



2 KEY STATES, 2 PREDICTIONS
UTTAR PRADESH (403)

Pollster	BJP	SP	BSP	Cong	Others
India Today-Axis	288-326	71-101	3-9	1-3	2-3
Times Now-Veto	225	151	14	9	4
News24-Chanakya	294	105	2	1	1
ABP-CVOTER	228-244	132-148	13-21	4-8	2-6

PUNJAB (117)

Pollster	Cong	AAP	SAD+	BJP+	Others
India Today-Axis	19-31	76-90	7-11	1-4	0-2
Times Now-Veto	22	70	19	5	1
News24-Chanakya	10	100	6	1	-
ABP-CVoter	22-28	51-61	20-26	7-13	-

ESTIMATED 700 INDIANS STUCK IN CITY OF SUMY PM speaks to Putin and Zelensky, seeks support for quick evacuation

Suggested direct conversation between both Presidents: PMO

SHUBHAJIT ROY & KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

EXPRESSING "DEEP concern" for the safety and security of Indian students still in Ukraine, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy Monday and sought their support for safe and quick evacuation of Indians from the city of Sumy in north-east Ukraine, official sources said.

Modi's conversation with Putin, the third since the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, lasted 50 minutes. He urged the Russian President to hold direct talks with Zelenskyy in addition to the ongoing negotiations between their teams, sources said.



A woman holding a child cries after fleeing Ukraine, at the border crossing in Medyka, Poland, Monday. AP PAGES 10, 15

A statement from the Prime Minister's Office said President Putin briefed the Prime Minister about the ongoing measures related to humanitarian corridors for facilitating evacuation of civilians including Indian students.

Earlier, Russian authorities said a ceasefire would begin Monday and "humanitarian corridors" would open in key

EXPLAINED
E Near Russia border

AN ESTIMATED 700 Indian students remain in Sumy. About 350 km east of Kyiv and 180 km north-west of Kharkiv, Sumy is closer to the Russian border.

For Indian students who are back, the big question: What next?

ANONNA DUTT & SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

ON MARCH 4, as the sound of shelling boomed outside, the VN Karazin Kharkiv National University in eastern Ukraine alerted its international students about "scammers" promising transfers to other institutions in neighbouring Poland, Hungary or Romania.

A few days earlier, authorities of Danylo Halatsky Lviv National Medical University in western Ukraine informed its international students that those looking for transfers to other institutions outside the country would be provided with soft copies of

BUSINESS AS USUAL



key documents, such as mark-sheets and research papers. They have managed to escape

Markets and rupee crash as crude sizzles at \$139

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

DOMESTIC FINANCIAL markets on Monday went into a turmoil with the stock markets plunging 2.74 per cent and the rupee falling to a record level of 77.01 against the dollar as the price of Brent crude oil rocketed to \$139.1 per barrel, its highest level since 2008, before falling to \$125.5 per barrel. The rupee's previous all-time low was 76.91 to a dollar in April 2020.

The Sensex, which crashed 1,791 points (3.29 per cent) at one stage, lost 1,491 points at 52,842.75, and the NSE Nifty Index crashed 382 points to 15,863.15 on sustained selling led by foreign investors. The rupee hit a record low of 77.01 in early trade itself and closed with a loss of 76 paise at 76.93 as the surge in oil prices threatened to push up imported inflation and widen the country's trade and current account deficits.

Markets were unnerved over the possibility of disruptions in international oil supplies and potential sanctions on Russian oil

Exit polls predict Yogi return in UP, give Punjab to AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

EXIT POLLS broadcast by television networks after the final phase of voting Monday predicted the return of the Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh and a comfortable victory for the AAP in Punjab. The polls forecast a dead-heat race in Uttarakhand and Goa, both ruled by the BJP, signalling the possibility of hung

Houses in the two small states. Pollsters also predicted a sweep for the BJP in Manipur where it is the ruling party.

In Uttar Pradesh, most pollsters barring two forecast that the ruling BJP may suffer losses but will still cross the half-way mark of 202 comfortably and retain power, bucking a trend of nearly four decades. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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PAGE 6

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FROM PAGE ONE

PM talks

Ukrainian cities including Kyiv, Kharkiv and Sumy.
Situating about 350 km east of Kharkiv, Sumy is now at the centre of India's evacuation efforts from the war zone. About 700 Indians, mostly students of Sumy State University, are stranded in the city. The Prime Minister, official sources said, appreciated the announcement of a ceasefire and establishment of humanitarian corridors in parts of Ukraine, including Sumy.
According to the PMO, Putin briefed Modi on the status of negotiations between the Ukrainian and Russian teams. The Prime Minister "welcomed the ongoing negotiations between Russia and Ukraine and expressed hope that they would lead to cessation of

the conflict. He suggested that a direct conversation between President Putin and President Zelenskyy may greatly assist the ongoing peace efforts," the PMO said. This was in continuation of the last phone conversation in which Modi had expressed willingness to participate in a peace process.
He also spoke to Zelenskyy Monday morning. Sources said the phone call lasted for about 35 minutes. "The two leaders discussed the evolving situation in Ukraine," sources said. Modi "appreciated the continuing direct dialogue between Russia and Ukraine." He also thanked the Ukrainian President for "the help extended by the Government of Ukraine in evacuation of Indian nationals from Ukraine."
He sought continued support from Ukraine in ongoing efforts

for evacuation of Indian nationals from Sumy.
The PMO said Zelenskyy briefed the Prime Minister in detail about the conflict situation and the ongoing negotiations between Ukraine and Russia.
"Prime Minister expressed deep concern about the ongoing conflict and resultant humanitarian crisis. Prime Minister reiterated his call for immediate cessation of violence and noted that India has always stood for peaceful resolution of issues and direct dialogue between the two parties." He thanked the Ukrainian authorities for their facilitation in evacuating more than 20,000 Indian citizens from Ukraine. "He expressed deep concern for the safety and security of Indian students still remaining in Ukraine and emphasized the need for their quick and safe evacuation."
Those who are stuck in Sumy face a difficult situation — the border to the east is 60 km away, but it is not safe for them to venture out of their shelters until the guns fall silent at least for some time.
Given the situation, the Indian government has asked students in Sumy to stay put — it is the safest choice even if they have to do with limited food and water and no heating.

shelling.
Abhishek Singh, a fourth-year MBBS student at the university in Lviv, said authorities have told international students they can opt for transfers. "If we share the documents with them, we will be provided with soft copies of our mark sheets and research projects, which will be required while applying for a transfer," he said.
Richa Jha, a third-year student in Lviv, said the university has promised to send photocopies of documents by email. "The university is on vacation till this week. Perhaps next week we will be informed whether they plan to resume classes or not," she said.
Ukraine is part of the European Credit Transfer System but a move to institutions outside the country is not easy. There are monetary and regulatory hurdles, say students. "The annual fee in medical colleges in Ukraine is around USD 4,900 (around Rs 3.76 lakh). In other European nations, it can be up to USD 10,000 (around Rs 7.7 lakh)," said Abhishek Singh from Lviv.
This is a tough call for parents and students who opted for Ukraine due to the relatively low costs involved.
Yash Rana, 20, joined the Uzhhorod National Medical University in western Ukraine in December last year after failing to secure a government seat in India. In 2021, more than 16 lakh students applied through NEET-UG for 83,000 available seats across the country, half of which are in government colleges.
Yash's father Raj Kumar Rana said he would pay around Rs 35 lakh for a six-year MBBS course in Ukraine, while a seat in a private college in India would cost "anywhere between Rs 50 lakh to Rs 1.5 crore for a duration of four-and-a-half years".
Rashmi Singh, a fourth-year medical student in Uzhhorod, has received messages from "several colleges in Hungary" that she can transfer "at the same fee structure". "But I would prefer that she continue her studies at the same university, if possible," said her father Dr R K Singh, who is based in Faridabad.
Sonia Yadav, 21, a second-year student in Uzhhorod, has decided to wait for information from university authorities and continue

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with online classes — for now.
Then, there are the regulatory hurdles.
National Medical Council regulations for Indians students abroad state that the entire course, training and internship, or clerkship, should be done in the same foreign medical institution throughout the course of study.
Besides, under the National Medical Commission (Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate) Regulations 2021, courses done in an online-only mode will not be recognised. Shubham Gautam, who runs DSA Global, a consultancy that has contracts with three universities in Lviv for admissions, said: "We will have to wait for a fortnight at least for clarity. We don't have any official word from either the Ukrainian or Indian side, so far. We must keep in mind that universities in western Ukraine have not suffered any damage as such."
Markets crash
and gas exports. The price of crude oil has risen by nearly 30 per cent from \$97.5 on February 23 prior to Russia's announcement of a "special operation" in Ukraine. Concerns over potential delays in the process of Iranian crude oil returning to global markets have also contributed to the uptick in prices.
Analysts said the outlook remains weak for the rupee till the time crude price stays above \$105.

If the crude prices start crossing \$130, the rupee can even touch \$78.50 very quickly, said Jateen Trivedi, senior research analyst at LKP Securities. Rising crude oil prices would expand the current account deficit, putting further pressure on the domestic currency. As crude oil import accounts for nearly 20 per cent of the country's import bill, a rise in prices could lead to surge in inflation and force RBI to go for liquidity tightening measures followed by rate hikes. An increase of \$10/barrel in crude prices could raise inflation by 10 basis points.
With foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) pulling out from Indian markets, the small-cap index dived by 2.30 per cent and mid-cap index by 2.25 per cent. Realty, bank, finance, auto and capital goods indices fell up to 2.7 per cent. HUL shares fell 3.80 per cent, RIL 3.67 per cent and HDFC 4.47 per cent. FPIs sold stocks worth Rs 7,499 crore, taking the total withdrawals to Rs 26,000 crore in March. "Today's fall is due to news that the US can ban crude supply from Russia. It is not a time for new investment until this war situation is settled, but long-term investors need not worry about it. As Warren Buffett once said, that he will not sell equity in case of war even if the conflict escalated into World War III," said Ravi Singhal, vice chairman, GCL Securities.
As investors started flocking

to gold, MCX gold gained nearly 2 per cent, and globally it crossed \$2,000/oz in Monday's trade. Gold is a safe haven for investors historically and attracts funds in times of uncertainty. The yield on 10-year benchmark bond rose 6.89 per cent, putting upward pressure on short-term interest rates. On the other hand, the risk of retail inflation rising and leading to stagflation has increased. "New sanctions against Russia have triggered huge jumps in gold and crude prices. In this scenario, when the economies are already struggling to keep the pace of recovery, fears of stagflation have also started to creep in, with concerns over high commodity prices impacting inflation and slowing growth. All these factors are impacting the markets worldwide and investment outflows," said Ravi Singh, head of research, ShareIndia.
The sharp uptick in prices comes as Indian consumers have been enjoying a four-month reprieve from rising petroleum product prices with oil marketing companies (OMCs) having kept the price of petrol and diesel constant since early November. With elections in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa coming to a close, consumers are expected to see a consistent increase in fuel prices starting this week as OMCs look to bring prices in line with international benchmarks and recoup losses. The

prices of petrol and diesel have to be hiked by about 52 paise for every dollar increase in the price of crude oil for OMC marketing margins to remain constant. The price of crude oil has risen by about \$45 per barrel since the price of petrol and diesel was last revised in November.
Petrol is currently retailing at Rs 95.41 per litre in the national capital while diesel is retailing at Rs 86.67 per litre.
Analysts said investors should stay invested if they have long-term investment plan and mutual fund investors should continue their SIP (systematic investment plan) without breaking the investment. On the other hand, the big correction will give an opportunity to investors to pick up good quality stocks at attractive levels. "Investors should wait and watch the unfolding situation before taking any major commitments. Buying should be confined to stocks/segments which are fairly valued or have good earnings visibility," V K Vijayakumar, chief investment strategist, Geojit Financial, said.
It is advisable for all investors to follow a wait and watch strategy and avoid any fresh entry at the current juncture, said an analyst. If the Ukraine crisis escalates, the market is likely to take further beating as oil prices are expected to remain at an elevated level.
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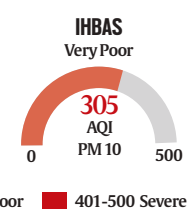
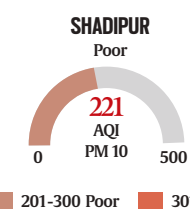
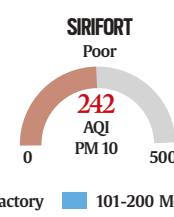
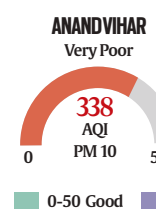
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0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very Poor 401-500 Severe

SKY WATCH
FORECAST: Mar 8
Mainly clear sky

MAX: 30 MIN: 14
1.3°C above normal 0.2°C below normal

'SCHOOL HEALTH CLINICS' INAUGURATED Psychologist meetings every six months for kids in 20 govt schools

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

STUDENTS IN 20 government schools, where 'school health clinics' were launched on Monday, will undergo physical health check-ups and meetings with psychologists every six months, in an effort to integrate their physical and mental health needs with their school life.

These health clinics, which are essentially an extension of the government flagship 'mohalla clinics', have been set up in 20 government schools on a pilot basis, and each school will be staffed with one 'school health clinic assistant' or nurse, and one psychologist.

One doctor will be available for every five clinics and will visit each, once a week. These clinics are to be used exclusively by the students of that school and they will be operational during school hours. Like the newer mohalla clinics introduced by the government, these too will operate from porta cabins installed on school premises.

Every day, at least 30 children will be screened at each clinic in which the nurse will ask them questions that may help identify issues, and each student will undergo a blood sugar and haemoglobin test. In case of irregularities, the children will be referred to the doctor.

"The idea is complete health check-up and treatment of children in one place. Twice a year children will undergo a complete health check-up in which all their



Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, AAP minister Satyendar Jain at a school health clinic Monday

parameters will be checked. Now, for instance it is coming out that BMI is low in many children – 20-25% of children are showing up as underweight, anaemia is also common. Eye problems are also identified very late... Eyes and hearing will be checked, blood tests will be conducted... I hope to scale it up as well, and we will open these in every government school," said Health Minister Satyendar Jain.

The psychologists will conduct sessions with groups and individual students. The current system is for students to be referred to the psychologist either by the nurse who may identify the need during the health screening or by teachers who may notice behaviours that indicate a child might need the psychologist's treatment. However, during the inauguration of one such centre in Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya Moti Bagh, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia stated that this should be modified to be more universal.

"Introducing the psycholo-

gist is a very big step... In six months, every child will interact with a psychologist at least once. It should not be that the big value addition you have made, by introducing a psychologist, makes it seem like there are 'some children' who need psychological treatment. It's not like this. In society, you will find it hard to find anybody who doesn't need any kind of psychological treatment and this is especially important in childhood... Let nurses or teachers not decide. Let the psychologist meet all of them every six months, and then decide if they require a therapist or are fit for continuing in the same way," he said.

He also suggested that the psychologist conduct regular sessions with teachers. "I also request that in every one or two months, at least initially, the psychologist should have an interaction with all teachers in school. Because teachers even now are not fully aware of mental health, they don't have the full knowledge to understand and deal with it sensitively," he said.

Ashram underpass will open by March 22: Sisodia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE ASHRAM underpass will be opened to the public by March 22, said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Monday after he inspected and reviewed work on the stretch at Ashram Chowk.

Sisodia, who also holds the PWD portfolio, said construction is in the final stage and will be completed within 15 days. "From March 22, Delhi-NCR residents will have a huge relief as this underpass would be opened for traffic movement, which will benefit lakhs of people daily," he said. Sisodia said construction work had to be stopped several times due

to the Covid-induced lockdowns, which delayed its completion.

Work on the 750-metre-long underpass began in 2019 but was delayed by road closures due to the Shaheen Bagh protest, Covid lockdown, and ban on construction activities due to pollution. It has missed seven deadlines. Sisodia also reviewed construction of the Ashram flyover and the underpass between Pragati Maidan and Nizamuddin, and directed officials concerned to expedite work so that people can use these roads at the earliest.

Between 2-3 lakh people use these routes to commute daily to ITO, Ring Road, Central Secretariat, India Gate and Central Delhi.

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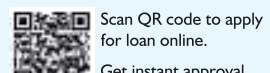
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Shri Amit Shah

Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Government of India

In the august presence of

Shri Biplab Kumar Deb

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and



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HOSPITAL BEDS		10,747	10,646
ICU BEDS		2,410	2,375
Mar 6	Cases	249	338
Mar 7	Recoveries	158	321
Total	Deaths	1,095*	18,34,638
Tests		0	42,364
		3	32,469
		26,137	3,66,75,939

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA		Mar 6	Mar 7
Cases	24	22	
Deaths	0	0	
GURGAON			
Cases	65	77	
Deaths	0	1	

BRIEFLY

Faridabad student's suicide: Bail granted to school head

Gurgaon: A Faridabad district court Monday granted bail to the headmistress of a private school in Greater Faridabad, who was arrested on the charge of abetment of suicide of a student of the school. On February 24, a teenage student of the school committed suicide, with a police complaint by his mother alleging he was harassed over his sexuality and the school ignored her complaint. In a purported suicide note recovered by police, the student had blamed his school and higher authorities.

PSO shoots self, 2 booked

Gurgaon: A 28-year-old personal security officer allegedly shot himself with his licensed gun near a society in Sector 84 Monday morning. Police have registered a case of abetment of suicide against two people. According to police, the deceased has been identified as Ravi Singh alias Chintu. He had been working as a PSO for a Sector 82 resident for the past one year. Subhash Boken, spokesperson, Gurgaon Police, said, "An FIR has been registered. No arrests have been made so far."

Delhi govt to promote urban farming

New Delhi: The Delhi government is set to promote 'urban farming' in the capital, according to Environment Minister Gopal Rai. 'Urban farming' will involve growing fruits, vegetables and other plants on terraces. A discussion on how to implement urban farming techniques in the city will be held on April 25, as part of an 'Urban Planning Roundtable Conference', that will be attended by experts from the Pusa Institute, and other agencies and experts, Rai said. The Horticulture Department will be the nodal agency for this initiative.

At edu awards, 6 govt school heads share their initiatives

New Delhi: From a reading room for non-school hours to creating a haven for birds on campus — heads of six government schools shared their special initiatives with other school administrators during the Excellence in Education awards held Monday. At the award ceremony, 48 schools were recognised by the Delhi government for the year 2020 and 45 schools for the year 2021. **ENS**

'DELHI BECOMING EXPORT CENTRE TO OTHER STATES'

Can't behave like a Zara store: Govt on liquor sellers offering discounts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE DELHI government Monday told the Delhi High Court that the national capital was becoming an "export centre" of liquor to states like Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat due to the discounts being offered by stores.

Showing data on the sale of liquor in the city in the month of February to the court, the Delhi government argued, "Where is this consumption? Is this Delhi consumption? This is going to Haryana. This is going to UP. This is going to Punjab. This is going to Gujarat." A flurry of liquor with 140 cases on its way to Gujarat was caught in Delhi, it told the court.

"This is alcohol. There is some responsibility and restraint. You can't behave as if it is a Zara store," submitted senior advocate Rahul Mehra, representing the government, while opposing the petitions challenging the government's decision to prohibit the issuance of discounts or



The Excise Commissioner's order prohibited discounts, stating that large crowds outside liquor stores was leading to a law and order problem. *Archive*

rebates by liquor sellers in Delhi.

The court Monday reserved its order on the applications seeking a stay on the government's decision. It is expected to pronounce its order on the applications on Tuesday afternoon.

Justice V Kameswar Rao earlier heard the arguments in the petitions challenging the Excise Commissioner's February 28 order, which pro-

hibited the offering of discounts, stating that the gathering of large crowds outside liquor stores on account of discounts was leading to a law and order problem and also causing inconvenience to the local population of the area. The government order also said that such discounting was leading to unhealthy market practices. Mehra earlier argued that re-

sponsible government cannot be a mute spectator to "bootlegging... predatory pricing which is going on, monopolistic nature of the market which is trying to be created by... sharks of the industry".

Referring to the Amazon-Reliance tussle over Future Retail and predatory pricing in the telecom sector, Mehra argued, "This is not a regular product. This is not selling soap. This is liquor. It has to be done with utmost responsibility. The state cannot be blindfolded by revenue. We can't promote that three times, ten times you can consume liquor."

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, also representing the government, contended before the court that the government, under the excise policy, has the power to prohibit discounts. "If I have the power to fix the price, I have the power to fix the components of that price and that must include a discount," Singhvi submitted.

Singhvi also submitted that the government could come up with a new circular in the near

future allowing 5-10% discounts. "We can't have neck-deep and bone-deep discounts," he said, adding the government will not allow discounts such as 'get one free'.

The counsel representing liquor stores argued that the government was resorting to "alarmist arguments" to create prejudice and submitted that "bootlegging" was oxymoronic when all sales and purchases are recorded on the government portal. "If you lift a higher amount of stock from a wholesaler, it is in anticipation of a sale. That is what a prudent businessman does if you have decided to give discounts. This is an ordinary commercial sale," a counsel representing the petitioners said.

In a written reply to the petitions, the government last week submitted data relating to the sales made in December, January and February and informed the court that there was "almost double the increase in February 2022 as compared to the three-year monthly average sale".

Delhi cop apprehended 'for killing dog in Noida'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, MARCH 7

A 35-YEAR-OLD Delhi Police constable was apprehended for allegedly killing a stray dog with a baseball bat at Noida's Sector 44. The accused, Vinod Kumar, had also allegedly dumped the dog near a road, which was later spotted by locals.

A minor scuffle broke out between the constable and locals as they shouted at him for killing the dog. Purported videos of the scuffle were also shared online.

In one of the videos, the dog is seen lying dead near a car. Kumar had alleged that the dog attacked his son and he hit the dog in retaliation but locals said the dog had only barked at the child.

Kaveri Rana Bhardwaj, who runs a shelter home for disabled and old dogs in Noida, alleged, "On Sunday, a girl called me and said she saw the constable hitting a street dog with a bat... This is not something you expect from a policeman... she sent me a video... I raised the issue on Twitter and called local police."

On the complaint of a local, an FIR was lodged against Kumar under IPC Section 429 (mischief by killing animal) and he was apprehended.

Ranjiv Singh, Additional DCP of the area, told *The Indian Express*, "We got to know about the incident from locals. Several videos had gone viral and we received calls from animal activists. We went to the spot and caught hold of the constable. A case was registered and he got bail. This kind of activity creates disturbance in society. So, we added sections of CrPc 151 (arrest to prevent commission of cognizable offences). He was taken to a magistrate and was later released."

Kumar, posted in Delhi's Security Unit, hails from Hapur and lives with his family in Chhalera Village.

Want to do something for NCR, like work on pollution: New IIT-Delhi head

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

MUCH MORE needs to be done to "excite" the "Twitter and Instagram generation", former IIT-Bombay Professor Rangan Banerjee, who took over as Director of IIT-Delhi on February 15, told *The Indian Express* in an interview Monday.

"The most important stakeholders are students. For them, we want to provide a transformative experience... The challenge now is that the attention span of the younger generation is shorter. They are the Twitter and Instagram generation, who have access to all kinds of information. So you need to do much more to excite them. The challenge is to create excitement in the classroom. We're thinking of more learning by doing; have teams look at problems of relevance and people spending time in industries and other spheres," he said.

"When you look back at your



Banerjee took charge Feb 15

school days, the good teachers actually knew each person, their strengths and weaknesses, and tried to build on it. So that kind of faculty advising system which builds on individual strength and tries to help people's aspirations is difficult to do, but it is something we would like to try and do."

On structural changes he hopes to bring about, Banerjee said: "One of the things we are doing is embarking on a full-fledged curriculum review. We are doing this at IIT-Delhi after 10

years. This is something for which we will have extensive stakeholder consultation, talk with external people, look at the curriculum in other IITs as well as other institutes in the world. We'll also look at what those who are giving us jobs are saying, what the industry is saying. This will take about a year or so. Overall, we are looking at two things — excellence in academics and research, and we're looking at societal impact," he said.

"We also want to do something more specifically for NCR, like work on air pollution. We are also setting up an observatory at Sonapat. We have a Delhi cluster where we are working with the entire academic and research institutes in the NCR, and there we would like to have someone from JNU, DU, etc. Maybe we will also look at the MSMEs in the NCR and provide them support. As an institution, we also have a role in society and that is in providing leadership of thought."

Asked when IIT will re-open

and how he sees education changing in a pandemic world, he said: "All students are allowed to come back, those who have hostels seats. We're expecting students to be back by March 14. For first-year students, from March 24, their second semester will be offline. For other students who are currently in the middle of an online semester, we have left it open but their final exams will be offline... During this time, if faculty wants to take classes offline, they are welcome to do so. We are also looking at hybrid courses. But by April, all students should be back in campus."

"During this time, we have also learnt e-learning and how to use other tools. So some of that learning can help us in our classrooms... A lot of learning is not just about classroom teaching but about teamwork and interaction, but there are many things which online can help supplement. Like today, I can get someone from the US to take a class, but I wouldn't think of this earlier," he said.

Tweets not defamatory, Oppn has right to question govt, HC tells AAP minister

SOFIA HASAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

DECLINING THE prayer seeking to restrain BJP MLA Vijender Gupta from posting anything defamatory on social media in relation to alleged irregularities in intended purchase and maintenance of buses by the Delhi Transport Corporation, the Delhi High Court said no one should be prevented from expressing their opinions, including suspicions or doubts, about the government's transaction of business.

In the process, the court said public figures such as ministers may be "lamppooned" but they must bear it with fortitude and allow their actions to speak louder than words.

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot had last year ap-

proached the court with a suit accusing Gupta of making scandalous allegations against him with regard to the alleged irregularities in purchase and maintenance of 1,000 low-floor buses.

Dismissing an application moved by Gahlot, Justice Asha Menon said it cannot be overlooked that both Gupta and Gahlot are public figures and members of the legislative assembly. The court also said Gupta cannot be restrained on the basis of a presumed threat of defamation.

"There is a right vested in the Opposition to question the government on its actions, as the Executive is subject to the Legislature under the Constitution. This is key to the maintenance of balance of power between the two wings of the State," said the court.

The court further said that Gupta had raised questions in the assembly but did not find the answers "sufficiently elucidating of the actions" taken by the government. "To now prevent (Gupta) from commenting on, specifically, the purchase of the low-floor buses from M/s Tata Motors Limited & M/s JBM Auto Ltd and the CAMC given to JBM Auto Limited, would not only amount to a gag order, but would also tie the hands of (Gupta), preventing him from effectively discharging his public duties as an MLA by raising questions legitimately, on action taken or not taken by the government, particularly when it would be obligated, at least in the Assembly, to answer the very same questions," said the court.

It added that such an order would also amount to restraining Gupta from raising issues of pub-

lic importance, and would impact the public and about which the public has a right to know and be informed. It also said that elected representatives are expected to raise concerns of the public in appropriate fora and that today it is through social media platforms that information and opinions are transmitted.

"Only if blatant lies and falsehoods detrimental to public order and morality or adversely affecting the security of the country or national interests are being disseminated through these social media platforms, can there be a restraint imposed as being reasonable restrictions under Article 19(2) of the Constitution. Else, none should be prevented from expressing their opinions including suspicions or doubts on Government's transaction of business," said the court.

Man shoots dead wife, her 2 brothers over family dispute

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A 43-YEAR-OLD man allegedly killed his wife and two brothers-in-law over a family dispute at his home in Northwest Delhi's Shakurpur Sunday night. Police said the accused, Hitendra, has been arrested.

According to police, he was angry after the family confronted him over his behaviour towards his wife. Around 11.20 pm, he allegedly gunned down his wife Seema (39) and her brothers Surendra (36) and Vijay (33). Vijay's wife, Babita, was also shot in the leg while his mother-in-law, Chandrakala, and another relative managed to escape. Hitendra's mother and his two children, aged 19 and 15, witnessed the firing.

Police said the family lives on the fourth floor of a building owned by the accused. The other rooms have been rented out to tenants and factory workers.

DCP (Northwest) Usha Rangani said, "Around 11.25 pm, we received a call about the incident from locals. We reached the spot and found four persons injured at a house. They were immediately rushed to hospital."

Seema and her two brothers were declared dead on arrival; they were shot in the head.

A senior police officer said, "We reached the spot and found a woman screaming 'maar dala'. We thought an armed gang killed her children during a robbery attempt. Four personnel rushed upstairs with pistols. We found Hitendra standing in the hall... he didn't resist. All the bodies were lying on the floor."

The accused and his wife had been married for 21 years.



The incident took place at Shakurpur. The accused was arrested. *Praveen Khanna*

According to police, Seema and her family were unhappy as Hitendra used to allegedly beat her every day. Hitendra and his family were irked because Seema told her brothers about his behaviour and they rebuked him.

In the FIR lodged based on Chandrakala's complaint, she alleged that they wanted to confront Hitendra but got into a fight as his friend was also present.

"Vijay told Hitendra that it's not right for Lalit to interfere in family issues... A fight broke out between my sons, and Hitendra, his sons and Lalit. We tried to stop them. Hitendra threatened to kill us. He went to his room, got his revolver and fired at us with an intent to kill..." she alleged.

Police said Hitendra had a licensed revolver and they are yet to verify the licence number.

Tenants in the building said they were frightened on hearing gunshots. Payal Singh, a neighbour, said, "I was cooking when I heard gunshots... My brothers rushed to see what was happening and said they saw blood. I was scared and locked myself in my room. I thought they would kill me if I stepped out too."

Two men beaten up in Gurgaon, claim targeted over religion

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, MARCH 7

TWO MEN, Abdur Rahman and Mohammad Azam, were allegedly beaten up in Gurgaon Sunday night, with the victims claiming that they were targeted over their religion. Police said an FIR has been registered and the two accused, Amit, a resident of Kanhai village, and Praveen Saini, a resident of Rajiv Nagar, were arrested on Monday.

Police said the incident took place around 9.15 pm when the two men were standing near a hotel in Sector 45.

Azam (34), a resident of UP's Deoband, told *The Indian Express* that he had come to Kanhai village to meet acquaintances and collect donations for a trust run by a madrasa. Rahman (19), a resident of Chakkarpur village, was accompanying him. "One man arrived in a white car and started asking me where I was from and what I was up to. He called another accomplice and they hurled abuses at us. We told them we were just returning to Chakkarpur. The accused asked us to remove our skull caps and when we refused, they beat us up. They said we cause riots. I suffered injuries on my knees and chest as I fell. I managed to run away..." he alleged.

He claimed the attack was unprovoked and they were targeted as "I had come from a madrasa". In the FIR, Rahman alleged

that he ran away after one of the accused slapped him when he did not take off his skull cap. "One of them was wearing saffron robes. They threatened to blindfold and force us into a car," he alleged in the complaint.

Police said the victims suffered bruises on their knees.

Gurgaon Police spokesperson Subhash Boken said during preliminary questioning, the accused claimed they had an argument with the complainants after they asked them why they were standing near the hotel: "They claimed they beat them up and snatched their phones and a motorcycle. The accused said a few metres from the spot, they left behind the phones and motorcycle and ran away."

Police sources said both the accused were among 26 people who were arrested on October 29, 2021, for attempting to disrupt namaz in the open in Sector 12 and later released on bail.

Aman Yadav, ACP Sadar, said, "The victims alleged that the accused used derogatory remarks against their faith, assaulted them and snatched their phones. We will verify the allegations."

An FIR was registered against the accused under IPC sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 379B (snatching), 295 A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 34 (common intention), said police.

UNION TO HOLD RALLY TODAY

Tempers flare: Anganwadi workers, WCD dept official on collision course

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

TENSIONS BETWEEN protesting anganwadi workers and the Women and Child Development (WCD) department came to a head Monday, with the women accusing the department's deputy director of calling them 'lafanga' and he refusing to apologise. This comes days after the department issued termination notices to at least 27 workers and

show cause notices to some others over their continuing participation in the strike.

Hundreds of workers and helpers have been on strike since January 31, demanding a substantial increase in pay and other benefits. While the WCD Minister had announced that their honorariums will be hiked from March 1, the Delhi State Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union, which has been leading this strike, said it had not been called for a meeting

with the minister.

The union said it will hold a 'mega rally' from Raj Ghat to Delhi Secretariat on International Women's Day on Tuesday, demanding the withdrawal of termination notices and action against deputy director (WCD) Navlendra Singh who allegedly sent an "intimidating message" to all protesters.

Shivani Kaul, union president, said, "Despite meeting workers and listening to their problems and demands, the government is



Workers and helpers have been on strike since Jan 31, demanding a substantial increase in pay. *Prem Nath Pandey*

sitting mute; its department... is using criminal intimidating tactics... and threatening workers and helpers with disciplinary action and mass termination."

She said all those issued notices are filing replies and submitting a memorandum to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Tuesday, demanding to withdraw the termination order and fulfil their demands.

Workers also demanded an "FIR and strict action" against Singh. Kaul alleged: "He not only

sent threatening messages but called us 'lafanga', 'sarfaroshi ke tammanh gaane walon ka sar kaat do'... Such comments and threats show the malafide and malicious intent of the department. We demand a written apology from Singh and strict departmental and police action against him."

In a purported audio clip that went viral on Sunday, Singh is purportedly heard using the word 'lafanga' for union leaders leading the protests while calling for action against protesters.

When contacted, Singh said he will not apologise: "I haven't said anything wrong or objectionable. I still call them 'lafanga' because this is not a protest, this is complete hooliganism and disruption of services... Delhi is the only state in the country that pays the highest honorarium to anganwadi workers but despite that, they want incentives. Because of them, thousands of children and lactating mothers from economically weaker families are suffering."



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing. AP

UKRAINE CRISIS

China warm to Russia but may work with US as part of global ambition: Gokhale

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
CHENNAI, MARCH 7

THE CONFLICT in Ukraine could see China and the United States arrive at a new modus vivendi aimed at anchoring the world economy even as their tension-filled relationship continues and Beijing steams ahead toward its objective of establishing a solid presence in the Indian Ocean, former Foreign Secretary and Ambassador to China Vijay Gokhale said in an interview to *The Indian Express*.

Beijing was not looking at the current conflict between Russia and the US in military terms, rather it was assessing Western capacity to wage a financial war and how to firewall its own economy if that same weapon was wielded against it, Gokhale said. At the same time, it was also likely to be looking for more acceptability and partnership in a new world order that might begin to emerge over the next few months, he added.

"The American and Western sanctions of Russia, the speed with which they were imposed, the spread of the sanctions, and also whether these are going to be actually applied, and what its impact is going to be on Russia, will serve as an 'aha' moment," he said, and were likely "the central focus of all study in China today".

China would also be concerned about Russian President Vladimir Putin's political future, Gokhale said. "I would think its concern, in the short to medium term, is the stability of the Russian government, because Putin's continuation in office is critical to China's security. If, for whatever reason, there is a change in government, any government that comes to power in Russia will be less accommodating...China will be less secure than it feels today," he said.

With this on his mind, said Gokhale, Beijing may craft a pol-



Former Ambassador to China, Vijay Gokhale

icy that would allow it to play a role in the resolution of the crisis to enhance its own acceptability to the world.

"The US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and Wang Yi, the foreign minister of China have spoken twice in the last two weeks, which does suggest to me that it is not beyond the realms of possibility that both of them are discussing ways and means to bring the crisis to some sort of resolution, although each has, of course, taken a position," he said.

At a press conference in Beijing on Monday, Wang batted down a question about the health of the Russia-China relationship. "China and Russia are determined that our relationship is free from interference and discord," he said.

Gokhale, who spoke to *The Indian Express* a day earlier, pointed to Wang's speech on the 50th anniversary of the historic US-China Shanghai Communiqué that marked the normalisation of ties between the two nations in 1972, as signalling Beijing's acknowledgement that despite their tension-filled rivalry, it still needed to remain engaged with the United States.

"That (speech) was four days after the Russian invasion began. The challenge for China is how to hold firm on the partnership with Russia, without there being collateral damage on the Sino-US relationship. We do know this is a relationship of rivals filled with tensions already. China, I think, nonetheless recognizes that in the world of today, the US is still the

greatest power. And, therefore, I think the objective of that speech was to flag areas of commonality that would allow the United States and China to maintain their relationship, and to avoid it becoming collateral damage," he said.

He also made the observation that "the one sentence that actually leapt out of the text" of Wang's speech was the Chinese foreign minister acknowledging that China was willing to consider coordinating with President Biden's Build Back Better initiative to provide quality public goods to the global community.

"Now this is perhaps the first time at a leadership level that China is signalling its willingness to dovetail the Belt and Road Initiative, with specific infrastructure initiatives of the United States. It has already done so with the European infrastructure initiative," he said.

Declining to be drawn into how the Ukraine conflict might impact the troubled India-China relationship, especially the situation at the Line of Actual Control, Gokhale also said it was too early to predict the impact of the conflict in Europe on the Indo-Pacific and the Quad.

The 7.1 per cent increase over last year in China's 2022 defence budget was not a response to the current conflict in Ukraine but consistent with its larger objectives, Gokhale said.

"Since 2013, if you look at the white papers published every two years, (China) has clearly declared it has overseas interests...China has never defined what these interests are (but) the fact they have their first military base in Djibouti, and...there are reports of possibly another Chinese logistics facility or base in Cambodia...we must presume there is a larger objective to establish by the end of this decade a permanent or semi-permanent presence in the Indian Ocean," said Gokhale.

INTERVIEW BY: www.indianexpress.com

Ties between China, India have seen some setbacks: Wang

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BEIJING, MARCH 7

BILATERAL RELATIONS between China and India have encountered "some setbacks" in recent years, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Monday, as he called for a "fair and equitable" settlement of the boundary issue between the two countries.

In an apparent reference to the United States, Wang said some forces have always sought to stoke tensions between China and India, which, he added, should be "partners rather than rivals".

"As regards the boundary question, it is left over from history. China has all along advocated managing differences through equal footing consultation and actively seeking a fair and equitable settlement and meanwhile not letting it affect or interfere with bigger picture of bilateral cooperation," Wang said at a press conference on the sidelines of the Chinese parliament.

Last month, speaking at a panel discussion at the Munich Security Conference (MSC) 2022 in Germany, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar said India's relationship with China is going through a "very difficult phase" after Beijing violated agreements not to bring military forces to the border.

Wang said: "More and more people have come to realise that for China and India, both major countries with a population of over one billion, only by staying independent can we firmly grasp our destiny and realise our goals of development."

"As an Indian proverb goes, help your own brother's boat across and your own will reach the shore," he added.

#BreakTheBias



Women's Safety is our Priority Delhi Police



Our Initiatives

Pink Booth

All-Women PCR

Self Defence Workshops for Women

Patrolling by Women Personnel

Women Commandos

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- [@DelhiPoliceOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/DelhiPoliceOfficial)
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Special Podcast by Shri Rakesh Asthana, Commissioner of Police, Delhi
10 AM
8 March 2022

Women Helpline - 1091/ 1096 | Emergency Helpline - 112

DP/9319/2022

Celebrating Womanhood

Nurturing Women's Power

ADVERTORIAL



As we are all aware that International women's day is celebrated globally on 8th March. **Dr. Bandana Sodhi** is penning her views and highlighting issues related to women's health as a doctor but also as a woman who believes in the theme for this year: "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow."

In view of the rising disease spiral among women, how can we build a mass awareness campaign on gynaecological health in the country? How can we build a preventive health mindset among women?

Whether you are a busy mom, business professional, caregiver, or all of the above, every woman deserves to focus on her future health, and disease prevention strategies.

In today's era of medical advancements there are exclusive opportunities available to positively impact your future health.

How can you optimize your health? Proactive management of your health risk factors through lifestyle choices and a preventive health care strategy is something which every woman should address with the help of her gynaecologist. Doing so can help you to stay healthy and receive fast treatment for medical problems should they arise as they can be detected early. Regular preventive care can even help to identify your potential for disease before it happens.

Every woman should have a well-woman visit at least annually, which is a yearly preventive care appointment. It allows your doctor to review your medical history, assess your risk for certain diseases, suggest immunizations, and discuss healthy lifestyle changes.

Breast Cancer Screening is another important aspect as Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women. For early detection self-examination of the breast is recommended. Screening with a 'baseline' mammogram at 40 years of age and regular 2 yearly mammograms should be done.

Screening for Cervical Cancer is again important as it is the second most common cancer in women in India. HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) account for nearly 76.7% of cervical cancer. Screening with Pap smears for all women to detect cancer cervix is recommended. Women 21 to 29 years of age should have a Pap smear every 3 years. Women 30 to 65 years of age should have a Pap smear every 5 years



Dr. Bandana Sodhi, MD, DNB, Senior Consultant (Obstetrics & Gynaecology) Gyn Laparoscopic Surgeon (Delhi) Ex faculty AFMC, Pune & Army Hospital (Research & Referral)

Dr Bandana Sodhi, a Senior Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, is practicing in New Delhi, having 20 years plus of extensive experience in the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and in the super speciality of laparoscopy and hysteroscopy. A gold medallist and a post graduate from the prestigious Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, Dr Sodhi, has served at many hospitals including Army Research & Referral Hospital (Delhi) during her long stint in the armed forces. She has always looked after women from every strata of society with the same enthusiasm. On the International Women's Day, She gives a peek into her profession & women's health.

with HPV testing.

WHO has come up with preventive screening and early treatment of cervical cancer and aims to eliminate it as a public health problem by the year 2030. This also entails propaganda of hpv preventive vaccines.

Can you elaborate on the latest laparoscopy, hysteroscopy and gynaecological facilities that have improved treatment protocol for women's diseases?

The chief goal of medicine has always been to provide the highest quality patient care. Technology is being invented and augmented in every field of medicine, including obstetrics and gynaecology, and women's health care is directly influenced by these. The evolution of technology holds the promise of significant impact in the domain of women's health. Modernizations in surgical technology can make procedures once thought to be operable only via open surgery to be performed via minimally invasive routes.

Laparoscopy and hysteroscopy are the innovations which have revolutionised women's health care. There are many advantages to choosing minimally-invasive surgery, including:

- Lower risk of infection
- smaller skin incisions

- Less pain after surgery
- Shorter hospital stay
- Faster recovery time
- As a woman, one has to take on many roles, so the focus is on determining the right procedure to quickly get you back to things you love to do and do best.

UTIs, fibroids and cysts are increasing among younger women. What is your take on this and what warning signs should women look out for?

Almost every woman suffers from some gynaecological problem in her lifetime. Majority of the cases are mild, but some can be severe and lead to complications, affecting the quality of life. Therefore, it is important to recognize the symptoms and act promptly to avoid the complications. Some of the most common gynaecological issues are

- **PCOS or polycystic ovarian syndrome** :A woman having this condition may have irregular menstrual cycles, abdominal obesity, acne, may become prone to diabetes, experience menstrual abnormality or may face infertility issue
- **Vaginal discharge** :Symptoms being vaginal itching, foul-smelling vaginal discharge
- **UTI or Urinary Tract Infection**:UTI is one of

the most common problems faced by women with symptoms of burning sensation while urinating, fever, chills, backache, vomiting or nausea.

■ **Fibroids**: You may experience heavy periods, the pressure in lower abdomen, bleeding in between your cycles

■ **Endometriosis**: The symptoms of endometriosis may include painful menstrual cramps

■ **Pelvic Inflammatory Disease**: Women with PID may experience lower abdominal pain, pain during sexual intercourse, abnormal vaginal discharge, vaginal bleeding, fever or lethargy.

■ **Ovarian Cysts**: Ovarian cysts are very common and may affect women of any age group. Ovarian cysts may result from severe pelvic infections, endometriosis or hormonal issues.

There are varied options available from oral medication to surgery.

Women and girls are facing new and emerging health challenges, as the COVID-19 pandemic has worsened inequalities and disrupts access to vital health and support services. How can this be rectified?

Health systems across the world have been stunned by the COVID-19 pandemic in trying to keep up with the care demands, resulting in collateral damage to

women's health. Many countries failed to keep reproductive health services available, resulting in neglect and an increase in risks to women's health.

The pandemic weakened women and girls' fundamental rights. When healthcare systems are overburdened and resources are moved to respond to the pandemic, this can further disrupt health services exclusive to the well-being of women and girls. This includes pre- and post-natal healthcare, availability of quality reproductive health services, and life-saving care and support for survivors of gender-based violence.

Pregnancy and childbirth are not put on hiatus in a pandemic. All women have the right to a safe pregnancy and childbirth experience, whatever the circumstances these occur in.

This all highlights the importance of strengthening primary health care system and providing universal health coverage and gender equality.

How can we increase women's role and leadership in science and public health?

Empowering women and girls has proven to increase the health and well-being of the entire community. We must transform education by integrating new teaching methods for highlighting girls and young women's needs for safety, health and well-being.

It has become imperative to increase women's participation and leadership. We must aim at elevating the position of women in the healthcare workforce so as to increase their participation in decision-making roles. Our mission is to assist women to be in a position of power to make informed decisions about their health.

In conclusion, as a healthcare professional I would aim at improving women's health in all perspective from prevention to cure so as to shine a spotlight on uplifting and inspiring women to pursue goals without bias or barriers, so that women's careers thrive and their achievements are celebrated.

Remember that your future health depends on the healthy decisions you make today. I would like to summarise with a quote by Oprah Winfrey "Know what sparks the light in you, Then use that light to illuminate the world"

Wishing all women a happy women's day!

Issued in Public Interest
by Dr Bandana Sodhi

6 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



PM Modi with recipients of Nari Shakti Puraskar, on the eve of International Women's Day, on Monday. PTI

WINNERS ALL THE WAY

ON THE eve of women's day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday interacted with winners of the 2020 and 2021 editions of Nari Shakti Puraskar, awarded together due to delays caused by the pandemic. Modi met the awardees at his official residence at Lok Kalyan Marg. One awardee, Radhika Menon, a Merchant Navy Captain from Kerala, narrated a story that had Modi burst out laughing. Menon said that she travelled around the world for her work, and when she would dock in countries such as Pakistan or China, which "don't share friendly relations" with India, the people of those countries would nevertheless tell her: "Your country has a very strong leader."

WELCOME, ER, HOME

ON MONDAY, a video emerged on social media in which students returning from Ukraine are seen purportedly ignoring Tourism and Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy's efforts to welcome them with a flower garland — the video shows them walking past him. This is one of the series of such snubs felt by ministers, which, it is learnt, have left many of them not very pleased. Last week, a video of Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia's purported arguments with a Romanian mayor emerged on social media, which had followed a video on social media of Union Minister of State Meenakshi Lekhi's welcoming gesture being nearly ignored by students landing back home.

JUNIOR ALIGNED

THE CONGRESS'S decision to send Rajya Sabha MP Deepender Hooda to Uttarakhand as an observer is interesting given the fact that his father, former Haryana CM Bhopinder Singh Hooda, is strongly aligned with G-23 leaders in the party. Hooda junior had campaigned actively in Uttar Pradesh and had also accompanied Priyanka Gandhi Vadra when she went to Lakhimpur Kheri to meet family members of farmers killed there. While Hooda senior is said to be pushing for a leadership change in Haryana Congress, and the high command remains unconvinced, the increasing closeness of his son to the leadership has amused a section of party's leaders.

Rajya Sabha: 13 MPs retiring, elections to be held on March 31

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE ELECTION Commission on Monday announced polls to fill 13 Rajya Sabha seats across six states falling vacant in April, including those of Congress veterans AK Antony and Anand Sharma.

Prominent among those retiring are Antony (Kerala), Sharma (Himachal Pradesh), and Partap Singh Bajwa and Naresh Gujral (Punjab). While former Defence Minister Antony, Deputy Leader of Congress in Rajya Sabha Sharma and Bajwa are Congress leaders, Gujral represents the Shiromani Akali Dal.

Members from Assam (two), Himachal (one), Kerala (three), Nagaland (one) and Tripura (one) are retiring on April 2, while five members from Punjab are retiring on April 9.

"Out of the five seats to be filled from Punjab, three are to be filled by holding one election and the other two through another election as these seats belong to two different biennial cycles," the EC said.

The notification for the biennial elections will be issued on March 14 and the polls will be held on March 31. The counting will take place on the day of polling from 5 pm onwards.

Manipur: Repoll at 7 booths today

Imphal: The Election Commission of India on Monday fixed March 8 for repolling at seven booths in three districts where sporadic violence was witnessed during the voting on March 5. One of the booths is in Thoubal district, and three each fall in Ukhrul and Senapati.

Manipur Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Rajesh Agrawal said the repolling was necessitated over damage of some EVMs by miscreants. **ENS**



Outside a polling booth in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, on Monday. PTI

UP sees over 57% turnout in last phase

AMIL BHATNAGAR & MANISH SHAHU

LUCKNOW, MARCH 7

SPREAD OVER a month, the seven-phase Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh came to an end on Monday with 57.53 per cent turnout in 54 constituencies that voted in the last phase.

According to the Election Commission, the polling percentage in the nine districts that voted in the seventh phase was two percentage points less than the 2017 turnout (59.56 per cent).

Voting started at 7 am and ended at 6 pm, except in Naxalhit Chakia in Chandauli, and Robertsganj and Duddhi seats in Sonbhadra where it concluded at 4 pm. No untoward incident was reported from the state, Additional Chief Electoral Officer BDR Tiwari said.

Among the nine districts, Chandauli saw a relatively high turnout of 61.99 per cent, followed by Sonbhadra at 60.75 per cent.

Varanasi, which was the epicentre of the campaigning in the last phase recorded 58.80 per cent turnout with neighbouring

Azamgarh witnessing the lowest turnout at 55.00 per cent. Bhadohi reported 56.90 per cent turnout, Ghazipur 56.54 per cent, Jaunpur 56.45 per cent, Mau 57.02 per cent, and Mirzapur 58.89 per cent.

The final figure will be available on Tuesday, an official said. The state has seen a decrease in voter turnout in the last three phases.

In the first six phases, the state recorded a turnout of 62.43 per cent, 64.42 per cent, 62.28 per cent, 61.52 per cent, 57.32 per cent and 55.79 per cent.

The state had recorded an overall 61.24 per cent polling in the 2017 Assembly elections.

So far, Kairana in Shamli district has the highest voting percentage of around 75 per cent, a nearly 5 percentage point increase from the previous election turnout. Sahibabad in Ghaziabad district recorded one of the lowest turnouts at 47 per cent.

Over 14.66 lakh are first-time voters this time.

Meanwhile, Bharatiya Janata Party and Samajwadi Party workers clashed in Sidhari area of Azamgarh district late

Monday evening over allegations of fake voting. No one got injured in the clash, said police. No FIR was registered till the filing of the report.

In Azamgarh Sadar, former minister Durga Prasad Yadav is contesting on an SP ticket against BJP's Akhilesh Kumar Mishra. Another clash took place between SP and JD(U) workers in Malhani area of Jaunpur district. While it was alleged that rivals groups opened fire and one person was injured, police did not confirm it.

The fate of Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party president Om Prakash Rajbhar and several state ministers was decided in this round, in which 2.06 crore people were eligible to vote.

Besides state tourism minister Neelkanth Tiwari, who is contesting for the Varanasi South seat, other ministers in the fray in the last leg are Anil Rajbhar (Shivpur-Varanasi), Ravindra Jaiswal (Varanasi North), Girish Yadav (Jaunpur) and Ramshankar Singh Patel (Marihah-Mirzapur).

Dara Singh Chauhan, who resigned from the Yogi Adityanath cabinet and joined the

Samajwadi Party, contested from the Ghosi seat in Mau.

Delegates from 32 countries watch polling live

More than 150 delegates from around 32 countries watched live-streaming of polling in Varanasi as part of the Election Commission's virtual International Election Visitors Programme (IEVP) 2022 for Election Management Bodies (EMBs).

Addressing the delegates, Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra said that despite the Covid-19 pandemic posing several logistical challenges, India has yet again successfully conducted the elections in the five states.

"The extension of postal ballot facility to senior citizens and voters with physical disability has taken the EC literally at the doorsteps of voters. Consistent efforts have led to the enthusiastic participation of women voters in these elections as compared to their male counterparts," Chandra was quoted as saying by the EC in a statement. **WITH ENDS DELHI**

OPEN TO TALKS: AICC IN-CHARGE

In Goa, Cong makes offer to anti-BJP parties

MAYURA JANWALKAR

PANAJI, MARCH 7

WITH JUST three days to go for the results, the Congress's election office in Panaji and its party office in Margao were abuzz on Monday with the party assessing the situation with its 37 candidates. A day earlier, AICC Goa desk in-charge Dinesh Gundu Rao had said that the party was open to joining forces with "anti-BJP parties", including AAP and TMC.

The latest stand marks a departure from the party's earlier position when it accused AAP and TMC of working at the BJP's instance to damage it.

On Monday, Rao told *The Indian Express*: "Whichever party is against the BJP, we will talk with them and we are ready to take them on board. I am not talking about any particular party now. Any party that does not want to support the BJP, we are willing to accommodate them."

He said: "During elections, there were many allegations made by the AAP and the TMC against us and we have made against them. That was during elections but now post the results it depends on those parties what stand they want to take. For us, we are willing to work with parties that do not support the BJP."

On Sunday, speaking with a news channel, Rao had said about AAP and TMC: "One thing is completely sure...they are anti-BJP in terms of their campaign. So we have to see what they will do."

Rao had also said that the Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP), which forged a pre-poll alliance with TMC, has been in touch with the Congress. The Congress would be happy to have them on board to form the government, he had said.

In January, TMC MP and Goa state in-charge Mahua Moitra had first tweeted calling opposition parties in Goa to come together to fight the BJP. The Congress and the AAP were, however, not enthused.

Rao and former Union minister and Congress' senior election observer for the state, P Chidambaram, arrived in Goa on

HOODA SPL OBSERVER FOR UTTARAKHAND

New Delhi: The Congress has deputed party leader Deepinder Hooda as its special observer in Uttarakhand, who along with Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will work out a post-poll scenario after the results on March 10. Hooda will leave for Uttarakhand on Tuesday morning. **PTI**

Sunday. On Monday, the party's election candidates apprised them of their assessment in their respective constituencies in North Goa in Panaji and about South Goa, later in Margao.

Last week, Goa Congress chief Girish Chodankar and CLP leader Digambar Kamat had visited Delhi to meet AICC general secretary K C Venugopal. Former BJP minister Micheal Lobo, who joined the Congress ahead of the polls, also met Venugopal in Delhi last week.

In 2017, the Congress was left embarrassed when, despite winning the most number of seats (17) in the 40-member assembly, it was pipped to the post. The BJP, despite winning only 13 seats, stitched a coalition government with the MGP, the Goa Forward Party (GFP) and independent MLAs.

"What happened in 2017 will not happen this time. We are together and we are prepared. This time, Congress will form the government and there is no scope for anything else to happen. There will be no delay, as soon as results are out we will stake claim and as per the Constitution, the Governor has to follow the rules," Rao said on Monday.

Chodankar said the Congress was taking "precautions", suspecting that the BJP could play spoilsport and resort to "cheating and manipulation" after election results. "We are prepared on every front. In whatever way they (BJP) can manipulate, we have a counter for that," he said.

Rao later said in Margao a decision on putting up all its candidates together will be taken on Tuesday.

In UP, Priyanka, Yogi held most rallies, Maya least

LALMANI VERMA

LUCKNOW, MARCH 7

SINCE THE dates for the seven-phase elections were announced by the Election Commission on January 8, kicking off a trailblazing 56 days of the campaign by the political parties in Uttar Pradesh, Congress' Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and BJP chief minister Yogi Adityanath topped the list of the busiest campaigners for their parties, clocking 209 and 203 rallies/roadshows, respectively.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, who has emerged as the main challenger to the BJP, addressed 117 public meetings and led 14 roadshows. Though he held a lesser number of rallies, he stunned his oppo-

WEST BENGAL: STORMY START TO BUDGET SESSION

Governor fails to make speech as BJP MLAs protest in House

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA, MARCH 7

UNRULY SCENES were witnessed on the first day of the budget session in the West Bengal Assembly on Monday when opposition BJP legislators staged a protest amid sloganeering against the recent "violence" during the civic body elections in the state.

The BJP MLAs, who blamed the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) for the civic poll violence, did not allow Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar to deliver his opening speech and protested near the well of the House.

When the Governor tried to walk out of the Assembly, the ruling party MLAs stopped him, making a request for reading out at least one line from the speech. The BJP alleged that the TMC government closed all the gates of Assembly to stop the Governor.

After nearly an hour of log-jam, the Governor at last read out the first and the last lines of

Leaders	No. of rallies
Priyanka Gandhi (Cong)	209
Yogi Adityanath (BJP)	203
Akhilesh Yadav (SP)	131
Mayawati (BSP)	18

nents by drawing huge crowds. Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati addressed only 18 public meetings.

The campaign started on a lukewarm note with the Election

Commission putting curbs on rallies and roadshows in view of the third wave of Covid-19 pandemic. As the number of Covid cases started dropping, leading to the easing of curbs, the campaign picked up with political parties holding huge rallies and roadshows in successive phases.

The ruling BJP involved a gamut of senior political leaders in its campaign, beginning from PM Narendra Modi who addressed 27 public meetings and a roadshow in his Lok Sabha constituency of Varanasi.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who monitored the BJP poll preparations, addressed 54 rallies in the state, followed closely by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with 43 rallies. BJP national president JP Nadda also ad-

ressed 41 rallies and roadshows.

Adityanath, who is seeking a second term, toured all the 75 districts by the last day of campaigning on March 5. His deputy, Keshav Prasad Maurya addressed 86 rallies. Sources in the BJP said that being an OBC leader, Maurya focused on OBC-dominated constituencies.

Union minister Mahendra Nath Pandey, who represents Chandauli Lok Sabha seat and is one of the prominent Brahmin faces of the BJP, also addressed a good number of rallies — 34.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav led his party's campaign in the state. Most of his rallies were concentrated in Bundelkhand, central and eastern regions. Party insiders said that he gave more time in these regions as he eyed the support of

non-Yadav OBCs after forging alliances with smaller parties claiming to have influence in different backward castes.

SP patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav addressed only two rallies this election.

RJD chief Jayant Chaudhary, who tied up with SP, focused his campaign in west UP where his party has influence. With Congress president Sonia Gandhi keeping away from active canvassing, her daughter and AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi addressed 167 rallies and nukkad sabhas. She also led 42 roadshows and door-to-door contact campaigns. She also addressed 340 constituencies virtually. Her brother and Rahul Gandhi addressed only two rallies.

TRANSFER OF CASE FROM KOLKATA

Delhi HC junks Bengal ex-chief secretary plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 07

THE DELHI High Court on Monday dismissed a petition by former West Bengal Chief Secretary Alapan Bandyopadhyay challenging the transfer of a case against him from CAT's Kolkata Bench to New Delhi. The Central Administrative Tribunal has the powers to transfer the case to another bench, the court said.

Bandyopadhyay is facing an inquiry for skipping a meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi in May last year over Cyclone Yaas. The meeting was held amidst a raging tussle between the West Bengal government and the Centre over Bandyopadhyay's transfer out of the state.

On the day he retired (in May, 2021) Bandyopadhyay was served a show-cause notice under a stringent provision of the Disaster Management Act which entails imprisonment for up to two years. He was later also is-

sued a penalty chargesheet, and, in August, an Inquiry Authority was set up. He challenged the orders before the CAT's Kolkata bench but the Centre managed to transfer the case to the Principal Bench at New Delhi in October, 2021, only to be set aside by the Calcutta High Court.

Bandyopadhyay had approached the Delhi HC after the Supreme Court, on January 6, said the Calcutta HC lacked the territorial jurisdiction to entertain a challenge to an order passed by the CAT's Principal Bench. He argued he has been residing throughout in Kolkata and, thus, has the right to file an application before the CAT's Kolkata Bench.

On Monday, however, the Delhi HC's division bench headed by Chief Justice D N Patel rejected his argument saying although a person can approach the CAT bench at a place of his residence, the tribunal chair has the administrative powers to transfer the matter "albeit for sound reasons..."



Priyanka Gandhi Vadra with Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot at Jaipur International Airport on Monday. Rohit Jain Paras

Priyanka in Jaipur, to talk post-poll scene with Gehlot

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

JAIPUR, MARCH 7

CONGRESS LEADER Priyanka Gandhi Vadra arrived in Jaipur on Monday to discuss post-poll scenarios with Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot ahead of the Assembly election results on March 10. Speculations are rife that the party may shift its MLAs to Rajasthan.

Priyanka, accompanied by party leader Rajeev Shukla, was welcomed at the Jaipur airport by CM Ashok Gehlot, party state president Govind Singh Dotasra, former health minister Raghu Sharma, among others.

Talking to journalists at the airport, Priyanka said, "The public will take the correct decision." In Jaipur, Priyanka is scheduled to attend a programme of an NGO

and also visit a relative's home, before heading to Lucknow on Tuesday morning.

In Lucknow, Priyanka will be take part in the party's foot march organised to mark International Women's Day.

Priyanka would be accompanied by all 159 women candidates that Congress had fielded in the UP elections.

The march is likely to begin from Lucknow's 1090 Crossing and conclude near the statue of freedom fighter Uda Devi in Sikandrabad area.

The Congress has also invited its women MLAs and women MPs from across the country to attend the event.

All India Mahila Congress' Acting President Netta D'Souza said, "The march is a unique attempt to give women a bigger place in politics."

Death compensation taxable? I-T dept seeks time to respond to HC

Court sought to know if such aid awarded by a foreign court can be treated as 'income'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, MARCH 7

THE INCOME Tax Department on Monday sought time to respond to a notice from the Gujarat High Court on the tax demand on death compensation received by the next of kin of a woman killed in the 1986 Pan Am Flight 73 hijacking incident.

The I-T department has sought time to respond to the court's query on whether such compensation amount awarded by a foreign court can be treated as "income" and if so, under which provisions of the law it intends to levy the tax.

The matter pertains to a petition filed by Kalpesh Babul Dalal, whose wife was among those killed during the hijacking of the Pan Am flight in 1986 while travelling from Bombay to New York.

Following his wife's death, Dalal had received nearly Rs 18.60 crore in a compensation ruling by a court in Columbia, New York. He had received the compensation in three tranches of Rs 8.11 crore in FY 2012-13, Rs 34.24 lakh in FY 2013-14, and Rs 10.15 crore in FY 2014-15.

However, the I-T department has sought to reopen the assessment for financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15 claiming the compensation amount was not

shown in the I-T returns filed by Dalal. In January, Dalal moved the Gujarat HC following a notice from the I-T department last year challenging the taxman's move to impose income tax for the compensation amount.

The petitioner has contended that the compensation amount is not an income and hence, cannot be taxed. During the course of the hearing, Dalal also pointed out that the investigation wing of the I-T department had issued a summons in 2014 to which he had responded. The petitioner said he had also responded to all queries pertaining to bank transactions.

Terminating it a "unique" case, a

division bench comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Nisha Thakore had, on January 24, issued a notice to the I-T department to respond to the contentions raised by the petitioner.

The matter will next be taken up on March 14.

Trupti Dalal was travelling on the Pan Am flight with her 21-member dance troupe and her 11-year-old son for a cultural performance. Twenty passengers, including two Americans and 13 Indians were killed, after the Mumbai-New York flight with 360 passengers on board was hijacked by four Palestinian militants on September 5, 1986, from Karachi in Pakistan.

Woman hurt in grenade attack dies, toll rises to 2

Srinagar: A day after a grenade blast in central Srinagar injured over 30 people, another civilian died at the SMHS hospital, increasing the toll to two. DIG (Central Kashmir) Sujit Kumar told *The Indian Express* that the number of injured people climbed to 35 on Monday morning.

Rafiya Nazir, 19, who remained critical till late Sunday with splinter injuries, died at the hospital. Mohammad Aslam Makdoo, 55, was declared dead at SMHS hospital on Sunday.

At her home near Hazratbal, emotional scenes played out as neighbours and relatives mourned Nazir's demise. "She had only recently passed class 12th and was studying to take NEET and become a doctor," a relative said.

The grenade attack took place in a busy market at the foot of the Amira Kadal Bridge. The police said they had secured "vital clues" from CCTV footage in the area. LG Manoj Sinha on Sunday reiterated the government's resolve "to dismantle terror ecosystem and defeat terrorism that continues to be perpetrated by the neighbouring country." ENS

BSF trooper shoots self, colleague

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, KOLKATA, MARCH 7

A BSF jawan allegedly shot himself dead after killing a colleague at a camp in West Bengal's Murshidabad along the India-Bangladesh border on Monday, a day after five troops of the force were killed in a fratricidal incident at a base along the Pakistan front.

The incident took place at the Kakmarichar Border Security Force (BSF) camp along the India-Bangladesh front. It falls under the paramilitary force's Berhampore sector, which is about 230 km from state capital Kolkata.

"At around 0645 hrs, head constable Johnson Toppo of the 117th battalion shot head constable H G Shekharan, and subsequently shot himself with his service rifle at border post Kakmarichar," a BSF spokesperson said. They were taken to a hospital in Sagarpura where doctors declared them brought dead, he said.

Officials said the incident took place after they returned to their post after finishing their night duty. The spokesperson said both of them were to visit the local Raninagar police station at 10 am on Monday for recording of statements in connection with a case registered in November last year. Some issue linked to this police case purportedly led the killings. A court of inquiry has been ordered by the BSF to ascertain the facts about the latest incident even as a case was registered with the local police, the spokesperson said.

Book Himanta on Cong MP's complaint: Guwahati court to police

TORA AGARWALA
GUWAHATI, MARCH 7

A GUWAHATI court on Monday directed police to register a case against Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on the basis of a complaint made last year by Congress MP Abdul Khaleque.

On December 28, 2021, Khaleque had filed a police complaint against Sarma with Dispur police, accusing him of "hate-mongering" and making inflammatory remarks in connection to an eviction drive in Assam's Darrang district.

Khaleque moved the court after Dispur police did not register an FIR. "The MP had earlier lodged FIRs at Dispur Police Station and DCP (East) Guwahati but police did not register them," Khaleque's counsel, Shamim Ahmed Barbhuyan, said. "We filed a case with the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate on February 28, 2021, it was referred to the court of the Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate in Guwahati."

On Saturday, the court said: "OC Dispur P.S. is directed to register a case on the allegations mentioned in the complaint and investigate the matter fairly and to submit the Final Form at the earliest." The court said police had "failed in discharge of its duty" by "failing to register the FIR". The order said, "The veracity of the allegations is not something which can be enquired prior to the registration of the FIR. By failing to even register the FIR, it appears that the police have failed in the discharge of their duty. Hence, this Court is of the considered opinion that it is a fit case to invoke Sec 156(3) of CrPc" the order said.

Barbhuyan said the court directed Dispur police to register an FIR against Sarma under IPC Sections 153 (wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot), 153A (promoting enmity on grounds of religion, race, etc). *The Indian Express* reached out to the officer-in-charge (OC) of Dispur police station on whether an FIR had been registered but the official did not comment.

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Notice for e-tender for Livestock Insurance Scheme for the year 2022-23.

Directorate of Dairy Development invites e-tender from the IRDA approved insurance Intermediary for Providing Technical & Operational Support and overseeing effective implementation of Jharkhand Livestock Insurance Scheme in all districts of Jharkhand during the year 2022-23.

The tender form along with Terms & conditions can be downloaded & the tender can be prepared submitted online from 04-03-2022 (11:30 Hrs) to 16-03-2022 (12:00 Hrs) on the Jharkhand Govt. e-tendering portal-<https://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

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Adv. No.-BCECEB(PGMAC)-2021/09 Dated : 07.03.2022 Website : bceceboard.bihar.gov.in

PGMAC-2021 के 2nd round में सीट आवंटन उपरान्त आवंटित सीट रिक्त करने के सम्बन्ध में आवश्यक सूचना

PGMAC-2021 के आधार पर दिनांक 28.02.2022 से 06.03.2022 तक सम्पन्न 2nd round counselling में निम्न अर्थार्थियों को सीट आवंटन हुआ है लेकिन अभी तक नामांकन नहीं लिये हैं और वे आवंटित सीट छोड़ना चाहते हैं तो वे MCC के NEET-PG (MD/MS/DNB) Counselling से सम्बन्धित Information Bulletin & Counselling Scheme के FAQ-47 में अंकित प्रावधाननुसार निम्नवत् अंकित forfeiture fees के साथ आवंटित सीट छोड़ सकते हैं:

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APPENDIX - IV, Rule 8(1)

Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the BANK OF INDIA under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed in the table hereunder written calling upon the below mentioned borrowers to repay the amount shown in the respective notices mentioned against their names in the table, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers/guarantors mentioned below having failed to repay the amount shown in the respective notices issued u/s 13(2) within the stipulated time, notice is hereby given to the aforementioned borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties/ies (Secured Assets) described in the table given below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the date(s) mentioned against the respective property.

The aforesaid borrowers/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties/ies mentioned in the table hereunder written and any dealings with the said property/ies will be subject to the charge of the BANK OF INDIA for the amount shown in the respective column of the table and interest thereon.

Name of Borrower/ Guarantor	I. Branch, ii. Date & Amount as per Notice u/s 13(2)	Details of property	Date of Possession of Assets
M/s Nand Enterprises Prop. Mrs. Meena Devi W/o Nand Kishor Thakur	(i) Bodhgaya Branch, (ii) Demand Notice Date: 21.05.2021, ₹ 23.18 Lakh with Future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f. 31.03.2021.	Description of the Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of the property situated at Plot No. 04(O) 11(N), Khata No.-65(O) 154(N), Thana No. 351, Tazui No. 104B, Ward No. 13, Mauza & Village: Dhanawan, Near DPS School Bodhgaya, PO: Bagdah, PS: Bodhgaya, Dist.: Gaya, Sale Deed No. 5645 & 5646 Dated 05.05.2000. Bounded by: On the North by: Pind, On the South by: Pind (Kachha Rasta), On the East by: Pind (Kachha Rasta), On the West by: Chitranjan Babu.	05.03.2022

* With further interest at applicable rate till repayment.

Date: 05.03.2022 Place: Bodhgaya Authorized Officer Bank of India

EXPRESS Careers

IDBI BANK
IDBI BANK LIMITED
Regd. Off. IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai - 400 005 Tel. (022) 6655 3355

Advertisement No. 08 / 2021-22

Advertisement for Appointment Chief Information Security Officer and Head - Learning & Development on Contract Basis

Invites applications for the following posts on Contract Basis.

Sr No.	Post Name	No. of Posts
1	Chief Information Security Officer	1
2	Head - Learning & Development	1

For details with regard to eligibility criteria i.e. age, qualifications, work experience etc. and to apply, please visit the Careers Page on Bank's website www.idbibank.in.

Applications received on or before 16.03.2022 will be considered.

NOTE: IDBI Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any/all application(s) without assigning any reason(s) thereof. Candidates who have applied earlier may not re-apply and such applications are liable to be out rightly & summarily rejected.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AHMEDABAD

IIMA INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR CHAIR FACULTY POSITION

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA CHAIR PROFESSOR

IIM Ahmedabad places high value on research and inter-disciplinary contributions in several priority sectors via specific, purpose-driven thrust groups, areas and research centres. IIMA welcomes applications from candidates with distinguished records of research, teaching, and impact on practice and policy for the Chair position, at Professor level in any of the disciplinary areas of economics, finance or banking.

Required qualifications and experience

Doctorate in allied field with a successful track record of research and publications and a minimum of 12 years of teaching/research/industry experience after Ph.D.

Expectation

As valued members of IIMA, Faculty Chair is expected to contribute in scholarly activities such as producing high-quality research, showing exceptional commitment to teaching, engaging in dialogue with practice and policy, and being proactive members of the community. At Professor level, candidates will be evaluated on their calibre and demonstrated excellence.

For inquiries or, to apply, please contact: dean-fac@iima.ac.in
Please apply by April 10, 2022

About IIMA: Recognized as India's top management school and one of the best business schools in the world, IIMA educates outstanding students. The Institute's strengths include a reputation built over six decades of excellence and meritocracy, committed and talented faculty, loyal officers and staff, goodwill of recruiters, global diaspora of alumni in positions of responsibility, and an iconic campus.

IIMA: Educating & Nurturing leaders of Institutions and Entrepreneurial Organizations

SBI
State Bank of India
Central Recruitment & Promotion Department
Corporate Centre, Mumbai
Phone: 022-22820427; Fax: 022-22820411

Recruitment of Specialist Cadre Officers on Contract Basis

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for the following posts on contract basis:

Sr. No.	Post	Comparable Grade	Vacancy	Advertisement No.
1.	Chief Information Officer	Chief General Manager	1	
2.	Chief Technology Officer	Chief General Manager	1	
3.	Deputy Chief Technology Officer (e-Channels)	General Manager	1	CRPD/SCO/2021-22/28
4.	Deputy Chief Technology Officer (Core Banking)	General Manager	1	

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, experience etc.), requisite fees and other details are available under the respective detailed advertisement mentioned above on Bank's website <https://bank.sbi/web/careers> along with a link for online submission of application as well as online payment of application fee. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement so as to ensure their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees.

DATE FOR FILING ONLINE APPLICATION & PAYMENT OF FEES: 04.03.2022 TO 31.03.2022

For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's website.

Place: Mumbai General Manager (RP&PM)
Date: 04.03.2022

Bharati Vidyapeeth
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI MARG, PUNE 411 030

Accredited (3rd Cycle) with 'A+' Grade by NAAC
Category 1 University Status by UGC
NIRF RANKING 68

REQUIRED DIRECTOR

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for the post of Director in Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) Centre for Distance and Online Education, Bharati Vidyapeeth Bhavan, L.B.S. Marg, Pune - 411 030.

For detailed information about post and online application, please visit Bharati Vidyapeeth's website bvp.bharatvidyapeeth.edu/index.php/careers. The last date for receiving online applications will be 15 days from the date of publishing the advertisement.

SECRETARY,
Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune

Walk-in-Interview

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)
(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)
P.O. NEW FOREST, DEHRADUN - 248 006

Advt. No. 1-45/2009-ADG (EM)/Project Personal/ICFRE - Part File Dated: 07.03.2022

Walk in interview for temporary positions under following consultancy projects in the EM Division purely on contractual basis will be held on 25.03.2022 in the office chamber of Asst. Director General (EM), ICFRE (Room No. 137, ICFRE H.Q. Building, Forest Research Institute Campus, Dehradun) from 11.00 AM onwards:

S. No.	Name of Projects	Name & No. of Vacancies	Duration
1.	Environmental Audit and Environmental Performance Index Ranking of 35 open cast coal mines of Coal India Limited.	Senior Project Fellow - 03	01 year OR Project Period
2.	Environmental Management Plan & Reclamation and Rehabilitation of two iron ore mining leases of BIOM, Bachelli Complex, Bachelli, South Bastar, Dantewada District, Chhattisgarh.	Project Associate - 01	06 Months OR Project Period
3.	Environmental monitoring and evaluation of Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan activities at John Mine, Chitradurga district, Karnataka.	Project Associate - 01	01 Year OR Project Period

Willing candidates may see the details of Ad including requirement of qualification, work experience, terms of conditions of engagement at ICFRE website www.icfre.org -Recruitment (Home page).

Assistant Director General (EM) ICFRE, Dehradun

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग
हिन्दुस्तान
फ़ोन नं०- 249444

संख्या : 190/69/04/डीआरओ/एड/आरओ/सेवा-1/2018-19
दिनांक : 04 मार्च, 2022

विशेषि

मुख्य अभियन्तन अधिकारी परीक्षा-2021

एनडीएस सूचित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड अभियन्तन एवं आपात सेवा विभाग के अन्तर्गत मुख्य अभियन्तन अधिकारी के रिक्त पदों पर सीपीसी भर्ती द्वारा चयन हेतु प्रगतिशील विज्ञापन संख्या : A-1/8-1/2021 दिनांक 15 फरवरी, 2021 के संक्षेप औपचारिक रूप से अर्ह घोषित अभ्यर्थियों की कर्तविक परीक्षा का आयोजन दिनांक 13 अप्रैल, 2022 को प्रातः 10-00 बजे से मध्यह्न 12-00 बजे तक चतराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग, हिन्दुस्तान कक्षा परीक्षा भवन में आयोजित किया जाना निर्धारित किया गया है।

अभ्यर्थी प्रत्यक्ष परीक्षा हेतु अपने प्रवेश-पत्र आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in से दिनांक 29 मार्च, 2022 से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। अभ्यर्थियों को सूचक से डाक द्वारा अर्ह अन्य किसी कागज से प्रवेश-पत्र प्रेषित नहीं किये जायें।
(कमै-न सिंड) सचिव।

NEHRU MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY
Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011
(Autonomous Body set up by the Govt. of India)

The Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML), an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, seeks qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Director, Nehru Planetarium.

Post: Director, Nehru Planetarium, No. of Post: One. (1)
Category: Unreserved. **Age:** Below 50 years as on 8th April, 2022, **Pay Scale:** Level-11 (Rs.67700-208700), **Eligibility:** For details like qualifications and experience required, general instructions etc., please visit NMML website: www.nehrumemorial.nic.in.

Interested candidates may send their applications along with self attested copies of educational qualifications and experience certificates, etc to this office address i.e. The Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011 so as to reach latest by 8th April, 2022.

davp 09142/12/0032/2122

IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

Case No.: HC/S 1127/2020 Sub Case No.: HC/SUM 66/2022
Between
INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK (India Registration No. 569FC1965A) ...Plaintiff(s) And
1. CANWELL COMMERCE PTE. LTD (formerly known as FROST GLOBAL PTE. LTD.) (Singapore UEN No. 200807142H)
2. FROST INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (India Registration No. Unknown)
3. UDAY JAYAM DESAI (India Passport No. Z2775352)
4. TODI ASHISH (NRIIC No. S7069930C) ...Defendant(s)

TO THE 3rd DEFENDANT
UDAY JAYAM DESAI of whose last known address is at S-279 2nd Floor Panchsheel Park Delhi India Pin 110017

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the General Division of the High Court of the Republic of Singapore in HC/S 1127/2020 by INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK of 64 CECIL STREET IOB BUILDING Singapore 049711, in which the Plaintiff's claim against you is for the sum of US\$15,616,524.39 as of 11 November 2020, plus further interest calculated from 12 November 2020 until the date of full payment and costs on a full indemnity basis in respect of banking facilities granted by the Plaintiff to the 1st Defendant and executed by you as a guarantor in favour of the Plaintiff.

And it is ordered that service of the Renewed Writ of Summons (Amendment No. 1) in the said action on you effected by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said action you must within 21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement, enter an appearance at the Registry of the High Court of Singapore using the electronic filing service. In default of such appearance, judgment may be entered against you.

Dated this 08 day of March 2022

SOLICITORS FOR THE PLAINTIFF
CTLC Law Corporation
3 RAFFLES PLACE #06-01 BHARAT BUILDING SINGAPORE 048617
Tel No: +65 63368989
Fax No: +65 63237678
File Ref No: PC-IOB

Varthana Finance Private Limited
(Formerly known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.,)

Registered Office at: No. 58C-110, Varasiddhi, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043.
Website www.varthana.com, Email: care@varthana.com, Phone: 080-68455777.
Branch Office : No. 1162 & 1163, Tower B-1, 11th Floor, Space Tech Park, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurugram 122018.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the M/s Varthana Finance Private Ltd., (Formerly Known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.), Gurgoan Branch, Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated: 24-11-2021, calling upon the Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagors, in Loan Account No. S19GUR-GUR-009575 and K19GUR-GUR-009873, 1. M/s. Vidya Deep Public School, Represented by its Authorised Signatory, 2. M/s. Vidaya Deep Shiksha Samiti, Represented By its Authorised Signatory, No. 1 and 2 are having office at C-400/A, Main Market, Bhajanpura, Delhi - 110053., 3. Girish Bansal, S/o. Dhyan Chand, H.No-B-388/A, Street -18, Near VDPS, Bhajanpura North East Delhi - 110053 4. Usha, W/o Girish Bansal, H.N-B-388/A, Street -18, Main Market, Bhajanpura, Delhi - 110053, to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being a sum of Rs.74,19,613/- (Rupees Seventy Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred Thirteen Only) as on 23-11-2021, to pay agreed contractual rate of interest together with incidental expenses, cost and other charges etc., as details mentioned in the Demand Notice, till the date of payment, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

However the Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagors herein above having failed to repay the full amount with interest/other charges, notice is hereby given to the Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagors in particular and to the public in general that the undersigned being Authorised Officer of the Varthana Finance Private Ltd, Gurgoan has taken SYMBOLIC POSSESSION of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this 05th Day of March 2022.

The Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd, Gurgoan, for an amount of Rs. 74,19,613/- (Rupees Seventy Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred Thirteen Only) as on 23-11-2021 with agreed contractual rate of interest, as mentioned herein above until the date of payment together with incidental expenses, cost and other charges. The Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagors attention is invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured Assets.

Description of the Immovable Property : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.- C400, part of Khata No 362, Bhajanpura, Village, ABadi Known as Main Market Ghonda Gujaran Khadar, Ilaga, Shahdara, Delhi 110053, admeasuring 120 Sq Yds, bounded as under, East By : Property of others, West By : Road, North By : Property of others, South By : Property of others.

Memorandum of Deposit of Title Deed executed by Usha Bansal in Document No. 1811 dated 18/09/2019 before Sub Registrar Seelampur New Delhi.

Date : 08.03.2022 Authorised Officer.
Place : Bhajanpura For Varthana Finance Private Limited

International Women's Day

DELHI'S WOMEN DELHI'S PRIDE

Key steps taken by the Delhi government for the safety and well being of women



World Class Government Schools



Street Lights in every lane



Free Bus Travel



CCTVs in Every Corner



Best Treatment in Mohalla Clinics



Marshals in Buses

In addition to this, the Government of Delhi has implemented schemes like Social Security for women in distress, support for widow's daughter's marriage and livelihood support for women SHGs

FROM PAGE ONE

Exit polls predict Yogi return in UP, give Punjab to AAP

state has not returned a government to power since 1985. The SP-RD alliance, which waged a spirited campaign, may make major gains as compared to 2017 but is likely to fall well short of the magic figure. The Congress, the polls predicted, would remain in single digits.

All polls predicted that the BSP, which had won 19 seats in 2017, could fare worse.

The India Today-Axis My India predicted that the BJP and allies would win 288-326 seats. Other pollsters, however, gave the ruling BJP a comfortable majority in the 220-250 range, indicating that the party despite feeling the heat over issues like unemployment and vagrant cattle could be riding a pro-incumbency wave.

In 2017, the BJP won a landslide mandate in UP, winning 312 seats on its own in the 403-member House. With allies Apna Dal (9) and SBSP (4), the tally of the BJP alliance had touched 325 seats in 2017. The SP, which fought in alliance with the Congress, could win only 47 seats last time.

In Punjab, most pollsters gave the AAP numbers much ahead of the ruling Congress and the Akali Dal-BSP combine. If the exit poll predictions hold true and the AAP manages to win Punjab, the outcome has the potential to trigger a churning in Indian politics, especially in the Opposition space as no other party barring the BJP and the Congress are in power in more than one state now.

While the India Today-Axis poll gave the AAP 76-90 seats, the News 24-Chanakyia poll predicted it would get 100 seats. The ABP-C Voter poll gave it between 51 to 61 seats. Almost all the polls gave the Congress less than 30 seats. The figures for the Akali Dal, however, varied. While India Today-Axis poll gave it 7-11 seats, News 24 Chanakyia gave it a mere 6 seats. Most polls, however, gave it 15 to 25 seats. And most predicted that the BJP-Punjab Lok Congress would end up in single digits.

The AAP surge in Punjab, if the pollsters are correct, is a major setback for the Congress which had played the Dalit card appointing Charanjit Singh Channi as Chief Minister, replacing Amarinder Singh just six months ago and projecting him as the CM face. A defeat for the Congress could reignite the factional feud in the state.

In 2017, the Congress stormed

to power in Punjab, winning 77 of the 117 seats. The AAP, which made its debut last time, came second with 20 seats while the Akali Dal-BJP alliance, which was in power then, could manage to win only 18 seats (Akali Dal 15 and BJP 3).

The BJP, on the other hand, aligned with former Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's Punjab Lok Congress.

In Uttarakhand, the opinion polls differed sharply. While some gave the ruling BJP an edge, others predicted the Congress would emerge as the single largest party. None of the polls gave either side more than 40 seats. No party has retained power in Uttarakhand since its formation in 2000. If the BJP manages to hold on to power, it will be a record of sorts. In 2017, riding the Modi wave, the BJP managed to win in 57 of the total 70 Assembly seats while the Congress was limited to 11 seats. Two of the remaining seats were won by independent candidates who are now with the ruling party.

In Goa too, pollsters predicted a dead-heat race with none of the polls predicting a comfortable victory for either the ruling BJP or the Congress. Most polls predicted that the AAP could win a couple of seats. Incidentally, one poll (ABP-C Voter) predicted that the Trinamool Congress would win 5-9 seats which, if turned out to be true, would place it in a king maker's role. In the 40-member House, the Congress had emerged as the single largest party in 2017, winning 17 seats but the BJP, which won 13 seats, managed to form the government with the support of the Goa Forward Party and the MGP which had won three seats each and two independents.

In Manipur, all the polls predicted that the ruling BJP would either emerge as the single largest party or cross the halfway mark. In 2017, the Congress had emerged as the single largest party in the state. Though the Congress had won 28 seats in the 60-member house, the BJP with 21 seats got the support of four MLAs each from the Naga People's Front and the National People's Party and one from the Lok Janshakti Party and an independent to reach the magic figure of 31. Most polls predicted that the NPP and NPF could repeat or better their 2017 performance.

BUDGET SESSION

156 prison deaths, 10 in police custody in 3 years: Jharkhand govt data reveals

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, MARCH 7

IN THE three years preceding the current (financial) year, Jharkhand recorded 166 custodial deaths — 156 in jails and 10 in police custody — according to the data submitted by the Home, Prison and Disaster Management Department in the Assembly on Monday.

According to the data, the number of custodial deaths stood at 67, 45, 54 in the years 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, respectively. The data for the year 2021-22 was not mentioned. This is the first time that the

data on custodial deaths has been officially released by the state government. In response to a question by CPI(ML) legislator Vinod Singh on the government plan to stop such deaths, a Joint Secretary of the department said if carelessness is found on part of the police or the jail officials, then compensation is given to the family of the victim. An inquiry proceeding is initiated every time a death takes place. And if the death is suspicious, an inquiry — either judicial or administrative-level — is conducted and the postmortem report is sent to the NHRC for further examination. The report, however, does not mention the

cause of death in custody.

The context to Vinod Singh's question was the February death of Debu Turi, 35, in police custody in Sahibganj district. Though the death of Turi, a theft suspect, is not part of the data cited above, it created an uproar in the Assembly.

Debu was in lock-up for four days at the Taljhari police station of Sahibganj district. He died at the district hospital as he was allegedly beaten up in custody. A series of protests ensued, leading to the suspension of two police officers. The outcome of an inquiry ordered by the Deputy Commissioner is awaited.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

CASES AGAINST MPs, MLAs

Karnataka HC seeks details of all pleas for withdrawal

Bengaluru: With the Karnataka government submitting that only four cases against MLAs and MPs have been withdrawn in the state since September 16, 2020, the Karnataka High Court has sought details of all applications filed for similar relief.

In August 2021, the Supreme

Court had barred states from dropping such without the respective HC's clearance.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice SR Krishna Kumar issued the order on March 5.

"The statistical information furnished by the Registrar

(Review & Statistics) does not appear to be proper and sufficient, particularly relating to withdrawal of cases by the state government exercising power under Section 321 of CrPC or with respect to the cases where the application under Section 321 of CrPC is pending," the bench observed. **ENS**

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
(An Autonomous Institution Under Department of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India)
A-24/25, Sector -62, NOIDA-201309 (U.P.)

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited in the prescribed tender form from registered ISO Certified Bidders having work experience in various Boards of Education/ Universities for scanning of OMR Flyer and finalisation of data as well as complete mailing of adhesive laser label and printing of unique ID with Barcode on adhesive laser labels & printing of pre-evaluation data on OMR Award sheet for NIOS Examinations. The details of open Tender floated on Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) at <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and also uploaded in NIOS portal (www.nios.ac.in). The interested Bidder may download the Tender document and submit alongwith the Tender Processing fee of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) in the form of Bank Draft in favour of Secretary, NIOS Payable at NOIDA. The following are the CRITICAL DATES for Tender Process.

Published Date and Time	28/02/2022	05:00 P.M.
Bid Document Download Date and Time	01/03/2022	03:00 P.M.
Clarification Start Date and Time	03/03/2022	03:00 P.M.
Clarification Closing Date and Time	04/03/2022	03:00 P.M.
Bid Submission Start Date and Time	04/03/2022	10:00 A.M.
Bid Submission End Date and Time	25/03/2022	03:00 P.M.
Technical Bid Opening Date and Time	25/03/2022	03:00 P.M.

(Director Evaluation)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
TRANS. LINE MAINTN. DIV.V, JKPTCL, JAMMU
Email: xengcdmju@gmail.com
E-NIT No: TLM-D-V/J20 of 2021-22 Dated: 22/02/2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division-V, JKPTCL, Ambedkar Chowk, Railway Road, Jammu, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, invites online bids under two bid system i.e. Technical bid and Financial bid through UT of J&K website <https://jktenders.gov.in> from Registered "A" Class Electrical Contractors with Relevant Experience of UT of J&K for the **Rate Contract**, for the year 2022-23 for the below mentioned works in accordance with the terms and conditions and specifications described in the tender document :

S. No.	Name of the Tender	Cost Of Tender Document	Earnest Money Deposit	Class Of Contractor
01.	Rate Contract for Preventive/ Routine/ Breakdown maintenance of Equipments for 220/132/66KV Grid station Hiranagar, 132/66KV Grid Station Samba, 132/33KV Grid Stations Bari-Brahmana-II, Gangyal, Sidhra, Mahanpur, Siot and 220/66KV Ghatti falling under the jurisdiction of TLM-D-V JKPTCL, Jammu for the year 2022-23.	Rs. 2000.00 (Two Thousand Only)	Rs. 50,000/- (Fifty Thousand Only) in the shape of CDR/FDR/ TDR	"A" Electrical Contractors

The bidding documents consisting of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in

Other Relevant Information:

A	Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from 24.02.2022 (1600 Hrs onwards)
B	Pre-Bid meeting time and venue	On 25-02-2022 in the Office of the Executive Engineer Grid Stations TLM-D-V JKPTCL, Jammu at 1400hrs
C	E-Bid submission (start) date & time	28-02-2022 (1000 Hrs onwards)
D	Last date for submission of hard copy of e-Bid	After opening the financial bid only, the lowest bidder (L1) is required to submit/furnish the hard copies of bid along with original copy of CDR/EMD & tender documents.
E	E-Bid online submission (end) date & time	21-03-2022 up to 1600Hrs
F	Technical Bid opening Date & time	24-03-2022 at 1130 Hrs
G	Financial Bid opening Date & time (Only for the technically qualified Bidders)	Will be communicated to the technically qualified Bidders
H	Venue of the opening Technical & Financial Bids	The Office of the Executive Engineer, TLM-D-V, JKPTCL, Jammu

SD/-
Executive Engineer
TLM-D-V, JKPTCL

No:-TLM-D-V/JKPTCL/J/3238-41
Dated:-22-02-2022
DIPJ-6598

Corrigendum

In continuation of advertisement published in newspaper on dated 11/11/2021 regarding NHM Vacancies Panchkarma Specialist, Yoga Specialist, Panchkarma Therapist (Male), Ayurvedic Medical Officer, Ayurvedic Pharmacist and Homeopathic Pharmacist in District Faridabad. As per reservation policy Govt. of Haryana there is amendment in the categories of the post already advertisement on dated 11/11/2021. The previous corrigendum for these posts uploaded on website is hereby cancelled & the fresh corrigendum is considered for these posts.

Sr.No.	Name of Post	No. of Post	Category in which filled
1	Panchkarma Specialist	1	Gen
2	Yoga Specialist	1	Gen
3	Panchkarma Therapist (Male)	1	Gen
4	Ayurvedic Medical Officer	1	SC
5	Ayurvedic Pharmacist	1	SC
6	Homeopathic Pharmacist	1	SC

Eligible candidate can submit the application form along with all relevant documents self attested (photo, Photo copies of documents of essential qualification, experience certificate, Caste Certificate & Residence proof) till 11.03.2022 before 5 : 00 P.M. in O/o Civil Surgeon Faridabad in above mentioned category only. Those candidates who has already applied in above category they need not to reapply again. Date of Written test, Computer test (if applicable) and interview (if applicable) will be uploaded on the website www.healthdepartmentfaridabad.com as per NHM norms.

Civil Surgeon cum- Chairman
Executive Body DH & FW Society
Faridabad

B107/HRY

HOLI SPECIAL TRAINS-2022

For the convenience of passengers, Railways have decided to run the following Holi Festival Special Trains as per following detail :-

Spl. Train No.	Station From	Dept. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Days of Run	Period	Accommodation	Stoppages
04053	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	Udhampur	14:15	MON & THU	10.03.2022 to 21.03.2022	1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC	Ghaziabad, Meerut City, Muzaffar Nagar, Saharanpur, Yamuna Nagar-Jagadhri, Ambala Cantt, Ludhiana, Jalandhar Cantt, Pathankot Cantt & Jammu Tawi stations
04054	Udhampur	21:40	Anand Vihar (T)	11:15	TUE & FRI	11.03.2022 to 22.03.2022		
04672	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	18:10	New Delhi	06:40	SUNDAY	13.03.2022 & 20.03.2022	2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper	Udhampur, Jammu Tawi, Pathankot Cantt, Jalandhar Cantt, Ludhiana, Ambala Cantt, Kurukshetra Jn, Karnal, Panipat & Sonapat stations
04671	New Delhi	23:30	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	12:30	MONDAY	14.03.2022 & 21.03.2022		
04530	Sri Ganganagar	18:10	Varanasi Jn.	17:00	SUN & WED	13.03.2022 to 20.03.2022	2nd AC cum 3rd AC, Sleeper & 2nd Seating (Reserved)	Abohar, Malout, Giddarbaha, Bathinda, Rampura Phul, Barnala, Dhuri, Patiala, Rajpura, Ambala Cantt., Yamuna Nagar-Jagadhri, Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow & Sultanpur stations
04529	Varanasi Jn.	21:00	Sri Ganganagar	22:15	MON & THU	14.03.2022 to 21.03.2022		
04052	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	Varanasi Jn.	16:10	FRI & SUN	11.03.2022 to 20.03.2022	1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper	Moradabad, Chandausi Jn., Lucknow & Sultanpur Jn. stations
04051	Varanasi Jn.	18:30	Anand Vihar (T)	13:20	SAT & SUN	12.03.2022 to 21.03.2022		
04518	Chandigarh	23:15	Gorakhpur	18:20	THURSDAY	10.03.2022 & 17.03.2022	1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper	Ambala Cantt., Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda & Basti stations
04517	Gorakhpur	22:10	Chandigarh	14:10	FRIDAY	11.03.2022 & 18.03.2022		
04066	Delhi Jn.	23:00	Patna Jn.	15:45	-	15, 16, 20 & 21.03.2022	AC 3 Economy	Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn. & Danapur stations
04065	Patna Jn.	17:45	Delhi Jn.	10:35	-	14, 15, 19 & 20.03.2022		
04076	Amritsar	14:50	Patna Jn.	15:45	-	13, 14, 18 & 19.03.2022	AC 3 Economy	Beas, Jalandhar City, Ludhiana, Sirhind, Ambala Cantt., Panipat, Delhi, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn. & Danapur stations
04075	Patna Jn.	17:45	Amritsar	18:00	-	16, 17, 21 & 22.03.2022		
04078	Amritsar	06:35	Banmankhi Jn	17:30	-	09, 13, 17 & 21.03.2022	2nd Seating (Reserved)	Beas, Jalandhar City, Phagwara Jn, Phillaur Jn, Ludhiana, Dhandari Kalan, Sanehwal, Sirhind Jn, Rajpura Jn., Ambala Cantt., Yamuna Nagar-Jagadhri, Saharanpur, Laksar Jn., Najibabad Jn., Seohara, Moradabad, Rampur, Bareilly, Maingal Ganj, Sitapur, Burhwal, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Bhatni Jn, Mairwa, Siwan Jn, Chhapra, Dighwara, Sonpur Jn, Hajipur Jn, Akshaywat Rai Nagar, Desari, Mahnar Road, Shahpur Patoree, Mohiuddin Nagar, Vidyaapati Dham, Bachhwara Jn, Barauni, Begusarai, Lakhminia, Khagaria Jn, Mansi Jn., Kopardia, Simri Bakhtiyarpur, Saharsa Jn, Dauram Madhepura & Muri Ganj stations
04077	Banmankhi Jn	06:30	Amritsar	17:00	-	11, 15, 19 & 23.03.2022		
04062	Delhi Jn.	08:40	Barauni Jn.	03:30	FRIDAY	On 18.03.2022	1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper	Aligarh Jn, Tundla Jn, Etawah, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra & Hajipur (via Shahpur Patoree) stations
04061	Barauni Jn.	04:45	Delhi Jn.	23:35	SATURDAY	On 19.03.2022		
01001	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	14:15	Ballia	01:45	MON, WED & FRI	Upto 30.03.2022	2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & 2nd Seating (Reserved)	Kalyan Jn, Igatpuri, Nasik Road, Bhusaval Jn, Harda, Itarsi Jn, Rani Kamalapati, Bina, Lalitpur Jn, Tikamgarh, Khargpur, Maharaja Chhatrasal, Khajuraho, Mahoba Jn., Banda Jn, Chitrukudham Karwi, Manikpur Jn., Prayagraj Jn., Gyanpur Road, Varanasi Jn, Aunrihar Jn., Mau Jn & Rasra stations
01002	Ballia	15:15	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	03:35	WED, FRI & SUN	09.03.2022 to 01.04.2022		
04048	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	Muzaffarpur Jn	21:15	WED & SAT	12.03.2022 to 19.03.2022	Sleeper	Moradabad, Chandausi Jn, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Chhapra & Hajipur Jn stations
04047	Muzaffarpur Jn	23:00	Anand Vihar (T)	23:30	THU & SUN	13.03.2022 to 20.03.2022		
04060	Anand Vihar (T)	10:30	Jaynagar	14:50	TUE & FRI	11.03.2022 to 22.03.2022	Sleeper	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Raebareilly, Amethi, Pratapgarh, Varanasi, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Bakhtiyarpur Jn., Mokameh Jn., Barauni Jn., Samastipur Jn., Darbhanga Jn. & Madhubani stations
04059	Jaynagar	17:00	Anand Vihar (T)	19:55	WED & SAT	12.03.2022 to 23.03.2022		
04064	Anand Vihar (T)	15:30	Jogbani	22:30	SATURDAY	12.03.2022 & 19.03.2022	2nd Seating (Reserved)	Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Lucknow, Ayodhya Cantt., Shahganj Jn, Azamgarh, Mau Jn, Ballia, Chhapra, Hajipur Jn (via Shahpur Patoree), Barauni Jn, Begusarai, Khagaria, Naugachia, Kathar Jn. & Purnea Jn. stations
04063	Jogbani	01:20	Anand Vihar (T)	11:10	MONDAY	14.03.2022 & 21.03.2022		
04070	Anand Vihar (T)	00:30	Sitamari	20:30	TUE & SAT	12.03.2022 to 19.03.2022	2nd Seating (Reserved)	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gorakhpur Jn., Narkatiaganj & Raxaul stations
04069	Sitamari	00:15	Anand Vihar (T)	23:45	WED & SUN	13.03.2022 to 20.03.2022		
04068	New Delhi	19:25	Darbhanga	16:30	MON & THU	10.03.2022 to 21.03.2022	2nd Seating (Reserved)	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Gorakhpur Jn., Narkatiaganj, Raxaul & Sitamari stations
04067	Darbhanga	18:00	New Delhi	16:40	TUE & FRI	11.03.2022 to 22.03.2022		
04412	Anand Vihar (T)	11:10	Saharsa Jn.	11:30	MON & THU	10.03.2022 to 21.03.2022	Sleeper	Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gorakhpur Jn., Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Hajipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn., Samastipur Jn., Dalsingh Sarai, Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn. & Simri Bakhtiyarpur stations
04411	Saharsa Jn.	14:30	Anand Vihar (T)	13:55	TUE & FRI	11.03.2022 to 22.03.2022		
02575	Hyderabad	21:05	Gorakhpur	06:30	FRIDAY	11, 18 & 25.03.2022	2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper	Secunderabad, Kazipet, Peddapalli, Mancherla, Ballarshah, Nagpur, Itarsi, Bhopal, Bina, Jhansi, Kanpur Central, Aishahbad, Lucknow City & Gonda Jn stations
02576	Gorakhpur	08:30	Hyderabad	15:20	SUNDAY	13, 20 & 27.03.2022		

For any kind of information, passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

Visit RailMadad website www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

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WHAT EXIT POLLS SAY
UTTARAKHAND (70)

Pollster	BJP	Cong	AAP	BSP	Others
India Today-Axis	36-46	20-30	-	2-4	2-5
TIMESNOW-VETO	37	31	1	-	1
ABP-C Voter	26-32	32-38	0-2	-	3-7
News 24-Chanakyia	43	24	-	-	3

GOA (40)

Pollster	BJP	Cong	MGP	AAP	TMC	Others
India Today-Axis	14-18	15-20	2-5	-	-	0-4
ABP-C Voter	13-17	12-16	-	-	5-9	0-2
P Marq	13-17	13-17	-	2-6	2-4	0-4
Times Now-Veto	14	16	-	4	-	6

MANIPUR (60)

Pollster	BJP	Cong	NPP	NPF	Others
India Today-Axis	33-43	4-8	4-8	-	6-15
ABP-C Voter	23-27	12-16	10-14	3-7	-
News 18-Jan Ki Baat	23-28	10-14	7-8	5-8	8-9
P Marq	27-31	11-17	6-10	2-6	3-7

HC to examine central funding to UN-linked NGO

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has ordered registration of a public interest litigation to examine whether the funds being given by the central government to Indian Federation of United Nations Association (IFUNA), a non-governmental organisation established to promote the objectives of the United Nations, are being utilised in a transparent manner. **ENS**

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY</

Kerala man kills brother over property dispute

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOTTAYAM (KERALA), MARCH 7

A MAN shot dead his brother on Monday in Kanjirappally area of Kottayam district over a property dispute.

Police said that Ranju Kurian was shot in the head by his brother George Kurian at their home during arguments over sale of some family property a day ago.

While Ranju died on the spot, their maternal uncle also got shot in the incident and is presently admitted in a hospital here. Police also said that George has a license for the gun used to shoot his brother and uncle.

BRIEFLY

KARNATAKA Bajrang Dal man's kin get Rs 25 lakh aid

Bengaluru: Former Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa on Sunday handed over a cheque for Rs 25 lakh to the family members of Bajrang Dal activist Harsha who was murdered last month. The ex-CM said Harsha was a Hindu leader and was growing. "People who could not digest the fact killed him. The compensation has been given on behalf of the government," he said. Sources said Harsha's mother received about Rs 86 lakh, excluding cheques handed over by people.

ENS

TAMIL NADU Help Ukraine returnees study in India: Stalin

Chennai: Tamil Nadu CMM K Stalin wrote to PM Narendra Modi on Monday, urging him to ensure the education of the students evacuated from Ukraine is not affected. Stalin asked Modi to direct the National Medical Commission and the relevant ministries to facilitate their studies in India. He said the situation in Ukraine has disrupted studies and threatened the career of students. Over 1,200 students have returned to Tamil Nadu alone, he said. Their return to Ukraine may be impossible and "uncertainty may prevail even after the cessation of hostilities."

ENS

UTTARAKHAND Doon native creates cake art world record

Dehradun: A cake artist from Dehradun has made it to the World Book of Records by creating a 100-kg cake, replicating the grand Milan Cathedral, an Italian monument. Based in Pune now, Prachi Dhabal Deb mastered the intricate art of "royal icing", which she learnt in the UK from noted cake artist Eddie Spence MBE. Her latest feat is a 100-kg vegan, measuring 6 feet 4 inches in length, 4 feet 6 inches in height and 3 feet 10 inches in width.

PTI



IAF personnel assist Harjot Singh, who sustained bullet injuries in Kyiv, on arrival at Hindon Airbase in Ghaziabad, Monday. ANI

Last flight from Poland in: Stopped even for stragglers, says minister

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

ALONG WITH Harjot Singh, the student who sustained bullet injuries in Ukraine, a grey C-17 Globemaster aircraft brought back 201 people and at least two dogs from the war-torn country on Monday, ending the evacuation through the Polish border.

Three lights in the hazy sky seen at around 6.10 pm announced the flight's arrival at Hindon airport in Ghaziabad. Over 3,000 Indians have been evacuated through Poland under Operation Ganga.

Soon as the aircraft parked alongside eight other C-17s and a smaller aircraft, an ambulance reached it and took Singh to the Army's Research and Referral hospital in Delhi's Dhaula Kuan.

Stating that "no one can treat bullet wounds better than the Army hospital", Union minister V K Singh, who returned on the same flight, said: "Harjot is okay. There was some delay in getting



Akhil with his Yorkshire, Hutchiko. Amit Mehra

him out — there was an attack on Vinnytsia airport (in Ukraine), because of which there was heavy (traffic) jam. After a lot of effort, our embassy in Ukraine was able to get him out. They reached the airport at around 4.30 am."

Singh was in Poland to coordinate the evacuation of Indians. Many on board the flight on Monday were from the eastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, which was being bombed heavily.

"By the time this flight took off, we had evacuated 3,000 people," Singh said. "No more people were coming. Even for the stragglers, we stopped the aircraft. It is possi-

ble that there are some children who did not come, so at the border check-post there are people from the embassy, so that if someone comes they can be brought home. "There is no announcement on any windup of the operations, but I was to bring back all students till the end. So I have taken the last flight from Poland."

On board the flight was Akhil from Kerala, who travelled with his 18-month-old Yorkshire named Hutchiko. Akhil was stuck for more than five days in Kharkiv before walking 10 km with his dog to the train station on March 1. Even though he was scared of bombings, Akhil said he did not leave Kharkiv until he knew that animals were being allowed on evacuation flights — "he is a part of my family, I couldn't leave him behind." Amid food shortage, Hutchiko went hungry for three days, Akhil said. "It was so bad that he kept sleeping; he wouldn't wake up. Then we went out and got some milk and bread. If there was food, he was the first to get it; I ate whatever was left," he said.

At Hindon airport, Akhil took to feeding Hutchiko.

Ajay Kumar from Bihar, who would have completed his medical education this June, stayed back for seven days in Poland to help fellow students. He left Kyiv four days after the war started. "It was scary. I lived on the top floor of my building; it is the most likely to get hit by a missile. The airstrike sirens and running to the bunker 200 metres away was scary."

Ajay also walked to the station and boarded a train to Lviv, from where he crossed the border to Poland. "What worked in my favour was that I know the language; I know the roads," Ajay said. "I was able to board the train because I could speak their language. And when I crossed the Poland border, at the place where we were staying there were people from other nationalities volunteering. I decided to stay back and help, too; with simple things like getting bedding and food, helping others with the language... whatever I could before taking the last flight out."

College accountant held for 'murdering' principal in Daman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT, MARCH 7

A 26-YEAR-OLD accountant of a government nursing college in Daman was arrested Sunday for allegedly murdering the principal of the college.

According to police, Sawan Patel (26) allegedly murdered the college principal, Kanimozhi Armugam (45), after the latter initiated a probe into the financial irregularities done by the accused.

Kanimozhi, a resident of Silvassa, had gone missing on February 28, after she had left for work in her car.

After finding that her phone was switched off, Kanimozhi's husband Armugan contacted her colleagues in the college and found that she had not turned up to the college on February 28.

On March 1, Armugan lodged a missing person complaint.

Police started a probe and found that she was probing into a complaint of irregularities done by accountant Sawan Patel in connection with collection of admission and mess fees from the students. Sawan had gone underground since the disappearance

of Kanimozhi. Police registered an offence under IPC Act sections, 346 (wrongful confinement) and 365 (kidnapping), against Sawan Patel, and started a probe.

Acting on a tip-off, Silvassa police arrested Sawan and during questioning, he confessed to committing the murder.

On Sunday afternoon, Sawan took police to the forest area near Tarak Pardi village in neighbouring Vapi taluka, where the police found the principal's body and car. The body was identified by Vice-principal of the government nursing college Prem Kumar.

Silvassa Crime Branch Inspector Manoj Patel said that on February 28 Sawan boarded Kanimozhi's car saying that he wanted to speak about the financial irregularities, which he has been accused of committing.

"He sat in her car and on the way he strangled her to death and later drove the car to the forest area at Tarak Pardi village in Vapi and burnt her body."

"Sawan Patel had been working as an accountant for the past eight months in the college. Kanimozhi was probing Rs 7 lakh irregularities done by Sawan Patel," he added.

Raipur journalist faces charges of 'prostitution', sent to jail

GARGI VERMA
RAIPUR, MARCH 7

THE RAIPUR police Monday added three new sections, pertaining to the IT Act and prevention of immoral trafficking law, against journalist Nilesh Sharma, who was initially held over a complaint regarding his writings that used satire to criticise the state government.

The complaint against Sharma was filed by a member of the ruling Congress, Khilawan Nishad, who objected to his column 'Ghurwa ke maati' on his web portal India Writers, calling him a "part of the Godi media" and accusing him of "trying to create discord in the government" as part of an "agenda".

Sharma's writings targeted the Congress government, using fictional or real names for its members including ministers and bureaucrats. During the BJP government in Chhattisgarh too, Sharma wrote a series of political satires under the name of Chokhelal.

After the complaint, India Writers portal was disabled.

Following Sharma's arrest, police claimed they had found "objectionable content" on his phone, unrelated to the original

arrest. On Monday, he was transferred to Bilaspur jail. His family said they had been "threatened" to not talk to the media, and not allowed to meet him.

The charges Sharma is facing now are under Sections 67 A (punishment for publishing or transmitting material containing sexually explicit acts, etc., in electronic form) of the IT Act, 4 (punishment for living on the earnings of prostitution), and 5 (procuring, inducing or taking [person] for the sake of prostitution) of the Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act (PTA).

Earlier, on Nishad's complaint, Sharma was booked under IPC Sections 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace), 505 (1)(b) (making, publishing or circulating any statement, rumour or report) and 505 (2) (statements creating or promoting enmity or hatred between classes).

In a press release, which carried no signatures, the Raipur police said Sharma was found to be "indulging in prostitution, blackmailing and obscene chats with both genders". Police also claimed he had documents and phone recordings of "confidential nature" and "was ruining the name of journalists and journalism".

In his last column before his

NSE BOURSE MANIPULATION CASE

Chitra to stay in CBI custody for 7 days

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A DELHI court on Monday granted CBI seven days' custody of Chitra Ramkrishna, former CEO and MD of National Stock Exchange (NSE), arrested by the agency on Sunday in a 2018 bourse manipulation case.

Chitra's is the second high-profile arrest in the case after Anand Subramanian, NSE's former group operating officer and her deputy and confidante, who was arrested last month.

Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwal while granting her custody to the CBI wrote, "It appears that the custodial interrogation of the above accused would be required to find out the detailed modus operandi adopted by this accused in conspiracy with the other co-accused, including Anand Subramanian... the present case may be of unimaginable magnitude."

The court said that Chitra's custody was "required for a fair and proper investigation and there are more than reasonable and substantial grounds for doing so". "Further, her custodial interrogation would also be required to dig out voluminous digital evidence pertaining to this case," the court said.

The CBI prosecutor had moved a plea for 14-day custody, arguing that Chitra has been "evasive in her replies", and when confronted with Subramanian, she "refused to even identify him". The agency's prosecutor told the court that Chitra had to be confronted with 2,500 emails exchanged between her and Subramanian "which affected the decision making of the accused".

The CBI alleged that Chitra "facilitated providing confidential trading data to Infotech Financial Services Pvt Ltd and to Ajay Shah, knowing well that the firm was providing algorithmic software to the brokers in the



Ramkrishna leaves the CBI court in New Delhi, Monday. PTI

NSE and that there was a conflict of interest".

In its remand application, the CBI submitted that the "NSE under Chitra purposefully did not define policies and procedures with regard to secondary server access that gave unfair advantage to brokers at the cost of others."

On March 5, when Chitra's anticipatory bail was rejected, the court had pulled up the CBI, calling its investigation "lackadaisical", noting that the agency had not acted against the main beneficiaries of the scam.

In Monday's hearing, the court said, "For four years there was no action. The main beneficiaries are all enjoying. The FIR was lying in cold storage."

The CBI prosecutor told the court that the agency was investigating and it could move forward only after "certain documents came to light".

The court found it strange that Chitra joined the investigation on her own. "This is very strange. She went to the CBI office on her own. Who goes to the CBI office on their own? Did she have some assurance from the CBI or was there a divine intervention?" the judge said.

Her lawyer senior advocate Trideep Pais asked the court to look into her "exemplary conduct" while deciding on her re-

mand application. "She resigned from the NSE in 2016. She had no access to the NSE when the FIR was registered in 2018. She cooperated with the investigation. The IT raids found nothing. All her devices have been taken. Why do you need her custody? To unravel emails?" he told the court.

On Chitra's conduct, the court said, "She is so brave. She goes off on her own thrice to the CBI. Most people tremble. Going by the pace with which you are investigating, you will take one year?"

The CBI action comes in the wake of allegations against Chitra that she was sharing confidential information of the bourse with a "Himalayan Yogi" and had got Subramanian appointed in violation of rules.

The CBI's case pertains to charges that some brokers being given preferential access to the NSE's trading system in the form of a co-location facility through which they bought "rack space" for their servers. The malpractice was first highlighted in January 2015 by a whistleblower who wrote to the SEBI whose technical advisory committee later found that OPG Securities had consistently logged in first on selected servers on most trading days between 2010 and 2014, and had access to servers with better hardware.

ED seeks dismissal of Malik's plea in HC against 'illegal arrest'

OMKARGOKHALE
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) on Monday submitted an affidavit before the Bombay High Court, opposing a Habeas Corpus plea filed by NCP Minister Nawab Malik, who was arrested last week in a case of alleged money laundering and "active involvement in terror funding" in connection to a 1999 land deal with don Dawood Ibrahim's sister.

Malik was arrested by the ED on February 23 and was later remanded in the central agency's custody. On Monday, a special court sent him to judicial custody till March 21. The ED did not seek his further custody. In his Habeas Corpus (produce the person before court) plea, the NCP leader had claimed that his arrest was "illegal", made with "political vendetta" and without following due process under the CrPc. Senior advocate Amit Desai and advocates Taraq Sayed and Kushal Mor, appearing for Malik, argued that he was arrested in connection with two sets of transactions, in which he was not involved.

The ED, in its affidavit filed through Assistant Director



Nawab Malik being taken to court from ED office in Mumbai. Ganesh Shirsekar

(Mumbai Zone) Niraj Kumar said that Malik's plea sought to combine multiple causes of action, including Habeas Corpus, quashing of ECR and release/bail in a single petition and it amounted to "misjoinder (improperly joining together)" and therefore, the plea was not maintainable.

The ED added that the petitioner's arrest was made as per Prevention of Money Laundering Act and subsequently, he was remanded in custody by a valid order of the special court.

"...Full investigation being undertaken by the respondent is in the interest of society at large... the courts cannot and ought not scuttle the investigation at the initial stage where facts are still required to be unearthed..." the agency said.

A smooth ride: Autorickshaw driver is new mayor in Tamil Nadu

JANARDHAN KUSHIK
CHENNAI, MARCH 7

ON FRIDAY, K Saravanan drove his yellow-and-black autorickshaw to the Kumbakonam corporation building, but was stopped at the gates. "The guards said autos are not allowed in, so I parked it outside and went in," he says. Minutes later, the 42-year-old was sworn in as Mayor of the Kumbakonam corporation in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur district.

Saravanan, an autorickshaw

driver who lives with his wife Devi and three children in a rented house at Thukkampalayam in the town, is the first mayor of Kumbakonam since the municipality was upgraded as a corporation in December last year. In the recently held urban civic polls held in ward 17 of the temple city, Saravanan secured 964 of the total 2,100 votes to emerge as the winner.

The ruling DMK, which won all 21 corporations in the state, nominated party candidates to head 20 of those, setting aside

one mayoral post for the Congress. The party high command hand-picked Saravanan for the job though there were several senior party functionaries waiting in the wings.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Saravanan said he was shocked when the party informed him that he had been nominated to the top post. "Thanjavur North Congress Committee district leader TR Loganathan asked me to come to the district office and said he has a surprise for me. When I went there, he gave me a rousing reception, saying,



K Saravanan is mayor of Kumbakonam corporation, Thanjavur.



"Welcome, Kumbakonam's first Mayor. I was shocked. I told him I am just an auto driver, but he said I have all the qualities to be the mayor," he said, adding that he later received a call from Chief Minister M K Stalin. "I told him that I will work hard to make Kumbakonam the best among all corporations in the state. Our leaders said Rahulji (Rahul Gandhi) was also happy with my nomination," he said.

Saravanan, who dropped out after his Class 10, lost both his parents at an early age. Inspired by his grandfather T

Kumarasamy, who served as a member of the Kumbakonam municipality in 1976, Saravanan joined the Congress in 2002 and was soon nominated to the post of ward leader and later as the vice president of the party's Kumbakonam unit.

Saravanan, who has been riding an autorickshaw for two decades now, says his job took him to every nook and cranny of Kumbakonam and helped him stay in touch with people from all 48 wards in the city.

Seven years ago, Saravanan bought his own auto. Just when

things were looking up, the pandemic struck and his earnings shrunk. Saravanan says he was able to file his nomination for the councillor's post thanks to donations from ward members. "I earn about Rs 200-250. The lockdown hit me badly. People in my area helped me a lot during those days," he says.

Asked about his plans as mayor, Saravanan says he will focus on completing underground drainage works, repairing damaged roads and ensuring basic amenities such as drinking water supply and street lights.



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

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

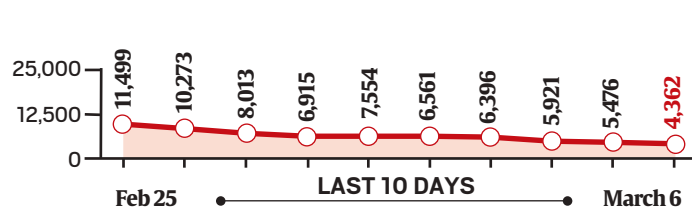
DASHBOARD, AS ON MARCH 6

735 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN

New cases 4,362 | **Active cases** 54,118 | **Deaths** 66

Weekly CFR: 0.73% | Overall CFR: 1.20% | Total deaths: 5,15,012

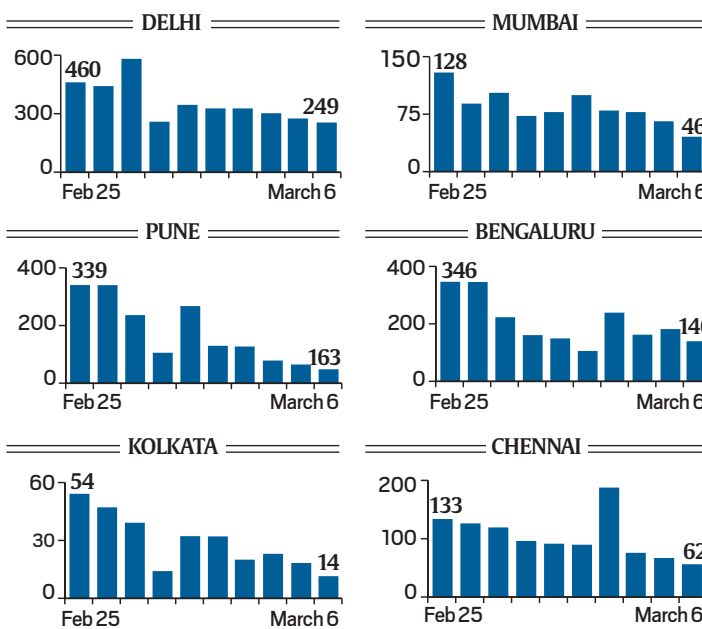
NEW CASES, DAILY



SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON MARCH 6			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	1,408	14,968	44	6.45%
Maharashtra	362	3,709	3	0.77%
Delhi	249	1,261	0	0.69%
Karnataka	229	3,286	3	0.59%
Mizoram	228	4,524	1	21.15%

CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS

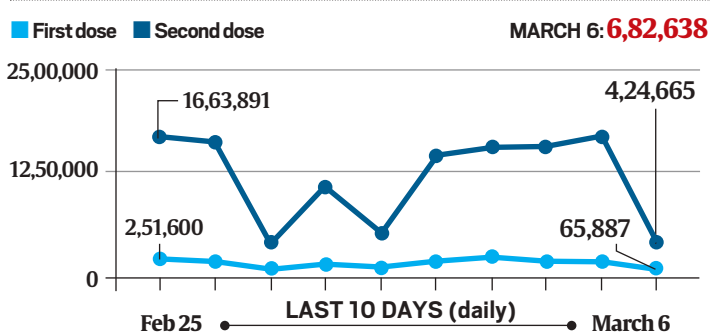


TOTAL TESTS 77,34,37,172

TESTS ON MARCH 6 6,12,926 | **WEEKLY POSITIVITY** 0.73% | **OVERALL POSITIVITY** 5.56%

INDIA TOTAL DOSES 178,90,61,887

(Adults 1st dose: 91,03,37,332; 2nd: 77,17,12,764; 15-18 age group 1st dose: 5,54,05,474; 2nd: 3,09,62,112; Precautionary: 2,06,44,205)



SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Oil spike and stagflation

Rising crude prices have raised fears of stagflation, a rare combination of stagnant growth and high inflation. A look at what causes this, and the concerns for the Indian economy if the spike persists.

UDIT MISRA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

SOARING PRICES of crude oil prices touched almost \$140 per barrel on Monday. While oil prices have been going up quite steadily — they were less than \$70 a barrel in December — the most immediate trigger for the spike is the possible decision by the United States to ban the purchase of Russian oil in response to the invasion of Ukraine. Russia is the world's second-largest oil producer and, as such, if its oil is kept out of the market because of sanctions, it will not only lead to oil prices spiking but also mean they will stay that way for long.

What will be the impact on India?

India imports more than 84% of its total oil demand. Domestic oil prices are likely to go up significantly, presuming the governments — both Centre and state — do not cut taxes. A 10% increase in crude oil prices raises wholesale inflation by 0.9% and retail inflation by 0.5%. Higher inflation would rob Indians of their purchasing power, thus bringing down their overall demand, especially consumer demand. Fewer goods and services being demanded will then disincentivise businesses from investing in new capacities, which, in turn, will exacerbate the unemployment crisis and lead to even lower incomes.

As it is, even before the Ukraine crisis, India's GDP growth was showing signs of faltering. The Q3 (October to December) GDP data, released in February-end, suggested that the economy grew by just 5.4% in a quarter that typically enjoys a bump because of the increased demand due to several festivals (such as Diwali). What's more, Covid-19 cases were most muted during this quarter. The fourth quarter (January to March, which is currently underway) is likely to be even weaker — both because of the Omicron impact as well as the now unfolding Ukraine crisis.

Analysts have been revising their forecasts for India — down for growth and up for inflation. Some observers have even suggested that such a sudden and sharp spike in oil prices may push a relatively vulnerable economy like India into stagflation.

What is stagflation?

Stagflation is a portmanteau of stagnant growth and persistently high inflation. As such, it describes a rather rare and curious condition of an economy.

Typically, rising inflation happens when



Queue at a petrol pump in Navi Mumbai on Monday. With the US having banned purchase of Russian oil, prices are expected to stay high for a prolonged period. PTI

an economy is booming, prices keep going up. When demand is down and the economy is in the doldrums, prices tend to stagnate (or even fall).

But stagflation is a condition where an economy experiences the worst of both worlds — the growth rate is largely stagnant (along with rising unemployment) and inflation is not only high but persistently so.

How does one get into stagflation?

The best-known case of stagflation is what happened in the early and mid-1970s. The OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), which works like a cartel, decided to cut crude oil supply. This sent oil prices soaring across the world; they were up by almost 70%.

This sudden oil price shock not only raised inflation everywhere, especially in the western economies, but also constrained their ability to produce, thus hampering their economic growth. High inflation and stalled growth (and the resulting unemployment) created stagflation.

Is India facing stagflation?

In the recent past, this question was first asked in November 2019 when retail inflation spiked due to unseasonal rains leading to a rise in food inflation. By December 2019, it was also becoming clear that India's GDP growth rate was witnessing a secular deceleration since 2017. As revised estimates released in January-end show now, India's GDP growth rate decelerated from over 8% in 2016-17 to just 3.7% in 2019-20.

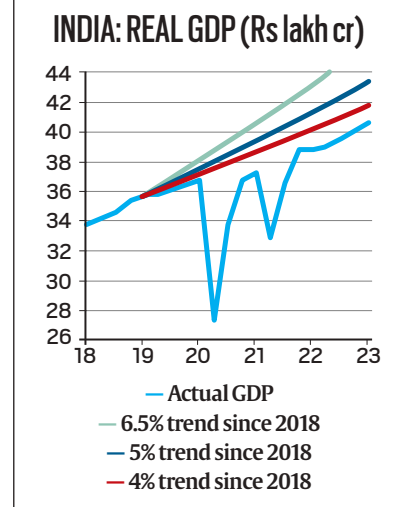
However, in 2019, the inflation spike was considered to be transitory. Stagflation requires inflation to be not just high but also persistently so over a long period. Moreover, in absolute terms, India's GDP was still growing, albeit at a progressively slower rate.

Since December 2021, again, there have been several notable voices — such as former World Bank Chief Economist Kaushik Basu and former West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra — claiming that India is facing stagflation.

In fact, last week, Sergi Lanau, the Deputy Chief Economist at the Institute of International Finance (which is the global association of the financial industry, with more than 450 members from more than 70 countries) tweeted two sets of data to argue that India was already in stagflation. "India is in stagflation. Consensus growth of 7.8% in FY23 implies a big gap relative to pre-covid pre-shadow banking crisis trend output. And yet core inflation is running at more than 5% net of base effects. An ultra-dovish RBI seems to worry about output the most," he tweeted.

But even now, not everyone is convinced. Rathin Roy, currently managing director of ODI (a global think tank) in London and formerly the Director and CEO of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) in New Delhi, dismissed the talk of stagflation. He argued that the Covid disruption was a shock to the trend growth of India's economy.

"You can't talk about stagflation when there has been a trend shock. The entire theory (of stagflation) rests on the economy not achieving the trend because all these things



are measured with reference to that trend. So if the trend growth rate itself has changed as a consequence of Covid then how can you talk about stagflation?" he said

Still, can the latest spike in oil prices send India into stagflation?

While it may be debatable whether India is already in stagflation or not, it cannot be denied that if oil prices stay high and for long, the inflation situation will worsen considerably. According to some reports, crude oil prices could go up to \$185 by the end of the year. Even if they do not go that high, the average prices will perhaps hover at levels above \$100. Since oil is such a basic cost in our economy, this spike will likely ensure that Indians suffer from high inflation especially since it would be coming after two years of already raised prices and reduced incomes.

The other requirement for stagflation is stalling growth. The unemployment rate (or in India's case the employment rate) is a good marker of whether the current levels of growth have been adequate or not. India is facing the most acute unemployment crisis it has seen in the past five decades — even the government's own data show this. High inflation will most likely further inhibit any broad-based recovery in demand. Of course, a sliver of rich Indians will continue to consume but the bulk of India could continue to struggle.

So, unlikely as it may be, it can be argued that if crude oil continues to spike and stays high for long even as India's GDP growth momentum fails to gather pace, we could be looking at stagflation in the near future.

The legacy of Savitribai and Jyotirao Phule

RUCHIKA GOSWAMY
PUNE, MARCH 7

ON SUNDAY, sharing the dais with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the Pune Metro, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar drew the former's attention to controversial remarks made recently about the reformist couple Jyotirao and Savitribai Phule.

In a video, said to have been taken during the inauguration of Savitribai's statue at the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) last month, Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari can be heard saying: "Savitribai was married off at the age of 10 and her husband was 13 years old at that time. Now, think about it, what must girls and boys be thinking after getting married."

The Phules' work

Mahatma Jyotirao and Savitribai Phule



Savitribai's statue at Savitribai Phule Pune University. Ashish Kale

did path-breaking work for women's education and women's rights, and against caste and gender-based discrimination. Jyotirao started to educate his wife at

home and trained her to become a teacher. By 1848, when he was 21 and she 18, the Phules had started a school for girls, Shudras and Ati-Shudras in Poona (now Pune). In 1853, they opened a care centre for pregnant widows and the Balhatya Pratibandhak Griha (Home for the Prevention of Infanticide) in their house.

With other reformists, the Phules in 1873 established the Satyashodhak Samaj (Truth-Seekers' Society) that worked for social change going against prevalent traditions, including less expensive weddings, inter-caste marriage, eradication of child marriage, and widow remarriage.

Jyotirao and Savitri did not have biological children of their own. They adopted the child of a widow, Yashwantrao, who went on to become a doctor and did important work during the 1897 bubonic plague.

The backlash

When Jyotirao and Savitribai Phule got

married at the ages of 13 and 10 respectively, it was 1840. As adults, they not only worked to prevent child marriage but also organised widow remarriages.

"At that time, child marriages were taking place all over India," said Hari Narke, who heads the Mahatma Phule chair at Savitribai Phule Pune University. He criticised the Governor for his remarks.

Koshyari has also earned criticism for remarks about the Maratha king Chhatrapati Shivaji. At Sunday's function, Ajit Pawar said: "I want to bring to the notice of the Prime Minister that unnecessary statements are coming from those holding important posts. These statements are not acceptable to Maharashtra... Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule laid the foundation of girls education in the country from the city. We all have to take forward their rich legacy of reforms. We should carry forward it by not keeping any animosity about anyone and bringing politics into development."

In current frictions between Centre and states, a recall from decades ago

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

ON FEBRUARY 13, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called her Tamil Nadu counterpart MK Stalin and suggested a meeting of CMs of non-BJP ruled states over the "constitutional overstepping and brazen misuse of power by (their) Governors". Banerjee also spoke with Telangana CM K Chandrababu Naidu on the "bulldozing" of the country's federal structure. On February 20, KCR met Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray to expedite the process of uniting non-BJP parties. On January 24, he had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, objecting to proposed changes in the rules for deputing IAS and IPS officers to the Centre.

Harking back decades

The recent pushback by opposition chief ministers against alleged centralising tendencies of the BJP government recall similar efforts made by opposition CMs several

decades ago — their target then was Indira Gandhi's Congress government at the Centre. Soon after becoming CM in 1969, Stalin's father, M Karunanidhi, spoke about setting up an expert committee to study Centre-state relations. Months later, his government appointed a committee headed by P V Rajamannar, former Madras High Court Chief Justice, which, in its report submitted in 1971, recommended that "the Inter-State Council should be constituted immediately". (Article 263 of the Constitution provides for the setting up of the Council "if at any time it appears to the President that the public interests would be served by [its] establishment". The Council was ultimately set up in 1990.)

The next time opposition CMs rallied against the Centre was in 1983. Since returning to power in 1980, Indira had dismissed nine state governments, leading to what Granville Austin called the constitutional revolt of 1983. On March 20 that year, Ramakrishna Hegde (Karnataka), M G Ramachandran (Tamil Nadu), N T Rama Rao (Andhra Pradesh), and D Ramachandran



(Pondicherry) met in Bangalore. A white paper issued after the meeting demanded more powers for states, and abolition of the post of Governor. It was also decided to form a council of southern CMs.

On May 28, NTR convened a meeting of 14 non-Congress parties in Vijayawada. Among those who attended were L K Advani of the BJP, Maneka Gandhi of the Sanjay Vichar Manch, S S Barnala of the Akali Dal,

Shard Pawar of the Congress (S), Basavapunniah of the CPI-M, and Farooq Abdullah of the National Conference.

The meeting passed a resolution demanding the abolition of Article 356. A statement issued at a meeting of non-Congress leaders convened by Farooq Abdullah from October 5-7 said: "Unitary features (of the Constitution) have increasingly come to overshadow its federal features."

Among the attendees was AB Vajpayee.

Cong, BJP: roles reversed

Three decades later, two successive full-majority governments in Delhi are triggering similar frictions. Strong, adversarial CMs are challenging the Centre, and pushing back against its policies. With the BJP in power and the Congress seriously weakened, the roles have been reversed. A lot of the criticism against the Centre's alleged high-handedness today echoes the denunciation of Indira's Congress years ago. Interestingly enough, even while in the opposition, the BJP was never against the idea of a strong Centre — what it opposed was the way in which Indira used the unitary bias in the Constitution.

Among the issues that current non-BJP CMs have raised are the alleged centralising drive in education, partisanship of Governors, the new electricity policy, the general weakening of federal principles in the fiscal, economic, and legislative spheres, and the distribution of revenues. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Delhi have

protested against the proposed changes in the All India Service rules of IAS and IPS officers. Ten opposition parties have objected.

Responding to the criticism, Indira had appointed the Justice R S Sarkaria commission to examine Centre-state relations. It began its work in February 1984, and submitted its 600-page report in October 1987. Some of its recommendations have been adopted, but many remain pending. The Supreme Court has urged the Centre on several occasions to implement the recommendations on the selection and appointment of Governors.

Are there shortcomings or grey areas in the Constitution itself that have allowed the repeated misuse of the Centre's powers? Not quite, wrote the justice Nani A Palkhivala: "The problem has arisen today in an acute form because over a period of years the Centre has acted in a manner in which at best has been contrary to the spirit of the Constitution and at worst has been tantamount to a fraud upon the Constitution... The truth of the matter is that it is a noble Constitution which has been worked in an ignoble spirit."



The Indian EXPRESS

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RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

The cure at home

State of Indian students in Ukraine must catalyse reforms in this country's medical education system



K SRINATH REDDY

FALL AND FALL

Stocks decline as Russia-Ukraine uncertainty continues — protracted conflict will place greater burden on India's economy

ON MONDAY, THE BSE Sensex fell 1,491 points, ending the day down 2.74 per cent. Since February 24, when Russia invaded Ukraine, the Sensex has fallen around 7.6 per cent as investor sentiment has soured. While there are noticeable outliers amidst the carnage — commodity stocks such as ONGC, Hindalco and Coal India were trading up on Monday, as were IT majors such as Infosys and HCL Tech — the decline appears to be broad-based. The BSE small and mid-cap indices are down 2.01 per cent and 2.25 per cent, respectively, over the past five days. Foreign investors have remained sellers. The VIX or the volatility index was also up, indicating growing uncertainty. The Indian currency is under pressure — the rupee fell to an all-time low against the dollar, hovering around the 77 mark on Monday. Investor sentiment has soured across the world. On Monday, most markets in Asia also witnessed decline — the Nikkei was down 2.94 per cent, Hang Seng fell by 3.87 per cent, while KOSPI was down 2.29 per cent.

An immediate consequence of this conflict has been the sharp spurt in the price of crude oil. On Monday, Brent crude oil price rose around 10 per cent in the morning, and was trading around \$130/bbl, amidst reports that the US and European countries were going to impose a ban on Russian oil imports. Considering that India imports around 80 per cent of its oil requirement, this rise in crude oil prices has consequences. Higher crude oil prices will impact growth, will be inflationary and will exert pressure on the current account and fiscal deficit. However, investor sentiment in emerging market economies had begun to sour even before this conflict with expectations that the US Federal Reserve would hike rates aggressively this year to help cool down inflation which is at its highest level since the 1980s. Foreign investors had already begun to reposition their portfolio, taking out money from emerging markets. Though the ongoing conflict in Ukraine has injected a degree of uncertainty in the global macroeconomic environment, a few days ago, Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell restated the position that the Fed was on track to raise interest rates and reduce the size of its balance sheet, tightening global financial conditions.

After the current bout of correction, the Sensex is currently trading at a price to earnings ratio of 23.08, marginally higher than its long-term average. Its current market capitalisation to GDP ratio is also higher than its long-term average. Valuations may be further impacted if earnings get affected. But while the full economic consequences will be visible with a lag, the longer the conflict between Russia and Ukraine persists, greater will be the economic burden on the Indian economy.

SPEAKING HER TRUTH

Malayalam actor Bhavana breaks a silence, underlines need for institutions to support victims of sexual violence

BREAKING A FIVE-YEAR-LONG silence, Malayalam actor Bhavana has spoken in an interview about her journey from being a "victim" of sexual assault to a "survivor". The actor was abducted and assaulted in a moving car by a group of men in February 2017; the violation was allegedly at the behest of a powerful male actor of the industry. To many women, Bhavana's story reprises painfully similar details. She spoke about her anger at the fuss-free, low-cost rehabilitation of men accused of sexual violence, about her "name and identity" being buried under the weight of the assault; of being shamed and abused on social media, of being put in the dock, just as any other victim of sexual violence. She spoke about how she drew strength by turning up in the courtroom to defend herself, and how she realised that standing up for herself, speaking her truth, would empower all the women who came after her.

That has also been the promise of the #MeToo movement — that women's voices would expand to break the silence and shame around sexual violence — even if it is a promise fleetingly realised. It is important to remember, though, that the assault on the actor predated Hollywood's #MeToo reckoning — the flood of sexual assault allegations by multiple women against Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein — by a few months. The case cleaved the Malayalam film industry into two, as the investigation led to superstar Dileep being named as an accused. It led to the formation of the Women in Cinema Collective, an organisation for women film professionals, that continues to lobby against sexual exploitation in Malayalam cinema. But the lack of an institutional response, the eagerness to show solidarity with powerful men, and silence women victims, has been as much a feature of this case as much as others. In the larger entertainment industry, for instance, women like filmmaker Leena Manimekalai, singer Chinmayi Sripada and actor Tanushree Dutta have faced a backlash for speaking up.

"We must normalise the idea of the person who has gone through a trauma coming out in public and voicing it out," Bhavana said in the interview. That, indeed, is the minimum that societies owe victims of sexual violence. The truth is that for every Bhavana and Priya Ramani, who find the courage and support to hold sexual predators to account, there are countless other women who are easily silenced. It is for the rest — from institutions and workplaces, to judiciary and police — to enable their courage, to empower their quest for justice.

OH BABY

Videos of Indian players with Baby Fatima from the Bay Oval speak of heartening things

CRICKET — THE men's version of the game — has for long defined all-rounder to mean someone who bats and bowls with proficiency. None of them have ever had to think of a baby-break in their careers, or feeding times and anxiety about who's looking after the infant while they pile wickets and runs. Pakistan women's captain Bismah Maroof had to not just factor in all that, but also consider if she could afford a travelling nanny for her eight-month-old baby Fatima, when she resumed captaincy of the team ahead of the World Cup. Since she couldn't, she wrapped up the baby, pram in tow, and went to New Zealand to do her job as the nation's captain. Things on the field might not have gone to plan, a 107-run-defeat ensued despite triggering a mini collapse, but rivals India were left weak-kneed as they gathered around Baby Fatima post-match. Selfies followed.

India and Pakistan cricketers have always maintained cordial relations on the sidelines of their face-off. Even politicians on both sides are aware that cricketers carry an aura which glows brighter than narrow nationalistic spiels. But what melted a million hearts on Sunday was the viral videos of Indians with Baby Fatima from the Bay Oval — and a shared pride that a woman from the subcontinent was going ahead and resuming her playing career, in cricket, no less, after childbirth.

Cricket dressing rooms — often associated with male cricketers punching glasses and breaking doors and flinging bats in frustration — can now be places for baby babble after a game well played. Male cricketers have flaunted their babies at retirements and at landmark games. Women's cricket has kept it authentic, bringing the baby to work in a country where the Prime Minister has pretty much taken hers to Parliament, and then putting in a hard day at play.

ODISHA'S CHIEF MINISTER Naveen Patnaik has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, requesting the Centre to direct the National Medical Commission (NMC) to ensure uninterrupted education for medical students who have been evacuated from Ukraine. He has requested him to enable their admission to Indian medical colleges. There is a partial precedent in the post-Partition "transfers" provided to refugee medical students who migrated from medical colleges located in the newly-created Pakistan. However, that was relatively easy as all medical colleges in pre-Independence India had similar standards under a common regulatory framework.

The plight of 18,000 Indian medical students trapped in Ukraine's war zones has led to widespread concerns. While efforts are being made for their evacuation and early return to India, several questions arise. Why did they need to go to Ukraine to study? What will happen to their interrupted education? What are the alternatives available to them on their return to India?

The number of seats available for medical education in India is far less than the number of aspirants who leave school with the dream of becoming doctors. Of the 1.6 million students who appeared in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) in 2021, only 88,120 made it into the 562 medical colleges in the country. Others had to enrol in non-medical courses in India or seek admission to foreign medical colleges. While the number of medical colleges has now increased to 596 (with 89,875 seats), the entry barrier is still high.

China, Russia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, the Philippines and Kazakhstan are among the countries where Indian students pursue their dreams to become doctors. On return, they need to pass a qualifying examination before they are permitted to intern in the institutions recognised by the Medical Council of India (MCI) — its functions have been taken over by the recently-constituted NMC.

The task of conducting this screening test was assigned to the National Board of Examinations (NBE). The passing rates were disappointingly low (mostly below 20 per cent), for several reasons. Training standards varied widely across foreign institutions. The language of instruction was not English. The curriculum in foreign colleges differed in sev-

eral respects from that taught in India. A student training in Russia or Ukraine is unlikely to learn much about kala-azar or malaria.

The screening examination in India used to cover the vast syllabus encompassing the entire gamut of medical education. Even when the proportion of questions related to clinical subjects was increased, the success rate was still low. So, foreign medical graduates started taking coaching classes. That spawned another industry.

We need to offer more opportunities to students who seek a medical career since our health system is woefully short of both basic doctors and specialists. This is partly a legacy of the MCI boards imposing rigid conditions to restrict the number of medical colleges, and partly due to limited government investment in the health sector. A recent analysis estimates that India has only 4.8 fully qualified and actively serving doctors per 10,000 population. Those too are inequitably distributed across the states, with a further towards urban centres.

It is essential that we increase the number of medical colleges, especially in states that have a low number of such seats. The critical needs for a medical college are a general hospital with different specialities needed for the MBBS course, classrooms, laboratories, community engagement and adequate faculty. The availability of suitable faculty is a critical barrier at present. Even if the private sector is provided land at a concessional rate for starting new medical colleges, they will face a faculty crunch and poach from government medical colleges. Handing over district hospitals to the private sector, as proposed by some, will exacerbate inequities in healthcare and disconnect secondary care from organised primary care which is principally delivered through the public sector. Private medical colleges are also exorbitantly expensive in their fee structure — even in comparison to foreign medical colleges.

State governments must be supported to invest in the upgradation of district hospitals. Specialist posts in many clinical disciplines that are needed for the MBBS programme already exist in the district hospitals. These specialists can be designated as faculty for a new medical college attached to the district hospital. These hospitals can be linked downstream to primary healthcare services and up-

stream to tertiary care hospitals to provide the students with a full range of clinical exposure while functioning as the main centre of education. Common classrooms can be created by virtually linking several of the medical colleges in a state, to share some of the faculty for classroom teaching, especially for pre- and para-clinical subjects where there is considerable faculty shortage.

State governments must be financially assisted to undertake this transformation of district hospitals. A centrally sponsored scheme aims to set up 157 new medical colleges attached to existing district/referral hospitals in areas that do not have any medical college. This will reduce urban-rural disparities in healthcare and also help to scale-up training in the much needed but greatly neglected discipline of family medicine. Nursing colleges and allied health professional training centres (for paramedical courses) may also be added to district hospitals to create a multi-layered, multi-skilled health workforce.

What about the young students returning from Ukraine? It is unlikely that they will be able to resume their education there — the political turmoil is likely to continue even if the war ends soon. Their families too will be reluctant to send them back. Present regulations do not permit them to continue their education in Indian medical colleges. Even if the NMC permits it as a special case, other students who qualified the NEET but did not make the cut for medical admission, and stayed back in India, might protest.

The government could perhaps support these students by enrolling them in a BSc (Public Health) programme that can be run by schools of public health and medical colleges. They can graduate in three years to commence careers in public health, where their earlier medical education can add value. Since the National Health Policy of 2017 calls for Public Health Management cadres to be established in every state, this could initiate a programme for large-scale training of public health professionals. In any case, the sad state of the students in Ukraine must catalyse reforms in Indian medical education.

The writer, a cardiologist and epidemiologist, is President, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). The views expressed are personal



ADITI NAYAR

SPENDING AFTER PANDEMIC

Centre's plans for investment-led growth will hinge on how states can complement it

STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING is an important component of capital expenditure (capex) in India. Capex by all states put together tends to outstrip that by the Centre. This year, capex by states is expected to expand by a healthy 18 per cent, relative to their pre-Covid level. Considering that private sector capex is expected to witness a back-ended surge in the coming fiscal year, the hope is that the state capex will kick off early, complementing the Centre's push towards investment-led growth. However, this is far from certain as of now.

The unaudited provisional data for 24 states is available for the first nine months (April to December) of 2021-22 from the Comptroller and Auditor General. An analysis of this data throws up several interesting trends. First, the revenue receipts of these states have expanded by 8.6 per cent to Rs 18.5 trillion in 2021-22 (April to December), up from Rs 17.1 trillion over the same period in 2019-20. States have benefited from robust revenues even as transfers from the Centre have undergone a mild dip in this period.

Second, with states' revenue spending rising at a faster pace (13.9 per cent), their revenue deficit has doubled to Rs 1.9 trillion from Rs 0.9 trillion in the pre-Covid period. In comparison, the Centre's revenue deficit shrank to Rs 4 trillion from Rs 7.1 trillion, while remaining much larger in absolute terms. Third, states have also witnessed an encouraging expansion in capital spending, driven primarily by

eight states — Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. However, states such as Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal have recorded a decline in capital spending during this period compared to their pre-Covid levels.

Despite the expansion in capital spending at the aggregate level, however, spending in the first nine months of the year stood at only a modest 48 per cent of the 2021-22 budget target of Rs 5.9 trillion. Now, actual capital spending in recent years has tended to be restricted to around three-fourths of the aspirational budget target. If this trend continues, it would imply an outgo of Rs 1.6 trillion in the fourth quarter (January-March) of this year. This figure is lower than the amount recorded in the last quarter of three of the last four years — 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21. However, despite being low, this appears realistic as elections in some key states in the ongoing quarter may compress actual spending relative to the trend seen in recent years.

Turning our attention to the coming financial year, 2022-2023 marks the transition to the post-GST compensation era, with the five-year compensation period set to end on June 30, 2022. While we expect compensation of around Rs 12-15 trillion (including pending dues for this year and regular flows for February-June 2022) to flow to the states in 2022-2023, it would be half the magnitude of

the compensation that the states received this year. This decline, followed by an expected cessation in FY2024 after the compensation period has ended, is set to pose a structural challenge to those states that have a higher dependence on GST compensation.

A consequence of this adjustment was a feared curtailment of capital spending by states in the quarters ahead. However, the Centre has sharply ramped up the size of the interest-free 50-year loan to states for capex to Rs 1 trillion in its budget, up from Rs 0.15 trillion in 2021-22. This may prevent states from cutting back on capital expenditure.

At present, the conditionalities surrounding such loans and the end-uses of these funds are not available in the public domain. Different states have different capex priorities given the status of their infrastructure. This could impact their interest in availing of these loans. While the relatively long tenure of 50 years makes it an attractive source of funding, some states may argue that they would have preferred the sum as an untied grant, albeit intended for capex. It will be interesting to see how many states end up availing this facility. This will have a crucial bearing on the pace of investment activity next year, especially in the first half of the year, a portion of which may remain in the shadow of heightened geopolitical conflicts.

The writer is chief economist ICRA



MARCH 8, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

MERGER TALKS

THE LOK DAL has decided to make the last bid for its unification with the Congress (S) and the Janata Party within the next five weeks. The national executive of the party, which adopted a resolution to this effect, however, gave an ultimatum to the two parties that the Lok Dal would go ahead with its independent identity if they failed to agree on the merger by mid-April. Some members, however, criticised party president Charan Singh's action in "unilaterally" dissolving the coordination committee comprising nominees of the Janata Party, the Congress (S) and the Lok Dal, set up to facilitate their unification. Charan Singh is reported to have

explained that the committee had outlived its utility.

KASHMIR COMMENTS

THE INDIAN EMBASSY in Islamabad dismissed as "extraordinary" a suggestion in Pakistan's official media that the Indian government had been misled by its delegate about Islamabad's contentious reference to Kashmir at Geneva. The reference at the Human Rights Commission by Pakistan's delegate Agha Hilaly had led to the postponement of foreign secretary R D Sathie's visit to Islamabad earlier this month. In making the reference, Hilaly, the Indian government al-

leged, had gone back, under instructions from Islamabad on a promise he made to the Indian delegation.

US IN IRAN

THE US IS secretly aiding Iranian paramilitary and political exile groups and beaming radio propaganda into Iran, designed to counter growing Soviet influence in Iran and to give the U.S. a role of its own in the event that Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic regime falters, the *New York Times* reported, quoting "Western intelligence" officials. The sources insisted that no efforts are being made to overthrow the Islamic government.

Revisiting deterrence in Asia

Russia's war in Ukraine has triggered a new conversation that is bound to transform the Asian nuclear landscape



RAJA-MANDALA
BY C. RAJA MOHAN

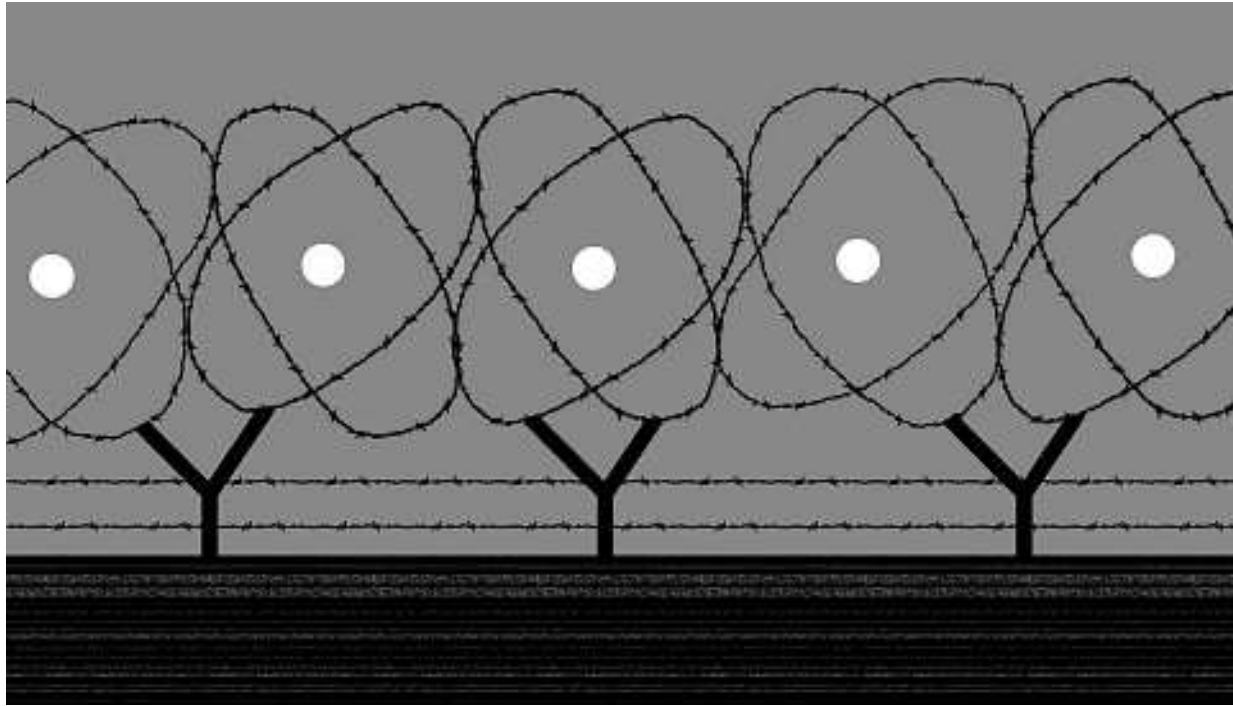
RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR Putin's nuclear sabre-rattling in Ukraine, which did create political ripples in Europe, has triggered a far more consequential debate on the importance of atomic weapons in deterring Chinese expansionism. For those facing Chinese wrath in Asia, it is not difficult to buy into the proposition that Russia would have thought twice before invading Ukraine if Kyiv had nuclear weapons.

In an important statement last week, the former prime minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, called for a national debate on hosting American nuclear weapons on Japanese soil. In South Korea, which is electing its president this week, front-runner Yoon Suk-yeol has talked of strengthening Seoul's nuclear deterrence against both Pyongyang and Beijing. Taiwan, which is in the cross-hairs of President Xi Jinping's regional strategy, is reportedly developing a nuclear-powered submarine that could offer some deterrence against a Chinese invading force. Australia, which is working with the UK and the US to build nuclear-powered submarines, is accelerating the project after the Ukraine invasion.

Putin's public command to his generals at the end of February on putting Russian nuclear forces on alert soon after he launched his invasion of Ukraine was a message to the US and NATO to stay out of Ukraine. Putin, however, was preaching to the converted. After all, Washington had made it clear that it had no intention to fight Putin's armies on Russia's borders. The threat of escalation to the nuclear level was very much in the mind of NATO's military planners when the alliance refused to be drawn into a firefight with Russia in Ukraine. No wonder, that President Joe Biden did not respond to Putin's nuclear escalation by putting America's nuclear forces on a higher alert.

You could argue that Washington was unimpressed by Putin's nuclear threat because Russia too is aware of the dangers of nuclear escalation. Moscow is also conscious of the fact that there are two nuclear weapon powers in Europe — Britain and France. Although the British and French arsenals are modest they do figure in Moscow's nuclear assessments. Russia is also aware of the "nuclear sharing" arrangements between the US and some European allies — Belgium, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands. Under this framework, European allies host US nuclear weapons on their soil and authorise their armed forces to deliver American nuclear weapons on Russia. Nuclear sharing also involves continuous consultations on nuclear doctrine and the planning of nuclear operations.

Europe's immediate focus, in the wake of Russian aggression against Ukraine, is not nuclear weapons but strengthening conventional deterrence to stop Putin's adventurism in the continent. The US and its allies are also pursuing a "hybrid war" that boosts Ukrainian resistance against Russian armed forces and raises military, economic, and po-



C R Sasikumaran

litical costs of Moscow's aggression.

Putin has certainly shaken Europe out of its prolonged holiday from geopolitics, and is forcing it to commit more resources to the defence of Europe and strengthen the continent's unity against Russia. Nothing illustrates the dramatic shift in European mood than the German decision to discard its entrenched pacifism and embark on a course of rearmament.

In Asia, similar trends are unfolding. The widely discussed prospect of China emulating Russia and invading Taiwan has begun to concentrate the minds of Asian leaders. But unlike Europe, Asia has had a forewarning of the perils of great-power chauvinism and territorial expansionism. After all, China had been nibbling away at the territories of its neighbours whether it was in the South China Sea or in the great Himalayas. China has broken its commitments on Hong Kong and absorbed it forcibly.

Last month's twin developments have only sharpened these concerns. One was the unveiling of an "alliance without limits" between Russia and China at a summit meeting in Beijing on February 4. Many in Asia, including India, continue to hope that Russia will play an independent role in the region. But the summit saw an unprecedented commitment by the two sides to stand by each other. As Putin becomes more dependent on China, Russia is bound to back Xi Jinping's ambitions in Asia.

Taiwan is far more important for Asian (and global) security than Ukraine is for Europe. Taiwan sits at the heart of the Western Pacific and straddles the sea line of communication in the world's most dynamic economic arena. It is the main source of silicon chips for the world. When China conquers Taiwan it will dramatically transform the geopolitics of Asia. No one understands this better than Shinzo Abe. After the Ukraine invasions, he articulated what was uppermost in the minds of many in Asia. As the Russian invasion of Ukraine began, Abe called for an unambiguous American commitment to defend Taiwan. The current US policy does not explicitly state that its armed forces will come to the rescue of Taiwan if it is attacked by China. Abe also called for a new debate in Japan on potential "nuclear shar-

Asian military planners know that Ukraine agreed in 1994 to give up the nuclear weapons that it inherited from the Soviet Union in return for guarantees on Kyiv's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Clearly, those legal guarantees were no substitute for nuclear weapons. In the past, all the East Asian neighbours of China had toyed with the development of independent nuclear arsenals. The US actively discouraged Taiwan, South Korea and Japan to renounce nuclear weapons in return for American security commitments, including the shelter of the American 'nuclear umbrella'. There is a growing concern in the region about whether the US nuclear umbrella or the so-called extended deterrence will work against the rapidly growing military power and nuclear clout of China.

ing arrangements with the US. Abe, of course, is deeply aware of Japan's entrenched "nuclear allergy". But he is calling for a frank debate to deal with the changing Asian and global security environment after Ukraine. One element of the debate is the fact that nuclear weapons remain the greatest deterrent, especially against a vastly superior adversary.

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In the past, all the East Asian neighbours of China had toyed with the development of independent nuclear arsenals. The US actively discouraged Taiwan, South Korea and Japan to renounce nuclear weapons in return for American security commitments, including the shelter of the American "nuclear umbrella". There is a growing concern in the region about whether the US nuclear umbrella or the so-called extended deterrence will work against the rapidly growing military power and nuclear clout of China.

This is the context in which China's eastern neighbours are taking a fresh look at the nuclear option. Although Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan have significant technological capabilities, developing a nuclear arsenal would be the last and most politically risky option. For now, their focus is on strengthening the military alliance with the US and boosting national defence capabilities including advanced missile systems.

On the nuclear front, the debate in Japan and South Korea is about potential nuclear sharing arrangements with the US. In Taiwan and Australia, the emphasis is on developing nuclear-powered submarines. The US too is debating the deployment of new strategic weapon systems in Asia that might encourage China to pause before trying to emulate Russia's Ukraine adventure. One way or another, Russia's war in Ukraine is bound to transform the Asian nuclear landscape.

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

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"While the economic sanctions and moves to take action against Russian oligarchs are arguably logical means to limit Moscow's power, the banning of dissent and information that is undesirable to Western powers is setting a dangerous and unwelcome precedent."
—DAWN

A democracy for her

The extent to which political parties represent women and their interests is closely linked to the health and vitality of democratic processes



S Y QURAISHI

DESPITE THE MANY horrors we have witnessed since the Covid-19 pandemic began, there have been some positive developments, the most pertinent being the growing role of women in strengthening the political and civic life of democracy in South Asia. At the global level, much has already been written about the superior performance of women leaders, such as Jacinda Ardern (New Zealand), Tsai-Ing Wen (Taiwan), Sanna Marin (Finland) and KK Shailaja (Kerala), in handling the pandemic. Likewise, the highly effective contributions of local-level panchayat sarpanches and health officials such as Roorkee's Daljit Kaur, Singhwahini's Ritu Jaiswal and the mayor of Chandannath municipality in Nepal, Kantika Sejwal, among many others, have been justly exalted. One must not, however, turn a blind eye to the more systemic and ground-level realities of women, which are fraught with various contradictions, contestations, and quiet calamities. Therefore, for a proper appraisal of the relations between gender and democracy, we ought to examine the links between violence, representation, and the political participation of women.

Historically, one of the peculiar paradoxes of South Asian democracy has been the continued presence of strong women leaders at the executive centre coupled with a generally appalling condition of women in society at large. South Asia has had the largest number of women heads of state — including Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Chandrika Kumaratunga, Indira Gandhi, Khaleda Zia, Sheikh Hasina, and Benazir Bhutto — of any region in the world till recently. However, this seemingly empowering image is disproved when we take a broader view of the electoral representation and social condition of women in the region. While women have played very visible and important roles at the higher echelons of power and at the grassroots level in social movements, they have been under-represented in political parties as officials and as members of key decision-making bodies.

In electoral representation, India, for instance, has fallen several places in the Inter-Parliamentary Union's global ranking of women's parliamentary presence, from 117 after the 2014 election to 143 as of January 2020. India is currently behind Pakistan (106), Bangladesh (98) and Nepal (43) and ahead of Sri Lanka (182). Prior to the 2019 election, scholars such as Carole Spary and S M Rai have estimated that it would take another 40 years to have 33 per cent women in the Lok Sabha, based on historical election trends and assuming that no gender quota is introduced, and such as the heavily undermined and ignored the Women's Reservation Bill.

However, there are two main points to be noted here. In India, women currently make up 14.6 per cent of MPs (78 MPs) in the Lok Sabha, which is a historic high. Although the percentage is modest, it is remarkable because women barely made up 9 per cent of the overall candidates in 2019. BJP women candidates won at a strike-rate of 73 per cent

as opposed to their male counterparts at 66 per cent. Additionally, 27 of 41 women MPs were able to retain their seats as well. Similarly, of the 50 women candidates fielded by the Trinamool Congress in last year's West Bengal Assembly elections, 40 won. This proves that the winnability (the basis on which political parties claim to give tickets) of women is much higher than of men.

In terms of electoral quotas, there were two outstanding exceptions in the 2019 general elections. West Bengal under Mamata Banerjee and Odisha under Naveen Patnaik opted for voluntary parliamentary quotas, fielding 40 per cent and 33 per cent women candidates, respectively.

Interestingly, in countries such as India and Bangladesh, the presence of women may be more powerfully felt as voters than as candidates. In 1962, the male voter turnout in India was 16 percentage points higher than for women. Six decades later, in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, women's participation exceeded that of men for the first time. This suggests an increasing assertion of citizenship rights among women. The growing turnout of women voters could influence political parties' programmatic priorities and improve their responsiveness to women voters' interests, preferences, and concerns, including sexual harassment and gender-based violence.

The TMC ran and highlighted many women-centric schemes that potentially played a central role in their victory. Schemes such as Swasthya Sathi, which issued health cards in the name of female heads of the family, and Kanyashree Prakalpa and Rupashree Prakalpa, which provided financial support for girls' education and marriage respectively, proved immensely popular.

Likewise, the central government must be commended for its achievements in two areas in particular: Its DBT schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana and the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, due to which maternal mortality rate has reduced from 167 (2011-13) to 113 (2016-18). The Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2017 is another landmark achievement that extended the paid maternal leave to 26 weeks from the existing 12 weeks.

The extent to which parties represent women and take up their interests is closely tied to the health and vitality of democratic processes. However, the strength of civil society initiatives is not entirely dependent on the strength of political institutions — a case in point would be the Aurat marches in Pakistan. Another is the Shaheen Bagh protest that proved remarkably active in mobilising women.

The BJP must use its parliamentary majority to finally pass the Women's Reservation Bill, as was promised in their 2014 election manifesto. Until that happens, the initiative taken by the governments of Banerjee and Patnaik to increase women's parliamentary presence must serve as an inspiration to other Indian states. At this crucial juncture, to cherish our democratic values, we will need to sympathise with the voice of the 15th century Bengali poet, Ramoni, a low-caste washerwoman, who sang, "I'll not stay any longer in this land of injustice/I'll go to a place where there are no hellhounds".

The writer is former chief election commissioner of India and the author of An Undocumented Wonder — The Making of the Great Indian Election



VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE

TWO RECENT DECISIONS of the government, with implications for how India is perceived, are remarkable. First, the swiftness with which the government took exception to the unnecessary remarks by the Singapore prime minister deserves commendation. True, Singapore has emerged as a symbol of development and good governance. Other countries, too, have earned reputations as well-governed nations on the path of prosperity in a relatively short span of time. Factors like the effective functioning of systems, discipline and public order in such countries rightly impress all visitors. This also helps these countries to earn a fair amount of goodwill.

However, governments that may be successful on the governance front could also have doubtful democratic credentials. Besides, there are many countries that officially call themselves republics but, in reality, what they have is a sham democracy. Hence, more often than not, needless commentary on the democratic functioning of one country by another amounts to interference. Even if one chooses to not be sceptical about how genuine the democratic functioning in certain well-governed countries is, the fact remains that one can't compare a tiny country with a big and heavily populated one. Geographical expanse, linguistic diversity and innumerable legacy issues also contribute to shaping the personality of a

Misperception marketing

Others get away with it because of our own habits of self-flagellation

democracy. All this makes the summoning of the Singapore envoy by the Ministry of External Affairs and getting him to realise how needless the comments were, a timely and welcome move. India is too big an international player to ignore such irresponsible comments.

The second decision is about preventing the National Overseas Scholarship recipients from seeking a scholarship to study subjects that they can better learn here. As it is, preventing brain drain has been, for decades, one of our national concerns. In addition, it is a mockery of our own educational institutions to allow Indian scholarship holders to go abroad and learn about Indian society and culture. It is like students from Saudi Arabia going to the US to study Islam. One can understand Indian scholarship holders going abroad for higher learning in subjects like technology or specialised branches of science, as we may not have such institutions here. But to send our own scholars abroad to study the society and culture of India amounts to a self-invited downgrading of our own institutions. This was allowed in total disregard of its negative impact on not just our institutions but also on our collective sense of self-respect and confidence. Through a logical step, the government has now prevented this.

This also calls for an analysis of the challenge of tackling the misperceptions that

India has been facing since Independence. Why do people abroad misperceive India? Why does there remain some lack of understanding about India globally? While there may be a variety of reasons for this, three things are fundamental to the issue. First is the penchant for self-flagellation that has long gripped our intelligentsia. Second is our uncalled-for shyness in asserting our national identity, causing an immeasurable shortfall in our sense of belonging, and third is our collective failure in making global opinion-makers and journalists understand India in the proper perspective.

Self-flagellation has become a habit with a large section of our intellectuals, media persons, creative writers and also filmmakers. True, like many other countries, India too has been facing issues like caste-based social discrimination, gender inequality and injustice, as also abject poverty and economic disparities. Also, there is nothing wrong with depicting a realistic picture through not just seminar papers and newspaper articles but through films as well. However, factual portrayal also demands talking about the positive transformations and ongoing efforts to that end. Those who have written column after column on Dalit issues can't see how the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) has brought about a remarkable change in the lives of hundreds of Dalit youths by promoting entrepreneurship.

Even to tackle the challenge of freeing manual scavengers from their hazardous tasks, DICCI has done some remarkable work that has sadly gone unnoticed by the Indian and foreign media. No matter how huge a transformation is taking place, the "misperception marketing" by some continues.

The origin of this habit of indulging in self-flagellation lies in our hesitation to assert our national identity, leading to a total lack of a sense of pride. Worse is the perverse mindset that makes not taking pride synonymous with being liberal, open-minded and progressive. This is a crass "woke" approach, to say the least.

One aspect of this issue is the clever trap laid by intellectuals, think tanks, universities and journals abroad, many of whom seem to issue a certificate of acceptance only to those who take pleasure in assailing their own country, especially when abroad. Those who get trapped, knowingly or otherwise, return wearing the badge of progressivism on their sleeves. It is not a mere coincidence that only those films that deal with the negative aspects of Indian society are generally considered for awards in global film festivals.

It is true that patriotism is not jingoism. But then, self-flagellation too can't be equated with being liberal and progressive.

The writer is MP, Rajya Sabha and former national vice-president of the BJP

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CALL OF JUSTICE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Thank you, justice' (IE, March 7). The doctrine of checks and balances in a democracy inhibits even the slightest possibility of arbitrariness and tyranny in the functioning of different branches of the government. The collegium system is meant to safeguard the judiciary's independence. The proposed NJAC may have noble intentions, but its structural architecture has loopholes, making it susceptible to misuse and hence it was rightly dismantled. The collegium system must introduce measures to bring transparency in its functioning.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Barasat

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Thank you, justice' (IE, March 7). The outgoing chief justice of the Rajasthan High Court, Akil Kureshi, who was denied a position in the SC despite being the senior-most chief justice in the country, laid emphasis on the role of an independent judiciary in protecting the rights of common citizens in his farewell address last week. Justice Kureshi made a dignified reference to the transfers he had faced — that were widely seen as acts of punitive shunting. Adverse judgments against governments have affected Justice Kureshi's

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● FROM 2014, WOMEN-LED DEVELOPMENT: GKISHAN REDDY

www.indianexpress.com

otherwise unblemished judicial career
SS Paul, Nadia

ADDRESS PRIVACY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Physical for digital' (IE, March 7). There is no doubt that the digital push has enhanced the convenience of citizens. However, privacy seems to be the main concern around the digital ecosystem. A law on data privacy has been long in the works. Meanwhile, an increasing number of government services, notably health, are coming under the ambit of the digital ecosystem. This, despite the fact that the Supreme Court has ruled privacy to be an essential right.

Preeti Mitra, Delhi



GOLD

₹53,784



RUPEE

₹76.93



OIL

\$111.61



SILVER

₹70,977

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of March 4

SENSEX: 52,842.75 ▼ 1,491.06 (-2.74%) NIFTY: 15,863.15 ▼ 382.20 (-2.35%) NIKKEI: 25,221.41 ▼ 764.06 HANG SENG: 21,057.63 ▼ 847.66 FTSE: 6,897.49 ▼ 89.65 DAX: 12,726.96 ▼ 367.58

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH
FINTECHBharatPe co-founder:
Grover creating 'false
narrative', board
upheld 'governance'SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE BOARD of directors of BharatPe "acted quickly and decisively to uphold good corporate governance" to remove its co-founder Ashneer Grover from all positions, the company's other co-founder Shashvat Nakrani wrote in an e-mail to employees. A copy of the mail was reviewed by *The Indian Express*.

Nakrani wrote that the company was at an annualised total payment volume (TPV) run rate of \$16 billion and its revenue was likely to rise by four times in the current fiscal, compared to the previous year.

Accusing Grover of creating a "false narrative" about BharatPe, Nakrani wrote: "What is important to note is that this is an aberration and not the norm."

Nakrani wrote the email to BharatPe employees after the company's board unseated Grover from all positions in the startup on the basis of findings of a PwC audit into the company's corporate governance practices. Nakrani, however, did not reveal PwC's findings in his email, saying the contents of its enquiry report were confidential. PwC was brought in late January, following complaints of misconduct at BharatPe.

After stripping Grover of all his positions in the company, BharatPe's board had accused him, his wife Madhuri Jain Grover and their relatives of engaging in "extensive misappropriation of company funds, including, but not limited to, creating fake vendors through which they siphoned money away from the company's expense account and grossly abused company expense accounts in order to enrich themselves and fund their lavish lifestyles". The company had also said it reserves the right to take further legal action against Grover and his family.

"Ashneer sent in his resig-

BharatPe co-founder
Shashvat Nakrani
wrote an email to
employees

nation late night on March 1, 2022 to the Board, minutes after receiving the agenda of the Board meeting on the findings of the PwC report," Nakrani is learnt to have said in his email. "Sadly, he has also gone ahead and tried to create a false narrative about the company that we have built together with the right spirit."

Grover declined to comment on this paper's queries, saying, "I have better things to do". BharatPe did not respond until publication.

Earlier in February, BharatPe had terminated the employment of Madhuri Jain Grover over alleged "misappropriation of funds".

"We are at an annualised TPV (total payment volume) run rate of \$16 billion (INR 1.2 lakh cr). Our merchant lending vertical is scaling up well; we have seen phenomenal growth and initial successes in post, and are about to cross 1,000 cr disbursements in just 5 months of launch; PAYBACK is delivering great numbers and has a lot in store," Nakrani noted. BharatPe's tussle with Grover and his wife came to light in early January shortly after an audio clip — where Ashneer allegedly using expletives against a Kotak Bank staffer — surfaced, prompting the board to look into the company's practices under Grover.

A prolonged legal battle is possible over Grover's stake in the company. As of August last year, he held 9.5 per cent stake in the company, of which 1-2 per cent are restricted shares. Sources had earlier told *The Indian Express* that BharatPe's board intends to invoke clauses from Grover's shareholder agreement to claw back on his stake — which Grover has said is worth Rs 4,000 crore.

GOLD CROSSES \$2,000/OZ ON RUSH TO SAFE-HAVEN ASSETS

Yields spike; boiling crude
oil scalds global marketsREUTERS
MUMBAI/NEW YORK, MARCH 7

BOND YIELDS surged as a sharp rise in global prices of crude oil stirred concern about domestic inflation, strengthening prospects of interest rate hikes by the Reserve Bank of India.

The country's benchmark 10-year bond yield ended trading at 6.89 per cent, up 8 basis points on the day, its biggest single-session rise since the sell-off on Budget day on February 1 when the government announced a sharply higher-than-expected market borrowing.

Brent crude soared to near \$130 a barrel, its highest since 2008, as the United States and European allies mulled a Russian oil import ban while delays in the potential return of Iranian crude to global markets fuelled tight supply fears.

By 1:34 pm ET, Brent had gained \$7.17, or 6 per cent, to \$125.28 a barrel, and WTI was up \$5.56, or 4.81 per cent, to \$121.24 a barrel. Global oil prices have spiked more



The New York Stock Exchange on Monday. On Wall Street, stocks fell nearly 2 per cent intra-day. Reuters

than 60 per cent since the start of 2022, along with other commodities, raising concerns about world economic growth and stagflation.

The United States and European allies are exploring banning imports of Russian oil, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Sunday, and the White House coordinated with key Congressional committees moving forward with their own ban. Analysts at Bank of

America said if most of Russia's oil exports are cut off, there could be a 5 million barrel per day (bpd) or larger shortfall, and that means oil prices could go as high as \$200.

On Wall Street, stocks tumbled. At 1:45 pm ET, the Dow Jones was down 592.04 points, or 1.7 per cent, at 33,022.76 while the Nasdaq Composite was down 327.20 points, or 2.03 per cent, at 15,802.46. The yield on 10-year Treasury notes was up 3.1 basis points to 1.753 per cent after falling to 1.668 per cent, its lowest since January 5. The yield on the 30-year Treasury bond was up 0.8 basis points to 2.156 per cent.



Industrial metals also lurched higher, led by nickel, as global supply chains tried to price in the possible absence of supplies from Russia, the third largest nickel producer

Commodity prices skyrocket
on fears of supply chaos

Commodity prices shot up on Monday as traders scrambled to source raw materials hit by supply disruptions caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, as per a Reuters report



Nadezhda Metallurgical Plant in Norilsk, Russia. Reuters file

Industrial metals also lurched higher, led by nickel, as global supply chains tried to price in the possible absence of supplies from Russia, the third largest nickel producer

OIL JUMPS to 2008 highs as US, Europe consider Russian import ban

WHEAT AT 14-year top as Black Sea war tightens world supplies

COMMODITY MARKETS have been shaken not only by tough Western sanctions on Russia that might be widened to include oil, but logistics turmoil that has blocked the flow of grains and metals from the region

RAW MATERIAL prices rally has sparked concerns over economic growth in countries still recovering from Covid

RUSSIA ACCOUNTS for 7% of global nickel mine production and 6% of the world's aluminium output

Exporters pitch for trade with
Russia using rupee, roubleENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

AMID THE conflict between Russia and Ukraine, exporters have proposed that the government permit trade between India and Russia using the rupee and rouble. They are also considering using alternative routes for exports to other countries in the region as, currently, most exports to such nations are routed through Russia.

The rouble has plunged against the dollar since the start of Russia's invasion into Ukraine.

"Industry has proposed rupee-rouble trade as an option to continue trade but that may be a difficult decision for the government to take," said a source, noting that the Federation of Indian Export

Organisations (FIEO) has submitted such a proposal to the government. The mechanism will likely allow for payment to be done through rupees instead of US dollars, as is done ordinarily. Inflows and outflows would likely be facilitated through accounts at state-owned banks if such a mechanism is adopted. An official said multiple ministries are monitoring the situation to assess the impact of any policy change, adding the situation was very fluid and that no decision had been taken on the proposal thus far.

The official noted that ministries were looking at options to substitute fertiliser imports from Russia and Ukraine. The two countries are also key sources for edible oil imports, accounting for about 16.8 per cent of such imports.

Russia is the fourth largest importer of Indian pharmaceutical products. Exporters are also looking to ensure that sanctions against Russia do not impact export to other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries.

Ajai Sahai, director general at FIEO, said exporters were considering alternative routes for exports to other CIS countries as most exports to these countries have thus far been routed through Russia. "We don't want trade with CIS countries to stop. Using Russian ports seems like a challenge," Sahai said. An official said the government was considering a proposal to facilitate rerouting of tea exports to the region. Indian exporters are considering routing exports to such countries via China or Georgia, according to sources.

BRIEFLY

TCS buyback

New Delhi: Tata Consultancy Services Monday said its Rs 18,000 crore share buyback offer will open on March 9 and close on March 23. PTI

CII Maharashtra

Mumbai: Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Maharashtra State Council has elected Sriram Narayanan, MD, Endress+ Hauser (India) Automation Instrumentation as new chairman of CII Maharashtra State Council 2022-23 and Robin Banerjee, MD, Caprihans India as vice chairman. ENS

White goods PLI

New Delhi: The government has reopened the application window for its production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for ACs and LED lights.

'Hiring rises'

Mumbai: Hiring activity saw a 31 per cent rise in February as multiple sectors recorded strong growth, according to a Naukri report.

'Bansalco IPO'

New Delhi: Sachin Bansal-led Navi Technologies is planning to file draft prospectus with Sebi to raise around Rs 4,000 crore via an IPO, said sources.

Sebi, Dish TV

New Delhi: Sebi directed Dish TV India Ltd to immediately disclose the results of its annual general meeting to the exchanges. PTI

'Women start
availing more
home, auto loans'ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

INDIAN WOMEN are increasing their presence in the credit market. Women are now availing more credit in the form of home loans (HL) and auto loans (AL) bringing down the share of male borrowers.

The share of female borrowers in home loans has increased by two percentage points to 31 per cent in the Rs 24,99,460 crore home loan market as of December 2021. On the other hand, the share of female borrowers in auto loans has gone up by two percentage points to Rs 4,57,041 crore, according to CRIF High Mark, a credit in-

formation bureau.

The share of female borrowers availing business and personal loans has increased by one percentage each to 23 per cent and 17 per cent respectively over the last one year, it said.

CRIF High Mark said personal loans to female borrowers have spiked by 42 per cent Y-o-Y as of December 2021, while home loans have increased by 22 per cent. Auto loans and business loans to female borrowers have increased by 14 per cent and 13 per cent respectively as of December 2021, it said. "Female borrowers from southern states have higher credit exposure compared to western and northern states," CRIF High Mark said.

Goyal: Looking to advance CEPA
with Bangladesh in coming daysENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

COMMERCE AND Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday said the government wanted to move forward with a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with Bangladesh and called for greater cooperation between the countries in areas such as defence and pharmaceuticals production.

In FY21, trade with Bangladesh accounted for about 3.3 per cent of exports at \$9.7 billion and 0.3 per cent of imports at \$1.3 billion.

"We need to give more impetus to joint production of defence equipment. Our defence cooperation has not progressed though India offered a \$500 million dollars line of credit. The time has come to take it to the next level,"

PIYUSH GOYAL
Commerce Minister

Goyal said at a virtual India-Bangladesh stakeholder's meet. In 2019, India had announced a \$500 million line of credit to Bangladesh for defence related procurement.

"We look to advance a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with Bangladesh in the days to come," Goyal said. India is currently in the process of negotiat-

ing free trade agreements with the UK, EU, Australia, Canada and Israel and has recently concluded an FTA with the UAE. He added the two countries should look at joint development programme for vaccines and other medicines and become "pharmacy of the world."

He suggested increased cooperation in defence and pharmaceuticals production as two of the four focus areas to strengthen economic ties between the countries. The Minister also suggested building uninterrupted resilient supply chains and exploring potential areas of investments such as textile, jute products, leather and footwear as two other focus areas.

He added the total of \$8 billion extended to Bangladesh, through three lines of credit, was the largest concessional credit given by India to any single country.

Future Group
cos to convene
shareholder,
creditor meet

New Delhi: Future Group companies would convene meetings of their respective shareholders and creditors between April 20 and April 23, 2022 to get their approval for the proposed Rs 24,713 crore deal with Reliance Retail.

Listed Future Group entities such as Future Consumer Ltd updated bourses about the dates. The deal would go ahead amid Reliance Retail taking over the operations of at least 300 stores of Future Retail. ENS, WITH PTI

Equalisation levy a 'sovereign
right; not unilateral measure: FM

New Delhi: Justifying the 2 per cent equalisation levy (EL) imposed by India on the supply of services by multinational enterprises, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said it is a sovereign right to tax revenues earned from operations in the country.

"Equalisation levy is not a unilateral measure... we are not an exception as many countries have done so," Sitharaman said in a post-Budget conference in Bengaluru.

Companies like Netflix and Facebook get their consumers in



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Bengaluru, on Monday. PTI

a large country like India. "It's important for the industry to stand up and tell their international sell-

ers that India deserves to tax this," she said.

In October 2021, G20 countries approved a global deal to adopt a 15 per cent minimum corporate tax and reallocate taxing rights for large profitable multinational enterprises (MNEs) to countries where they sell products and services.

Meanwhile, Sitharaman also pulled up tax boards for allegedly not responding to grievances of the tax assesses and directed their officials to reserve Saturdays to hold meetings with them, as per a PTI report. FE, WITH PTI

Major card networks
go offline in Russia:
What's the alternativePRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

AMERICAN CARD network operators Visa, Mastercard and American Express have suspended their services in Russia in light of the sanctions imposed on Russia by the US as a result of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

Can you use Visa or Mastercard
in Russia?

Suspension of services by card networks like Visa, Mastercard and American Express means that any cards issued by banks globally on these networks will not work anymore in Russia at point of sale terminals or ATMs. Further, cards issued by Russian banks on these networks will also stop working outside the country.

Is there an alternative to Visa
and Mastercard in Russia?

In the aftermath of similar US sanctions on Russia in 2014 where card networks like Visa and Mastercard had denied services to Russian banks, Russia formalised its own payments system Mir, which was launched subsequently in 2015. Additionally, according to a Reuters report, Russia's central bank said many Russian banks plan to issue cards using China's UnionPay, a payments system it

KEY POINTS

1 Suspension of services by card networks like Visa, Mastercard and American Express means any cards issued by banks globally on these networks will not work anymore in Russia at ATMs

2 Cards issued by Russian banks on these networks will also stop working outside the country

3 Russia formalised its own payments system Mir, which was launched subsequently in 2015

What is the impact of the card network ban?

While Russian banks have downplayed the impact of the ban, suggesting shoppers will be able to use cards issued by Visa or Mastercard till expiry, card networks have said any cards issued abroad won't work in Russia. Globally, barring China, Visa and Mastercard control nearly 90 per cent of credit and debit card payments.

Exporters pitch for trade with
Russia using rupee, rouble

Organisations (FIEO) has submitted such a proposal to the government. The mechanism will likely allow for payment to be done through rupees instead of US dollars, as is done ordinarily. Inflows and outflows would likely be facilitated through accounts at state-owned banks if such a mechanism is adopted. An official said multiple ministries are monitoring the situation to assess the impact of any policy change, adding the situation was very fluid and that no decision had been taken on the proposal thus far.

The official noted that ministries were looking at options to substitute fertiliser imports from Russia and Ukraine. The two countries are also key sources for edible oil imports, accounting for about 16.8 per cent of such imports.

Russia is the fourth largest importer of Indian pharmaceutical products. Exporters are also looking to ensure that sanctions against Russia do not impact export to other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries.

Ajai Sahai, director general at FIEO, said exporters were considering alternative routes for exports to other CIS countries as most exports to these countries have thus far been routed through Russia. "We don't want trade with CIS countries to stop. Using Russian ports seems like a challenge," Sahai said. An official said the government was considering a proposal to facilitate rerouting of tea exports to the region. Indian exporters are considering routing exports to such countries via China or Georgia, according to sources.

e-Shram registrations
touch 25 crore: YadavENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

REGISTRATIONS ON e-Shram portal, the database for unorganised sector workers, have reached 25 crore, Union Minister for Labour and Employment Bhupendra Yadav on Monday said. The Minister also launched the 'Donate-a-Pension' initiative under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) pension scheme, where the citizen can donate the premium contribution of their immediate support staff such as domestic workers, drivers, helpers, caregivers, nurses, in their household or establishment.

Under 'Donate-a-Pension', the donor can pay a contribution on behalf of his/her employee for any length of time, with the minimum donation amount at Rs 660 and maximum up to Rs 2,400 per year

depending on the age of the beneficiary. The PM-SYM scheme, launched in 2019 to provide a monthly assured pension of Rs 3,000 to unorganised workers, is a co-contributory scheme and the premium ranges from Rs 55 to Rs 200 per month. The equal matching contribution is provided by the central government.

Yadav also stated that the eSHRAM portal has been linked to the government's UMANG app, which provides access to central and state government services, and National Career Services (NCS) portal. In August 2021, the minister had launched the e-Shram portal to create a database of workers in the unorganised sector, estimated to be around 38 crore. Through the portal, the government aims to register unorganised sector workers such as construction labourers, migrant workforce, street vendors and domestic workers.

Sharing confidential
info major cause
for frauds, says RBI

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said sharing confidential information by the customers, knowingly or unknowingly, is one of the major causes leading to the financial frauds.

"Fraudsters are finding new ways to defraud the gullible public through various ingenious methods," the RBI said in a booklet "BE(A)WARE" on the common modus operandi used by fraudsters and precautions to be taken. Imposters pressurise or trick



The Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai. File

customers into sharing confidential details such as passwords by citing emergency. ENS

Microsoft to
set up ₹15K-cr
data centre in
Hyderabad

New Delhi: Microsoft will establish its largest and fourth data centre in the country in Hyderabad with an investment of Rs 15,000 crore over a period of 15 years. The company already has data centres in Pune, Mumbai and Chennai.

Microsoft said the strategic investment is aligned with its commitment to help customers thrive in a cloud and AI-enabled digital economy and will become part of the world's largest cloud infrastructure. FE



MEANWHILE

SITUATION GETTING WORSE EVERY DAY: MACRON

French President Emmanuel Macron said that the situation in Ukraine was getting worse every day, and that France will continue to put pressure on Russia through sanctions. "The situation is worsening each day. People die, fatigue settles in... We have not managed to obtain a ceasefire," Macron told LCI television.

Zelenskyy warns of renewed Russian attacks



A man leaves the town after days of heavy shelling in Irpin, near Kyiv on Monday. Reuters

Russia chief strategic partner, friendship iron clad, says China

AP & REUTERS
BEIJING, MARCH 7

CHINA'S FOREIGN Minister on Monday called Russia Beijing's "most important strategic partner," amid its continued refusal to condemn the invasion of Ukraine. Wang Yi said ties with Moscow constituted "one of the most crucial bilateral relationships in the world."

"No matter how perilous the international landscape, we will maintain our strategic focus and promote the development of comprehensive China-Russia partnership in the new era," Wang told reporters at a news conference on the sidelines of the annual meeting of China's ceremonial parliament.

"The friendship between the two peoples is iron clad," he added. China has broken with the US, Europe and others that have imposed sanctions on Russia after its invasion of Ukraine. China says that the sov-



China said it will maintain strategic focus and promote partnership with Russia. Reuters File

ereignty and territorial integrity of all nations should be respected, but that sanctions create new issues and disrupt the process of a political settlement.

Much attention has been paid to a meeting between Chinese leader Xi Jinping and President Vladimir Putin in Beijing on Feb. 4, after which the sides issued a joint statement affirming "their strong mutual support for the pro-

tection of their core interests."

Russia endorsed China's view of Taiwan as an "inalienable part of China, and opposes any forms of independence of Taiwan," while China backed Russia in opposing the further enlargement of NATO.

"Solving complex problems requires calmness and rationality, rather than adding fuel to the fire and intensifying contradictions," Yi said on the sidelines of the annual meeting of China's parliament.

China has already done "some work" to promote peace talks and has all along been in contact with all sides, he added.

"China is willing to continue to play a constructive role in pushing for peace and promoting talks, and is willing to work with the international community to carry out necessary mediation when needed."

China proposes that "humanitarian action" must abide by the principles of neutrality and impartiality, and humanitarian issues should not be politicised, he added.

Moscow sets ceasefire for evacuations; diplomats of both sides to meet on Thursday

AGENCIES
LVIV, MARCH 7

PRESIDENT VOLODYMYR Zelenskyy warned Ukraine on Monday to expect a renewed bombardment of major cities, as Russian forces attempt to renew their assault after being stalled by stiff resistance and suffering unexpected heavy losses. "It is murder, simply murder," he said in a speech aired overnight.

Russia steps up increasingly indiscriminate assaults on civilian targets and infrastructure, fears were growing on Monday that thousands of Ukrainians could die in the coming days if urgent relief

does not arrive soon and humanitarian ceasefires fail to take hold.

Ukraine dismissed a Kremlin proposal to evacuate hundreds of thousands of people not to the West, but to Russia and its ally Belarus, as a cynical attempt to distract from its failure to stop shelling "evacuation corridors" where civilians are attempting to flee. Oleksiy Danilov, the head of Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council, accused Russia of blocking relief from reaching those most in need.

An adviser to Zelenskyy, Mykhailo Podoliak, said 202 schools, 34 hospitals and more than 1,500 residential buildings have been destroyed since the war began, and that nearly 1,000

towns and villages are completely deprived of electricity, water and heat. The two sides met for a third round of talks Monday, according to Russian state media, though hopes for any breakthrough were dim.

The countries' foreign ministers are also scheduled to meet in Turkey on Thursday, according to that country's top diplomat. Russia announced yet another limited ceasefire and the establishment of safe corridors to allow civilians to flee some besieged Ukrainian cities Monday.

Russian forces continued to pummel some Ukrainian cities with rockets even after the new announcement of corridors and

fierce fighting continued in some areas, indicating there would be no wider cessation of hostilities.

The bodies of at least 13 civilians were recovered from rubble after factory in the town of Makariv in the Kyiv region was hit, local emergency services said. Five people were rescued of the 30 believed to have been there at the time.

In Kyiv, soldiers and volunteers have built hundreds of checkpoints, often using sandbags, stacked tires and spiked cables. Some barriers looked significant, with heavy concrete slabs and sandbags piled more than two stories high, while others appeared more haphazard, with hundreds of books used to weigh down stacks of tires.

Kremlin: Russia will stop in a moment if Kyiv meets terms

London: Russia has told Ukraine it is ready to halt military operations "in a moment" if Kyiv meets a list of conditions, the Kremlin spokesman said on Monday.

Dmitry Peskov said Moscow was demanding Ukraine cease military action, change its constitution to enshrine neutrality, acknowledge Crimea as Russian territory, and recognise the separatist republics of Donetsk and Lugansk as independent states.

It was the most explicit Russian statement so far of the terms it wants to impose on Ukraine to halt what it calls its "special military operation", now in its 12th day.

Peskov told Reuters that Ukraine was aware of the conditions. "And they were told that all this can be stopped in a moment."

There was no immediate reaction from the Ukrainian side.

The Kremlin spokesman insisted Russia was not seeking to make any further territorial claims on Ukraine and said it was "not true" that it was demanding Kyiv be handed over. "We really are finishing the demilitarisation of Ukraine. We will finish it. But the main thing is that Ukraine ceases its military action. They should stop their military action and then no one will shoot," he said. REUTERS

IN BRIEF



A member of the Ukrainian armed forces helps to evacuate a child from the town of Irpin, on Monday. Reuters

Refugee numbers up to 1.7 mn: UN

The United Nations' refugee agency says the number of people who have fled the war in Ukraine has increased to over 1.7 million. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees on Monday put the number of people who have arrived in other countries since February 24 at some 1.735 million. That's up from more than 1.53 million on Sunday. Nearly three-fifths of the total - nearly 1.03 million - arrived in Poland, according to the agency. Over 180,000 went to Hungary and 128,000 to Slovakia. AP

Russia snubs UN court hearings

Ukraine pleaded with the United Nations' top court Monday to order Russia to halt its devastating invasion, saying Moscow is already committing widespread war crimes and "resorting to tactics reminiscent of medieval siege warfare" in its 12-day-old military onslaught. Russia snubbed the International Court of Justice hearings and its seats in the Great Hall of Justice remained empty. "The fact that Russia's seats are empty speaks loudly. They are not here in this court of law: they are on a battlefield waging an aggressive war against my country," Ukrainian envoy Anton Korynevych said. Agencies

US assures Baltics of NATO security

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Monday assured Lithuania of NATO protection and American support as he began a lightning visit to the three Baltic states that are increasingly on edge as Russia presses ahead with its invasion of Ukraine. The former Soviet republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia are all NATO members and Blinken is aiming to reassure them of their security in the event Russia chooses to expand its military operations. "We are bolstering our shared defence so that we and our allies are prepared," Blinken said, stressing that the US commitment to NATO's mutual defense pact is "sacrosanct." AP



Police detain an anti-war protester in Yekaterinburg on Sunday. Reuters

4,300 anti-war protesters detained in Moscow: Police

London: Police detained more than 4,300 people on Sunday at Russia-wide protests against President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine, according to an independent protest monitoring group.

Thousands of protesters chanted "No to war!" and "Shame on you!", according to videos posted on social media by opposition activists and bloggers.

Dozens of protesters in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg were shown being detained. One protester there was shown being beaten on the ground by police in riot gear. A mural in the city

showing Putin was defaced.

Russia's interior ministry said earlier that police had detained around 3,500 people, including 1,700 in Moscow, 750 in St Petersburg and 1,061 in other cities. The interior ministry said 5,200 people had taken part in the protests. The OVD-Info protest monitoring group said it had documented the detention of at least 4,366 people in 56 different cities.

"The screws are being fully tightened - essentially we are witnessing military censorship," Maria Kuznetsova, OVD-Info's spokeswoman, said by telephone from Tbilisi. REUTERS

Netflix, TikTok block services in Russia

MATTO O'BRIEN
MARCH 7

NETFLIX AND TIKTOK suspended most of their services in Russia on Sunday as the government cracks down on what people and media outlets can say about Russia's war in Ukraine.

Pulling the plug on online entertainment - and information - is likely to further isolate the country and its people.

US credit card companies Visa,



Users will no longer be able to post new videos or livestreams, Tik Tok said. AP

Mastercard and American Express all said over the weekend they

would cut service in Russia. South Korea's Samsung Electronics said it would halt product shipments to the country. Netflix didn't specify a reason for suspending services Sunday except to say it reflected "circumstances on the ground." The company had previously said it would refuse to air Russian state TV channels.

TikTok said Russian users of its popular social media app would no longer be able to post new videos or livestreams and they also wouldn't be able to see videos shared from elsewhere in the world. "In light of

Russia's new 'fake news' law, we have no choice but to suspend livestreaming and new content to our video service while we review the safety implications of this law," TikTok said. "Our in-app messaging service will not be affected."

TikTok spokesperson Hilary McQuaide said the TikTok app in Russia now appears in "view-only" mode and won't let people post or see new videos or livestreams. They can still see older videos, but not if they came from outside the country, she said. AP

'I want to feel safe': Ukraine youth orchestra now refugees

Zahony: The violin was so beloved by Myroslava Sherbina it was the one item she took as she fled Ukraine, along with the clothes she wore. But the instrument has remained silent since the start of Russia's invasion of her country. "I didn't want to play so I could hear the sirens and we could go to the bomb shelter," the 20-year-old Sherbina said.

She is among the more than 1.7 million people who have fled Ukraine in what the United Nations calls Europe's fastest-

growing refugee crisis since World War II. The number is up from 1.5 million on Sunday, the U.N. refugee agency said.

Sherbina spoke to The Associated Press at a train station in Hungary, one of dozens of musicians with the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine who are now refugees. But that wasn't the end of their journey. They were on their way to Slovenia as part of a joint evacuation mission with a Slovenian orchestra.

"There's a group of about 90



Refugees wait in a crowd for transportation in Medyka, Poland on Monday. AP

people coming to this particular train station," said Uros Dokl, a volunteer from Slovenia who came the 665 kilometres (413 miles) to greet the orchestra members. "Not all of them are members of the orchestra, but they are young people playing music, and young people of course need guidance."

Sherbina, the violin player, said she's confident the war in Ukraine will end soon and she'll be able to return to home. Until then, she'll refine her skills in Slovenia, a country she's never visited. AP

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

Global toll surpasses 6 million as pandemic enters third year

DAVID RISING
BANGKOK, MARCH 7

THE OFFICIAL global death toll from Covid-19 eclipsed 6 million on Monday - underscoring that the pandemic, now entering its third year, is far from over.

The milestone, recorded by Johns Hopkins University, is the latest tragic reminder of the unrelenting nature of the pandemic even as people are shedding masks, travel is resuming and businesses are reopening around the globe.

Remote Pacific islands, whose isolation had protected them for more than two years, are just now grappling with their first outbreaks and deaths, fueled by the Omicron variant.

Hong Kong, which is seeing deaths soar, is testing its entire population of 7.5 million three times



Crowds of masked people visit the Christmas market in Frankfurt. AP FILE

this month as it clings to mainland China's "zero-Covid" strategy.

And despite its wealth and vaccine availability, the United States is nearing 1 million reported deaths on its own.

Death rates worldwide are still highest among people unvaccinated against the virus, said Tikki

Pang, a visiting professor at the National University of Singapore's medical school. "This is a disease of the unvaccinated - look what is happening in Hong Kong right now, the health system is being overwhelmed," said Pang, the former director of research policy and cooperation with the World Health Organization. "The large majority of the deaths and the severe cases are in the unvaccinated, vulnerable segment."

It took the world seven months to record its first million deaths after the pandemic began in early 2020. Four months later another million people had died, and 1 million have died every three months since, until the toll hit 5 million in October end. Now it has reached 6 million - more than the populations of Berlin and Brussels combined, or the entire state of Maryland. AP

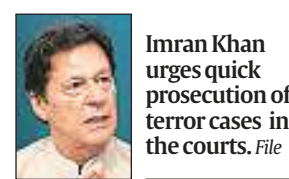
Imran Khan vows 'zero tolerance' for terrorists

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, MARCH 7

PRIME MINISTER Imran Khan on Monday vowed "zero tolerance" for terrorists as he urged for quick prosecution of the cases of terrorism in the courts, days after a suicide bomber killed 63 people and wounded over 200 others in a Shia mosque in northwest Pakistan.

Khan chaired a meeting of the Apex Committee on National Action Plan (NAP), which was launched in 2015 to eliminate terrorism from the country. Army Chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa and several top ministers attended the meeting.

According to a statement from the PM Office, Khan said that the "Government has zero tolerance for terrorists and swift prosecution is required to set an example out of



Imran Khan urges quick prosecution of terror cases in the courts. File

terrorist elements." He emphasised that multi-pronged approach, full spectrum and vigorous implementation of NAP is required to thwart threat of terrorism. He also stressed upon taking proactive measures to tackle such incidents in future.

Khan stated that nefarious designs to destabilise the country would never succeed as the entire nation is united to defeat the menace of terrorism. He stated that the public realises that elements are trying to create disharmony on the basis of sectarianism and hate speech, but the State will never allow such designs to succeed. PTI

Former Pakistan President Rafiq Tarar dies at 92

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LAHORE, MARCH 7

Rafiq Tarar, a former Pakistani judge who served as the country's President from 1997 to 2001, died on Monday in the eastern city of Lahore after a prolonged illness at the age of 92.

Tarar's grandson, Azam Tarar, announced on Twitter that his grandfather had died.

Pakistan's President Arif Ali, Prime Minister Imran Khan and prominent politicians expressed their grief, along with the country's military chief, Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa. Tarar was elected the country's president after the party of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif backed him in the presidential election in 1997. Tarar was a close friend of Sharif, who won the parliamentary elections in 1997.

China slams Washington over Quad, North Korea

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING, MARCH 7

CHINA'S TOP diplomat on Monday accused Washington of trying to create an Asian version of the US-European NATO military alliance and said it is up to the Biden administration to improve relations with North Korea.

US policy toward East Asia and the Indian Ocean and efforts to strengthen military ties with Japan, Australia and India are a "disaster that disrupts regional peace and stability," Wang Yi said at a news conference. The comments reflected the ruling Communist Party's ambitions to be Asia's undisputed power and its frustration with resistance from neighbours to its territorial claims in the South China Sea and the Himalayas.

Wang complained Washington is organising US al-

lies to "suppress China."

Beijing is irritated by growing military ties among the Quad nations of the United States, Japan, Australia and India. China criticised a US decision last year to supply technology for Australia to field its first nuclear-powered submarines.

"The real purpose of the Indo-Pacific strategy" is to create an Indo-Pacific version of NATO," he said. Beijing's assertive foreign policy and claims to disputed territories in the South China Sea and the Himalayas have antagonised Japan, India and other neighbours.

Wang called on the Biden administration to revive the spirit of the 1970s agreements that opened US relations with the communist Beijing government. "The US still spares no effort to carry out intense competition with China, constantly attacking and provoking trouble on issues regarding China's core interests," Wang said.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,Kumar Suryansh Thakur S/o Anil Thakur R/o,C-282, Chanakya Marg,Chajipur Shahdara,Delhi-110032,inform that Kumar Suryansh Thakur & Suryansh Thakur both name are one and same person. My correct name is Kumar Suryansh Thakur.

0406065456-1

ISRI PRAKASH GUPTA,SON OF,LATE BINDESHWARI PRASAD,VILL+PO-FULWARIA, DISTT-CHHAPRA,BIHAR PIN-841460,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME,FROM SRI PRAKASH GUPTA TO PRAKASH GUPTA, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT DATED.7-3-2022.

0406065485-10

I,ZAIN AHMAD, S/O,ZAKI AHMAD, ADD-1671,GALI SHABAN KHAN ROD GRAN CENTRAL DELHI-110006, CHANGED changed my name to ZAINUL ABEDEEN, permanently.

0406065492-4

ITosiba W/O-Mohd Saleem R/O Kucha No-177,Pataudi Village Kuch Dakhni,Rai Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002,Have Changed My Name To Tosifa Begum For all,Future Purposes.

0406065498-11

I,Sumit Shokken S/o-Anoop Shokeen R/o Kaba Pana Pol-75,Chhawla, South West Delhi-110071, have changed my name to Sumit Shokeen, for all purposes.

0406065492-3

ISiyandar Sharma alias Siyanand Bhardwaj alias Siyanand S/o Nandlal R/O AA-287,Shalimar Bagh Delhi-110088,changed my name to Siyanand.

0406065486-4

I,Seema Rani W/o-Manoj Ahuja,H.No.3143,Mahendra Park, Rani Bagh, Saraswati Vihar,Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Seema Ahuja,Permanently

0406065485-7

ISatinder Kaur D/o-Pirthal Singh R/o-J-1/295 DDA-FLATS KALKAJI DELHI 110019,HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR SON NAME,FROM AARUSH TO IJOT SINGH.

0406065485-8

ISanjay Gupta,S/o Shri.Om Prakash Gupta,R/o B-692, J.J. Colony,Tigri, New-Delhi-110080,have changed my name from Sanjay Gupta to Sanjay Kumar Gupta, for all purposes.

0406065485-9

I,Reet Goel D/o Ankur Kumar Goyal R/o-131 Surya Niketan, Vikas-Marg Delhi-110092,have changed my name to Ritika Goyal, for all purposes.

0406065485-2

IRajendra Kumar Sagar S/o Daya Sagar R/o-4/2822-A Gali No.2,Bihari Colony,Shahdara Delhi-110032,have changed my name to Rajendra Kumar, for all purposes.

0406065485-6

IRAJESH SINGH S/O GANDHARB SINGH R/O HNO.P-7/4, TARAPUR ENCLAVE, RANPURJI,DELHI-110070.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJESH FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0406065498-7

IPrince Kumar S/o,yagpal Singh R/o, RZ-121,Deep enclave Vikas nagar, Uttam nagar,New Delhi-110059,have changed my name to Pokhraj.

0406065486-3

IParmjeet Kaur Arora,W/o Surender Singh R/o-87,DDA-Flats,Pocket-10 Dwarka,Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Parmjeet Kaur.

0406065492-9

IPankaj Dua,S/O Ram Lal Dua,R/O A-44,Anand Vihar,Uttam Nagar,New-Delhi-110059,Have Changed my Minor Daughter's Name Lavaya Dua to Lavaya.

0406065486-9

IPRIYANKA AGRAWAL W/O-MANOJ KUMAR AGGARWAL R/O-HOUSE.No.902,THE VIJETA GROUP HOUSING SOCIETY, SECTOR-2,PLOT.No.23-24, BALLABHGARH 121004,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PRIYANKA AGGARWAL.FOR ALL PURPOSE.

0406065492-8

IPREM KUMAR S/O HIRA LAL R/O/H.NO-11 BHIM GALI BHAGWAN NAGAR ASHRAM DELHI-110014, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME PREM KUMAR TO PREM KUMAR GUPTA.

0406065498-2

INisha Khari W/o Pawan Kumar Khari R/O RZA-19/B,Gali No.-5, Puri Prahlad-Pur, New Delhi-110044,have changed my name to Manisha Khari.

0406065486-1

INeha Panjwani,W/O-Shri Nitin Vatwani,R/O-H-39,Ashok Vihar,Phase-1, Delhi-110052,have changed my name to Neha Panjwani Vatwani.

0406065492-11

INaveen Kumar Chauhan,S/o Ashok Kumar Chauhan,R/o-103,Gali No.4, Bhadana-Chowk,Nagla-Enclave Part-2,Faridabad(Haryana)-121005, have changed my name to Naveen Chauhan.

0406065498-8

IKETAN S/O VIJAY KUMAR CHOUDHARY R/O D-156, ANTRIKSH APARTMENT, SECTOR-14 EXT.N,ROHINI, DELHI-110085,CHANGED MY NAME TO KETAN CHOUDHARY.

0406065498-4

IVishnu Kumar S/O Subhash R/O H.No.147, Faridabad, Haryana changed my name to Vishnu Kumar.

0406065520-3

I,NIITIKSHA D/O AJAY KUMAR R/O 27-D,POLICE COLONY, MODEL TOWN-II,DELHI-110009,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NIITIKSHA NAIN.

0406065492-1

IRana Tabassum D/o Hashim Ali Ansari W/o Furkan Ahmed R/o 39A, Third Floor, Amrit Nagar, Near NDSE - Part -I, New Delhi-110003,have changed my name to Raina Ahmed for all future purposes.

0406065323-9

IManlot Singh S/o Gurmeet Singh Saluja R/o,Plot.no.5 floor F-1,Main Shanti Kunj, Vasant Kunj New Delhi-110070,have changed my name to Manlot Singh Saluja,for all future purpose.

0406065498-10

IKamal S/O-Ashok kumar,R/O-Palm Olympia,Flat No-92, Tower.No.11,Sector-16-C, Greater-Noida-West, Gautambudh Nagar,Utther-Pradesh-201308,Have Changed My Name To Kamal Bhasin, For All Purposes.

0406065485-3

I,JaI Prakash Singh S/o Ramadhar Singh R/o 1/6732,S/F, East Rohtas Nagar,Shahdara,North East,Delhi-32,have changed my name to Jay Prakash Singh all,purposes.

0406065498-9

ILindira Devi Nambiath Ramachandran,w/o Rajan Thamarasayeri Narayanan,R/O E-10,Type-IV, 10th-Floor, Tower.No-8,NBCC-Building, Kidwai Nagar, Delhi-110023,has changed my name to Indira Rajan,permanently

0406065498-11

I,ASHIMA SETHI , w/o SUSHANT LONGANI, R/o of F-80, Sector 41, Noida- 201303, UTTAR Pradesh,have changed my minor daughter's name from AURA ALOK to AURA SETHI.

0406065485-1

I,GURUDAYAL SINGH,S/O BHAJAN SINGH RESIDENT 368/12,DELHI ROAD,DELHI CAMP,SONIPAT,HARYANA HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GURDIAL SINGH.

0406065498-2

I,Bhaskar Bhatt,S/o Devi Dutt Bhatt,R/o House.No.115, Sector-12, Holi-Child auxilium-School South-West,Delhi-110022,have changed my minor daughter's name,from Yanni Bhatt aged-07-years to Navya Bhatt,for all purposes.

0406065498-11

I,Harish Kumar S/O JAGAN SINGH R/O 174/1 HARI-NAGAR ASHRAM DELHI-110014,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME HARISH KUMAR TO HARISH NAGAR.

0406065485-1

I,GURUDAYAL SINGH,S/O BHAJAN SINGH RESIDENT 368/12,DELHI ROAD,DELHI CAMP,SONIPAT,HARYANA HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GURDIAL SINGH.

0406065498-2

I,ASHA W/O SHIV MOHAN R/O E-14,GALINO.10,GURU-NANK ROAD,ADARSH NAGAR,DELHI-110033. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ASHA MIGLANI.

0406065498-5

ISamrajthi Kochar S/o Swarnjit Singh R/o 18A Road No-71, Punjabi Bagh west,Delhi-110026, have changed my name to SAMRATHJIT SINGH permanently. SAMRATHJIT SINGH AND SAMRATHJIT KOCHAR both are same and one person.

0406065438-1

IRAGHUVENDER, S/O Shri Ajit Singh R/O Plot No-7, Ground Floor,Block-G, Street No.8.1, Emilia Independent Floors, Sector-82, Vatika India Next, Sikanderpur, Gurgaon, Haryana-122004, have changed my minor (DOB: 13.08.2015) son's name from SIDDHARTH to SIDDHARTH RAGHU for all Future Purposes.

0406065448-1

IShashika Sachdev R/O Pankaj Sachdev, R/O G-39, jangpura extension, New Delhi-110014, have changed my name to Shashika Sachdev vide notarized affidavit dated 14/01/2022 at New Delhi

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केंद्रीय विद्यालय सेक्टर 12, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली
निविदा सूचना
केन्द्रीय विद्यालय, सेक्टर 12, द्वारका, द्वारा योग्य एवं अनुभवी सूत्रा एजेंसियों से विद्यालय के परिसर में "24 घंटे पररा एडिंग मशीन, सफाई मशीन" आदि सेवाएं प्रदान करने हेतु मुरकब निविदाएं (सूत्र 2022-23) आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। इच्छुक एजेंसियों, निविदा दस्तावेज दिनांक 08.03.2022 से 29.03.2022 के दौरान समस्त कार्य दिवसों पर सुबह 11.00 बजे से 2.00 बजे तक रु. 2000/- पे ऑर्डर/ डिमांड ड्राफ्ट (KV SEC-12, DWARKA, DELHI) के द्वारा आभार का प्राद कर सकते हैं। निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 29.03.2022 दोपहर 01.00 बजे तक है। निविदा फॉर्म के साथ विस्तृत जानकारी कृपया हमारी वेबसाइट <https://dwarkasec12.kvs.ac.in/> से डाउनलोड भी की जा सकती है लेकिन रु. 2000/- देकर फीस के रूप में निविदा के साथ कार्यालय में जमा करना आवश्यक है। देकर दिनांक 29.03.2022 को दोपहर 02.00 बजे खोले जायेंगे। प्रत्येक निविदा फॉर्म के लिए ई.एम.डी. केवल डिमांड ड्राफ्ट द्वारा ही खीकार करी जायगी।
प्राचार्य

राजस्थान स्कूल शिक्षा परिषद्, जयपुर
सर्वपल्ली डॉ. राधाकृष्ण शिक्षा संकुल, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, जयपुर
फोन 0141-2700366, E-Mail : rajssa.acctt@yahoo.co.in
क्रमांक : RSCSE/ICT/Diksha/Studio / 2021-22 / 2038 दिनांक : 06.03.2022
बोली आमंत्रण सूचना 16/2021-22
इच्छुक बोलीदाताओं से स्टाडियों क्लासरूम और वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग उपकरणों की आपूर्ति, स्थापना, परीक्षण, प्रारम्भ एवं प्रशिक्षण हेतु दो वर्ष की अनुभव्य की अवधि के लिए संशोधन अनुसार दिनांक 30.03.2022 को समय 6.00 P.M. तक ई-बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोली के अर्थ विवरण www.sppr.raj.gov.in, www.eproc.Rajasthan.gov.in तथा वित्तीय पोर्टल www.rajsama.nic.in पर देखे जा सकते हैं।
UBN:RSE2122GL0800869 Est.cost: 52.2 Lacs
ख.सं.सं.सं./री/21/12474 राज्य परिषोजना निदेशक

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE ADDL.CHIEF ENGINEER (M-10)
ENGINEERS BHAWAN, 2nd FLOOR, ANDREWS GANJ,
NEAR MOOL CHAND CROSSING, NEW DELHI-110049 Mail:- acem10.djb@gmail.com
NIT No.26/ACE (M-10)/EE (T) M-10/2021-22
Press Tender

S. No.	Name of Work	Reserve price	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date and time for download & RTGS through e-procurement solution
1	Replacement of 900/800/700mm dia PSC water line emanating from Jal Vihar to Sewa Nagar Flyover in front of Railway Colony booking office under EE(M)-42 Kasturba Nagar (Re-invite)	7599085/-	2021_DUB_218231_5	22.3.2022 upto 2.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1227 (2021-22)
Sd/- (B.N.Gupta)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T) M-10
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY GREEN AREA
Tender Notice No. /TSK/Engg/03 of 2022, Dated: 03-03-2022. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work:
Brief Description of Item: Tinsukia Division: Development of Environment Friendly Green Area along with protection of Brahmaputra Bank (Part-III). Tender Value: ₹ 3,29,70,641/-, Earnest Money: ₹ 3,14,500/- Closing of 15:00 hrs. and opening of 15:00 hrs. on 28-03-2022. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. on 28-03-2022 in website www.ireps.gov.in
DRM (W), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers with a Smile

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL (APS), NEW CANTT, ALLAHABAD
Tele No : 0532-2420772, email : armyschoolalld@gmail.com
School website : armypublicschoolalld.org
Sealed Tenders are invited for purchase of Servo Voltage Stabilizer 150 KVA, and applications are invited for Empanelment of Architect, Chartered Accountants, Registration of Vendors. Tenders and applications are invited on or before 28 Mar 2022. Details of tenders/quotation are available at school website.
PRINCIPAL

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
The Deputy Chief Engineer/Survey & Const-II, Tilak Bridge, Northern Railway, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for the following work:

1. Full Name of work	Carrying out Preliminary Engineering Cum Traffic Survey (PETS) and preparation of project report for new railway line between Nemisharanya- Farrukhabad via Hardoi (112 kms.); including Levelling, alignment designing, soil exploration, preparation of plans, L-sections etc., bill of quantities and other ancillary activities related as per the scope of work and tender schedule.
2. Approx. Cost of work;	Rs. 48,63,528.40 Lakhs
3. Completion period of the work	04 Months (Four Months)
4. Earnest Money to be deposited	₹ 77,300
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 07.03.2022 to 29.03.2022 upto 11.30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tenders	29.03.2022 upto 11.30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 15.03.2022 to 29.3.2022
7. Date and time of opening of tender	29.03.2022 at 11.30 hours (immediately after close of uploading of tender).

Tender Notice No. S-C-JI-TKJ-NM-HRI-FBD-2022 Dated: 07/03/2022 480/2022
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (W) PROJECT-I
THROUGH OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PROJECT)W-III
ROOM NO.402 VARUNALAYA PHASE I,
KAROL BAGH NEW DELHI-110005
Press N.I.T. NO. 03 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Date of Published on e-procurement portal/ Tender ID	Last date and Time of Tender
1.	Replacement of damaged portion of 800 mm dia Rainey Well rising main emanating from P-series Rainey Wells at NH-24 near Nizamuddin Bridge.	1,33,53,206/-	2,67,500/-	07.03.2022 2022_DUB_218225_1	25.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM

It is for publishing in the leading news paper please. Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1220 (2021-22)
Sd/- (S. K. Goel)
Executive Engineer (Project) W-III
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION
ANNUAL REPAIR CONTRACT OF ELDYNE
Tender Notice No. S&TBRC21-2231/SIG-R DL03.03.2022
Sr.DS/TE/Vadodara acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against tender No. S&T... BRC 21-22_31_SIG-R. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. (1) Name of the Work with its location: Annual Repair Contract of Eldyne Make Single Section and Multi Section Digital Age Counters of Vadodara Division for Three (03) Years. (2) Approximate cost of the work: ₹ 3,36,26,437.34/- (B) EMD: ₹ 2,69,100.00 (4) Date and time for submission of e-tender and opening of e-tender: 30.03.2022 @ 15:00 Hours and 30-03-2022 @ 15:30 Hours. (5) Web site particulars and notice for location where complete details can be seen etc: <http://www.ireps.gov.in> Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, 2nd Floor, Annex Building, DRM's Office, Western Railway, Pratnagar, Vadodara-390 004. BRC-258
Follow us on twitter.com/WesternRly

Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Ltd.
CIN U0102GJ2003SGC042909
Regd. & Corp. Office : 'Urja Sadan' N. V. Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat 395 006 GUJARAT.
DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 (or 1800 233 3003)
For Supply of Insulation Piercing Connectors Suitable for LT ABC in DGVCL
DGVCL intends to invite purchase tenders for Insulation Piercing Connectors suitable for LT ABC in huge quantity. As per GUVNL Purchase Policy, interested suppliers who want to bid for tendered items must have a valid 'Vendor Registration Certificate' from GUVNL's subsidiary company. The details regarding procedure for Vendor Registration are available on DGVCL website www.dgvcl.com. For further information, interested suppliers may contact DGVCL Corporate Office, Surat in person/ through phone or e-mail.
CE (P), DGVCL, Surat.

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.K.C., Keonjhar No. 20/2021-22
e-mail : ccekeonjharprojectcircle@gmail.com/sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No. 852 dt. 04.03.2022

1. No. of the work	> 02 Nos of Building Work
2. Estimated cost	> 163.70 Lakhs & 162.78 Lakhs
3. Period of completion	> 06 (Six) Calendar Months
4. Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	> From 11.00 Hours of 28.03.2022 to 16.00 Hours of 28.03.2022
5. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal	> 16.00 Hours of 28.03.2022
6. Date of opening of Bid from Portal	> 11.30 Hours on 29.03.2022
7. Name and address of the officer inviting Bid	> Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://tendersodisha.gov.in>".
Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar
OIPR-340331/1/0025/2122

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on [@SCRrailwayid](https://twitter.com/SCRrailwayid)
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in
e-Tender No. B-SG-CN-SandT-1-GNT@BZA-2021-22, Dt. 05.03.2022
Signal and Telecomm. Construction, South Central Railway, Vijayawada invites e-Tender on behalf of the president of India for the below work under Open tender / Single packet system tendering:
S.No. 01 Tender Notice No.: B-SG-CN-SandT-1-GNT @ BZA-2021-22, Dt.05.03.2022 Name of the work: Provision of MACLS Indoor and Outdoor with Centralized Electronic Inter locking (Hot Standby) at Gundada (GALA) Station and Alteration work of Electronic Inter Locking system at Vijayawada North East Cabin (VNC) along with associated outdoor works in view of Proposed Bye-Pass Line Rail Over Rail (ROR) Work to suit the Existing Auto section arrangement at VNC-GALA Section in Vijayawada Division of S.C.Railway. Tender Value (₹) : 89834837.31pms EMD (₹) : 5,99,200/- Completion period: 09 Months Date of closing & Time: 06.04.2022 @ 15:00hrs.
1. For bid document and other details, please login to website <http://ireps.gov.in>
2. EMD as applicable above and Tender cost NIL.
3. Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission / bidding period which is fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.
4. Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission / bidding period.
Dy.Chief Signal and Telecomm.Engineer(C)/ Guntur/Vijayawada

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kogilthapuram - 639 136, Kaurai Dihi, Tamil Nadu
Ph. : 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No	Material Description	Due date
212213005371	Procurement of Spreader Roll for Wire & Press - P/MC # 2	22.03.2022
212213005427	Procurement of Pigment Dyes for Paper Machine 1,2 & 3 (a) Violet Dye (b) Blue Dye	23.03.2022
212213005473	Procurement of Matze based Native Starch (In Jumbo Bags) for Unit-I	22.03.2022
212213005429	Procurement of Sodium Silicate - Alkaline for Unit-I	22.03.2022

CORRIGENDUM If any will be issued in TNPL Website only
Email 212213005371 - purchase.imp@tnpl.co.in
212213005427, 5473 & 5429 - purchase.rawmat@tnpl.co.in
Detailed terms and conditions, Tender Fee, EMD, etc. are available in the tender document at our websites : www.tnpl.com, www.tenders.in.gov.in
DIPR/1071/Tender/2022
"தேர்தல் விவரம் மற்றும் நிபந்தனைகள், தரவைகள் பற்றிய விவரம் பக்கத்தில் உள்ளது"

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
E-Tender No. : NCR-M-PRYJ-PSO-04-22 Dated : 04.03.2022
E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE
For & on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W), Prayagraj North Central Railway, Prayagraj invites E- Tenders in prescribed forms, from reputed contractors with adequate experience and financial capability for the under mentioned work up to 15:00 Hrs of Date of opening of tender-
E-Tender no. NCR-M-PRYJ-PSO-04-22

Name of work	Pre-fabricated site office for enroute C&W points on ALD division and Pre-fabricated rolling in examination light boxes.
Tender system	Single packet system
Tender Value	₹ 6658876.60
E.M.D.	₹ 133200
Cost of E-tender Form	Nil
Period of Work	01 year
Date of publishing on IREPS website	08.03.2022
Date of opening of tender	30.03.2022
Similar work definition for minimum Eligibility Criteria	"Construction of buildings or sheds with prefabricated segments or panels for Central/State Govt. organization/PSU."

Note-1. The complete information along with tender booklet of above E-Tenders will be available/ uploaded since Date of publishing on IREPS website and shall be remained on Website www.ireps.gov.in up to 15:00 hrs on the due date of tender opening. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3. Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form / letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. 4. Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. 5. This tender notice have also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in 6. E-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. 7. Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in respect of E-Tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. 8. Any firm recognized by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) as 'Startups' shall be exempted from payment of earnest money deposit detailed above. 100% Govt. owned PSUs shall be exempt from payment of earnest money deposit detailed above. Labour Cooperative Societies shall deposit only 50% of above earnest money deposit detailed above. 9. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 10. Online E-Tender can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. 241122 (SP)
North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Ph. No. 01907-266245 E-mail: ee-sun-hp@nic.in
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
The Executive Engineer, HPPWD Division Sunder Nagar, Distt. Mandi (HP) on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works detailed in the table, in the table.

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Starting Date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Deadline for submission of Bid.
1.	Annual repair and maintenance of NH-21 (New NH-154) Chandigarh Mandi Manali road between Km 156/750 to 165/300 (SH; Prov. and laying renewal coat with BM 30mm thick bitumen concrete at RD 156/750 to 157/0, 157/0 to 158/0, 160/0 to 161/0 and 162/0 to 163/0 and road marking).	Rs. 1,16,50,682/- only	09.03.2022	Rs. 2,33,000/- only	16.03.2022

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in.
Executive Engineer,
Sunder Nagar Division,
HPPWD Sunder Nagar-175018
On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh
7425/HP

DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi)
OFFICE OF THE ADDL.CHIEF ENGINEER (C) -5
THROUGH DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER(C)DR-III
Kanhaya Nagar Delhi-110035 Phone: 011-27394876
Email:eccd3@gmail.com
Press NIT No. 27 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV) Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD) (Rs.)	Tender processing Fee Non Refundable (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Desilting of Trunk Sewer sizing more than 900 mm under the command of Narela and Coronation Pillar waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).	Item rate	Rs. 8,67,000/-	Rs. 1500/-	04.03.2022 / 2022_DUB_218080_1	25.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM
2.	Desilting of Trunk Sewer sizing more than 900 mm under the command of Rishi and Rihala waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).	Item rate	Rs. 21,10,000/-	Rs. 1500/-	04.03.2022 / 2022_DUB_218080_2	25.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1217 (2021-22)
Sd/-
Dy. SEC(D) DR-III
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.:- Elect/TRD/MB/2021-22/TN-12
Date : 05.03.2022

Department	Electrical (TRD)
Tender No.	T-16-TRD-MB-21-22
Name of Work	Replacement of corroded ACC and provision of additional G Jumper in main line of MB Division (Phase-1)
Tender Closing Date & Time	28.03.2022, 15:00 Hrs.
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Rs. 60,15,504.10/- (Including GST)
Earnest Money (Rs.)	Rs. 120300/-
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	NIL
Validity of offer (Days)	45 days
Period of completion	9 Months
Website particulars & Address of office	www.ireps.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, Moradabad.
	478/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi)
OFFICE OF THE ADDL.CHIEF ENGINEER (C) -5
THROUGH DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER(C)DR-III
Kanhaya Nagar Delhi-110035 Phone: 011-27394876
Email:eccd3@gmail.com
Press NIT No. 82 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date / time of receipt of tender through E-Procurement solution
1	Engagement of 10 nos. unskilled workers for one year on contract basis for maintenance of water supply network of Seemapuri Constituency (AC-63) under AEE(M)-63 Re-invited	Item rate	05.03.2022 2022_DUB_218186_1	19.03.2022 3:10 PM

PRESS NIT No. 83 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date / time of receipt of tender through E-Procurement solution
1	Engagement of 10 nos. S.G Beldar for on contract basis for maintenance of sewerage system in Gokalpur AC-68 Re-invited	Item rate	05.03.2022 2022_DUB_218192_1	19.03.2022 4:30 PM
2	Engagement of 10 nos. S.G Beldar for one year on contract basis for maintenance of sewerage system in Seemapuri Constituency (AC-63) under AEE(M)-63 Re-invited	Item rate	05.03.2022 2022_DUB_218192_2	19.03.2022 4:30 PM

Further details in this regards can be seen at <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1222 (2021-22)
Sd/-
V.K CHAUHAN
Ex ENGINEER (T)-2
"Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

ZONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU
Email: ijammuhq@jpolice.gov.in
Tele: 0191-2542696, 2544332 Fax: 0191-2560417 (Fax)
(CORRIGENDUM)
Subject:- Hiring of Vehicles.
Keeping in view of some representations given by intending bidders as well as other allied association, the following changes are hereby ordered to this Hqs. Gem communication No. GeM/2022/B/1990216 dated 25.02.2022 followed by corrigendum vide No. 8090-8105 dated 28.02.2022 which is as under:
1. "Bidder should have the turnover of Rs. 03 Crore for the past three years with minimum of Rs. 1 Crore each per annum"
2. The bidder must have the ownership of minimum of 20 Nos. of commercial vehicles which must include 15 Nos. of commercial passenger vehicles and 05 Nos trucks. However, the other conditions of qualifying criteria at Sr. No. 03 shall remain unchanged.
3. And the closing date of the bid is extended by 10 days i.e. upto 19.03.2022(1000 hrs).
However, the others terms and condition of the bid shall remain same. This has the approval of ADGP Jammu Zone Jammu.
Sd/-
Staff Officer To,
No. ZHQJ/MT/Gem-Tend-22-23/8847-64
Dated: 04.03.2022
DIPJ-13877
Addl. Director General of Police,
Jammu Zone, Jammu

DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE ADD. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-2
2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI-110093
PRESS NIT No. - 82 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date / time of receipt of tender through E-Procurement solution
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Further details in this regards can be seen at <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1222 (2021-22)
Sd/-
V.K CHAUHAN
Ex ENGINEER (T)-2
"Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi)
OFFICE OF THE ADDL.CHIEF ENGINEER (C) -5
THROUGH DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER(C)DR-III
Kanhaya Nagar Delhi-110035 Phone: 011-27394876
Email:eccd3@gmail.com
Press NIT No. 27 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV) Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD) (Rs.)	Tender processing Fee Non Refundable (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Desilting of Trunk Sewer sizing more than 900 mm under the command of Narela and Coronation Pillar waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).	Item rate	Rs. 8,67,000/-	Rs. 1500/-	04.03.2022 / 2022_DUB_218080_1	25.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM
2.	Desilting of Trunk Sewer sizing more than 900 mm under the command of Rishi and Rihala waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).	Item rate	Rs. 21,10,000/-	Rs. 1500/-	04.03.2022 / 2022_DUB_218080_2	25.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1217 (2021-22)
Sd/-
Dy. SEC(D) DR-III
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

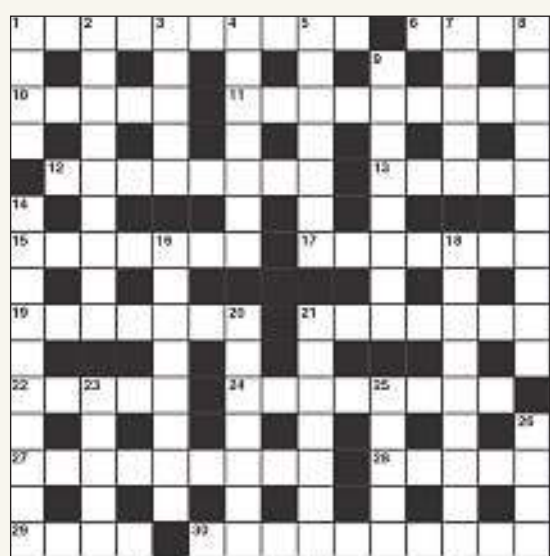
UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY
General Public is hereby informed that an one male person was found dead at footpath, near Delhi stock-Exchange building, Daryaganj, Delhi, dated 21.02.2022. In this regard DD No. 49A, dated 21.02.2022 has been registered at P.S. Daryaganj, Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under:
Name: Unknown, S/O: Unknown, R/O: Unknown, Age: about 50-55 years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Wheatish, Face-Long, Built-Strong, Wearing-Light grey kurta payjama and without slipper.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.
SHO
P.S. Daryaganj, Delhi
DP/1297/CD/2022 Ph.: 011-23274683, 23279331

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY DIVISION BILAWAR
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
e-NIT No: EEB/PMGSY/01 of 2021-22 Dated: 28.02.2022
TENDER NOTICE FOR HIRING OF VEHICLE
E-Tenders (Online) are invited from reputed parties/agencies for supplying Vehicles One number Mahindra Scorpio (S5, S7 & S9) with driver on Monthly Hire-basis for official use of Processing Of Monitoring Unit (PIU) BILLAWAR UT Of J & K. Interested Parties/Agencies who are willing to comply with the terms and conditions annexed to this notice, may submit their bids, online, as given in the instructions for online bid submission (Annexure-D).
There should be attachments for Technical Bid (Annexure-A), Financial Bid in BOQ Format (Annexure-B) and Tender Acceptance Letter (Annexure-C). The Financial Bid/Bids will be taken up only if the technical specifications are found satisfactory, otherwise the Tender will be straight way rejected.
Details of tender notice are available on the website: www.pmgsytn-dersjk.gov.in
The details of the Vehicle to be hired is as under:

Sr. No.	Category	No. of Vehicles Required	Usage
1.	Mahindra Scorpio (S5, S7 & S9)	01 (One)	To be used on daily basis with a ceiling of 2500 Km Per Month

A. This office may surrender the vehicle, if not needed by Processing Of Monitoring Unit (PIU) Billawar by issuing 15 Days notice. Rates are to be quoted inclusive of all taxes for the vehicle which may be petrol or diesel version.
B. The Vehicle should be Commercial (With Permit)
Data Sheet:
Item Description
Name of the Hirer Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Billawar
Tender Inviting Authority Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Billawar
T

CROSSWORD 4682



- ACROSS**
1 Immodest assertion one isn't ashamed to make (5,5)
6 He's an American at heart (4)
10 Punish with stick? (5)
11 New aria I'd not broadcast from the centre (9)
12 Suppose it is the piano one takes up again (8)
13 She makes peace in Greece (5)
15 Dress again in regal fashion (7)
17 Sew lots perhaps but be the last to finish (7)
19 Many not able to provide a word of opposite meaning (7)
21 Reduce each damaged pen (7)
22 A joint to keep a watch on (5)
24 Colourful range of crumpets? (8)
27 Don't forget to have another get together (9)
28 Went on a horse to the ring for the show (5)
29 I'd turn about with disastrous result (4)
30 Mathematician made riches in a way (10)
- DOWN**
1 Father of twins? (4)
2 Brave's not another word for being vigilant (9)
3 Unused grounds (5)
4 Stern-looking sportsmen (7)
5 A devout leader insists they're cruel (7)
7 Rear lights we hear (5)
8 Harmony in a musical instrument (10)
9 A singer has to object to one wrong note (8)
14 A sphere lacking reality (5,5)
16 Any in let out naturally (8)
18 Once beaten, explained everything (9)
20 There'll be friction as long as he's at work (7)
21 The ache so placed is naturally together (9)
23 Imprisoned dog is made to suffer (5)
25 Drum sound used in both rumba and samba (5)
26 Grass cutters are said to be extinct in New Zealand (4)

Solutions Crossword 4681: Across: 1 Immoral, 5 Tessa, 8 Face-saver, 9 Ago, 10 Raps, 12 Reticent, 14 Static, 15 Curate, 17 Eyesight, 18 Zero, 21 Per, 22 Elections, 24 Ewers, 25 Dearest. Down: 1 Infer, 2 Mac, 3 Rash, 4 Leves, 5 Terminus, 6 Stalemate, 7 Apostle, 11 Plane tree, 13 Tidiness, 14 Steeple, 16 Shield, 19 Onset, 20 Etna, 23 One.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.
Don't wake me for the end of the world unless it has very good _____ - Roger Zelazny (7,7)

PVEEE **HUCCLT**

MAISS **INUFFP**

Answer: Don't wake me for the end of the world unless it has very good special effects.
 SOLUTION: PVEEE: AMISS, CLUTCH, PUFFIN; HUCCLT: HUBBLES, LUTHER, PURRN.

SUDOKU 4767

Difficulty Level 5s
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.

7	2	1	3					
6								5
6		5		2				
7	1	2	4					
1		7		5				
9								8
3		7	9					2
		7	8	6				

Difficulty Level
 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4766

9	6	3	1	7	8	4	5	2
8	2	1	3	5	4	6	9	7
4	7	5	6	9	2	3	8	1
7	5	6	4	3	9	1	2	8
3	1	9	2	8	5	7	6	4
2	8	4	7	1	6	5	3	9
6	4	8	5	2	1	9	7	3
1	3	2	9	6	7	8	4	5
5	9	7	8	4	3	2	1	6

UTTAR PRADESH RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD (A U.P. GOVT. UNDERTAKING)

Ayodhya Zone, Near Nishatganj Gomti Bridge, Ashok Marg, Lucknow.
 E-Procurement Notice No: 03/APM(Basti Unit)/Singrauli Work/RNN/2022 Dated: 05.03.2022

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Office of the Addl. Project Manager, UPRNN Ltd., Basti Unit, Basti (U.P.) invites sealed Offers from interested eligible/specialized Suppliers, Original Manufacturers, Authorized Dealers, Item Rate Vendors for the Supply/ S/ITC/ Item of Works, on urgent basis for the works of **Retaining Walls, R.C.C. Cladding, Kaccha Road & Plot Demarcation (Package-1) Of Proposed R&R Campus at Amelia Coal Mine Project, District - Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh.** Request details can be downloaded from UPRNN website www.uprnn.upsc.gov.in and UPNIC Website: www.etender.up.nic.in upto 18.03.2022 (18th March 2022), upto 18.00 Hrs

Sd/-
Virendra Kumar,
 Addl. Project Manager, Basti Unit, Basti
 Contact No - 06397192989

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION

1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines Prayagraj-211001

E-Tender Notice No. 02225002 CORRIGENDUM Dated: 07.03.2022

Sl. No.	Field Name	Existing	Modification
1	Due Date	07.03.2022	22.03.2022
2	EMD	₹ 0.05/-	₹ 20.00,000/-

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged. Full details of Tender are available on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

Sd/-
PC/MC/MORE/PRAYAGRAJ
 FOR & ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED

e - Procurement Short Tender Notice

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for the following work. APT(Const.- KADAPA)-e-14/2021-22: 132KV DC/SC line from existing 132KV SS Kothapalli to proposed 132KV RTSS Kalasamudram, and other related works in Anantapuram district. Date & Availability of tenders in <https://www.approcurement.gov.in> on 02.03.2022 at 5.00 PM. Ph.No.9441529947
 RO. No. 722PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Sd/- Chief Engineer/Zone/KADAPA

Bank of India

Head Office: Star House 1, Risk Management Department, Information Security Cell, 3rd Floor, East Wing, C-5 - G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051. Email: security.information@bankofindia.co.in

TENDER NOTICE

Bank of India invites request for quote (RFP) for Audit & Certification of ISO 22301:2019 & ISO 27001:2013.
 Last date for submission of Request for Quote: 28.03.2022 by 4.00 pm.
 Full details are available on the Bank's Corporate Website: www.bankofindia.co.in under 'Tender' Section from 08.03.2022.
 Amendments/ Corrigendum, if any, will be kept on website only.

REQUIREMENT OF NURSERY TRAINED TEACHERS AND HELPERS AT AIR FORCE SCHOOL PRAHLADPUR

There is a requirement of Nursery Trained Teachers (NTT), Clerk & Helpers at Air Force School Prahladpur. Age for NTT, Clerk & Helper is 21 to 50 years, 25 to 50 years & 21 to 40 years respectively as on 01 July 2022. Qualification for NTT is Senior Secondary with Nursery Teachers Training Diploma or Diploma in Nursery/Montessori/Pre-primary Teachers Training or Diploma in Elementary Education from Govt recognised institutions and for Clerk is Graduate from Govt recognised university, 40 WPM typing Speed and basic knowledge of computer applications especially MS Office. For Helpers educational qualification is not mandatory. Suitability for trade proficiency like Ayah, Peon, gardener & Sweeper will be the criteria. Candidates can download the application form from www.afsprahladpur.com and send the filled application to Air Force School Prahladpur 27 ED, Air Force Station Prahladpur Palam Delhi Cantt New Delhi-110010. Only shortlisted candidates will be intimated. Last date- 22 Mar 22. Contact- 9911477378 / 011-20893693

HP STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LIMITED TOTU, SHIMLA - 171011

N.O. 467/P&I-8/15-XXIII Dated: 08.03.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

H.P.Milkfed invites annual rate contract for the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system for the following item on FOR basis:-
 01. Ghee Corrugated Boxes: One coloured Printed laminated corrugated boxes(Lamination from inside) of 5-ply virgin for the packing of 1 litre Ghee of capacity 12 packets in one box having dimension 380mm (L) x 227mm(B) x 212mm(H) with 1 nos virgin craft of 140 GSM for top and 20BF of all ply, 4 ply of 120gms for centre with separator. BS of Box=10Kg±1Kg per cm³, wt. of box=480gm±15gm including separator of 3ply of 120 GSM & 20BF. Approx Qty: 20,000-25000 Annually.
 The Bid document is available/published online on dt.09.03.2022 upto 04.00PM. Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission on bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate(DSC) from one of the authorized certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders should visit websites in <https://hptenders.gov.in> & <https://hpmilkfed.org> for complete details. Bidders should visit the website from time to time

Sd/-
Managing Director

CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH HARYANA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HISAR.

(Established by Parliament Act No. 16 of 1970)
 Advertisement No. 2/2022
 (BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE POST, THE CANDIDATES SHOULD GO THROUGH THE INSTRUCTIONS/CONDITIONS CAREFULLY)

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up various teaching posts in the University. The postwise details alongwith pay-scale, application processing fee, essential qualifications, general instructions/conditions, reservation, etc. can be downloaded from the University Website. The eligible candidates may apply through the University online portal <https://hau.ac.in> and <https://recruitment.hau.ac.in> from 09.03.2022 midnight onwards which will be closed on 08.04.2022 midnight. The candidates are also requested to visit University website regularly for notifications/updates/ corrigendum/ amendment, if any, with respect to above advertisement.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Green Campus, Ganderbal - 191301 (J&K)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (NIT)

For & on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir online e-tenders are invited from reputed and Govt. registered agencies for carrying out "Geo-Technical Investigation for proposed constructions in Central University of Kashmir at Tulmulla Ganderbal. (Quantity of bore holes-16)". The detailed Tender document is available on e-tendering portal www.eprocure.gov.in and can be downloaded from the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in. The period of downloading the tender is from 09.03.2022 to 21.03.2022.
 NIT No. 01/1/2022
 Dated: 07.03.2022

Sd/-
Executive Engineer

RAJASTHAN HOUSING BOARD

N.B: 16/2021-22

Bids for (1). Miscellaneous work including repairs & maintenance of Annual Rate Contract Basis, Indira Gandhi Nagar (Jagatpura) and Mahatma Gandhi Dastkar Nagar (Naila), Jaipur (2). Annual Rate Contract for Civil work Year 2022-23, All Sectors Prapat Nagar, Sangangan, Jaipur. (3). Replacement of street light from HPSV and fluorescent light to LED light for I.G. Nagar at Sector-01 to 14, Jagatpura, Jaipur (4). Construction of New WBM Road (Khatedar Land) & Remetting and Carpeting Sector-09 and 18 mtr. Road along Nala, Sector-04, I.G. Nagar, Jaipur (5). Annual Rate Contracte work of Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing of Sewerage line with manhole the jurisdiction of Division PHE-I, RHB, Jaipur (6). Construction of compound wall at Parks and Horticulture work of Sector- 01, 02, 03 at Newai (7). Annual Rate Contract work of Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing of DI/HDPE pipelines with interconnection works and construction of tube well the jurisdiction of Division PHE-I, RHB, Jaipur (8). Annual Rate Contract for the work of Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing of DI/HDPE pipelines with interconnection works and construction of tube well the jurisdiction of Division PHE-II, RHB, Jaipur (9). Annual Rate Contract for the work of Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing of sewerage line with manhole in the jurisdiction of Division PHE-II, RHB, Jaipur (10). Development work of EWS 480 & LIG 576 nos. flats under CMJAY Scheme at Sector-28, Prapat Nagar, Sangangan, Jaipur are invited from interested bidders for Sr. No. 1 to 10 from Date 09.03.2022 to 28.03.2022 up to 6:00PM. Other particular of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state & <http://urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rhb> department website.
 UBN :- RHB2122WSOB00281, RHB2122WSOB00280, RHB2122WSOB00286, RHB2122WSOB00282, RHB2122WSOB00288, RHB2122WSOB00283, RHB2122WSOB00289, RHB2122WSRC00273, RHB2122WSRC00274, RHB2122WSOB00284.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-I, Jaipur

JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Online bids on Lump-Sum basis are invited by the Executive Engineer JS Division Chaurtra on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the under mentioned work from the contractors/firms registration with Jal Shakti Vibhag (erstwhile IPH) or any other Govt./Semi Govt. department/ Autonomous bodies as per his/ her class of enlistment.
1.Name of work:- LWSS in GP BuhlaBharyara, Pipali, Drubbal& Drahal in Tehsil, Joginder Nagar Distt. Mandi HP. SH: (Designing, Constructing, Testing & Commissioning of (Intake system, WTP of 1 MLD, Village Water Sanitation Committee Room, Pump Houses, RCC storage tanks), Providing, laying, jointing and testing of Rising Mains , Providing, installation and testing of Submersible and Centrifugal Pumping Machinery, Construction of Approach Road to WTP/ Pump Houses, Construction of Boundary walls, Laying, jointing and testing of Gravity Mains and construction of Anchor/ Thrust Blocks)

Estimated Cost : Rs. 7,12,70,553/- Only
 Earnest Money : Rs. 7,45,206/- Only
 Time Limit : Two Year
 Cost of tender form : Rs.2500/- Only

SCHEDULE OF TENDERING:-

1. Bid Submission start date	05.03.2022 at 05.00 PM
2. Bid Submission end date	18.03.2022 at 05.00 PM
3. Physical submission of EMD and cost of tender documents, if not paid online.	Up to 11.00 AM on 19.03.2022
4. Opening of Cover-I	19.03.2022 at 11.30 AM
5. Opening of Financial bid	Date and place to be notified separately.

Conditions: Tender documents, Terms and conditions and other instruction can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://nptenders.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
 JS Division, Chaurtra
 7403/HP

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)

Name of work with its location	Annual maintenance and recharge of wireless modem for networking of data logger of Auto hut 1, 2, 3, 4 at MHR, GGL, MOHR, BMW, DGHL, JHU, PPDE, PLHW & Control (2) MODEM and remote monitoring unit at MWC ANVT, ADHAM, SAHADRA Hut for 4 years.
App. Cost of the work (₹)	₹ 9,51,552/- only
Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	₹ 19,100/- only
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3 rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055.
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading / closing date & time - 30.03.2022 up to 15.00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3 rd Floor, DRM Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.
Tender No.	558-Sig-16-M-TENDER-AMC-056-2021-22
Dated:	07.03.2022.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi) OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (C) -5 THROUGH DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER(C)DR-III

Kanhalya Nagar Delhi -110035
 Phone: 011-27394876 Email: teedr3@gmail.com

Press NIT No. 28 (2021-22) (Re-invited)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV) Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD) (Rs.)	Tender processing Fee Non-Refundable (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Restoration of settlement at Hansraj Marg opposite DJB store, Saraswati Vihar, Delhi in AC-16	29,86,585/-	Rs. 60,000/-	Rs. 500/-	05.03.2022 / 2022_DJB_216083_1	21.03.2022 upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
 Advt. No. J.S.V. 1219 (2021-22)

Sd/-
Dy. SE(C) DR-III

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

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-5 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T)-M-5

ROOM NO. 312, VARUNALAYA PHASE-I JHANDEALAN, DELHI-110005

Press NIT No. 64 (2021-22) M-5

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (₹)	(M)oney (EMD) (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)	Date of release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Replacement of old and damaged 600 mm dia brick barrel by 600 mm dia N/P RCC-HDPE pipe by Micro tunneling from Parade ground parking to Shri Bajaj Mandir, Chandni Chowk under AEE(M)-20. (Re-invite)	₹ 47,09,959/-	94,200/-	₹ 500/-	Dr. 05/03/2022 2022_DJB_216218_1	16/03/2022 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
 Advt. No. J.S.V. 1223 (2021-22)

Sd/-
(Satya Veer Singh)
 Executive Engineer (T) M-5

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

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
 Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in e-mail: smr.rwfbr@gmail.com

Tender Notice No. RWF/S/007/2021-22 Dated 07/03/2022

On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager invites Electronic Open Tender from experienced Manufacturers/ OEM/ Authorised Agents for supply of the following item on the Indian Railways e-portal www.ireps.gov.in. The tender documents and the Corrigendum to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the portal only.

Sl No	Tender No	Item Description	Quantity
1	P2225208	Steel Blooms of 300mm Sq. as per Specn. No.RW/M/ SPECN-1/1/29/2021/Alt 'NIL'. Tender Closing Date and Time : 12/03/2022, 14.00 Hrs.	100 M.T
2	P2225188	Portable Digital Ultrasonic Flaw Detector as per Specn. No. [3 Numbers]	[3 Numbers]
2	RWF/M/M&P/21-22/USFD-portable Axle. Tender Closing Date and Time : 30/03/2022, 14.00 Hrs.		

Tender details can be viewed on our website www.ireps.gov.in or www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in.
 Principal Chief Materials Manager

वर्षापूर्वाक विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०

CIN:U31200UP2003SG0027480

अध्यक्षकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना
 अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा निम्नलिखित विवरणानुसार को नामों में दिनांक- 22.03.2022 समय 13:00 बजे तक प्रतिष्ठित एन चोय देकेदरों/ निविदादाताओं से निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है एवं ई-निविदा दिनांक-22.03.2022 को समय 16:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। विद्युत वितरण निगम लि० उ०१० शासन की आधिकारिक ई-प्रोक्वायर्स पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है:-
 1. ई-निविदा विधिटीकाकरण संख्या-29/SE/EDCM/2021-22: विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, महोबा के अन्तर्गत विभागीय कार्य हेतु 01 नग कार डीजल चलित (नय ड्राइवर) तथा 11 नग जीप डीजल चलित (नय ड्राइवर) विलीय वर्ष 2022-23 में किराये पर उपलब्ध करने का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि-₹30,324,00.00, निविदा शुल्क-₹30,324,00.00 (तीनकोटि००० सहित)। निविदा में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविदा खुलने की तिथि में विस्तार होता है तो इसकी सूचना ई-टेंडर वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर तथा निगम की वेबसाइट <http://www.dvnl.org> पर उपलब्ध कराई जायेगी।
 अधी०अभि०, वि०वि०मं०, महोबा 2986/वि०वि०/वि०-प्रकाश/निविदा/2021-22 दिनांक: 05.03.2022

राष्ट्र हित में विजली बचायें

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

"WHAT THE SENSES EXPERIENCE, THE MIND REMEMBERS"

Inauguration of State-of-the-Art MONTESSORI LAB

Rana Pratap Sarvodaya Vidyalaya,
New Rajender Nagar, New Delhi.



Key Features:

8th March, 2022

Chief Guest:

MANISH SISODIA

Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

- Opportunities for holistic development of children
- Activities to encourage experiential learning
- Inculcating a sense of well-being and life skills among children
- Aligned with the principles of Early Childhood Care and Education as envisioned in NEP 2020



Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0237/21-22



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Directorate of Family Welfare, Delhi State Health Mission, Delhi Government



DIP/Shabdarth/D/0238/21-22



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Fifth session of the motivational speaker series:

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District Magistrate, South District, Delhi

Moderator : Himanshu Gupta (IAS-2012)

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Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi



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SMRITI MANDHANA,

ON BISMAH MAROOF'S RETURN AFTER CHILDBIRTH

BRIEFLY

Chhetri ruled out of India's friendlies

New Delhi: The Indian football team was dealt a huge blow on Monday as its talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri was ruled out of the upcoming international friendly matches against Bahrain and Belarus due to injury. The 37-year-old forward had been named among the 38-member probables by coach Igor Stimac for the matches to be played in Manama on March 23 and 26. "I was really looking forward to the two friendlies against Bahrain and Belarus and it's a shame I'll be missing out," Chhetri told the All India Football Federation (AIFF) website. "It's been a long, tough season and I've suffered a few small injuries that need time to heal. I will be doing all I can to recover in time for the predatory camp in May," he added. PTI

Australia trails Pakistan by 27 runs

Rawalpindi: Australia's batters flourished on a flat wicket Monday to cut Pakistan's lead to 27 runs as the first Test heads toward a draw. Australia, playing its first test in Pakistan since 1998, reached 449-7 at stumps in its first innings on Day 4 on a grassless wicket with Marnus Labuschagne (90) and Steve Smith (78) scoring half-centuries. Cameron Green (48) showed himself to be a test allrounder by spending more than two hours at the crease, facing 109 balls. No. 8 batter Mitchell Starc spent almost the last hour and was not out on 12 with skipper Pat Cummins not out on 4 as stumps were drawn three overs before scheduled because of bad light.

BRIEF SCORES: Australia 449 for 7 (Khawaja 97, Labuschagne 90, Smith 78, Warner 68, Nauman 4-107) trail Pakistan 476 for 4 dec by 27 runs. AP

Putin removed from Judo governing body

Moscow: Russian President Vladimir Putin and a Russian businessman have been removed from all positions in the International Judo Federation (IJF), the sport's governing body said, in the latest sporting rebuke following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The decision, announced in a brief statement, comes after Putin, a black belt who has co-authored the book titled "Judo: History, Theory, Practice", was suspended as IJF honorary president last week. "The International Judo Federation announces that Mr Vladimir Putin and Mr Arkady Rotenberg have been removed from all positions held in the International Judo Federation," it said. REUTERS

Warne died of natural causes: Thai police

Koh Samui (Thailand): An autopsy showed the death last week of Australian cricket great Shane Warne on an island in Thailand was due to natural causes, the Thai police said on Monday. Warne's family had accepted the finding and his body would be transferred to Australian consular officials for return to the family, a deputy police spokesman said. "Today investigators received the autopsy result, in which the medical opinion is that the cause of death is natural," Kissana Phathanacharoen said in a statement. "Investigators will summarize the autopsy result for prosecutors within the timeframe of the law." Warne's body would be flown to Australia on Tuesday, Police Lieutenant General Surachate Hakpam told a news conference. REUTERS

Rohit lays out his vision

New captain to focus on role clarity, bench strength and happy atmosphere



Rohit Sharma is now almost four months into the leadership, with the task of identifying who could do well for the T20I team in Australian conditions.

BCCI

ABHISHEK PUROHIT

MOHALI, MARCH 7

"I REALLY can't tell you anything about his overseas place and why he doesn't find it or why he is in the XI. I honestly have no idea as I wasn't part of the selection at that point so I can't really tell you what happened there and why was he left out or why was he played and those kind of stuff." India captain Rohit Sharma was responding after the Mohali Test to a question on R Ashwin often not getting a spot in the playing XI on away tours in recent times.

It was a clear line in the sand from the skipper, that he couldn't comment with any reasonable clarity about such calls that had been made in Kohli's time. About his own stint, Rohit made a couple of key observations after his first Test match as captain.

He said that further developing the team's bench strength across all formats was going to be more important for him than winning games. And beyond developing that strength, keeping those on the bench motivated and ready to perform when the opportunity came was also critical.

Rohit is now almost four months into the leadership, with the unenviable task of firstly identifying who could do well for the T20I team in Australian conditions during the World Cup in October. So far, he's had to judge the contenders on the basis of home series against the likes of West Indies and Sri Lanka, and mostly on grounds where a straight six could be a catch for deep mid-on at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Considering how questionable team selection also contributed to India's debacles at the 2019 50-over and 2021 20-over World Cups, there is increased pressure on the team management to get the combination right, starting with Australia.

"It's absolutely challenging and it is very, very important," Rohit said about building bench strength. "It's not just about 11 players. It's also about those sitting outside, wanting to get their opportunities. You

So far, Rohit has led in nine T20Is, three ODIs and a Test since Virat Kohli stepped down at the end of the 2021 T20 World Cup. And it is understandably in the shortest format, with another World Cup coming up, that he's given chances to the most number of players yet - 24. After the end of the T20I series against Sri Lanka in Dharamsala, Rohit said he was still wanting to understand the kind of bench strength that was available to him.

rightly said about creating that bench strength, which is what the future of Indian cricket will hold. If you create that bench strength and you start thinking from now, Indian cricket will be in good hands.

"This is one of my challenges and one of my responsibilities. I have to take it upon me to create that bench strength as much as possible, keeping in mind a lot of things. The guys who are playing, it's relatively a very new team in all three formats. Two of our stalwarts in Ajinkya (Rahane) and (Cheteshwar) Pujara are missing out, (Wriddhiman) Saha is not here, Ishant (Sharma) is not here... Relatively a young and new side and it's the same in limited-overs cricket as well, a lot of youngsters are coming in. It's going to be my biggest challenge more than winning games."

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He's also clarified that trying out players cannot become a revolving door, and winning games is also required to keep a positive atmosphere going in the dressing room.

For instance, Avesh Khan was given an opportunity in the third T20Is against both

West Indies and Sri Lanka, only after the series had been won. Kuldeep Yadav made his comeback after July 2021 in the third ODI against West Indies and in the third T20I against Sri Lanka, after those series had been won as well.

At the same time, Rohit may also want to utilise established players in different roles or give them added responsibilities, so space will also have to be worked out for such moves, alongside giving youngsters chances. Like Ravindra Jadeja was sent up the batting order in the Sri Lanka T20Is, where he did a fine job.

Rohit acknowledged he may not always be able to make such moves. "I hope I get the opportunity to use his (Jadeja's) batting more in the future because we have got a lot of young players who we also need to see," Rohit had said.

During the Mohali Test, Rohit was seen sitting and chatting with Mohammed Siraj, who wasn't playing the game. It was an instance of his stated desire to keep those not in the XI in the loop and in good spirits. Through a combination of injury and selection calls, Siraj had played only the West Indies ODIs and a T20I against New Zealand under Rohit.

But he was brought back for the inconsequential third T20I against Sri Lanka in Dharamsala to share the new ball with Avesh, as Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Jasprit Bumrah were rested.

"For me what is important is how I approach those guys who are sitting outside

and how I can get them in a good mindset," Rohit said.

"When they get an opportunity they should be very clear as to what they want to go out there and achieve. That will impact all our performances, whether we win or lose games. You can't just say you have to win games. To win games there are a lot of things you need to do: create bench strength, give clarity to people, create a good environment so that it's a nice and happy atmosphere where people want to go out there and do their job."

Winds of change

This is a departure from the previous team management's line of thought, where winning could be, and often was, the all-consuming single-minded goal at any cost. Insecurity was either arguably used to drive performance, or was an unavoidable, but acceptable, by-product of the pursuit of winning.

Rohit instead said that he did not want to pile on more pressure from his end than there already existed on the shoulders of the average Indian cricketer. His point about the development and vibe of bench strength being more important than winning matches can also be premised on the fact that the general quality in Indian cricket is so good that you anyway end up winning more than losing.

"They should not feel too much pressure. Of course, when you are playing international cricket, pressure is there. But that external pressure shouldn't be there, internal pressure is fine," Rohit said.

"We as a team management want to create a healthy and positive atmosphere where guys are going out there and doing what they are supposed to do. We will try and back them as much as possible so that at the end of the day when they come back home, they feel, 'I got my opportunity, if I didn't do well I'm still happy as long as the role was given to me, there was a lot of clarity.' As long as that procedure is put in place, we will hold ourselves in good shape."

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

New Zealand canter to 9-wkt victory over Bangladesh

PRESSTrust OF INDIA

DUNEDIN, MARCH 7

HOSTS NEW Zealand registered their first win of the tournament as they inflicted a nine-wicket defeat on Bangladesh in a rain-curtailed ICC Women's World Cup match here on Monday. New Zealand bowlers first restricted Bangladesh to 140 for 8 after a long rain delay before Suzie Bates hit a strokeful unbeaten half-century to power the hosts to a victory with 42 balls to spare in the match that was reduced to 27 overs apiece.

The win earned New Zealand, who lost to West Indies in the tournament opener, two valuable points as they rose to the third place while, Bangladesh remain winless from their two matches and are in seventh spot. Chasing the target, the White Ferns had a sedate start. Their innings was further dented in the seventh over when spinner Salma Khatun sent skipper Sohie Devine (14) packing but apart from that the Bangladesh bowlers didn't bother the hosts much.

Bates used all her experience and guile in her 79 from just 68 deliveries. She stitched a match-winning 108-run stand with Amelia Kerr (47 not out). It was Bates' 28th ODI fifty as she became just the sixth batter to score 1000 runs in Women's World Cup matches when she found the boundary late in her innings. The all-rounder hit eight fours, two more than the entire Bangladesh team, while Kerr found the fence four times. Earlier put in to bat by New Zealand after a rain delay that lasted four hours, openers Fargana Hoque (52) and Shamima Sultana (33) gave Bangladesh, who lost against South Africa in their campaign opener, a bright start. With the five-over power play complete, Bangladesh looked to be racing to a competitive total on 41 for no loss.

But the opening partnership was put to an end by spin all-rounder Frances Mackay (1/24). The 31-year-old right-arm off-spinner then went on to effect half-centurian Hoque's run out in the 15th over. After that it was an Amy Satterthwaite (3/25) show as the veteran all-rounder bowled a crucial spell, taking three wickets from five overs. Bangladesh couldn't recover from the loss of their openers as only two more batters reached double digit scores.

The Nigar Sultana-led side crumbled under the pressure, slipping to 81 for three after 15 overs, their positive start undone by losing three wickets for 21 runs.

Ritu Moni (4) could not make her usual cameo as Devine pounced the catch that gave Satterthwaite her 50th wicket in ODI cricket.

With the feat she joins an illustrious group to have made 3,000 runs and taken 50 wickets in one-day internationals, including the likes of Charlotte Edwards, Karen Rolton and Stafanie Taylor.

BRIEF SCORES: New Zealand Women 144 for 1 (Bates 79*, Amelia 47*, Salma 1-34) beat Bangladesh Women 140 for 8 (Hoque 52, Shamima 33, Satterthwaite 3-20) by nine wickets



Suzie Bates (79) stitched a match-winning 108-run stand with Amelia Kerr (47 not out).

ICC

Old EPL hand Coyle making Jamshedpur punch above their weight in ISL

MIHIR VASAVDA

MARCH 7

A LITTLE more than a decade ago, Owen Coyle was seen as the man who could save Arsenal's sinking ship. Back then, around 2010-11, Coyle was the man with the magic touch in English football. He got Burnley promoted to the Premier League after more than 30 years. Then, he turned relegation-rustlers Bolton Wanderers into a respected mid-table side. Just around that time, when Arsene Wenger came under scrutiny after a string of poor seasons, Coyle, whose stock continued to rise, was linked to the top job with the Gunners.

The move never materialised. But Coyle's teams never stopped overachieving. He worked his magic, albeit briefly, with Houston Dynamo in USA's Major League Soccer, and a couple of years later, came to India and turned around Chennaiyin's fortunes in the Indian Super League (ISL).

And on Monday, he pulled off another big heist. His team, Jamshedpur FC - a perennial mid-table side in Indian football that finished

sixth last season, operates on a moderate budget and has modest talent - won the League Winners Shield with a 1-0 win over heavyweights ATK Mohun Bagan. It's an outcome not many would have predicted at the start of the season. But Coyle did what he always does - taking charge of under-confident, struggling teams and turning them into overachievers.

The semifinalists

This has been a strange ISL season. There have been a some screamers but at the same time, quite a few goalkeeping howlers; some eye-popping performances by young Indians and some cause for concern vis-à-vis the seniors; two highly-underrated sides, Jamshedpur and Hyderabad, enjoying their moment under the sun and a couple of heavyweights left with a lot of thinking to do; and there were some frustrated outbursts and a lot of bio-bubble fatigue.

It reached a stage where players simply wished to 'get done with' the season, especially when dozens of them went down with Covid during the third wave. Despite off-the-



Owen Coyle's Jamshedpur won ISL's League Winners Shield on Monday.

field struggles, the teams that have qualified for the semifinals indicate how competitive and unpredictable the season has been.

The two teams - Jamshedpur and ATK Mohun Bagan - that fought for the top place on Monday are into the top-four along with Hyderabad and Kerala Blasters. It's a well-rounded line-up, former Shillong Lajong, Bengaluru FC and Pune City coach Pradyumn

Reddy points out. The qualification of teams from Kolkata and Kerala takes care of two of the biggest centres in Indian football while the success of Jamshedpur and Hyderabad is a reward for persistence and patience.

"It's good to see that continuity is rewarded," Reddy said. "The coaches have been given a second term, even though they didn't make the playoffs last season. So, that proves the old adage right - stick with the same coaches, trust them and back them on and off the field."

Jamshedpur's march to the top

Despite being an important centre in Indian football, Jamshedpur hasn't ever been in the limelight. The traditional hotbeds like Kolkata, Kerala and Goa have had bragging rights because of the performances of their clubs on the big stage. Jamshedpur has always remained under the shadows of these regions, even though it has been a finishing school of sorts for Indian footballers. A lot of players who have gone on to become stalwarts have passed through the famous Tata Football Academy, based in Jamshedpur. For

decades, it has been honing talent. At last, though, there's something for Jamshedpur to cheer; the ISL crown will add heft to its footballing reputation.

And Coyle has been at the forefront of Jamshedpur's remarkable campaign.

In 2009, then Burnley chairman Barry Kilby described Coyle as a 'master of the art of finding and developing good players even when money is tight,' according to The Evening Standard. One look at some of Jamshedpur's performers this season and it's evident that Kilby's observations hold true even today.

The player who scored the goal which sealed the top spot for Jamshedpur on Monday, Ritwik Das, barely got any game time with his previous club, Kerala Blasters. Under Coyle, he played a majority of the matches and scored a few important goals. Not just Das. The three players Coyle used the most this season - goalkeeper TP Rehenech, left-back Ricky Lallawmawma, and defender Lalindiana Renthlei - were unwanted by their previous clubs. Under Coyle, they have blossomed.

Not just Indian players. Greg Stewart, who

The International Chess Federation (FIDE) has acted against Russia by moving out tournaments, including the prestigious Olympiad, and cutting sponsorship ties in the aftermath of Vladimir Putin's decision to invade Ukraine. *The Indian Express* spoke to two Grandmasters who hold influential posts in FIDE - vice-president Nigel Short and managing director Emil Sutovsky - on what it means for the federation to turn its back on a country with deep-rooted and historical connection with the game.

'We took measures which surprised critics'

NIHAL KOSHIE

GM and FIDE vice-president Nigel Short explains why the federation could not sit tight and maintain its charter-enshrined neutrality on Russia and whether the world body has done enough during the ongoing sporting blockade of a country where chess mania dates back to the days of Vladimir Lenin.

You had asked the FIDE Council to review the decision to hold the Chess Olympiad in Russia. This was when there was an invasion round the corner. But you got no support from the FIDE Council (then).

This was literally the day before the invasion. The situation was volatile and I felt that if it did deteriorate, this could lead to a massive boycott of the Chess Olympiad. I thought we should at least discuss this possibility. I asked my colleagues to comment. In fairness to my colleagues, not everybody did comment and one person said he would support (a review). Of the people who replied, and there were several, nobody supported me.

With situation changing quickly, what changed in the FIDE Council?

For me, it (initial lack of support) was disappointing. The next day, the situation changed and members of the Council realised it was untenable. Some of them (Council members) made the same proposal I had made the day before. And this time, it was agreed unanimously in minutes. There was a general realisation that something needed to be done quickly.

Russia and chess have been interlinked for generations. How do you see the decisions of FIDE impacting the sport in Russia?

I don't see this having a substantial long-term impact. For the short term, most of the world is outraged with the invasion. The motto of FIDE is Gens Una Sumus (we are one family) and we would like to keep it that way. But this (Russian invasion) is a very clear violation of one country's sovereignty. It also involves two of the most important chess nations, Russia and Ukraine. Clearly, it will have adverse effects in the chess world. We are opposed to military conflicts as a means to resolving disputes.

Some Russian players, including GM Alexander Grischuk, have spoken out. Did you expect players from Russia to voice their opinion?

I think most people are disgusted with this and humanity comes first. It does require courage to speak out in Russia on these matters. We know it is not a liberal democracy, so all credit to those who have spoken out against its invasion.

The IOC has called on sports federations not to invite Russian players. What are your thoughts on shutting out Russian players from events?

These issues are under review. We have already decided that the Russian team will not participate in the World Team Championships and it is one of the reasons we have postponed the event until November. My view is that on Sunday, FIDE took a strong range of measures which surprised many people, even our biggest critics. The question is: have we gone far enough? The position of the International Olympic Committee points in a certain direction. One of the main issues is with teams. If you have a team, even if they don't play under the national flag, they are in some sense a Russian team.

Personally, I would not be in favour of banning individual Russian chess players. But the real question is whether you should ban teams. Anyway, now they are not playing under the Russian flag, but it is a subtle distinction whether a group of Russians is part of a Russian team. Maybe, the difference is not great enough.

FIFA and UEFA have suspended Russian teams, Formula One has cancelled the Russian GP contract, and World Athletics has excluded Russians from Athletics Series events. Is a worldwide sporting blockade a solution to such crisis?

The problem is one person's war of liberation is another person's invasion. It is very difficult to draw absolute rules on these things. When you have these questions, it is a lot about whataboutery. Like, what about this action here or this missile strike there? It is very difficult to draw clear rules on something like this. However, the number of countries that oppose the United Nations resolution can be counted on one hand and two of them are the combatants, Russia and Belarus. It is not a pretty group. In general, I would prefer to keep politics out of sport. But I am not so naïve as to think we live in a vacuum. In our charter, it is written that we have to be neutral. It is not so easy to be neutral when somebody (Russia) is invading a country.

Full interview on indianexpress.com

'FIDE can reject Russian companies as we have diversified sponsor base'

NIHAL KOSHIE

INTERNATIONAL CHESS Federation's (FIDE) Director-General Emil Sutovsky is also Chairman of its Global Strategy Commission. In a chat with *The Indian Express*, the Israeli Grandmaster talks about the FIDE Council's decision to terminate all sponsorship agreements with Belarusian and Russian state-controlled companies, and why FIDE is different today, in terms of its sponsor pool and also the reach of the game. Excerpts:

The FIDE Council, among other decisions, cut ties with Russian state-sponsored companies. Would you say FIDE is less reliant on funds from Russian companies, unlike in the past?

We are now well-diversified and working with all major chess federations and sponsors from around the world. Earlier, FIDE was dependent on a very narrow circle of countries, first and foremost Russia. We have been able to save many events because of this cooperation with many countries. Like with the Chess Olympiad this summer, which was removed from Moscow - and we got several countries willing to stage it -

and India is among them. Or the recent World Rapid and Blitz Championships that was held in Poland after Covid restrictions forced it to be moved from the original venue (Kazakhstan). And Poland is one of the biggest critics of the Russian government.

FIDE has terminated its contract with Russian energy giant Gazprom. To what extent does this affect funds at FIDE's disposal?

It is going to affect us because it was a significant income for FIDE. But that said, it will not have an impact in a life-or-death way. I would say income from Russian companies was estimated at 20 to 25 percent of our overall sponsorship and broadcast income in 2022. If we compare, say, with 2019, it was way above at 50 percent. Prior to 2019, FIDE's income was largely from two sources; the Russian companies and the fees FIDE was charging from players, federations and events. When we came in (after the 2018 elections), one of the promises which FIDE made was to reduce or waive fees. Today, the total fees FIDE charges from players and the federations have reduced by 80 percent.

Full interview on indianexpress.com



अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं



“ अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस पर हमारी अदम्य नारी शक्ति को नमन। भारत को देश की महिलाओं की उपलब्धियों पर गर्व है। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में महिला सशक्तिकरण को आगे बढ़ाने की दिशा में काम करने का अवसर मिलना हमारी सरकार के लिए सम्मान की बात है। ”

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