Noon to 02:00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes each.**

2. Website/podal for e-auction - <https://mstcecommerce.com/auction/home/ibapi/index.jsp>.

3. The General Terms & Conditions are available on - <https://sbi.co.in/hveb/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>.

4. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The E-auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold will all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security Interest Act, 2002.

**This publication is also a 15 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.**

**NB:** 15 days Sale Notice to Borrower/Guarantors has already been sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice, this E-auction Sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of service.

Date : 30.03.2022  
Place : Patna

**AUTHORISED OFFICER**  
**STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA**

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**POSSESSION NOTICE**

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notices on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice/date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred to him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against account.

The borrower/guarantor/mortgagor/legal heirs in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Punjab National Bank for the amount, interest and costs thereon.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of sub-section 8 of section 13 of the act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Account, Account No., Borrower/ Guarantors Name, Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged Owners' Name (mortgagers of property(ies))	Date of Demand Notice 13 (2)	Date of Possession Notice affixed	Amount Outstanding as on date of demand notice
1.	<b>HARENDRA SINGH S/O Late SUNDARDEO SINGH A/C No. 214200NCC00000079, 2142009900000045 &amp; 269100JK000001406 BO: Piania (214200)</b>	LIP Situated at: Mauza- Ananthi(Dhobighatwa), Ara, Thana no. 227, Ward no. 17, Circle no. 7A, Anchal Ara Sadar, Dist. Bhojpur, Bihar, 1. C.S. Khata no. 140, C.S. Plot no. 134, Area- 11 Dhur 16 Dhurki, Boundary as per sale deed: North: Nij Manmokir Mina Devi, South- Panpato Devi Baidar, East- Ara- Sasaram Road, West- Nij Manmokir, 2. C.S. Khata no. 140, C.S. Khesra no. 134, Area- 04 Dhur 04 Dhurki, Boundary as per sale deed: North: Nij Manmokra, South- Lakhandeo Singh & Panpato Devi, East- Lekhyadhari Harendra Singh, West- Nij Manmokra, 3. C.S. Khata no. 140, C.S. Khesra no. 134, Area- 16 Dhur, Boundary as per sale deed: North: Nij Manmokir Mina Devi, South- Panpato Devi Baldar, East - Lekhyadhari Harendra Singh, West- Nij Manmokir, Mortgagor- Harendra Singh S/o Late Sundardeo Singh	06.12.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.37,57,507.36 + Int. due from 01.04.2021
2.	<b>M/S Raghuvansham Rice Mill through its proprietor Sh. Kishlay Kumar Singh S/O- Dudhnath Singh A/C No. 6008008700001116, 600800CF000000313 &amp; 600800IL00000106 BO: Nuaon (600800)</b>	Properties situated at- Sale Deed No- 4415 Dt- 22-07-2016, Mauza- Shahpur, Thana- 371, PS- Ramgarh, Anchal- Nuaon, Khata no- 05, Plot no- 03, Area- 12 Decimal, Boundary- N- Dudhnath Singh, S- Nij E- Sadak, W- Dudhnath Singh, Mortgagor- Kishlay Kumar Singh S/o Dudhnath Singh	23.06.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.31,48,017.08 + Int. due from 01.04.2021
3.	<b>M/S Shiv Shakti Mini Rice Mill proprietor Sh. Sanjay Sah S/O late Shankar Sah, A/C No. 6008008700000881 BO: Nuaon (600800)</b>	IP situated at: 1. Registered Mortgage Deed no.2634 dtd: 15.05.2015, Sale deed No. 3142 dtd: 11.04.2008, Mauza: Mukhraon, Thana No.: 295, Thana- Kuchhila, Khata No.: 360, Plot No.: 1092, Area: 3 dec., Boundary-North: Mahesh Sah, South: chhawar, East: Gafur Miyan, West: Ramchandra Prasad & Laxmi Prasad, 2. Registered Mortgage Deed no.2634 dtd: 15.05.2015, Sale deed No. 8456 dtd: 30.06.1982 Mauza: Mukhraon, Thana No.: 295, Khata No: 440, Plot No.: 1385, Area: 23 dec., Boundary: North: Jagat Rai, South: Rasta East: Jagat Rai, West: jagat Rai, 3. Registered Mortgage Deed no.2634 dtd: 15.05.2015, Sale deed No. 8456 dtd: 30.06.1982, Mauza: Mukhraon, Thana No.: 295, Thana- Kuchhila, Khata No.: 440, Plot No.: 1392, Area: 55 dec., Boundary:North: Jagat Rai, South: Rasta, East: Jagat Rai, West: jagat Rai, Total area ; 81 dec., Mortgagor:1.Sanjay Sah, 2. Antu Sah & 3. Dhananjay Sah all S/O late Shankar Sah.	25.06.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.28,91,866.70 + Int. due from 01.04.2021
4.	<b>M/S DURGA ENTERPRISES Pro: SH. Murlidhar Singh S/O Lt. Ayodhya Singh, A/c No. 6008008700000906 600800IC00000015 BO: Nuaon (600800)</b>	1Mortgaged Properties situated at- Land & Building situated at- Deed No -309, Dt-23.01.2015, Mauza -Sisaura, PS- Ramgarh, Thana No -241, Khata-76, Plot No-1, Area- 1 Decimal, Boundary N- Jay Ram Yadav, S- Gramin Rasta, E- Gramin Sadak, W- Bikreta plot1410, Mortgagor: Sh. Murlidhar Singh S/o Lt. Ayodhya Singh, At H No -80, Vill- Sisaura, PO- Taraitha, PO- Taraitha, PS- Ramgarh, Kaimur-821110.	25.06.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.17,19,940.75 + Int. due from 01.04.2021
5.	<b>M/S SURBHI CHAWAL UDYOG Through its Proprietor SH. RATNESH SINGH S/O LATE RADHA KRISHNA SINGH A/c No. 6008008700000979 600800CF00000702 600800NG00000513 BO: Nuaon (600800)</b>	1.Deed no. 443 dated 25.01.2018, LAND AND BUILDING SITUATED AT: MAUZA- MUSIYAN, THANA NO.-372, KHATA NO.- 17, PLOT NO.- 46, PS- RAMGARH, DISTRICT- KAIMUR, AREA- 13 1/3 DECIMAL, Boundary: N- NIZ, S- AWADH BIHARI RAI WAGAIRAH, E- NIZ, W- GRAMIN SADAK, 2.Deed no. 2678 dated 18.05.2015, LAND SITUATED AT: MAUZA- MUSIYAN, THANA- RAMGARH, SURVEY THANA & SUB REGISTRY OFFICE- MOHANIA, DIST.- KAIMUR BHABUA, THANA NO.- 372, KHATA NO.- 69, PLOT, NO. 48, AREA- 10 DECIMAL, Boundary: N- SADAK, S- BRAHMDAYAL SINGH WAGAIRAH, E- RAMDARAS RAI & RAM KISHOR RAI & RAMA SHANKAR RAI, W- NIZ MANMOKIR BAKIYE PLOT 48, Mortgagor: Sh. Ratnesh singh S/o Late Radha Krishna Singh.	28.06.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.64,77,734.07 + Int. due from 01.04.2021
6.	<b>M/S CHINTAMANI RCE MILL Through its Proprietor Sh. Harishankar Tiwari S/O Late Chintamani Tiwari A/c No. 27840087000000992 BO: Gorsara (278400)</b>	LAND & BUILDING SITUATED AT: Sale Deed No 1734 and 1733 dated 30-03-1973 Mouza- Sahuka, Thana No- 176 PS- Ramgarh, Dist. Kaimur, (a) Khata No 154 Khesra no 2166, Area 77 decimal Boundary N B Bhagwan Tiwari S Bhagwan Tiwari E Rajeshwar Singh W Bhagwan Tiwari, (b) Khata No 154 Khesra No 2163 Area 24 Decimal Boundary N Chintamani Tiwari S Bhagwan Tiwari E Bhagwan Tiwari W Dasrath Tiwari, (c) Khata No 154 Khesra No 2157 Area 65 Decimal Boundary N Dashrath Tiwari S Others E Bhagwan Tiwari & Dashrath Tiwari W Dashrath Tiwari & Nalera, (d) Khata no 154 Khesra no 2322 Area 10 Decimal Boundary N Plot no 2321 S Plot no 2323 E Plot no 2320 W Plot no 2368, (e) Khata No 265 Khesra No 2318 Area 05 decimal Boundary N Plot no 2320 S Plot No 2309 E Plot No 2319 W Plot no 2317, Total Area- 181 Decimal, Mortgagor: Smt. Kavla Devi	10.11.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.3252548.70 + Int. due from 01.05.2021
7.	<b>SH. RADHE SHYAM SINGH S/O SH. BALIRAM SINGH SHYAM A/c No. 27840087000002750 BO: Gorsara (278400)</b>	LAND & BUILDING SITUATED AT: Mauza- Gorsara, Thana- Ramgarh, Thana no. 215, Khata no. 215, Khesra no. 166, Sub Reg. office cum Distt. Kaimur, Area- 3 Decimal, Boundary: North- Nail, South-Plot 166 niz manmokir, East- Rasta plot no. 166, West- Plot no. 166, Ramawatar and Haridwar Kunhar, Mortgagor: Sh. Radheshyam Singh Yadav S/O Baliram Singh.	21.09.2020	25.03.2022	Rs.12,14,693.74 + Int. due from 01.01.2020
8.	<b>M/S SAROJ ENTERPRISES through its proprietor Smt. Saroj Singh W/O Sh. Pramod Kumar Singh A/c No. 27840087000002848 278400IB000001971 278400IC00000030 BO: Gorsara (278400)</b>	IP Situated at: Registered Gift Deed no- 5291, dated 06-09-2017, Mauza- Wasanpur, Thana- Nuaon, Sub division and Sub registry office- Mohania, Dist.- Kaimur, Thana No- 245, Khata No.- 44, Plot No- 60, Area- 50 Decimal, Boundary:- North- Nagesh Tiwari Plot no-60, South- Road, East- Nachak Choubey, West- Jai Prakash Choubey S/O Tribhuvan Choubey Plot No- 63, Mortgagor: Smt. Saroj Singh W/O Sh. Pramod Kumar Singh.	18.11.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.1,81,42,449. 18 + Int. due from 01.10.2021
9.	<b>M/S THAKUR FLOUR MILL through its proprietor SH. UPENDRA THAKUR S/o LT. DHAMLA THAKUR A/c No. 3877008700003696 387700IB20060703 387700IC00000010 BO: BUXAR (387700)</b>	RESIDENTIAL LAND SITUATED AT: ORIGINAL GIFT DEED NO 1613 DATED 16.12.1970, MAUZA- MANIKPUR, PS- SIMARI, THANA NO.- 04, NEW KHATA NO- 32, OLD KHATA NO-09, NEW KHERSA NO- 427, OLD KHERSA NO- 394, AREA- 41.20 DECIMAL BOUNDARY:- NORTH- SRIBHAGWAN THAKUR, SOUTH- LALAN RAI AND OTHERS, EAST- RAMBAYASH RAI AND OTHERS, WEST- ROAD, Mortgagor: SH. UPENDRA THAKUR S/o LT. DHAMLA THAKUR	29.11.2021	25.03.2022	Rs.18,06,500.07 + Int. due from 01.04.2021

Date: 31/03/2022  
Place : Arrah

(Authorised Officer)  
Punjab National Bank  
Secured Creditor









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## Unique Features

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- Empowering Delhi's women: 33% e-autos, special Lilac coloured autos reserved
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- Subsidy of ₹ 30,000 on each e-auto through the Delhi EV policy
- 5% additional interest rebate through [delhi.myev.org.in](http://delhi.myev.org.in) portal; additional benefit upto ₹ 25,000



Yet another initiative by the Delhi government to reduce pollution levels in Delhi and to create employment opportunities for women and men.

## E-AUTO FLAG OFF CEREMONY

By  
**Sh. Arvind Kejriwal**  
Chief Minister, Delhi

In the august presence of  
**Sh. Kailash Gahlot**  
Transport Minister, Delhi

**Date** : 31st March, 2022  
**Time** : 12.00 PM  
**Venue** : IP Depot, Delhi



Transport Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi



the use of earnest money mentioned in the tender notice shall be accepted only online. **5. Cost of tender form:** As per station and cluster of tender form: As non-refundable tender form cost mentioned in the tender notice shall be accepted only online. **6. Reserve Price (in Rs.):** As per station and cluster (A to H) use Reserve Price as per station and cluster for the period of five years. **7. Date and time of submission of e-tender:** 20.04.2022 up to 15.00 hrs. through online [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) only. **8. Date and time of opening of e-tender:** 20.04.2022 at 15.30 hrs. **9. Authority and place for opening of e-tender:** The opening of e-tender (EMD), required documents (if any) and seeking clarifications on tender documents : Through online [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) only. **10. Website particulars :** [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) **Receipt of Bids:** The bidder should submit his bid online on IREPS portal [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) up to 20.04.2022 mentioned in above table. Bids shall be opened on the same day on IREPS portal [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) at 15.30 hrs. In case on date of opening of tender is declared as holiday, the tender will be opened on the next working day. **11. Reservation:** The Railway Administration reserve the full right to cancel tenders without assigning any reasons. **153-CQ/22**





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# In Shanghai spike, pitfalls of China's zero-Covid strategy

AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, MARCH 30

IN ITS latest attempt to gain full control over the Covid-19 epidemic, China has imposed a hard lockdown in half of Shanghai, its financial capital and a hub for international finance and trade. In the first phase that began on Monday, the eastern part of the metropolis has been shut down for five days, barring only essential services. The other half will be locked down after that. All 25 million residents must undergo a diagnostic test.

## What are the Covid numbers in Shanghai?

On Wednesday, local authorities reported nearly 6,000 infections in a 24-hour period, a record, according to the *South China Morning Post*. Last Wednesday's number was just 326. The city reported 2,678 cases on Sunday, 3,500 on Monday, 4,477 on Tuesday. But the daily count of new cases in all of China, not just Shanghai, is very low compared to the United States or many countries in Europe, which have been reporting tens

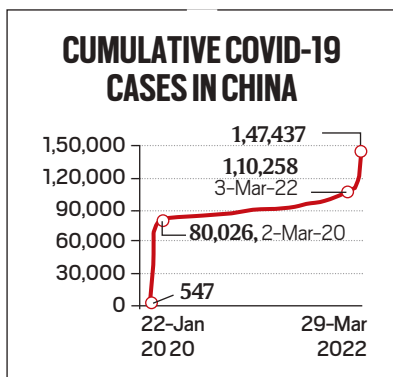
of thousands of cases every day for three months now. The US, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Spain, India, and more recently South Korea, have, at different times this year, reported several hundred thousand cases in a single day.

In comparison, China reported 8,655 cases on Wednesday, according to the SCMP, and this was its highest single-day figure since the beginning of the pandemic.

## If numbers are low, what is the problem?

The rise undermines China's zero-Covid strategy. Worse, it raises fears of a repeat of Hong Kong, which has seen an explosion of Covid in the last couple of months, reporting tens of thousands of cases, and hundreds of deaths, every day. The city's hospitals have been overwhelmed, and morgues are reported to be unable to deal with the flow of bodies.

Until last December, Hong Kong's Covid-19 strategy was not very different from mainland China's. For almost two years, China has been able to keep a lid on cases through very aggressive restrictive measures. Every



known case, even asymptomatic, was mandatorily hospitalised, small outbreaks were met with hard local lockdowns, foreign travellers were put in compulsory quarantine, and suspected cases were kept under long isolation.

China's effort has been to completely eliminate the virus from its population, unlike the strategy in most of the world to try and keep the rate of infections at manageable levels while allowing citizens access to

pre-Covid normalcy.

The total number of cases detected in China since the beginning of the pandemic is only about 1.5 lakh, according to Our World in Data — less than what several countries, at different times, have reported in a single day. The total case count in the United States is nearly 80 million, and in India, over 43 million.

Significantly, the recent rise in cases has so far not led to any surge in Covid deaths. Last week, China reported two deaths — the first ones in over a year. The total reported death toll in China is 4,638, according to Our World in Data — and only six of these occurred after the middle of April 2020.

## Why is there scepticism about this strategy?

The question is of sustainability in the long term. Despite the world's best efforts, including the introduction of vaccines in record timelines, the virus has not been eliminated. There is no guarantee that more dangerous variants will not emerge in the future.

As the rapid spread of the Omicron variant showed, the current vaccines have been

often ineffective in preventing infection, even though they have significantly reduced the risk of serious disease and death. The large number of deaths in Hong Kong was blamed on low vaccination rates in the elderly population. According to a report in *Nature* magazine, only about a third of those above the age of 80 in Hong Kong were fully vaccinated, and 90% of deaths in the city were of those who were not fully vaccinated.

While the overall vaccination rate in China is more than 85%, only about 20% of the people older than 80 have received the primary shot as well as a booster dose, *Nature* reported. It cited a study to suggest that Sinovac, the primary vaccine in China, was able to offer high levels of protection in people over 60 only after a booster shot.

If the situation in Shanghai, which accounts for almost three-fourths of all cases in China, goes out of hand as has happened in many countries in the last one month, the fear is it could result in the deaths of a large number of elderly people, as seen in Hong Kong.

## Is there a reason for India to worry?

The pandemic has been in steady decline in India after the third wave. On Wednesday, only 1,233 cases were reported across the country. While nothing can be predicted about this pandemic, the risk of a fresh surge in India seems very low, at least in the near future, unless a dangerous new variant emerges.

The situation in India has been very different from that in China or Hong Kong, or even South Korea. Because these three countries could keep a very tight leash on infections for most of the pandemic, a large proportion of their populations has never been exposed to the virus, and thus remains susceptible.

In India, an overwhelming proportion of the population has already been infected, some multiple times. The Omicron variant itself is estimated to have infected 30-40 per cent of the population.

Repeat infections by the same variant are known to be rare, at least in the near term. In this scenario, a new wave of infections seems unlikely in the immediate future. Still, the situation could change at any time if a new, dangerous variant emerges.

## SIMPLY PUT

# Putin's ruble gambit

Why has the Russian President ordered that importers of gas must pay in rubles rather than dollars or euros? What are the ramifications for Russia and the West, as well as India? How does China gain?

UDIT MISRA  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 30

ON MARCH 23, Russia's President Vladimir Putin demanded that European countries pay for all natural gas imports in rubles instead of the US dollar or euro. The European Union (EU) imports 40% of its natural gas requirements from Russia.

According to reports, Putin said Russia would not accept natural gas payments in currencies that have "compromised" — which include dollars and euros. "I have decided to implement a set of measures to transfer payment for our gas supplies to unfriendly countries into Russian rubles," he said. The unfriendly countries include the EU nations, the US and UK.

Following the announcement, as prices of natural gas and crude oil spiked, European countries remained defiant. Germany's Finance Minister Christian Lindner told CNBC on March 29: "We are completely against any kind of blackmailing. These treaties are based on euro and [US] dollar and so we suggest that private sector companies to pay [Russia] in euro or dollar. If Putin is not willing to accept this, it's open to him to think about consequences."

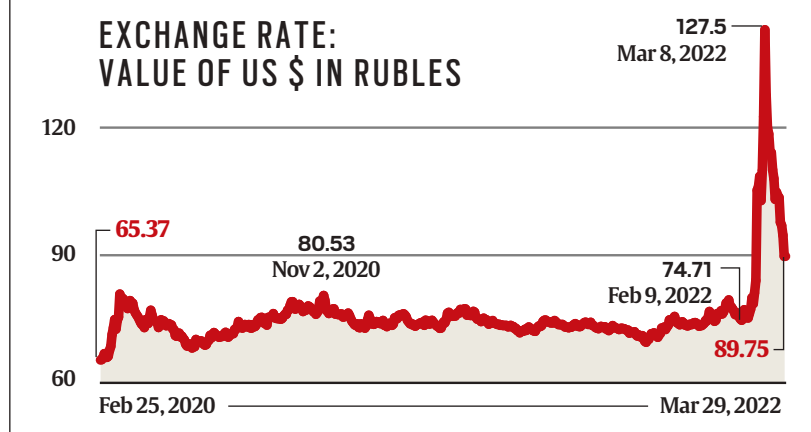
## Putin's demand

The demand for payments only in rubles was intended to increase the demand for the Russian currency in the international market.

The ruble had been weakening against the dollar in the weeks before Russia invaded Ukraine. It went from around 75 to the dollar to around 85 (meaning 10 more rubles were required to buy a dollar in the international market) between the beginning of 2022 and Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24.

Within a fortnight of the invasion, the ruble plummeted to almost 145 against the dollar. Apart from chasing away investors for obvious reasons of war and uncertainty, the key factor that punished the Russian currency was the set of sweeping sanctions that Western countries imposed.

Due to the sanctions, most Russian exports



from luxury goods to military equipment were stopped. Russian flights were banned in US, UK, EU, and Canadian airspace.

As a result of financial sanctions, Russian banks were banned from the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) mechanism, which enables banks around the world to move money quickly and securely. SWIFT is dominated by US and European banks. The Russian central bank's foreign currency assets worth \$630 billion (over Rs 48 lakh crore) were frozen.

The result of these sanctions was a collapse of trade and trading mechanisms. This, in turn, impacted the exchange rate of the ruble, because no one wants to hold the currency of a country that one cannot trade with.

## Ruble's recovery

On Wednesday, the ruble had recovered to a little more than 85 to a dollar. This happened because the EU cannot reduce its dependence on energy imports from Russia overnight. To be sure, as the *Wall Street Journal* reported, even before this decision, "Russia has already asked its companies that take payment in dollars and euros to swap 80% of their revenue into rubles".

While this, too, was a way to create demand for the ruble, the onus was on Russian firms.

Under the new diktat, the onus of demanding rubles is on the importing companies.

## Getting rubles

How can European companies get rubles? Thanks to the sanctions, Russian firms no longer have any use for the dollar or the euro. As such, European firms will now have to find intermediaries — those that accept dollars and euros, convert them to rubles, and give them to the Europeans so that they can pay for the natural gas imports.

The key question is: If direct dollar/euro to ruble exchange is not possible, then which currency would be used as an intermediary? The most likely answer is the Chinese yuan. In such a scenario, dollars/euros will be exchanged for yuan and that, in turn, will be exchanged for rubles.

## The ramifications

As far as the immediate impact is concerned, tracked by the dollar-ruble exchange rate, the move could be seen as a masterstroke. But there are severe adverse long-term consequences for Russia as well.

For one, the West sees this move by Russia as a breach of contract. While Europe in particular may not be able to react straightaway owing to its energy dependence on Russia,

Putin's move has already triggered the West to find alternatives. These could be both in terms of other forms of energy — say coal or renewable — and other energy producers, for example, Saudi Arabia.

The fact is, Europe's current dependence on energy imports from Russia works both ways because the earnings from the same energy exports are what fuel the Russian economy. If Europe finds alternatives, even if that doesn't happen in a hurry, it would eventually hurt Russia.

There is another fallout, which could hurt the US and undermine the dominance of the dollar as the go-to currency across the world. If the yuan replaces the dollar in trade with Russia — and typically daily trades would be worth billions of dollars — it would lead to "de-dollarisation", a term that implies the global financial system's reduced reliance on the dollar.

## Impact on India

Anindya Banerjee, Vice President, Currency Derivatives & Interest Rate Derivatives at Kotak Securities Ltd, says that India's crude oil imports from Russia have significantly increased over the last one month. That's because the Russian crude oil (Urals) is available at a deep discount compared to both Brent and West Texas Intermediate (WTI).

According to Banerjee, a rupee-ruble trade that is reported to be under consideration will essentially be benchmarked to the Chinese yuan. Benchmarking to yuan, instead of the dollar, would imply that instead of talking about oil prices in dollars per barrel, the price quoted would be in terms of yuan.

India used to have rupee-ruble direct trade since the early 1950s, but at that time the exchange rate was not market-determined. Over time, Indian government incentives to exporters were linked to trade that happened in so-called "free" currencies — or the currencies whose value is determined freely by the market.

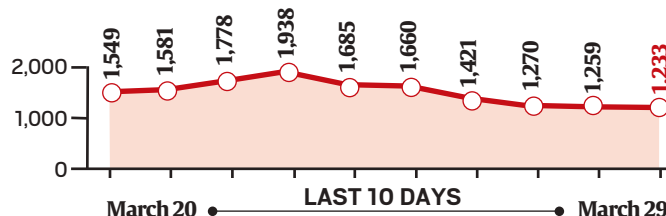
Since the ruble was not part of such currencies, exporters avoided such trade. Eventually, the direct rupee-ruble trade was formally scrapped in 2005.

## TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

### DASHBOARD, AS ON MARCH 29

<b>758</b> DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	<b>New cases</b> <b>1,233</b>	<b>Active cases</b> <b>14,704</b>	<b>Deaths</b> <b>31</b>
Weekly CFR: <b>19.50%</b>   Overall CFR: <b>1.21%</b>   Total deaths: <b>5,21,101</b>			

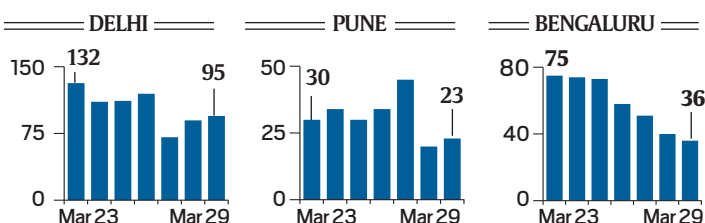
### NEW CASES, DAILY



### CASES IN THE STATES

State	ON MARCH 29			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	424	4,387	22	2.80%
Mizoram	157	1,101	0	11.79%
Maharashtra	103	960	0	0.37%
Delhi	95	443	0	0.41%
Odisha	59	453	0	0.12%

### CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 7 DAYS



### TOTAL TESTS

78,85,56,935

### TESTS ON MARCH 29

6,24,022

### WEEKLY POSITIVITY

0.25%

### OVERALL POSITIVITY

5.46%

### INDIA TOTAL DOSES

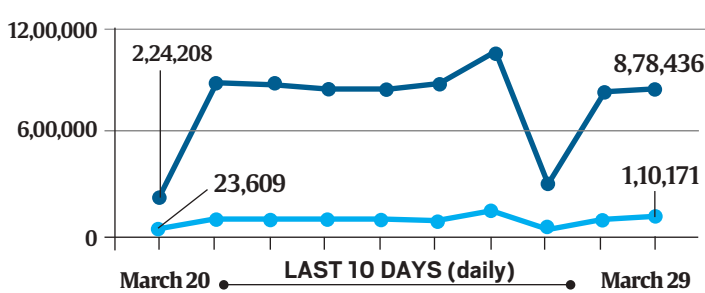
183,82,41,743

(Adults 1st dose: **91,27,28,466**; 2nd: **79,28,30,098**;  
15-18 age group 1st dose: **5,70,27,194**; 2nd: **3,77,29,295**;  
Age group 12-14 1st dose: **1,50,55,291**; Precautionary: **2,28,71,399**)

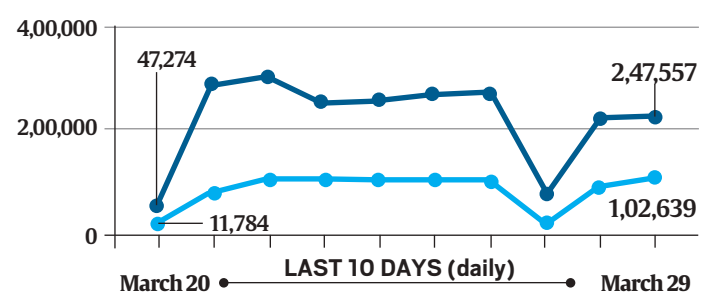
■ First dose ■ Second dose

March 29 total: **28,51,244**

### ADULTS



### AGE GROUP 15-18



# Numbers against Imran, what happens now

THE WITHDRAWAL of support from the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (Pakistan) [MQM(P)], which announced on Wednesday that it was joining the opposition ranks in the no-confidence vote against Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, turns Khan's government into a minority.

## The numbers

Pakistan's National Assembly has a strength of 342. It is effectively 340: Khayal Zaman of Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) died last month, while Jam Abdul Karim of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), wanted for murder, is absconding.

In a full house of 342, the no-confidence motion would need to be carried by at least 172 Members of the National Assembly. After the MQM(P)'s decision, the government is left with 164 members while the opposition has reached 176.

## Timeline

The speaker of the National Assembly has to carry out the vote no sooner than three days and no later than seven days after the motion is tabled (this happened on Monday). The earliest the vote can happen is Thursday, and the latest is Monday, ac-



Imran's govt has been reduced to 164

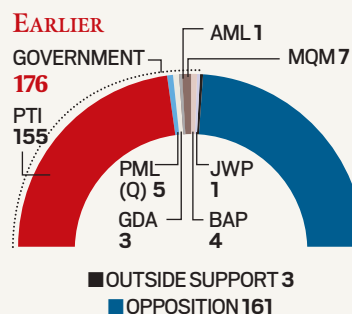
cording to a Reuters report.

## If Imran Khan loses...

There are a number of possibilities:  
■ Parliament can continue to function until the end of its five-year tenure, due in August 2023. General elections will have to be held within 60 days after that.  
■ There can be a vote in the National Assembly to elect a new PM, who would serve until the next elections.  
■ Alternatively, the new PM can call elections immediately.

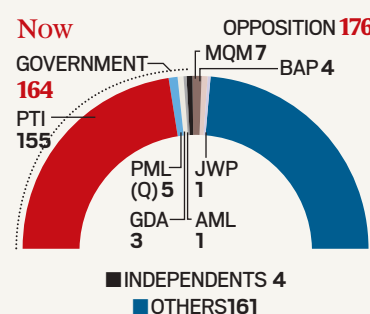
EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE

## HOUSE STRENGTH 342, EFFECTIVE 340



GOVERNMENT	
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf	155
Pakistan Muslim League (Q)	5
Grand Democratic Alliance	3
Awami Muslim League	1
Muttahida Qaumi Movement	7
Balochistan Awami Party	4
Jamhoori Watan Party	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>

OPPOSITION	
Independents	4
Muttahida Qaumi Movement	7
Balochistan Awami Party	4
Jamhoori Watan Party	1
PML (Nawaz)	84
Pakistan People's Party	56
Muttahida Majlis-e-Awam	15
Balochistan National Party (M)	4
Awami National Party	1
Other independents	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>161</b>



GOVERNMENT	
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf	155
Pakistan Muslim League (Q)	5
Grand Democratic Alliance	3
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# Why laser pointers are in spotlight after Egypt’s controversial WC playoff defeat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MARCH 30

AT THE 2014 World Cup, when Russia suffered an embarrassing exit in the group stage following a 1-1 draw with Algeria, their manager Fabio Capello had little doubt about the reason for it – a laser beam.

Capello pointed out that when Algeria took the free-kick that led to the goal, a green light beam was shining on the face of the Russian goalkeeper, Igor Akinfeev, which distracted him. "(Akinfeev was blinded by the laser beam," Capello fumed after the game. "There are pictures. You can see that in the footage. This is not an excuse, it is a fact. There was a laser."

Akinfeev was undoubtedly targeted by laser pointers from the stands. But what he experienced wasn't even a fraction of what Mohamed Salah had to endure when he stepped up to take a penalty during the second leg of Egypt's World Cup qualifier play-off against Senegal on Tuesday.

So powerful was the laser beam, aimed by the spectators in the stands, that Salah, whose entire face was coloured in green, resembled a character out of some supernatural movie. The Egyptian forward completely missed the target as the North African side lost 3-1 via tie-breaker to Senegal, who thus qualified for this winter's World Cup.

Senegal, who lost the first leg 1-0, were the dominant of the two teams in the do-or-die clash and had erased the one-goal deficit. However, the scores remained level even after extra time, forcing a penalty shootout. While the African champions prevailed over Egypt once again, the penalties became controversial after the Senegalese fans, who had snuck in laser pointers, tried to distract the visiting players at every possible opportunity.

## What are laser pointers and are they harmful?

They are small hand-held devices through which sharp and narrow laser beam of visible lights is emitted. According to the website [laserpointersafety.com](#), these can harm eyes when projected from close ranges, typically from within a few metres. But when emitted from the stands to the field, the light 'would not be steady enough to allow dangerous heat to build up in the eye. This goes for both visible green light, and any non-visible infrared light.'

However, even when the laser lights are beamed from a distance, the brightness can cause irritation, [laserpointersafety.com](#) noted. "The worst effect would be glare or brief flash-blindness, like when a camera flash goes off close to a person's face," the website stated.



Egypt's Mohamed Salah's face covered in laser beams as he prepares to take a penalty against Senegal during their World Cup 2022 Africa playoff match. (Above) Salah after failing to convert from the spot.

AP/Screengrab

disciplinary measures, according to article 16 of FIFA's disciplinary code.

## Have there been instances like these in the past?

The scale at which the laser lights were beamed on Tuesday during the Senegal-Egypt game has rarely been seen before. But it's not uncommon for fans to use it as a distraction tool for their opponents. Most recently, UEFA had fined England's Football Association 30,000 euros after their supporters aimed laser pointers at Denmark goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel while trying to save a penalty during the Euro 2020 last year.

The trend is common in various football leagues, including the Champions League where Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo have been targeted on numerous occasions.

## What has the reaction been?

While no team directly commented on this issue, the Egyptian football association said their players, particularly Salah, were subjected to racist abuse and attacks.

"The Egypt national team have been exposed to racism with offensive signs in the stands against the Egyptian players in general, and Mohamed Salah in particular," the Egyptian FA said in a statement. "The crowd also intimidated the players by throwing bottles and rocks at them during the warm-up. The Egyptian group's busses have also been exposed to assaults that led to broken windows and injuries; filed with pictures and videos as proof in the complaint submitted."

# Remembering the ‘Australian classic’ and ‘fun-loving larrikin’

ROD MCGUIRK  
CANBERRA, MARCH 30

AN ECLECTIC array of celebrities including singer Elton John, golfing legend Greg Norman and champion surfer Kelly Slater paid tribute on Wednesday to their friend, former Australian cricketer Shane Warne, at a star-studded state memorial service.

More than 50,000 mourners chanted their hero's nickname "Warnie" at the outset of the service at the Melbourne Cricket Ground as they used to do when he took to the pitch for a match. It was his hometown pitch where he cemented his sporting legend in 2006 by becoming the first bowler in the world to take 700 Test wickets.

Warne's death at a Thai resort of a suspected heart attack on March 4 at the age of 52 made headlines around the world. The pain was felt far beyond the cricket world. Tributes came from the fields of music, acting, business, golf, politics, surfing, comedy, poker and others. Elton John dedicated a rendition of "Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me" to Warne's children \_ Brooke, Summer and Jackson \_ who were among the crowd that included Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, John and fellow British musicians Ed Sheeran, Robbie Williams and Coldplay frontman Chris Martin appeared on a large screen via video. So too did Australian singers (and sisters) Kylie and Dannii Minogue. Martin played "Eulogy," a piano piece that he composed for the occasion. In another video, Martin apologized for not attending the memorial in person.

"We're on tour in Central America and there are a lot of background noises, but I feel like that might be OK with him," Martin said in a jungle setting.

"I think chaos and Shane were good friends," Martin added before performing "Yellow" with a guitar. Sheeran described Warne as "such a great bloke."

Australian-born former champion golfer Greg Norman recalled Warne's passion, energy and enthusiasm for life. "Rest in peace, Warnie. You are one of the best human beings I've ever met," Norman said in a video. American surfer Kelly Slater described Warne as an "Australian classic." Some knew Warne as one of the all-time great spin bowlers. Others knew him as the dapper one-time fiancé of glamorous British film star and model Elizabeth Hurley. It seems too cruel that all the people who loved him will never have another Lion hug," Hurley posted on social media in a tribute to the former lover she called Lionheart after his death.

She did not take part in Wednesday's service. Warne once appeared in an episode of the Australian comedy TV series "Kath and Kim" as a Warne impersonator named Wayne. "He turned up and he was so easy to work with, had so much fun," actor Glenn Robbins, who



Allan Border, Mark Taylor, Merv Hughes, Nasser Hussain and Brian Lara attend Shane Warne's memorial at the MCG.

Reuters

## Music, tears and lasting memories

It was the flying of the gold dust taken by the blowing wind at the MCG as the world said its final goodbyes to Warne at his memorial service

Cricket greets Nasser Hussain, David Boon, Glenn McGrath and Brian Lara were in attendance. While Warne's contemporaries and greatest rivals Sachin Tendulkar, Wasim Akram, Stephen Fleming spoke via video links. AFL stars Aaron Hamill, Sam Newman and Glenn Robbins too spoke on stage about the Larrikin, the Aussie boy who loved the Aussie sport

Australian prime minister, Scott Morrison, and the country's opposition leader, Anthony Albanese attended the memorial that was broadcast live across Australia, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and the UK – where 'Warnie' was deeply loved.

Soulful music accompanied tears as the greatest showman and legspinner was given a lyrical sendoff. Anthony Callea brought a beautiful rendition of The Prayer - Shane was a big Andrea Bocelli fan, followed by a spirited trumpet version of

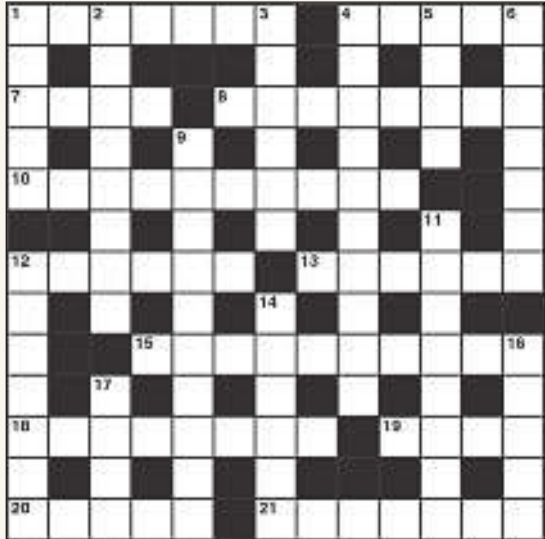
When The Saints Go Marching In. British singer Ed Sheeran recorded a rendition of hit Thinking Out Loud, while Sir Elton John, Kylie Minogue, Chris Martin and Jon Stevens all paid tributes. Greta Bradman, granddaughter of Sir Donald Bradman, sings the national anthem while music producer and critic Molly Meldrum made a rare public appearance to pay his tributes.

Warne's children Summer, Jackson and Brooke, took to the stage to the sound of Bryan Adam's song Summer of '69. His daughter, Summer, said the song was playing the last time she saw her Dad, two days before his passing. "You were coming to pick up your bag you needed for Thailand. And, as I opened the door, you came inside and had your car door wide open blaring that song. We both started dancing with not a care in the world." The children then officially unveiled the new Shane Warne Stand at the MCC.

played Kel Knight in the series, told the service. Actors Hugh Jackman and Eric Bana also paid tribute to their friend. Bana described Warne as a "fun loving larrikin" – an Australian term for a mischievous troublemaker – whose feats had changed cricket. Former English cricket team captain Nasser Hussain and former West Indies team captain Brian Lara also spoke at the service. Warne's love life and off-field indiscretions were often fodder for tabloid

journalists. But his determination to be his authentic, flawed and irreverent self endeared him to his friends and fans alike. A statue of Warne outside the cricket ground became a focus of public grief. Tributes left at the statue included beer bottles and cigarette packets. It was a nod to how Warne once described himself in words repeated at his service by his father, Keith Warne: "I smoked, I drank and I played a little cricket." ASSOCIATED PRESS

## CROSSWORD 4702



- ACROSS**  
1 I've cut the tips for the salad (7)  
4 Well-known craze takes me in (5)  
7 Minor quarrel but it turns very loud (4)  
8 Training tracks (8)  
10 A very original couple (4,3,3)  
12 This boat may be tied up (6)  
13 They're fired - the spaces need to be filled (6)  
15 Watercourse required for high speed (10)  
18 A bell is heard to produce such noise (8)  
19 Pointless affection (4)  
20 A doctor needs it to a certain extent (5)  
21 Tried and tested (7)
- DOWN**  
1 Surcharge for a special edition (5)  
2 Marriage of French betrothed in the Resistance (8)  
3 A drink mixed and swallowed by the shy (6)  
4 The whole book is in need of toning down (4,6)  
5 Lament from a hungry male (4)  
6 They are said to be just barren areas (7)  
9 Able to hold liquor but drunk on soft drink (10)  
11 Element may be Athenian in any case (8)  
12 It puts an end to any ill-feeling (7)  
14 Don't accept that it ought to be thrown away (6)  
16 Aim to include me? Correct (5)  
17 The press is said to be in the doorway (4)

**Solutions Crossword 4701:** Across: 1 Institution, 9 Profile, 10 Khaki, 11 Yves, 12 Umbrella, 14 No more, 16 Corset, 18 Gardener, 19 Spar, 22 Melba, 23 Antwerp, 24 At a discount. Down: 2 Noose, 3 Trip, 4 Thelma, 5 Take root, 6 Oracles, 7 A paying game, 8 Misanthrope, 13 Free hand, 15 Martlet, 17 Medals, 20 Preen, 21 Otto.

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## JUMBLLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

\_\_\_ never comes to any man until he admits it.

- Josephus Daniels (6)

ADREE



CYDERS



EKWAT



GLMUUF



SOLUTION: EARED, TWEAR, DISCRE, MURDER. Answer: Deceit never comes to any man until he admits it. - Josephus Daniels

## SUDOKU 4790

### Difficulty Level 1s

#### Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

### Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4789



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Think carefully before settling anything of any importance over the next few days. It's time to face important, long-term questions involving professional and personal matters, together with all those issues concerning your material security and finances.

### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Discipline and self-control will be vital in all matters of communication. In other words, marshal your arguments and prepare your case with great care. Other people will be persuaded by the facts and nothing else, so your natural charm may not be enough.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The Moon is now acting as a private planet, drawing you towards a sentimental view of your home and family background. There is little pressure from the planets for you to do anything that goes against your wishes, especially if it's likely to cost you money.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You have to demand only the highest standards from yourself. Don't expect others to back off or modify their demands. You must attempt to live up to all challenges and surmount every obstacle, no matter how imposing or off-putting they seem. Nothing less will do.

### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You now have the perfect opportunity, not to mention the time, to decide what your next move should be. With so much happening behind the scenes, though, you may complain that you have too many choices. But, then, it seems that some people are never happy, are they?

### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Few can manage finances like a Virgo, and now that the Moon is heading towards a part of your chart closely connected to your prosperity, you can be sure that a question of family security will be raising its head once again. It's also a suitable sociable moment.

### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Although you may have to give others the benefit of the doubt, this does not mean that they are right. It may be that you are concerned to avoid a pointless and frivolous conflict. But make sure that you're not just afraid to face up to the truth.

### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Lunar alignments in emotional regions of the sky are making you feel better. You will cope perfectly with all around you, even when they seem intent on raising objections or saying that it can't be done. You suspect that they don't really understand what you want, and you may be right.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Jupiter is the planet which normally offers you fabulous freedom of action. But right now this remarkable celestial body is about to feel the pressure of that belligerent planet, Mars, seriously curtailing your available options. You'll have to drop irrelevant sidelines and go ahead with what is important.

### CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You're still shaken by recent emotional confrontations but, as new weekend approaches, a next set of powerful patterns is about to blow you off course. Seize the chance to sail into uncharted waters, and invite a close partner to join you, if they're willing.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your financial stars are looking relatively healthy, so you have little to worry about on that score. It is spiritual and metaphysical questions which are uppermost at the present moment. That's why you have to raise your sights a little higher than perhaps they have been recently.

### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The stars are in a touchy mood, and there must have been several occasions recently when you came close to throwing in the towel. If you stay the course, I know that you'll be glad in the end. But you are wondering whether somebody else is really up to the challenge.



ADVERTORIAL

Goal Bio Oil is Bio diesel Manufacturer in India. Goal Bio Oil Industry is a private limited company committed to the cause of sustainable energy. From the moment of our inception, we have revolutionized bio fuel innovation, distribution and marketing in India.

Goal bio oil is a unit of Goal Gas private limited. Goal Gas was founded in 25th September 2017 India's leading Bottling and Manufacturing LPG marketing company. Goal Gas manufactures 5000 cylinder per 8 hours. Our LPG bottling plant is in Bihar, Assam & West Bengal . Our Production plant is established in Bareilly, Uttarpradesh, India. Our efforts are aimed at pioneering new processes, systems, innovative products, distribution channels and fuel technology.

Goal Bio Oil is always making sustainable fuel arrangements and environmentally friendly power vitality advancements to make a more joyful, clearer, more brilliant India. The organization is devoted to the mission of practical advancement to convey an incredible green fuel involvement the nation over.

Goal bio Oil is one of the world's most progressive energizes and a genuine option in contrast to diesel and fuel. Goal bio Oil, permits Goal Gas to offer a ultra-premium, low-outflow fuel which is perfect with all diesel motors. Goal bio Oil is perceived as a drop-in fuel according to National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 and is fabricated, prepared and tried at Goal Bio Oil producing plant in Gujarat, India.

Our endeavors are gone for spearheading new procedures, frameworks, creative items, circulation channels and fuel innovation.

Our Bio Diesesl Production Plant is Established as Joint Venture in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh and Naroda, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

We mean to make sustainable fuel available and moderate to every last one. Goal Biodiesel, a cutting edge transportation fuel is one such advance toward that path. Biodiesel can be utilized altogether in the motor 100% and should be possible by blending it with diesel.

# Goal Bio Oil

Its utilization expands the life of the motor and the motor adheres to the motor with much smoother oil and stops the sound. As of late all administration oil organizations have begun blending 5% biodiesel with typical diesel.

Our efforts are aimed at pioneering new processes, systems, innovative products, distribution channels and fuel technology. GOAL BIO OIL, a high quality sustainable fuel pioneered by HBI, is India's only EURO 6 emission norms compliant fuel.

With quality that meets EN590 and BIS 1460(BSIV) standards, as well as being EURO V/VI compliant, GOAL BIODIESEL offers superior quality fuel that is a class apart. Meeting such high quality standard guarantees that our fuel gets a nod of approval from best in class vehicle manufacturers too.

By exceeding all of India's fuel expectations, GOAL BIODIESEL ensures that you don't have to compromise on the performance of your vehicle or the health of our planet.

**True 21st Century Performance**  
Not only does GOAL BIODIESEL out-perform petroleum-based fuels, it also achieves a staggering 80% reduction in emissions, whilst retaining a competitive price.

**All year round Diesel**  
Its low-temperature fluidity has been designed to operate at optimum efficiency even in cold temperatures, thus ensuring smooth functioning throughout the year.

**Uncompromising Value**  
GOAL BIODIESEL requires no engine modifications. It seamlessly integrates with current infrastructure, even improving overall mechanical health.

**More Economical:**  
GOAL BIODIESEL gives higher mileage, lower maintenance cost & enhanced engine life, resulting in significant cost reductions. An 18%



**Md Zuber Alam**  
CMD, Goal Gas Pvt Ltd



**Md. Naushad Ali**  
CEO, Goal Gas Pvt Ltd



**M. S. Shahi**  
GM, Goal Gas Pvt Ltd

GST set off also allows GST registered customers to claim & enjoy further cost reduction.

**More Mileage**  
Higher cetane number ensures more number of km/ltrs

**More Power**  
Petrol like performance

**Low Maintenance**  
Better lubrication means longer engine life

**Warranties**  
Engine manufacturers extend their warranty to GOAL BIODIESEL as it is compliant with EN 590\* under worldwide fuel category

**Lower Emissions**  
India's only fuel that is Euro 6, Euro 5, Euro 4 emission norms compliant conforming to EN 590 & BIS

**Our Mission**  
To transform the fuel and business landscape of India, by providing Indians with eco-friendly fuel alternatives, that does not compromise on quality or affordability.  
Our Mission is to open 400 hundred outlet pump in three months.

**Our Product Bio Diesel**  
Goal Bio Oil is always making sustainable fuel arrangements and environmentally friendly power vitality advancements to make a more joyful, clearer, more brilliant India. The organization is devoted to the mission of practical advancement to convey an incredible green fuel involvement the nation over.

Biodiesel is the name of a clean burning alternative fuel, produced from domestic, renewable resources. Biodiesel contains no petroleum, but it can be blended at any level with petroleum diesel to create a biodiesel blend. It can be used in compression-ignition (diesel) engines with little or no modifications.

Biodiesel is a direct replacement for petroleum diesel and can be used in anydiesel engine without modifications. Biodiesel blends are used in diesel cars, trucks, buses, off-road equipment, and oil furnaces across the country. The use ofbiodiesel can reduce a diesel engine's overall

emissions up to 75 percent.

Biodiesel for Alternative Fuel Vehicles. Biodiesel is a clean-burning liquid fuel developed from renewable energy sources like vegetable oils and animal fats, which can be used to power vehicles in place diesel. Pure biodiesel, referred to as B100, contains no petroleum.

**Lubricants**  
Goal Bio oil Lubricants is Goal Bio Oil brand for manufacturing and marketing various lubricants and specialty products.

A vital part of Goal Bio oil , Goal Lubricants will be India's largest lubricant marketer, which markets more than 150 grades of lubricants, specialties and greases manufactured in state-of-the-art blending plants spread across India. The grades manufactured by Goal Bio oil Lubricants find applications in automotive, industrial, mining and construction, agriculture, fishing, defence and railways among others. HP Lubricants is especially dominant in industrial oils, and has the highest market share in this segment, comprising all industrial oil applications.

Goal Bio oil Lubricants has a robust marketing network that spreads across the country through warehouses, distributors, CFAs and offices with highly qualified sales and technical personnel. These teams and offices make HP Lubricants a dependable brand providing energy and fuelling growth in every significant area of development in India. Innovative R&D and robust quality assurance are a hallmark of Goal Bio oil Lubricants' processes which ensure development and consistent supply of world-class products to support this growth.

Flagship brands such as Racer for two and three wheelers, Milcy for commercial vehicles (diesel en-

gines), Neosynth for the passenger car segment and Enklo for hydraulic oils among other, make HP Lubricants a leading brand across all segments.

he market is flooded with small LPG cylinders that ignore safety features, thus compromising on the safety of the user. Under-filling of cylinders is another issue that robs the customers of their rightful fuel for money spent. Apart from being low-priced, our 6 Kg Goal Gas Cylinder addresses the above issues with safety features, accurate weight, convenience and portability

**Today, it is the No.1 choice in its category because of its ease of use and several other benefits. Benefits Of 6 KG GOAL GAS:**  
• Fully refundable deposit  
• Low gas price  
• Minimal connection charges  
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• Safe and strong cylinder (BIS and PESO approved)  
• Easily available

Let us know about your requirement for new gas connection by clicking on the enquiry or give us a missed call on above numbers for our expert team to get in touch with you.

**Ethanol Mixed Petrol**  
Blending ethanol with fuel raises the octane number of petrol. Petrol prices can be lowered if OMCs pass on the gains.

Petrol is a product of fractional distillation of crude oil, with further treatment, including addition of multi-function additives, to enhance its octane rating and other properties. A higher octane number means engines can burn the same amount of petrol to extract more energy.

The standardised octane number for petrol in India is 91. The cost of additives required to achieve this rating is built into the price of petrol. At present, splash blending of ethanol without changing the octane level at the refinery increases the octane rating by 2 excessive points.

**Bio Petrol**  
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# Goal Bio Oil

A Unit of Goal Gas Pvt. Ltd.

AN ISO CERTIFIED COMPANY

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आइए! हम सब मिलकर भारत को प्रदूषण मुक्त बनाएं

# Goal Bio Oil

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AN ISO CERTIFIED COMPANY

## एक सुनहरा मौका

# मात्र रु. 15 लाख में पेट्रोल पम्प के मालिक बनें

### Company to Dealer (Co-Do)

इसमें लागत पूंजी में 50% Investment कम्पनी और 50% Investment डीलर का होगा। इसका कमीशन कम्पनी को 2.50 रु० एवं डीलर को 2.50 रु० होगा।

### Dealer to Dealer (Do-Do)

इसमें पूरा लागत डीलर का होगा, इसमें कमीशन रु 5 प्रति लिटर होगा।



“हमारा उद्देश्य”  
डीजल नहीं खाड़ी  
से डीजल मिलेगा  
बाड़ी से



10% ज्यादा माईलेज  
₹ 2 प्रति लिटर सस्ता कमीशन  
80% कम प्रदूषण

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**BIO DIESEL ACTUAL PLANT PHOTO**

मान्यवर,  
आपको सूचित करते हुए आधार हर्ष हो रहा है कि गोल गैस प्रा० लि० की नींव सितम्बर 2017 में रखी गई। हमारी कम्पनी बायो डीजल रिटेल आउटलेट एवं एल० पी० जी० बोटलिंग प्लांट का कार्य आरंभ हो चुका था साथ ही बायो डीजल एवं बायो पेट्रोल का मैयूफैक्चरिंग प्लांट भी संचालित होगी, जो करनपुरा, बहापुर, बक्सर में अवस्थित है जिससे लगभग 100 लोगों से भी ज्यादा को रोजगार मिला और आगे भी रोजगार का सृजन होता रहेगा, और इससे हमारा बिहार आत्मनिर्भर बनेगा एवं हमारे बिहार के लोगों का राज्य से बाहर जाने का पलायन रुकेगा।  
धन्यवाद

मो० जुबेर आलम  
सी.एम.डी., गोल गैस प्रा० लि०

हमारी कम्पनी बायोडीजल, बायो पेट्रोल, बायो सी. एन. जी. (CBG) क्रूड डिस्टिलेशन, इथनॉल, ल्यूबरिकेन्ट एवं ग्रीस मैयूफैक्चरिंग प्लांट का निर्माण कार्य करती है।

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## RONALDO IN 5TH WORLD CUP

Cristiano Ronaldo will get another shot at lifting the World Cup. Portugal beat North Macedonia 2-0 in a European playoff on Tuesday, securing a fifth World Cup appearance for the leading men's international scorer. It was one of seven spots in football's premier tournament decided on the day. **AP**

# For 'DJ' Bravo, success is all about change of pace

The T20 ronin with most wickets in IPL, talks about the courage behind his slower deliveries, and the betrayal that kick-started his musical career

**SRIRAM VEERA**  
MARCH 30

"JUST LAST week, me and MS [Dhoni] were talking about that ball," Dwayne Bravo says with a laugh. The man with one of the greatest dipping slower balls in cricket history was talking about the brute of a bouncer he had bowled to Kevin Pietersen. In his flip book of foxiest slower deliveries that have dipped and alarmed batsmen, a page would sparkle with that brute.

Watch it on YouTube, please. By the time Pietersen is aware of what's happening, the ball crashes into his helmet, knocks it off his head, and it topples on to the stumps. A dazed Pietersen bends over the stumps almost, but Bravo is off, sprinting to nowhere in particular. What particular memory was he sharing with Dhoni, though?

"How KP didn't speak a word to me after that for the rest of the series. Not a word!" Bravo tells this newspaper. "He thought I didn't show concern that he was hit, and was celebrating. That was the furthest thought in my mind. I had one look, saw the helmet fall on the stumps and this was the wicket of KP. Of course, I was going to celebrate! Only after the series did we break ice. Good times!"

It's been a remarkable career for the T20 Ronin who has played for 20 franchises around the world. For a man with the most gorgeous lofted drive over extra cover and long-off and who started as an opener in his formative years, only turning to bowling at the age of 19 or 20, it's as a thinking bowler that he has been raved and feted. And in particular, his slower ones. Everyone knows he is going to bowl it; yet gets bewildered.

"The other day, my brother Darren [Bravo] was saying the same. 'How is it that all of us batsmen know you are going to bowl the slower one and still get fooled?!'" The answer is blowing in his brain. "Mainly, it's about execution - the timing of when to bowl, what lengths to bowl, the dipper or the regular cutter, or the full dipping yorker, or the well-outside off full ball. The game awareness."

That, of course, but sometimes it seems even if he tells a batsman a slower one is



CSK's Dwayne Bravo has played for 20 teams across the world. *sportspics/IPL*

coming, they can still get duped; especially when it's that crafty dipper. "No, no! Many times it has gone wrong also, but that dipper is my favourite weapon, yes."

It's worth a deep dive. "The deception firstly comes from the fact that I don't change my grip for any ball. The slower one, yorker, bouncer, everything has the same grip and the same arm speed. That I worked on a lot. The batsman might think it's a slower one but since there are no visible cues, at the back of his mind, he has to think that it could be anything," Bravo says.

"For the dipper, just before release, I twist the wrist and pull down on the side of the ball. The thumb and fingers don't work much but sort of flick it out. The wrist-twist and the pull down."

Where he aims for is fascinating too. "I go for his thigh pad. What I am really looking to bowl is a full toss! The twist and pull-down drag the ball down from that height. The batsman feels it's going to be a beamer before it dips so fast on him."

He then adds an important trait needed for him to pull it off. "Courage. To get it full,

high, slip it like a full toss and have the confidence that it will dip. Most batsmen by now should be used to it but it gives me great joy that I can still surprise them."

That ball turned around his career. The dismissal of Yuvraj Singh in an ODI in the West Indies, in particular. "It made the world look up and notice that I have one of the best change-up balls in business and it made my T20 career." India needed just two runs off three balls when captain Brian Lara walked up to Bravo for a chat.

"To discuss field placements. I still hadn't really thought about what ball to bowl. I am still not clear when I go to the top of my run-up." He isn't clear even half-way through his jog. "At some point, before I get to the umpire, I decide I am going to bowl that dipper." From round the stumps, the beauty curved, drifted, dipped, and a stunned Yuvraj swished out in the air but only found air as the leg-stump was pegged back. Bravo was on the run, with Lara and Co. behind him. Sachin Tendulkar noted it and would later pass on the message through the late West Indian commentator Tony Cozier to tell Bravo to call him. He was in the Mumbai Indians team. "Life began to change."

Over the years, there have been numerous times when he has left batsmen ashen-faced and sheepish. Faf du Plessis in the Caribbean Premier League. "Again, as I ran in, I thought he was about to step down the track; I just sensed it and chose the dipper." Du Plessis was thrown off kilter so much that he lunged forward, stumbled out actually, and was bowled.

Or the time he played Shoaib Malik at the CPL. "I sensed he was going to swipe across the line. That feeling you get is precious as a bowler. As I said before, there have been times it goes wrong. And even when I sense it and bowl the ideal ball, he can still adjust and hit. But for all this to work, that feeling of what a batsman wants to do is important. I look at his feet. For some, their hands. Top hand or bottom hand. What's his favourite go-to shot? How is he setting himself this ball. You get a quick look at the top of the run-up or as you run down and decide quickly."

This is where his one-grip for nearly every ball helps. It's a mental adjustment, not a

frantic last-instant change of the entire mechanism. "Right. For that Malik ball, he did go as I thought he would." The stumps tilted back towards the skies.

What about the delivery in an ODI to Graeme Smith. A proper off-spin cutter that landed outside leg-stump, broke in sharply to hit the middle. Bravo pauses, asks where it was, and even as one was about to mumble, he perks up. "Yes, yes. I remember that ball now. That was a very slow pitch. The ball gripped. Another thing to take in always is the conditions. There, I could slip in the off-break. That did him in, alright!"

It's ridiculous to ask someone who has scalped so many with slower ones to choose his favourite and he replies it's indeed ridiculous. "Too many, man, to choose one ball as favourite. That Yuvraj ball did change my life."



As a boy, Bravo inhabited the imaginary world that cricket-mad kids often revel in. As soon as he finished his homework after coming from school, he would pick up a stick. It was his bat in this fictional world. He then picked two teams, usually England vs West Indies. In his mind's eye, Darren Gough would run in to bowl and he was Desmond Haynes, batting in his style. An audio commentary ran along. He would play an entire match. If it's Lara's turn, then Bravo would bat the way Lara did.

It was one of his early mentors Richard Smith, who used to play for Trinidad & Tobago, who seeded the cricket dream. "He was the one who told me that when you play these dream games at home, make sure you put your name in the West Indies team." A dream was born. His mother Joycelyn once told Trinidad Guardian. "He used to bat by himself in the corridor, running up and down. I used to see this piece of stick and throw it outside because I really didn't know. He would come after and tell me that was his bat."

The parents had divorced when he was very young, he lived with his mother but had a healthy relationship with the father. To this day, when Bravo is in town, his father comes to his house to cook chicken rice for him. It

was the father who took a very young Bravo to play Sunday cricket with other kids.

"He is my hero. To this day, he doesn't have a bank account, no credit card, no ATM card, nothing. He is the happiest man I know. Lives life stress-free."

Bravo had his own way to beat the stress: Music. The king of dance-hall music Anthony Davis aka 'Beenie Man' was a major influence. "I never even dreamed that one day I would meet him and when I did, I was so star-struck. Luckily, we became friends." One day, he dared to ask Beenie Man if he could sing with him. "He took me to his studio and that's when I found out how tough it was. I made a mess! I had no clue but I decided that I would learn."

In the years to come, he began to roll out foot-tappers like Champion and the latest is Number One, launched by his own music label '47'. 'Ae yo DJ Bravo' it begins, "I am no 1, you are new no 1..." "I call mine 'happy music'."

The journey had started with a betrayal. He had made up his mind on buying a boat and using it as a party destination in Trinidad, where from Thursday to Sunday evenings, people party on boats. On a good day, at least four-five trips would be made, if not more. Anywhere from 50 to 100,000 could be netted in four nights. He had bought a boat from Miami but when it reached the Caribbean seas, someone else cut in, illegally, with more money and Bravo was shocked when his manager told him they lost the boat deal. Undeterred, Bravo moved on to his next venture, his original passion, and built a music studio. Then came the label. The songs have been spilling out ever since.

"Just 10 days before I came here for the IPL, I performed on the same stage in a big concert with Beenie Man! That's cool!" He also has a way of incorporating his songs into his celebrations and in the last game, after he became the highest wicket-taker in IPL history by taking his 170th wicket, he swayed side to side, with the index finger up. "It's an easy step. I don't have to practise or remind myself too much about celebrations. It comes out nice and easy."

Just like his dippers, then. Nice and easy, but deadly.

## BRIEFLY

## Manika-Kamath settle for bronze

**Doha:** India's Manika Batra and Archana Kamath signed off with a bronze medal after losing the women's doubles semifinals to Li Yu-Jhun and Cheng I-Ching at the WTT Star Contender Doha 2022 here on Wednesday. The higher-ranked Indian duo failed to reproduce the form they showed on Tuesday and lost to Li and Cheng 8-11, 6-11, 7-11. G. Sathiyam and Manika also lost their respective singles in the pre-quarter-finals to end India's campaign in the Star Contender events. **PTI**

## Pro League: Rohidas retained as skipper

**Bhubaneswar:** Amit Rohidas was retained as captain, while defender Neelam Sanjeev Xess made a comeback in India's 22-member squad for the upcoming FIH Pro League double-header against England here this weekend. Neelam was part of India's team in the Asian Champions Trophy in December last year at Dhaka where they finished third with a 4-3 win over Pakistan. **PTI**

## Australia thrash WI to enter final

**Wellington:** Australia booked their place in the ICC Women's World Cup final with a dominant 157-run victory over West Indies after Alyssa Healy's belligerent century was complemented by the bowlers here on Wednesday. Meg Lanning's side were at their destructive best with the bat, with Healy making 129 and adding 216 for the first wicket with Rachael Haynes (85), to post a mammoth 305 for three from 45 overs in a rain-curtailed semifinal. **PTI**

## Sai Praneeth enters third round

**Orleans:** Top seed B Sai Praneeth advanced to the men's singles third round with a straight game win over Czech Republic's Jan Louda at the Orleans Masters Super 100 badminton tournament here on Wednesday. Praneeth, who was down with COVID-19 in January, saw off Louda 21-19 21-12 to set up a clash with France's Christo Popov. In women's singles, Anupama Upadhyaya beat Switzerland's Jenjira Stadelmann 21-12 21-18, Ira Sharma stunned seventh seed Qi Xuefei of France 21-14 21-17. **PTI**

# RCB huff and puff before getting past modest target

**SYNOPSIS:** Wanindu's wrist wrecks havoc, Harshal sees off Russell in low-scoring game that goes RCB's way

**ABHISHEK PUROHIT**

MUMBAI, MARCH 30

WANINDU HASARANGA, Akash Deep and Harshal Patel blew away Kolkata Knight Riders for 128 and despite the early dismissals of captain Faf du Plessis and Virat Kohli, Royal Challengers Bangalore staggered home in the last over for a three-wicket win.

### Powerplay problems

An issue with IPL games starting half an hour earlier, at 7.30pm - as MS Dhoni had pointed out before - is that it often gives the batting side the most difficult conditions of the match until dew begins to appear. The Powerplay gets impacted the most. RCB experienced that in their opening game at DY Patil Stadium; they managed 41 for no loss but Punjab Kings raced to 63 for no loss later. On Wednesday, KKR perhaps tried to negate the disadvantage of losing the toss by going harder at the start. But they managed just 44 and also lost three wickets.

All three succumbed to shortish deliveries as RCB dug it regularly into what du Plessis had called a "tacky" surface. Venkatesh Iyer, in particular, had a troubled stay. He was kept quiet by David Willey's late swing and a silly mid-off, beaten by Mohammed Siraj's seam movement, and surprised enough to fend a bouncer from Akash Deep and exit. Ajinkya Rahane tried swinging Siraj over the shorter boundary but found the man at deep square leg. Nitish Rana, familiarly again, fell to a short ball, from Deep.

### Wanindu's wrist wrecks

KKR coach Brendon McCullum likes to remain aggressive regardless of the situation, so did former KKR captain Eoin Morgan, and that is what current skipper Shreyas Iyer tried. He drove the first delivery he faced past cover for four. In Hasaranga's first over, also the first after the powerplay, Shreyas decided to impose himself early on the leg-spinner. The ball was too full for him to get cleanly under it, but he still went through with his favoured hit over long-on, and failed to clear the fielder.

Hasaranga has to have the pressure of his nearly Rs 11 crore auction price. But this ground has shown some purchase for wrist-spinners; Rahul Chahar had a good outing on Sunday. And after a decent showing considering he was bowling with the dew against Punjab, Hasaranga ripped through KKR with 4 for 20. And true to their style, KKR kept going for their shots. Sunil Narine, promoted to No. 5, sliced a wrong 'un to point, and Sheldon Jackson was bowled through the gate first ball trying a drive.



Wanindu Hasaranga was the pick of the RCB bowlers with 4/20 *sportspics/IPL*

### Harshal sees off Russell

The only threat remaining for RCB was Andre Russell. He'd already slogged Hasaranga deep into one of the exits in the stands. When he did the same to the left-arm spin of Shahbaz Ahmed, RCB showed the first signs of worry. They added a deep fielder on the off and sacrificed one on the leg, forcing Ahmed to bowl wider. Russell almost bashed him for four more, but the sweeper cut it off. Du Plessis swapped the deep fielders again now. Russell calmly lofted the next delivery out of everyone's reach, way over wide long-off. Shahbaz's over went for 16, but Harshal had begun with a wicket-maiden at the other end.

He proceeded to bowl four successive dots to Russell; when the big all-rounder tried to dab the ball, there was short third man blocking his path. When he tried to make room and slash to vacant deep point, Harshal followed him, disallowing any room. Russell prefers the bent-knee slice to the cut, but Harshal wasn't affording him that length either. A frustrated Russell swung hard at another one dug into the pitch; it never came on and a thick edge flew to the 'keeper. The match was all but over at 99 for 8, but RCB would make it interesting with some abysmal batting of their own.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Kolkata Knight Riders: 128 all out in 18.5 overs (Andre Russell 25; Wanindu Hasaranga 4/20, Akash Deep 3/45, Harshal Patel 2/11) lost to Royal Challengers Bangalore: 132 for 7 in 19.2 overs (Sherfane Rutherford 28, Shahbaz Ahmed 27; Tim Southee 3/20, Umesh Yadav 2/16). **Playing tonight:** ISG vs CSK, 7:30 PM

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हर तरह के माफिया के खिलाफ जीरो टॉलरेंस  
की नीति अपनाकर उसे नेस्तनाबूद किया गया,  
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सड़कों का निर्माण

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हितग्राहियों को स्वरोजगार के लिये 5430 करोड़  
रुपये से अधिक की ऋण स्वीकृति

आईडेंटिफिकेशन, आइसोलेशन, टेस्टिंग, ट्रीटमेंट और वैक्सीनेशन की सुनियोजित रणनीति से  
जनभागीदारी के साथ कोरोना की तीनों लहरों का कुशल प्रबंधन एवं नियंत्रण

## दो साल शिवराज के-साहस के विश्वास के



# New Holland Drives Agricultural Revolution

*The company is driving innovation in agro-tech leading to sustainable, productive and cost-effective farming practices*



**A**griculture is unquestionably the largest livelihood provider in India which engages almost sixty percent of our population. It contributes 20% to the national GDP and continues to gain importance post the pandemic and the current war between Russia and Ukraine. Since Independence, India has gone from a net importer to a net exporter in just under six decades.

Studies confirm a strong correlation between farm power availability and farm productivity. Indian farm productivity has tripled in the last six decades backed by enhanced farm power availability which has grown five times. It is interesting to note that almost half of the available farm power is contributed by tractors—clearly Indian agriculture has been driven by tractorisation.

Better awareness among farmers and easy availability of modern agricultural equipment and technology are key drivers towards the modernization of farming in India. Agriculture in India today is witnessing the necessary shift from farm-tractorisation to farm-mechanisation.

CNH Industrial prides itself in being 'a Complete Agri-Solution Provider' and not just a tractor manufacturer. It is playing a pivotal role in the farm mechanisation journey of India. Recognised as one of the leading companies in the world in capital goods, CNH Industrial is steeped in a rich legacy of over 175 years, with many pioneering inventions and milestones under its belt.

The New Holland brand from CNH Industrial, currently offers a wide range of world class tractors between 35-90 hp. The tractors are replete with modern features and are known for their excellent performance, and enhanced comfort & safety for the operator. New Holland tractors feature Best-in-Class FPT Engines (Full Powertrain Technologies) that provide superior power with low fuel consumption and a lifespan that can extend up to 20 years.

With over 440,000 tractors sold in India, New Holland serves its customers through a robust network of 900+ dealers and over 1,000 touchpoints across the length and breadth of India. The state-of-the-art manufacturing facility for New Holland in Noida, is a globally recognised centre of excellence, with an installed capacity of 60,000 tractors per annum. Each year, over 30% of its production



is exported to over 70 countries in North America, South East Asia, Australia, Middle East, and Africa. At the heart of the manufacturing facility is a world class R&D centre that continuously works on providing better offerings for India and the globe.

The New Holland brand is also recognised as a global leader in harvesting technologies and biomass management. The brand firmly believes that these technologies will add great value to the agriculture sector in India soon. To drive this vision for the future, the brand has established a greenfield facility in Pune (Maharashtra) for the manufacture of Harvesters and Crop Residue Management products. Almost all the machines produced by New Holland are proudly 'Made in India' at their manufacturing facilities in Noida (UP) and Pune (Maharashtra).

Besides world class tractors, CNH Industrial has pioneered the use of sugarcane harvesters among Indian farmers in 1998. The company began by introducing this new machine to farmers and continued to regularly work with them and policy makers towards the wider adoption of these machines. Harvesting (especially sugarcane harvesting) is one of the most strenuous operations in agriculture.

New Holland and CNH mechanisation solutions make farming easier by reducing the need for hard labour, and more efficient by adding speed, improving the quality of work and overall productivity. These machines add value throughout the operational chain— for example, the sugarcane harvesters also increase the efficiency of sugar mills significantly.



*Power & Pride*

New Holland also started working on biomass management with its range of straw balers way back in 2001. Today, it is the leader in this segment in India. The brand is passionate about sustainable agriculture and is helping farmers in the

recycling of biomass waste for better economic returns and preservation of farm fires.

India is a leader in milk production and needs green fodder for better productivity of cattle. The Ball Forage Harvesters introduced by New Holland in 2006 have helped make significant strides in this field. The 500hp Forage Harvesters are the biggest agricultural machines in India today.

Continuing its story of providing world-class farm mechanisation solutions, New Holland introduced Pneumatic planters in 2009. These machines are known to improve productivity by up to 15%, as well as reducing labour and seed cost. The Company also manufactures the wheeled Multi-Crop Harvester. This machine is known to provide the highest power in its category resulting in higher harvesting capacity per hour, as well as the highest clearing efficiency. Its innovative technology allows excellent harvesting of pulses, corn, and sunflower in addition to traditional crops.

To further its commitment to Indian Agriculture, CNH Industrial launched retail finance offerings through CNH Industrial Capital (India) Private Limited in 2018. CNH Capital provides the Indian farmer with competitive finance offerings to make acquisition of New Holland and CASE products easier.

Recently, the Company has established a new International Technology Centre in India. This strategic hub is an integral part of the company's global R&D footprint focusing on product development and digital solutions.

The India Technology Center is a first of its kind facility in the country for CNH Industrial. It is equipped with latest technology and capabilities including an innovation center, vehicle simulation and a state-of-the-art extended reality / virtual reality laboratory to support global technology-led projects.

At New Holland Agriculture, the future is one that is sustainable, technology-driven, and customer-centric. The brand is here to ensure that their customers are satisfied and have access to the best machines for excellent agricultural output.



**Kumar Bimal**  
Director - Sales & Network  
Development  
CNH Highway Agriculture  
India & SAARC



To support farmers, New Holland Agriculture has established a dedicated customer helpline (with regional language support) in India. Customers can get in touch with the brand via its toll-free number 1800-419-0124.



# The Most Powerful Indians in 2022

**T**HE ROAD to power passes through Lucknow. And Power List 2022 is paved with it. As dust settles on the fire-and-brimstone election of Uttar Pradesh, the poll of polls has changed the political landscape: Yogi Adityanath towers over the horizon, having entered the top five Sangh Parivar club. He ranks just after Mukesh Ambani.

Yogi Adityanath's surge, from No. 13 last year to No. 6, is anchored by the one spot that seems to get more entrenched each year at the top: Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

**With power concentrated in the hands of politicians and businessmen, the first person who is neither comes in only at 50 — Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra. A close second is Bimal Patel, the architect shaping the grand projects of the new India**

As the PM now for eight years, Modi remains disruptor-in-chief with a regularity that expands his presence and crimps his critics. Be it the vaccination programme after the brutal second wave or, most recently, the airlift of over 22,000 young Indians from Europe, the PM has come to stand as the veritable Prime Mover.

With a pole so dominant, any power list risks being a derivative of sorts. And yet some fortunes stand altered: a better-late-than never Akhilesh Yadav is now among the 50s, up 15-odd ranks; a blink-and-miss Mayawati tumbles almost out of the 100 list; Priyanka Gandhi Vadra gets a consolation rank of 75 for effort; and Rahul Gandhi hangs on, but just, in that neither here-nor there spot of 51.

But if status quo is the best the Gandhis can hope for, Arvind Kejriwal has ensured that it is not to be. With Punjab joining Delhi as a state under

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), he is the brightest star in the tired old Opposition corner, as his ranking of nine reflects.

Mamata Banerjee, who has stood her ground against the BJP through the toughest of challenges, rises from 22 to 11. Chief Justice N V Ramana is there, at 12, for the way he has begun to put his foot down, firmly yet gently. So all eyes are now on Justice D Y Chandrachud, his two-year term from November could shape the character of the apex court. That's why he makes an entry in the top 20.

The hold of the new powers that be, cemented by the recent Assembly results, is clear in the lack of any other drastic changes at the top. Even two new entrants in the top-50 club are by virtue of the same power dynamic — Jay Shah at 47; Nita Ambani at 48.

If others have nudged their way in, it's on account of their posts (Hardeep Singh Puri, Anurag Singh Thakur, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Mansukh Mandaviya), or what's coming next (BJP state chief CR Paatil as Gujarat election looms).

With power concentrated in politics and business, the first person who is neither comes in only at 50 — Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra. A close second is Bimal Patel, the architect shaping the grand projects of New India.

Reeling under Covid-19, Netflix and a government with an eye on everything from star deaths to star cruises, Bollywood has proved to be a purring cat in lion's clothing. So, it's no wonder that above Kangana Ranaut's noise and Akshay Kumar's ever-changing poise, stands Shah Rukh Khan's stoic silence. SRK may no longer be King Khan, *par naam toh suna hoga*.



# Brand Kalra Hospital is About Perseverance With Magical Personal Touche



**What keeps you so fit at this age and work with the same passion for so many decades?**

I start my day with meditation and gratitude to God for his benign blessings. Daily walk in the park or light exercise at home is also part of my daily regimen that keeps me fit. I joined the medical profession in 1967 and ever since from my medical student days and internship, I have worked from 9 am to 9 pm every day, and beyond i.e., 18 hours in a day. Even today after more than seven decades of my life, I work for 18 hours every day because my profession is my passion from where I draw my strength and inspiration to work for long hours. My availability, my affinity to patients, and a personal touche, is of utmost importance to me and differentiates Kalra Hospital from the rest.

**Could you share your life's journey to becoming a doctor?**

When I was a child, there were no facilities to educate children the way it is today. At the most, my father used to enquire about my test marks and the report card, but my teachers saw potential in me. They took me under their wings, gave special attention and made extra efforts to tutor me for which I had to reach their house at 9 am! These days, the best courses were considered to be engineering or medical. I scored well and took admission in non-medical subjects at DAV College, Jalandhar. But my uncle told me to quit engineering and take up medical course. I pleaded and tried to excuse myself saying that I was scored too less even at 100, but he did not relent. I had to give in to his wish. My father was keen that I join his business and thought after a couple of months in the medical college, he would try to shift my focus. I was adamant that since I have taken up medicine, I have to study for long hours and have no time or interest in business. I chose to become a cardiologist.

**How did you cope during the Covid Pandemic?**

My rapport with the patients and my reputation in the medical industry is such that during the Covid pandemic people used to call me 24x7 and I made it a point to attend them considering the gravity of the situation and the panic around even as the medical fraternity was trying to battle an invisible enemy. Some hospitals provided beds at exorbitant rates and some others sold oxygen cylinders at very steep prices. I adopted a

*A physician and cardiologist of repute, Dr. R.N. Kalra, Medical Director CEO R&D of Kalra Hospital, began an illustrious journey, building a landmark centre of excellence in healthcare- Kalra Hospital, in the national capital for which he has been recognised with several awards and honours. Gaining from Dr Kalra's experience of over 4 decades as a cardiologist, and under his guidance, his sons, Dr Ankur Kalra and Dr Ankit Kalra, along with a team of highly experienced specialists are taking forward the vision and mission of Kalra Hospitals to its next level of global standards.*

zero tolerance to such inspections having strict instructions to the entire staff that if anyone was caught indulging in any unethical act would be fired there and then. Thus, Kalra Hospital was able to contribute its services selflessly during the peak of the pandemic. Many lives were saved because we ensured that there was no dearth of medical supplies and oxygen cylinders. We complied with the Covid protocols issued by the government from time-to-time for creating a safe environment.

For 3 months at a stretch, I slept only for 2-3 hours in a day. In the morning, I used to set out of the house like a warrior going to the front telling my family that I don't know when I would return because the entire medical fraternity was the most vulnerable due to constant exposure to infected patients. I guided and gave free advice to people who called me in desperation. Once the pandemic weakened, I was back to my usual routine. I have never taken any holiday.

**What inspired you to build Kalra Hospital and how have you kept abreast with the changing times?**

I had this personal dream and desire to set up a hospital of my own where I can give the best treatment to my patients at a reasonable cost. I keep on updating myself with the latest findings in the medical profession and ensure



to equip Kalra Hospital with the best infrastructure and technology backed facilities such as the state-of-the-art Cath lab. The competition is tough out there, leaving no room for laziness. I, therefore, ensure that Kalra is at par with the best of the best in cardiac care. Personally, I feel that only infrastructure and technology does not guarantee success for any hospital. What sets us apart is the personal touch or to say the individual attention that we give to patients, establishing mutual trust.

When it comes to my staff, I ensure to provide them with opportunities to learn and grow in their profession. More than 80 percent of the staff are old-timers, who have been with Kalra hospital for years and have driven the hospital's vision and mission taking it to the position to where it is today.

**What are the expansion plans for Kalra Hospital?**

Kalra Hospital started as a 25 bedded hospital and as the demand grew, we increased the bed count in the main hospital here in Kirti Nagar,

New Delhi. Thereafter, we built two branches of Kalra Hospital, one each in Dwarka Metro, New Delhi and Gurgaon, and both are 50 bedded facilities. As far as medical equipment is concerned, we will soon be storing robotic surgery. People, however, are more comfortable with the conventional procedures.

My two sons have followed my footsteps and are highly qualified doctors. My elder son, Dr Ankur Kalra, is MD, FACP, FACC, FSCAI, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, IU Health/CV Institute, Director for Interventional Cardiology Quality & Innovation Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Kronenfeld Cardiovascular Research Center, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana, and my younger son, Dr Ankit Kalra is MD & CMT cardiology. Both are now playing more prominent roles in the working of Kalra Hospital. From here onwards, it is for them to take forward my dream and passion.

**How is Kalra Hospital spreading awareness about heart health in cluster dwellings?**

We hold regular camps in neighbourhood slum clusters and give free medicines to those who are found to be sick. Even after the camp is wound up, we call them to the hospital and continue their treatment free of cost. A 50 percent rebate is given to senior citizens and those who are admitted to our hospital and cannot afford the treatment, we give free treatment and do not discharge them untreated. The neighbourhood camps have been temporarily put on hold due to the Covid pandemic.

**In India, what is leading to increase in heart problems, particularly, the youth?**

The number of heart patients have increased significantly in India. Lifestyle, family history, smoking, alcohol, tobacco, lack of sleep due to late night parties, lack of exercise, are among various factors that has led to sharp rise in heart problems. To the youth, I would say that start living a healthy life, control their diet and weight, do regular exercise for 20-30 minutes daily, keep away from tobacco and smoking or any kind of substance abuse. They should get their lipid profile done annually and correct it with medicines if required.

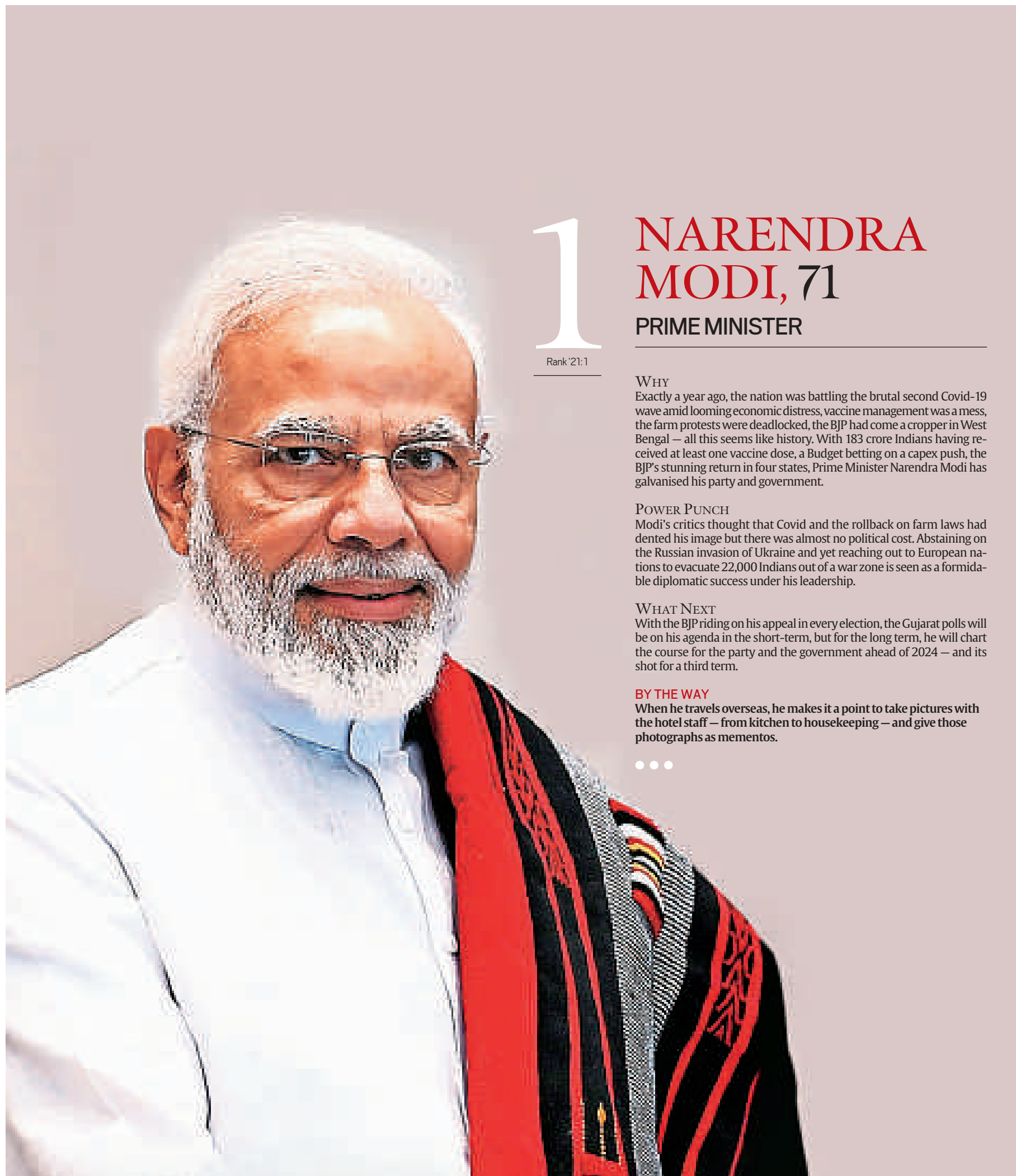
**Your message to young doctors and the success mantra?**

Join the profession only if you are passionate about it and have the desire to serve the society. Keep yourself fit to take on the pressures of a doctor's duty which is very stressful.

Be honest and compassionate to your patients and success shall follow.







1

Rank '21:1

## NARENDRA MODI, 71

### PRIME MINISTER

#### WHY

Exactly a year ago, the nation was battling the brutal second Covid-19 wave amid looming economic distress, vaccine management was a mess, the farm protests were deadlocked, the BJP had come a cropper in West Bengal — all this seems like history. With 183 crore Indians having received at least one vaccine dose, a Budget betting on a capex push, the BJP's stunning return in four states, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has galvanised his party and government.

#### POWER PUNCH

Modi's critics thought that Covid and the rollback on farm laws had dented his image but there was almost no political cost. Abstaining on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and yet reaching out to European nations to evacuate 22,000 Indians out of a war zone is seen as a formidable diplomatic success under his leadership.

#### WHAT NEXT

With the BJP riding on his appeal in every election, the Gujarat polls will be on his agenda in the short-term, but for the long term, he will chart the course for the party and the government ahead of 2024 — and its shot for a third term.

#### BY THE WAY

When he travels overseas, he makes it a point to take pictures with the hotel staff — from kitchen to housekeeping — and give those photographs as mementos.

• • •





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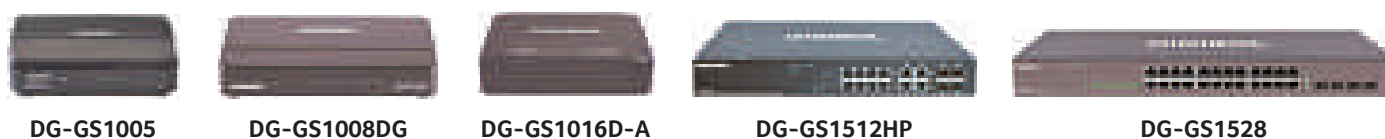


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2

Rank '21: 2

## AMIT SHAH, 57

HOME MINISTER

### WHY

Despite there being a new BJP chief in J P Nadda, Shah continues to exert considerable influence in the party. As the Union Home Minister, he remains the effective No. 2 in the government.

### POWER PUNCH

Although both PM Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath were the faces of the BJP's campaign, Shah had to step in to energise the cadre as the party braced for a tough battle in western UP amid the farmer stir. Also, the size and character of Adityanath's new council of ministers has Shah's stamp.

### WHAT NEXT

Will Kashmir be granted statehood? When will elections be held there? From Centre-state relations in a polarised polity to articulating the government's view on key social issues, Shah has his task cut out. With Gujarat elections next, he will be the man to watch out for.

### BY THE WAY

Shah had a chance encounter with Baba Ramdev at the 1986 Kumbh, where the latter was distributing pamphlets on yoga and Ayurveda

• • •



3

Rank '21: 3

## MOHAN BHAGWAT, 71

CHIEF, RASHTRIYA SWAYAMSEVAK SANGH

### WHY

Despite talk of the Modi-Shah combine overshadowing the RSS's hold over the BJP organisation, the RSS continues to have the BJP's back.

### POWER PUNCH

Adityanath's closed-door meeting with Mohan Bhagwat in Gorakhpur, days before he took oath as CM, sent a signal. Also, during the pandemic, Bhagwat made it a point to meet cadres regularly. Their work on the ground blunted some of the discontent in UP against the BJP government's handling of the pandemic.

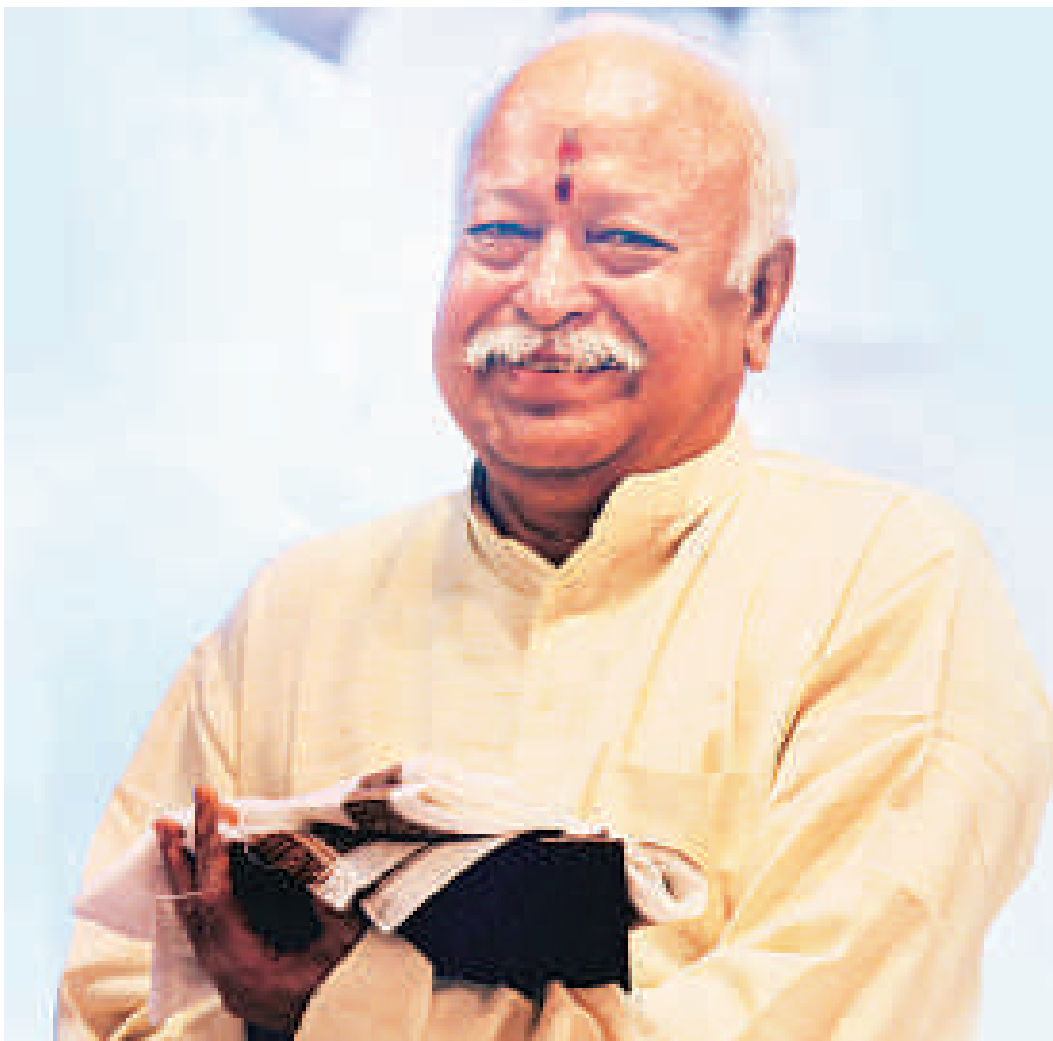
### WHAT NEXT

In a recent meeting of the RSS's Akhil Bhartiya Pratinidhi Sabha in Ahmedabad, Bhagwat reportedly said that when the BJP is in power, it creates *anukoolta* (compatibility) which causes *shithilta* (laxity) and cautioned cadres against any possible *asavdhani* (inattention). With more polls coming up, that's a timely reminder.

### BY THE WAY

In the years that he was posted in Bihar, he developed a taste for chura-dahi.

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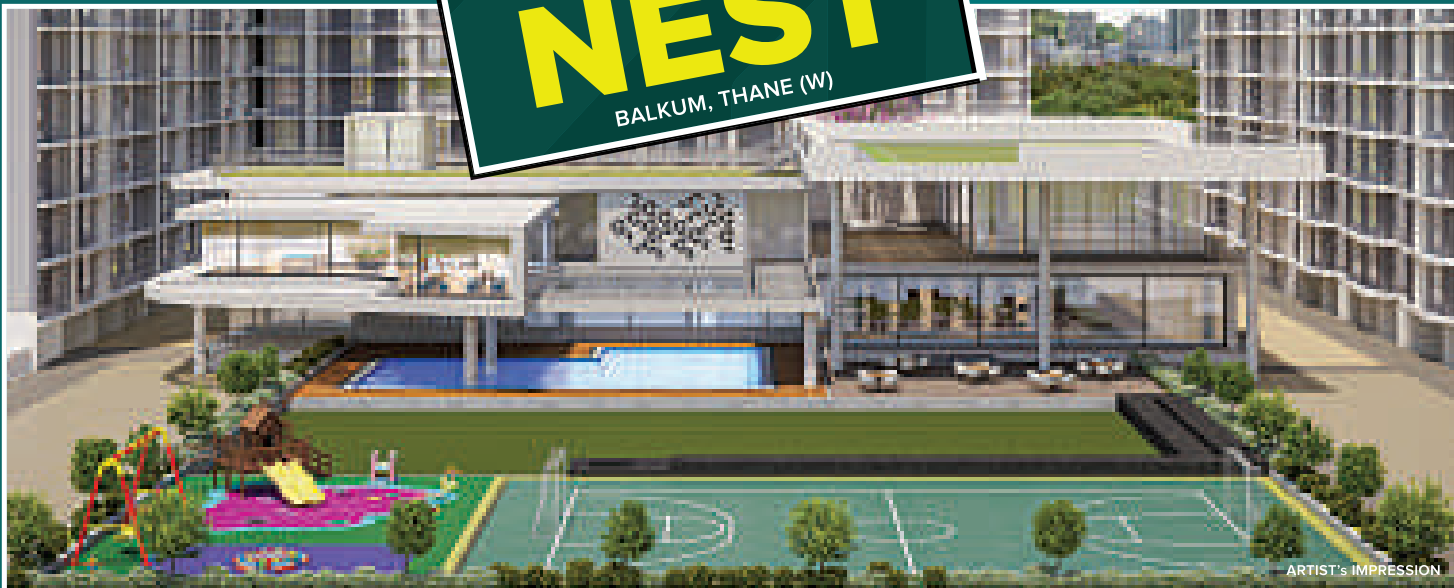




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Rank '21: 4

**JPNADDA, 61**

PRESIDENT, BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY

**WHY**

Having lost the elections in West Bengal under his watch, Nadda's BJP bounced back this year, delivering four out of five state election victories, including a spectacular one in the politically crucial Uttar Pradesh. This would have a significant impact on the party's march towards 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Also, his initiatives during the pandemic helped the BJP tide over public anger against the government in states ruled by the party over their handling of the pandemic.

**POWER PUNCH**

At the BJP parliamentary party meeting held in the aftermath of the party's win in four out of five states that went to polls, Nadda got a standing ovation.

When party leaders attempted to garland the Prime Minister, he gestured for Nadda to be garlanded first.

**WHAT NEXT**

He will have to ensure that the success of March carries through to the face-off in Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat, both states where there's evidence of anti-incumbency.

**BY THE WAY**

He has a story to tell about every place and building he visits, be it the Rashtrapati Bhavan or a government office. His aides are let in on his past interactions with people on the ground.

● ● ●

5

Rank '21: 5

**MUKESH AMBANI, 64**

CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR, RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED

**WHY**

The richest Indian with a net worth of over \$96 billion (according to *Forbes*), Mukesh Ambani has concluded multiple deals across telecom, retail and energy segments over the last couple of years. He raised investments worth over Rs 1.5 lakh crore from investors, including Google and Facebook. The group has been expanding its retail business and has made investments of close to Rs 9,000 crore in over a dozen acquisitions and joint ventures in the current fiscal.

**POWER PUNCH**

In one of the most dramatic finishes to a corporate war, Mukesh Ambani's RIL terminated the prop-

erty leases extended to Future Retail, effectively putting an end to Amazon's campaign of blocking Reliance's acquisition of Future.

**WHAT NEXT**

Ambani is channelling efforts to convert RIL into a big renewable energy player. He has already announced investments of \$75 billion in renewable infrastructure including generation plants and solar panels.

**BY THE WAY**

He loves watching leopards on his vacations in Maasai Mara in Kenya.

● ● ●



6

Rank '21: 13

**YOGI ADITYANATH, 49**

CHIEF MINISTER, UTTAR PRADESH

**WHY**

If the BJP won the last UP election primarily in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, "Yogi-Modi" was the mascot of the 2022 winning campaign. In an election fought on his governance in the last five years, especially law and order, Adityanath steered the BJP to a second consecutive term in UP. He became the first Chief Minister to return to power in the state after completing a five-year term, making the BJP the first party to retain power in UP since 1985.

**POWER PUNCH**

Despite criticism of his government's handling of the pandemic and talk of popular discontent on issues of unem-

ployment and price rise, Adityanath retained the trust of his party's top leadership, and more significantly, of the people. In November, at the height of the campaign, Adityanath put out photos of Modi and him walking in deep conversation, the PM's arm around his shoulders. It was a picture that spoke out loud.

**WHAT NEXT**

His challenge will be to consolidate the BJP's grip on UP and deliver ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

**BY THE WAY**

He reads books on religious affairs, politics and health.

● ● ●





10  
YEARS IN INDIA  
10

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# 6 major factors that will define the global healthcare landscape in 2022



**PARK GROUP of Hospitals (PARK)** is a chain of state-of-the-art Multi-Super Specialty Hospitals founded by Dr. Ajit Gupta and is among the fastest growing chain of Multi-Super Specialty Hospitals in North India. PARK is currently having a total bed capacity of ~4,000 beds and the same will be increased to 4,500 beds in the next one year. PARK has an advanced Heart Institute, Cancer Institute, IVF Centre Harmony with Mother's Nest and delivery suites, among many other facilities. With a team of highly proficient and veteran doctors along with efficacious paramedical staff, PARK stands true to its commitment of delivering the most sophisticated and highest standard of care in conjunction with its super specialties.

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THE GLOBAL healthcare industry is witnessing a paradigm shift all around the world, and the Covid 19 pandemic continues to present new challenges. Healthcare workers all over the world are concerned with changing customer attitudes and behaviour, the integration of life sciences, quickly expanding virtual care technology, new talent, current healthcare models, and diagnostic and therapeutic innovation.

## Trends that will shape the global healthcare landscape

### ■ Digital transformation

The government has announced an investment of Rs 64,180 crore over the next six years to strengthen healthcare services. A significant chunk of this budget will be used to digitize healthcare which comprises an open platform for the National Digital Health Ecosystem, and will feature digital health providers and facility registries and universal access to health facilities. It will be a single point of contact that connects patients with specialized doctors, availability of beds, consent framework and universal access to health facilities, etc. This system will aid in the delivery of healthcare in ways that will shape India's healthcare future.

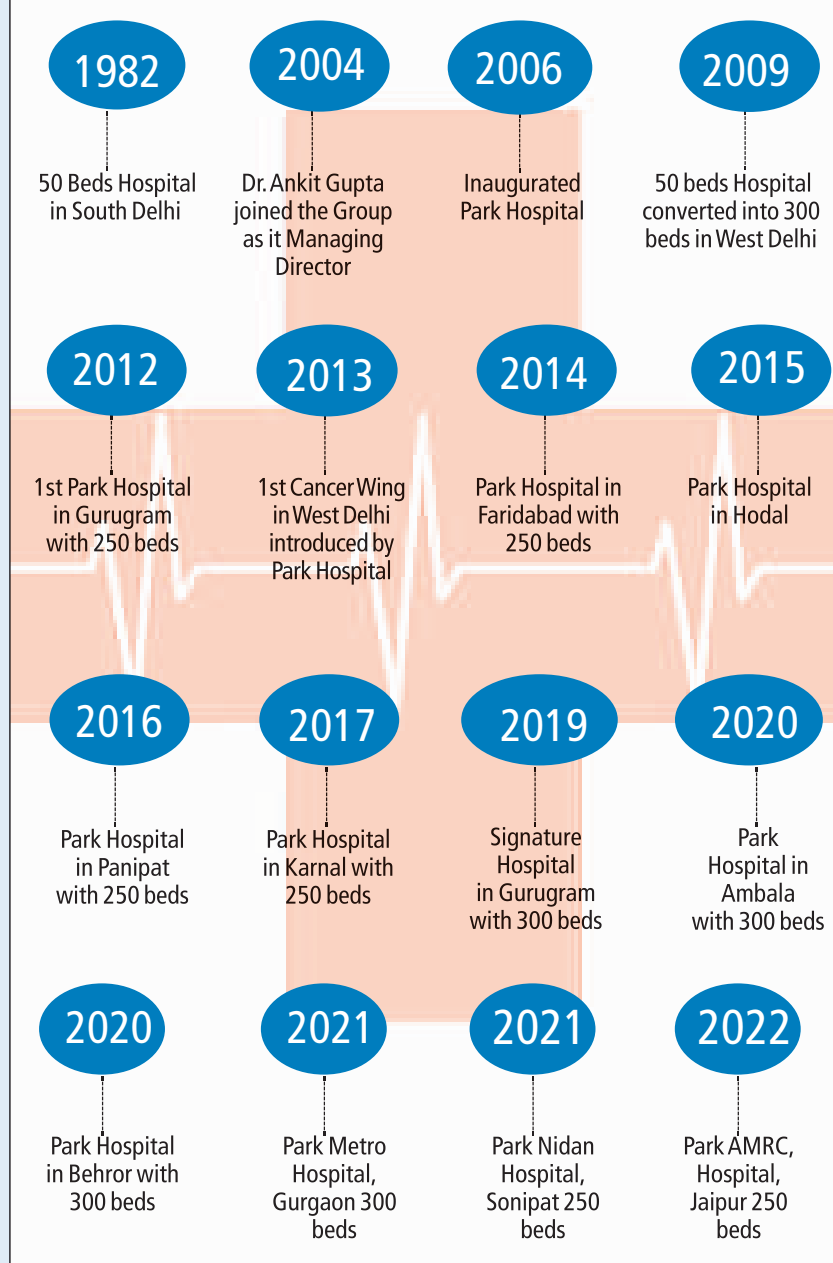
The rapid deployment of optical fibres in underserved geographies will aid affordable broadband and mobile services in rural and remote areas, while the rollout of the National Digital Health Ecosystem will enable an explosion of telehealth services across the country, connecting patients in rural areas with medical specialists in metros, thereby resolving the problem of access.

Many new health applications have been released this year to assist the population at large. They are making use of teleconsultations as well as the growing usage of technology for other health services. Even the prescriptions and lab reports are being delivered to the patient's home. As the industry looks for ways to combine inpatient care with community and home-based care, cloud technology will gain prominence. Furthermore, robotics, artificial intelligence, and other similar technology will continue to gain traction in the



Dr. Ankit Gupta, Managing Director, Park Group of Hospitals

## Success Story



healthcare industry.

### ■ Focus on mental health care

While we have mostly recovered from Covid, the scars on our hearts and minds remain, as the footprint of the last 2.5 horrific years has left an indelible mark. According to a survey, aside from physical health concerns, there was a 200 percent increase in overall psychiatry consultations, in persons aged 21-30 accounting for 62% of the total tele-consultations.[1] Among the top mental health concerns are isolation, panic attacks, stress management, loneliness, and anxiety issues.

In this scenario, the central government's tele-mental health project is a step forward for persons seeking treatment for mental diseases who want to overcome societal stigma. Large numbers are still hesitant to seek help. Now that a telemedicine service is being put in place, more people will come out to discuss their mental health difficulties. This would surely contribute to the eradication of the stigma connected with mental diseases.

### ■ Research & Development

R&D areas offer innovation that is out of reach for the poor and middle classes. The world has recognized the importance of investing in healthcare research and development in the face of the pandemic, and it will continue to lead the way. More vaccine research will be conducted, and a greater emphasis will be placed on finding treatments for life-threatening diseases such as cancer and AIDS.

### ■ ESG strategies for sustainability

The majority of hospitals and healthcare institutions are not energy efficient. It is time for healthcare leaders and organizations to set goals to minimize the sector's carbon footprint.

Today healthcare facilities should aim to build resilience into their infrastructure, supply chain and workforce to withstand future natural disasters. The necessity of the hour is to put measures in place to deal with the rising number of individuals suffering from respiratory, cardiovascular, and other climate-related illnesses.

### ■ Health equity

Health equity is achieved when everybody achieves full health and well-being. A lot of factors like situations in which people are born, grow, live, work, play, and age, as well as biological variables, influence their health and health equity. Sometimes, inequality and discrimination prevent certain individuals to achieve health equity. Today's healthcare experts acknowledge that establishing a balance of clinical, mental, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual health is crucial and influenced by social, economic, and environmental variables, as well as healthcare. Therefore, the focus should be to prioritize health equity by removing barriers that prevent people to achieve happiness.

### ■ PPP for public healthcare

New public-private partnerships, new sources of funding, new market entries with various skill sets, and considerable measures to digitalize the healthcare industry will all contribute to the improvement of public healthcare.

### ■ The Bottom Line

Despite ongoing challenges on numerous fronts, there is rising hope that many countries are now better able to deal with COVID-19's implications. While there is little likelihood that Covid 19 will totally vanish, when new variants arise, COVID-19 will transition from pandemic to endemic, meaning that while the virus will still be there, it will be more predictable and controlled. We hope that the pandemic's actual legacy is to serve as a timely catalyst for launching and speeding up many of the healthcare industry's long-standing innovations.



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7

Rank '21: 10

**GAUTAM ADANI, 59**

CHAIRMAN, ADANI GROUP

**WHY**

Gautam Adani goes from strength to strength, having built the third Indian business conglomerate worth over \$100 billion in no time. Perceived to be close to power, the group is now an infrastructure major, with ports, airports, power, city gas distribution and renewable energy in its portfolio.

**POWER PUNCH**

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) is developing a renewable portfolio of 25 GW by 2025 which includes wind, solar and hybrid power projects. The Adani Group is the largest airport operator, winning rights to modernise and operate seven airports. It has the largest private power company and handles India's largest commercial port.

**WHAT NEXT**

Many of the Adani Group's projects are aligned to government priorities with green technologies, and set to account for over 75 per cent of the group's capex till FY2025. Adani Gas will invest Rs 20,000 crore in a city gas distribution infrastructure, a part joint venture with global oil and gas major Total. The group will spend \$70 billion on renewable energy to expand its portfolio to 45GW by 2030 and aims to produce the world's cheapest green hydrogen in India.

**BY THE WAY**

Adani reportedly owns BMW 7 Series Limousine, a Rolls-Royce Ghost and a Ferrari California

...

8

Rank '21: 7

**AJIT DOVAL, 77**

NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

**WHY**

Known to enjoy Prime Minister Modi's trust, Doval continues to be the most powerful official in the Government. His long-standing experience in managing national security has come in handy as the Government has had to deal with challenges at home and overseas. Not only has he been key to policy-making on China and Pakistan, he has influence on matters related to policing in the country and Kashmir. He will also be a key influencer on the decision to appoint the next Chief of Defence Staff, as the integration of defence services is a priority for the government.

**POWER PUNCH**

In recent weeks, he has been one of

the key decision-makers on the Russia-Ukraine crisis — from evacuation of stranded Indians to assessment of the conflict and India's diplomatic balancing act.

**WHAT NEXT**

In the backdrop of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and Moscow's growing proximity to Beijing, the NSA's job will be complex in terms of consolidating India's interests. Also, the situation in Kashmir can pose challenges in the coming months.

**BY THE WAY**

He is closely connected with his native village in Uttarakhand's Pauri, and visits there often.

...



9

Rank '21: 27

**ARVIND KEJRIWAL, 53**

CHIEF MINISTER, DELHI

**WHY**

With his party's victory in the recent Punjab Assembly Election, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief has emerged as a strong voice of opposition against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). AAP also managed to win two Assembly seats in Goa, its first win outside of Delhi and Punjab. The scale of the win in Punjab — AAP won 92 seats out of 117 — was a shot in the arm for the party in an electorally crucial year, where it wants to extend its footprint in two new states.

**POWER PUNCH**

Taking the fight to the BJP, Kejriwal has managed to maintain a delicate balance between going all out against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

keeping the focus on "kaam ki rajneeti" — his policies on education, health, water and power and, now, jobs as well.

**WHAT NEXT**

AAP will contest Assembly polls in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh later this year. He was banking on a win in the Delhi municipal polls but the Centre's decision to unify the three corporations seems to have delayed those polls for now.

**BY THE WAY**

At the end of a long workday, Kejriwal likes to unwind in a full body massage chair.

...







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10

Rank '21: 9

**NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, 62**

MINISTER OF FINANCE, CORPORATE AFFAIRS

**WHY**

Steering the world's sixth-largest and fastest-growing economy, Nirmala Sitharaman is sitting in the government's engine room of reforms. The government's privatisation policy has been welcomed despite the slow speed of implementation. A record push towards capital expenditure next year is seen as stoking private investment and creating enablers for a sustainable high growth.

**POWER PUNCH**

A key member of the Prime Minister's core team, she's been at the forefront of major initiatives, including the Atmanirbhar Bharat stimulus packages. Under her watch, the gov-

ernment could push through the much-awaited privatisation of Air India. Setting up of a bad bank and a record increase of 35.4 per cent in capex for next year — the highest rise in any budget — emboldened hopes of an investment-led demand revival.

**WHAT NEXT**

Successful implementation of the record Capex programme outlined in the Budget and pushing forward on the privatisation agenda will be keenly watched.

**BY THE WAY**

She is fond of trekking, travelling and music.

● ● ●

11

Rank '21: 22

**MAMATA BANERJEE, 67**

CHIEF MINISTER, WEST BENGAL

**WHY**

She single-handedly took on the BJP in Bengal to return as the state's Chief Minister for the third time with a thumping majority. With the Congress shrinking, Mamata realises that the Opposition space is up for grabs. She has been pressing ahead with expanding her party nationally and made a bold attempt to make her party's presence felt in Goa, though the Trinamool Congress failed to open an account in the just concluded polls.

**POWER PUNCH**

Despite the BJP pulling out all stops and launching a high-voltage campaign in Bengal, she led the Trinamool Congress to one of its biggest political victories in the past

three decades. The win was so decisive that the BJP is yet to recover from the blow, losing a string of leaders and elections (civic and rural polls) since then.

**WHAT NEXT**

With 42 seats at stake in West Bengal, will Banerjee be the rallying point for the Opposition ahead of the 2024 elections? How she handles the fallout of the political violence in her state will also shape her influence.

**BY THE WAY**

Banerjee is fond of watching Bengali teleserials (repeat telecast) late night after a long day.

● ● ●



12

Rank '21: 21

**NV RAMANA, 64**

CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

**WHY**

As the 48th Chief Justice of India, NV Ramana pushed for increased women's participation in the judiciary. In a break from his predecessors, he has not shied away from questioning the Executive, be it in key cases or in the appointment of presiding officers to tribunals.

**POWER PUNCH**

A bench headed by him turned down the Government's request to set up its own committee to probe allegations of surveillance using Pegasus spyware and instead set up its own panel. In the Lakhimpur Kheri violence case, too, a bench presided by him asked the UP government to ensure an impartial probe. His tenure has seen the

highest number of women judges in the Supreme Court, with the Collegium clearing three names in one go. Without being confrontationalist, he has been able to underline the independence of the apex court.

**WHAT NEXT**

The Chief Justice of India wants indigenisation of the country's legal system and a National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation to improve the conditions of courts.

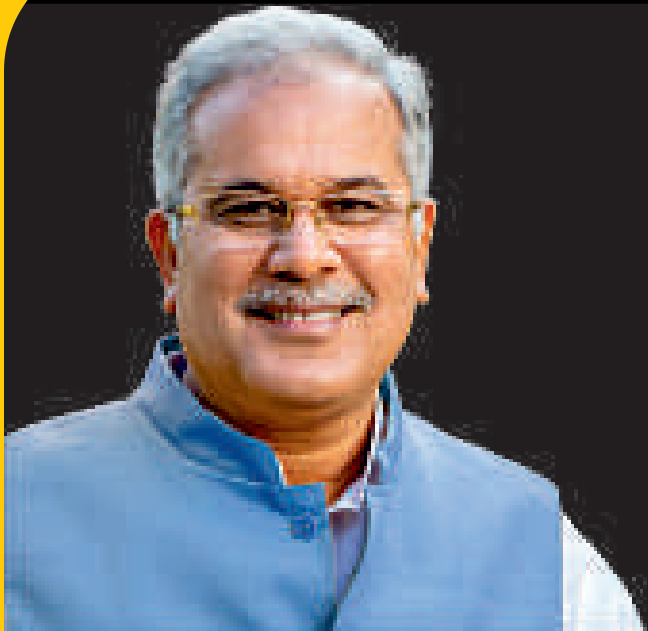
**BY THE WAY**

Loves farming, is a connoisseur of literature, particularly Telugu.

● ● ●







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**Bhupesh Baghel**  
Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

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Socio-Economic Justice to the Last Mile

**Debt Free Farmers**

Empowered Tribals Acknowledging Forest Rights

Affordable & Accessible Healthcare

New Industrial Hub Innovative Policies

**Youth & Women Empowerment**

Plummeting Unemployment Rate Cultural Renaissance

**Environment Protection**

World Class Educational Infrastructure

Winning the War on Malnutrition







13

Rank '21: 6

**RAJNATH SINGH, 70**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

**WHY**

He is one of the seniormost Cabinet ministers in the government, who is considered more approachable by members from across the aisle in Parliament. His is an important voice in the Cabinet; not many have the heft that he commands. Compared to the aggressive posture taken by most on the treasury benches against the Opposition, Singh maintains the cordial demeanour of veteran politicians. Though he never crosses the party line, every time he speaks, he gives insight into the government's thinking.

**POWER PUNCH**

His push towards increasing the country's defence manufacturing capacity and encouraging the armed

forces towards self-reliance is absolutely essential for PM Modi's Atmanirbhar Bharat campaign.

**WHAT NEXT**

The ongoing crisis in Ukraine will have a long-term impact on the spares, maintenance and some high-ticket weapons that India relies on Russia for. Indian forces need to modernise to deter China from any misadventures. Politically, his role in the upcoming President and Vice-President elections is being keenly watched.

**BY THE WAY**

As a student leader, he used to move around on a Rajdoot bike.

...

14

Rank '21: 16

**BL SANTHOSH, 56**

NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY (ORGANISATION), BJP

**WHY**

Ever since he became BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) in July 2019, his stock in the party has only been rising. Counted among the top leaders, he played a key role in the change of guard in Gujarat and Karnataka and was a permanent presence in all discussions held by the PM for assessing the performance of ministers before the reshuffle last July. He has been integral to all party strategy for state elections. Although accused of meddling too much with BJP politics in the southern states, Santhosh still managed to hold his control over party functioning in Karnataka, Kerala and Goa. After the Goa elections, he managed to get Pramod Sawant, considered to be his pick for

the top post, to continue despite internal differences.

**POWER PUNCH**

Not only did he manage to replace BS Yediyurappa, his arch rival in the party, with Basavaraj Bommai as Karnataka chief minister, his imprint was visible in the Cabinet reshuffle.

**WHAT NEXT**

While some say that he could head to the RSS top position, for now, the organisation and upcoming elections would be his focus.

**BY THE WAY**

He has been a voracious reader from his engineering days.

...



15

Rank '21: 12

**SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR, 67**

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**WHY**

In this pandemic year and amid a fast-shifting geopolitical scenario, Jaishankar has led the External Affairs Ministry with a steady and firm hand through a series of challenges: changes in Washington, DC; border standoff with China; vaccine diplomacy; the Russian war against Ukraine, or the evacuation of Indians from the war zone. Balancing the imperatives of power and national interest, Jaishankar's diplomacy comes with significant political heft. Challenges remain in each of his key foreign policy areas and the consummate diplomat in him will be tested in uncharted waters.

**POWER PUNCH**

Every Quad country leader — be it the

US, Australia or Japan — has praised him to the Prime Minister, whenever they have met or spoken.

**WHAT NEXT**

He has a challenging task in unlocking the India-China relationship before the 14th BRICS summit is held in China later this year. The flux in geo-politics posed by the Russia-Ukraine war and the Russia-China axis is going to test the international order and make Team Jaishankar work overtime.

**BY THE WAY**

He is a fitness enthusiast, and likes to play squash.

...





# Impact Story

## Socio-Economic Justice

₹10,176 cr input assistance to 21 lakh farmers so far

₹6,000 per annum assistance to landless agricultural labourers

₹127.79 cr institutional purchase of cow dung from livestock owners

## Education

1.35 lakh students receiving modern education in 171 English medium schools

300 defunct schools in violence affected areas reopen after 15 years

## Industrial Investment

1,950 industrial units with ₹83,465 cr investment (2019-2022)

166 MOUs with proposed investment of ₹78,4560 cr

## War on Malnutrition

1.6 lakh children free from malnutrition

More than 1 lakh women cured of anemia

## Environment

₹10,000 input assistance per acre for tree plantation

For 3 consecutive years, Chhattisgarh is the 'Cleanest State' of India

## Employment

5 lakh job in 3 years

2.1% average unemployment rate against national average of 7.9%\*

\* CMIE Report January 2022

## Forest Rights & Livelihood

5 lakh forest rights certificates for more than 51 lakh acres of forest land

65 minor forest produce purchased at MSP

## Health

68 lakh families covered under integrated health scheme

62.5% decrease in Malaria cases in Bastar

14.82 lakh people received medical care through mobile clinics in remote areas

136 generic medical stores selling discounted quality medicine across the state

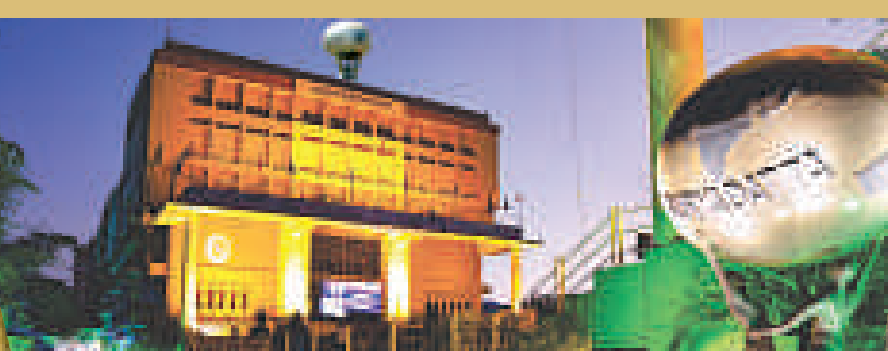
Chhattisgarh



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**Professor Dr. Sanjay B. Chordiya**  
Founder President & Chairman  
Suryadatta Education Foundation



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**Mrs. Sushama Sanjay Chordiya**  
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**S**URYADATTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S Suryadatta Group of Institutes (SGI) is a unique educational conglomerate based in Pune, India. Founded in 1999, The promoters and the core team have individual 20 plus years of rich industry & academic experience in various streams. Suryadatta Group of Institutes today offers wide range of academic programmes from schooling, Junior College, UG and PG programmes to doctoral programme across multiple disciplines such as Information Technology, Business Management, Hotel Management, Cyber Security, Travel & Tourism, Interior and Fashion Design, Interior Design, Event Management, Physiotherapy, Beauty & Wellness, Health & Fitness and so on.

Inspired by the vision of providing contemporary and quality education, backed by high quality research and skill based training interventions as per the current needs of the industry, the Group has established over 30 Institutions. Flagship institutes are NAAC accredited.



### Holistic Well being : Shaping a Good Human being

One of the major philosophies at SGI is "A healthy mind and a healthy body". Besides academics, students are given different kinds of training including Yoga, Meditation, Health and fitness. Suryadatta runs a De-addiction drive as part of its social commitment. This includes a series of lectures to motivate and guide students and community at large to develop healthy India which is physically, mentally and emotionally sound. Students are also given guidance for social entrepreneurship. Visits to NGOs are conducted and students are encouraged to give their contribution to society voluntarily. Suryadatta, through a series of lectures and activities inculcates Value based education in the students. A series of Motivational lectures are conducted regularly.

### Developing Cross Cultural environment :

Respecting multiple cultures More than 3000 foreign students from over 33 countries have passed out from SGI including countries like Philippines, Egypt, Singapore, UAE etc.

### Suryadatta National awards : Saluting the stalwarts

Suryadatta is perhaps the only institution where more than 500 leading distinguished national and international personalities have visited and inspired students and staff. Every year, on occasion of its foundation day, Suryadatta hosts Suryadatta National Awards. Eminent personalities from different walks of Life are recognised during the award function. To name few, Bharat Ratna Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Scientist Dr. Kasturi Ranjan, Yogacharya Padmabhushan Dr. BKS Iyengar & others.

### Suryadatta creating World Records annually

"Unfold Hidden Potential through Blindfold" and "24hrs Silent Wreadathon" endorsed by Limca Book of Records. Two of their feats have been recorded in Golden book of World records - "Lining the Map of India with 1100 Tulsi Saplings" and "Kavyathon 2019". Suryadatta faculty and students have recently also completed the Suryadatta - Vishnu Mahamisa World record of preparing and distributing 7000 kgs of hygienic snack to over 30000 needy people through 300 NGOs in just 3 hours time.

### Paid Internship & Work exposure through Suryadatta's Startups & ventures :

In order to provide Paid Internships to students, aimed to inculcate in the students the value of dignity of work and the right aptitude, Suryadatta has formed 50+ startup ventures. Students are assigned specific projects under the supervision and mentorship of a designated faculty. Students may be assigned office work, technical work, field work, sales and outreach projects work or work from home opportunities which give them real time exposure. Students can work for 4 hours everyday and are awarded experience certificates along with stipend.

### Green & Digital campus: Creating responsible citizens

SGI is a member of UN Global Concept for Sustainable Development. In order to effectively contribute to Digital India, Swaccha Bharat etc., the Covid ready SGI campus lays emphasis on Green and Digital infrastructure comprising of Solar power installation, natural lighting, rain water harvesting, e-waste disposal etc.

### Commendable Placement record since inception & Lifetime Skills Development:

The institute provides career opportunities to the aspiring students in leading National and International multinational companies across high growth sectors such as BFSI, e-commerce, Retailing, IT, ITES, Hospitality in India & abroad. SGI has signed MOUs with several corporate such as Thermo Ltd., Business Standard, Shoppers Stop, Edelweiss, etc. for industry connect and placements. The entire placement effort is student driven under leadership of the Dean Corporate Relations. More than 950 recruiters have sourced their talent requirement from SGI.

### Global Focus: For Innovative Global Careers:

The learning experience at SGI is aimed at creating a world class talent pool in sync with current global needs and evolving requirements. This is ensured through initiatives such as International emersion program, global study tour, student exchange and faculty exchange programs, foreign languages training & Global projects.

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- ✓ Extensive Industry - Institute Interface



**Gurudev Shri Shri Ravi Shankarji**  
Conferred Suryadatta's SuryaRatna - The Saint of Modern India - Suryadatta National Lifetime Achievement Award 2022 at Bangalore



**Hon'ble Shri. Nitin Gadkari**  
Conferred Suryadatta National Lifetime Achievement Award 2022 at Mumbai



Prof. Dr. Sanjay B. Chordiya, Founder President & Chairman received Pride of Maharashtra Award 2021 as Best Educational Institute of the Year at the Hands of Governor of Maharashtra Hon'ble Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiyari.



Prof. Dr. Sanjay B. Chordiya, Founder President & Chairman received Pune Times Mirror Hall of Fame 2022 at the hands of Celebrity Tiska Chopra

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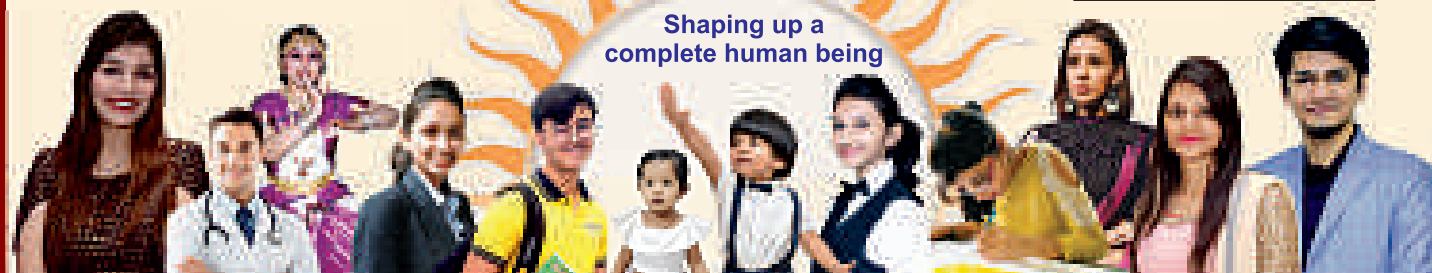
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16

Rank '21: 14

**UDDHAV THACKERAY, 61**

CHIEF MINISTER, MAHARASHTRA

**WHY**

Bearer of Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray's legacy, Uddhav Thackeray has finally managed to break away from his father's imposing shadow. He completed two years as Chief Minister while keeping the triumvirate alliance of the Shiv Sena, Congress and the NCP together despite their diverse ideologies.

**POWER PUNCH**

Heading a state with the highest Covid-19 tally, Thackeray, who had little administrative experience, has drawn praise for his handling of the pandemic and his regular, forthright communication with the state. Fending off a sustained BJP campaign, he refused to be cowed down by the mess over the

Mukesh Ambani house bomb scare-Sachin Waze-Param Bir Singh episode. Of all the three Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) allies, Thackeray's Shiv Sena has been the most aggressive against the BJP. His hostility against the BJP stems from the personal targeting of the Thackeray clan.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is working to retain the BMC, the richest municipal corporation in the country, which goes to polls this year.

**BY THE WAY**

He still vets a dummy of the next day's edition of *Saamna*.

...

17

Rank '21: 18

**SHARAD PAWAR, 81**

PRESIDENT, NATIONALIST CONGRESS PARTY

**WHY**

Sharad Pawar has been the pivot around which the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi alliance (MVA) in Maharashtra revolves. He is the only Opposition leader with the ability to act and be the bridge between different anti-BJP parties.

**POWER PUNCH**

Pawar is the tallest man standing against the BJP in the state. Has the ability to tap into ties built over years to put up a challenge for the BJP. Pawar is seen as the driving force behind the MVA government, with Uddhav Thackeray holding deliberations with the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief to strategise on the MVA's future course of action.

**WHAT NEXT**

In the winter of his career, Pawar's stratagem will be important to ensure that MVA completes five years in office. With two NCP leaders Anil Deshmukh and Nawab Malik behind bars and several others facing charges of corruption, Pawar will have an uphill task of strategising and restoring the credibility of his party and the MVA government ahead of the municipal elections across the state over the next few months.

**BY THE WAY**

Pawar worked as a cub reporter for a small period of time in a publication, which was later bought over by his family.

...



18

Rank '21: 95

**DHARMENDRA PRADHAN, 52**

MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**WHY**

After handling the Petroleum and Natural Gas ministry for seven years, Pradhan was given charge of education during the last Cabinet reshuffle in July 2021. He was in-charge of the BJP's assembly poll campaign in Uttar Pradesh, in which the party returned to power in March.

**POWER PUNCH**

After the successful implementation of Ujjwala scheme that had a distinct electoral appeal in the poll battles that the BJP had in the recent years under him, Pradhan has been given the Education Ministry, which faced tough challenges during the pandemic. Politically, the BJP leadership's decision to send Pradhan as in

charge of crucial Uttar Pradesh had surprised many.

**WHAT NEXT**

Pradhan now has the task of overseeing the rollout of the National Education Policy 2020. In the party, especially after the spectacular return of the BJP in Uttar Pradesh — which is expected to have a deep impact on the next Lok Sabha election — Pradhan is now seen as the frontrunner to succeed JP Nadda as the party president.

**BY THE WAY**

He doesn't follow a strict diet but keeps off chocolate.

...







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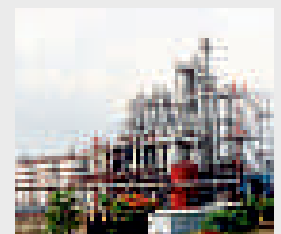
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OF EXISTING PLANTS

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19

NEW

**DY CHANDRACHUD, 62**

JUDGE, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

**WHY**

In line to be Chief Justice of India (CJI) in November this year, Justice DY Chandrachud is a key figure in India's judicial landscape. His verdicts, including those on powerful dissents, expansion of fundamental rights and freedoms, have been keenly watched. His tenure as CJI will be the longest since September 2012 when Justice SH Kapadia demitted office after nearly 28 months.

**POWER PUNCH**

A crucial intervention by Justice Chandrachud's bench resulted in a rollback of the government's policy on vaccine pricing. With the Covid-19 pandemic hampering physical work of courts, he, as head of the Supreme Court's e-Committee, led an aggressive technological push to facilitate adjudication through IT-enabled services.

**WHAT NEXT**

As CJI with a long term and known



for speaking his mind, his tenure will be closely watched for institutional reforms and how successful he is in securing the independence of the court.

**BY THE WAY**

He's a Bob Dylan and Chris Martin fan, and used to be an occasional DJ during his St. Stephen's days.

● ● ●

20

NEW

**BHUPENDER YADAV, 52**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE, LABOUR

**WHY**

Known for his organisational skills in the BJP, Yadav has rapidly built political capital as a Union minister. He has left his stamp as a proactive implementer of the government's targets, be it banning single-use plastic or as Labour Minister, creating the e-shram portal, a centralised database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. Yadav is known for putting in long hours at work, reaching office at 9 am and not leaving before 8 pm.

**POWER PUNCH**

Yadav argued for India and other developing nations at COP26, insisting that developed countries must transfer climate finance to the developing world. His phrasing, 'phasing-down' of coal instead of the developed nations' demand for 'phasing out' has been a key tool in the global fight against climate emergency.

**WHAT NEXT**

He wants to increase India's forest



cover, aligning afforestation efforts with wildlife conservation, thereby ensuring India's compliance with the Paris Agreement. He wants to rejuvenate major Indian rivers and control air pollution in cities.

**BY THE WAY**

He hums Kishore Kumar songs to de-stress himself.

● ● ●

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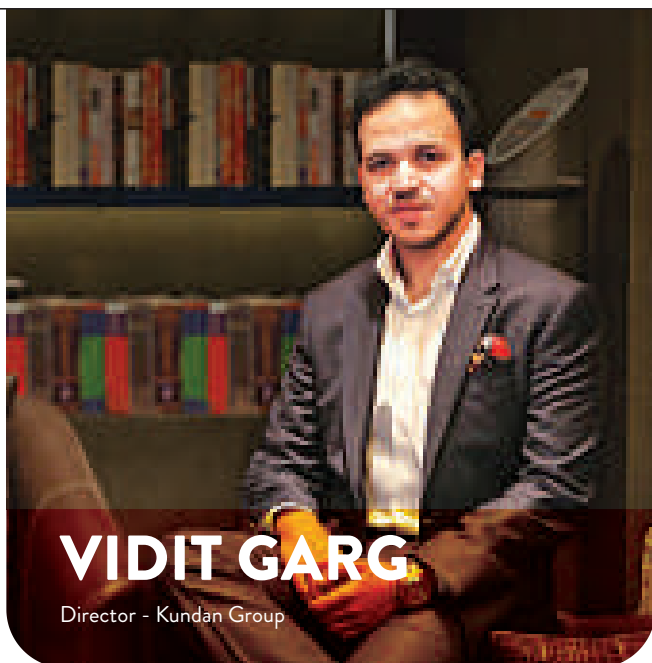
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**VIDIT GARG**

Director - Kundan Group

### Birth of an Entrepreneur

As a second generation entrepreneur, Mr. Vidit Garg's vision is to carry forward the legacy of his father, mentor and the founder & chairman of Kundan Group, Mr. Pradeep Garg.

An innovator by heart, passionate by nature and entrepreneur by blood, Mr. Garg's constant perseverance for excellence and far-sightedness has created several new revolutionary brands and successful businesses for the Kundan Group.

By using his extensive knowledge about the new-age business and cultural shifts with his knack for constant innovation, he has brought about a revolution in the business world by consistently renewing, reinventing and reimagining business practices and ventures. He has been instrumental in setting up new-age Production and R&D facilities of each of Kundan's subsidiaries, and the company has developed several new processes, systems and designs which have been commended and appreciated by industry leaders and aspirants worldwide. He also brings his expertise across diverse line functions like Retail, Distribution, Product, Brand building, Sourcing and Supply chain, making him a versatile & dynamic business leader.

Mr. Garg, who outside of his obsession with work & success, enjoys drumming (Awarded Multiple times), travelling & playing squash. Having seen and imbibed his father's management techniques for years, he is extremely passionate about mentoring young leaders & entrepreneurs, keeping true to his belief that 'learning' is the fuel that keeps the business world going.

A graduate from Hindu College, University of Delhi and a postgraduate in Global Management from Regent's University, London, Mr. Garg has always been at the top of his class.

### Zeya – Where tradition meets style

Zeya By Kundan is born out of heritage and values and yet carries a 'Modern' look in its designs and craftsmanship. Zeya By Kundan is affordable, fashionable, quality-assured and for the 'New-You'. It is inspired by fashion and one of the trendiest in town! The Gold jewellery is light-weight, budget-friendly, Crafted in European cubic zirconia in 18KT & 22KT which gives you every-day wear a new 'Sparkle'. The gold supplied for the Zeya jewellery comes directly from the Kundan Group's Gold refinery, so the customers can get the benefit of acquiring gold where no middlemen have been involved.

Our innovative team of designers has worked hard to encapsulate the essence of Indian jewellery and give you designs which are trendy yet Indian.



ADVERTORIAL

# THE MAN WITH THE MIDAS TOUCH

*From revolutionizing the Indian digital gold market to being recognized as the Leading Bullion Refiner, five times in a row, **Mr. Vidit Garg, Director, Kundan Group** has set the gold standard in manufacturing and exporting of India's most loved metal with his exemplary vision.*

### The Kundan Group – More than just a Big Bullion



The journey of Kundan Group has been a fascinating one. Initially founded as a small scale unit, it has expanded into a multi-faceted business in over four decades, across several businesses and industries. Kundan Group has now emerged as a strong conglomerate, with footprints spread across: Gold Refinery, Jewellery, Bullion, Personal Care, Precious Metals, Energy and Digital Gold.

Mr. Garg's brilliance & achievements have been marked and celebrated at various award platforms. Over the years, Kundan Group has been recognized and awarded many accolades like 'Promising Bullion Refinery', 'Promising Gold Refiner', 'Leading Bullion Seller' & 'Best Refiner' by reputed bodies like IIGC & IBJA. The latest and most remarkable achievement of Kundan has been its empanelment with MCX, NSE & BSE for delivery of gold.

Mr. Garg has also established a gold refinery with state-of-art machinery and technology at par with the international standards. After his involvement in the family business, he has successfully introduced the latest innovations and technology to pave the way for the entire Kundan Group.

Under Mr. Garg's leadership, Kundan Group has now launched into new-age and consumer facing brands like MyGoldKart, Zeya, Kundan Minted Coins, Bullion and Refinery.

Propelled by a massive fleet of over 1200 well-trained professionals across various verticals, Kundan Group is entirely ready to procure and make the precious metals available for trade to its customers seamlessly. The Group is entirely self-sufficient to maintain its finances and possesses no liabilities or debt.

### MyGoldKart – The future of digital gold



MyGoldKart, the brainchild of Mr. Garg, is the new-age digital platform for buying & selling of gold and silver. It is the only organisation that sells 99.99% pure digital gold online in the private sector, and has been strategically curated to provide its customers with an easy-to-navigate interface and meet all gold or silver investment needs. To ensure the protection of customers' interests and building trust, MyGoldKart offers instant certificate on completion of every transaction of Digital Gold/Silver.

Driven by his unwavering vision of transforming MyGoldKart into the best bullion company, Mr. Garg foresees the company to touch a higher echelon amongst its competitors. After digital gold innovation with MyGoldKart, Mr. Garg plans to expand his company's services overseas, wherein he plans to establish trade offices and hassle-free procurement of raw material directly from mining countries.

### The Future

"Five years down the line, I expect the company to be the shining one, the one which has created a name among its peers and the most sought after by the investors. Hopefully, the company shall be listed on National Stock Exchange. It would have by then converted into a conglomerate having varied interests. I visualize the company to be the trailblazer for many activities."





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ABOVE 7 LAKH - P. A.

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BETWEEN 5 TO 7 LAKH - P. A.

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BETWEEN 4 TO 5 LAKH - P. A.

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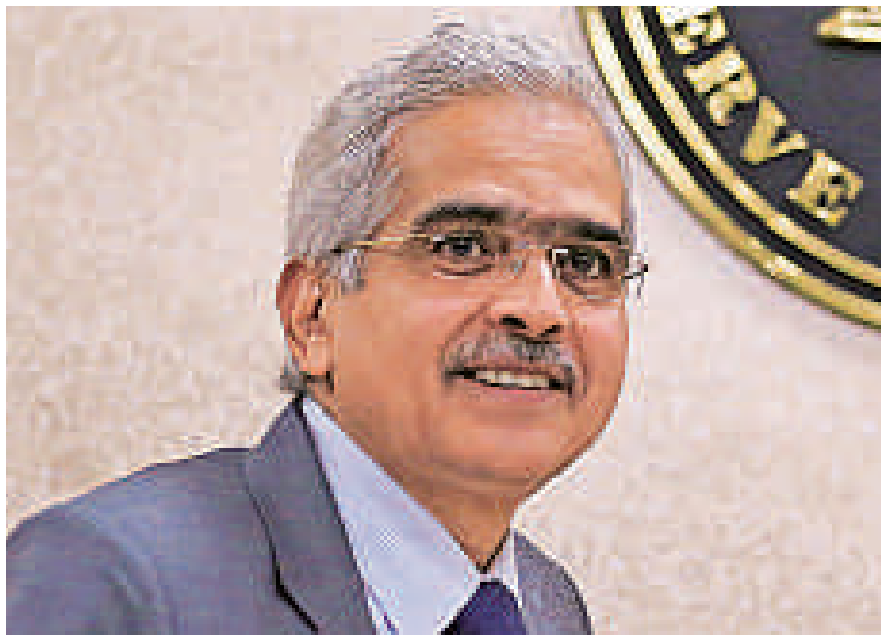
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21

Rank '21: 29

**SHAKTIKANTA DAS, 65**

GOVERNOR, RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

**WHY**

Shaktikanta Das has been leading India's central bank in effectively tackling the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, the economic slow-down and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict — the RBI injected ample liquidity into the system and pushed for higher growth in the economy.

**POWER PUNCH**

After announcing several measures to maintain stability on the financial front, the RBI, led by Das, has stayed the course on the accommodative stance to boost growth. It has retained policy rates, unchanged for 10 times in a row, ignoring the tightening of monetary policies by global

central banks.

**WHAT NEXT**

Das will have to tackle retail inflation, which is above the upper tolerance band of six per cent, and continue the thrust on the growth. He will have to exit from the accommodative policy without disturbing the financial system while retaining enough liquidity. He will have to maintain stability in the financial sector and rein in bad loans in the system.

**BY THE WAY**

He likes to watch old Hindi movies and listen to old songs. He prefers home-cooked food.

● ● ●

22

NEW

**NCHANDRASEKARAN, 58**

CHAIRMAN, TATA SONS

**WHY**

Chandrasekaran has been busy transforming traditional businesses and taking fresh strides, too. When he took over in 2017, Tata Motors and Tata Steel were the biggest challenges for him. Today, Tata Steel generates profits and has significantly pared down its debt. Tata Motors has emerged as a key player and is currently way ahead of competition on electric vehicle (EV) sales.

**POWER PUNCH**

In February, Chandrasekaran was reappointed as the executive chairman of Tata Sons for another five years. He sealed the deal with the government to get Air India back into the Tata Group fold, and has

been recently appointed the Chairman of Air India.

**WHAT NEXT**

Chandrasekaran has set his eyes on new economy businesses. It includes Tata Digital — developing the super app TataNeu, and Tata Electronics for semi-conductor manufacturing. Another focus area is medical and diagnostics business.

**BY THE WAY**

A fitness enthusiast and passionate about photography, he has a formidable memory and is known to remember people by their names.

● ● ●



23

Rank '21: 28

**MKSTALIN, 69**

PRESIDENT, DMK & CHIEF MINISTER, TAMIL NADU

**WHY**

After his party's resounding victories in the 2019 Lok Sabha and last year's Assembly polls, Stalin has emerged as the most popular leader of Tamil Nadu. A man of patience who never revolted against his father for power, he has now come into his own.

**POWER PUNCH**

Stalin managed to take his party to power after 10 years in the Opposition. Not only did he ensure two consecutive victories in general elections, he also managed impressive wins in the rural and urban local body polls.

**WHAT NEXT**

He has retained the strong DMK

alliance consisting of Congress, Left, Dalit, and minority parties for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. If retaining power in the state is the key aim of DMK, keeping his party men under control and remaining clean of corruption charges would be crucial for Stalin for his next Assembly poll battle.

**BY THE WAY**

His photos on the East Coast Road of Chennai with a group of cyclists went viral. A rationalist, Stalin is increasingly comfortable with photo-ops at places of worship and with members of his family, son Udhayanidhi Stalin and powerful son-in-law Sabareesan.

● ● ●





Excerpt by CPGC. All items featured are available for sale by the CPGC. (There is no charge for the use of the word "Excerpt")

So, this is a healthy growth that we have seen in the past 10 years. We have also adopted a very transparent working style, with our business being visible to the public domain. We have also remained one of most highly rated companies over the years, right since our inception in 2011. From discipline to transparency, from following ethical business practices to maintaining standards, we company has done everything right to stand proud in the Indian MNCs list.

We can also develop our own e-commerce platform to sell primary products. At this stage, we can also provide online discount or other jewelry-related services to customers. Overall, due to the limitation of profit margin and lack of jewelry products, selling levels on e-commerce platform is limited. In this sense, the community value is high compared with brand value, which is usually opposite to retail and segment, such as jewelry. It is not suitable for us to build a jewelry e-commerce platform.

Summer wedding prices, in a 10, longer this year, starting from April to ending in July. The lower cost of the 10th, 10th, and 10th.



Dr. R. K. Singh

We should really appreciate if GST gets replaced by the old VAT system because in all other industries VAT is being charged to tax with the earlier VAT rate. Most many people and jewellers run off their old jewellery or occasional gold. While buying that old jewellery they had paid VAT or GST now, but while making new ornaments jewellers find old gold value is not getting set off before calculation of GST, so it is a duplication of tax. Therefore, the government should give that concession for the old gold jewellery and it should be exempted in the extent of old gold if it is re-made and only making charges should be the tax, i.e., GST. Further, dealer payments to a buyer and, therefore, discounts are only in the range of 0.75 to 1.5% so there is a thin margin business. So, govt must think of considering some subsidy for these digital payments to make the trade easier and freer.

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24

Rank '21: 24

**PINARAYI VIJAYAN, 76**

CHIEF MINISTER, KERALA

**WHY**

Pinarayi Vijayan heads the only Communist government in India since 2016. In the 2021 assembly elections, he weathered a slew of political storms, retained power as the captain of Kerala in its hour of crisis and calamities. He became the only chief minister in the history of Kerala to get a second consecutive term in office.

**POWER PUNCH**

Unquestioned in the party and in the government, Vijayan has emerged as the final word on the CPI (M) at the national level.

**WHAT NEXT**

The task for Vijayan is both political and administrative. On the political front,

the future of the Left in Kerala largely depends upon him and the performance of his government. As an administrator, Vijayan has an uphill task to chart a new trajectory for Kerala's development. He has to clear the way for several mega projects, which are facing stiff opposition. As protests over the proposed semi-high speed rail corridor continue in Kerala, he has reiterated that his government is committed to making "Nava Kerala" a reality.

**BY THE WAY**

He loves to read Malayalam fiction. A family man, his stress buster is spending time with his grandchild, whom he fondly calls Ghegu.

● ● ●

25

NEW

**MANSUKH MANDAVIYA, 49**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

**WHY**

The handling of the Covid-19 pandemic came under immense criticism during the ferocious second wave. Then came the massive Cabinet reshuffle. The Prime Minister's surprise pick during the crisis time was the junior minister for Chemical and Fertilisers, Mansukh Mandaviya.

**POWER PUNCH**

He is known to be a tough taskmaster. Even before he took charge of the Health Ministry, he met the top vaccine manufacturers for a roadmap to augment vaccine capacity in the country. He discussed the bottlenecks and based on these backdoor consultations, within months, India's vaccine production capacity

was increased exponentially.

**WHAT NEXT**

As India enters the third year in its fight against the global pandemic, his team has been entrusted to strengthen health systems at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. He will work closely with various states on implementing the ambitious Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission with an outlay of over Rs 64,000 crore.

**BY THE WAY**

A qualified veterinary doctor, he received his doctorate in political science this year.

● ● ●



26

Rank '21: 8

**NITIN GADKARI, 64**

MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

**WHY**

One of the most popular and best-performing ministers of the Modi Government, he enjoys personal goodwill on both sides of the political aisle. He publicly attacks bureaucratic inertia and corruption while being candid about shortcomings in his own Ministry. He is also the longest serving Road Transport and Highways Minister, retaining the portfolio since 2014. Being close to the RSS, Gadkari continues to be a significant power centre.

**POWER PUNCH**

Gadkari's ministry continues to enjoy pride of place in the Government's scheme of things. The

Union Budget set a target of 25,000 km of highways for the next year, despite tepid progress in highway construction in 2021-22 with a lavish allocation.

Gadkari's ministry is also a key component of the PM Gati Shakti masterplan on infrastructure.

**WHAT NEXT**

With the Government setting steep targets on construction of roads, Gadkari has to deliver key projects by 2024.

**BY THE WAY**

A foodie, he picked up cooking by watching YouTube videos.

● ● ●





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# MOIL contributes

## major part in the total manganese produced in the country

**V**igorous efforts are being put into increase production of manganese ore that plays a vital role in steel making. We spoke to Mr. Mukund P. Chaudhari, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the leading manganese ore producer MOIL regarding the steps taken for increasing the production of manganese ore with a view to meet the growing need of steel industry. Here are the excerpts:-

### 1 How was MOIL, the only Government company in the field of manganese production, founded and in what circumstances?

Central Provinces Manganese Ore Company (CPMCO) was founded during the British Raj in 1889. Under the company's regime, manganese ore production started at Narmar mines in the then C.P. & Berar Province. After the independence, Central Government and State Governments of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh bought 51% shares (17% each) in the Company and the Company's name was changed to Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. Balance 49% shares remained with erstwhile owners of the CPMCO.

### 2 How can the ownership at MOIL be described now?

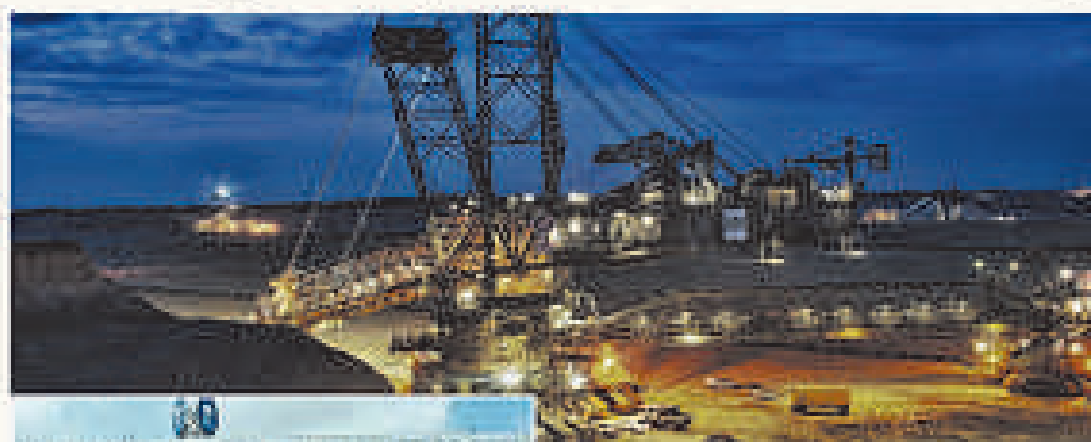
The remaining 49% shares were purchased by the Centre in 1977 along with control of Dongribanjur mine and, thus, the ownership of the British company came to an end. At that time, the Centre owned 80% of the shares and the Governments of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh owned 10% each. As per divestment policy of the Government, 20% of the shares were divested by Central Government (10%) and the State Governments (5% each) in 2010 and before divestment, name of the Company was changed to MOIL Limited. After three successive buy backs and issue of bonus shares, the Central Government now holds 54.15%, the State Governments of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh hold 5.96% and 5.18% respectively and the rest of 35.32% is held by public.

### 3 How many mines does MOIL have and what can be said about them?

As of today, MOIL has eleven mines situated in Nagpur, Bhandara districts in Maharashtra and Raigarh district in Madhya Pradesh. Out of the eight underground manganese mines in the country seven are with MOIL, while four mines are open cast. In 2001-02 the production of the Company was 6 – 7 lakh MT and manpower strength was 7,746. Now, it produces around 13 lakh MT with about 5,800 employees.

### 4 What steps are taken by the management for increasing the production?

Manganese ore with high metal content is in great demand. However, our Country is blessed with more reserves of medium and medium-low grades of manganese ore (21% and 66% respectively) whereas the high grade is only 11%. While MOIL owns only 14% of the manganese ore reserves of the Country, its contribution to the total manganese production in the country is ~ 47%, which is the largest. All other manganese ore producers are mainly in private sector. MOIL has invested in deepening of existing vertical shafts, making new vertical shafts and large scale open cast/underground development, besides investing heavily in modern equipments. The steps are taken to increase the production of manganese ore in tune with the domestic requirement, mainly driven by steel industry.



### 5 How important is modern technology?

As in other industries, technology plays vital role in manganese mining industry also. As stated earlier, with almost 25% reduction in manpower, production has doubled during the last two decades, although MOIL is now working at much deeper horizons now. This jump in production has been made possible mainly due to mechanization and introduction of modern technology in mining. Modern technology consists not only of newer and modern equipments but also methods of working (like use of SME explosives in open cast mines). Modern technology is also used for locating the ore reserves, to enable proper and planned development of mines with an aim of increasing production.

### 6 How is the manganese produced by MOIL sold in the market?

Sale of high grade manganese ore with di-oxide content takes place by auction method through a Government company named MSTC. Metal Mendi platform of the MSTC is also used for selling low grade manganese and select grades of fines (powder). Other grades are sold through allocation route, based on offtake in preceding quarters.

The prices of manganese ore are determined by MOIL based on international trends and several other factors. The prices are fixed on quarterly basis but are subject to review on monthly basis. The mechanism is well-established and MOIL does not foresee any problem with marketing of ore even after doubling its production from present level of ~ 13 lakh MT.

### 7 What measures are there in place for the employees working in the mines?

Utmost importance is given to safety of personnel working in mines. Safety Officers have been deployed in the premises of every mine. No employee or laborer is allowed to enter the premises of any mine without prior training. A standard operating procedure has been set for the working in the mines and it is fully complied

with. Operating machines in the mines through remote is being explored so that employees will operate the machines by remote standing at a safe distance. For underground mines, installation of tracking system is being explored, which will help determine the whereabouts of the personnel and timely help can be made available in case of accident. Director General of Mines Safety undertakes the inspection of mines many times throughout the year. MOIL has been given accident-free awards by the Centre for its safety measures and we are endeavoring to keep up to it in the future.

### 8 In the future, what challenges does MOIL anticipate?

As of now, the production of MOIL is around 13 lakh MT and, keeping national priorities in mind, our goal is to take it to 30 lakh MT by 2030. Currently, our country produces ~ 28 lakh MT of manganese and almost matching quantity is imported. With the target of 300 Million MT steel making capacity planned in National Steel Policy and manganese ore requirement accordingly pegged at ~ 10 Million MT, MOIL is going ahead with its expansion plans to increase production from its existing mines to 30 lakh MT. Taking into consideration the limitations of existing mines to increase the production beyond a limit, MOIL has decided to expand beyond its present working areas. With this in mind, MOIL has signed MoUs with the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Manganese deposits have been found in Raigarh, Chhindwara, Jabalpur and Jaspur in Madhya Pradesh and Panalaro in Gujarat. Efforts are being made to develop mines and excavating manganese at these places by having joint ventures with the State Governments. Some manganese deposits have been found in Odisha too. An offer has been made to the Government of Orissa.

### 9 What are the CSR activities undertaken by MOIL?

Since 2006-07, MOIL has been contributing towards meeting its corporate social responsibility objectives. Thrust areas are education, health, nutrition, community development, etc. MOIL spends ~ Rs. 12 crores annually on CSR. MOIL has entered into an MoU with DAV Sanshodhan and opened an English medium school in the premises of Chikla mine near Tamsar. The response to this tribal belt has motivated MOIL to open school in the premises of its Musamir mine in Nagpur district. For community development, MITRA (an associate of BAFI Pune) have been engaged to carry out the program in twenty-one villages near operating areas.



## मॉयल लिमिटेड





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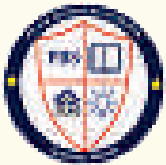
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**Pune Business School (PBS)** is a comprehensive academic institution with a distinctive learning style and a global vision. To give the best of the student learning experience, the academic plan is curated to impart skills of the future. To make the students corporate ready, PBS has signed MoUs with various corporate and HR organizations like CII, PMA, OHR, Rotary and many more. The syllabus is prepared in consultation with the industry advisory board ensuring corporate skill alignment. The academic program includes Core knowledge, Personality Enrichment and Employability Enhancement subjects. The specializations offered by PBS are Business Analytics, Marketing Management, Finance, HRM, IT and Systems Management and Agri Business Management. Stalwarts from industry shape the minds of these future leaders. The teaching pedagogy is case study oriented, wherein the students have to analyze various cases, understand industry dilemmas and take leadership positions. These sessions help in the analytical and creative thinking of the students. Simulation of various industry scenarios help in critical thinking of the students.

The unique blend of academia and corporate speakers' interaction with the students gives boost to their confidence. PBS has developed a unique concept called Corporate Parenting, wherein each student is mapped under a Corporate who adopts the students for their mentoring. The students get multiple chances to interact with their mentors. The institute is very rich in their corporate interactions through various clubs. All the clubs are student driven. Few activities initiated by various student clubs are: **The Ballad of Boss Womaniya, The Dream Budget, FinChops, AgriWise, The CXO Ballad, Bootcamp on Investing** and many more.

Another unique development by PBS is 'Learning from Leaders Series' wherein each student identifies a leader from various sectors of the society who have created an impact. The students interview these leaders. The students explore various horizon out of interaction with these leaders.

The training DNA of the institute includes profile-oriented training, proficiency enhancement and confidence building training. Margdarshak program of PBS ensures Ethical Corporate parenting of the students.

The students of PBS get various opportunities to explore the corporate side in forms of live projects, industry interactions, interviews with leaders, internships, bootcamps and industrial visits. Ethics and Integrity is given lot of importance as a core value of the institute. Various workshops on Corporate Governance, Ethics and Values are conducted for the students. We aspire to create industry ready, ethical Corporate citizens.

At PBS we focus on developing the following skills in the students: Negotiation, Strategic Storytelling, Crisis Communication, Leadership, Cross-Cultural Communication, Virtual Coordination, Empathy, Resilience, Emotional

Quotient. Written and Spoken communication skills development is given lot of importance in since it is one of the crucial skill for a management graduate of today. At PBS, we aspire to hand hold the students to become Socially Conscious and Ethical corporate citizens. PBS is led by Dr Ganesh Rao as the Director and Dr. Manju Punia Chopra as Dean.



**PBS promoted by the Pimpri Chinchwad Education Trust (PCET)** was established in the year 1990 by renowned Philanthropist and social activist Late Shri S. B. Patil. The legacy of PCET includes 9 institutions including school, diploma, bachelor, Masters and PhD education. PCET has an alumni base of 45000+ students. PCET is vibrant and dynamic with 14,500 students guided by 650 dynamic and diversified faculty members with international experience. The campus is equipped with libraries rich with books and virtual reading material, state-of-the-art IT infrastructure, multimedia study halls, computer labs, student centres with access to a cafe, canteen and hostel facility. **PBS prepares the students for the VUCA corporate world and life!**



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27

Rank '21: 34

**SONIA GANDHI, 75**

CONGRESS PRESIDENT

**WHY**

The power of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty is showing diminishing returns, primarily because of the repudiation of the Congress by voters in successive elections since 2014. But Sonia Gandhi still remains the supreme and unchallenged leader of the Congress, the only party besides the BJP with a pan-Indian, although shrinking, footprint.

**POWER PUNCH**

That the reticent Gandhi still commands loyalty of the Congress leadership and rank and file became clear when her suggestion that the family was ready to step aside was turned down unanimously at the Congress Working

Committee (CWC) high table following the party's rout in March elections.

**WHAT NEXT**

Whether Sonia Gandhi will retire or remain the glue that holds the Congress together will depend on how the party navigates the leadership quagmire later this year. That could very well define her legacy.

**BY THE WAY**

She did a course in art restoration with Rupika Chawla, art restorer and author, at Delhi's National Museum.

...

28

Rank '21: 44

**UDAY KOTAK, 63**

MD & CEO, KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK

**WHY**

Uday Kotak is the third-richest banker in the world with a net worth of \$16 billion, according to the Hurun Rich List 2022. He headed a panel that drafted corporate governance norms for Indian industry and heads the team that is salvaging IL&FS, which imploded in a Rs 1 lakh-crore scam.

**POWER PUNCH**

Kotak borrowed money from friends and family (and Anand Mahindra too!) to start a bill-discounting business in the 1980s. That entity is now a large financial conglomerate spanning asset management, life insurance and investment banking with a presence in several countries. It manages/ad-

vises assets worth nearly Rs 3.9 lakh crore. At Kotak Mahindra Bank, the attrition ratio of women is much lower than men. Women constitute 26 per cent of the work force currently.

**WHAT NEXT**

Banking in India is undergoing a lot of change. Kotak himself said that banks need to wake up and protect their turf from consumer fintech companies. The resolution of IL&FS is another thing that will occupy his attention.

**BY THE WAY**

He enjoys cricket and playing the sitar.

...



29

Rank '21: 17

**PIYUSH GOYAL, 57**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION, TEXTILES AND LEADER OF RS

**WHY**

Goyal is heading India's push to seal Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with key trading partners. Having led modernisation efforts as Railways Minister and a drive for rural electrification as Power Minister, he is considered the 'big push' man who is foregrounding the Government's efforts to improve access to key foreign markets. Known to have a strong working relationship with Amit Shah, Goyal's work will be key to the economic revival post-pandemic.

**POWER PUNCH**

Goyal is a key proponent of stronger regulation for e-commerce giants Amazon and Walmart. He says they are using their financial muscle to become dominant and going against the

spirit of FDI rules. He is advocating the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to make India a global manufacturing hub. Encouraging mobile majors to push "Make In India" with over \$5 billion exports in sight.

**WHAT NEXT**

Goyal is all set to conclude a series of high profile FTA negotiations, including those with Australia, the UK, Canada and the European Union.

**BY THE WAY**

Goyal loves memes, coining the term *pakka badam* for unicorns and start-ups, referencing the popular song *kacha badam*.

...





# BE assured

**BVG India Limited** incorporated in 2002 is one of India's largest integrated services company\*. With a large workforce, spread across **130 Cities, 20 States** and **5 Union Territories, 582 Clients** in various business verticals (Fiscal 2021). This include Facility Management, Emergency Response Service, Solid Waste Management and Special Projects.

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\*Source: F&S Report



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**30**

Rank '21: 19

**MM NARAVANE, 61**

CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF

**WHY**

He not only heads one of the largest armies in the world, but MM Naravane is the senior-most serving soldier in the country at the moment. Under him, the Army's manoeuvres on Kailash Ranges in Chushul sub-sector in eastern Ladakh had put pressure on China to agree on a pullback from some of the most tense friction points.

**POWER PUNCH**

Under his leadership, as the Army has shifted its main focus from Pakistan to China, there has been a massive push to build infrastructure along the entire 3,488-km border. The Army is scaling up its intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance capabilities to-

wards China, and his role has been key. He's keeping the force on alert mode while pushing for new weaponry and modern equipment.

**WHAT NEXT**

As chairman of the Chief of Staff Committee, Naravane is a natural choice for the second Chief of Defence Staff. But the Government is yet to announce its decision.

**BY THE WAY**

General Naravane is an avid topiarist. In his down time, he tends to his garden, manicuring and shaping his plants. He has a small collection of Bonsai.

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**31**

Rank '21: 38

**DATTATREYA HOSABALE, 66**

GENERAL SECRETARY, RASHTRIYA SWAYAMSEVAK SANGH

**WHY**

RSS (*sarkaryawah*) executive head Hosabale has influence on key policy issues in the BJP government, more than anyone in the Sangh Parivar. Headquartered in Lucknow, he has influence in the UP BJP and the Yogi Adityanath government, making his role crucial in the Lok Sabha polls of 2024. Elected to the post last year, his tenure will end in 2024. There are all possibilities that he will continue in the post and be there at the most crucial time — the centenary year (2025) of the saffron organisation.

**POWER PUNCH**

He has close contacts with students and has friends in the bureaucracy. In the recent Assembly elections, RSS

workers teamed up with BJP to bring voters to polling booths. Almost half of his *pracharak* life was with the ABVP, and BJP's general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh is also from Hosabale's home state Karnataka.

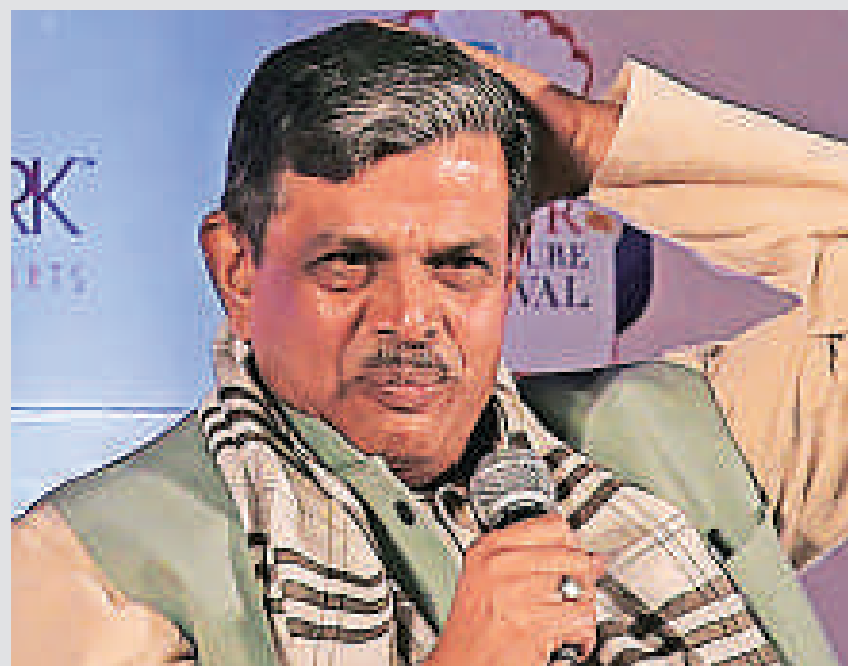
**WHAT NEXT**

With Article 370 and Ram Temple issues taken care of, RSS is expected to put its weight behind a law on population control. His role will be key. Programmes for RSS centenary celebrations are being chalked out.

**BY THE WAY**

He is well-versed in Kannada, Hindi, Sanskrit, English and Tamil.

...



**32**

Rank '21: 60

**HIMANTA BISWA SARMA, 53**

CHIEF MINISTER, ASSAM

**WHY**

The BJP's most powerful chief minister in the Northeast, he is seen as the dean of the political circuit there. Known for his controversial remarks, he brings to the table a clout that transcends the party's core vote base. He's a leader who can deliver the goods and has the trust of the Modi-Shah duo to push their ideas of governance. He has a pulse of the region and has become the BJP's troubleshooter, managing its post-CAA turbulence in Assam and the political crisis in Manipur.

**POWER PUNCH**

Despite the bloody and violent clashes in a border dispute between Assam and Mizoram's forces, Sarma

managed to keep his influence intact. He is now trying to resolve disputes at border points between Assam and Meghalaya.

**WHAT NEXT**

Sarma will be key in the elections to three Northeastern states early next year — Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland. He is the go-to person for what the top party leadership wants, and it's these skills that will be tapped into in the coming months.

**BY THE WAY**

His daily average of WhatsApp messages tally around 1,000; he makes it a point to reply to all.

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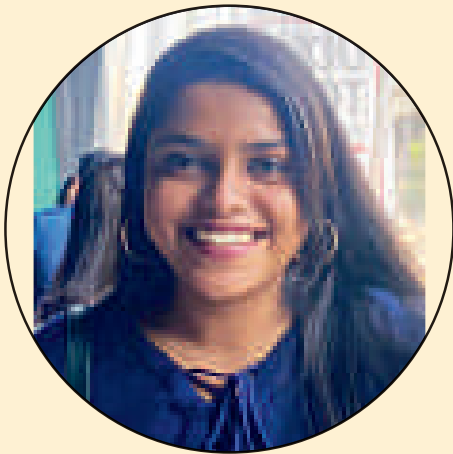


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**Saumya Punj**  
BALLB-2015-20



**Vinay Juneja**  
BALLB-2016-21



**Akanksha Yadav**  
BBALLB-2016-21



**Ayushi Kainthola**  
BA.H (Eng) 2018-21



**Anshpreet Khurana**  
BA.H (Eco) 2017-20

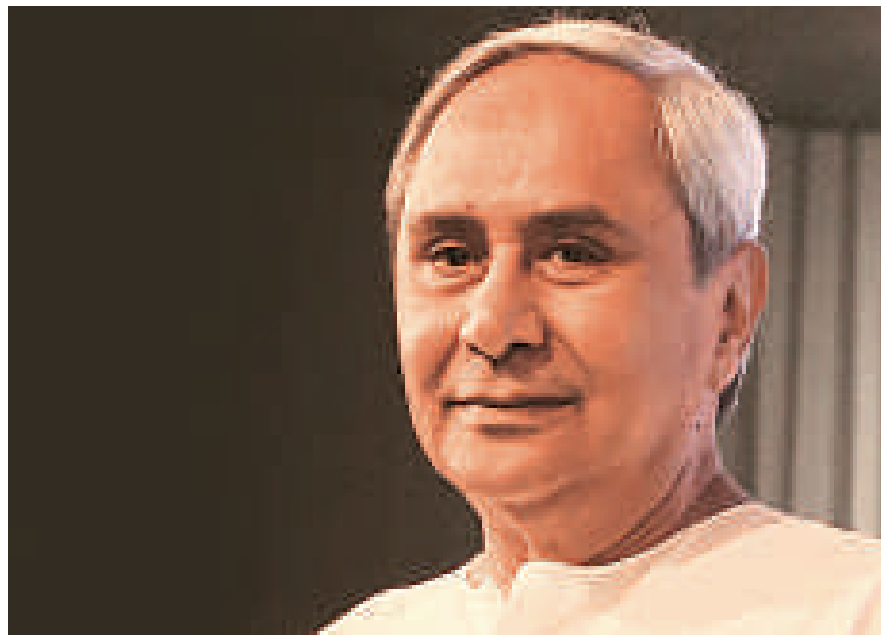


**Apoorva Singh**  
BA.H (Eco) 2018-21



**Navya Singh**  
BAJMC-2017-20





**33**

Rank '21: 45

**NAVEEN PATNAIK, 75**

CHIEF MINISTER, ODISHA

**WHY**

Not only is he the longest-serving chief minister, but with the recent rural polls, where the BJD made a record sweep, Naveen Patnaik is now the undisputed leader of the masses. In a sharply divided polity, he often marks the middle ground.

**POWER PUNCH**

A record 766 zilla parishad seats out of the total 853 in the Odisha rural elections haven't come easy. Patnaik visited every district, in person or virtually, to distribute smart health cards besides announcing other district-specific developmental projects. The flagship Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) is a hit. The BJD also secured 52.73 per cent votes, the highest vote

share it has had in any election in the state. Taking the metaphorical victory lap with the national hockey team after the Tokyo Olympics, Patnaik announced that Odisha will continue to sponsor the Indian hockey teams for another 10 years. It is the first time that a state government has done so.

**WHAT NEXT**

The 2024 general and Assembly elections are to watch out for, especially after the BJD's recent win at the rural polls.

**BY THE WAY**

The health-conscious CM starts his day with a glass of papaya juice.



**34**

Rank '21: 31

**ASHOK GEHLOT, 70**

CHIEF MINISTER, RAJASTHAN

**WHY**

As chief minister of one of the last remaining Congress-ruled states, Gehlot has soldiered on despite attempts by party rebels and the BJP to diminish his stature as the tallest leader in the state. He has managed to outwit his opponents on most occasions, often taking the middle ground when it comes to intra-party feuds.

**POWER PUNCH**

He presented a populist budget with a job-guarantee scheme for urban areas, free electricity for various slots of domestic users and the old pension scheme for government employees. This strategy helped him check the BJP's aggressive campaign against his government.

**WHAT NEXT**

All eyes are on the Assembly elections later next year. With Sachin Pilot waiting in the wings and Vasundhara Raje reconciling with the BJP's central leadership, Gehlot faces a steep road ahead.

**BY THE WAY**

He has a habit of re-reading Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*. Back in September 2019, he had appealed to the youth to read the book, saying, "I can assure you, this book will transform your behaviour, personality, actions and your outlook towards life."



**35**

Rank '21: 26

**BHUPESH BAGHEL, 60**

CHIEF MINISTER, CHHATTISGARH

**WHY**

One of the only two Congress chief ministers, Bhupesh Baghel has managed to establish a Chhattisgarh Model of governance with a special focus on rural industries. Baghel identifies himself as a son of farmer and has risen as an OBC leader.

**POWER PUNCH**

The Congress is increasingly relying on Baghel to bolster the party in other states. He managed elections in Assam and recently in Uttar Pradesh, where he initiated a door-to-door campaign to step up the party's interface with the masses. Despite the party losing, he was appreciated publicly by Congress supremos. His schemes to embolden the rural pop-

ulation through Nyay schemes too have garnered appreciation.

**WHAT NEXT**

The Baghel government completed three of its five years in December. With the countdown to their report card nearing, Baghel and his team will have to ensure conversion of the goodwill for the government into votes, while dealing with an Opposition government at the Centre.

**BY THE WAY**

Baghel is very fond of Chhattisgarhi dishes and usually prefers a simple home-made lunch.





# “CHANGING THE FACE OF PUNE’S REAL ESTATE”



**Mr. Ankush Asabe, CMD**

The flourishing real estate picture in Pune has led to a change in the landscape of the city. Among the select luxury developers in the city, Venkatesh Buildcon is a name to be reckoned with. Established in the year 2000, Venkatesh Buildcon has been crafting masterpieces and changing the face of Pune’s real estate. Working in the residential, commercial and redevelopment arenas, they, as a brand have achieved immense feat of revolutionizing architecture and setting a benchmark in the city.

Every home is built with more than just brick and mortar. It is built with infinite emotions and it paves the way for some unforgettable memories. Venkatesh Buildcon, believes that it takes all of the above, plus indomitable dedication. Unquestionably, the brand strives to elevate the living experiences of people by promising on-time delivery and top-notch quality.

They have a landmark project in the offing, in the heart of Pune 4. In the illustrious locality of Erandwane, Venkatesh Buildcon is coming up with Venkatesh Erandwane Central – a masterpiece project to redefine the cityscape of Pune. Positioned in an area of 4.5 acres on the CDSS Compound, this will be a stand-out project with 30+ storeyed towers and 25+ luxury amenities. With an integrated commercial complex the project reflects ultimate convenience and luxury.

As the brand surfs towards new endeavours and full-speed growth, they are set to break new grounds. Spearheaded by visionaries and a team of experts, they plan to reach for the stars.



**Venkatesh Erandwane Central**



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Bhusari Colony, Kothrud



2 BHK (347 Flats)  
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**22**

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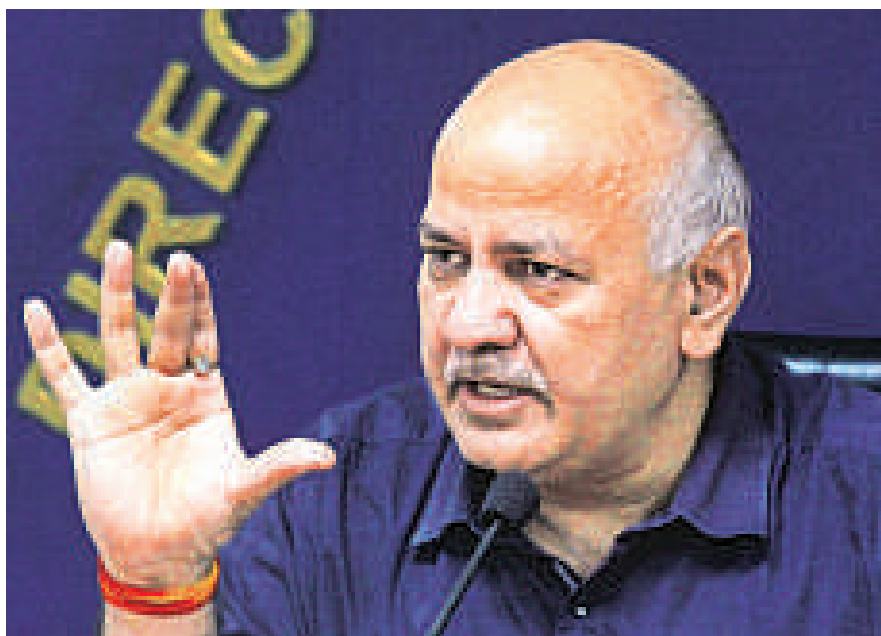
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**36**

NEW

**MANISH SISODIA, 50**

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER, DELHI

**WHY**

As Aam Aadmi Party's electoral focus goes national, it is Deputy Chief Minister's model and work on improving schools in Delhi that will form the basis of each manifesto. Kejriwal's closest confidant since his activist days, Sisodia is also his biggest sounding board on matters of governance as well as politics. Kejriwal also looks to him for a broader vision on what a modern city should look like — be it revamping major markets in the city or getting sewer systems and water pipelines in unauthorised colonies.

**POWER PUNCH**

Sisodia holds the biggest portfolio in the AAP government in Delhi, with key departments such as education,

finance, revenue, vigilance and the PWD. With the Delhi government's focus shifting to infrastructure over the next year, Sisodia was brought in to ensure timely implementation of the ambitious road redesign project, which aims to make Delhi roads among the best in the world.

**WHAT NEXT**

With elections due in Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat, Sisodia will be a key campaigner as well as strategist, while he holds fort in Delhi.

**BY THE WAY**

Sisodia is fond of sweets, specially from western Uttar Pradesh.

● ● ●

**37**

Rank '21: 58

**TUSHAR MEHTA, 55**

SOLICITOR GENERAL

**WHY**

As the second seniormost law officer, Tushar Mehta is in charge of defending the government in court. From Covid-19 management to tough cases on national security, Mehta has been at the forefront of all legal battles and is a trusted resource of the Modi government. A relatively new entrant in Modi's legal team, in 2014 as Additional Solicitor General, the current lot is of Mehta's picks and he manages the crucial team for the government.

**POWER PUNCH**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Mehta ensured that critical orders passed by High Courts were challenged and argued against before the Supreme Court. On the migrant cri-

sis, Mehta's aggressive stance in court that there was no migrant walking on the road, saved the day for the government. He was also the Centre's troubleshooter in West Bengal for the post-poll political drama that played out in court.

**WHAT NEXT**

The race for the Attorney General's office is due again in June with KK Venugopal set to hang up his boots. Mehta is the front runner in the race.

**THE WAY**

He loves his fountain pens, especially those with double-broad nibs and even gets special inks made to match his pens.

● ● ●



**38**

Rank '21: 61

**K CHANDRASHEKAR RAO, 68**

CHIEF MINISTER, TELANGANA

**WHY**

Powerful and popular even in his second term as chief minister, K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) did not hesitate to lock horns when the state's interests were at stake, and took on Prime Minister Narendra Modi over procurement of paddy and other issues; one of the few CMs to do so.

**POWER PUNCH**

The TRS party, which he founded, has morphed into a strong regional party, with the success of several welfare schemes, including Rythu Bandhu, for agriculture investment support. Currently, no other leader in Telangana can match his political weight.

**WHAT NEXT**

The task is cut out for KCR to take on the rising presence of the BJP in the state. He is also considering an alliance with regional parties to take on the BJP at the national level. Also, to make his presence felt at the national level, KCR is calling for debates on paddy procurement, IAS service rules amendments and the Centre's proposal on clean energy.

**BY THE WAY**

At his farmhouse, he likes to spend time farming. He's been advocating alternative crops instead of paddy and has urged his party members, too, to grow different crops in their fields.

● ● ●







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1. While traveling by bus, car or other means, throwing food items on the middle of the road to make hungry animals and birds come running for food and get them injured or die after being hit by a vehicle. . Therefore, ful fill your responsibility by stopping the car or vehicle at a safe place on the side of the road and disposing remaining food at proper disposal space or keeping or putting it in the dustbin.
2. Even during the journey in the train, by throwing food on the tracks, the animals roaming around get attracted towards food and get caught by the train. Therefore, put the leftover food in the dustbin of the train or dispose it while reaching the destination.
3. Usually it is seen that people break the security wall around the tracks of the train coming in the populated area near the station for their convenience, due to which the stray animals come to the tracks from those passages and get hit by the train. So don't break the wall for your convenience and do your duty.
4. The sellers of green fodder (Rizka) sit on the roadside from place to place in the cities, people take the fodder from them and put it on the nearby road itself, so that the cows and other stray animals etc. come running on the road to eat the fodder and causes accidents. Not only this, sometimes the people also get hurt into these accidents. Therefore, after buying fodder, go away from the road and feed the cows, do not put it here and there around the road.
5. The gaupalak leave their non-milk producing cows in open area which leads to accidents. Therefore, the Gaupalak should not leave them open and make arrangements to send them to Gaushala.
6. If you see any injured animal on the roads or elsewhere, inform or reach the nearest veterinary Keeping all these things in mind, we should try to fulfill the duty of a responsible citizen.

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**39**

Rank '21: 32

**Y.S. JAGAN MOHAN REDDY, 49**

CHIEF MINISTER, ANDHRA PRADESH

**WHY**

He continues to be the most popular political leader and has led the state through Covid, making it possible for the poor to get free treatment at private hospitals, upgraded health infrastructure, set up oxygen plants at all government centres and gave subsidies to all private facilities to install their own oxygen plants. His government schemes, including direct cash transfers, have helped all sections of the masses.

**POWER PUNCH**

With 150 MLAs, he is one of the most powerful chief ministers, even as his party has captured all the seats in the urban and rural local bodies, decimating the major opposition in TDP chief,

Chandrababu Naidu.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is focussed on bringing reforms in the education sector, including introducing English as a medium of instruction in government schools. Although he is facing problems in implementing it, he is determined as he believes that English would provide an advantage to government school students.

**BY THE WAY**

Jagan has given up colourful dressing and has taken to cream or white shirts with matching trousers.

● ● ●

**40**

Rank '21: 42

**SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN, 63**

CHIEF MINISTER, MADHYA PRADESH

**WHY**

Chouhan is BJP's longest-serving chief minister in office after having completed 15 years and 17 days in office. After the 2018 debacle, the BJP, under his leadership, has made a spectacular return to power, having increased its seat share from 109 seats it won in the 2018 Assembly election to 127 seats in the House of 230. Chouhan has struck a balance between the ideological expectation of the Sangh along with the needs of governance.

**POWER PUNCH**

Chouhan, who returned as CM for a fourth term with support from defected MLAs led by Jyotiraditya Scindia, has kept his flock together despite infighting. He has turned

around the agrarian sector and launched novel schemes for women. A leader with mass appeal, he still works on the ground, an effort that has helped him win bypolls.

**WHAT NEXT**

The Assembly elections of 2023 will prove to be a test of Chouhan's popularity and decide his role in the BJP's central leadership, even as a fifth term as CM looks unlikely.

**BY THE WAY**

An early riser, Chouhan always writes his own speeches in the morning for all political programmes scheduled for the day.

● ● ●



**41**

Rank '21: 43

**GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT, 54**

MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

**WHY**

Tasked with implementing the Centre's ambitious programmes — Jal Jeevan Mission and Namami Gange — Shekhawat's stature has witnessed a steady rise during the NDA's second term. Even as several big leaders with key portfolios were dropped last year when Prime Minister Narendra Modi effected an overhaul of the Council of Ministers, Shekhawat was among the few who remained untouched.

**POWER PUNCH**

After working as party observer in the 2021 West Bengal Assembly election, Shekhawat went on to become the BJP's in-charge for the recent Punjab polls. He also played a key role in bringing Madhya Pradesh and UP to-

gether for the Ken-Betwa Project, India's first river-linking project.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is responsible for ensuring tap water connections to all rural households by 2024. Making interlinking of rivers a reality would be another challenge. Of course, the Assembly election in his home state, Rajasthan, next year will make it clear if he remains in Lutyens' Delhi or moves to Pink City.

**BY THE WAY**

He loves to buy fruits and vegetables for the family, and makes it a point to do it at least once every week.

● ● ●







**Shri Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray**  
Hon. Chief Minister



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42

NEW

**HARDEEP SINGH PURI, 70**

MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS, PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

**WHY**

Puri is overseeing the execution of the Modi government's flagship schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

**POWER PUNCH**

The diplomat turned politician is also in charge of the ambitious Central Vista Redevelopment Project, which is aimed at reshaping India's seat of power at the Raisina Hill. Within two years of joining Modi's council of ministers, he was promoted to the Cabinet rank during the July 2021 Cabinet reshuffle. Last month, he was among the four Union ministers handpicked by the Prime Minister as his special envoys to Ukraine's bordering nations

to oversee the evacuation of stranded Indians, mostly students.

**WHAT NEXT**

While reshaping the Central Vista, Puri is focussing on completing the ambitious New Parliament Building ahead of the Parliament's Winter Session this year. He is also monitoring the construction of the Vice-President's Enclave and Prime Minister's new residence.

**BY THE WAY**

A fan of classic rock, Pink Floyd, The Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin, he likes playing them on loop.

...

43

Rank '21: 48

**MANOHAR LAL, 67**

CHIEF MINISTER, HARYANA

**WHY**

He survived the farmers' agitation in a state where it was the most intense and long-drawn. Besides, he managed to keep the coalition government with the Dushyant Chautala-led Jannayak Janta Party intact although the latter has farmers as its votebank. The second-time chief minister is single-minded about his politics, pivoting it on public welfare schemes like Antyodaya. He worked as a full-time RSS *pracharak* for 14 years before moving to BJP in 1994.

**POWER PUNCH**

He earned the trust of the BJP leadership despite facing unprecedented farmers' protests in his own constituency and sailed through a trust

vote moved by the Opposition in March last year, winning 55-32 seats. He dedicated the 2022-23 state budget to women, announcing Rs 5 lakh for achievers and increased women's participation in Panchayati Raj Institutions to 50 per cent.

**WHAT NEXT**

With the Assembly polls in 2024, Lal is focussing on people-friendly governance and reaching out to the poorest of the poor to counter anti-incumbency, a surging AAP and farmers' ire.

**BY THE WAY**

He doesn't like PDF files, rather prefers Excel sheets.

...



44

Rank '21: 64

**SMRITI IRANI, 45**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**WHY**

Playing multiple roles comes easy to Smriti Irani. Having held back the Gandhis and holding her own in Amethi still, she has proved that she is as good a grassroots leader as she is an articulate spokesperson of the Modi regime. She has risen through the ranks in the BJP, defending the party and the government stridently at public fora.

**POWER PUNCH**

She has pushed the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill 2021, raising the minimum age of marriage to 21, pitching it not only for gender-neutrality, but also uniformity across religious lines. She is the public face of the BJP's

women push.

**WHAT NEXT**

Irani is expected to pilot the much-awaited and exhaustive anti-trafficking Bill in Parliament soon.

**BY THE WAY**

She is now an author with her debut novel, *Laal Salaam*. Despite her hectic schedule, Irani is constantly upgrading her skills. In February this year, the minister completed a business analytics course with the University of Cambridge. Last year, she completed an executive education programme from UC Berkeley.

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45

NEW

**ANURAG SINGH THAKUR, 47**

MINISTER OF I&B, SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

**WHY**

Among the BJP's most promising young leaders, Thakur was promoted in last year's Cabinet shake-up. From being a MoS in the weighty Finance Ministry, Thakur was given Cabinet rank and two ministries — Information & Broadcasting, and Sports and Youth Affairs.

**POWER PUNCH**

He replaced party veteran Prakash Javadekar as I&B Minister. The ministry, which handles all issues related to the media, including online content, is important for the government. The ministry has regulation powers over news and non-news content across platforms and certain issues related to journalists.

**WHAT NEXT**

In the last two years, the I&B Ministry has strengthened its powers to regulate content across platforms, so his role in the ministry is significant. With the BJP facing anti-incumbency in Himachal Pradesh under the current state leadership, Thakur could be the choice to lead the party in the forthcoming elections, especially after he successfully handled the party's digital campaign in Uttar Pradesh in the just concluded election.

**BY THE WAY**

While he loves cricket, he also likes to play football and show off his dribbling skills.

...

46

Rank '21: 40

**SANJAY KUMAR MISHRA, 61**

DIRECTOR, ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

**WHY**

An IRS officer with a long career in the Income Tax Department, Sanjay Mishra has transformed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) into the country's most-dreaded Central agency. He has gone after the most high-profile politicians from the Opposition — from P Chidambaram and DK Shivakumar to TMC's Abhishek Banerjee. Under him, the agency has also begun to recover bank loans from fugitives. Lately, it has restored assets to the tune of over Rs 15,000 crore to PSU banks from Vijay Mallya, Mehul Choksi and Nirav Modi.

**POWER PUNCH**

The government recently pushed through Parliament amendments to the CVC Act and the DSPE Act to give

ED and CBI directors a possible tenure of five years. Many say it was done purely to give Mishra an extension.

**WHAT NEXT**

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, which grants ED most of its punitive powers, stands challenged by multiple petitioners in the Supreme Court with top lawyers representing them. The outcome of the case will determine how much teeth the ED retains.

**BY THE WAY**

Mishra was earlier an immunology researcher with the Central Drug Research Institute in Lucknow.

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47

Rank '21: 59

**JAY SHAH, 33**

BCCI SECRETARY

**WHY**

From the time Jay Shah took over as the BCCI secretary in 2019, Indian cricket's power centre shifted to the world's largest cricket stadium at Motera, Gujarat. The 33-year-old engineering graduate is India's representative at ICC and is the youngest president of the Asian Cricket Council.

He took the popular pandemic-time decisions of conducting the IPL and domestic cricket in addition to providing compensation to cricketers during lockdown. By touring South Africa, despite the worldwide negative perception about the country during the Omicron surge, BCCI, with Shah in the driving seat, won a friend for life.

**POWER PUNCH**

Being the Union Home Minister Amit Shah's son, Jay has the advantage to be the BCCI's go-to man on all issues that require the Government's consultation.

**WHAT NEXT**

Hosting the 2023 World Cup successfully in India should be high on the agenda. Also, it would be interesting to see his role in picking the next ICC chief in July.

**BY THE WAY**

His favourite food is quinoa salad. His favourite book is *Arthashastra* by Chanakya.

...





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to find answers in the  
mystery of mountains and  
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48

NEW

**NITA AMBANI, 58**

MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

**WHY**

Since making her first foray into Indian sport 14 years ago, when Reliance bought the Mumbai franchise of the IPL, she has been involved in Indian football, basketball, e-sports and Olympic disciplines. Her influence on Indian sport was reinforced earlier this year when she led India's successful bid to host the International Olympic Committee Session in 2023, which will be hosted at the Reliance-owned Jio World Centre in Mumbai. Considered to be one of the biggest sports summits, the session will see key decisions being taken, including the host of future Olympics and the sporting programme for the 2028 Games. India hopes to showcase its ability to host international events.

**POWER PUNCH**

Leading India's successful bid to host the 2023 IOC Session, the sporting equivalent of the Davos summit.

**WHAT NEXT**

Foray into sports broadcasting through Viacom, which is backed by Reliance.

**BY THE WAY**

In her speech at the Sports Business Summit in 2019, Ambani said her son's enthusiasm for the English Premier League raised her interest in football, especially in launching the Indian Super League.

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49

NEW

**ASHWINI VAISHNAW, 51**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS, IT

**WHY**

From relative obscurity, Vaishnaw was catapulted to the hot seat, heading crucial ministries — Railways, Telecom and IT — in the reshuffle of 2021, giving the impression that he was handpicked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. He has shown that he means business by expediting the production plan of Vande Bharat, working to resolve logjams over the merger of services and pacing up the Bullet Train project. As the Minister for Information & Technology, he has made the right noises on accountability of social media companies and data security. He keeps a diary where he notes down all his instructions and holds officials to account in subsequent meetings.

**POWER PUNCH**

He has cut short tenures of top Railway officers over the lack of performance. He faced Parliament, outlining the government's stand on the Pegasus controversy.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is working towards the financial turnaround of Railways in the next 12-18 months. Before 2024, he has to deliver on Vande Bharat and station development.

**BY THE WAY**

He was involved in the setting up of manufacturing units by Maruti and Honda in 2012. Also, he is a voracious reader.

...



50

NEW

**NEERAJ CHOPRA, 24**

OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST & JAVELIN THROWER

**WHY**

In Tokyo last year, he became only the second Indian sportsperson to win a gold medal at the 2021 Olympics, and the first track-and-field athlete to finish on the top of the podium. The feat propelled the javelin thrower to an unprecedented level of popularity. According to reports, he also became the second-most expensive athlete in India after Virat Kohli and was the most mentioned athlete globally on Instagram during the Olympics. Chopra is conscious of his stardom. He has oozed charm in public events but at the same time, not shied from making stern statements, as was evident when his words regarding a Pakistani javelin thrower were twisted out of context.

**POWER PUNCH**

Winning the gold medal at the Olympics.

**WHAT NEXT**

This is again a packed year for the young athlete, with the World Championships, Commonwealth Games and Asian Games set to be held in quick succession.

**BY THE WAY**

He is a photography and automobile enthusiast. He keeps track of new car launches and has recently purchased a second-hand sports car because of a long waiting period to buy a brand new model.

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51

Rank '21: 39

**RAHUL GANDHI, 51**

FORMER CONGRESS PRESIDENT

**WHY**  
Rahul Gandhi is the emperor of a kingdom which is in secular decline. But he is still the most consistent and vociferous anti-BJP voice in the Opposition space. Not a unifier like his mother, he nevertheless calls the shots in the Congress and is seen by most of his colleagues as the *de facto* president and future of the grand old party.



**POWER PUNCH**  
Months before the Assembly election in Punjab, Gandhi could effect a change of guard both at the leadership and government levels without a split in the state unit. It is another matter that his calculations went awry.

**WHAT NEXT**  
This year will be a turning point in his

political career. All eyes are on whether he would return to the helm of the Congress later this year. He hasn't revealed his mind yet.

**BY THE WAY**  
He plays online chess in his spare time.

● ● ●

52

NEW

**KIREN RIJJU, 50**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

**WHY**  
Rising the ranks, Kiren Rijju was elevated to the rank of Cabinet minister in 2021 and given charge of the Ministry of Law and Justice. Although he is a law graduate, Rijju is relatively new to the politics of the judiciary. That he inherited the key portfolio shows the leadership's faith in him. He is also consid-



ered the face of the BJP in the Northeast.

**POWER PUNCH**  
He has been instrumental in clearing several recommendations of the collegium for appointment to High Courts in time.

**WHAT NEXT**

Rijju faces an uphill challenge of navigating the tussle between the judiciary and the executive that is still at odds over appointments.

**BY THE WAY**  
He is fond of dogs and loves to spend time with his Shih Tzu pup.

● ● ●

53

NEW

**CR PAATIL, 67**

PRESIDENT, GUJARAT BJP AND LOK SABHA MP FROM NAVSARI

**WHY**  
Considered Prime Minister Narendra Modi's man, Paatil is currently at the centre of Gujarat politics. The first leader with non-Gujarati roots to be appointed to an important post, his is the final word on any political matter in the state — be it the appointment of office-bearers or the distribution of party tickets.



**POWER PUNCH**  
On his watch, Gujarat witnessed an unprecedented change with the chief minister and sitting ministers being dropped, and a new government taking charge. This barely a year ahead of the general elections. He also helmed the party's unprecedented victory in the local body polls, which saw the complete decimation of the Congress.

**WHAT NEXT**  
The forthcoming Gujarat Assembly polls will be his test, considering he is targeting all 182 seats.

**BY THE WAY**  
When he was with the Gujarat Police, he fought for a police union.

● ● ●

54

Rank '21: 80

**NITISH KUMAR, 71**

CHIEF MINISTER, BIHAR

**WHY**  
Given his image as a "development man", Nitish Kumar emerged as the consensus choice for the state CM for a fourth tenure, despite JD(U) being No.3 party in the state, behind RJD and BJP. The BJP has not yet openly challenged his position.

**POWER PUNCH**  
He remains the tallest leader of Bihar, the reason why BJP did not press for an alternative CM despite winning more seats than JD(U) in the 2020 Assembly elections. He has put his foot down on caste census, saying the state will hold

one if the Centre doesn't.

**WHAT NEXT**  
With BJP now the largest party in the Assembly and resurgent after the recent election wins, Kumar's standing within the NDA has shrunk further. However, the man who once nursed prime ministerial ambitions has few options left, especially with the RJD reins passing on to Tejashwi Yadav.

**BY THE WAY**  
He likes green gram ghughni when it is in season.

● ● ●



55

Rank '21: 76

**TEJASHWI YADAV, 32**

LEADER OF OPPOSITION, BIHAR ASSEMBLY

**WHY**  
Yadav is the most important politician in Bihar right now, after CM Nitish Kumar. With RJD chief Lalu Prasad out of politics since long owing to his conviction, and failing health, his youngest son is a promising leader, in control of his party.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Having realised early on that the traditional Muslim-Yadav combination alone can't get him power in the state, he's working to make RJD more assimilative. His 2020 Assembly polls promise of 10 lakh jobs made him popular among the

youth. In the Assembly, he has made a mark with strongly argued speeches.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Yadav is working towards broader Opposition unity, and most recently, got socialist veteran Sharad Yadav's Loktantrik Janata Dal (LJD) to merge with RJD.

**BY THE WAY**  
In December, Yadav married Rachel Iris, his friend from DPS RK Puram, Delhi.

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# INVESTMENT INTELLIGENCE GIVES RETAIL INVESTORS THE POWER TO CHALLENGE TOP FUNDS

There is something fascinating about how problem-solving in our day-to-day lives results in numerous innovations. Take the case of Uber, which came into existence to reduce the cost of transportation. The darling of entertainment streaming, Netflix started as a DVD rental over two decades ago before finding its calling in streaming. The list is endless, and innovation will continue as long as one wishes to solve problems. Strangely, the world of investing has not really taken to solving every investor's mundane problem intelligently.

Take, for instance, the current state of the stock markets. The war in Ukraine has sent the stock markets across the world into a tailspin. Naturally, both new and seasoned investors face similar queries, starting with markets going down; should I invest? War in Ukraine or not, investor's challenges are more to do with reassurance to their doubts and concerns. They constantly look for answers to; where to invest? How much to invest? Should they book profits when the markets go up or stay invested?

## Finding a solution

It is obvious that when given a choice, most people would opt for investments that maximize returns at minimal risk. Since its introduction by Henry Markowitz in 1952, Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT) has become a key tool for successful investors. There are two assumptions that MPT makes: firstly, it is tough to forecast future investment returns; hence investors should look backward at historical data (returns) to approximate how they might perform in the future.

The second equally important assumption is that you should not view assets in a portfolio in isolation because each performs differently at different times. When you look at a portfolio as a whole, you can select different assets whose performances aren't correlated to balance the risk offered by each

choice. Refined over the years, a successful investment strategy is about asset allocation, diversification, and rebalancing. As simple as it seems, there is no ready-made customized product or service that works on this principle.

**ET Money Genius** is the solution to investor problems, as it addresses the need for asset allocation, diversification, and rebalancing. And it does all of this by helping investors understand their tolerance to risk. It is an innovation that solves investors' important and relatable concerns. Through ET Money Genius, investors get a choice of assets – equities (domestic and foreign), debt, and gold. Within each asset class, there is scope for diversification.

## The Genius Advantage

Importantly, based on one's risk profile, ET Money Genius intelligently guides investors to choose portfolios suitable to them. This way, worries around the impact of inflation, interest rate, valuation, and other facets that impact returns are taken away from investors. Our solution works in real-time in the background with a monthly automatic rebalancing. The result – irrespective of market movements and noise in the markets, one's investments are optimized to outperform the benchmark and challenge top portfolios.

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Over the decades, several other Ukraine-like incidents and many other factors have impacted stock markets. The ET Money Genius model has been successful through them when tested for the efficacy of the suggested portfolios and the solution based on asset allocation and rebalancing. You work hard for your money; now put your money to work with ET Money Genius, which makes investing a breeze.

### The Genius Edge

- Personalized investment plans
- Understand risk profile of investors
- Asset allocation, diversification, and rebalancing
- Superior risk-adjusted returns



- Assesses investor's risk
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- Manages portfolio risk
- Delivers superior and consistent returns over benchmark

### Investor Advantage

- Recommended asset allocation Equity (global and Indian), debt and gold
- Dynamic self-risk assessment
- Dynamic portfolio rebalance
- Perpetual downside protection
- Wide choice to suit investment time frame



56

Rank '21: 70

**AKHILESH YADAV, 48**

SAMAJWADI PARTY PRESIDENT

**WHY**

With Mayawati's BSP and the Congress retreating into the shadows in the recent Uttar Pradesh polls, making it a bipolar fight, Akhilesh Yadav has become the state's strongest Opposition leader. Though they could not wrest power from the BJP, SP and its allies won 125 of 403 seats — up from the SP's 47 seats in 2017.



**POWER PUNCH**

The former CM led a spirited campaign against the BJP in the run-up to the election, taking on BJP bigwigs like CM Yogi Adityanath, Home Minister Amit Shah and PM Narendra Modi.

**WHAT NEXT**

His focus will be on keeping up the party's morale and ensuring that the

'Nayi Sapa' (new SP) does not get overwhelmed by successive defeats. Towards that end, he resigned as MP, choosing to continue as Karhal MLA.

**BY THE WAY**

He likes Hindustani poetry and peppers his conversations with it.

● ● ●

57

Rank '21: 99

**BIMAL PATEL, 60**

PRESIDENT, CEPT UNIVERSITY;  
MD, HCP DESIGN, PLANNING AND  
MANAGEMENT PVT LTD

**WHY**

His firm handles important public projects including the Central Vista in New Delhi, the Rs 1,200-crore Sabarmati Ashram Redevelopment Project in Ahmedabad and has completed the first phase of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor in Varanasi, in record time, in spite of Covid-19 restrictions.



**POWER PUNCH**

Despite a strong opposition to the Sabarmati project, it has taken off, so has Central Vista, with the court ruling favouring the project. The first Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor was inaugurated recently by PM Modi.

**WHAT NEXT**

Patel's firm has been commissioned the

Master Plan for the Somnath Temple in Gujarat. They also have the Mumbai Port Complex Master Plan and the Pune Riverfront Development projects.

**BY THE WAY**

During his frequent trips to Delhi initially, Patel preferred riding the Delhi Metro to help save time.

● ● ●

58

Rank '21: 79

**DK SHIVAKUMAR, 59**

PRESIDENT, KARNATAKA  
PRADESH CONGRESS  
COMMITTEE

**WHY**

Shivakumar has been a trouble-shooter for the Congress over the years and is one of the wealthiest politicians in Karnataka. The party often turns to him to guard MLAs from the threat of poaching by the BJP.



cal relevance by embarking on a 100-km "Walk for Water" yatra, demanding a check dam project on the river Cauvery. He is positioning himself as a prominent Vokkaliga leader in south Karnataka at a time when the JD (S) is losing its hold.

**WHAT NEXT**

The KPCC president has to draw up a

strategy to help Congress stop the BJP juggernaut in the 2023 Assembly polls.

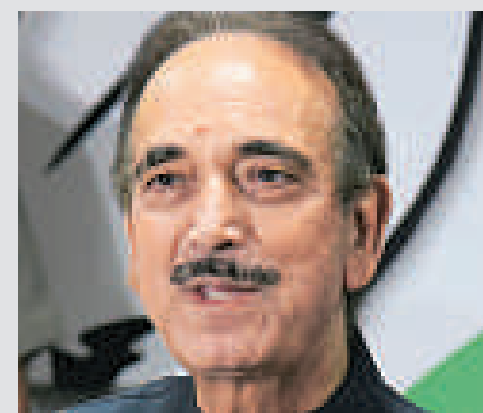
**BY THE WAY**

Shivakumar can recite Sanskrit shlokas and often chants them in the public to counter BJP criticism of the Congress being anti-Hindu.

● ● ●

59

NEW



**GHULAM NABIAZAD, 73**

CWC MEMBER, FORMER LEADER OF OPPOSITION, RAJYA SABHA

**WHY**

A quintessential Congress insider for almost five decades, Ghulam Nabi Azad is now the dissenter-in-chief. The former Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha has managed to rally a group of senior leaders calling for reforms in the intransigent Congress, mounting a serious challenge to the Gandhis. His rich organisational experience and admirable networking skills make him a force to reckon with.

**POWER PUNCH**

The Narendra Modi government honoured him with the Padma Bhushan, signaling that he com-

mands respect across the aisle.

**WHAT NEXT**

The rebellion by a section of the senior Congress leadership led by him is reaching a turning point. His future course and that of G-23 will depend on whether he will land an important organisational assignment or a Rajya Sabha seat.

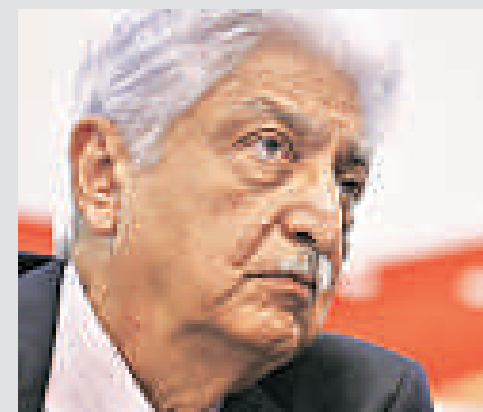
**BY THE WAY**

He is writing his autobiography. As he makes time in between political parleys, the book is likely to be out later this year.

● ● ●

60

Rank '21: 53



**AZIM PREMJI, 76**

FORMER CHAIRMAN, WIPRO LIMITED

**WHY**

The founding president of one of India's largest conglomerates, his company continues to have a successful run. He is still a mentoring influence in Wipro's efforts to push the boundaries in terms of new technology.

**POWER PUNCH**

Premji had, for the second consecutive year, in 2020, retained his spot as the top philanthropist in India. The IT mogul committed donations worth Rs 9,713 crore in 2020-21, up 23 per cent year on year and far ahead of other indus-

trialists on the list.

**WHAT NEXT**

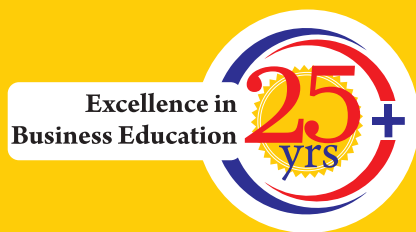
With the pandemic severely impacting education, the Azim Premji Foundation will increase its spend on educational initiatives.

**BY THE WAY**

The Supreme Court recently lauded him for pardoning a person who had filed 70 'frivolous and misconceived' cases against Premji and his associates.

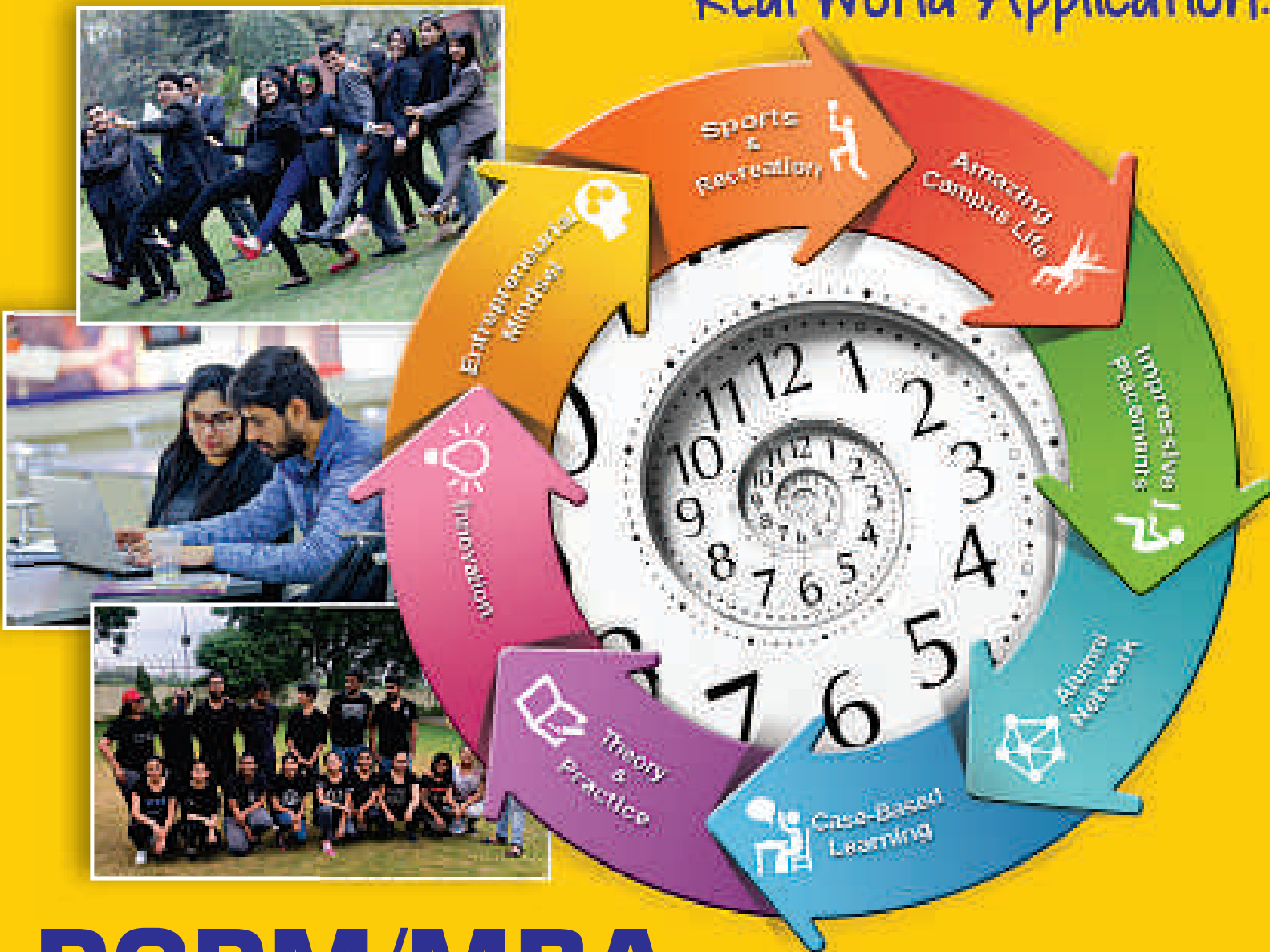
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61

NEW

**BHAGWANT SINGH MANN, 48**

CHIEF MINISTER, PUNJAB

**WHY**

The comedian-turned-politician steered the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) to a historic win in the Punjab Assembly elections, giving wings to his party's national ambitions. With a strong people connect, he has broken Punjab's traditional alternation of power between the Congress and the Shiromani Akali Dal.



**POWER PUNCH**

He is the new entrant in the beleaguered state, who has arrived with populist moves like announcing 2,500 government jobs and regularising 35,000 contractual ones. What has been his masterstroke? He released a personal WhatsApp number for whistleblowers against corruption in the state.

**WHAT NEXT**

Mann has promised to stem the rot that has set in the state by tackling every area of distress, from agriculture and education to industry.

**BY THE WAY**

He is fond of watching basketball.

● ● ●

62

Rank '21: 72

**ASADUDDIN OWAIISI, 52**

PRESIDENT, ALL INDIA MAJLIS-E-ITTEHADUL MUSLIMEEN

**WHY**

When most non-BJP parties are wary of being seen as "pro-Muslim" in their politics, Asaduddin Owaisi has rushed into the space and established himself as one of the leading voices representing his community. With his eyes on national politics, he has guided his party AIMIM into several states where his candidates have won many seats in



local elections.

**POWER PUNCH**

A key influencer, he tests political waters across the country with the AIMIM opening offices nationwide.

**WHAT NEXT**

Disappointed with his performance in the UP election, he is now looking to

stitch alliances with regional parties.

**BY THE WAY**

An avid cricketer, he represented Osmania University where he was involved in a speed battle with Venkatesh Prasad, who was representing Bangalore University.

● ● ●

63

NEW

**RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR, 57**

MoS FOR ELECTRONICS & IT

**WHY**

A strong proponent of good governance through institutional reforms, Chandrasekhar is a politician, technocrat and a third-term member of Rajya Sabha. He has been assigned two key portfolios — Electronics & IT and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship — where he is driving the reform agenda to put into effect initiatives like Digital



India and Skill India. Last year, he was appointed in-charge for Assembly elections in Puducherry.

**POWER PUNCH**

With Cabinet colleagues Dharmendra Pradhan and Anurag Singh Thakur, he was involved in a digital campaign, which played a crucial role in BJP's victory in the recent UP Assembly polls.

**WHAT NEXT**

To map the cyberspace jurisprudence for Modi's 'Atmanirbhar Internet' call.

**BY THE WAY**

He has been visiting Sabarimala every year for 27 years.

● ● ●

64

Rank '21: 84



**BYJU RAVEENDRAN, 41**

FOUNDER & CEO, BYJU'S

**WHY**

Byju's eponymous ed-tech company is India's biggest unicorn valued at over \$22 billion. In the face of criticism over aggressive sales techniques, the platform continued its fund-raising spree. The world's most valuable ed-tech company is also focussing on global expansion and a possible listing on the public markets.

**POWER PUNCH**

Byju himself participated in the company's latest fund raise — an uncommon practice for a start-up founder. He put in \$400 million to the total \$800-million in-

vestment round. The latest is that his firm has been named as a sponsor of the 2022 Qatar World Cup.

**WHAT NEXT**

With lawmakers and the government turning the heat on ed-tech companies, Byju's strategy to navigate through the regulatory waters will be key to its growth.

**BY THE WAY**

Byju started his career in a UK-based shipping company as a service engineer.

● ● ●

65

Rank '21: 20



**PK MISHRA, 73**

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER

**WHY**

Mishra has slowly but surely emerged as the PM's man-Friday over the years in matters related to complex bureaucratic appointments, departmental policy log-jams and the like. Now, the low-key Mishra is the face of the Prime Minister's Office.

**WHAT NEXT**

As part of the PM's core team in government, Mishra will continue to push senior bureaucratic leadership in key ministries to put their best foot forward in the Government's image-building exercise.

**BY THE WAY**

Mishra takes a keen interest in disaster management, and his expertise had come in handy during the pandemic.

● ● ●

**POWER PUNCH**

The retired Gujarat cadre IAS officer's perceived personal closeness to the PM adds to his clout. He prefers to shun the media glare and remain in the background.





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66

Rank '21: 52

**AMIT KHARE, 60**

ADVISOR TO PM, PMO

**WHY**

Till his retirement last year, Khare was among the few serving bureaucrats in the country that the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) relied heavily on for planning the government's communication strategy. He was appointed advisor to Modi in the PMO immediately after his retirement as higher education secretary in September 2021.



In his new role, he primarily looks after the social welfare sectors, including education and rural development.

**POWER PUNCH**

Khare is overseeing the government's digital push in social sectors — often counted among the PM's top priorities — including the digital health mission, virtual labs and digital university.

**WHAT NEXT**

He will continue to oversee the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020.

**BY THE WAY**

He likes travelling to offbeat and unexplored destinations.

● ● ●

67

Rank '21: 97

**HEMANT SOREN, 46**

CHIEF MINISTER, JHARKHAND

**WHY**

Such is Soren's political capital that despite persistent efforts of the BJP to dethrone him, his coalition government won two by-elections, including in Dumka. He neutralised the entire Opposition campaign led by heavyweights like BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Deepak Prakash and the first Jharkhand CM Babulal Marandi.



**POWER PUNCH**

Despite charges of corruption, Soren has been able to keep his ally, the Congress, in check. Congress workers allege that Soren is poaching their votebase and 'politically finishing' their party. But he is consolidating himself with populist schemes.

**WHAT NEXT**

His biggest challenge will be to change the perception as corruption charges fly thick and fast, more than what stuck to the previous government.

**BY THE WAY**

He is a good badminton player and has beaten professional players.

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68

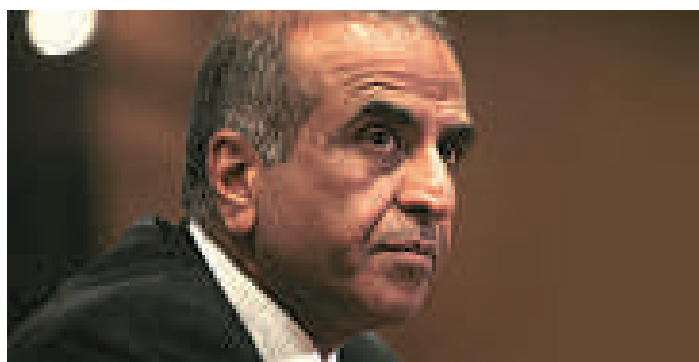
Rank '21: 73

**SUNIL BHARTI MITTAL, 64**

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN, BHARTI ENTERPRISES

**WHY**

Rivalry with Reliance Jio and the costly Supreme Court judgment on past statutory dues were not enough to perturb the country's second-largest telecom operator Bharti Airtel, even as its competitor Vodafone Idea nearly went belly up. Mittal also led the way in bringing the mobile-service industry on the same table for a tariff hike.



**POWER PUNCH**

In 2020, Mittal-led Bharti Enterprises won the bid to become the largest shareholder in the UK-based satellite communications company OneWeb.

**WHAT NEXT**

While OneWeb is likely to become one of the earliest Indian entrants in the satellite broadband space, it faces

competition from the likes of Elon Musk's StarLink and Reliance Jio. The imminent launch of 5G services will also prove crucial for Airtel's growth.

**BY THE WAY**

He loves listening to Jagjit Singh's ghazals.

● ● ●

69

NEW



**ROHIT SHARMA, 34**

INDIAN CRICKET CAPTAIN

**WHY**

Sharma has grown in stature having been crowned India's all-format captain. Once seen as a batsman with a questionable temperament for the longer version, he has been the team's highest scorer in Tests in the last few years, with 906 runs in 11 games. Leading one of the most popular Indian Premier League (IPL) franchises and winning five titles for Mumbai Indians add to his captaincy mettle.

**POWER PUNCH**

Sharma has a big say in the selection of players and their place in the playing XI. By being the long-

standing successful captain of an influential IPL, he has powerful backers among stakeholders.

**WHAT NEXT**

India hasn't won an ICC tournament since 2013. He has two World Cups to set the record straight — the T20 World Cup in Australia later this year and the 50-over World Cup in India next year.

**BY THE WAY**

He loves Mumbai's street food and vacations in Spain and Greece.

● ● ●

70

Rank '21: 67



**ANAND MAHINDRA, 66**

CHAIRMAN, MAHINDRA GROUP

**WHY**

With Anand Mahindra at the helm, the \$21-billion Mahindra Group has expanded at home and abroad into a wide range of industrial sectors — be it automobiles, agriculture, IT or aerospace. It has a 2.6 lakh workforce in over 100 countries.

**POWER PUNCH**

In November last year, Mahindra stepped down from his executive role in the organisation to become its non-executive chairman. The group enjoys a leadership position in farm equipment, utility vehi-

cles, information technology and financial services in India and is the world's largest tractor company by volume.

**WHAT NEXT**

Led by him, the group will launch 16 electric vehicles by 2027 at an investment of Rs 3,000 crore. The plan is to become a leader in the electric mobility business.

**BY THE WAY**

A passionate photographer, he loves sailing and playing tennis.

● ● ●





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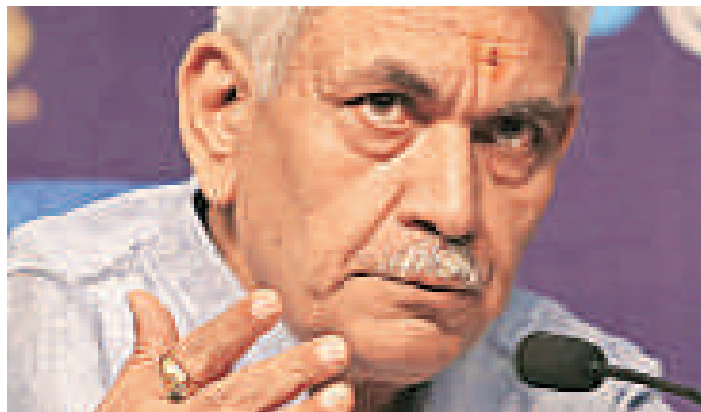
Rank '21: 25

**MANOJ SINHA, 62**

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF  
JAMMU & KASHMIR

**WHY**  
Sinha has been a leader since his ABVP student-activist days. By implementing central schemes, managing the security scenario, pushing the Centre's development agenda, and bringing in investments, the BJP sees Sinha's handling of J&K as effective.

**POWER PUNCH**



The L-G administration has cleared investment proposals of around Rs 27,000 crore. In the next six months, it's expected to cross Rs 70,000 crore.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He is keen on expanding road infrastructure in J&K, and restarting the Amarnath Yatra. There are apprehensions around delimitation and the

next Assembly election.

**BY THE WAY**  
When socialist leader Janeshwar Mishra (Chhote Lohia) visited Varanasi back in the day, Sinha was a student leader who brought him kala jamun and rabri.

● ● ●

72

NEW

**MADHABI PURI BUCH, 56**

CHAIRPERSON, SEBI

**WHY**  
Madhabi Puri Buch is the first woman chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). She is also the first person from the private sector to head the markets regulator.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Buch is known for her tough stance on insider trading. For instance, she



cracked down on fraudulent tradings by two prominent television anchors of a business news channel. Buch also passed a number of orders banning trading in suspected shell companies based on the list drawn up by the government during their drive against black money in 2017.

**WHAT NEXT**

Buch's immediate agenda will be to handle the cases relating to the NSE co-location scam and former NSE MD & CEO Chitra Ramkrishna.

**BY THE WAY**  
She was at the Taj Mumbai during the 26/11 terrorist attack.

● ● ●

73

Rank '21: 63

**ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY, 65**

LEADER OF THE CONGRESS IN LS

**WHY**  
As the leader of the Congress — the single largest opposition party in Lok Sabha — Chowdhury is its voice on key panels which pick the CBI Director, Central Vigilance Commissioner, Central Information Commissioner, Chairman and members of the NHRC and the Lokpal. In the party, he is known for having an ear to the ground



in West Bengal.

**POWER PUNCH**  
He is a critic of CM Mamata Banerjee. The TMC supremo had nudged the Congress leadership to replace him in LS but he remained unscathed.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Although the Congress could not open

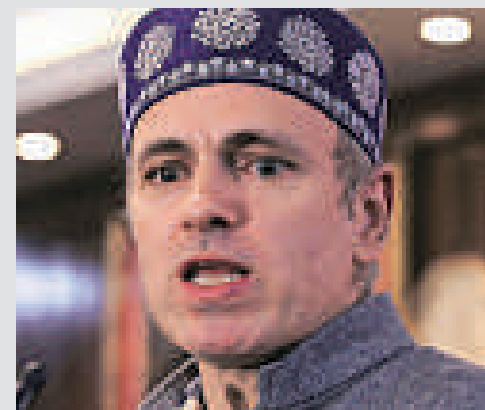
its account in West Bengal, he continues to head the state unit. It is to be seen if he remains there or is moved to a new role.

**BY THE WAY**  
He carries toffees for children during his travels

● ● ●

74

NEW



**OMAR ABDULLAH, 52**

VICE-PRESIDENT, NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**WHY**  
As its rival PDP has lost considerable ground in the Valley and smaller parties have failed to make a mark, the National Conference has a chance to re-emerge as a potent political force in J&K. Currently, it's the only political party that has considerable presence in all regions of J&K.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Like PDP, there have been efforts to break the National Conference in J&K and some of its leaders — especially in Jammu — left the party. But by and large, Abdullah and his party has thwarted these attempts, mak-

ing him stronger.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Whenever elections are held in J&K, there could be an attempt to divide the party and the challenge for Abdullah would be to keep it together. Also traditionally there have been tensions between the party's old guard and the new generation. How well Abdullah bridges this gap would impact his political future.

**BY THE WAY**  
His favourite food is rainbow trout.

● ● ●

75

Rank '21: 41



**PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA, 50**

AICC GENERAL SECRETARY

**WHY**  
On paper, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is the AICC general secretary in charge of Uttar Pradesh. She was for long the conscience-keeper of both mother Sonia and brother Rahul, but is now increasingly assertive and has come to play a key role in decision making in the party, be it placating a rebellious Sachin Pilot or pushing Navjot Singh Sidhu as the president of Punjab Congress.

UP; it was unprecedented. Her aggressive 'Ladki Hoon Lad Sakti Hoon' campaign also helped gain media attention in Uttar Pradesh.

**WHAT NEXT**  
She has vowed to give undivided attention to Uttar Pradesh to prepare the party for the 2024 Lok Sabha battle. But given that the Congress is in a flux, her role will be clear in the coming months.

**BY THE WAY**  
She is a master scuba diver.

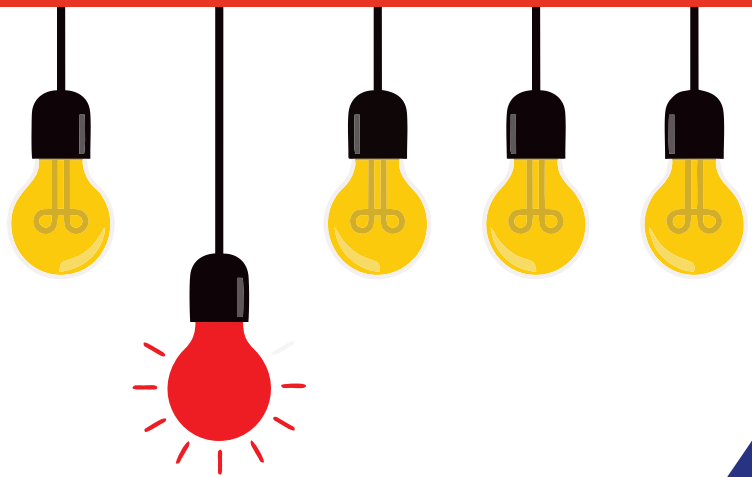
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**POWER PUNCH**  
She convinced the party to reserve 40 per cent tickets for women in



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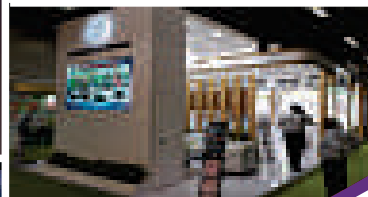
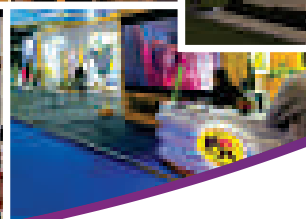
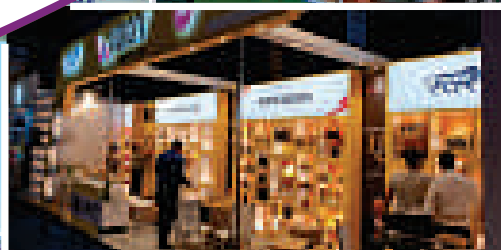
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76

Rank '21: 78

**TV SOMANATHAN, 56**

FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE SECRETARY

**WHY**

As the seniormost secretary among the five secretaries in the Finance Ministry, Somanathan is one of the most influential bureaucrats. He is trusted by the Government for articulating economic policy. He had a major role to play in the PM Garib Kalyan and Atmanirbhar Bharat announcements in 2020.



**POWER PUNCH**

He has been instrumental for outlining capital expenditure push in the Government's post-pandemic budget to revive economic growth.

**WHAT NEXT**

With the global geopolitical tension having a ripple effect on financial markets and commodity prices, he has his

task cut out with managing the fiscal math and steering the economy to a higher growth trajectory.

**BY THE WAY**

He learnt the Hausa language in northern Nigeria, where he did his secondary schooling.

...

77

Rank '21: 81

**KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA, 54**

CHAIRMAN, ADITYA BIRLA GROUP

**WHY**

In the 25 years at the helm of the Aditya Birla Group, he has raised the group's turnover by over 20 times, to \$45 billion. He has been the architect of over 40 successful acquisitions in India and abroad, the highest by any Indian multinational.



In mid-2021, he offered to hand over the group's 27.66 per cent stake in cash-strapped Vodafone Idea to any public sector or domestic financial entity who could keep the company afloat, while also asserting that the telco would collapse without immediate government support. The government was then forced to work out a revival package for telecom compa-

nies, giving a lifeline to Vodafone Idea.

**WHAT NEXT**

The group has already unveiled plans to invest \$2.4 billion across businesses.

**BY THE WAY**

Playing chess is one of his hobbies.

...

78

Rank '21: 68

**BABA RAMDEV, 56**

CO-FOUNDER, PATANJALI AYURVED

**WHY**

Baba Ramdev is looking to build India's leading consumer-goods brand in Patanjali Ayurved with hopes of overtaking FMCG companies like Hindustan Unilever. In a year when most businesses were ravaged by pandemic, Patanjali Ayurved reported Rs 485 crore in net profits for the 2020-21 financial year.



**POWER PUNCH**

The Patanjali Group crossed Rs 30,000 crore in revenue in '20-'21.

**WHAT NEXT**

Patanjali Ayurved is targeting a turnover of close to Rs 1 lakh crore in the next five years and a potential public listing. Ruchi Soya, which Patanjali had acquired in 2019, is gearing up for

a Rs 4,300 crore follow-on public offer. Ramdev is also been planning an entry into education.

**BY THE WAY**

Ramdev was a judge on the Hindi television reality music show, *Om Shanti Om*, which aired in 2017.

...

79

Rank '21: 56

**MEHBOOBA MUFTI, 62**

PRESIDENT, PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY

**WHY**

If any mainstream politician in Jammu & Kashmir has stood up to BJP and its policies, it is Mehbooba Mufti. She is unafraid to voice her stand on Kashmir and its related issues. Despite having once allied with the BJP, she is now a vocal critic of its politics and an ardent supporter of dialogue with Pakistan for the resolution of the Kashmir issue.

**POWER PUNCH**

The PDP chief was among the leaders released last from detention after abrogation of Article 370. The release followed the



Supreme Court questioning the government on how long it planned to keep her under house arrest.

**WHAT NEXT**

Mufti's biggest challenge is her party. Will she be able to revive it, especially when it has lost considerable ground in the Valley? Most of its leaders have gone looking for greener pastures.

**BY THE WAY**

She enjoys watching *Humsafar*, a television serial.

...

80

Rank '21: 83

**VIRAT KOHLI, 33**

FORMER INDIA CAPTAIN

**WHY**

Though he is no longer the captain, the Kohli brand hasn't yet been dented. He still retains the charisma to fill stadium seats and sell products. For his 100th Test in Mohali, BCCI had to roll back on their decision to hold the game behind closed doors, apparently because of the social media outrage of Kohli fans. His support of teammate Mohammed Shami, target of hate-mongers, was a powerful statement. For his IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore, he remains an immensely vital cog in the wheel.



**POWER PUNCH**

With 186 million Instagram followers and another 47.2 million on Twitter, Kohli is one of the biggest influencers around. The BCCI felt the full force of it during the recent captaincy debate.

**WHAT NEXT**

Kohli's challenge would be to not let the tag of former captain dent his famous run-making drive.

**BY THE WAY**

Kohli is a good mimic.

...



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- Student Exchange
- Research Internships



### Dream Offers

- Jobs with MNCs
- Paid Internships

**1000+**

DIVERSE INDUSTRY  
LINKAGES

**750+**

STUDENT PROJECTS  
& INTERNSHIPS

**500+**

ESTEEMED CAMPUS  
RECRUITERS

**50+**

INDUSTRY  
COLLABORATIONS

**20+**

GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIPS

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I-QUBE (Idea, Innovation, and  
Impact Centre for promotion of  
IPR and Entrepreneurship)



Unity Centre of Excellence in  
Immersive Technologies  
(AR, VR, and MR)



EDGE Centre of Excellence  
(Emerging Digital Grid and  
E-Mobility)



Centre of Excellence for Design  
Thinking and Innovation



Vishwakarma University  
Centre of Communication  
for Development



VU - Wizcraft Centre of excellence  
for Media, Entertainment, Events,  
and Tourism (MEET)



Centre for Industry 4.0  
(Emerging Technologies in  
making factories smarter)



Vigyan Centre of Excellence  
(Organizational Capacity  
Building for New Era)



Centre of Excellence for Energy  
and Sustainability (EcoCampus  
Initiatives and SDGs)



Wilo - VU Water Quality Centre  
of Excellence



VU Centre of Excellence for  
Biosystems, Biomedical &  
Drug Delivery Technologies



Centre of Excellence for  
Innovation in Built Environment  
and Research Generation

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81

Rank '21: 69

**FALIS NARIMAN, 93**

CONSTITUTIONAL JURIST, SENIOR  
ADVOCATE, SUPREME COURT

**WHY**  
With almost seven decades of practising law, Fali Nariman has witnessed nearly all the watershed moments of the judiciary and draws from that vast experience. He remains one of the country's most respected jurists and constitutional lawyers.

**POWER PUNCH**



He contested the Centre's Covid-19 rules on Parsi funerals and argued that there was no provision for Parsis to carry out Dokhmenashini, a ritual where the deceased is kept on the Tower of Silence.

**WHAT NEXT**  
As the conscience-keeper for the judiciary, Nariman's views will be crucial

in shaping conversations, both inside and outside the courtroom.

**BY THE WAY**  
Much before he had a stint as a Parliamentarian, Nariman was part of a mock parliament in his law school.

● ● ●

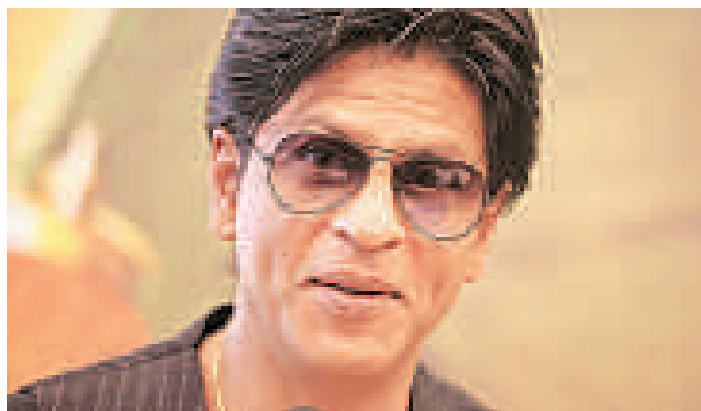
82

NEW

**SHAH RUKH KHAN, 56**

ACTOR, PRODUCER, SPORTS  
ENTREPRENEUR

**WHY**  
He is the guru of reinvention. He has shaped the entertainment industry for three decades and is back in an action-hero avatar with *Pathaan* and filmmaker Atlee's double-role thriller *Lion*. In the midst of the controversy around his son, he maintained a stoic silence and retained the loyalty of the brands associated with him.



**POWER PUNCH**  
With SRK+, he is set to revolutionise the OTT space, be it independently or in association with Disney Hotstar.

**WHAT NEXT**  
After critically acclaimed titles like *Badla*, *Bard of Blood*, *Bob Biswas* and *Love Hostel*, his Red Chillies is working on two women-themed films, one,

about two women finding love in exceptional circumstances and another about a journalist speaking truth to power.

**BY THE WAY**  
He loves hanging out in Dubai, and is terrified of riding horses.

● ● ●

83

Rank '21: 62

**DEVENDRA FADNAVIS, 51**

OPPOSITION LEADER,  
MAHARASHTRA

**WHY**  
He has consistently led the BJP's charge against the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government, pressuring it with timely revelations. He was instrumental in scripting the BJP's victory in Goa.

**POWER PUNCH**

He may be in the Opposition but the former CM has immense penetration in



Maharashtra's bureaucracy and police. He's weaponised sensitive and confidential information, including call data records (CDRs), telephone intercepts and even statements made to the police, to put the MVA on the mat.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He has set his eyes on dethroning the MVA from power. His major test will

be ensuring a strong BJP performance in the corporation elections in Maharashtra's major cities.

**BY THE WAY**  
A closet singer, Fadnavis has also modelled for a Nagpur-based garment store.

● ● ●

84

NEW



**PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI, 46**

CHIEF MINISTER, UTTARAKHAND

**WHY**  
Dhami, who became Uttarakhand's youngest chief minister eight months ago, led the BJP to a second consecutive term — the first time an incumbent has returned to power in the hill state.

**POWER PUNCH**

Though he failed to secure his own Khatima seat, Dhami was chosen over many others for the top job and sworn in as chief minister for the second time—an acknowledgment of his role in leading the party to victory in the state.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Dhami needs to be elected to the State Assembly within six months to continue as CM and also has the task of keeping together the faction-ridden state unit of the party.

**BY THE WAY**  
Dhami considers his wife Geeta his lucky charm and the *pahadi* cap he wore during his swearing-in ceremony was a special gift from his in-laws.

● ● ●

85

Rank '21: 58



**RAJIV GAUBA, 62**

CABINET SECRETARY

**WHY**  
As PM Modi's top man in central bureaucracy, Gauba has not only been key to formulating and implementing government policy on India's response to Covid-19. He's steered co-ordination between the Centre and the states on record vaccinations achieved by the country. Gauba, who was granted a one-year extension in 2021, has coordinated efforts of various ministries and states on the schemes for the poor.

**POWER PUNCH**

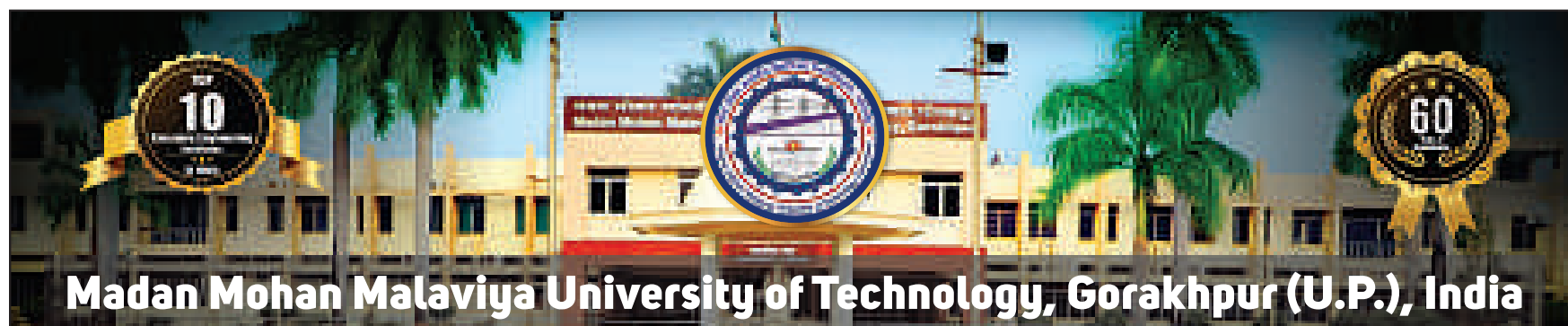
With PK Mishra's exit from the PMO and his own tenure coming

to an end in August this year, Gauba is speculated to be among the contenders to become principal secretary to the PM.

**WHAT NEXT**  
With the economy opening up, Gauba will have the task of steering the bureaucracy to implement government agenda on growth.

**BY THE WAY**  
He is very particular about time management in meetings and comes straight to the point.

● ● ●



# Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology, Gorakhpur (U.P.), India

## COURSES OFFERED

### UG PROGRAMME

- Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech.) in
  - Chemical Engineering
  - Civil Engineering
  - Computer Science and Engineering
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Electronics and Communication Engg.
  - Information Technology
  - Mechanical Engineering
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.)

### PG PROGRAMME

- Master of Technology (M. Tech.) (Civil/Computer/Electrical/Electronics/IT/ Mechanical)
- MCA
- M. Sc. (Maths/Physics/Chemistry)
- MBA

### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in

(Civil/Chemical/Computer/Electrical/Electronics /Information Technology/ Mechanical/ Physics/Chemistry/Math/English/Economics/ Management/Psychology)

## ADMISSION TO B.TECH.(I)

Course	Admission Mode	Seats
B.Tech.	JEE Main-2022 qualified candidates of UP	1050
	JEE Main-2022 qualified candidates with state eligibility Code other than UP	105

For Application process, important dates and exam details, please visit <https://jeemain.nta.nic.in/>

## ADMISSION TO OTHER COURSES

National Testing Agency is conducting the Uttar Pradesh Combined Entrance Test (UPCET) 2022 for admission to the different professional courses offered by Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology-Gorakhpur for the academic session 2022-23. MMMUT will take admission in following courses through UPCET-2022.

- BBA
- B. Pharm
- M. Tech.
- M. Sc.
- MBA
- MCA
- B. Tech-II (Lateral Entry)
- B. Pharm. (Lateral Entry)

Information about the eligibility, scheme of exam, exam centres, exam duration/timings, exam fee, procedure for applying etc. read the information bulletin available on the UPCET-2022 website: [www.upcet.nta.nic.in](http://www.upcet.nta.nic.in) after its announcement.

## ADMISSION TO Ph.D

Admission to Ph.D (Full time and Part time) programme for various stream will be taken through Malaviya Entrance Test (MET)-2022 conducted by the university. For more details visit our website: [www.mmmut.ac.in](http://www.mmmut.ac.in)

## UPCOMING COURSES: BCA AND INTEGRATED MCA

## Placement Record

MMMUT has reached nearly 100% placement for the year 2021-22. Various reputed organizations including TCS, Wipro, Cognizant, Accenture, HCL, IBM, Amazon, Infosys, Ericsson, Bank of New York Mellon, Aditya Birla, Prism Johnson, L&T, Capgemini, Byju's, Juspay Technologies etc. have been selecting students from the University nearly every year.

**6.3 Lakhs**  
Average Package  
Offered by 150+ Companies

**27 Lakhs**  
Highest  
Package

**100%**  
Students  
Placed

## Facilities

- 354 acre lush green campus
- Fully residential with 11 hostels (7 boys + 4 Girls hostel).
- Lecture Halls equipped with audio visual aids and virtual classroom facility.
- Transport facility for day scholars.
- Campus wide high speed Wi Fi network.

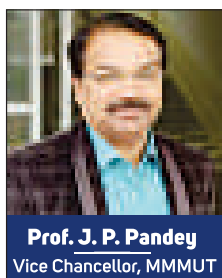
- Rich Library (more than 1 lakh books)/ Gyan Sindhu Digital Library.
- Centralised IT Resource Centre/ Central Workshop
- Cafeteria/ Bank/ Post Office/ Guest House/ Health Centre.
- Shaheed Bandhu Singh Stadium with facilities for indoor and outdoor sports.

## Quality Indicators

- UGC 2(f) & 12(B) status.
- 5 B Tech Programmes NBA Accredited.
- NAAC Accreditation underway.
- Choice Based Credit System since 2014.
- Various provisions of NEP-2020 implemented at UG level.
- Minor Degree Courses in AI, IoT and Cyber Security.
- Ranked 183rd in Engineering Category of NIRF-2020.
- Ranked 6th among Emerging Institutes in Times Engineering Survey-2018.
- Ranked 15th Best Technical University in India Today Survey-2019.

- Regular Academic Audit/ Internal Quality Assurance Cell/ Research Development Council.
- 31 MoUs with reputed international/ national organizations for academic exchange and support.
- 45 Research Project awarded by reputed national/ international bodies to faculty.
- 1249 Consultancy projects ongoing/ completed by the faculty members.
- Centre for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.
- Institutional Membership of National Digital Library of India.
- ISO 21001:2018 & ISO 14001:2015 Certified.
- GATE Results: 169 students in 2022 (AIR 49), 235 students in 2021, 229 students in 2020, 242 students in 2019, & 126 students in 2018.

Website: [www.mmmut.ac.in](http://www.mmmut.ac.in) | Admission Helpline : 8765783798, 9235500507 | Email: [admissions@mmmud.ac.in](mailto:admissions@mmmud.ac.in)



**Prof. J. P. Pandey**  
Vice Chancellor, MMMUT

Only after a few years of independence, it became clear that the path of India's progress would go through its fields and industries. Keeping this fact in mind, Madan Mohan Malaviya Engineering College (MMMEC) was setup in the year 1962 in Gorakhpur to provide highly qualified technical manpower to the industrial sector. In its 50 years of journey, MMMEC made wonderful contribution in almost all areas. Students of MMMEC acquired very high positions in reputed organizations in India and abroad making unprecedented contribution to technology and people's lives. Considering the glorious past and prospects of MMMEC, Government of Uttar Pradesh reconstituted it to establish the Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology vide Act No 22 of 2013. The distinctive mission of the University is (i) to serve society as a center of higher learning, providing long-term societal benefits through transmitting advanced knowledge, discovering new

knowledge and functioning as an active working repository of organized knowledge; (ii) to take leadership role by providing need-based programs in engineering and technology, applied sciences, management, humanities, architecture, pharmacy, retail and fashion design, mass-communication, agriculture and other employable courses in emerging areas; (iii) to promote compassionate care of the highest quality that translates new knowledge into meaningful improvements in technological outcomes through interdisciplinary collaboration, fiscal responsibility, support of diversity, a focus on quality and a culture of professionalism; (iv) to establish value creating networks and foster relationship with other leading institutes of higher learning and research, alumni and industries in order to provide significant contribution to national and international development; and (v) to create an intellectually stimulating Infrastructure and conducive environment for technology research, scholarship, creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship, and professional activity for service to community and economy.

To provide ample opportunities to its students through academic exchange, MMMUT has entered into agreements with prestigious universities/ research institutes in India and abroad

including Claude Lab, University of Melbourne, Australia; University of Wisconsin, USA; North Dakota State University, USA; Central University of Michigan, USA; Ryukus University, Japan; University Carlos de Madrid, Spain; Warsaw Management University, Poland; IIT Kanpur; IIT Roorkee; IIM Indore; SVNIT Surat; MNNIT Prayagraj; IIIT Prayagraj; EDII Gandhinagar; NPTI Faridabad; NIT Jamshedpur; and NEERI Nagpur to name a few. Recently, MMMUT entered into MoU with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi to avail benefits of various AICTE schemes for students, faculty, and staff. MMMUT has implemented the provisions of National Education Policy-2020 to completely change its curriculum structure at the undergraduate level to make it more employment oriented and suited to the needs of the industry. The new curriculum structure lays greater emphasis on skill development, entrepreneurship, and innovation development. We are starting Minor Degree courses in Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, and Internet of Things from academic year 2022-23. The University is also working towards creating a Centre for Excellence in Drone Technology and Electric Vehicles.

I am also proud to share that following the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, MMMUT is on its way to be a Digital University very soon.



86

NEW

**TUHIN KANTA PANDEY, 57**

SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT AND PUBLIC ASSET MANAGEMENT (DIPAM)

**WHY**

With an ambitious privatisation agenda lined up by the government, DIPAM will be at the forefront of the Centre's push to reduce its business presence and give a greater play to the private sector. The BJP government's success in the recent Assembly elections is expected to reinvigorate stake sales in PSU companies.



**POWER PUNCH**

DIPAM, under Pandey, has been able to successfully privatise Air India by selling the loss-making national carrier to the Tata Group.

**WHAT NEXT**

Completing the proposed initial public offering of Life Insurance Corporation will be a significant milestone. Getting

buyers for Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd and rolling out privatisation of IDBI Bank, two other state-owned lenders, will also be under focus.

**BY THE WAY**

He is fluent in Hindi, English, Punjabi and Odia

● ● ●

87

NEW

**NANDAN NILEKANI, 66**

NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, INFOSYS

**WHY**

Having started his entrepreneurial journey in the Indian IT industry in 1981, Nilekani is among the rare entrepreneurs who have successfully executed projects in the public as well as the private sector.

**POWER PUNCH**

He has been included in a nine-member



advisory council to advise the government on measures needed to design and accelerate the adoption of Open Network for Digital Commerce.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is working on EkStep, a not-for-profit effort to create a technology-based platform to improve basic literacy for millions of children,

which lays the template for the use of technology as an asset for the greater good.

**BY THE WAY**

While working, Nilekani avoids communication tools such as messages and WhatsApp.

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88

Rank '21: 66

**RAM SEWAK SHARMA, 66**

CEO, NATIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

**WHY**

Soon after he retired from the IAS, he was appointed CEO of the apex body implementing the ambitious Ayushman Bharat Yojana - National Health Authority. An expert on technology and big data, he was entrusted with developing the CoWIN platform that has served as the backbone for Covid-19 vaccination drive in the country.



**POWER PUNCH**

Last year, the PM launched e-RUPI, a contactless instrument for digital payment for Covid-19 vaccination, conceptualised by Sharma. It's expected to be used in delivering services related to providing drugs and diagnostics.

**WHAT NEXT**

Under him, the NHA will roll out a dig-

ital ecosystem that will comprise registries of health providers, health facilities and consent framework.

**BY THE WAY**

Loves designing information systems, and has been writing code since 1986.

● ● ●

89

NEW

**M JAGADESH KUMAR, 60**

CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

**WHY**

An electronics engineer by training from the IIT-Madras, Kumar taught at the IIT-Delhi for nearly two decades between 1997 and 2016, when he was made the vice-chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). He continues to take classes at IIT-D. In February, he was made chairperson of the University Grants Commission.

**POWER PUNCH**

JNU was in the grip of intense political churn under Kumar's watch, raising a question mark over his leadership. But he weathered the storm and it did not dent his ca-



reer progression.

**WHAT NEXT**

As head of UGC, Kumar will oversee the rollout of key National Education Policy 2020 proposals on reforming the higher education sector, ranging from the central universities common entrance test to the four-year undergraduate programme.

**BY THE WAY**

He practises Shito-Ryu karate and prefers taking the stairs to his eighth-floor classroom in IIT.

● ● ●

90

Rank '21: 33

**SUSHIL CHANDRA, 64**

CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER OF INDIA

**WHY**

Chandra took over as the 24th CEC last April and oversaw key Assembly elections. As member of the Delimitation Commission, he will play an important role in deciding the redrawn boundaries of Assembly and Lok Sabha seats in Jammu & Kashmir.

**POWER PUNCH**

Chandra's decision to ban election rallies and roadshows ahead of the Assembly elections across five states in January helped curb the spread of the Omicron variant. The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill,

2021, which seeks to link electoral roll data with the Aadhaar ecosystem, was also passed during his tenure.

**WHAT NEXT**

He is building on the electoral reforms he pushed, including remote voting and unified electoral rolls, and arguing for simultaneous elections. He is due to retire in May.

**BY THE WAY**

He has a vast collection of teas from across the world.

● ● ●





Knowledge grows



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91

Rank '21: 98

**PRASHANT KISHOR, 45**  
ELECTION STRATEGIST

**WHY**  
He has transformed political campaigning in India in many ways, from pushing parties to adopt data analysis in a more structured manner to disruptive publicity drives. Two general elections and many Assembly polls later, Kishor has emerged as a formidable force in the minefield of Indian politics.



**POWER PUNCH**  
He helped Mamata Banerjee steer the TMC to power in West Bengal. He also worked closely with MK Stalin, who led DMK to a thumping majority in the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly polls.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He has dropped enough hints about his desire to help strengthen the Opposition

parties going into the 2024 general election. Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao has announced that Kishor is working with him.

**BY THE WAY**  
He has multiple pairs of his trademark black polo T-shirt.

● ● ●

92

NEW

**AMITABH KANT, 66**  
CEO, NITI AAYOG

**WHY**  
Amitabh Kant has been a key driver of the government's flagship initiatives such as Make in India, Startup India and Incredible India. At NITI Aayog, he is overseeing the Aspirational Districts Programme, which uses data-based governance to improve the socio-economic outcomes of some of India's most backward districts.



**POWER PUNCH**  
Under his watch, NITI Aayog has developed the National Monetisation Pipeline, which aims to unlock value in brownfield projects by engaging the private sector. He's been promoting an EV revolution in the country.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Even as Kant's current term as NITI

Aayog CEO ends on June 30, he is expected to remain at the forefront of the EV and digital push in the country.

**BY THE WAY**  
He uses an electric vehicle — a white coloured Tata Nexon EV, in his case, as his official vehicle.

● ● ●

93

Rank '21: 92

**HARISH SALVE, 66**  
FORMER SOLICITOR GENERAL

**WHY**  
India's most sought after corporate lawyer may have shifted base to London but is still a regular in courts in the country. He represents big corporate houses, including Reliance and Tata Sons. The Indian government also dials in Salve for its cases abroad, be it the Kulbhushan Jadhav spy case or to extradite fugitive Mehul Choksi from



the Dominican government's custody.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Salve dominated the Supreme Court during the pandemic as courts functioned virtually. Appearing from London, the cases in which he appeared ranged from the farmer protests to the Lakhimpur Kheri violence in Uttar Pradesh.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He continues to hold the brief for major corporate power houses. There is also speculation about his return to India for a larger role.

**BY THE WAY**  
Salve is a jazz enthusiast.

● ● ●

94

NEW

**KANGANA RANAUT, 34**  
ACTOR & PRODUCER

**WHY**  
With four National Awards, this Padma Shri recipient has proved that commerce respects talent even if you are on a solitary road. She continues to make headlines with her no-holds-barred opinions, engaging in blistering debates with critics on all public platforms. She is the poster girl of pop nationalism.

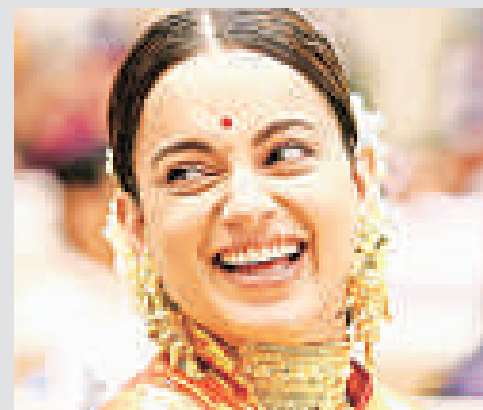
**POWER PUNCH**  
By turning producer with *Manikarnika* and having done *Thalaivi*, the biopic on actor-politician J Jayalalithaa, she is determined to push female-driven narratives

and direct them herself. Considered close to the establishment, she advocates its stance through social media posts and was invited to the swearing-in of the UP CM.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Watch out for *Dhaakad* and *Tejas*. By directing a feature titled *Emergency* and playing the lead in *Sita*, she is foregrounding subterranean politico-cultural viewpoints in the popular space.

**BY THE WAY**  
She is heavily into spirituality.

● ● ●



95

Rank '21: 71

**MAYAWATI, 66**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT, BAHUJAN SAMAJ PARTY

**WHY**  
Though the BSP won just one seat in the UP Assembly polls, its vote share at 13 per cent is still way above the Congress's 2.3 per cent. Though a much-diminished figure heading a party that seems less than agile in keeping up with the demands of new politics, Mayawati remains relevant in Uttar Pradesh politics.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Despite old hands leaving the party, she still holds the reins. She has appointed her brother and nephew to prominent positions in the party, signaling to the cadres

her grip on the next rung of power.

**WHAT NEXT**  
Given the dominant perception that it was the shift in the BSP's vote that helped the BJP come back to power in the state, the biggest task ahead for her is to re-establish her own position as well as of her party — as a leader of the Opposition, and of the Dalits.

**BY THE WAY**  
She demands complete silence when she is reading or writing.

● ● ●



# We find your ease of doing business

*Finndit aspires to become one of the best buy-sell search engines that holds information about local vendors across cities*

**Y**OU may have the next big idea but scaling a business is not easy. It takes a considerable amount of effort to get yourself a good position in the market. But what if you had that one-stop shop to map your needs and find a market for your products?

Finndit is here to take care of your worries. It is a well-known local search engine that enables its users to list their businesses and explore search-related services across the country.

If you aspire to grow and make higher profits, then Finndit offers services that would get you innumerable new customers and reinforce your brand image at a click. It does not matter if you are looking for an automobile, fitness club, eateries, gymnasium, hotels, motels or electronics, you can find it all at one destination. "The goal of the website is to enable a seamless interaction between the service-provider and the customer", says founder Kashish Rikhi, who has linked all local buyers and sellers meticulously under one platform.

A business page is a tremendous opportunity for clients to grow their prospects as customers provide them genuine reviews, share their concerns, express their opinions and provide some feedback. The businesses registered at Finndit can upload their services, product pictures, videos, conduct interactive sessions and can turn the views into sales. The clients have an option to go live on the page and interact with customers on a one-on-one basis. The mission is to present free, fast, dependable and broad-ranging information to users and connect sellers to buyers in a way that is easy for each of them.

Finndit aspires to become one of the best buy-sell search engines that hold information about local vendors in all the cities of India.

Its mission is to render quick, reliable, comprehensive and free information to all its users who are searching for vendors providing a specific service or product.

You can reach out to the Finndit website any time of the day. The Finndit community has a highly experienced team, with an in-depth local market knowledge and expertise. To get genuine service-providers, it has its own foot soldiers to collect data and set up a local network of verified contacts. Even service providers without an online presence are listed here, so that the users get a wide range of options to pick from and provide full information related to the searches. All the users visiting this website can access detailed local

content and search technology.

Finndit refrains from giving the users any random search results. It offers information that is precise, to-the-point and exactly what one needs.

This platform specialises in understanding the requirements of the users in detail and matches them with the verified service providers. The buyers can easily connect with the sellers anytime. All brands can increase their visibility, credibility and reach their target audience cost-effectively. Seek and you will find.

Finndit, established in 2020 in India, is one of the leading search engine having international offices in 11 different countries. We have our registered & corporate office in Mumbai, India and operational office in Mohali, Punjab. Other states having offices; Delhi, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Chennai and Patna. We cover over 45 business categories and 1900 business subcategories.

We keep specific information of businesses, business categories, services, products and manufacturers on our site. The search services help users locate suitable vendors or providers of different services and products. We also bring an online presence, business promotion platform where you can build your brand reputation. We enable you to list your businesses for promotions and also explore the search related services across PAN India.

We present a valuable, less invasive way where customers are earned than bought.

## VISION

Our vision is to become the best search engine worldwide, to improve the gap between a buyer and a seller.

## MISSION

Our mission is to render quick, reliable and comprehensive information to all its users.



**Kashish Rikhi**  
Founder





96

NEW

**AKSHAY KUMAR, 54**

ACTOR & PRODUCER

**WHY**  
He is the most visible barometer of the public pulse. Calling himself a producer's actor, his sustained hits in the film industry prove that he is in the business called Bollywood. From action hero, comic, Everyman, crusader and now anti-hero, he has delivered in all genres. He kept the industry afloat with his *Bellbottom*,



*Sooryavanshi* and *Bachchan Pandey*, earning close to Rs 200 crore in the pandemic gap years.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Known to be an astute businessman who values time, budgets and co-stars, the Padma Shri recipient is the industry's most bankable star. FMCG brands love him.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He will be playing the role of Prithviraj Chauhan in YRF's next and an archaeologist on the trail of the Ram Setu.

**BY THE WAY**  
He prefers not to eat after sunset and sleeps by 9 pm.

● ● ●

97

NEW

**ALIABHATT, 29**

ACTOR, PRODUCER

**WHY**  
After establishing herself as a versatile and emotive actor at a relatively young age, she has proved herself to be a crowd-puller of the Rs 100 crore-plus club with *Gangubai Kathiawadi*, where she literally carried the film on her shoulders. It played a crucial role in drawing viewers back to the cinema halls in large numbers.



**POWER PUNCH**  
With SS Rajamouli's big budget *RRR* and the magnum opus *Brahmastra*, she is the queen of the sweepstakes. She's also signed an international spy thriller, *Heart of Stone*, featuring Gal Gadot.

**WHAT NEXT**  
The actor is on a mould-breaking spree with *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani* and

the all-woman road film *Jee Le Zaraa*. *Darlings*, a dark comedy co-produced by her Eternal Sunshine Production, is supposed to release this year.

**BY THE WAY**  
Bhatt likes nature photography.

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98

NEW

**PRALHAD JOSHI, 59**

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES

**WHY**  
Joshi's emergence in national politics has been slow but steady. Considered close to BJP's influential organisational general secretary BL Santhosh, he's always had the backing of the RSS in Karnataka and now at the Centre. The Dharwad MP enjoys the support of the PM and by virtue of being the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, works



closely with him during House sessions.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Named party in-charge of Uttarakhand just before the crucial Assembly elections, he resolved serious infighting, drew up a winning strategy and convinced everybody to continue with Pushkar Singh Dhami as Chief Minister despite his defeat in the polls.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He is one of the contenders for the post of Karnataka Chief Minister in the next round of state elections.

**BY THE WAY**  
He loves to listen to classical music and occasionally sings on stage.

● ● ●

99

NEW

**PRASOON JOSHI, 50**

ADMAN, LYRICIST, CBFC CHIEF

**WHY**  
One of the prominent lyricists of Hindi cinema and top-ranking adman, Joshi has been chairman of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) since 2017. Winner of the Indian Personality of the Year award during the International Film Festival of India, Goa, last year, he played a key role in digitising CBFC.

**POWER PUNCH**  
Has worked on the Government's social messaging as is evident from the appeal of



the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, polio eradication, malnutrition and child rights campaigns.

**WHAT NEXT**  
He has the tough task to convince filmmakers about a new draft proposal to amend the Cinematograph Act of 1952, which will give the Centre revisional powers.

**BY THE WAY**  
He is a good singer.

● ● ●

100

NEW

**RAMACHANDRA GUHA, 63**

HISTORIAN AND PUBLIC INTELLECTUAL

**WHY**  
His scholarship is marked by rigour and accessible story-telling that draws readers, across generations, to modern Indian history. At a time when much of it is contested, his formidable range of books enriches insight as much as it provokes thought.

**POWER PUNCH**  
His most recent work, *Rebels Against the Raj*, much like his iconic biography of anthropologist Verrier Elwin, is a story of India's encounter with the West — and an argument

against xenophobia.

**WHAT NEXT**  
A voice of dissent, he calls out abuse of power in a tone that is fiercely non-partisan — and humble. His choice of subjects will continue to deepen his readers' understanding of a changing India.

**BY THE WAY**  
In school, Guha was an off-break bowler, who idolised EAS Prasanna.

● ● ●

**NEW ON THE LIST**

DY Chandrachud; Bhupendra Yadav; N Chandrasekaran; Nita Ambani; Manish Sisodia; Hardeep Singh Puri; Anurag Singh Thakur; Mansukh Mandaviya; Ashwini Vaishnaw; Neeraj Chopra; Kiren Rijiju; CR Paatil; Ghulam Nabi Azad; Bhagwant Singh Mann; Rajeev Chandrasekhar; Rohit Sharma; Madhavi Puri Buch; Omar Abdullah; Shah Rukh Khan; Pushkar Singh Dhami; Tuhin Kanta Pandey; Nandan Nilekani; M Jagadeesh Kumar; Amitabh Kant; Kangana Ranaut; Akshay Kumar; Alia Bhatt; Pralhad Joshi; Prasoon Joshi; Ramachandra Guha

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