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Covid cases up, UP & Haryana make masks mandatory in districts next to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

WITH COVID-19 cases rising again, the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana governments on Monday made masks mandatory in the districts surrounding Delhi. The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) is also likely to discuss the mandatory use of masks in the capital at its meeting on Wednesday.

Delhi, UP and Haryana scrapped the fine for not wearing masks in public in the first week of April.

In UP, masks have been made mandatory in Gautam Buddha Nagar, Ghaziabad, Hapur, Meerut, Bulandshahr and Baghpat. Most of the new cases reported in the state on Sunday were from two of these districts. While 76 new cases were reported from Gautam Buddha Nagar, 33 were from Ghaziabad, 7 from Lucknow, 2 each from Meerut and Bulandshahr, and one from Baghpat on Sunday.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## THE WORLD



RUSSIA STRIKES LVIV, PREPARES FOR ASSAULT IN EAST P 14

WPI HAS BEEN IN DOUBLE DIGITS EVERY MONTH IN 2021-22

## Growing concern as wholesale inflation up to 14.55%, pressure on retail prices

Trend reversal with CPI inflation converging towards WPI inflation a worry

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

WITH PRICES of crude oil and other commodities rising due to disruptions in global supply chains in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine war, the Wholesale Price Index or WPI-based inflation surged to 14.55 per cent in March 2022, after a 13.11 per cent reading in February 2022.

This is the second highest WPI

print in the 2011-12 series. The annual WPI inflation — inflation at the producer level — has remained in the double-digits in every month of 2021-22 and has almost consistently edged upwards.

For policymakers, a more worrying prospect is that of the Consumer Price Index or CPI-based annual inflation — inflation at the retail level — converging towards the WPI-based inflation, in deviation from the usual trend of the wholesale price inflation collapsing in the

direction of the retail price rise. It presents a peculiar challenge for policymakers: the gap between the two metrics continuing for an extended period points to lingering market inefficiencies, triggered, in part, by the Covid-induced impact at the producer level. Secondly, the rise in CPI inflation, with no cooling off in sight, indicates a shift from the historical trend where the wholesale inflation typically collapses towards consumer inflation. Ahead of the wholesale

price-based inflation spiking to a four-month high of 14.55 per cent in March, a high base of 7.89 per cent in March 2021 notwithstanding, data released last week showed retail inflation in March had surged to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent, driven primarily by high prices of fuels and food items such as cereals, vegetables, milk, oils, meat, and fish.

Economists are worried. "You are in a situation where the pricing power has increased in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED Why the spike and the worry

THE SMALL and medium sector bore the brunt of the pandemic. The pricing power has shifted substantially to larger enterprises. The cost push increases showing up in the WPI will likely influence the financial crisis, a worry going forward.



## GOING TO SCHOOL IN JAHANGIRPURI

Security personnel in Delhi's Jahangirpuri on Monday, two days after communal clashes. Praveen Khanna

REPORT, PAGE 4

## PM's Red Fort address to mark birth anniv of Guru Tegh Bahadur



To address nation on April 21

DIVYAA  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will address the nation from Red Fort on April 21, to mark the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru, the Union Ministry of Culture said on Monday.

The PM's address will mark the culmination of a two-day mega event being organised by the ministry at Red Fort, in collaboration with the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy said. In his speech, which is expected around 9:30 pm after 'shabad kirtan' by 400 ragis (Sikh musicians), the PM is likely to focus on relaying a message of interfaith peace, said sources.

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## LAKHIMPUR KHERI CASE

## SC sets aside HC bail order, tells Ashish Mishra to surrender

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE SUPREME Court on Monday set aside the Allahabad High Court's order granting bail to Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State (Home) Ajay Kumar Mishra, in the Lakhimpur Kheri case and asked him to surrender within a week. The court said the HC had "adopted a myopic view of the evidence" and denied "a fair and effective hearing" to the "victims".

The bench of Chief Justice of India N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli asked the HC to decide the bail plea afresh, "in a fair, impartial and dispassionate manner, and keeping in view the settled pa-

## BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



rameters... and after giving adequate opportunity of hearing to the victims as well", preferably within three months.

The bench was hearing petitions filed by the relatives of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Lt Gen Manoj Pande named new Army chief, first from Corps of Engineers

DEEPTIMANTI WARY  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

LIEUTENANT GENERAL Manoj Pande was Monday appointed the new Chief of Army Staff. He will succeed General M M Naravane on May 1.

The Vice Chief of Army Staff, Lt General Pande will be the first



He will take charge on May 1

officer from the Corps of Engineers to become the COAS. In a Twitter post, the Indian

Army said: "General MM Naravane #COAS & All Ranks of #IndianArmy congratulate Lieutenant General Manoj Pande #VCOAS on being appointed as the 29th Chief of the Army Staff #COAS of the #IndianArmy. Lt Gen Manoj Pande will assume the appointment of #COAS on 01 May 2022."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Shelters and sanctuaries to biogas and dung, UP govt readies a stray cattle plan

MAULSHREE SETH  
LUCKNOW, APRIL 18

A MONTH into his second term, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is set to unveil a plan to tackle the stray cattle menace. With the problem emerging as an issue during the Assembly polls, the BJP led by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi had promised a solution if returned to power.

The plan includes provisioning for shelters within 100 days to accommodate up to 50,000 stray cattle, going up to 1 lakh in six months; cow sanctuaries across the state to house cattle in a natural habitat; construction of at least 50 mega cow shelters; and raising the capacity of exist-



Stray cattle emerged as an issue during Assembly polls

ing ones. Besides, each district magistrate has been given the target of ensuring shelter for at least 10 stray cows per day starting April 15.

Officials said the idea is to plan long-term, rather than look for quick fixes as in the previous regime, after the stray cattle menace exploded following a

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## GUJARAT TO BENGAL TO DELHI

## Who runs cricket in India? In many cases, depends on who your father is

Over a third of state units have sons in key posts in cricket administration

NIHAL KOSHIE & DEVENDRA PANDEY  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

MAHANAARYAMAN SCINDIA, son of Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia, was appointed vice-president of the Gwalior Division Cricket Association early this month. At a time when dynasty isn't exactly a badge of political honour and when cricket's playing field looks more level than ever, this hardly raised any eyebrows.

For, it was true to Indian cricket board's age-old tradition: a son following his influential father's footsteps in cricket's administration.

Indeed, over a third of the 38 full members of the BCCI today include, at the top, sons or relatives of former officials and of powerful politicians — the highest-ever in the board's history.

"Never have there been so many associations that are ruled by families," said a veteran BCCI official on the condition of anonymity.

This despite red flags waved by the Supreme Court-appointed RM Lodha Committee. Framing the new BCCI constitution way back in 2016, it had underlined: "In some states all members are from a few families or a single family, thereby perpetuating the control over cricket in the hands of a few." It put an age cap, 70 years, and a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Body of Khargone's missing man found, first death in clashes

IRAM SIDDIQUE  
INDORE, APRIL 18

THE FIRST death in the April 10 communal clash in Khargone was recorded on Monday, with a body found after the violence identified as that of Ibraish Khan.

The 28-year-old, a resident of Khargone's Islampura, had been missing since the violence that erupted during a Ram Navmi procession. His family identified the body, which had been found by police at 1 am on April 11 just 300 metres from his house, as that of Khan on Monday.

Police said they had found Khan, a father of an eight-

month-old boy, injured and rushed him to the district government hospital, where he died. The unidentified body was later shifted to Indore's M Y Hospital for post-mortem.

The district administration has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 4 lakh for Khan's family, identifying him officially as the victim of the communal clash.

Angry at police, Khan's brother Ikhlaq said: "When we began searching for him, we were told by his friends who were with Ibraish that day that he was hit by policemen and taken somewhere. We kept pleading to policemen, but no

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## In Jaffna waters, India sinks China bid, but an old net problem rises

Sri Lankan fishermen say Indian trawlers destroying their livelihood, current crisis provides chance to reset ties



EXPRESS IN SRI LANKA

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN  
DELFT (JAFFNA), APRIL 18

IT IS here, on this island off the Jaffna peninsula in the Northern Province, where India has displaced China to sign a pact with

the Sri Lankan government for a joint renewable energy project.

Its 5,000 inhabitants, all fishermen, are unaware of the intense geopolitical jostling over their island and two others nearby, Nainatheevu and Analatheevu, that went on most of last year as Delhi successfully persuaded Colombo to cancel a project awarded to a Chinese company, and offered its own instead.

What they do know is that

they have to deal with Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu who sail into the waters around Jaffna three days a week, destroy fishing nets of the local people, and themselves use "erratai madi" or double-fold nets to bottom trawl the seabed.

The Sri Lanka-India Memorandum of Understanding for the project was among several signed in March during the visit of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, as Delhi extended a



Delft lies just 45 km north-east of Tamil Nadu's Rameswaram. Nirupama Subramanian

helping hand to Colombo during the economic crisis with financial assistance worth \$2.4 billion.

In Jaffna, Delhi is being urged to resolve the long-running fishing crisis, and view the opportunity presented by Sri Lanka's crisis not through an India vs China lens, but as a chance to reset its engagement with Sri Lanka with people-friendly projects, including in the Tamil areas.

All of 50 sq km, Delft, also known by its Tamil name Neduntheevu, is located in the Palk Strait. A choppy one-hour boat ride from a Jaffna jetty called Kurikkattuwan, Delft lies

just 45 km north-east of Tamil Nadu's Rameswaram. In between is Katchatheevu, which India ceded to Sri Lanka in 1974.

Sri Lanka's territorial waters in this entire area are a matter of severe contestation between Indian and Sri Lankan fishermen. "300 to 500 boats. They come at night on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Those are their fishing days, and they come that close," said 42-year-old Regeeswaran, pointing to a buoy not far from the shore.

His neighbour J Arokiyadas complained that when the Sri Lankan naval unit stationed on

the island arrests Indian fishermen trespassing in these waters, "they get calls from the big guys in Colombo ordering their release".

India and Sri Lanka have been engaged on the fishermen's issue for nearly two decades, but have not been able to resolve the matter.

When the alarm bells went off in Delhi though in January

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GOTABAYA PICKS NEW CABINET  
PAGE 14



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**USING HERITAGE TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES: THE AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE IN NIZAMUDDIN**

In the last decade and a half, the AKTC has conserved about 60 monuments in the vicinity, the most recent being the 16th-century tomb on Mathura Road called Sabz Burj, opened for public in November 2021.



**TECH**

**'ALIENWARE LAPTOPS MORE AFFORDABLE'**

**Dell is underlining how it's easier to own an Alienware laptop**



**LIFESTYLE**

**THE CHANGING FACE OF SHOWSTOPPERS**

**Shifting shape of showstoppers in Indian fashion weeks**

**EXPRESS AUDIO**

**How Sri Lanka's unprecedented crisis is unfolding**

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

From crippling power cuts and a scarcity of essential commodities, to long queues at fuel pumps, Sri Lanka is facing an unprecedented economic crisis.

**FROM PAGE ONE**

**PM address**

Ministry officials said the Red Fort was chosen as the venue for two reasons. "First, it was the place from where Mughal ruler Aurangzeb gave orders for the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur in 1675. Second, the ramparts of Red Fort is from where the PM addresses the nation on Independence Day, so it's an ideal place to reach out to the people with a message of inter-faith peace," said an official.

In 2018, Modi had unfurled the national flag and made an address from Red Fort to mark the 75th anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fauj.

Announcing the event on Monday, Reddy said: "Guru Tegh Bahadur stood up to the atrocities of the Mughals by protecting the freedom of dharmic faiths; he fought for the rights of Sikhs and Hindus. Despite being physically tortured by the Mughals for conversion, he stood his ground and chose to give away his life and not his belief system... He fought against forcible mass conversions of Kashmiri Pandits and this left the Mughals livid."

Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib in Chandni Chowk was built at the site where he was beheaded by the Mughals, while Gurdwara Rakab Ganj Sahib was built at his cremation site, the minister said.

Reddy said Union Home Minister Amit Shah will kick off the event on April 20 evening, which will be attended by 11 chief ministers and prominent Sikh leaders from across the country. The families of 400 Sikh jathedars have also been invited, including those from the Golden Temple in Amritsar. The inaugural programme will include a laser light show. There will also be an exhibition on the life and times of the Sikh guru at the Red Fort forecourt for two days. On April 21, after his address, the PM will release a postal stamp and a commemorative coin on the Sikh guru, to be followed by a *langar*.

The BJP has been making a concerted effort to woo the Sikh community even after the party's poor showing in the Punjab elections, in which it won only two seats. Just four days after the results, Modi invited a group of Sikh intellectuals from Punjab to his official residence. Those who attended the meeting called it an exchange of ideas with a PM who seemed open to their concerns.

On April 1, BJP sent its union minister and Punjab in-charge Gajendra Shekhawat to attend a memorial function for SGPC chief Gurcharan Singh Tohra at his ancestral village near Patiala even as most state leaders kept away. The party also encouraged its Haryana unit to observe the death anniversary of Bhagat Singh with a slew of events across the state. Earlier, in the run-up to the February polls, the PM repealed the three contentious farm laws on Guru Nanak Jayanti on November 19 last year. The party also welcomed into its fold a number of Sikhs, including Tohra's grandson Kanwarveer Singh.

— WITHEMS, CHANDIGARH

**New Army chief**

He has been Vice Chief of Army Staff since February 1 this year. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, he was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers (Bombay Sappers) in December 1982.

According to the Army, he was part of Operation Parakram, the 2001-02 India-Pakistan standoff in the wake of the Parliament attack. The standoff saw massing of thousands of troops on either side of the border and along the Line of Control in J&K.

"The General Officer has commanded 117 Engineer

Regiment during Operation Parakram in the sensitive Palla-wala Sector of Jammu and Kashmir, along the Line of Control," the Army said.

Pandey is a graduate of Staff College, Camberley (United Kingdom) and attended the Higher Command (HC) and National Defence College (NDC) courses.

In his 39 years of military service, he has held important and challenging command and staff appointments in different operational environments which include command of an engineers brigade in the western theatre, as part of a strike corps, an infantry brigade along the LoC in J&K, a mountain division in the high altitude area of western Ladakh and command of a corps, deployed along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and in counter insurgency operations area of Eastern Command.

**Khargone**

one told us anything."

SP Rohit Keswani indicated there were lapses on police's part. "We were told by the supervisor of the Kapas Mandi that his guard, Kamal Salve, had heard a group brutally beating up a man there. The guard told us that the men kept saying, 'Maaro isko, maaro (Beat him up)', and had run away on hearing police sirens," he told *The Indian Express*, adding that they had been unable to find any footage of the incident in CCTV cameras.

After the post-mortem report showed Khan was hit on his head with a blunt object, an FIR was registered under murder charges on April 14 at Khargone's Kotwali Police Station. Around 12 hours earlier, Khan's family had filed a missing person's complaint at Kotwali Police Station, having been unable to venture out earlier due to curfew. However, police failed to cross-check the missing person's report against the body they had found.

Ikhlaq said Khan went to the mosque at 7.30 pm on April 10 and had not returned home. They said his friends and their relatives had no idea where he was.

Khan's family, including mother Mumtaz, 65, his two brothers and sister had then gone out trying to find him on their own, from street drains to the morgue of the district hospital in Khargone. Mumtaz pleaded with people: "Even if he (Khan) is dead, please give us his body so we can bury him properly."

Keswani said it was after the media wrote of their plight that police took note and approached the family. Khan's body was identified early April 18 morning, at M Y Hospital. Ikhlaq said on hearing about a body having arrived at M Y Hospital, he had even searched the hospital premises, including the morgue, on April 16, but hit a wall. Ikhlaq accused police of only acting after they protested and threatened to go to the media. The family said Khan had sustained head injuries in a road accident about three years ago, and had been told by doctors to be careful.

Khan is survived by his wife and son.

**Ashish Mishra**

farmers killed in the incident, who said they were not heard when the bail plea was taken up by the HC.

The HC had "taken into account several irrelevant considerations, whilst simultaneously ignoring judicial precedents and established parameters for grant of bail", exceeded its jurisdiction by touching upon the merits of the case, "denied" the "victims... a fair and effective hearing at the time of granting bail" and "shown tearing hurry... in enter-

taining or granting bail," the bench said.

Writing for the bench, Justice Surya Kant said an amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act in 2008 had "inserted the definition of a 'victim' under Section 2 (wa)" and "statutorily recognised various rights of such victims at different stages of trial". These rights "are totally independent, incomparable, and are not accessory or auxiliary to those of the State under the CrPC. The presence of 'State' in the proceedings, therefore, does not tantamount to according a hearing to a 'victim' of the crime," said the bench.

"A 'victim'...has a legally vested right to be heard at every step post the occurrence of an offence" and "has unbridled participatory rights from the stage of investigation till the culmination of the proceedings in an appeal or revision," it said.

When the victims come forward to participate in a criminal proceeding, they must be accorded an opportunity of fair and effective hearing, it said. "If the right to file an appeal against acquittal is not accompanied with the right to be heard at the time of deciding a bail application, the same may result in grave miscarriage of justice," it said.

"Victims certainly cannot be expected to be sitting on the fence and watching the proceedings from afar, especially when they may have legitimate grievances. It is the solemn duty of a court to deliver justice before the memory of an injustice eclipses... We are constrained to express our disappointment with the manner in which the HC has failed to acknowledge the right of the victims," said the bench.

Stating that while deciding bail pleas, courts "should refrain from evaluating or undertaking a detailed assessment of evidence", the bench agreed with the petitioner's argument that the HC "has completely lost sight of" this principle and "instead of looking into aspects such as the nature and gravity of the offence; severity of the punishment in the event of conviction; circumstances which are peculiar to the accused or victims; likelihood of the accused fleeing; likelihood of tampering with the evidence and witnesses and the impact that his release may have on the trial and the society at large...has adopted a myopic view of the evidence on the record and proceeded to decide the case on merits".

The court reiterated that an FIR cannot be treated as an encyclopaedia of events and said that in this case, "while the allegations in the FIR, that the accused used his firearm and the subsequent post-mortem and injury reports may have some limited bearing, there was no legal necessity to give undue weightage to the same. Moreover, the observations on merits of a case when the trial has yet to commence, are likely to have an impact on the outcome of the trial proceedings".

Directing the HC to consider the bail plea afresh, the SC said this was necessary to allay the fear of the accused that no court would consider his bail plea after it was cancelled by the SC. "No accused can be subjected to unending detention pending trial, especially when the law presumes him to be innocent until proven guilty," the bench said.

On October 3 last year, a convoy of three SUVs, including a Thar owned by Ajay Mishra, ran over a group of protesting farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri. Four farmers and a journalist were killed and several others were injured. In the violence that followed, two BJP workers and the driver of the Thar vehicle were

killed.

On February 10 this year, the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad HC granted bail to Ashish Mishra, stating that while he was accused of inciting the driver to run over the protesters, the driver may have "tried to speed up the vehicle to save himself". It said the death of the driver and two others in the violence that followed could not be overlooked.

**Covid cases**

These are also the districts with the highest number of active cases. Of the 695 active cases in Uttar Pradesh, Gautam Buddha Nagar has 280, Ghaziabad 113, Lucknow 41, Meerut 11, Bulandshahr 5, and Baghpat 2.

In Haryana, Health Minister Anil Vij said masks will be made mandatory in Gurgaon, Faridabad, Sonapat and Jhajjar. Of the 238 new cases reported in the state on Monday, 198 were from Gurgaon and 22 from Faridabad; more than half the districts in the state reported no new case.

Sources said genome sequencing of the samples tested in UP showed the Omicron variant, which drove the surge in January. According to sources, the XE variant (a recombinant variant of Omicron's sub lineages BA.1 and BA.2) hasn't been detected. The samples of new cases in Haryana have been sent for genome sequencing in Rohtak.

In Delhi, the number of new cases remained over 500 for two days in a row, with 501 new cases reported on Monday. The city has been seeing an increasing positivity rate as well -- it was 7.72% on Monday. This could be due to a sharp drop in the number of tests after the January wave, with only symptomatic people getting tested. The city hasn't reported an increase in hospitalisations yet.

**Inflation**

the hands of the producers. So, what will happen is that cost push increases showing up in the WPI will influence the financial crisis. In the past, because we had this very large MSME sector, it was the other way around," Pronab Sen, former Chief Statistician of India, said. "Given that the MSMEs have been decimated, the pricing power today has shifted. The kind of patterns one talks about the WPI convergence to the CPI may not work; it may in fact be the CPI convergence to the WPI," Sen said.

The gross non-performing assets (NPAs) of MSMEs, or loans defaulted by these enterprises, rose by Rs 20,000 crore to Rs 1,65,732 crore as of September 2021 from Rs 1,45,673 crore in September 2020. The Covid-19 impact on MSMEs has played out in two ways: One, in the FMCG space, the wiping out of many small firms handed increased pricing power to larger manufacturers, and this resulted in price increases despite falling product volumes. The December quarter earnings of FMCG companies pointed to this trend in rural markets first: marginal or better-than-urban sales growth was visible in value terms, but amid falling demand as was evident in thinning volumes.

Two, in industrial sectors such as automobiles that were already facing increased commodity prices, reduction in the number of MSME suppliers handed the ability of commanding higher prices to the remaining component makers, translating into rising input costs for original equipment manufacturers. India's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India Ltd raised the prices of its products four times in 2021-22 -- compared to just one or two price hikes every year. Monday, it announced another price hike, the first in 2022-23, across models. Other carmakers too have hiked

prices multiple times.

Sen also alluded to the fact that the growing GST collections were an indicator of growth in the segment of the economy that collects the tax. "It's part of the same story. Basically, what the GST collections are telling you is that the component of the economy that we're paying GST to has grown," he said.

The minutes of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee meeting held during December 2-4, 2020, had noted the anecdotal evidence of rising profits and profit margins, improving capacity utilisation and lack of new capacity additions creating ripe conditions for the oligopolistic core to start exercising pricing power. "Anecdotal evidence suggests that in several sectors which are characterised by an oligopolistic core and a competitive periphery, the oligopolistic core has weathered the pandemic well and it is the competitive periphery that has been debilitated... These are also the enterprises that are benefiting from borrowing at rates below the policy corridor through commercial paper issuance," Jayanth R. Varma, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad had said then in the MPC meeting.

Between the wholesale price and the retail price, the difference essentially is that the former tracks only basic prices devoid of transportation cost, taxes and the retail margin, etc. And that WPI pertains to only goods, not services. So, the WPI basically captures the average movement of wholesale prices of goods and is primarily used as a GDP deflator (the ratio of the value of goods an economy produces in a particular year at current prices to that of prices that prevailed during the base year). Despite this, the WPI-inflation far exceeding the CPI-inflation serves as a signal for retail prices to rise further going forward. Officials at the Reserve Bank of India had pointed to evidence that suggested WPI-inflation collapsing towards the CPI-inflation rather than the other way around. Relying on this, they had indicated that wholesale inflation would tend to ease and converge into CPI inflation with passage of time.

"Till some time, the producers will absorb it but when it starts hitting their bottom line, then they will start passing on. If prices continue to rise at retail level, it may start hitting demand going ahead," Devendra Pant, Chief Economist, India Ratings said. It is not necessary that WPI will increase first and then CPI or vice versa; it may happen simultaneously. "WPI is rising due to higher prices of inputs and raw materials. Higher final prices in some way may influence prices at the first producer level," he said.

Going ahead, retail inflation may not cool down, prompting the RBI to introduce more liquidity curbing measures. "The month-on-month decline in the food and beverages index in March 2022, was predominantly led by vegetables, eggs and tea, whereas many other items saw moderate increases. We remain concerned that even a normal monsoon may not be enough to douse the retail prices of those items that are pushing up food inflation, such as edible oils," Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist at ratings agency ICRA said.

ICRA expects WPI inflation to remain in the range of 13.5-15 per cent in April, partly depending on where crude oil prices settle in the remainder of the month and how much petrol and diesel prices are revised further. "The broad-based nature of the rise in the WPI inflation is likely to be of particular concern to the MPC. We see a growing probability of the first repo hike being prepounded to June 2022," Nayar said.

Inflation on the inputs side is being passed on by manufacturers to the output prices. "As the margins of the manufacturers

have been under pressure due to rising input costs, transportation, and logistics, they are passing on these into their output prices leading to higher inflation in manufactured products. The higher input costs, especially of raw materials, have aggravated due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. As the conflict does not seem to be coming to an end soon, the headwinds arising out of the disruption in the global supply chain coupled with uncertainty will continue to put pressure on domestic wholesale inflation," Sunil Kumar Sinha, Principal Economist, India Ratings and Research, said.

**Cricket**

■ **AVISHEK DALMIYA:** Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) president; Father: Late Jagmohan Dalmiya, former CAB, BCCI, ICC president.

■ **SOURAV GANGULY:** BCCI president; Brother: Snehasish Ganguly is Honorary Secretary of the Cricket Association of Bengal; uncle Debashish Ganguly is the treasurer. Ganguly held the posts of secretary and president at CAB before his elevation to the BCCI.

■ **ROHAN JAITLEY:** Delhi & District Cricket Association president; Father: Late Arun Jaitley, former DCCA president, IPL Governing Council member.

■ **ADWAI T MANOHAR:** Vidarbha Cricket Association (VCA) president; Father: Shashank Manohar, former VCA, BCCI, ICC president.

■ **SANJAY BEHERA:** Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) secretary; Father: Ashirbad Behera, former OCA secretary.

■ **MAHIM VERMA:** Cricket Association of Uttarakhand (CAU) secretary; Father: PC Verma, former CAU secretary.

■ **NIDHIPATI SINGHANIA, JK GROUP:** UP Cricket Association (UPCA) president; Uncle: Late Yadupati Singhania, former UPCA president.

■ **VIPUL PHADKE:** Goa Cricket Association (GCA) secretary; Father: Vinod Phadke, former GCA secretary.

■ **KECHANGULIE RIO:** Nagaland Cricket Association (NCA) president; Father: Neiphu Rio, former NCA president & Nagaland Chief Minister.

On paper, the road to these posts is via an election in each unit. But that's just on paper. In practice, the transfer of power to the next generation is "smooth" since the veteran administrators (read fathers) have formed tight coteries around them.

For years, they decided on all key appointments in their units so they influence voters in districts, clubs or individual members. "Most units were run like private clubs, it was tough for any outsiders to get in," says a veteran BCCI hand.

When sons and relatives of powerful politicians entered the fray, sometimes the old dynasty had to make way. For example, Rajasthan's Congress CM Ashok Gehlot's son Vaibhav Gehlot is in charge of cricket in the state.

In MP, dynasty and political power in cricket management run parallel. According to Prasanth Mehta, president of the Gwalior Division, Mahanaaryaman's appointment had Jyotiraditya's approval.

"The House elects the president, and the president is authorised to appoint the managing committee. Jyotiraditya Scindia was elected president (Gwalior) but he declined and then he gave it (post) to me. Then he made the managing committee with Mahanaaryaman as the vice-president. Jyotiraditya is patron of the Gwalior Division and president of the Chambal Division," Mehta told *The Indian Express*.

Jay Shah was the Gujarat Cricket Association joint secretary before he became BCCI secretary. His father was GCA president.

Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA) has former Ranji captain

Jaydev Shah as the president. His father Niranjan Shah was an SCA secretary for four decades and held the same post in the BCCI.

When contacted, Niranjan Shah defended passing the baton within the family. "Who can stop anyone from standing for elections? If a person is a capable administrator and has love for the game does it matter if the person is related to a former official? I have been retired because of Lodha Committee rules. But an institution that has been built over the years should not go into the wrong hands. My son is a first-class cricketer, has his own identity and wants to promote cricket," Niranjan Shah said.

**In Jaffna waters**

2021, it was for a different reason.

Last year, days before Sri Lanka unilaterally cancelled an agreement with India and Japan to develop the east container terminal at Colombo Port, it awarded a \$12-mn renewable energy project on Delft, Nainathēevu and Analaathēevu to a Chinese company called Sinosoar-Etechwin.

The contract was for joint development of the solar farm with state-owned Ceylon Electricity Board, under the government's Supporting Electricity Supply Reliability Improvement Project. It was to be funded with a loan from the Asian Development Bank.

India lodged a strong protest, flagging its security concerns over the project, as the location is close to the Indian coastline. Of the three islands, Delft is the closest to Tamil Nadu.

Delhi offered its own project, with a 75 per cent grant of the project cost. Colombo froze the agreement with the Chinese, but did not respond to India either. Through the year, China and India continued to push for their respective projects.

On December 3, a day after Sri Lanka's former Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa concluded his visit to Delhi where he discussed financial assistance, China's ambassador to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong tweeted that "security concerns" of a "third party" had led to "suspension" of the Chinese project in the the three islands off Jaffna, announcing as well that Sinosoar was setting up a solar-diesel power plant in the Maldives.

Colombo had finally blinked.

"We originally intended to carry out this project under a loan from an international financial institution, and a Chinese firm was selected through the standard bidding process, but the Indian government has offered a 75% grant for this purpose. Therefore, we have cancelled the contract for the time being," Duminda Dissanayake, then Minister of State in charge of Solar Power, Wind, and Hydro Power Generation Projects Development, told Sri Lankan media in December 2021.

In March, India and Sri Lanka finally signed "an MoU for the implementation of a hybrid renewable energy project on the three islands".

Delft, named by Sri Lanka's Dutch colonial rulers after a city of the same name in Holland, is a flat, nearly elliptical piece of land, mostly barren, with hardly any rise over the waters around it. During the civil war, many people here fled to India. Drinking water as well as fuel have to be transported from Jaffna. A few curious tourists visit to see Delft ponies, a strain of wild horses from the horses of the Dutch rulers.

Regeeswaran has not heard of either the Chinese or the Indian renewable energy project. His only concern is the "destruction" of his livelihood by Indian fishermen.

"Each net costs Rs 30,000.

Each of us lays out several nets in the water at night. When the Indian trawlers sail in, they sweep away our nets, and the next morning, we can't find them. An entire day goes just looking for the missing nets. That's another Rs 10,000 in diesel cost and a wasted day," he said.

Ahilan Kadirgamar, who teaches economics at Jaffna University, said India must solve the fisheries issue, and the only way to do this is to ban trawlers. "Once you do that, fishermen can't come this far from the Tamil Nadu coast," he said.

Kadirgamar said Sri Lanka's economic crisis has given India "a new opportunity" to reset its image in Sri Lanka, and its ties with the people of the country, especially in the north. "Solving the fisheries issue is crucial. People will remember India well if it helps to rebuild livelihoods, and engages in broader programmes to address self-sufficiency," he said.

**Yogi**

crackdown on illegal slaughter.

Next on the government agenda will be establishing biogas plants, utilising cow dung to eventually make CNG, working towards a public private partnership. Cow dung for this will be purchased from farmers. Modi had promised farmers a system where cows that have stopped giving milk (which are abandoned by farmers) would yield income through gobar, and said this would be so lucrative that people would go out of their way to adopt stray cattle.

The state government will also identify 65,000 hectares of land kept for grazing in revenue records which will be dedicated to making fodder.

Officials said the idea was to tackle the stray cattle problem in such a way that it is "self-sufficient" and "financially viable". For cow sanctuaries, the government has asked district magistrates to identify available forest areas with a provision for water bodies under their jurisdictions.

Indramani, Director, Animal Husbandry, Uttar Pradesh, said they would rope in the Departments of Urban Development and Panchayati Raj. "The idea is to have as much land as possible where there is availability of forests. We can develop water sources if required, along with oversee fencing and arrangement for storing fodder."

On utilisation of cow dung, Indramani said: "Some units are already working on this, like the one in Kanpur. A gobar gas plant has been established in Varanasi."

A stray cattle survey done in 2019 put their number in the state at about 11.84 lakh. The state government claims to have provided shelter to about 9.30 lakh stray cattle over the past five years. However, most of these shelters are temporary. In 2018-19, the government first announced mega cow shelters -- starting with 75 and going up to 213 -- with the estimated expenditure of about Rs 1.20 crore each. Sources said work on over 50 such shelters is already underway and funds are likely to be increased.

In its first tenure, the Adityanth government had introduced a scheme to provide Rs 30 per stray cattle per day to individuals willing to keep them, divert 3% cess from Mandi Parishad, and impose a toll tax on cows, to stop people from abandoning cattle.

However, considering the large scale of the problem and funds required to tackle it, the government has shifted its focus to setting up a financially viable model, preferably before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

FULL REPORTS  
www.indianexpress.com



## Auto, taxi drivers withdraw strike, those with cab aggregators continue



Autos parked at Ramlila ground as drivers went on strike on Monday. Abhinav Saha

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

FOLLOWING THE inconvenience faced by commuters on day one of their 'chakka jam', autorickshaw and taxi drivers' unions have decided to withdraw their indefinite strike scheduled on Tuesday. The unions are protesting over the hike in CNG and fuel prices and have demanded revision of fares. However, drivers who work with app-based cab aggregators said they will continue their protest till their demands are met.

Demanding a subsidy on CNG and revision of fares, several auto and taxi unions, as well as gramin seva and metro feeder bus services, had announced a two-day 'chakka jam' from Monday.

"Our protest was against the central and state government over the CNG price hike and it will continue. But we don't want to cause inconvenience to the public. Our initial plan was to hold an indefinite strike for two days (April 18, 19). But on Monday, we saw many students, elderly persons and parents waiting for hours at ISBTs, railway station and the airport for cabs and taxis. Parents and school children also faced similar issues. So, we decided to suspend and withdraw the protest for now," said Rajendra Soni, president, Delhi Autorickshaw Sangh.

There are around 90,000-95,000 autorickshaws and over 80,000 taxis registered with the Delhi transport department. As per the driver's unions, only 3-5% autos and taxis were plying on the roads for emergency services. "... We are expecting a meeting with the central government in the coming days. If they don't meet us, we will go on a strike again," said Soni.

Sanjay Samrat, president,

Delhi Taxi Tourist and Transportation Association, said, "All tourist taxis and buses did not run today. We came to know that many people were stranded. But neither the Centre nor the state is concerned about the inconvenience being faced by the public. So... tourist taxis and buses have decided to suspend the protest planned on April 19 and return to work."

Meanwhile, cab drivers working with app-based cab aggregators said they will continue their protest till the government fulfils their demands. "Taxi fare was last revised in 2013, but price of CNG has increased numerous times over this period," said Sunita, who works with a cab aggregator.

Due to the protest on Monday, those booking a taxi or an auto through cab aggregators saw a steep increase in fares. For instance, an auto from Laxmibai Nagar, INA, to Udyog Bhawan, which usually costs around Rs 60-75, was hiked to around Rs 100. A similar distance by cab, which is usually Rs 100-110, increased to Rs 150. Vandana Garg, who lives in RK Puram, said, "I usually take an auto to office but drivers near my house demanded Rs 100 for a distance of just 3 km."

The key demands of protesting drivers are revision of taxi fares by Rs 30 for AC and by Rs 25 for non-AC taxis per km; exempting taxis registered in Delhi from MCD toll tax; launching the Delhi City Taxi Policy 2017 as suggested by the apex court; subsidy of Rs 35 per kg on CNG price; and ending cab aggregators systems and bringing all taxis and cabs under one head managed by Delhi government with fixed prices and benefits for drivers. CNG prices were hiked by Rs 2.5, and the current price in Delhi is Rs 71.61 per kg. It has been hiked thrice in April and 11 times since March 7.

## Dropped off by school bus, 4-yr-old run over

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, APRIL 18

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD boy died after he allegedly came under his school's minibus while being dropped off in Gurgaon on Monday afternoon, said police.

The victim has been identified as Sidharth, a resident of Shikohpur, Sector 78. He was studying in LKG in a private preschool in Kherki Daula, his family said. According to police, the incident took place around 1.30 pm when the bus was dropping off school children at their respective houses. Police said that after the boy deboarded the minibus near his house, the bus driver allegedly drove the vehicle away and the boy fell and came under one of the wheels.

The deceased's father, Gulshan Singh, who has a freelance photography business, said his family members heard a loud shriek and quickly rushed out of their house to check.

"It appears that he came under the tyres of the bus. He suffered several injuries — on his stomach, arms and legs. We



Four-year-old Sidharth

rushed him to a private hospital in Civil Lines around 2 pm, but he did not get proper treatment there and a lot of crucial time was lost. He was talking to me at the time and mentioned that he wanted to go home. An ambulance arrived two hours late to take him to another hospital and he succumbed to injuries," said Singh. He alleged negligence on part of the school authorities and the driver. "No helper or conductor was present on the bus, which should be mandatory. There is always a possibility of a mishap while boarding and deboarding, especially for young

children. It should be the responsibility of the school to ensure the safety of children. A helper should help children get off the bus and hand them over to the custody of parents. At 9.30 am daily, either my wife or I ensured that he got safely onto the bus. He was my only son. I do not know what to say," he said.

Singh said he had enrolled his son in LKG in the school on April 5. "After Covid, I put my two daughters — studying in class 4 and 6 — in a government school. Earlier, they were studying in the same school as my son. The previous driver used to drop them off safely till our house," he added.

Rajender Singh, station house officer, Kherki Daula police station, said, "The boy travelled daily to school in the minibus. A probe has found that around 1.30 pm, after he got off the bus, the driver drove the vehicle away, and the boy came under it. He was rushed to a hospital, where he died around 5 pm. The family has filed a police complaint alleging negligence on part of school management and bus driver. We are registering an FIR under relevant IPC sections."



## Global EOI for Lignite Beneficiation Plant

Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., (GMDC) is one of India's leading mining and mineral processing companies. Ranked 132<sup>nd</sup> among India's Fortune 500 companies (2017) and in the Top-5 by market capitalisation in the mining sector, we are a debt-free company. We have also undertaken forward integration with a lignite-based thermal power plant along with wind and solar power installations.

GMDC now wants to invite interested Vendors for setting up a Lignite Beneficiation Plant at GMDC's 'Mata No Madh' Lignite Project at Kutch, Gujarat, India.

### EOI for inviting interested Vendors for setting up Lignite Beneficiation Plant

EOI Document Downloading start date	19/04/2022 at 11:00 hrs IST
Pre EOI submission Meeting	29/04/2022 at 12:00 hrs IST
EOI submission due date	11/05/2022 at 17:00 hrs IST
Date of opening EOI	13/05/2022 at 11:00 hrs IST

### SCOPE OF WORK

A key role of the Vendor shall be selection of efficient, cost-effective and state-of-the-art technology, judiciously considered to fetch higher yield of desired quality, commissioning of plants and thereafter Operation & Maintenance for a period of five years.

The scope of work of the Vendor / Technology service provider will broadly cover design, planning, engineering, installation, testing and commissioning of a Lignite Beneficiation Plant for GMDC of throughput capacity of 2.0 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) on Build, Operate and Maintain (BOM) concept.

Interested firms may please visit our websites  
[www.gmdcltd.com](http://www.gmdcltd.com) & [gmdc.nprocure.com](http://gmdc.nprocure.com) for more details.



Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.  
(A Government of Gujarat Enterprise)

Khanji Bhavan, 132 Feet Ring Road,  
Near University Ground, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad - 380 052.

EXPLORING LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES

## Less than one-third DDA flats allotted

ABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE DELHI Development Authority's (DDA) draw of lots for its Special Housing Scheme 2021 saw less than one-third takers with only 5,227 of 18,335 flats being allotted to applicants.

The land-owning agency said 9,790 flats were put in the final draw and 5,227 flats have been allotted. The DDA said that initially, it had placed 18,335 flats located in 28 localities under the scheme. However, it went ahead with 9,790 flats for the draw in response to it getting only 12,387 applicants who deposited the requisite registration fee.

"Among the applicants, most gave preference for certain local-

ities like Vasant Kunj, Jasola, Dwarka but the preferences for Narela sub-city was not as per expectations," said a senior DDA official.

The preferences of the applicants for LIG flats at Sector G7 and EWS flats at Sector A1 to A4 in Narela was just 687 and 2,234 respectively, against the 6,546 and 5,033 flats being offered in these two localities, he said.

"Therefore, it was decided to put only 687 and 2,346 flats of the localities in the final draw so as to avoid the possibility of scattered allotment of flats to applicants among various blocks and towers in these localities. Hence, 9,790 flats were only put in the final draw and 5,227 flats have been allotted to successful applicants," said the DDA.

**OUR RESOLVE - MALNUTRITION FREE INDIA**

**RIGHT NUTRITION - BRIGHT NATION**

**“ In this movement pertaining to nutrition, people's participation is very crucial. In our country during the past few years, a lot of effort has been made in this direction. Whether it is the nutrition week or the nutrition month, more and more awareness is being generated through these measures. - Narendra Modi ”**

**OUR RESOLVE - MALNUTRITION FREE INDIA**

**RIGHT NUTRITION - BRIGHT NATION**

- Assured nutrition to mother and child through financial aid- Under PMMVY, **Rs. 10 thousand crore** directly transferred to over **2.4 crore** pregnant women
- Maternity leave of **12 weeks** increased to **24 weeks** for working pregnant women- significant step to assure safety and nutrition to mother and child
- During challenges of the pandemic, **Rs 3.40 lakh crore** spent to provide **5 kg free ration** to **80 crore** beneficiaries under PMGKAY, ensuring food for the less privileged
- Vast improvement in the nutritional indicators of children under **5 years** from 2015-16 to 2019-20 according to the **National Family Health Survey**
- Over **40 crore** nutrition centric activities to promote public awareness across the country
- 11.03 lakh** smart phones and **11.94 lakh** Growth Monitoring Devices allocated to states for collection of nutrition data, **11.35 crore** beneficiaries linked to Nutrition Tracker
- Thematic training on nutrition to **10.22 lakh** Frontline Workers
- Promotion of nutrition awareness in all aspirational districts through innovative means like **Poshan Vatika** under **POSHAN 2.0**
- Decision of **Fortified Rice** distribution in all Government schemes to fulfill the needs of essential nutrients for women, children and lactating mothers and to free the less privileged from malnutrition - so far **7.31 lakh metric tonnes** distributed

**ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
(A Statutory Body of the Government of India)  
Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070  
011-29581202, 29581246, 29581114 Website: <https://www.aicte-india.org>

**SWAYAM CELL**  
F.No. 40-35/AICTE/SWAYAM/EOI/2017 (Part File) Dated: 19.04.2022

**Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Development of Self-Paced/Credit Courses for SWAYAM Platform**

AICTE being the 9<sup>th</sup> National Coordinator invites proposals from all Educational Content Developers and Faculty Members of all Technical Higher Educational Institutions all over the Country including "Freelancers" and "Individuals" who are not associated with any College/University for development of MOOCs on emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Nano Technology, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, Mixed Reality, Data Analytics, Indian Knowledge System, Innovation Sustainable Development etc. and any other areas falling under "non-formal" education as Self-Paced or Credit Course for SWAYAM MOOCs Platform. Aspiring Course creators may please send their proposals along with a Three Minute Introductory Video and curriculum describing unit wise contents in not more than 3000 words of the proposed MOOC. AICTE reserves the right to accept or reject the proposal for creation of new online courses for SWAYAM. The complete proposals may be sent at [aicteswayam1@aicte-india.org](mailto:aicteswayam1@aicte-india.org)

The last date of receipt of proposals is **15<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**. For details, please visit website at [www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org)

Adv. No. SWAYAM Cell/AICTE/04(01)/2022 **Member Secretary**



CORONAVIRUS  
IN THE CAPITAL

VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS  
**4,973**

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: **81**

OXYGEN SUPPORT **1**

VENTILATOR SUPPORT **1**

	Total		Vacant	
	HOSPITAL BEDS	9,735	9,653	
	ICU BEDS	2,197	2,177	
April 17	517	261	0	12,270
April 18	501	290	0	6,492
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,729*</b>	<b>18,41,162</b>	<b>26,160</b>	<b>3,75,68,234</b>

\*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA	Cases		Deaths	
	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 17	Apr 18
	76	N/A	0	N/A

GURGAON	Cases		Deaths	
	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 17	Apr 18
	157	198	0	0

## JAHANGIRPURI VIOLENCE

## Gunman seen in video held; FIR against yatra organisers



Security deployment remained heavy two day after the clashes at Jahangirpuri. Praveen Khanna

MAHENDER SINGH  
MANRAL

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

A DAY after arresting 20 people and apprehending three minors in connection with communal riots at Jahangirpuri, police made a fresh arrest — that of 28-year-old Imam alias Sonu, who was seen in a video purportedly firing a gun during the violence. Police said they had identified him from the video being circulated on social media. "Acting on an input, he was apprehended by Special Staff of Northwest district from Mangal Bazaar road and a sophisticated pistol was recovered from his possession," police said.

As police went to arrest him, a fresh incident of stone-pelting was reported from Jahangirpuri, police said. Stones and bricks were thrown from a roof, close to the site of Saturday's clash, and the Police and Rapid Action Force officials blocked the area.

DCP (Northwest) Usha Rangnani said: "A video was being circulated on Sunday on social media showing a man in blue kurta opening fire during the riot in Jahangirpuri area on April 16. A police team from Northwest district had gone to his house... to look for him and to question his family members. The family members pelted two stones on them in retaliation. One of the stones hit inspector Satender Khari, who was deployed near Kushal Chowk, and he sustained an injury to his right ankle. Legal action is being taken. A case has been registered. A woman has joined the investigation."

The stones were thrown near the entry of the narrow lane in which the family's home is located. Following this, security personnel in riot gear sealed entry into the lane and sealed the main road with barricades.

## Action against shobha yatra organisers

The Delhi Police also registered an FIR against organisers of the shobha yatra for allegedly

not seeking permission. DCP Rangnani said: "A case under IPC Section 188 has been registered against organisers for carrying out a procession on the evening of April 16 in Jahangirpuri area without any permission. One accused person has joined the investigation. Further investigation is in progress. The other two processions which were carried out in morning and afternoon on April 16 in Jahangirpuri area had due permission."

The organisers, which include the Delhi unit of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal, claimed they had received permission. VHP national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said they will go to the court against police for "framing" their workers. "We never organise any rally without permission. This time too, we got permission from the Delhi Police. Someone should ask them why they made security arrangements for our shobha yatra if we did not have permission..."

The Indian Express accessed two letters submitted by the VHP's Delhi branch (Mukherjee Nagar district) on April 14 to Jahangirpuri and Mahendra Park police stations, both of which had a police stamp. The letters, which sought security and traffic management during the shobha yatra to mark Hanuman Jayanti, were unsigned but mentioned the name of Brahm Prakash, co-department secretary.

Prakash said, "... I did not apply for permission... another party worker, Prem Sharma, did. But we did have proper permission for the procession." Prem Sharma said, "We received permission from Delhi Police from two police stations."

On claims by the organisers that they received permission, the Delhi Police spokesperson declined to comment and said a statement has already been issued in this regard.

This is the second FIR filed since the violence. An earlier FIR was registered at Jahangirpuri police station in connection with the communal flare-up between two communities.

## Two days after violence, shops remain shut, tense parents outside school

SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

TWO DAYS after communal clashes in Jahangirpuri, the area continued to wear a deserted look with shutters of almost every shop down in and around Kushal Chowk on Monday. Security deployment remained heavy.

Apart from one incident of stones being thrown at police in the afternoon, an uneasy calm and silence prevailed in the area. Although Kushal Chowk and the roads around it are a hub of mobile repair stores, Purushottam Kumar's store located in G block, close to the chowk, was the only one which had opened on Monday. However, as of 2 pm, it had not seen a single customer.

"Today is the first day I'm opening the store after the violence. I thought things might go back to normal since there has not been any more violence, but it doesn't seem to be that way. We will also close down and go in a bit. I don't think there can be any business till all this is gone," he said, gesturing towards the tents with police personnel and the barricades in all directions of the chowk. He is not a resident of the area and had come from his home in Bhalswa to open his store.

On the other side of the chowk, in C block, Roshan Begum and her two sons have not opened their mobile repair store since Saturday. Residents of H block, they only raised the shutters of their shop for 15 minutes on Monday afternoon to enable police to check their CCTV camera.

"Who will even come to the store when it's like this? First



On Monday, shutters of almost every shop in and around Kushal Chowk were down. Sukrita Baruah

there was Covid and now during Ramzan, there's 'Hindu-Muslim'. We have just been staying away all these days," she said.

The only building with activity was the large red brick government school located right at the chowk, where senior students were writing exams in the early afternoon. At 3.30 pm, younger boys started streaming in for their classes.

While the boys wrote their exams, a small group of mothers waited outside in the scorching heat, not confident of leaving them there.

Anita Devi had been waiting since 1 pm, even though her son's exam would only get over at 4 pm. He is in Class XI. "Saturday was very scary because they were in school till 5 pm. He called me when he was leaving saying that there was a lot of crowding and noise. Thankfully they got out in the opposite direction and were out of school in time. He has his exam today and I want to place his studies first but I also want to

be here in case something goes wrong. I feel scared," she said. Standing with her was Saira Begum, who was waiting outside while her son, also in class IX, wrote his exam.

Hemant, a class IX student who lives in a slum behind the school, said that he was not scared of going to school: "There's nothing to be afraid of, all my friends have also come, and we are Hindus and Muslims. We will just go back home after school is over."

Radha, who had come to drop off her 10-year-old son, said she had spent a long time on Sunday night thinking about whether she should send her children to school on Monday. Her daughter, in class IX, had already been to school in the morning, and her son, who is in class XII, was writing an exam inside. "I thought they have lost so much of their studies because of Covid and cases are rising again... now there's the clash. We can't ruin our children's future like this," she said.

## Not true, says Asthana on claims of bid to hoist saffron flags at mosque

MAHENDER SINGH  
MANRAL

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

TWO DAYS after clashes broke out during a shobha yatra to mark Hanuman Jayanti in Jahangirpuri, Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana denied claims that there had been an attempt to hoist saffron flags at a local mosque. Calling the claims which have been echoed by some locals "not true", Asthana said a minor argument had spiralled into violence.

Asthana said 23 people have been apprehended so far in connection with the violence and the investigation has been transferred to the Crime Branch. "Three firearms and five swords were also recovered," he said.

Sources said a special investigation team (SIT) has been formed and they will probe, among other things, claims that the neighbourhood harbours "Bangladeshi immigrants". This comes after several BJP leaders alleged that the violence started because of the involvement of illegal immigrants. "During investigation, the SIT has scanned documents of arrested persons, but they have not found anything to suggest this so far. Their



He also said action would be taken without bias

call records and bank details are being checked to find if they have links to any illegal outfit," said a senior officer.

Asthana also said action will be taken without bias: "We will take action on anyone against whom evidence of involvement is found — irrespective of religion, creed, caste and community. I have made it very clear that whoever is involved in the incident will have to face the court of law and we will bring them to justice."

Asked whether there would be action against the organisers of the yatra and if the violence was premeditated, he said a probe was underway.

On questions being raised over the fairness of investigation and claims that a key accused

may have political affiliations, Asthana said: "It (the probe) has to be professional and we will do a professional investigation. Social media and digital evidence will be collected. Those who were physically and virtually part of the crime will be booked."

Informing that the Hanuman Jayanti procession was passing through a traditional route, Asthana said, "It was the third procession and two processions had already crossed the area peacefully that day."

The Crime Branch SIT has five assistant commissioners of police and 10 inspectors. "Two ACPs have been asked to probe the cyber aspect, while another ACP has been asked to analyse call details record of the arrested persons, and one ACP has been asked to use a facial recognition system (FRS) for assistance with the INNEFU team," said a senior police officer.

"Officers have also been asked to check call logs from the police control room (PCR) and meet all callers to record their statements," an officer said.

Asthana said of the people arrested in the case so far, at least eight have a criminal record, with some being arrested in the past on charges ranging from rioting to attempt to murder.

## Produce accused before JJB: HC to police after family says he is minor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

The Delhi High Court Monday directed the Delhi Police to produce an accused in the Jahangirpuri violence case, who was remanded to the investigating agency's custody by a lower court on Sunday, before a Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) after his family submitted that his detention is unlawful as he is only 16 years old.

The division bench of Justice Siddharth Mridul and Justice Rajnish Bhatnagar said he will have to be produced before the JJB for age verification. "The point is (that) it is for the JJB to determine his age. We have already said it has to be done expeditiously," said the court.

Police submitted that the plea with regard to his age was not made earlier and that it will produce him before the magistrate. According to the habeas corpus petition before the court, the age of the accused was shown as 22 years by police. He was arrested from his residence on the night of April 16.

The court said when there is material to show that he prima facie is a juvenile, he has to be produced directly before the JJB and

not a magistrate. "If it has come to your notice now that he is a juvenile, you have to take him there. You are not going to wait for one-day PC (police custody) and then take him there," it observed.

Inspector Varun Dalal, Additional SHO of Jahangirpuri police station, then submitted that the accused will be produced before the JJB in accordance with the law on Monday itself.

Advocate Tara Narula, representing the sister-in-law of the accused, earlier submitted that he could not have been taken into custody by police and that he is "visibly injured" as he has been subjected to violence by police. Narula further submitted that his release should be immediately ordered by the HC as the municipal birth certificate is on record.

However, the court said age verification has to take place first. The court also said it was limiting the habeas corpus petition to the question of age of the accused and his production before the JJB.

The accused was later produced before the JJB, which took note of the birth certificate and remanded him to the observation home. It also called for various reports and asked the investigating officer to verify the birth certificate.

## AAP, BJP accuse each other of having links with accused

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

DELHI BJP leaders Monday alleged that the key accused in the Jahangirpuri violence, Mohd Ansar, has links with the Aam Aadmi Party. The AAP hit back, saying he must be linked to the BJP as "it knows the inside story."

"The mastermind of the attack... Ansar, has been found to be an AAP worker. There is evidence of this in the form of photos. Tahir Hussain, who was the mastermind of the 2020 Delhi riots, was also an AAP councillor. Is AAP running a riots factory?" alleged BJP MP Manoj Tiwari.

Reacting to the claim, AAP leader and minister Satyendra Jain said: "I think he must be linked to the BJP since it knows the inside story."

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor wrote to the CM saying, "People want a reply from the AAP leadership over the involvement of a youth, apparently an AAP worker..." AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj shot back, "No such incident took place anywhere in the shobha yatra taken out by the Aam Aadmi Party. It is clear from this that BJP is getting riots done."

## 'Rozgaar' budget: Sisodia reviews progress of plans

New Delhi: Deputy CM Manish Sisodia Monday held a meeting with officials of the finance department and Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) to review the progress of the schemes and policies announced in the 'rozgaar' budget. He directed the departments concerned to take immediate action to implement them within the decided time period.

As per officials, the government is currently identifying locations to set up food trucks and is working on a process to streamline regulation for installing the same. "Similarly, for facilitating growth of cloud kitchens, the government is reducing existing regulatory burden on this industry, and identifying potential land parcels where cloud kitchen clusters will be set up. A consultation meeting with various key players in the cloud kitchen industry will be held by DDC on April 26," said officials. **ENS**

## Covid cases up as many have abandoned masks, but symptoms mild, say doctors

ANONNA DUTT

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

EVEN AS the number of Covid cases continues to increase in the capital, doctors said most patients are coming to the hospital with fever, cough, sore throat, and body ache. Almost everyone is recovering within three-five days of getting the symptoms, they said.

"I don't think this is a separate wave. The numbers are going up because people aren't masking anymore; this was expected. The symptoms that we are currently seeing in patients are similar to what was seen in the surge in January — fever, sore throat, cough, headache and body ache — and they are getting better in two or three days," said Dr Rajesh Chawla, senior consultant of respiratory medicine at Indraprastha Apollo hospital.



The city saw 500+ cases on Monday as well. However, hospital admissions remain low. Archive

Dr Atul Gogia, senior consultant of internal medicine at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, also reported the same: "The number of cases is definitely increasing,

but so far most of them have been mild. It is mostly fever, cough, cold, and sore throat. The only worry is if a large number of people get infected, then there will be some — the old or comorbid — who will land up in hospitals. We will be able to understand the trajectory a little better in the next 10-15 days."

Dr Gogia added, "With people doing away with masks and several weddings taking place, it is conducive for the virus to spread." The number of cases remained over 500 for two days in a row, with 501 cases reported in Monday's health bulletin. The positivity rate — proportion of samples that return positive — shot up to 7.72%. Covid-19 is said to be under control when the positivity rate, which is indicative of the spread of the infection in an area, remains at 5% or less. There were 517 cases recorded on Sunday with a posi-

itivity rate of 4.21%. The positivity rate had crossed the 5% mark on Saturday.

Hospital admissions, however, remain low. "There are only four patients with Covid admitted to the hospital at present," said Dr Suresh Kumar, medical director of Lok Nayak Hospital, which is Delhi's biggest treatment facility for the viral infection. A month ago, the hospital had reported zero admitted Covid-19 patients for the first time since cases were first reported in the capital in March 2020. Since then, the hospital has been reporting two to three admitted patients at a time.

At AIIMS, only three Covid patients are admitted. "The number of hospitalisations continues to remain low. Even among those admitted, there is hardly anyone who needs oxygen or ventilator support," said a doctor from the hospital.

ARANYA SHANKAR

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

DELHI UNIVERSITY Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh Monday said St Stephen's College has insisted it would conduct admissions for the academic session 2022-23 with an 85:15 ratio to Common University Entrance Test (CUET) score and interviews, contrary to DU's directions.

Singh, who met Stephen's Principal John Varghese in his office Monday, said the college had been asked to "rethink" its decision and a final decision would be taken on the matter most likely on Tuesday. Principal Varghese did not respond to calls and texts by *The Indian Express*.

"It hasn't been decided today, we will decide tomorrow most probably. They are still of the view that they will continue with the 85:15 ratio for admissions. They are saying they have the

freedom to frame rules and guidelines as per the constitution and want to continue with that," Singh told *The Indian Express*.

"We reiterated that we would like 100% weightage to be given to CUET for general students, and 85:15 can be done for minority candidates. But they've said they have been following this (holding interviews) for the last 100 years so they want to continue with that," he said.

Asked if any specific reason was cited for continuing to hold interviews, Singh said, "No. They've only said they have the freedom to do so and they want to utilise that... I have asked them to re-think their decision and get back to me. Depending on that, we will make a decision."

Asked if DU had the authority to overrule Stephen's if it did not budge from its position, Singh said, "I don't know. We have to see the constitutional provisions. Since they are claiming that this

has been a long practice and they have the freedom to continue with it now also, we are examining that aspect also."

St Stephen's College is one of the six minority colleges of DU. It reserves 50% seats for Christian candidates. DU authorities had received a request from St Stephen's to allow them to hold interviews across all categories. However, Singh had clarified that the college had been communicated they should hold admissions to the general seats only on the basis of the CUET score. For the remaining 50% reserved seats, they could go ahead with the 85:15 ratio.

In its admission policy on its website, the college said "it reserves the right to proceed with admissions as per its own admission policy guaranteed to it as a minority institution and as per past practice", and it would go ahead with admissions based on 85% CUET and 15% interview score "for all categories of applicants".





## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### GRAND HOST

IT WAS a grand evening out for political leaders. The venue was 4, Kushak Road last evening, and the occasion was the wedding reception of Union minister Dr Jitendra Singh's son Arunoday. President Ram Nath Kovind, who rarely attends weddings, was present on the occasion along with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and other Union ministers, including Piyush Goyal, Gajendra Singh Sekhawar, Giriraj Singh, as well as leaders from opposition parties such as Congress's Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Manish Tewari, Shashi Tharoor, Ghulam Nabi Azad, DMK's Kanimozhi and AAP's Manish Sisodia. Besides Azad, other leaders from J&K at the event were Omar Abdullah, Sajad Lone, Altaf Bukhari and IR Ansari. Chief ministers from the states of the Northeast — Biplab Deb, Conrad Sangma, Pema Khandu, N Biren Singh and Prem Singh Tamang — were present, as were top RSS leaders.

### MORE STRATEGY

WHILE THE Congress had announced that party chief Sonia Gandhi would set up a committee to look into how to revive the party after poll strategist Prashant Kishor met the Congress leadership on Saturday and gave a detailed presentation, the party is yet to announce any such committee. Meanwhile, Kishor was back at 10, Janpath on Monday for the second time in three days. Several senior Congress leaders, including P Chidambaram, Randeep Surjewala, Jairam Ramesh, Mukul Wasnik and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also had a meeting with Sonia. Rahul Gandhi was not present, as he is said to be abroad on a short visit.

### OPENING UP

Former Supreme Court judge Rohinton Nariman has created his own YouTube channel to share his speeches with the public. From Beethoven, Great Dissenters of the Supreme Court, Zoroastrianism to Achaemenian and Sassanian empires of Persia, the channel — 'Justice Nariman Official Channel' — already has 48 videos of his speeches, many of them over an hour long. Justice Nariman, who is also a trained Parsi priest, retired in August last year and has several fascinating scholastic interests ranging from contemporary religion, western classical music and history, besides law.

### ANTI-NEET BILL

## Bill 'delayed, ignored' for long, Stalin likely to call all-party meet

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, APRIL 18

THE TAMIL Nadu government may call an all-party meeting to discuss the issue of the Bill against NEET that is pending with Governor R N Ravi for more than 200 days, Chief Minister MK Stalin said on Monday.

Ravi had returned the Bill once and the government sent it back again, Stalin said. The Bill is since pending for nearly 70 days, he pointed out. Noting that a Bill that was unanimously passed by the Assembly is lying idle for over 210 days at the Raj Bhavan, Stalin said, "It is delayed... ignored..."

In such a scenario, Stalin, in the Assembly on Monday, said, "We cannot afford to attend a tea party organised at the same Raj Bhavan campus, because attending that would be an insult to people of Tamil Nadu; an insult to the constitutional values of the Assembly." Stalin was referring to a government decision last week to boycott events, including a tea party organised by the Governor at Raj Bhavan.

Stalin said he also wrote to Governor Ravi explaining all these. "More precisely, there are absolutely no personal issues between me and Governor Ravi... our relationship is very cordial. He praised us a lot for governance. Basically, he is a friendly man who gives us respect, and we also give him due respect."

**EXPLAINED**  
Pending for long

THE TN Admission to Undergraduate Medical Degree Courses Bill, passed by the Assembly on September 13, 2021, was returned by the Governor to the state government on February 1, 2022 for reconsideration. On February 8, 2022, the Bill was adopted again by the Assembly and was sent to the Raj Bhavan. It is pending since.

These, he said, are "values and traditions we have been keeping in this state for decades".

However, Stalin added, he places interests of the state above all this. "So, as a Governor, he should forward the anti-NEET Bill to the President of India. Delaying that is not in the interests of the state. He is not sending it to the President, which means he is insulting not only me but the people of Tamil Nadu," he said.

He said there were unconfirmed reports that Ravi had finally sent the files to the President. "If not, we will take further decisions by calling an all-party meeting, if required," he said.

## TN ministers skip event presided over by Governor

Chennai: Two Tamil Nadu Ministers on Monday skipped a university convocation attended by State Governor R N Ravi.

The incident came on a day when CM M K Stalin told the Assembly that the ruling DMK boycotted the 'At Home' reception organised by the Raj Bhavan last week due to the pendency of the anti-NEET Bill adopted by the House earlier.

Ravi, also the Chancellor of Annamalai University, presided over the 84th convocation of the well-known varsity here. But, Higher Education Minister K Ponmudiy and his colleague MRK Panneerselvam (agriculture) gave the event a miss, though they were supposed to attend the function. Panneerselvam, later, said the two Ministers did not participate over the NEET issue.

# Punjab, Haryana set to miss wheat target

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHHABA & SUKHBIR SIWACH  
JALANDHAR, CHANDIGARH, APRIL 18

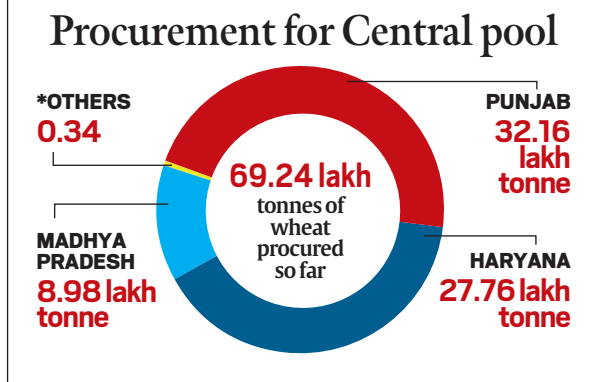
PUNJAB AND Haryana, the two major contributors of wheat to the central pool, are set to miss their procurement targets this Rabi season with multiple factors hitting the arrival of wheat in mandis in both states.

Apart from excessive heat in March hitting crop yield, several farmers are holding their crop back in hope of further spike in international prices bringing in better returns. The global demand for Indian wheat is expected to rise amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine, both major wheat exporters. Private players too are picking more wheat than expected in both states.

### PUNJAB

Punjab, which was the biggest contributor to the central pool last year, had set itself a target to procure 130 lakh tonnes of wheat this season. However, the unusual surge in temperatures in March led to shrivelling of grain that is expected to bring down yield by around 15%. Punjab's total wheat production, which used to be 170 to 175 lakh tonnes earlier, is likely to settle between 140 to 150 lakh tonnes this year.

Paramvir Singh (24), a young farmer, said that he has sold just



one-third of his produce and is holding back the rest.

"This time, the yield is very less and we would not be able to meet the expenses. So, we have decided to keep maximum produce with us to sell it later, expecting a price higher than the MSP (Rs 2,015 per quintal) in the coming days," said Paramvir.

Another farmer, Abjinder Singh Sangha of village Gowara in Malerkotla, said that he has decided to hold 25% of his total produce for now. "This year there would be huge demand of wheat in the global market due to the war between Russia and Ukraine as both the countries have 25% share of wheat in the export market," said Sangha. He said farmers are acting to make up for the loss due to yield loss.

So far, government agencies in Punjab have only purchased

54.74 lakh tonnes out of targeted 130 lakh tonnes, which comes to 42% of the target. Currently, around 7 to 8 lakh tonnes of wheat is coming to the state's mandis daily. A senior officer in the state Punjab Food and Civil Supplies Department said the procurement this season would be around 100 lakh tonnes only.

Private buyers too are picking wheat from both inside and outside the mandis at a premium of Rs 5-10 on the MSP declared by the government. While last year they had purchased just 1.17 lakh tonnes in the entire season, this year already they have picked 3.16 lakh tonnes in Punjab till date.

In 2021, government agencies had procured 132.08 lakh tonnes, 2 lakh tonnes more than the target in the 34 days Rabi season that began on April 10.

### HARYANA

In the first 17 days of wheat procurement in Haryana, the state's mandis have witnessed nearly 20% less wheat arrival compared to last year. Haryana has set itself a target to procure 85 lakh tonnes of wheat this Rabi season. However, state government officials believe that the final procurement would be around 10-15% less than the declared target. Some officials also feared that this gap could touch even 25% by the time procurement drive wraps up on May 15.

Again the state agencies blame adverse weather conditions for the low yield, which they claim have hit arrivals in mandis.

A senior officer of Haryana Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department confirmed that a section of farmers is holding back wheat, anticipating a hike in the prices. More acreage being dedicated to mustard this year is also among the factors contributing to less wheat production.

According to the official figures, till April 17 this year, 32.91 lakh tonnes has reached state's mandis, while as much as 41.11 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured till this day last year.

A farmer from Fatehabad, Satyawan Singh, said: "Farmers may hold back stock up to 5 per cent this time while the remaining 25 per cent wheat is likely to be stored by traders. Farmers can't hold back a lot of wheat."

## Communal polarisation BJP ploy to distract people from real issues: Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

HOURS AFTER BJP president JP Nadda lashed out at the opposition parties, the Congress hit back saying it is the saffron party and its government which continue to feed people the "opium of communal polarisation" by "inciting violence and hatred" to distract their attention from price rise, unemployment and a shattered hope for the future.

Talking about the politics of polarisation, Congress communication department head Randeep Surjewala said, "While parts of India are ravaged by riots and violence why is the Prime Minister so conspicuously silent? Why does he not denounce hatred no matter where it comes from? Why do perpetrators of hate get political patronage? Why are those who incite violence rewarded and, most of all, why are youth being incentivised to attack and abuse? Your attempts to perpetuate hate, stoke communal tension and divide are dangerous for our nation and our people."

"As India celebrates the 75th year of country's Independence, the last eight years will be marked in India's history for a vicious attack on the Constitution," he said.

Surjewala said the "BJP and its government have been and are at war with its own people, be it the youth, the women, the poor, the Scheduled Tribes, the Scheduled Castes, backwards and the minorities".

He asked Nadda whether he does not have any remorse about "letting 23-crore Indians slip into poverty of which 4.7-crore Indians have slipped to extreme poverty".

The party also accused the government of having compromised the national security. "Even today... Chinese continue to occupy important strategic places within our territory in Depsang Plains and Gogra Hot Springs," Surjewala said.



## WELCOMING THE GUEST

Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth after his arrival at Rajkot airport on Monday. Jugnauth is in India on an eight-day visit, which began on Sunday, to strengthen ties between the two countries. Chirag Chotaliya

## Integrated command centres in all 100 smart cities by August 15: Puri

ANISHA DUTTA  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

OF THE 100 cities being developed under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), 80 have already set up Integrated Command and Control Centres, while the rest will have them by August 15, Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said Monday.

Integrated Command and Control Centres or ICCCs are a key component of the Smart Cities project, which aims to develop 100 citizen-friendly, self-sustainable urban settlements.

"Work has begun in almost all government-funded projects in the Smart City Mission, and projects under SCM will be complete by next year," Puri said, adding the projects being executed under SCM are the "fastest among government schemes" despite Covid.



Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri at an event in Surat on Monday. Hanif Malek

Puri was addressing the three-day 'Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization' conference in Surat organised by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in association with Surat Smart City Corporation Development Ltd as part of the central government's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Designed for real-time monitoring, the ICCCs were initially aimed at controlling and monitor-

ing water and power supply, sanitation, traffic movement, integrated building management, city connectivity and Internet infrastructure. However, they will now also be linked to the Home Ministry's Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems or CCTNS. These command centres also functioned as war rooms during Covid-19.

With the Union government preparing a 60-point action plan following PM Narendra Modi's meeting with secretaries in September, the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has also begun work to finalise its recommendation for providing ICCCs as a service to states and smaller cities. The *Indian Express* had reported on November 27, 2021.

The ministry aims to implement a pilot project across UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka, MP, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.

# Ilyaraja compares Ambedkar and Modi, faces music

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, APRIL 18

MUSIC MAESTRO Ilyaraja is known for his compositions that transcend time but the 78-year-old's popularity across generations did not shield him from an online backlash over the weekend for praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi and comparing him to Dr BR Ambedkar.

In the foreword for Ambedkar & Modi — Reformer's Ideas, Performer's Implementations, published by

Delhi-based Bluecraft Digital Foundation, Ilyaraja wrote, "Both these striking personalities succeeded against odds that people from socially disempowered sections of the society face. Both saw poverty and stifling social structures from close quarters and worked to dismantle them, but both are also practical men who believe in action rather than mere thought exercises."

He added, "Pro-women legislation such as the banning of triple talaq and the rise in sex ratio due to the historic 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' movement,

which has brought in social transformation, is something that Dr BR Ambedkar would have been proud of."

With the foreword fuelling speculation that the BJP may nominate him to the Rajya Sabha, Ilyaraja drew the ire of those opposed to the saffron party.

Born in 1943 in Pannaipuram village near Madurai, Ilyaraja, fondly referred to as "Raaja sir" in his inner circle, got his first exposure to music and compositions in his teenage years through lines penned by his elder brother Pavalur Varadarajan, a member

of the Communist Party of India. At a time when CN Annadurai was actively building a Dravidian cultural and literary front for the DMK, Ilyaraja was part of a similar movement for the Communists.

By the mid-1960s, he moved to Madras to learn music — first under Dhanraj and then TV Gopalakrishnan — and won a gold medal in classical guitar from the Trinity College of Music in London. In his illustrious career, Ilyaraja has been a composer, singer, songwriter, instrumentalist, and Asia's first symphony writer. He has been credited for

## Govt procures 69 LMT wheat in current season

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE CENTRE has procured 69.24 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of wheat for over Rs 13,000 crore till April 17 during the rabi marketing season (RMS) 2022-23, Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution said on Monday.

In a statement, the Ministry said that 5.86 lakh farmers with Minimum Support Price value of Rs 13,951.41 crore have benefited so far from the wheat procurement during the current season.

According to the Ministry, wheat procurement has commenced in nine states—Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

A maximum quantity of 32.16 LMT has been procured from Punjab, followed by Haryana (27.76 LMT) and Madhya Pradesh (8.98 LMT). So far, 2.56 lakh farmers in Punjab, 2.15 lakh in Haryana and 1.08 lakh in Madhya Pradesh have availed the MSP for their wheat crop.

The MSP of wheat for the RMS 2022-23 is Rs 2,015 per quintal.

Last year, the government had procured a record 433 LMT wheat. This year the total wheat procurement may be lower due to the rising overseas demand and a possible shortfall in the output due to sudden rise in temperature in March. The Centre has, however, pegged the wheat procurement to reach at 444 LMT this year.

As on April 1, 2022, wheat stock in the central pool stood at 189.8 LMT, which is almost 2.5 times of the buffer stock requirement of 74.60 LMT at the beginning of the new financial year.

There has been an increase in demand for Indian wheat in the overseas markets amid Russia-Ukraine conflict. India has set a target of 10 million tons of wheat export in 2022-23. According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India has exported a record 7 million tons of wheat in 2021-22, valued at \$2.05 billion. Out of the total shipment around 50% of wheat was exported to Bangladesh in the last fiscal.

"Growth in wheat exports is driven mostly by the demand from countries such as Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Oman and Malaysia," the Ministry said in a statement last week.



BJP president JP Nadda in Karnataka's Hampi on Monday. PTI

## Nadda: Opp leaders coming together petty politics

LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

LASHING OUT at the "petty politics" of the opposition parties, BJP President JP Nadda on Monday alleged that a group of parties has "come together yet again" to wage "a direct onslaught on the spirit of our nation and cast aspersions on our hardworking citizens".

Nadda, who unleashed a sharp attack on them in an open letter to citizens, asked the opposition why have they "forgotten the shameful happenings in Karauli, Rajasthan," and questioned their "haunting silence" on the issue. He was referring to the developments in Karauli following the alleged stone-pelting at a bike rally passing through a Muslim-dominated area on the Hindu New Year on April 2, leading to incidents of violence.

Nadda's open letter comes in the wake of a group of opposition parties issuing a joint statement, targeting PM Narendra Modi for his "silence" over the recent incidents of communal violence.

Nadda said the youth in the country want "opportunities not obstacles, development not divisions" while urging the parties to "change track and embrace politics of development".

Taking a strong exception to coming together of opposition

parties to criticise the BJP over the recent incidents of hate speech and communal violence, Nadda recalled the incident of police firing on "Hindu sadhus sitting outside Parliament who had marched to Delhi with the demand of banning dog slaughter" in November 1966. Nadda listed the incidents of communal violence from 1969 to 2013.

"Let me remind everyone that it was the UPA controlled by an extra-constitutional NAC that brought in the most horrific communal violence Bill which stopped to new lows of vote bank politics by even UPA standards," the BJP president wrote in the open letter. He added that the "most horrific massacres against Dalits and Tribals" have taken place under the Congress regimes.

In their joint statement, which followed an article Congress president Sonia Gandhi wrote for *The Indian Express* in which she alleged "fear, deception and intimidation were pillars of Modi government", the leaders, including Sonia, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren and NCP chief Sharad Pawar, have expressed concern over "the manner in which issues relating to food, dress, faith, festivals and language are being deliberately used by the ruling establishment to polarise society".

Ilyaraja should not be blamed even if he is offered a Rajya Sabha seat as "he too has dreams... and if at all there is an offer of a Rajya Sabha seat, he will see it as recognition, not a party seat."

Defending the music maestro, BJP state president K Annamalai said those upset with Ilyaraja were powerbrokers and claimed that the "ecosystem created by the DMK" would not be able to throttle the composer's voice.

"What crime did Ilyaraja commit?" asked former state BJP chief and Union minister L Murugan.



# SGX due to start ops at GIFT City, Singapore envoy says a 'ghost town' after work hours

AVINASH NAIR & LEENA MISRA  
AHMEDABAD, APRIL 18

This July, the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX), which opened its office in GIFT City in Gandhinagar last October, is due to start seamless trading. But Singapore High Commissioner Simon Wong says it is "hard" for Singaporeans to live in GIFT City as it is "quite a ghost town" after working hours. He also says the "bylaws are very tough" and "it is difficult to build a financial centre".

In Gujarat last week to review progress on the SGX, investments and the affordable housing proj-

ect being built under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in collaboration with Singapore firm Surbana Jurong, Wong told *The Indian Express*: "It (GIFT City) is buzzing in the daytime. It is short of... humans. So if you want to make it a very liveable city, you need amenities to come in, you need a supermarket. Of course, there are schools coming in already, but it is (about) the ease of living. It is quite a ghost town after working hours."

He said the Gandhinagar-Ahmedabad Metro would help make commuting easy between the two cities which are 30 km apart.

On the pace of development

of GIFT City, Wong said to build a financial centre, the bylaws "must be easy to deal with" and foreign companies should be allowed to "make profit".

"India has the carrying capacity to become a leading financial centre in this region. If we want to maximise laws to catch illegal transactions or black money, you will cringe normal trade, because your laws are too complicated. So (you have to choose whether) you want to maximise protection or randomly pick on black money. If you want to go into the spectrum of focusing on black money not escaping, then it will be very difficult to compete with other international financial centres. Because

your bylaws are very tough. It is difficult to build a financial centre. It takes decades to come up where we are. Some feel GIFT City's development has been slow. However, in reality, you have to build the hardware and software to attract people to come organically. You cannot force people to come. If no profit is made, nobody will come," he said.

"Two things will make the financial centre: one, the bylaws must be easy to deal with; second is the carrying capacity. You must allow foreign companies to make profit and not see profit as a sin," he said.

Asked about Wong's remarks, Tapan Ray, Group CEO and

Managing Director of GIFT City, told *The Indian Express*: "The infrastructure of twin cities Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar are completely at their disposal. There is no question of amenities being a deal-breaker. The international airport in Ahmedabad is just 20 minutes from GIFT City. The best of schools, colleges, hospitals, and shopping malls are there in Ahmedabad. Within GIFT City, a school and a hotel have already been set up, a hospital is being built and DMart will soon open a store. We have residential areas being built. For immediate medical emergencies, Apollo Hospital is just a 15-minute drive away."

Ray said dummy trading of

stocks will begin soon on the NSE-SGX platform which is expected to be operational by mid-2022.

Wong said: "Our plan is to begin seamless trading between NSE and SGX by July this year. As of now, we are doing all the tests. If you look at the trade volume right now with NSE-SGX in Nifty, it is about USD 6 billion. We want to open the tunnel bigger and move towards larger trade. In our discussion with IFSCA and GIFT City authorities, we want to pump up this trade volume to about USD 18-20 billion. Our partner is TCS which is helping us build the seamless tunnel." The Singapore Arbitration Centre has already set up a branch in GIFT City.

AMIT SHAH SET TO ATTEND APRIL 29 MEET

## Kerala BJP plans drive against rising 'religious terror'

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
APRIL 18

KERALA BJP has decided to start a campaign against what it calls "growing" instances of "religious terrorism" in the state, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah slated to attend a meeting of BJP's state leadership on April 29 to chalk out the action plan.

State BJP president K Surendran on Monday said the party will intensify its campaign against "religious terrorism" in Kerala.

"The party will apprise the Union Home Minister about all issues related to growing religious terrorism, including love jihad (as Hindutva organisations dub interfaith marriage involving Muslim men), which are detrimental to society," Surendran said. "In the last six years, 24 BJP-RSS workers have been killed in Kerala, seven of them by the Popular Front of India. Scores of Christian women have been converted to Islam through the barbaric act of love jihad."

The PFI, created in 2007 through the merger of three Muslim organisations, has pockets of influence in southern India, especially in Kerala and Karnataka.

The BJP's announcement follows the murder of an RSS worker in Palakkad, allegedly by PFI-SDPI activists, and interfaith marriage of CPI(M) workers in Kozhikode.

The RSS worker was hacked to death on Saturday, a day after a PFI cadre was killed, allegedly by BJP-RSS men in the same region of Palakkad.

Surendran denied any role of BJP workers in the PFI activist's murder and alleged that the ruling CPI(M) has rolled out the red carpet for minority terrorism in



K Surendran

Kerala. "Minority fundamentalism has grown as a threat to Kerala. The BJP will not go back on its campaign against terrorism even if more of our party workers are killed," he said.

Sources in state BJP said the party will make another attempt to woo the Christian community, mainly on the "love jihad" issue. Party leaders say only the BJP can embrace "Christian concern in interfaith marriages", as CPI(M) and Congress have to adopt a balancing act without hurting either side.

Last week, when a CPI(M) worker belonging to Muslim community had married a Christian woman in Kozhikode, her family had blamed the role of external forces. After visiting the woman's family, BJP leaders had sought an investigation by central agencies. The saffron party alleged that terror outfits were behind the marriage and offered all help to the woman's family for a probe by central agencies.

Former CPI(M) legislator George M Thomas had initially stated that the interfaith marriage had hurt harmony in the region but made a climbdown later, saying that the party wants to promote interfaith marriages. The BJP has alleged that Thomas was forced to change his stand under duress from communal outfits.

## Fundamentalism in majority community more dangerous: Kerala minister; BJP flays him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
APRIL 18

KERALA MINISTER for Local Self-Department and Excise M V Govindan, who is also a member of the CPIM's Central Committee, on Monday said "majority fundamentalism is more dangerous than minority fundamentalism".

Referring to the last week's killing of a Popular Front of India (PFI) activist and RSS pracharak in Palakkad, Govindan said, "Minority fundamentalism and majority fundamentalism cannot be seen as the same thing. Majority fundamentalism is more dangerous...majority is working towards the formation of a Hindu rashtra...the hatred towards minorities is part of that. The minority fundamentalism emerges to resist the majority fundamentalism," said Govindan.

He said last week's killings (of PFI leader and RSS pracharak) were aimed at creating communal trouble. "There is a communal agenda behind these incidents. Both forces want to mobilise strength by indulging in violence and police can't prevent it," he said.

Responding to Govindan's observations, BJP state president K Surendran said "the CPIM stand on minority fundamentalism



M V Govindan  
Facebook/@mvgovindan

would convert Kerala into Kashmir". "The minister's comments are an open support to the PFI. When PFI has become a threat to the peace in the country, CPIM's tacit support for minority fundamentalism is a matter of concern. The CPIM has an alliance with communal forces," he said.

Senior Congress leader V D Satheesan said Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is appealing all communal forces in the guise of social engineering. "The CPIM had engaged itself with both RSS and PFI during the last Assembly elections. Hence, the government cannot take stringent action against the communal forces," he said.

Since the 2021 Assembly elections, the ruling CPIM has faced the allegations that the party has been soft towards fundamentalism (majority as well as minority),

## Nawab Malik's ED custody extended till April 22

Mumbai: A special court on Monday extended till April 22 the Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody of NCP Minister Nawab Malik, who was arrested in February in connection with a money laundering case. The ED is likely to file a chargesheet later this week, before its 60-day deadline ends on April 22. Malik's lawyers said a special leave petition has been filed before the apex court against the order of the Bombay HC, which had last month refused interim relief to Malik. **ENS**

## Maharashtra: 3 FIRs, 24 arrests after communal clash in Amravati rural

JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

A CURFEW has been imposed in twin cities Achalpur and Paratwada in Amravati rural following reports of a clash between two communities which led to stone-pelting and left two policemen injured on Sunday evening. By Monday night, the Achalpur police had arrested 24 people in the case. One of the groups had hoisted a saffron flag in an area where many people from a minority community reside, which sparked the clashes, police said.

Around 6 pm Sunday, a person hoisted a saffron flag at the Dulha Gate area, which led to stone-pelting between the two communities. "There were around 70 to 80 people from each of the communities. We rushed to the spot and dispersed the crowd. We have registered three FIRs -- One against the group of men, which hoisted the flag and other two against the two communities. So far, 24 people have been arrested," said Madhavrao Garud, senior police inspector of Achalpur police station.

By 7.30 pm, the police brought the situation under control. Officials said there was no loss to life or property. However, curfew was imposed as a pre-

ventive measure. "Three companies of the State Reserve Police Force (SRPF), 100 police personnel from nearby Akola district, and another 300 police personnel from Amravati police are on the streets to ensure no untoward incident takes place," said CK Meena, deputy inspector general of police, Amravati Range. The situation will be reviewed at 11 am on Tuesday, added Meena.

"There is no problem in Amravati city, but as a preventive measure, we have increased security on the roads," said a source from the city police.

Meanwhile, the Aarey police registered two FIRs and arrested 25 people from two different groups on attempt to murder charges for fighting with each other and pelting stones in Goregaon (east) on Sunday.

A group of around 200 people was part of a Kalash Yatra which was passing through the Buddha Vihar area when a few people who were part of the procession started chanting loudly and dancing. A clash ensued after around 50 people who were at the spot objected to their chanting.

The local Aarey police were informed about the incident after which they rushed to the spot and dispersed the crowd. Many people, including women, were injured in the incident.

## 20 arrested after accident, assault lead to clashes, vandalism of vehicles in Vadodara

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
VADODARA, APRIL 18

TWENTY PEOPLE were arrested in Vadodara on Monday for alleged rioting in which a temple was desecrated Sunday late night.

According to personnel of Karelibaug police station in Vadodara city, clashes broke out between two groups around midnight following an alleged assault of a two-wheeler rider at Amdavadi Pol. Within minutes, it escalated, with stone-pelting and mobs allegedly vandalising private vehicles along the stretch from Raopura Tower to Jubileebaug area.

The mob also damaged parked handcarts of street vendors before allegedly desecrating the idol of a temple in Jubileebaug area, police said.

Two FIRs — one at the Raopura police station and the second at Karelibaug — were filed Monday as a midnight street fight between two groups over an alleged incident of rash driving spilled over to violence and stone-pelting.

The FIR filed at Raopura is against 10 unidentified persons for allegedly assaulting a man, while the one at Karelibaug was filed against a mob of 20 unidentified persons for rioting and the alleged desecration of a temple.

The mob dispersed as teams from Raopura and Karelibaug police stations, along with senior officials of the Vadodara city police,



Police personnel at the site of violence in Vadodara. Bhupendra Rana

rushed to the spot. Local political leaders also arrived at the spot to urge the police to conduct an immediate search and combing operation. The idol of the temple was replaced by sourcing it from a local maker at around 1.30 am.

Raopura street in Vadodara's old city witnessed a tense Monday morning as police began rounding up the suspects in the FIRs filed.

Inspector VK Desai of Karelibaug police station told *The Indian Express* that all 20 accused in the alleged temple attack have

been identified and arrested. "We have identified 20 accused and arrested them on Monday. The probe is ongoing but it appears that vandalising the temple was not pre-planned. It occurred during the clash that followed the first attack... The accused are all above 25 years of age," Desai said.

According to the FIR registered at Raopura, the first incident took place at the junction of Amdavadi Pol area around midnight when a group of 10 people — unidentified so far — assaulted the complainant on suspicion that he had

indulged in rash driving, the police said. "There was a rumour that a two-wheeler rider was zooming in the area and harassing locals in which some people were hurt... The group of the accused claimed that they were looking for the said two-wheeler when they came across the complainant and assumed him to be the person they were looking for. They assaulted him before his friend reached to his aid and rushed him to SSG hospital," said Megha Tewari, Assistant Commissioner of Police, CD Division.

## Maoists attack security camp, torch vehicles in Chhattisgarh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
RAIPUR, APRIL 18

MAOISTS ALLEGEDLY fired at a security camp in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur late on Sunday night and fled when the security forces retaliated.

Four personnel, three from the district police and one from the Chhattisgarh armed forces, were injured and two were airlifted to Raipur, police said. All four are stable and out of danger, officers confirmed.

In a separate incident, Maoists allegedly torched vehicles involved in road construction work in Mangnar village on the border of Bijapur and Dantewada on Sunday. The road was being built between Mangnar and Satdhar further connecting Geedam. Maoists warned the contractor and villagers to stay away from the police and district administration.

## Cong's Lobo slams Sawant for remarks on conversion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PANAJI, APRIL 18

CONGRESS LEADER Micheal Lobo on Monday termed Chief Minister Pramod Sawant's recent remarks flagging religious conversions in the state as "unnecessary and unwarranted".

He said Sawant's statement was divisive and has sent a "wrong signal" to people of different communities in the state. "There is no conversion happening in Goa... Lobo, the leader of Opposition in the state Assembly, said at a party event in Mapusa. "Let him (Sawant) show me. I will come with him. Let him show me where the conversions are happening. He has just shot in the air, may be to please his bosses or somebody like that, which is wrong. In Goa, we have harmony. We are inclusive, we stay together. It's not appropriate (for people) to make such a statement, especially for the CM..."

Last Friday, speaking at the installation ceremony (sthapana) of the Kudnem Temple at Jalmi Wada in Kudnem, Sawant asked people and village temple trusts to be vigilant against religious conversions and said: "Once again religion is being attacked. I am not telling lies. We have seen that in various parts of Goa people are moving towards religious conversion. Taking advantage of different things — someone is poor, someone is a numerical minority, somebody is backward, someone who does not have food or a job — such people are being taken (in) in this manner." Lobo questioned the timing of Sawant's remarks on the occasion of Good Friday.

## REHABILITATION IN CHHATTISGARH

# Man found dead days after meeting CM, Union minister; cops suspect Maoists' role

GARGI VERMA  
RAIPUR, APRIL 18

DAYS AFTER he met Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Union MoS for Tribal Affairs Renuka Singh, demanding rehabilitation after he had to flee his village in Chhattisgarh due to Salwa Judum violence, the body of a 35-year-old man was found in Kolaiguda village late Sunday, police said Monday.

Police suspect the victim, Dudhi Ganga, originally from Arlampally village in Sukma who had fled to Andhra Pradesh nearly five years ago, could have been killed due to personal reasons. They believe Maoists could be responsible. Investigation is on, officers said. Ganga had met Baghel in Raipur on April 4 and met Union MoS Singh in New Delhi subsequently, to demand land in either Andhra Pradesh, where he



Dudhi Ganga (second from left) with Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Renuka Singh. File

lives now, or in Chhattisgarh, away from his old village.

He had served time in prison between 2014 and 2016 in a case of rape and murder of a woman in his village, senior police officers said. According to police, Ganga had gone to Kolaiguda in Sukma to attend Aam Pandum festivities when he was picked up allegedly by Maoists on Friday. His body

was left near the village on Sunday night, police said.

While police suspect it was a case of revenge killing — they said he was killed in the same manner in which he had allegedly killed the woman in 2012 — his friends and members of Walsa Adiwassulu Samakhya, a group of displaced people from tribal communities, believe otherwise.

Ganga was a prominent member of the outfit, whose members are demanding rehabilitation.

"His was one of the names that we had submitted to Bastar divisional commissioner for rehabilitation. In fact, he was vocal in putting forth their condition and demands. None of us knew about his past," Shubhranshu Chaudhary, founder of New Peace Process, who had accompanied people from tribal communities to both Raipur and Delhi, said.

As news of Ganga's death emerged, almost all those who had given their names to return to the state want to remove their application, said Chaudhary, who has worked extensively in Bastar.

"This murder has sabotaged our efforts to rehabilitate displaced tribals," he said. "Nearly everyone is scared and they have the right to be. It was violence like this that forced them to flee," Chaudhary said.

## Poster boy of fight against HIV bias, Benson found dead

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
APRIL 18

THE POSTER boy of the push-back against discrimination faced by HIV patients, 26-year-old Benson was found dead at his relative's home in Kollam district's Kottarakkara on Friday.

The youth, who survived social ostracism and discrimination, ended his life over a failed love affair, the local police said. The native of Kaitthakuzhi vil-

lage in Kollam, Benson was the only surviving member of a family of four — including his parents and sister, who were also HIV-positive — and worked at a shop owned by his relative.

Benson's uncle Fernandes said: "Recently, the person he was love in got married to another person. That seemed to have left Benson depressed. Since he was HIV-positive, we could not advise him to get married. Last year also he had made a suicide attempt." Benson first lost his father C

K Chandy, in 1997, after he contracted the disease reportedly during his stay in Mumbai. Three years later, Chandy's wife Princy died. The orphaned Benson and his elder sister Bency, who were also HIV-positive, were raised by their grandparents Geevarghese and Salamma.

In 2003, at a time when the AIDS specter loomed, the two attracted national headlines when they were denied admission by a school in their village after protests by parents of other students. They objected to Benson

and Bency sitting in regular classrooms with their children, forcing the two out of school.

As celebrities, film personalities and then Union Health Minister Sushma Swaraj spoke up for the siblings, including hugging them in public to counter the taint around HIV/AIDS, the two were taken back by the school.

Grandfather Geevarghese then led a battle against the discrimination against HIV patients in general, staging a protest in front of the state secretariat. As

an outcome of the public attention, the children were promised free supply of costly medicines and aid, sponsored by Hindustan Latex Ltd, the Clinton Foundation and the Kerala State AIDS Control Society. However, death continued stalking the children. In 2005, Geevarghese died, leaving the two in the care of grandmother Salamma. In 2010, Benson passed away at the age of 16. Benson, then in Class 10, finished his schooling but didn't continue his studies as he looked after his grandmother. In November last

year, Salamma too died.

Benson then moved to the house of a close relative. Adichanalloor panchayat member Shaji L said Benson did not have any major health issues in recent years. "He received full support from the government and medical care. Although he faced discrimination during his childhood days, he had made a lot of friends in recent years. He learnt driving, bought a car, and had started looking after the business of a relative," said the panchayat member.



### Militants kill RPF head constable in J&K's Pulwama

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, APRIL 18

A RAILWAY Police Force (RPF) personnel was killed and another injured in a militant attack in south Kashmir's Pulwama on Monday evening.

Police sources said the RPF personnel were targeted when they had gone to a tea stall outside the Kakapora railway station in Pulwama. Both were critically injured in the attack and shifted to a hospital where Head Constable Surinder Singh was declared brought dead, while Sub-Inspector Dev Raj was referred to Srinagar for specialised treatment.

Hospital sources say Raj's condition continues to remain critical.

"Terrorists fired at RPF personnel at Kakapora, Pulwama. In this terror incident, two RPF personnel sustained injuries and were evacuated to hospital where one succumbed to the injuries. Area cordoned off," J-K Police tweeted.

Immediately after the attack, J-K Police, Army and paramilitary forces cordoned off the area and initiated a search operation to track down the attackers. However, no arrests couldn't be made till the filing of the report.

### Srinagar-Sharjah direct flight suspended

BASHAARAT MASOOD  
SRINAGAR, APRIL 18

SIX MONTHS after Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a Srinagar-Sharjah direct flight, it has been suspended, with the airline calling it a "management decision".

"As of today, it is stopped," Airport Authority of India, Srinagar, director Kuldeep Singh told *The Indian Express*. "As far as the reasons are concerned, I think the airline can answer that better."

The flight between Srinagar and Sharjah was operated by GoFirst (earlier Go Air). Confirming that the international flight has been grounded, Amir Miraj, manager, GoFirst, Srinagar, said, "It is a management decision."

While launching the route on October 23 last year, Shah had said the flight will help boost tourism in the UT and bring more investment to J&K.

Sources said the flight was found to be economically unviable, given the airspace restrictions — Pakistan had denied airspace to the international flight, forcing it to take a longer route.

The first direct international flight from Srinagar was launched in February 2009 — Air India flew once a week to Dubai. The direct flight was stopped after sometime and was routed through Amritsar, before it was finally grounded due to "poor response".

Former J&K chief minister and National Conference leader Omar Abdullah had tweeted on the fate of the flight the day it was inaugurated: "... has Pakistan had a change of heart and allowed flights originating from Srinagar to use its air space? If not, this flight will die the way the Srinagar-Dubai flight died during UPA2..."

### WORLD BANK PAPER

## Extreme poverty fell sharply during 2011-19

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

EXTREME POVERTY in India declined by 12.3 percentage points between 2011 and 2019, with rural areas doing better than urban centres, according to a working paper of the World Bank.

India has not released a new household consumption survey since the NSS from 2011. By extension, the country has not released any official estimates of poverty and inequality for over a decade now, added the paper co-authored by economists Sutirtha Sinha Roy and Roy van der Weide.

Earlier, a working paper of the IMF had said the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMKAY), which provides free foodgrain to the poor, played a key role in keeping extreme poverty in India at the lowest level of 0.8 per cent

# With khichdi, paratha and laddu, Gadchiroli's severe malnourishment cases drop by 50%

RUPSA CHAKRABORTY  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

LAST SEPTEMBER, when a frail Vrushabh Usande, 3, was suspended from a scale, he weighed only 10 kg. Ideally, a boy his age should weigh between 11-17 kg. Like many other children in Gurnoli village in Kurkhed Tehsil of Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra, he was listed in the Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) category and enrolled in a special diet programme.

Six months later, he weighed 11 kg and he was released from the MAM programme. While the one-kilogram increase in his weight was small, his farmer parents noticed how gradually Vrushabh's gaunt face began to look more fuller and rounder. "Earlier, his cheek and collar bones were visible. Now, he looks healthy and fresh," said Sawaswati Rajesh Usande, Vrushabh's mother.

Gadchiroli, a tribal-dominated district in Maharashtra has set a national example in the fight against malnutrition. Last



The special diet programme was introduced last October. Express

October, the district introduced a special diet programme for malnourished children between the ages of six months and six years, and since then 3,794 malnourished children (of the 7,111 listed) have recovered in the district.

Of the 1,017 children identified as Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM), 513 (50.14%) recovered, and among the 6,094 MAM children, 3,281 (52.83%) have been released from the programme after six

months. Also, of the 2,141 Severely Under-weight (SUW) children, 789 or 27 per cent gained weight and recovered.

"We screened over 1.1 lakh children in the district and enrolled malnourished and underweight ones in the programme," said Kumar Ashirwad, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the district.

Malnutrition refers to deficiencies, excesses, or imbalances in a person's intake of energy and/or nutrients, as per the

WHO. "Children with malnutrition have weaker immune systems, leaving them vulnerable to developmental delays, disease and death," said Dr Ravikant Singh, founder of the Doctors for You NGO.

Under the centralised Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme, the malnourished children are provided with energy dense nutritious food (EDNF) — a ready-made paste with micro-nutrients

to ensure that the children gain normal weight. However, during the Covid-19 pandemic, the scheme was stopped and the Women and Child Development (WCD) department started providing Take Home Ration (THR), which included packages containing 2 kg each of rice, wheat, dal and chana, apart from cooking oil, salt and spices.

However, the ration was often consumed by the entire household and not just the affected child. So, CEO Ashirwad and the state's ICDS department, in consultation with nutritionists, listed eight nutrient-dense Maharashtrian recipes to help the children in their recovery.

These included vegetable khichdi (cooked with rice and husked split moong lentils), sprouts cutlet, peanut cutlet, tiranga paratha (made with wheat flour, beet root, spinach and soybean flour), a dry chutney made with curry leaves, Mutthe (a cutlet made of rice, green gram and drumstick leaves), groundnut, jaggery, and sesame laddu and kadi patta shankarpali (a snack made of curry leaves).

## TIFR withdraws notice banning 'anti-govt content' on social media

PALLAVI SMART  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

DAYS AFTER the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) instructed its staffers and their family members not to post "anti-government content" on social media, as it "could lead to serious security consequences", the institute withdrew the notice on Monday.

The institute on Monday issued a new notice — signed by Registrar George Antony (retired wing commander) — who had issued the April 13 notice as well.

The new notice stated, "Now,

with the approval of the competent authority, the notice dated April 13, 2022, stands withdrawn."

It again added that the April 13 notice had reiterated the existing guidelines of TIFR.

The administration of TIFR — an institute of repute for advance research in fundamental science — has been receiving serious flack after it had on April 13 asked its staffers and their families to refrain from posting anti-government content on social media, including photographs and videos. The notice had referred to the observations notified by the Department of Atomic Energy, which runs this au-

tonomous institute.

After receiving severe criticism questioning the gag order, the institute had issued a clarification on Saturday. It had stated that instructions such as photography being forbidden on TIFR premises (excluding residential areas) and the need to take permission before publicly criticising the government had existed earlier as well. "...the purpose of the notice was to clarify that both these rules apply to social media as well," it had maintained.

On Monday, however, the TIFR administration, took a U-turn and withdrew its April 13 notice.

## SC stays UP decision to take back land allotted to Jauhar University

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE SUPREME COURT on Monday stayed the Uttar Pradesh government's decision to take back the land allotted to Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Rampur over alleged violation of norms, including construction of a mosque on the land in question.

A bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and C T Ravikumar issued notice on an appeal filed by Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust, headed by Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan, challenging the Allahabad High Court's order refusing to interfere with the Rampur Additional District Magistrate's direction to take back the land.

When the University was established in 2005, the state government had allowed the Trust to acquire the land under Section 154(2) of the UP Zamindari Abolition & Land Reforms Act-1950, which allows the state to transfer land over and above the 12.5 acres ceiling set by the Act. This was however, subject to conditions.

Subsequently, a March 2020 report by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) pointed to violation of some of these conditions and referred to unauthorised constructions, including a mosque, and diversion of land for



Trust governing the varsity is headed by SP leader Azam Khan

purposes other than educational. Acting on the SDM report, the Additional District Magistrate (ADM) in January 2021 passed orders taking back land in excess of the 12.5 acres. The Trust challenged this before the HC, which, however, refused to interfere with the SDM order.

The HC said that the "conditions of the permission granted by the state...had been violated..." and referred to the SDM's report on the construction of the mosque on the premises.

The Trust argued it was for the resident staff members, but the HC noted that this went against the conditions under which "permission for the transfer of land in excess to 12.5 acres was granted solely for establishing an educational institution".

"The argument the campus had residential premises for teaching as well as non-teaching staff, a 'mosque' was constructed for them cannot be accepted as it goes against permission granted by the state... thus the Trust violated the conditions," the court had said.

## In poll-bound Tripura, BJP to focus on initiatives for women

LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

WITH PRIME Minister Narendra Modi urging the BJP-ruled states to focus on policies and welfare measures for women — a section that backed the party in electoral battles — its leaders are all set to highlight the government's initiatives for women empowerment in Tripura, where elections are due early next year.

Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb said the BJP's main rival would be the Left, which has been weakened by internal rifts and its failure to retain the traditional support base. Deb ruled out the Trinamool Congress, which has been making attempts to expand its base by inducting other parties' veterans, as the "political rival or key opposition" in the state.

"With the successful implementation of welfare schemes and good governance record, the BJP has weakened the entire Opposition. Whatever remains in the Left will be the main rival," Deb, who was in the national capital, said.

He said through a series of



Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb interacts with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi, Monday. PTI

programmes and initiatives, the government had "made significant" changes in the lives of women in the state. The main highlight of the campaign would be the government's move to reserve 33 per cent jobs for women in all state government jobs.

The state government had come up with initiatives and action plans on health and nutrition, education and economic sectors while ensuring effective interventions in eliminating violence against women in the

state.

"To make women feel empowered, the government has paid special attention to appointing them in key sectors like law and order maintenance. This aimed at boosting their confidence by not confining them to traditional jobs," Deb said.

Sources said in the poll-bound states — Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Tripura — the party had given special directions to focus on women-oriented schemes.

## Birbhum 'gangrape': 2 minors among 4 held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, APRIL 18

FOUR PERSONS, including two juveniles, were arrested in connection with the alleged gangrape of a minor tribal girl in Birbhum district on April 14 when she was returning from a local fair, police said on Monday.

While two of the accused — Sunil Soren and Lakkhiram Soren — were arrested from Panrui in the district late unday, the two minors were taken into custody on Monday, said the police.

"The suspects' sketches were drawn on the description provided by the victim. After identifying them, we tracked their mobile phone locations," said a senior police official.

On April 14 evening, the girl was allegedly dragged to a secluded place by a group before

being raped when she was returning home along with a male friend who too was assaulted.

She was admitted to a hospital after the incident.

While the two arrested adults were produced in a court that remanded them to 10-day police custody, the two minor accused were presented in a juvenile court that sent them to a juvenile home.

Soon after the incident, the BJP and the Left had organised protest rallies in Birbhum, alleging deteriorating law and order, demanding exemplary punishment for the culprits.

**Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute Of Medical Sciences**  
Raebareilly Road, Lucknow - 226014 (U. P.) India, www.sggpi.ac.in, Tel: 0522-2484000, 2495800, 2668700, 2668800, 2668900, Fax: 91-522-2668017, 2668078.

**Notice**  
(Advertisement No. I-50/ A. B. D. E/Rectt./2021-22 for Post of Sister Gr-II, Technician (Radiology), Medical Lab technologist, Junior Medical lab Technologist)

On line application forms link against Advertisement No. I-50 / A. B. D. E / Rectt. / 2021-22 (Live from 29.03.2022 to 19.04.2022) has been further extended up to **03.05.2022** at 5:00 PM.

Please visit SGPGI website ([www.sggpi.org.in/](http://www.sggpi.org.in/))

Adv. No.: I/02/Rectt./2022-23 Joint Director Administration

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क्रमांक/एन.एच.एम./का.प्र./2022/2459

संशोधित विज्ञापित

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन मध्यप्रदेश के विज्ञापित क्रमांक/एन.एच.एम./का.प्र./2022/1583/G23404/21 भोपाल दिनांक 03.03.2022 राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन म.प्र. अंतर्गत उप संचालक (आई.टी) के पद को पूर्ण प्रतिनियुक्ति के माध्यम से किये जाने हेतु पात्र अभ्यर्थियों से आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गये थे। तत्संबंध में सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त पद के आवेदन पर प्रस्तुत किये जाने की अंतिम तिथि 17.03.2022 से संशोधित करते हुये दिनांक 29.04.2022 को जाती है। आवेदन पर प्रस्तुत किये जाने की शेष शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी। (मिशन संचालक, एन.एच.एम. द्वारा अनुमोदित)

हस्ता-/-  
उप संचालक, कार्यालय प्रशासन  
एन.एच.एम., मध्यप्रदेश

G-11643/22

कोरोना से बचने की नींव बतें बूझें जल्दी, टीका लगावना, मास्क पहनना और अस्थाना से बचें हूँ।



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Vidya Samiksha Kendra in Gandhinagar on Monday. Courtesy: BJP

# PM urges use of technology to nourish children

ritu.sharma  
AHMEDABAD, APRIL 18

RAISING CONCERNS over malnutrition among children in Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggested that the state government should use a technology-enabled system similar to the Command and Control Centre (CCC) or the Vidya Samiksha Kendra at Gandhinagar to sensitise people and improve nourishment levels among children.

Pointing out how the Vidya Samiksha Kendra has missed out on physical activity parameters, Modi stressed on the importance of physical education, which has been made a part of education in the National Education Policy 2020.

Modi was visiting the Command and Control Centre for schools in Gandhinagar Monday evening, marking the beginning of his three-day visit to the state, when he interacted live with school students, principals, cluster resource centre co-ordinators and school management committee member from Banaskantha, Kutch and Tapi districts.

"Do you get time to play," the PM asked Ashrufa Yunusbai Mankanjia, a Class 7 student of Anupam Primary School, Kheroj, Danta taluka in Banaskantha, pointing at her lean frame.

When she replied in affirmation, Modi said, "It does not look like... You do not play and do not eat".

On asking her score, she informed the PM that she tops, when Modi said, "So that is the

reason you are made to stand here and talk."

While interacting with cluster resource centre (CRC) co-ordinator of Ambaji, Jayeshbhai Patel, Modi suggested to use technology to sensitise people on right amount of calories required.

"We are running Poshan Abhiyan. If we create similar charts and tell students that with eating this you get this much calorie... and student tick marks what she eats in a day... it will help them evaluate the daily calorie intake," Modi said.

Addressing co-ordinators and principals virtually, the PM said, "All co-ordinators and principals think and see if you can programme this in such a way since you have realised how much technology can be useful. You are in a phase where technology is easily available, students should be motivated."

At the same time, the PM cautioned on limiting the use of technology stating that it should not be that everything is online. "You cannot taste jaggery online... Like that sports is very important, don't forget that," he added.

Interacting with Narayanbhai Gohil, principal of a government primary school in Vanki of Kutch district, Modi stressed on how physical education is a part of school and not an extra activity.

"I saw the charts... there is nothing on physical education, while it has everything on English, Maths, Gujarati and Science. Under NEP, physical education is a part of school and not an extra activity," he said.

**varthana Varthana Finance Private Limited**  
(Formerly known as Thrirumeni Finance Private Ltd.)  
Registered Office at: No. 58C/10, Versatelli, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043. Website [www.varthana.com](http://www.varthana.com)  
Email: [care@varthana.com](mailto:care@varthana.com), Phone: 080-58485777, Branch Office: No. 1162 & 1163, Tower B-1, 11th Floor, Space I Tech Park, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurugram 121018

**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. Thrirumeni Finance Private Ltd.), Gurugram 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 : 18-11-2021, calling upon the Applicants/Co-Aplicants/ Mortgagees, in Loan Account No. S19GUR-GUR-006192, 1), M/s. Vidhya Global Academy, Represented by its Authorized Signatory, 2), M/s. Smt Saroj Devi Educational & Welfare Trust, Represented by its Authorised Signatory, No. 1 and 2 are having office at Agarwal Mandi Tatiri, Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh - 250601. 3), M/s. Baghpat Global School, Represented by its Authorised Signatory., 4), M/s. Baghpat Educational Welfare and Charitable Trust, Represented by its Authorised Signatory, No. 3 and 4 are having office at Meethi - Goripur, Meerut - Baghpat Road, Baghpat - 250601, Uttara Pradesh. 5), Pradeep Kumar, S/o. Rajendra Singh, H. No. 225, Near Shiv Mandir, Pali, Baghpat - 250609, Uttara Pradesh. 6), Mamta Devi, W/o. Dinesh Chauhan, No. C-70, Shiv Kunja Colony, Bhola Road, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh - 250002. 7), Tarun, S/o. Om Prakash, Main Delhi Road, Pali, Baghpat - 250609, Uttar Pradesh. 8), Mithlesh, D/o. Chaman Singh, Pali Village, Pali, District Baghpat - 250609, Uttar Pradesh, to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being a sum of Rs.79,70,613/- (Rupees Seventy Nine Lakhs Seventy Thousand Six Hundred Thirteen Only) as on 17-11-2021 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/ Mortgagees herein above having failed to repay the full amount with interest/other charges, notices is hereby given to the Applicants/Co-Aplicants/Mortgagees in particular and to the public in general that the undersigned being Authorized Officer of the M/s. Varthana Finance Private Ltd., Gurugram, 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 day of 15th April 2022.

The Applicants/Co-Aplicants/ Mortgagees 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., Gurugram, for an amount of Rs.79,70,613/- (Rupees Seventy Nine Lakhs Seventy Thousand Six Hundred Thirteen Only) as on 17-11-2021, 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/ Mortgagees attention is invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured Assets.

**Details of Immovable Property :** All that piece and parcel of the property bearing admeasuring 0.4220 Hectare i.e. 4220 Sq Mts. Pertaining to the Khata No.576, Khaska No. 1591M, Situated in Mauja Pabla, Begumabad Pargana Tehsil & Distt Bagpat, Uttar Pradesh and bounded on East By : Agricultural Land of Karan Singh, West By : Agricultural Land of Santu, North By : Agricultural Land of Bhuluse, South By : Agricultural Land of Khushi Ram. Memorandum of Deposit of Title Deed executed by Srimati Saroj Devi Educational and Welfare Trust, through its President Shri Pradeep Kumar, S/o. Shri Rajender Singh Chauhan, R/o House No. 225, Near Shiv mandir Pali Baghpat - 250609, Uttar Pradesh Registered Jld No. 6665 Book No.1, Registered Serial No. 1576 and Page No. 209 to 234 Mortgage Deed dated 15-03-2019 at Sub Registrar Office, Baghpat Sadar.

Date : 19-04-2022, Place : Mauja Pabla Authorised Officer, Varthana Finance Private Limited.



# BJP MLA's car mows down two cousins in Lakhimpur Kheri: cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, APRIL 18

TWO MEN were killed after their motorcycle was hit by an SUV allegedly belonging to BJP MLA Yogesh Verma in Lakhimpur Kheri district on Sunday night, police said. The deceased Ravi Verma (26) and Vikram Verma (22) were cousins. Local residents told police that the MLA was returning home in the SUV when the accident took place.

"The four-wheeler was seized and its driver Muninder Kumar, who is a local resident, was arrested," said Chandra Shekhar, Station House Officer of Kotwali police station. Yogesh Verma represents Lakhimpur Kheri Sadar assembly constituency.

"The victims were on their way to attend a wedding when the SUV, which came from the opposite direction, hit their motorcycle near Pankipur petrol pump on the Kheri-Bahraich highway on Sunday night," police said. Preliminary probe revealed that Ravi and Vikram were travelling on the wrong side of the road, they added. "After the accident, the two men were rushed to a hospital but were declared brought dead. The bodies have been sent for postmortem," said the police.

Despite repeated calls, BJP MLA Yogesh Verma could not be contacted for a comment. Meanwhile, Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav raised questions over the law and order situation in the state.

"Two brothers died after being crushed by a car belonging to a BJP MLA in Lakhimpur Kheri," he alleged. "The BJP is continuing with impunity the process of mowing down people with its double-engine powered vehicle," Yadav said in a party statement in Hindi. It also referred to recent cases of crime in the state, claiming that law and order was in a poor state in Uttar Pradesh.

WITH PTI INPUTS

# NASHIK POLICE COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

# 'No bhajans on speakers near mosques around azaan call'

State may rely on provisions of noise pollution rules to wade through controversy

MOHAMED THAYER & SAGAR RAJPUT  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

NASHIK POLICE Commissioner Deepak Pandey on Monday issued a directive stating that no one will be allowed to play bhajan or songs on loudspeaker within 15 minutes span before and after the call of azaan in the radius of 100 meters of any mosques that appears under the jurisdiction of Nashik police commissionerate. Pandey also issued a directive to religious places in the city instructing them to take permission for usage of loudspeakers by May 3 failing which legal action will be taken against those violating the rule which includes being "externed or detained by police". The directive was in response to an "ultimatum" given by MNS president Raj Thackeray that repercussions would follow if speakers on mosques were not removed by May 3.

The order issued by the Nashik Police Commissioner read: "Every church, temple, gurdwara and mosque will have to file an application at Nashik police commissionerate seeking permissions to use loudspeakers. This order will come into effect from 3 May 2022."

Pandey said, "Giving azaan is identified as a customary right and if any feels that this right is coming in the way of legal right that person is requested to appeal in court and if the court approves then present the order copy before the police after which necessary changes shall be made."

Even as the Nashik Police's is the only Commissionerate to come out with such an order, the Maharashtra government will be relying on provisions of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules 2000 to wade through the controversy stoked by political parties in the state over the use of loudspeakers by mosques.

The act has specific sections

related to the use of loudspeakers and public address systems, which will be part of the policy that will be adopted by the state government to respond to allegations of the government favouring a particular community. Maharashtra Director General of Police (DGP) will also be talking to police commissioners and district superintendents across the state on Tuesday to discuss the strategy to be followed in the face of threats of possible violence in the state.

The state home minister Dilip Walse Patil on Monday held a meeting with Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray to discuss the approach of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government on the issue. Patil further told the media that the state DGP Rajnish Seth and Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Pandey would meet to draft guidelines over the use of loudspeakers in the state. Sources said that Seth was going to meet Pandey on

Tuesday to discuss the issue.

A senior IPS officer said, "There is already an act in place that deals with issues like the use of speakers and public address systems. The provisions apply to members of all communities. We will be checking if the rules are being followed and if not, it will be re-emphasised. However, the job of ensuring that the law is followed rests with the law enforcement agency. If anyone tries to act on their own, action will be taken against him."

The officer said that whether it is azaan or Hanuman Chalisa, rules have to be followed. "If anyone uses these loudspeakers without taking permission, action will be taken against them as per law." When asked if police will be taking any pre-emptive action against any political party, the official said, "As of now there has been no illegal act so we cannot take any action. If anyone acts in an illegal manner, action will be taken."

# Sound from mics should be limited to premises, no new permit: UP CM

LALMANI VERMA  
LUCKNOW, APRIL 18



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

AHEAD OF the upcoming festivals, including Eid and Akshay Tritiya, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday issued a directive saying that while microphones can be used in religious programmes, the sound should not be heard outside the premises and not cause inconvenience to others.

During a review meeting on law and order, the chief minister also directed the administration to not allow use of microphones at new spots. "...everyone has the freedom to practise their way of worship as per their own religious ideology. Microphones can be used but it must be ensured that the sound from the microphone does not go out of the premises. It should not cause inconvenience to others. Permission should not be given to install microphones at any new places," a government release quoted Adityanath as saying.

"In view of the prevailing circumstances, the police need to be extra alert and careful. From Station House Officers (SHOs) to ADG should speak to religious leaders and other eminent persons of the society in their areas in the next 24 hours," the CM said, directing the administration to take strict action "against those who issue disturbing statements".

Directing officials to ensure religious programmes are organised at scheduled places without obstructing the traffic on roads, the CM said religious processions should not be taken out without getting permission from the authorities. "Before issuing permission for processions, the issuing authority will take affidavits from organisers for maintaining peace and harmony. Also, permission will be issued to only traditional processions... Permission should not be given to any new processions," the government release stated.

The government also cancelled the leaves of administrative and police officials till May 4. The chief minister also directed deployment of additional police forces in sensitive areas with use of drones for monitoring the situation.

## NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar, (U.P)  
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

### E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & http://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

(A)	1.	01/GM/SM/WC-I/2022-23, Name of Work:- M/o Drain (R/o Drain & P/F Precast Slab in front of Bharat Sarkar Taksaal Zonal Road No.-5), Noida Cost - Rs. 39.86 Lacs
	2.	02/GM/SM/WC-I/2022-23, Name of Work:- M/o Building (C/o Kitchen Block and Service Platform in Community Centre in Sector-56), Noida Cost - Rs. 50.15 Lacs
	3.	02/SM-Jal-III/ET/22-23, Name of Work:- D/o Village (Commissioning & Annual Repairing of PVC/CIDI Water line & R/o Sluice valve & Reflex Valve & C/o of Chamber in Village-Mangrouli & Chaprouli) Noida (For Two Year) Cost - Rs. 37.48 Lacs
	4.	03/GM-Jal-III/ET/22-23, Name of Work:- M/o Sewerage (P/F FRC Cover Frame & Cleaning of Sewer line Manhole by Portable Re-cycler Jetting cum Suction Machine De-Silting equipment in Sector-155, 156, 157 & Village-Agahpur & P/F FRC Cover Frame Sector-41 & 49) Noida (AMC for Two Year) Cost - Rs. 64.04 Lacs
	5.	17/SM-Jal-III/ET/21-22, Name of Work:- M/o W/s (R/o Water line in Sector-155, 156, 157 & R/o Sluice Valve & Reflex Valve Sector-96 & Making Internal Connection for Animal Shelter SPCA Sector-94) Noida. (AMC for Two Year) Cost - Rs. 35.33 Lacs
	6.	01/SM(JAL)-I/22-23, Name of Work:- Strengthening of W/S (Boring and Making Tubewells in Sector-64 and 65) Noida Cost - Rs. 85.79 Lacs
	7.	02/SM(JAL)-I/22-23, Name of Work:- Strengthening of Sewerage (Shifting of 600mm dia Sewer Rising Main of SPS-115 due to Construction of Slip Road for Bisraakh Road) Noida Cost - Rs. 78.92 Lacs
	8.	03/SM(JAL)-I/22-23, Name of Work:- Deposit work (C/o Boring, P/F Pumping Plant and P/L Water Line for Water Supply B-2, Sector-63 Noida Cost - Rs. 92.85 Lacs
	9.	04/SM(JAL)-I/22-23, Name of Work:- Strengthening of Water Supply (Strengthening of OHT Sector-132) Noida Cost - Rs. 76.84 Lacs
	10.	06/SM(JAL)-I/22-23, Name of Work:- M/o Sewerage (Two Year Cleaning, Repairing of Sewer Manhole, P/F Manhole Cover Frame and Cleaning of Sewer Line by Portable Re-Cycle Jetting Cum Suction Machine in Village-Harola and Network Sector-1 to 7) Noida Cost - Rs. 40.21 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 04.05.2022 upto 5.00PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 05.05.2022 at 11.00PM.

(B)	1.	18/NOIDA/GM/SM-WC-09/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- D/o village (C/o Chaupal in village Raipur, Sector-126) Noida, Cost - Rs. 54.73 Lacs
	2.	23/GM/SM-WC-08/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- M/o Drain (R/o Drain in around of Super MIG outer side Sector-93) Noida, Cost - Rs. 41.54 Lacs
	3.	37/GM/SM-WC-06/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- D/o Sector-112 (External Development of community Centre in Sector-112), Noida, Cost - Rs. 74.23 Lacs
	4.	22/GM/SM-WC-4/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- M/o Road (Cartage of Earth work for filling Between Sector-63 A Boundary Wall and Pusta road), Noida Cost - Rs. 33.31 Lacs
	5.	27/GM/SM (WC-4)/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- M/o Drain (P/F M.S. Jaal at Main Drains in Work Circle-4 Area), Noida Cost - Rs. 32.07 Lacs
	6.	16/SM-Jal-III/ET/21-22, Name of Work:- D/o Village, Labour/Operation (Operation of pumping plant, D.G. Set at WWC & Tubewells for Network Vill-Gejha, 92, 93, 93A, 93B, Sector-82), Noida (For Three Years) Cost - Rs. 49.07 Lacs
	7.	91/SM(JAL)-I/21-22, Name of Work:- M/o Sewerage (Cleaning of Sewer Line by Super Sucker Machine in different Network Sector-17, 18, 19, 27, 104 and Village-Hazipur, Atta), Noida Cost - Rs. 52.03 Lacs
	8.	96/SM(JAL)-I/21-22, Name of Work:- M/o Sewerage (Three Year Desilting and Cleaning of Deep Sewer Line by Super Sucker Machine in Network Sector-1 to 7), Noida Cost - Rs. 46.62 Lacs
	9.	20/NOIDA/GM/SM-WC-09/ET/2021-22, Name of Work:- D/o village (M/o approach road & r.c.c drain work in village Mohiyapur) Noida, Cost - Rs. 99.93 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 26.04.2022 upto 5.00PM, pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 27.04.2022 at 11.00AM.

General Manager, NOIDA  
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

## MBBS SEAT: NO RELIEF FOR STUDENT WITH AMPUTATED FINGERS

# Explore ways to help students with disability, HC tells Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE DELHI High Court on Monday declined to pass an order for admission of a student to a medical college after it was told that the disability in her right hand would prevent her from properly discharging her duties as a medical doctor.

However, the division bench of acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Navin Chawla directed the Centre and National Medical Commission to explore the possibility of such candidates being able to pursue some of the disciplines of medical education, considering the advancement in science and technology. "The exercise has to be

completed within six months," said the court.

The candidate had earlier been given provisional admission in the Maulana Azad Medical College in the MBBS course, but the same could not be regularised on account of her disability — the thumb, index finger and part of middle finger of the right hand are amputated. She approached the court in February.

The court said it was unfortunate that the student who otherwise appeared meritorious could not pursue the course on account of her disability.

"We find ourselves unable to grant any relief to the petitioner. This is for the reason that assessment of the petitioner with regard to her ability to undertake the MBBS course and thereafter

serve as an MBBS doctor has to be left to the experts and which has been done by the experts of AIIMS. In exercise of our discretionary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution, we cannot sit in appeal over opinion of the medical board," said the court.

The court had earlier directed the Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital to constitute a medical board to carry out the functional evaluation concerning the disability suffered by the candidate. The board of three doctors said she was not eligible for admission in the medical or dental courses as per the requisite guidelines.

The court later asked the AIIMS to answer whether she would be able to function firstly as a medical student, and, thereafter, as an MBBS doctor.



Four shops were destroyed at Muktanand crossing in Vadodra, in a fire caused by a short-circuit on Monday. No injuries were reported. Bhupendra Rana

# SC pulls up key accused for non-compliance with order in GainBitcoin scam case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

The Supreme Court on Monday pulled up GainBitcoin scam accused Ajay Bharadwaj for not sharing the user name and password of his crypto wallet with the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is probing the case, despite its earlier direction.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and Surya Kant warned that it would dismiss his petition to quash the case against him for not complying with its March 28 order.

"You must share the details or we should dismiss it for non-compliance... You make a statement here

and then no compliance... The dignity of SC has to be maintained. We are not some Tis Hazari court...." Justice Chandrachud told senior advocate Siddharth Dave, who appeared for Bharadwaj.

Hearing his plea seeking quashing of charges, the SC had in August 2019 given him anticipatory bail and protected him from coercive action and asked him to deposit Rs 1 crore as security.

On March 28, the court had ruled that the interim order protecting him from arrest would continue "conditional on the petitioner cooperating fully in the investigation".

On Monday, Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the ED, told the court that Bharadwaj was not sharing the details sought.

She said the wallets were with the Pune police, who had communicated that the accused had not appeared before it or shared the information.

Dave said his client was willing to share the details in the presence of his lawyer. But the bench did not agree and said, "What is this that he wants the lawyer for giving the password? First comply with the order... Sit with them tomorrow, tell them everything," the bench said, asking the ED to prepare a questionnaire of the details it wanted and share it with the court too.

# Govt designates Pulwama attack accused Nengroo as 'terrorist'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

THE CENTRE on Monday designated Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo, a commander of the banned terror outfit, Jaish-e-Mohammad, and accused in the February 2019 Pulwama attack, as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA).

According to gazette notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs: "Nengroo has been involved in infiltration of terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir, who have been responsible for inflicting various terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir...after running a terror syndicate in Kashmir, the said Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo is now engaged in a perilous campaign to orchestrate terror in Jammu and Kashmir, remote controlled from Pakistan."

According to the notification, Nengroo, 35, had been involved in the cases related to killing of a police personnel in Pulwama in 2013; killing of one civilian in 2020 and terror funding.

"...it is imperative, in view of the danger which the said Ashiq Nengroo poses to the security of India, and in order to deter him from perpetrating terrorism not limited to India, that he shall be designated as a terrorist under the provisions of the said Act," it said.

Forty CRPF soldiers were killed in the February 14, 2019 terrorist attack in Pulwama.

**TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD**  
INVITATION OF BIDS – TWO COVER – ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM

IFB No.	F.Nagercoil UGSS/TED/SDO 2/ CW /2022 /DT : 13.04.2022
Fund	CGF
Eligibility	Registered Class I Bidders
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.1/1, Sambakulam, Ganesh Nagar, Mattuthavani, Madurai - 625 007
Sale of Bid & Place of Sale	21.04.2022 to 18.05.2022 upto 5.45 p.m. At O/o the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Sewerage Division, Nagercoil, Tamilnadu by cash or by Demand Draft for Rs.1000 + GST in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Sewerage Division, Nagercoil payable at Nagercoil.
Downloading website	(Free of cost) at www.tenders.tn.gov.in and www.twadboard.tn.gov.in.
Pre Bid meeting	06.05.2022 at 11.00 a.m. at the office of the Tender Invitee
Bid Submission	20.05.2022 before 3.00 p.m. at the office of the Tender Invitee in person or through post. This office will not be held responsible for postal delay, if any.
Bid opening	20.05.2022 at 3.30 p.m. at the office of the Tender Invitee

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crore including GST)	Bid security (Rs.in lakhs)
1.	Providing treated effluent disposal arrangement in STP site under UGSS to Nagercoil Municipality (now upgraded as Corporation) – period of completion 9 months.	11.90	8.93

DIPR/1903/TENDER/2022  
SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS  
"சேமிக்க வேண்டும். தண்ணீரைப் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டும். தண்ணீரைப் பற்றாக்குறை இல்லாமல் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டும்"

Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai

**Government of Uttar Pradesh**  
Office of the Project Director (Nodal Officer), Atal Bhujal Yojna  
Ground Water Department  
State Program Management Unit,  
9th Floor, Indira Bhawan, Ashok Marg, Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.  
Ph. No. - 0522-2287068, 2287233  
Website: www.upgwd.gov.in, E-mail: upgwd.atal@gmail.com  
Notification No.: 24/GWD/ABHY/1920-Mech WFM /2022-23  
Lucknow: Date: 12 April, 2022

India  
**ATAL BHUJAL YOJNA**  
IBRD 8874-IN under Program for Results.  
Abridged Version  
Invitation for Bids (IFB)  
(Goods and Related Services)  
(E-Procurement)

Subject: Supply, Installation, and Commissioning of 1920 nos Tamper proof Mechanical Water Flow meters along with 03 years warranty period under ATAL BHUJAL YOJNA in Uttar Pradesh.  
(Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)

Price of bidding document (non-refundable)	Rs. 2000+ 18% GST= Rs. 2360.00 only
Date of commencement of Downloading of bidding document	25-04-2022, 15:00 Hrs. IST Server Time
Virtual Pre bid meeting	05-05-2022 at 15:00 Hrs. IST
Last date and time for receipt of bids	25-05-2022, 15:00 Hrs. IST Server Time
Time and date of opening of bids - Technical Part	25-05-2022, 15:30 Hrs. IST Server Time

Interested parties may view and download the IFB with Bidding Document containing the detailed terms and condition free of cost from the website <https://etender.up.nic.in>

(V.K. Upadhyay)  
Project Director and Nodal Officer,  
Atal Bhujal Yojna  
Ground Water Department

UPID-174947 Dt.14.04.2022  
www.up.gov.nic.in

S.Sinha College, Aurangabad  
Short Tender Notice  
1/2022-23  
Sealed tenders on prescribed B.O.Q are invited from registered contractors of M.U/State Govt. Depts /Central Govt. Depts for renovation & painting works of Various buildings in College campus upto 11:30 A.M on 30/04/2022.  
B.O.Q may be obtained on payment in cash at college counter upto 28/04/2022.  
Details may be seen on college website:- <http://www.ssinhacollege.co.in>.

Principal

DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVERNMENT OF N.C.T. OF DELHI  
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-1  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T)-1  
M-16, POCKET-E MAYUR VIHAR PHASE-II DELHI-110091  
Phone No. 011-22727815, Mail ID: eeast1djb@gmail.com

PRESS NOTICE TENDER  
NIT NO. 01 (2022-23)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Fees	Date of Release of tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID No.	Last Date/ Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
1.	Installation of high yield tube well in 13-Block Tilokpur in front of Church (under AEE M-(55) AC-55 East-I)	48,27,597.00	96,600.00	500.00	13.04.2022 2022_DJB_220667_1	25.04.2022 03:15 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Adv. No. J.S.V. 38 (2022-23)

Sd/- (Madan Singh)  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T)-1

Stop Corona  
1. Wash Your Hands 2. Wear Mask 3. Maintain Social distance



**Dudhsagar Dairy**  
India's Largest Co-operative Dairy  
Mehsana District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.  
Post Box No.1, Highway, Mehsana-384102 Phone: 02762-253201, Fax: 253422  
Website: <http://www.dudhsagardairy.coop/india/>

**E-Tender cum Reverse Auction Notice**

E-Tender ID	Work Description	Last Date
518392	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of SS Can washer 900 cans/ hour capacity at DSD Patan Plant of Dudhsagar Dairy, Mehansana	06/05/2022
518395	100 KL Capacity Vertical Insulated Milk Silos (02Nos.) at Dudhsagar Dairy, Manesar, (Haryana)	13/05/2022
518399	Paneer cold store/ Blast room with Refrigeration system with complete accessories at Dudhsagar Dairy, Dhanuhera	10/05/2022
518403	Providing and fixing Aluminium partition at New Paneer plant of Dudhsagar Dairy, Dhanuhera	10/05/2022

E-Tender Website: [www.nprocure.com](http://www.nprocure.com)  
For Details refer tender document available on e-tender website. We regularly publish e-tender on above website  
Date: 18/04/2022

**भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड**  
**CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.**  
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
(A Navratna Company)

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
CONCOR invites E-Tender in Single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No.	Tender Notice	CONIT/MISA-A/DC/2022
518392	Infrastructure Renovation in Data Centre in Room no. 7 & 8 at CFIM/Tughlakabad, New Delhi	

Estimated Cost: Rs. 129.00 lakhs (Inclusive of all taxes and duties) (through e-payment)  
Completion Period: 04 Months  
Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 2,14,500/- (through e-payment)  
Cost of Document: Nil  
Tender Processing Fee: Rs. 4720/- (inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment)  
Date of Sale (On Line): From 19/04/2022 11:00 hrs. to 10/05/2022 (upto 17:00 hrs.)  
Date & Time of submission of tender: 11/05/2022 upto 17:00 Hrs.  
Date & Time of opening of tender: 12/05/2022 at 11:30 Hrs.

\* Through e-Payment. For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website [www.concorindia.com](http://www.concorindia.com), but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website [www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL) only. Further, Corrigendum / Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website [www.concorindia.com](http://www.concorindia.com), [www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL) and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same. Executive Director(P&S)/Area-2  
Phone No.: 011-4122500

**SALUTE THE SOLDIER**

Late Sep Ramesh Shanwad, Martyred on 19 Apr 2004. Deeply mourned by all members of 26 MARATHA LI and fellow soldiers. Your spirit will continue live in our hearts forever. You attained martyrdom while serving in pooch sector of Jammu & Kashmir. You will always be fondly remembered for your contribution to the nation and the supreme sacrifice you made for the country.

**CO & All Ranks 26 MARATHA LI**

**WATCO**  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WATCO  
Ground Floor, Unnati Bhawan,  
H.B. Colony, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar-751007, Odisha, India  
Telefax: +91-674-2571444 E-mail: [ceowatcoodisha@gmail.com](mailto:ceowatcoodisha@gmail.com)

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> CORRIGENDUM**  
Tender Reference No. WATCO (W) - 01/2022-23 Dtd. 12.04.2022  
WATCO No. 1503 Date: 18.04.2022

**Name of the work:-** 1. Construction of 2nd & 3rd floor and Addition and Alteration of Odisha Water Academy at Basuaghai, Bhubaneswar.  
2. Construction of 2nd floor and Addition and Alteration of A & B type quarters at STP Basuaghai, Bhubaneswar

The following changes have been made in Bid Identification No. 01/2022-23 dt. 12.04.2022

- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal from 11.00 AM of Dt. 25.04.2022 to 5.00 PM of 09.05.2022 instead of dt. 04.05.2022 to 5.00 PM of 18.05.2022.
- Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal up to 5.00 PM of 09.05.2022 instead of 18.05.2022.
- Date & time of opening of technical bids 12.30 PM of 10.05.2022 instead of 19.05.2022.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/- (CEO)  
WATCO  
OIPR- 13194/11/0007/2223

**BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.  
Phone: 080-23368615 / 23442271 / 74 Ext.: 266 Website: [www.bdabangalore.org](http://www.bdabangalore.org)

**DEVELOPMENT OF PERIPHERAL RING ROAD TO BANGALURU CITY UNDER PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**  
**Revised Tender Schedule for Peripheral Ring Road**

No. BDA/EM/EE/ID/Tender/PRR-30/2022-23 Date: 18-04-2022

In continuation of the Tender Notification issued for the Development of 8 lane Peripheral Ring Road with service road to Bengaluru City for approx. length of 74 km vide No. BDA/EM/EE/ID/Tender/PRR-300/2021-22 dated 31-03-2022 and Notification No. BDA/EM/EE/ID/Tender/PRR-28/2022-23 dated 16-04-2022 the tender is rescheduled with the revised dates as follows:

Name of the Work	EMD (Rs. in Crores)
Development of 8 lane Peripheral Ring Road with service road to Bengaluru City for approx. length of 74 km and in RoW width of 100m. including cloverleaf junctions, flyovers/underpasses, ROBs, RUBs, vehicular underpass/overpasses, Toll Plazas, transport zones, culverts, minor and major bridges, utility ducts along and across the road, green corridor with operation and maintenance for a lease period of 50 years on revenue sharing basis through PPP mode (Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer – DBFOT) along with funding the land acquisition cost for 2560 Acres (Approx).	150

**Dates of Events: Date of uploading Bid documents (RFP) to e-procurement portal: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022, Receiving of Pre-bid queries: 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 up to 1600 Hrs IST. Pre-bid meeting Date: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022, Last Date for submission of bids: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 up to 1600 Hrs IST. Opening of Technical Bids: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 1100 Hrs IST. Bid Security: INR 150 Crore (Indian Rupees One hundred Fifty Crore Only)**

Sd/- Engineer Member, BDA, Bengaluru

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
Regd. Office.: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001  
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813; Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
(Mobile No. 96461-07205)

E-Tender Enquiry No.: 7258/P-1/EMP-11956 Dated: 14.03.2022  
Dy. Chief Engineer/Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2022\_POWER\_84222\_1 for Procurement of paddy straw based pellets for Co firing in PSPCL Thermal Power Plants as per Scope of work.

For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 13.04.2022/06.00 PM onwards.  
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> RTP/29/22 13582/PB

**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**  
Tender Notice No.: CKP-SOUTH-21-22-12, dated 18.04.2022, e-Tender against Open Tender is invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg./Chakradharpur, S.E. Railway for & on behalf of the President of India for the following work. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender & any such manual offer received shall be ignored.  
**Name of work:** Through Turnout Renewal 109 Sets in different yards i.e. TTR (TSR for 1 in 12)-23 sets, TTR (TSR for 1 in 8.5) -19 sets, TTR(DS)-11 sets, TTR (FS+CS +CSMC for 1 in 12)-8 sets, TTR (FS+CS +CSMC for 1 in 8.5)-19 sets, TTR (CS for 1 in 8.5)-22 sets & TTR (CS+CSMC for 1 in 8.5)-7 sets and TTR (FS+CS+CSMC)-3 sets (Diamond crossings) under jurisdiction of DEN (South)/Chakradharpur.  
**Tender value:** ₹ 1,01,55,197.64. **EMD:** ₹ 2,00,800/-. **Cost of Tender form:** 0.00.  
**Date of opening:** 05.05.2022. The tender can be viewed at Website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. The tender/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. (PR-40)

**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**  
Tender Notice No. CE/TP/Tender Notice/Part-XV/2022/002, dated 11.04.2022. Tender is invited by Principal Chief Engineer /Garden Reach, S.E. Railway for and on behalf of the President of India for supply of the following store through e-procurement system. **Tender No.:** CETPSER2022 002. **Description of Material:** Manufacture & supply of 10 mm thick Composite Grooved Rubber Sole Plate to RDSO Drg. No. T-8528, Alt-1 with latest alterations if any issued before the date of closing of this tender, for use on wider Base PSC sleepers conforming to RDSO Drg. No. T-8527. Specification: RDSO/M&C/CP-200/2007 with Amendment No. 1 of 2018 and latest Amendment if any issued before the date of closing of this tender. This is a safety item. **Quantity:** 4,00,000 nos. **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,73,92,000/- **EMD:** 0.00. **Completion Period:** Commencement=02 months & Completion=08 months. **Closing date and Time of Tender opening:** 10.05.2022, 12.00 hrs. **Date of Opening:** 10.05.2022. **Eligibility Criteria:** As per para no. 5.0 of Special Condition of Contract in tender document. The tender can be viewed at website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> (PR-34)

**JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED**  
(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)  
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand.  
Ph No.: +91-651-2225878; e-mail Id: [pdjuidco@gmail.com](mailto:pdjuidco@gmail.com)  
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

NIT No.: JUIDCO/NIT/MWSS/JUWSP/2022/46  
Date: 22/04/18  
Tender ID.: 2022\_JUADB\_56491\_1  
PR No.: 264878

**Corrigendum - 3**  
All bidders are hereby announced that Corrigendum- 3 is released for tender having NIT No.: JUIDCO/NIT/MWSS/JUWSP/2022/460 and Tender ID.: 2022\_JUADB\_56491\_1 for "Construction and five years of Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply System in Medininagar (Intake works, Rising main, 17 MLD Water treatment plant, Clear water main, Elevated service reservoirs, Distribution network and House service connections)". The bidders are advised to consider the same before submission of their bids against the tender. **Note:** Corrigendum- 03 can be referred from the e-tender site of Govt. of Jharkhand i.e., <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Sd/-  
PR.NO.268514-Urban Development and Housing(22-23):D Project Director (Technical) JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi

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राजस्ती सं. डी. एल. - 33004/99 REGD. No. D. L-33004/99

**भारत का राजपत्र**  
**The Gazette of India**  
सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-05042022-234837  
CG-DL-E-05042022-234837  
असाधारण  
**EXTRAORDINARY**  
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)  
**PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)**  
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित  
**PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

सं. 1515] नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, अप्रैल 04, 2022 / चैत्र 14, 1944  
No. 1515] NEW DELHI, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2022/CHAITRA 14, 1944

**MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**  
**NOTIFICATION**  
New Delhi, the 4th April, 2022

S.O. 1576(E).—Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, number S.O. 161(E), dated 12th January, 2022 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intension to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of Four Lane Connector from Km. 50.000 of Delhi Meerut Expressway to Km. 8.520 of NH 235 in district Meerut in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Amar Ujala" and "The Indian Express" both dated 19th January, 2022 under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas objections have been received and the same have been considered and disallowed by the Competent Authority;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

**SCHEDULE**  
Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling Four Lane Connector from Km. 50.000 of Delhi Meerut Expressway to Km. 8.520 of NH 235 in district Meerut in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

State : UTTAR PRADESH		District : MEERUT			
Sr. No.	Survey Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part Survey No.
<b>Taluk: Meerut</b>					
<b>Village: Chandsara</b>					
1	373	Government	Nali	0.018	Nali (373)
2	402	Government	Rasta	0.036	Chakmarg (402)
<b>Village: Ghosipur</b>					
3	285	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.09	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (285)
4	286	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.06	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (286)
5	287	Government	Chak Marg	0.014	Chakmarg (287)
6	288	Government	Nali	0.007	Nali (288)
7	289	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.159	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (289)
8	291	Government	Nali	0.003	Nali (291)
9	292	Government	Chak Marg	0.006	Chakmarg (292)
10	306	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.03	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (306)
11	307	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.1726	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (307)
12	308	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.2136	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (308)
13	322	Private	Agriculture	0.045	Mohammad Islam S/o Sijrauddin R/o Hajipur. Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Zeeshan S/o Mohammad Yunus R/o Gram. Mohammad Shoaib S/o Mohammad Ilyas R/o Gram. (322)
14	323	Private	Agriculture	0.05	Swatantra Rastogi S/o Ved Prakash R/o Shivpuri Meerut Shahar (323)
15	324	Private	Agriculture	0.065	Swatantra Rastogi, Rakesh Rastogi, Mukesh Rastogi, Shail Rastogi S/o Ved Prakash R/o Shivpuri Meerut (324)
16	325	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.0331	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (325)
17	326	Government	Non-Agriculture (Hathkargha)	0.295	Hathkargha Pradhikaran (Meerut Vikas Pradhikaran) (326)
18	327	Private	Agriculture	0.15	Swatantra Rastogi S/o Ved Prakash R/o Shivpuri Meerut Shahar (327)
<b>Village: Khanpur</b>					
19	110	Government	Nali	0.0025	Nali (110)

Sr. No.	Survey Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area in Hectare	Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part Survey No.
1	2				6
20	119	Government	Nali	0.005	Nali (119)
21	27	Government	Non-Agriculture (Parti)	0.013	Old Parti (27)
<b>Village: Naglapatu</b>					
22	373	Private	Agriculture	0.01	Yatharth Infra. Developers Pvt. Ltd., 132, III Floor, SFS Flats, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi C/o Authorized Signatory Satish Kumar S/o Bal Krishnan, 29 Mansi Vihar, Sector-23, Rajnagar, Ghaziabad. (373)
23	384	Private	Agriculture	0.079	Rameshchand, Sunil Kumar, Vipin Kumar S/o Nirbhay Singh R/o Khanpur. Ragaviro w/o Late Nirbhay Singh R/o Khanpur (384)
24	385	Private	Agriculture	0.01	Rameshchand, Sunil Kumar, Vipin Kumar S/o Nirbhay Singh R/o Khanpur (385)
25	429	Private	Agriculture	0.008	Balbir Singh, Baljit Singh, Jagdish Prasad S/o Chhote R/o Nagla Patu. Brahmwati W/o Hansraj Bhati R/o 70/71, Jeevan Vihar, Ghaziabad (429)
26	433	Common (Private/ Government)	Agriculture/ Non-Agriculture	0.17	Munna urf Munna Lal, Indersen, Rajendra, Subhash, Monu urf Minu S/o Shayam Singh R/o Gagol. Budhprakash S/o Gangasharan R/o Gagol, Rishipal, Subhash Chand S/o Raghuvir R/o Sadullapur urf Chandrapura. Rajwati w/o Mahendrapal, Manish Kumar, Kapil, Sachin Kumar S/o Mahendrapal, Neha D/o Mahendrapal R/o Chandsara Naglapatu Meerut. Sumru S/o Sangat R/o Gandhi Teh Baghpatt, Usar (433)
<b>Village: Narahara</b>					
27	180	Government	Rasta	0.115	Chakmarg (180)
28	190	Private	Agriculture	0.292	Mohd. Sultan S/o Rashid R/o Narhada. Mohd. Khalid Iqbal, Mohd. Javed Iqbal S/o Mohd. Iqbal R/o D-1, Noor Nagar, Delhi. Shahan Ayyub, Zeeshan Ayyub S/o Mohd. Ayyub R/o Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi. Asifa W/o Late Mohd. Ayyub R/o Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi. (190)
29	202	Private	Agriculture	0.21	Ayyub, Yakub, Mahmood, Ali Mohammad, Mohd. Taiyyab S/o Babu, Gramwasi. Abid, Wahid S/o Jamiluddin, Gramwasi. Irshad S/o Babu, Gramwasi (202)
30	213	Government	Rasta	0.01	Chakmarg (213)
31	216	Private	Agriculture	0.048	Mursalim, Zahiruddin S/o Bullan R/o Narahara, Ayyub, Yakub, Mahmood, Ali Mohammad, Mohammad Taiyab, Isaad S/o Babu R/o Gramwasi, Abdul Sami, Mohammad Mustakim, Mohammad Jahim, Mohammad Anisuddin S/o Gabru R/o Gramwasi, Ibrahim, Ismail S/o Mohammad Unus R/o Gramwasi, Nasratjanha widow w/o Mohammad R/o Gramwasi, Rahnuma D/o Mohammad Naim w/o Amir R/o Gramwasi. (216)
32	69	Government	Nali	0.015	Nali (69)
33	81	Private	Agriculture	0.087	Sultan, Ayyub, Shahzad, Sarfaraz S/o Alauddin R/o Sarai Bahleem Meerut Shahar. Sahibealam, Jane Alam, Perwez Alam, Firoz Alam S/o Alijan R/o Sarai Bahleem Meerut Shahar. Vinod Kumar S/o Omprakash F-127, Shahstri Nagar, Meerut. B.P. Singhal and Sons U. F C/o Dr. V.P. Singhal, Boundary Road, Civil Lines. Rakesh Kumar Airan S/o Jagdish Prasad Ramnagar, 88D Saket Meerut. Girish Kumar Junuja S/o Jagdish Chand, 53A, Saket Meerut Shahar. Vijay Prakash S/o Gajraj Singh, 41A, Saket Meerut Shahar. (81)
<b>Village: Shakarpur</b>					
34	53	Private	Agriculture	0.008	Jora Khan, Ranmast Singh S/o Vor Khan R/o Chidawak. Noorjahn Begum W/o Mohammad Mustakim R/o Zakir Hussain Meerut (53)
35	54	Private	Non-Agriculture	0.195	Charan Singh, Mahendra Singh S/o Bhim Singh R/o Hajipur. Sukhpal, Bali, Chuha, Vinod S/o Khazan R/o Hajipur. Mohd. Aslam S/o Amiruddin R/o Purva Mahavir Shahar Meerut. Mohd. Zahid S/o Abdul Karim R/o 328, Sarai Bahlim, Meerut. Nurjahan W/o Ishaque R/o 328, Sarai Bahlim, Meerut. Fazlurrahman S/o Mohd. Shafi R/o 73, Purva Zahid Shahpur Gate, Meerut Shahar. Amiruddin S/o Abdul Hafiz R/o 160, Bunkar Nagar, Islamabad, Meerut Shahar. Raghar, Atal Singh, Chandrapal S/o Megha R/o Gram. Omprakash, Subhash, Yogendra, Narendra, Kailash S/o Braham Singh R/o Hajipur. Sheela W/o Late Braham Singh R/o Hajipur. (54)
36	60	Government	Nali	0.018	Nali (60)
37	62	Private	Agriculture	0.105	Mustafa S/o Alauddin R/o Hajipur. Haji Mobin S/o Haji Noor Mohammad Urf Bona, R/o 1105, Sarai Bahlim, Meerut Shahar. (62)
38	63	Government	Nali	0.004	Nali (63)
39	64	Private	Agriculture	0.102	Ajab Singh S/o Bharta R/o Narhada. Dheeraj Singh S/o Raghubar Singh R/o Narhada. Prince Bharana S/o Dheeraj Singh R/o Narhada Hall, C.146 First Floor Sarvodaya Enclave, Malviya Nagar South Delhi. Mrs. Sunita Bharana D/o Dheeraj Singh, R/o L. 733 Hapur Road Police Station Medical Shastri Nagar L Block Pargana and Tehsil Meerut. Brajpal, Bhuleram, Vanar Singh S/o Vishambhar R/o Narhada. (64)
40	66	Private	Agriculture	0.07	Chand Mohammad S/o Hanif R/o Hajipur (66)
41	67	Private	Agriculture	0.101	Iklas, Iqbal Urf Balo, Irfan, Noor Mohammad, Sabir S/o Habib R/o Hajipur (67)
42	69	Government	Nali	0.0045	Nali (69)
43	70	Private	Agriculture	0.36	Mohammad Harun S/o Laju R/o Hajipur, Mohammad Zeeshan S/o Mohammad Yunus R/o Gram. Mohammad Rizwan S/o Mohammad Yunus R/o Gram. Mohammad Shoaib S/o Mohammad Ilyas R/o Gram. Enatzar S/o Arshad R/o Mohalla Khajuri Gate Kila Prichhitgarh Tehsil Mawana, Afjal S/o Arshad R/o Lalaiya Tehsil Mawana, Mohsin S/o Umar Ali R/o Radhna Inayatpur Tehsil Mawana Dist. Meerut. (70)
44	71	Private	Agriculture/ Non-Agriculture	0.305	Mohd. Islam S/o Sirajuddin R/o Hajipur. Naushabad Khanam W/o Sagir Ahmad R/o 116, Sarswati Mandir, Surajkund Road, Meerut. Qaiyyum Khan, Suleman Khan, Mohd. Usman Khan, Sultan Ahmad Khan, Abdul Rahman Khan, Haider Khan S/o Haji Dallo Khan R/o Pipli Kheda. Mohd. Sawez S/o Munna Khan R/o 77/23, Zaidinagar Society Meerut. Munna Khan S/o Asghar Ali R/o 77/23, Zaidinagar Society Meerut. Salim Ahmad S/o Zakariya R/o 69, Dasdigan, Shahpeer Gate, Meerut. Mohammad Alauddin S/o Mohammad Yaseen Saifi / 11 Rahmat Chaouk East Islamabad Hapur. (71)
45	72	Government	Chak Road	0.0025	Chak Road (72)
46	82	Private	Agriculture	0.06	Mohd. Irfan S/o Rafique Ahmad R/o Firoznagar, Salimuddin, Rahimuddin, Mahrajuddin, Ikramuddin, Fahimuddin S/o Fizu R/o Kudhla, Ismail S/o Rasulkha R/o Kudhla, Mohammad Arif, Mohammad Wazid, Mohammad Khalid, Julfakar, Maumin S/o Mohammad Yamin R/o Kharkaunda. (82)
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.8568</b>





## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

### A TIME TO HELP

Delhi must shore up outreach to Colombo, while underlining that aid is for the people, not a lifeline to Rajapaksa

AS SRI LANKA begins talks with the International Monetary Fund this week, there is much that Delhi can do to assist its island neighbour as it struggles to overcome a grave and unprecedented economic crisis. India has already extended assistance worth \$2.4 billion since January. Two elements of this package are credit lines, one for fuel worth \$500m, and the other for food and other essential items worth \$1 bn. Delhi has swung these high value credit lines in a record time of four months, between December 2021 and March this year. However, these will run out by the end of May. An IMF bail-out is bound to take six or eight months to finalise. As Sri Lanka's Finance Minister Ali Sabry told this newspaper, the country needs \$3 to 4 billion immediately in order to meet its import bills over the next few months. At Colombo's request, Delhi is reported to be considering a \$2 bn package that may include extension of the fuel credit line and a deferral of payments to the Reserve Bank of India. Besides this, India must consider dipping into its ample food stocks to send emergency supplies of rice, wheat flour, milk and medicines to ease Sri Lanka's shortages. The economic crisis in Sri Lanka is extraordinary, and Delhi should go the extra mile to ease the situation there.

Undoubtedly, the crisis was triggered by the Sri Lanka leadership's faulty economic policies, including a borrowing spree for wasteful expenditure on non-paying fanciful infrastructure projects, ill-advised tax cuts that shrank revenue, and the failure to restrict imports to essential items. Inexplicably, one of the items that Sri Lanka imports is fish. In 2021, even as the dollar crunch was making itself felt, Sri Lanka's annual import bill was \$21 bn, higher than in any previous year. In the wake of the Easter bombing attacks that brought back the twin concerns of terrorism and security, the Rajapaksa, with their record of the military defeat of the LTTE, were re-elected – Gotabaya as president and Mahinda as prime minister. But the outpouring of people's anger in Colombo and elsewhere has sent a clear message to the Rajapaksa family that their political capital has run out. In their term in office so far, they have succeeded in concentrating enormous powers in their hands, been brazenly nepotistic, taken actions to undermine rights and freedoms and kept alive a Sinhala-Buddhist majoritarian narrative.

Even as it reaches out to Sri Lanka, Delhi must message more clearly than it has done so far that its assistance is aimed at mitigating the crisis for the people, and is in no way intended as a political lifeline to the Rajapaksa family. Indeed, India, which has managed to finalise many long-pending strategic agreements with Sri Lanka over the last three months, must also take the opportunity to convey clearly that it does not view its engagement purely through a geopolitical lens, but is a genuine well-wisher of all the people of Sri Lanka, irrespective of their ethnicity or religion.

### FREEDOM, UNFREEDOM

Elon Musk's attempt to control Twitter foregrounds questions of where threats to free speech come from, how to protect it

ON THE FACE of it, there is no direct connection between the US supreme court's 2010 verdict in *Citizens United v Federal Election Commission* and Elon Musk's bid to purchase Twitter, a publicly-listed company. Yet, in essence, the move by the world's richest man to play arbiter of free speech aims to make global the fallout of that verdict: Money, and its use to promote particular interests, is seen as essential to free speech. Given the "poison pill" defence by Twitter's board, Musk's attempt at a hostile takeover may well be scuppered. But the larger questions that the episode has raised remain moot. Where do the greatest threats to free speech come from – the state, powerful individuals, or the AI-led architecture of social media? How should the limits – if any – to the right to speak be formulated?

In a nutshell, Musk's views on Twitter echo those of politicians – often on the Right – that its content moderation tools are an attack on free speech. A self-described "free speech absolutist", he has been at the centre of controversy before for allegedly misleading tweets that helped his business interests. In the aftermath of allegations of allowing elections to be manipulated, and Covid misinformation, social media sites have indeed increased regulation. Some of his suggestions – an "edit button", greater transparency on how content is deemed unsuitable – carry merit. But his larger, somewhat messianic mission – that complete private ownership in his hands will solve free speech dilemmas – must be seen for what it is.

The rise of social media has given a handful of companies an inordinate amount of influence over politics and the public conversation. And, by eliminating the need for mediators between the powerful and the people, they also gave the former unfiltered means to amplify their agenda. In the aftermath of decisions like *Citizens United*, this has meant that individual actors can spend their way to crowd out other, contrarian voices. And the near-universal spread of social media giants has allowed platforms to become a propaganda frontier in global conflicts. This flies in the face of what was imagined as the conventional threats to free speech – ideologically-driven organisations and overly-powerful executives. Constitutionalists found that the most reasonable protection against those threats is a decentralisation of power, the system of "checks and balances", and giving all citizens equal rights before the law. Musk's solution, in terms of first principles, is the opposite: A concentration of power in his own hands.

### CHAI, POLICE & YOU

Police-public relationship is damaged by distrust. Saharanpur's new police cafe is a welcome step to reboot

COULD TALKING OVER chai and samosas help repair the generally unhappy relationship between police and the *aam janata*? That is the hope behind a new cafe run by the women and men in khaki in the Police Lines area of Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur. Bailout Cafe has come up over the dilapidated remains of an old police cafeteria. The spruced-up space, with bright pink interiors, ample seating and decor made with upcycled waste, reflects the hope that even a relationship damaged by years of mistrust can be repaired and restored. This optimism shines through even in the exclusion of WiFi – if people can look up from their phone, perhaps they will begin to see each other in the fullness of their humanity.

That the cop-citizen relationship is in dire need of a reboot cannot be denied. It is also evident that the challenge of repairing and restoring would be formidable. This is true of any place in the country, but arguably, particularly in UP. In the Yogi Adityanath-ruled state, the police is a favoured instrument of power, used to keep not just the criminals out, but also the dissenters down, and the populace in line. Here, for the police to even acknowledge that it suffers from a serious image problem is a major step forward. At Bailout Cafe, this comes in the form of a stone wall featuring words like "corrupt", "scary" and "rude" which show just how the average citizen perceives the police.

Having accepted that a problem exists, the task for Saharanpur's cops will now be to actually build on this initiative and take constructive steps towards a more harmonious bond with the local communities. Many relationships have grown deeper and richer over a cuppa. This one can too.

# Unmasking of Imran Khan



FARZANA SHAIKH

Regime change in Pakistan is unlikely to herald a fundamental shift in 'civil-military' imbalance

THE TRUMP-STYLE ASSAULT on Pakistan's Constitution by former Prime Minister Imran Khan, who was removed from office following a parliamentary vote of no-confidence in early April, is the latest demonstration of just how far some of the country's elected leaders will go to secure and stay in power.

In 1971, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto famously took a wrecking ball to the edifice of the state to fulfil his ambition to become prime minister at any cost. In 1999, the incumbent prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, moved to accumulate absolute power by seeking to declare himself "Commander of the Faithful (amirul momineen)" under a sharia-dominated Islamic state.

While Bhutto triumphed, he ended up presiding over a truncated Pakistan that eventually oversaw his execution. And while Sharif's Islamic fantasy gained some traction, his efforts were thwarted by a military coup and years in political exile.

Whether Khan was inspired by the playbook of his predecessors to attempt his own gamble is hard to say. What is clear is that he expected to succeed where others – more blessed with brains and less sanctimonious – had come a cropper. So, what accounted for his assumption, apart from the well-rehearsed claim that nothing could go wrong for one famously said to be on the "same page" as Pakistan's all-powerful military?

One explanation clearly lay with Khan greedily imbibing the commentary of lazy observers who had turned to his captaincy of Pakistan's winning cricket team, which brought home the World Cup in 1992, as sufficient proof of his skills in managing a large and complex country like Pakistan. Extraordinary as it may now seem, many were seduced. Yet within months of taking over as prime minister, Khan was left floundering in the face of economic and foreign policy challenges that far eclipsed any hazard he may have experienced on the cricket pitch.

Khan's legendary appeal as a glamorous celebrity with a talent for reaching out across a broad spectrum of society in support of his philanthropic causes was another much-touted asset that enabled his projection as a leader with a flair to build political bridges and

deliver on an ambitious programme of reform. It, too, proved hollow. Khan's show of bonhomie, ostentatiously on display among his wealthy benefactors, soon fell away to reveal an ugly habit of verbal abuse aimed at Opposition parties, whom he routinely cast as "thieves" and "looters".

Faced with daily harangues of corruption and wrongdoing, it is no wonder that Opposition parties chose to withhold co-operation and behave as spectators while Khan's government sank under the weight of its misgovernance and the constraints of a wafer-thin majority in parliament.

But neither his record of misgovernance nor the vicious treatment meted out to Opposition parties were as fatal to Khan's political fortunes as his ill-judged moves vis-à-vis Pakistan's military establishment. Widely seen as the key enabler of Khan's electoral victory in 2018, the military had grown visibly wary of its protégé.

Although Khan was praised for his policy of "smart lockdowns" to alleviate the economic hardships caused by the Covid pandemic, his failure to contain double-digit inflation or to arrest the critical depletion of Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves fuelled disquiet. No less alarming to Khan's erstwhile patrons was his erratic handling of Pakistan foreign relations, especially with the country's traditional allies, notably the United States. These concerns intensified fears that some of the mud thrown at Khan would inevitably come to stick to the military – an ominous development that was already showing signs of spreading in the military's main recruiting ground in the rich and powerful province of Punjab.

It was time to let go. As if on cue, a very public fallout precipitated by the hubris which now clouded Khan's every judgement served as the opportunity for the military to re-set its relations with Khan.

In October last year Khan stepped in to resist the transfer of General Faiz Hameed, Director-General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), a close confidante, who Khan wished to retain in the post in order, it was said, to maximise his chances of being returned to power at the time of the

next elections.

The feverish public speculation that followed Khan's decision to delay the notification of Hameed's transfer sealed his fate. After being forced to accept Hameed's transfer, Khan was made to understand that whatever policy differences needed settling between his government and the military, internal military appointments were not subject to negotiation.

Jealously guarded as the military's prerogative, often in defiance of civilian authority, the matter of military appointments has long been a sure-fire way of inflicting maximum damage on recalcitrant civilian governments in Pakistan and hastening their demise – as was most dramatically underscored in the failed attempt by Nawaz Sharif in 1999 to replace General Pervez Musharraf as army chief that invited a military coup.

But it would be quite wrong to read Khan's defiance of the military as an attempt to rejuvenate democracy. On the contrary, Khan and his upwardly mobile middle-class base remain firmly wedded to a brand of authoritarian populism that, much like the military, is openly contemptuous of politics and the language of liberal democracy, which they roundly associated with a "scheming West".

It is not insignificant that in selecting a target to blame for his removal from office, Khan chose to single out the US rather than the military as the chief culprit. Many have rightly read this choice as a canny move by Khan to revive a narrative of victimhood and conspiracy by external forces against Pakistan that has long been known to play well in the country, and not just among Khan's constituency.

But it also suggests that Khan regards his problems as stemming not so much from his partnership with the military, but from the "betrayal" by his current high command who he believes reneged on its promise to guarantee a second term for him. Whatever the outcome of the recent regime change in Pakistan, it is unlikely to herald the onset of a fundamental shift in the country's so-called "civil-military" imbalance.

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G S BAJPAI, VERSHIKA SHARMA AND MEHAK BAJPAI

## THE RIGHT TO REPAIR

India must not be an outlier to the movement to empower the consumer

THOUGH THE WORLD of consumer technology is bustling with electronic goods, options to get them repaired are getting fewer. Repairing is becoming unreasonably expensive or pretty much impossible because of technology becoming obsolete. Companies avoid the publication of manuals that can help users make repairs easily, manufacturers have proprietary control over spare parts and most firms refuse to make their products compatible with those of other firms. Planned obsolescence results in products breaking down too soon and buying a replacement is often cheaper and easier than repairing them.

However, this trend is changing in several parts of the world. Apple recently announced that consumers will have the right to purchase spare components of their products, following an order of the Federal Trade Commission of the United States, which directs manufacturers to remedy unfair anti-competitive practice and asks them to make sure that consumers can make repairs, either themselves or by a third-party agency. The momentum is, however, not so strong in India.

The rationale behind the "right to repair" is that the individual who purchases a product must own it completely. This implies that apart from being able to use the product, consumers must be able to repair and modify the product the way they want to. The absence of repair manuals means that manufacturers hold near-monopoly over repair workshops that charge consumers exorbitant prices. Tech giants contend that security and privacy con-

cerns may crop up if products based on a technology patented by them are opened up by third parties. However, many countries have taken initiatives, adopted policies and even tried to enact legislation that recognise the "right to repair" to reduce electronic waste.

Monopoly on repair processes infringes the customer's "right to choose" recognised by the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. Consumer disputes jurisprudence in the country has also partially acknowledged the right to repair. In *Shamsher Kataria v Honda Sael Cars India Ltd* (2017), for instance, the Competition Commission of India ruled that restricting the access of independent automobile repair units to spare parts by way of an end-user license agreement was anti-competitive. The CCI observed that the practice was detrimental to consumer welfare.

Some jurisdictions offer limited scope for exercising the right to repair. For instance, under the Australian Consumer Law consumers have a right to request that certain goods be repaired if they break too easily or do not work properly. Manufacturers must provide spare parts and repair facilities for a "reasonable" time after an item is purchased. These repair facilities and spare parts are, however, not available after the specified time. There is also no obligation to provide information or diagnostic tools that allow people to repair things independently of manufacturers.

Repair cafes are a remarkable feature of the Australian system. These are free meeting places where volunteer fixers gather to share

their repairing skills with people who bring in items such as bikes, clothing, appliances, and household goods that need mending. The sessions are usually held on a regular (often monthly) basis in cafes, community centres, and at various other venues.

The Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act, 2012 requires automobile manufacturers to provide spare parts and diagnostics to buyers and even independent third-party mechanics. The UK also introduced the path-breaking "right to repair" in 2021 that makes it legally binding on manufacturers to provide spare parts.

Big companies often deploy mechanisms that practically forbid other enterprises to repair their products. Digital warranty cards, for instance, ensure that by getting a product from a "non-recognised" outfit, a customer loses the right to claim a warranty.

If people want to fix things in a timely, safe and cost-effective way, whether by doing it themselves or taking it to a service centre of their choice, providing access to spare parts and information is imperative. A well-drafted legislation will not only uphold the right to repair but may aid in striking a much-needed balance between intellectual property and competitive laws in the country.

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## APRIL 19, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

### INDIA-SAUDI TALKS

INDIA AND SOUTH Arabia are to set up a joint commission to give an impetus to their co-operation in economic and technical fields. The ministerial level commission is likely to hold its first meet in October at a venue that will be decided later. The agreement is an outcome of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's recent visit to Saudi Arabia. During the talks, the Saudi side indicated interest in India's economic development and the possibilities of Saudi capital profiting from Indian industrial technology and consultancy services. The Saudi ministers of agriculture, petroleum and finance called on the prime minister sep-

arately. Mrs Gandhi also called on King Khaled and Prince Fahd and discussed bilateral issues and international matters.

### GOKAK PANEL REPORT

AN INFORMAL MEETING of the Karnataka cabinet discussed the modalities of the Gokak commission report which recommends the use of Kannada as the first language in the state's schools. A decision on the issue will be taken on April 19. The government it is believed does not want to take a decision before the meeting of the Karnataka legislators scheduled for the morning of April 19. Meanwhile, the Janata

Party and the BJP have decided to boycott the meeting. The Janata leaders feel the meeting will serve no purpose and demanded the full implementation of the report's recommendations.

### ERSHAD'S CLAIMS

BANGLADESH'S CHIEF MARTIAL law administration General H M Ershad that he would not deviate from his country's claims to share the Ganga water at the Farakka and ownership of the Talpatty Islands. He said he hoped that India would display a neighbourly attitude in solving problems between the two countries.





# 11 THE IDEAS PAGE

## A new shine to old ties

India and UK have faced legacy issues, fundamental paradoxes. Now, amid a changing strategic scenario, Boris Johnson's visit is well timed to move the relationship forward



RAJA-MANDALA  
BY C RAJA MOHAN

THE CURRENT UPBEAT mood on India's relations with Britain stands in contrast to the entrenched pessimism in Delhi and London about their prospects. Although many contentious issues remain, including the visible differences over Ukraine, the outlook for bilateral ties has never looked as good as it is today. The bitter legacies of colonialism had made it impossible for the two sides to pursue a sensible relationship in the past. But over the last couple of years, Delhi and London have begun a promising and pragmatic engagement devoid of sentiment and resentment.

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosts British premier Boris Johnson this week in India, the moment is ripe to turn the expansive new possibilities — in trade, investment, high technology, defence, and regional cooperation — into concrete outcomes. The two bureaucracies have been working on a roadmap to transform bilateral relations by 2030 under the supervision of External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss. Modi and Johnson can give it a decisive political push.

India's post-colonial engagement with Britain has been riddled with multiple paradoxes. One is the deeply intimate relationship between the two elites that sat uncomfortably with a rough-edged political relationship between the two governments. Delhi's lingering post-colonial resentments and London's unacceptable claim for a special role in the Subcontinent generated unending friction.

The consequences of Partition and the Cold War made it harder for Delhi and London to construct a sustainable partnership. As the two sides make a determined effort to transcend the paradoxes, the regional and international circumstances provide a new basis for mutually beneficial engagement.

Central to this is the under-appreciated role of the US in transforming the bilateral ties between Delhi and London. It was the US that first recognised India's rapidly-growing relative weight in the international system. At the turn of the millennium, Washington unveiled a policy of assisting India's rise. This was based on a bipartisan American consensus that a stronger India will serve US interests in Asia and the world. Over the last two decades, it has led to a quick transformation of US relations with India.

That brings us to the second paradox. At the dawn of Independence, India saw London as the natural interlocutor with an unfamiliar Washington. Britain saw itself as a guide to the US in navigating the intricacies of the post-Partition Subcontinent. That, of course, did not do much good for Britain or the US in India.

Today it is Washington that is setting the pace for Delhi's relationship with London. Britain was much slower in appreciating India's new geopolitical salience. It is now playing catch up. That India's relations with two key countries of the Anglosphere — the US and Australia — could be better than those with Britain is something that would have



C R Sasikumar

been unimaginable in the 1950s. Even more improbable was the proposition that Delhi could build these relations with Washington and Canberra without any reference to London.

That brings us to the third paradox on China's role in shaping India's relations with the West. For Washington, the strategic commitment to assist India's rise was rooted in the recognition of the dangers of a China-dominated Asia. London in the last two decades was moving in the other direction — a full embrace of Beijing. Former British PM David Cameron and the treasury secretary, David Osborne, had declared a "golden decade" in relations with China in 2015. The City of London was ready to merge itself with Asia's rising financial centre — Shanghai. Things were on course until the US pulled the plug on Britain's China romance. Once the American deep state decided to confront Chinese power in the late 2010s, London had to extricate itself from the Chinese Communist Party's powerful spell.

As the US unveiled a new Asian strategy, Britain followed with its own "Indo-Pacific tilt" that helped secure the region against China's muscular policies. This provides a very different regional context for the elevation and consolidation of India's strategic partnership with Britain.

Sceptics will say the regional dynamic is not all favourable to India and the UK, and point to Pakistan — which has long stuck in the throat of India's relations with Britain. Unlike the US and France, which are committed to an "India first" strategy in South Asia, Britain remains torn between its new enthusiasm for India and the inertia of its historic tilt towards Pakistan. Delhi is acutely conscious that London's affection for Pakistan will persist as a complication. But India is confident that Pakistan's relative decline in the region is bound to make it a less weighty factor in India's bilateral relations with Britain. Optimists might even imagine Delhi persuading London to nudge Pakistan towards political moderation and regional reconciliation.

The question of Pakistan brings us to the fourth paradox — the domestic dynamics of Britain that have tended to sour ties with India. For long, the reigning assumption in Delhi was that the Labour Party was empathetic to India while the Tories were not. That ceased to be true quite some time back, as the

Sceptics will say the regional dynamic is not all favourable to India and the UK, and point to Pakistan — which has long stuck in the throat of India's relations with Britain. Unlike the US and France, which are committed to an "India first" strategy in South Asia, Britain remains torn between its new enthusiasm for India and the inertia of its historic tilt towards Pakistan. Delhi is acutely conscious that London's affection for Pakistan will persist as a complication. But India is confident that Pakistan's relative decline in the region is bound to make it a less weighty factor in India's bilateral relations with Britain. Optimists might even imagine Delhi persuading London to nudge Pakistan towards political moderation and regional reconciliation.

Labour Party's vote bank politics at home began to target India and its position on Kashmir. Under Jeremy Corbyn, Labour took it to an extreme. The Tory leadership has rejected this approach and helped build a measure of political confidence with India.

The complications generated by Britain's internal politics are not limited to Pakistan and Kashmir. The bad news is that most of India's internal issues get politicised in Britain. The good news is that Delhi is learning to engage with British domestic politics. Delhi has figured out that the interconnected politics of India and Britain — shaped by the large South Asian diaspora of nearly four million — can be cut both ways.

Although the Tories have drawn close to India since Johnson took charge, the relationship between the Conservatives and the BJP leads us to the fifth paradox. If the Tories are romantic about the Raj, nationalists in India bristle at the British imperial connection. Yet, together they are constructing a new relationship between India and Britain.

For post-Brexit Britain, the romance with the past has an urgent realist basis — making the best of its historic ties. Having walked out of Europe, Britain needs all the partners it can find and a rising India is naturally among the top political and economic priorities. Delhi meanwhile has become supremely self-assured in dealing with London. With the Indian economy set to become larger than Britain's in the next couple of years, Delhi is no longer defensive about engaging Britain.

Even more important, Delhi recognises the value of a deep strategic partnership with London. It may be recalled that former prime minister Inder Kumar Gujral had famously dismissed Britain as a "third rate power" 25 years ago. That statement was as untrue then as it is today.

Britain remains the fifth-largest economy, a permanent member of the Security Council, a global financial hub, a centre of technological innovation, and a leading cyber power. It has a significant international military presence and wide-ranging political influence. Realists in Delhi are trying to leverage these British strengths for India's strategic benefit.

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## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Harrowing accounts of sexual violence by Russian troops in Ukraine are increasing. Impunity must end."  
— THE GUARDIAN

## The pivotal player

Failure to stop wars and hold superpowers accountable has diminished UN's stature. But don't write off the UN yet



SHASHI THAROOR AND  
E D MATHEW

IN THE AFTERMATH of the 2003 American invasion of Iraq, unprovoked and without the United Nations Security Council's approval, many obituaries were written of the global body as it failed to prevent an unwanted war. Almost two decades later, the UN's relevance is yet again debated over similar circumstances as Russia, another P5 member, has invaded Ukraine without the Council's assent or any immediate provocation.

A unilateral war, without the UN's sanction, goes against the fundamentals of its Charter. After all, the organisation was established, in the wake of the devastating World War II, to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war". It was created to give peace a secure foundation and to uphold equal rights of men and women, and of "nations small and large".

Critics point out the impunity with which the five permanent members of the Security Council go about advancing their self-interests unhindered, as long as they do not step on each other's toes. Russia chairing the Council meeting to consider a resolution deplored its own actions was aptly compared to the fox being in charge of the chicken coop. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy lost no time to demand that a country that commits war crimes should not be allowed to hold a permanent seat in the Security Council. While a change there requires an amendment to the UN Charter that is next to impossible, the General Assembly did vote to suspend Russia's membership of the Human Rights Council.

With President Vladimir Putin ordering his country's nuclear forces to heightened alert status, a red line has been crossed, adding a chilling dimension to the conflict. Belarus quickly abandoning its status as a non-nuclear-weapon country, reaffirming its readiness to host Russian nuclear weapons on its territory, is a fallout of grave concern. True, the UN could not prevent the conflict in Ukraine, the first war on European soil for many decades. True, the stature of the UN stands diminished. Yet, puzzling as it may sound, the UN has a pivotal role to play amidst the war and it will continue to have a significant role even after the war has ended.

The answer to this puzzle can be found in the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize citation. (So far, the UN, its specialised agencies, related agencies, funds, programmes, and staff have won the prestigious Peace Prize 12 times). Awarding the 100th Peace Prize to then secretary-general, Kofi Annan, the Nobel Committee stated its wish "to proclaim that the only negotiable route to global peace and co-operation goes by way of the United Nations". It was an eloquent testimony to the UN's raison d'être in our troubled world.

Ever since its inception, the UN has been at the forefront of several efforts to reconstruct societies torn apart by conflicts and to maintain ceasefire among warring par-

ties. The first such operation, the UN Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), launched in 1948 following the Arab-Israeli conflict the same year, is still operational. So is the second one, the UN Military Observer Group (UNMOGIP) launched in 1949 to maintain the ceasefire between India and Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir. Each, for different reasons, can be considered a failure, since neither has been able to produce or maintain peace.

Major success stories from among the more than 70 peacekeeping operations during the past 75 years do exist, however. They include, among others, restoring peace in Cambodia, the Balkans, Timor Leste, and Liberia — all societies torn apart by brutal civil wars. Among the glaring failures are the debacle in Somalia and the inability to stop the 1994 genocide in Rwanda that killed more than 8,00,000 people in just three months.

Nearly 4,200 peacekeepers from some 120 countries have died serving under the UN flag, including more than 160 from India, the highest number for any troop-contributing nation. In 2007, India became the first country to deploy an all-women police contingent to a peacekeeping mission, to war-torn Liberia. India is currently the third-largest troop contributor to UN peace operations with over 5,500 uniformed personnel serving in seven missions.

The tragedy in Ukraine raises immediate questions: Who will stand by the country during its reconstruction? Who will protect the millions of people, internally displaced as well as those who fled the country seeking refuge elsewhere? Europe's worst humanitarian and refugee crisis in decades has witnessed the number of refugees who have fled to neighbouring countries, including Russia, nearing five million.

Humanitarian relief has become the UN's forte, but it is not the whole story. With the war in Ukraine and NATO's increasing military build-up in Eastern Europe, more crises cannot be ruled out. There is no guarantee that the war may stop in Ukraine. A stray incident could ignite more disarray and violence ahead. Issues such as European security and arms control will need to be resolved through dialogue to prevent further disaster. In all these, the UN will have a major role to play.

While the UN will be grappling with the humanitarian crises unleashed by the war, parallel attempts are necessary to restore multilateralism as the norm of the world order. Errant superpowers exempting themselves from that principle will only lead to more catastrophes. Eventually, the very structure of the Security Council, the veto system, and even its membership will need an overhaul to reflect the realities of the 21st century.

However, those who rush to write obituaries for the UN whenever it fails to avert a conflict should not overlook the fact that the only global body of its kind is the sum of its parts and cannot exceed the political will of its member states. As Dag Hammarskjöld, the second Secretary-General, famously said about the organisation: "The UN was not created to take mankind to heaven, but to save humanity from hell."

Tharoor, a former UN Under-Secretary-General (2001-2007), is Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram, and Mathew is a former spokesman for the United Nations



C UDAY BHASKAR

## Lessons from Moskva

For one, sinking of warship exposes Russia's limitations in war against Ukraine

THE SINKING of the Russian navy's Black Sea fleet flagship, Moskva, on Thursday (April 14) is a major setback for Russian President Vladimir Putin and the pre-ordained yet ill-advised war launched by Moscow against Ukraine on February 24.

This war will soon enter its third month and the loss of the Moskva has multilayered significance for both Russia and Ukraine. The symbolism of the sinking of a major naval ship is deeply complex and import-laden the world over. Military history is replete with tales of major naval battles and how the loss of a single ship or a flotilla altered the asymmetry of that particular encounter and perhaps impacted the larger war that the nation in question was engaged in.

The image of a major surface combatant — such as a heavy cruiser like the Moskva (12,500 tons) or an aircraft carrier or a sleek destroyer — steaming into action with the (national) colours hoisted evokes an emotive sentiment of the heroic warrior of yore astride his noble steed going into battle. Names of ships are often embossed and internalised in the national consciousness. Hood for the British, the Bismarck for Germany, Belgrano for Argentina and the Khukri in the Indian case are illustrative.

The sinking of the Moskva whether due to a strike by a Ukrainian missile or a raging fire and the sympathetic explosion of ammu-

munition is moot. But the impact in Russia has been one of considerable shock and dismay. President Putin is reported to have a special association with the Russian navy and the Moskva in particular. Russian state television reported the loss of the Moskva sorrowfully and invoked the spectre of World War III. A well-known news presenter, Olga Skabeyeva, gravely informed her viewers of the sinking of the ship and added: "What it escalated into can safely be called World War III." The anchor further stated: "Now we're definitely fighting against NATO infrastructure, if not NATO itself. We need to recognise that."

Whether this grim prognosis will unfold depends on how President Putin responds to the loss of the Moskva but it is evident that this development has come as a huge morale booster for Ukraine and its beleaguered President Zelenskyy. The Moskva had acquired a degree of notoriety for Ukrainians who saw it as a symbol of Russian oppression and intimidation. Sending it to the bottom of the Black Sea by adroit use of drones (as a decoy to confound the formidable anti-missile defence systems on the Moskva) and accurate cruise missile attacks is being interpreted as a vindication of Ukrainian resolve, innovation and chutzpah. The triumphant victory slogan among Ukrainians is that the Russian bear has been maimed.

Many tactical lessons will be gleaned

from the sinking of the Moskva when more credible information is available. However, a preliminary analysis would suggest that the Russian navy's deployment and protection of its major surface assets in the Black Sea against a determined adversary were inadequate. Drones and cruise missiles are now par for the course and more recent wars and skirmishes in both West Asia and Eurasia/Central Europe have seen the use of such unmanned platforms and precision-guided munitions.

Some commentators are claiming this to be the beginning of the end of the big surface ship. But such certitude would be both hasty and misleading. The Moskva was designed in the mid-1970s and was an "old" ship. The density of ordnance fitted on the upper deck was always deemed to be very high as compared to more modern warships and these are issues that will be scrutinised by professionals.

For India, there are many strands related to the Moskva that will merit review. Foolproof missile defences have always been an elusive military objective and from the Patriot systems deployed in the first Gulf war (for Kuwait) in 1990-91 to the claims now being made about the current technology, the hit ratio is often burnished to a fault.

Military planners are seized of this challenge — the vulnerability of a major platform

at sea against the advent of the nimble, unmanned aerial platform and the stealthy lethality of the latest missiles. Moskva and its final damage control grapple before it sank will provide valuable cues for professionals.

Another area that may warrant tentative comment is the quality of the human resource (HR) of the Russian military — and its navy in particular. Media reports suggest that many of the Russian military personnel pressed into the Ukraine war are recent conscripts and have short periods of service. It is not evident yet as to whether or not Moscow has sent its battle-hardened elite troops into this "special operation". But the current setbacks would indicate that short tenures with minimal training to reduce standing costs are not conducive to the kind of hybrid warfare unspooling in the Ukraine war.

India is grappling with similar challenges — of seeking to reduce the size of its manpower-intensive army through short tenures for soldiers — and thereby ensure fiscal savings and consolidation. The efficacy of such policies may be culled from the Ukraine war, as and when it concludes — hopefully without escalating into the major global conflagration that has been so dramatically unveiled on Russian television.

The writer is Director, Society for Policy Studies, New Delhi

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### HINDUS AGAINST HATE

AS HINDUS, WE are called to recognise that the divine resides equally in all living beings. This recognition requires that we affirm the dignity of all beings and practice the virtues of non-injury (ahimsa) and compassion (karuna). As representatives of diverse Hindu traditions with deep histories, we are dismayed to see Hindu leaders in India and abroad openly embracing Hindutva—a century-old political ideology that sees citizens of other faiths as inherently foreign and not qualified to enjoy the full benefits of Indian citizenship. The images and videos of saffron-clad sadhus, sadhvis, and swamis calling for genocidal violence against millions of Indian Muslims in December 2021 are a chilling sight that we cannot ignore. And since the so-called "Dharma Sansad" in Haridwar, we have seen Muslim women put up for "auction" on an app created by college students, and hijab-wearing Muslim girls being denied their right to equal education in Karnataka. The time is long overdue for Hindus around the world to break our collective silence and speak out against this hate that violates the deepest teachings of our tradition.

Abhi Janamanchi, Karuna Mohan, and others

### WAIT AND WATCH

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Small

steps' (IE, April 18). Pakistan's overtures for reviving talks with India are welcome. The fact that the neighbouring country is acknowledging the need for economic cooperation to replace political compulsions makes one believe that the two nations can make mutually beneficial advancements. Having said this, one needs to wait and watch for the same thought trajectory to continue and take concrete shape while withstanding the expected shrill noises from the unceremoniously disposed Imran Khan and other hawkish groups in Pakistan.

Vijai Pant, Hemptur

### POLICE SHORTAGE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Consult the states' (IE, April 18). There can be no logical denial of the fact that there is an acute shortage of IPS officers in the country. The issue of shortage of IPS officers on central deployment at the level of SP and DIG has a direct bearing on the efficiency of organisations that they are expected to serve. The short-term solution to this issue would be to increase the quota of officers of CAPFs own pool to be considered for positions now exclusively reserved for IPS officers, and the government should discuss with the UPSC the modalities for considering not just state police service officers but also CAPF officers to be promoted to the IPS ranks.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Barasat



## Classifieds

### PERSONAL

Ivanita Sharma D/o Bhushan Lal Sharma R/O C-18 East Arjun Nagar shahdara Delhi-110032 have changed my name Veentia sharma. 0040610369-1

I Talvinder W/O Pritpal Singh R/O 5C/24A, Near Kuai wali gali, Vishnu Garden, Khyala, Tilak Nagar S.O. west Delhi, Delhi, 110018 have changed my name Talvinder kaur 0040610365-1

INiti Devi D/O Shri Keshi Ram W/O, Shri Anil Kumar R/O H.No 178, Vpo .nangal Thakran have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Niti. 0040610363-1

IKhushi Rani D/O, Anil Juneja R/O G-64/A .Lajpat Nagar,sahibabad Gaziabad, Uttar Pradesh have changed my name to Khushi Juneja for all purposes. 0040610364-1

IJesmeh Ghai D/o Sarabjit Ghai R/O-1, 3rd-Floor, Gujranwala Town Part-2, Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Jesmeh Kaur Ghai 0070781444-1

IJasrj S/o Chandrup R/o H. no. 722/2/3, Near Vidhya Pradhan Wali Gali, Mundka Village, Mundka, West Delhi-110041 have changed my name Jas Raj Singh. 0040610316-1

I Himanshu Gupta S/o Raj Kumar Gupta R/O-12, Ashoka Enclave Main, Sector-35, Faridabad-121003 have changed my name to Himanshu Jindal. 0070781446-1

I R. Gijo Thomas Rajan S/O, Rajan Thomas R/O The Delhi Orthodox Centre 2, Institutional Area Tughlakabad, New Delhi 110062 have changed my name to Fr. Thomas Varghese Puthupally for all purposes. 0040610374-1

I Ajay Kumar S/O, Pramod Kumar R/O Panchsheel Greens 1, F5/1801, Sector 16-b, Greater Noida West-201306 have changed my name to Ajijay Kummur for all purposes. 0040610362-1

I Subhash Chander, S/O Bahadur Chand R/O B-31, Delhi Citizen Society Sector-13 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Subhash Chander Arora. 0040610340-4

I SALIM S/O ALI MOHAMMED R/O A-113, New Seelampur, Garhi Mendu, Delhi, have changed my name to MOHD SALIM. 0040610422-7

I Indu Rani W/O Kishan Goel R/O H.No-37-38, Pocket-25, Sector-24, Rohini Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Indu Goel. 0040610340-3

I BHOORI SINGH, S/O. BABU LAL, ADD- RZ-A-2/31, GALLI, NO.2A SECOND- FLOOR DURGA-PARK NASIRPUR, SIKKOH WEST, DELHI-110045, Changed my name to BHURI SINGH. Permanently. 0040610422-9

I Akhlesh Yadav R/O C-1803 Platinum Ramprastha Greens, Sector-9 Vaishali Ghaziabad-201010, have changed my Son's Name, From Nilesh Kumar To Neesh Yadav. 0040610427-2

I BHOORI SINGH, S/O. BABU LAL, ADD- RZ-A-2/31, GALLI, NO.2A SECOND- FLOOR DURGA-PARK NASIRPUR, SIKKOH WEST, DELHI-110045, Changed my name to BHURI SINGH. Permanently. 0040610422-9

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I TANIA WALI W/O HAMMAD, R/O 1330, RAKABGANJ, GANJ MIR KHAN, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI-110002, HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO TANIA. 0040610422-10

I Sunil Tomar S/o Narendra Tomar, R/O. No.-612, Gali.No-5, Chander-Lok Colony, Shahdara, Delhi-110093, have changed the name of my minor son, from Aman Choudhary to Ronit Tomar (D.O.B.14/06/2008) for all, future purposes. 0040610406-8

I Somiya D/o, No. JC857586F, NB/SUB Rajesh Kumar Singh R/O, C-24, Ishwar Colony, Arjun Park, Najafgarh, Delhi-43, have changed my name to Somya all purposes vide affidavit Dt. 18.4.22. 0040610413-2

I Saransh, M/O Vandana, R/O B-1 Harijan Basti-Kundli, Delhi-110096, name of mine has been wrongly-written as ISHANK in Ration-Card but correct-name is Saransh. 0040610420-6

I SARANSH, M/O Vandana, R/O B-1 Harijan Basti-Kundli, Delhi-110096, name of mine has been wrongly-written as ISHANK in Ration-Card but correct-name is Saransh. 0040610420-6

I SUBHAM BANSAL, S/O- RAKESH KUMAR, R/O-18, VASUDA-ENCLAVE PITAMPURA DELHI-110034, changed my name to SUBHAM AGGARWAL. 0040610406-2

I SHYAM PAL SINGH, S/O PAHALVAN SINGH JADON R/O, Ward No.7, Subhash Road, Jaura, Morena, MP, have changed my name to SHYAMPAL SINGH JADON. 0040610422-8

I RAJAN KUMAR S/O-Subhash Chander R/O, F-186, Prashant Vihar Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Rajan Uppal 0040610420-1

I PRASHANT KUMAR SINGH, S/O GOPALSINGH, R/O HOUSE NO 74, I-BLOCK, GOVINDPURAM, GHAZIABAD, U.P. 201013, CHANGED MY NAME TO PRASHANT SINGH. 0040610427-4

I PARVEEN MALIK S/O FEMUDIN MALIK R/O H.NO.497, Vijay Nagar-2, Rori, Ghaziabad, UP, have changed my name to PRAVEEN MALIK. 0040610422-6

I Neelam W/O-Subhash Chander Arora R/O, B-31, Delhi Citizen-Society Sector-13 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Neelam Arora. 0040610340-5

I Naumaan, S/o Mohd Fahimuddin, R/o F-595/A, Gali, No.17, Near-Durga Fakiri Mandir, Khajoori Khas, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Naumaan Fahim Siddiqi. 0040610427-8

I Palak Tuteja S/O Harish Kumar R/O-15/115 Geeta Colony Delhi-110013, have changed my name to Piyush Tuteja 0040610422-2

I Naresh Kumar, S/o Trilok Chand, R/O 113, Ward No.6, Near-Labour-Chowk, Old Alwar-Road, Sohna Gurgaon, (Haryana) 122103, have changed my name to Naresh Kumar Singla. 0040610422-5

I Md. Jahangir S/o Hadish miya R/O, House, no.42, Gali, no.3, Niyader Enclave, Vikas-Nagar, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Jahangir Alam 0040610406-9

I MANJEET SINGH, R/O-20B, SRUJAN APARTMENTS, B-9/8, SECTOR-62, NOIDA, NEAR-FORTIS HOSPITAL, GAUTAMBUDDH-NAGAR, U.P-201301, CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER NAME DISHIKA TO DISHIKA PANGHAL. 0040610427-5

I MANISH AGRAWAL, S/O- LAKHAN LAL AGRAWAL R/O-516/2 EXPRESS GARDEN VAIBHAV INDIRAPURAM SHIPRA SUNCITY GHAZIABAD, U.P.-201014, Changed my name to MANISH KUMAR AGRAWAL. 0040610413-6

I Lachman S/O Dhanraj, R/O I-62 ODS Lajpat Nagar-4 New Delhi-110024, have changed my name from Lkhan Keswani, for all purposes. 0040610422-1

I Kishore Kumar Nagpal S/O Parmanand Nagpal R/O B/J-78, East Shalimar Bagh Delhi-110088, changed my name to Kishore Kumar. 0040610427-1

I KAJAL DHINGRA W/O-VARUN SHAH R/O-FLAT.NO-D-178, PUNDIR-VIHAR PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO KAJAL DHINGRA SHAH. 0040610340-1

IJC-676049F Nb Sub/Clk(SD)Ramesh Yadav, R/o Amer, Navanagar, Vaishali, Bihar, have changed name of minor son Ridhimaan Yadav to Ridhimaan, vide affidavit No.IN-DL19107981105631U dated-14/4/2011. 0040610340-6

I Isha Goyal, W/O Rakesh Goyal, R/O UP-92, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Isha Nayyar 0040610420-3

I Indrani Mukherjee, W/O Shri Bimal Mukherjee, R/O-House No-439, First Floor, Shakti Khand-4, Shipra Sun City, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014, have changed my name to Uma Mukherjee for all purposes. 0040610413-3

I Himanshu Panwar, S/O Sh. Kuldeep Singh, R/O G. 14/51, Sector-15, Rohini, North West-Delhi, 110089, My Ration-card No.077004267775, my name has been mentioned as Himanshu Tanwar instead of Himanshu Panwar, My Correct-Name is Himanshu Panwar. For All, Future Purposes. 0040610340-7

I, Harish Kumar Kukreja S/o Jetha Nand Kukreja, R/o 9/92, SF, Ramesh Nagar Delhi-15, have changed my name to Harish Kukreja. 0040610340-2

I, HARSHUL S/O-RISHPAL R/O-466 OPPOSITE CHAND JEWELLERS DEOBAND SAHARANPUR, UTTAR PRADESH-247554, Changed my name to HARSHUL ROHILLA. 0040610413-5

I, GHANSHAYAM S/O-BALRAM R/O-C-8/6 M.I.G FLATS LAWRENCE ROAD KESHAV PURAM, DELHI-110035, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GHANSHYAM MEENA. 0040610413-4

I, DINESH SHARMA, S/O-N K SHARMA R/O-FLAT.NO-43, AKANKSHA APARTMENT B.9/12 SECTOR-62, NOIDA GAUTAMBUDDHA-NAGAR, U.P.201301, Changed my name to DINESH CHAND SHARMA. 0040610420-2

I, Atul Kumar Jain S/O Satish Chand Jain R/O-104 Manak Vihar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Atul Jain 0040610422-3

I, CHETAN SHARMA, S/O SHRI S.M. SHARMA, R/O, H.No.34, VIJAY-BLOCK, LAXMI-NAGAR, DELHI-110092, HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER NAME NISHITA SHARMA TO NAVYA SHARRMA, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040610420-7

I, CHANDER KUMAR, S/O LAL CHAND DHINGRA, R/O B-4/91-C, BLOCK-B, 4 KESHAV-PURAM DELHI-110035, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO CHANDER KUMAR DHINGRA. 0040610422-4

I, Baljit Singh S/o Pyara Singh R/O 20, Block Ff Poorvi Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Baljeet Singh. 0040610406-10

I, Baljit Kaur, W/O Gurjeet Singh R/O, I, 1696, G/F, Outram-Lines Kingsway Camp, G.T.B. Nagar-Delhi-110009, have changed my name to Baljeet Kaur 0040610413-7

I, Anjana, W/O Jitender Kumar, R/O-310, New Delhi Apartments Vasundhara Enclave Delhi-110096, Have Changed My Name To Anjana Dutt. 0040610427-3

I, Anirudh Pradeep Tewari, S/O Pradeep Kumar R/O, Flat-203, Tower-5, Orchid Petals, Sohna-Road, Gurgaon-122018, have changed my name to Anirudh Tewari. 0040610406-1

I, ANITA DEVI W/O-DHARAM BIR SINGH, R/O-HOUSE, NO-3309 PART-3 SECTOR-15, SONIPAT HARYANA-131001, changed my name to ANITA KHATRI. 0040610406-3

I, ANKASH KHANDELWAL, W/O SUKASH GOEL, R/O D501, AJNARA INTEGRITY, RAJ-NAGAR, EXTENSION, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH 201023, CHANGED MY NAME TO AKANSHA GOEL. 0040610427-6

I, Vineet Nayyar S/o Shri S.N Nayyar aged about 60 years resident of A-178, Sector 40, Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh, state that my name is spelled both as Veneet Nayyar and Vineet Nayyar and both spellings are correct for all legal purposes. 0040610200-1

I, Sandhya Rajendra Gupta, W/O Navneet Gupta R/O H-406, T-3, Daffodils, Adarsh Palm Retreat, Bellandur, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560103, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sandhya Gupta. 0070781400-1

I, Ritika Kukreja W/o Kishor Kumar R/O House No-291, Pocket G-22, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name from Reetika Kukreja to Ritika Kukreja. 0040610413-1

I, Rajat Agarwal S/O Rajiv Kishor Agrawal, R/O Geeta Traders, Shanti Nagar, Railway Station Road, Kewalpur, Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh-217881, Declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Rajat Agrawal and Rajiv Kishore Agrawal in my Educational Document. The actual name of Mine and My Father are Rajat Agrawal and Rajiv Kishor Agrawal, which may be amended accordingly. 0070781410-1

I, Pooja Thakur W/O Sh. Yogesh Kumar and D/o Sh. Arvind Thakur, aged about 27 years, R/O E-44/C-55, New Seema Puri, Jhilmil, Vivek Vihar, East Delhi-110095, declared that; Pooja Arvind Thakur, Pooja Arvind kumar Thakur and Thakur Pooja Arvind Kumar are one and the same person. hereinafter I will use my name as Pooja Thakur for all purposes. 0040609841-1

I, Naresh Kumar Yadav, S/O Sheo Ram R/O B-28, Phase-1, Aaya Nagar, New Delhi-110047, have changed my name from Naresh Kumar Yadav to Naresh Kumar, vide Affidavit dated 13/04/2022, at Mehrauli, New Delhi. 0040610327-1

I, Mehboob Alam S/O Mohammed Qamruddin, R/O G-43, 3rd Floor, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110059, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Alam Mehboob. 0070781401-1

I, KM JYOTI D/O JAI PRAKASH SINGH, R/O H.NO-572, Sector-22 Chauda Raghunathpur, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301 has changed my name to JYOTI SINGH for all future purposes. 0070781406-1

I, Jatin @ Jatin Kumar Sharma S/o Ramesh Kumar Sharma R/O D-27, Hari Nagar, Clock Tower, New Delhi-110064, have changed my name to Jatin Kumar Devgan, for all future purposes. 0040610318-2

I, JAYA DEVI W/O JAI PRAKASH SINGH, R/O H.NO-69, village-semari, itwa, Semri, Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh-217192 has changed my name to JAY RAO for all future purposes. 0070781405-1

I, JAI PRAKASH SINGH S/O DHRAMRAJ SINGH, R/O H.NO.69, gram-semari, post-semari khan coat, thana-tahsil-itwa, Semri, Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh-217192 has changed my name to JAI PRAKASH SINGH for all future purposes. 0070781403-1

I, Inderesh Kaushik, spouse of Anil Kumar, resident of V+PO-Kundli, Dist.-Sonpat, Haryana-131028 have changed my name from Inderesh Kaushik to Indresh vide affidavit dt 05/04/2022 before Ghaziabad court. 0040610420-5

I, Habibuddin S/o Haji Mohd Din R/O H.No.6817, Gali Lambi Wali Ahata Kidara, Mohd Ismail Marg, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006 have change my name to SHEIKH HABIBUDDIN for all purposes as per the Affidavit and my father name is wrongly written in my documents as Haji Mohd Din instead of SHEIKH MOHAMMAD DIN. 040610371-1

I, Dr Maneesh K Agarwal S/O R K Agarwal, R/O 8-2-120/114/96 A Srinilaya Asian Manor Lr V Prasad Marg Khaira Hyderabad-500034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Dr Maneesh Agarwal. 0070781409-1

I, Dharamveer S/o Sh. Janak R/O H.No.179, Janta Flats, Vivek Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Karamveer for all purposes. 0040610335-1

I, CHAKRASH KUMAR SAWHNEY S/O MADAN LAL SAWHNEY R/O A-104 Second Floor Saraswati Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi have changed my name as CHAKRESH SAWHNEY permanently. 0040610329-1

I, BIRENDER SINGH NAIN, S/O JOGI RAM, R/O-344, Block-G, Gali No.3, Rajendra Park, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 Have Changed my name to BIRENDER SINGH for all purposes. 0070781427-1

I, Anil Kumar Agrawal S/o Ram Gopal Agrawal R/O F-201, D-8A, Pearl Gateway Towers, Sector-44A, G.B.Nagar, UP, have changed my name to Anil Kumar Agarwal. 0070781447-1

I, AKRITI AGRAWAL D/o Anil Kumar Agrawal R/O F-201, D-8A, Pearl Gateway Towers, Sector-44A, G.B.Nagar, UP, have changed my name to Akriti Agrawal. 0070781453-1

I, Aaina Sharma W/O Rohit Sharma D/O Ranjan Sharma R/O A-104, Gulab Bagh, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have changed my name after marriage to Kavya Sharma, for all future purposes. 0040610318-1

I, ENAYAT KAUR BANGA D/o Mandeep Singh, R/O 672A, Gali No.7, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 have changed my name to ENAYAT KAUR. 0040610331-1

### व्यक्तिगत

मैं बबली W/O सुवेदर अशोक कुमार, निवासी गाँव बली, पोस्ट बली तहसील बागपत जिला बागपत 250601 (उ.प्र.), मेरे पति के सैन्य कारजातों में मेरा नाम बबली देवी और जन्मतिथि 23/11/1976 है जबकि मेरा सही नाम बबली और जन्मतिथि 03/12/1973 है कृपया करके मेरे पति के सैन्य कारजातों में मेरा नाम व जन्मतिथि सही करें।

### LOST & FOUND

Lost my original Payment Receipts, Demand Letter, Allotment Letter & Other DSIIDC Documents of M/s Chic Bags Partner Kunal Verma at 2900, Kal Masjid, Bazar Sita Ram, Delhi-110006. Finder may Contact-at above noted address. 0040610377-1

I, Usha Rani R/o.H-161, Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110052 has lost the original conveyance deed in my husband's name Late Shri Ravi Kumar Toora of residential plot bearing No.B-1802-D, admiring 167 sq.mtrs., Shushant City, Kundli, Dist.-Sonipat. If anyone finds the said document, kindly contact on mobile no.9971521969. 0070781454-1

I, Niraj Garg S/o Jai Prakash Garg have lost my Original Agreement for Allotment letter of Flat.No.24122, Tower-24, ATS Greens Paradise, Sector-Chi-4, Greater Noida. 0070781456-1

### SERVICES

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that my client Islamuddin S/o Liyagat al, aged about 56 years, and Smt. Sabo Begum W/o Islamuddin, R/o K-5/A, Madini Masjid, Abul Fazal Enclave, Gali No-5, Okhla, New Friends Colony, South Delhi, New Delhi-110025, has debarred and debar disintegrated the son of Wassem Akram and his wife namely Sheeba who are creating disturbance in her peaceful life and not in any manner's control and not maintain cordial relation with my client and my client's house in any manner so they disowned their son and his wife who they have no right, have interest of any nature in the movable or immovable properties and all assets as cheque, cash, Hindi etc. Anybody else dealing with the aforesaid shall be doing so at his/her own risk and consequences and my client shall not be liable for any acts and omission deeds, acts done by with Wassem Akram his wife in future with anyone else. My client shall not be responsible for the same act deeds done by them or anybody else. 0040610365-1

**Nizamuddin (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. 457, Saket Court, New Delhi-17

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform to all general public that my client Vijay Kumar Sharma S/o Khairati Lal Sharma R/O 9/45, Ground Floor, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027 has debarred and debarred his son Sunil Sharma & his wife Shikha Vishwakarma from all his movable and immovable properties & severed all relations. Any body dealing with them in any manner whatsoever will be doing so at his/her own cost, risk & responsibilities. My client and his family members will not be responsible for any of their act.

**MOHINDER DHAWAN (Advocate)**  
Bar Room 3 Civil Side Tish Hazari, Delhi-54

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is hereby informed to the General Public, that my client Smt. Sumtra W/O Late Sh. Dilbag Singh, R/O No. 225, Village, Sultanpur, District, P.O. Pooth Khar, Bawana New Delhi, 110039 has severed all kinds of relation with her daughter in law namta Ravi W/O Late Sunit Dabas, who is not under control of my client and she along with her 2 minor children (Harsh & Vinay) is already residing separately due to her quarrelsome nature and rude behavior. The said daughter-in-law never pay any respect towards my client, rather having ill intention to eliminate my client, therefore, owing to her nature, conduct all motives, my client hereby disowned her as well as her 2 children from all the movable and immovable properties belonging to my client, which are situated in Delhi and in Haryana with immediate effect and debarred her from inhering any movable and immovable properties of my client. It is further made clear through this general notice that my client is having no concern with the dealings and activities of her said daughter-in-law (Ravi) and if any person dealing with her in any manner will be doing at his/her own risks and consequences and my client will not be responsible or liable for same in any form or manner. 0040610335-1

**Sd/- (S.K. Sangwan)**  
ADVOCATE  
En. No. 807, Lawyers Chamber, Dwarka Court, New Delhi-110075 (Mob. 9810699135)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
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**Sd/- (S.K. Sangwan)**  
ADVOCATE  
En. No. 807, Lawyers Chamber, Dwarka Court, New Delhi-110075 (Mob. 9810699135)

**PUBLIC NOTICE</**





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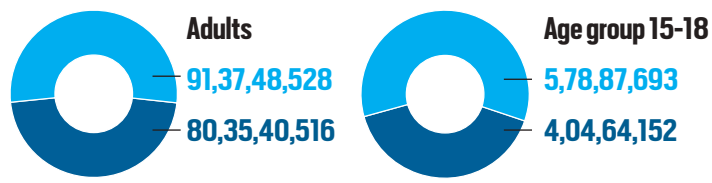
#ExpressExplained

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

## DASHBOARD, AS ON APRIL 17

TOTAL DOSES 186,54,94,355

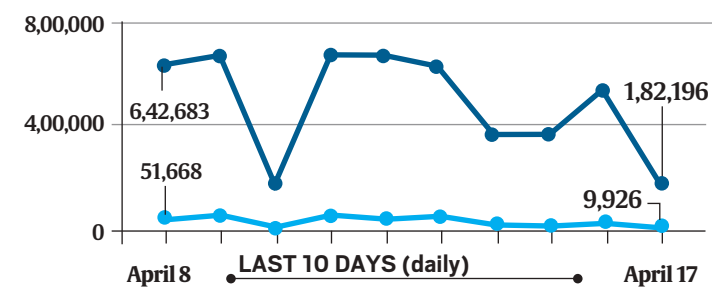
■ First dose ■ Second dose



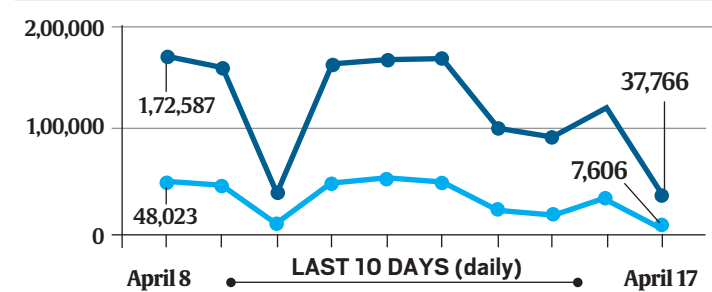
AGE GROUP 12-14: 1st dose: 2,43,55,282, 2nd dose: 1,71,544

Precautionary 60+ 2,51,64,108  
Precautionary 15-59 1,62,532  
Doses On April 17 3,40,762

## ADULTS



## AGE GROUP 15-18



## EVERYDAY EXPLAINERS

## GLOBAL

## WHAT ARE THE INVICTUS GAMES, PATRONISED BY BRITAIN'S PRINCE HARRY?

THE 2022 Invictus Games opened on Saturday night in The Hague, Netherlands, where Prince Harry paid tribute to the Ukrainian team, telling them, "The world is united with you... And my hope is that these events, this event, creates the opportunity ... of how we as a global community can better show up for you."

The Games are scheduled to run until April 22. The first edition of the Games was held in London in 2014, and subsequent competitions were organised in Orlando, US (2016), Toronto, Canada (2017), and Sydney, Australia (2018). The current Games were supposed to have been held in 2020, but were postponed due to the pandemic. The 2023 edition will be held in Dusseldorf, Germany.

## For the 'unconquered'

The Games are an international competition similar to the Paralympics, but meant for wounded, injured, and sick military service personnel and war veterans.

The Games website says: "The word 'invictus' means 'unconquered'. It embodies the fighting spirit of wounded, injured and sick Service personnel and personalities what these tenacious men and women can achieve post injury. The Games harness the power of sport to inspire recovery, support rehabilitation and generate a wider understanding and respect for those who serve their country."

## Prince Harry's Games

The Invictus Games are the brainchild of Harry, Duke of Sussex, who attended the Warrior Games in the United States in 2013, and wanted to start something similar in London. The Warrior Games are a multi-sport event organised by the US Department of Defense to "celebrate the resiliency and dedication of wounded, ill, and injured active duty and veteran US military service members".

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## Who are the PFI, why BJP is accusing the Congress of going soft on them

JOHNSONT A  
BENGALURU, APRIL 18

BJP PRESIDENT J P Nadda and Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai indicated on Sunday that the BJP will use the withdrawal of police cases against activists of the Popular Front of India (PFI) during 2013-18 to target the Congress in the run-up to the 2023 Assembly elections.

The withdrawal of cases during former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's tenure has often been cited by the BJP, including before the 2018 Assembly elections, to suggest that the Congress is hand in glove with the radical Islamic group. In response, the Congress has asked the BJP why it is not taking strong action to ban the PFI, if it believes the group is indeed involved in subversive activities.

## Popular Front of India

The PFI was created in 2007 through the merger of three Muslim organisations, the National Democratic Front in Kerala, the Karnataka Forum for Dignity, and the

Manitha Neethi Pasarai in Tamil Nadu. The formation of the PFI was announced at a rally in Bengaluru during what was called the "Empower India Conference" on February 16, 2007.

The PFI, which emerged in the aftermath of the ban on the Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), has projected itself as an organisation that fights for the rights of minorities, Dalits, and marginalised communities. It has frequently targeted the allegedly anti-people policies of the Congress, BJP, and JD-S in Karnataka, even as these mainstream parties have accused one another of being in cahoots with the PFI to gather the support of Muslims.

The PFI has itself never contested elections, and has been involved in carrying out social and Islamic religious work among Muslims on the lines of the work done by right-wing groups such as the VHP and Hindu Jagaran Vedike among Hindus. Like the radical Hindu groups, the PFI doesn't maintain records of its members, and it has been difficult for law enforcement agencies to pin crimes on it after making arrests.

In 2009, a political outfit named Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) evolved out of the PFI. Its stated goal is "advancement and uniform development of all the citizenry including Muslims, Dalits, Backward Classes and Adivasis", and to "share power fairly among all the citizens".

## PFI's political footprint

The PFI/SDPI has influence mainly in regions with large Muslim populations. The SDPI has built a presence in coastal Dakshina Kannada and Udipi, where it has won polls for village, town, and city councils.

Until 2013, the SDPI contested only local elections, and had won seats in 21 civic constituencies around the state. By 2018, it had won 121 local body seats. In 2021, it captured three local councils in Udipi district.

From 2013 onward, the SDPI has fielded candidates in elections to the Karnataka Assembly and Parliament. Its most creditable performance came in the 2013 state elections, when it finished second at the Narasimharaja seat, part of Mysore Lok Sabha constituency. In 2018, the SDPI came

third in Narasimharaja behind the Congress and BJP, winning over 20% of votes. It also contested the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections for the Dakshina Kannada seat, but could poll only 1% and 3% respectively.

## Cases against PFI men

Minor cases filed against supporters of the three main parties — Congress, BJP, and JD-S — have often been dropped when a rival party comes to power, which deems these cases as motivated. Cases related to alleged violations of prohibitory orders during communal disturbances, and against farmers and pro-Kannada activists during agitations, have been withdrawn routinely.

The BJP government of 2008-13 ordered the dropping of cases against Sangh Parivar members involved in attacks on churches in Dakshina Kannada, as also cases filed against Christians for reactionary violence during the attacks.

After coming to power in 2013, the Congress government dropped cases against SDPI and PFI members accused of involvement in communal disturbances during the

previous BJP government's tenure. Siddaramaiah's government approved the dropping of a total 176 cases filed against 1,600 PFI activists during 2008-13. These related to protests and communal flare-ups in Shivamogga (114 cases from 2015), Mysuru (40 cases from 2009), Hassan (21 cases from 2010), and Karwar (one case in 2017).

On August 31, 2020, B S Yediyurappa's BJP government ordered the withdrawal of 62 cases against 312 individuals. Most of these cases involved violations of prohibitory orders by both Hindus and Muslims during times of communal tensions, and religious events. Among those against whom cases were dropped was the BJP MP from Mysore, Prathap Simha.

## Political point-scoring

Although the PFI has not been proscribed by the Government of India, the BJP has often tried to paint the group as being extremist on account of its pro-Muslim stance. In Karnataka, the BJP has often cited murders of workers of right-wing groups affiliated to the BJP by alleged PFI cadre to seek a ban on

the PFI. However, in more than 310 cases registered against the PFI in Karnataka since 2007, there have been convictions in only five. Some major incidents of political violence to which alleged PFI members have been linked:

■ The murder of RSS worker R Rudresh in Bengaluru in 2016, in which the National Investigation Agency (NIA) named Asim Sharif, president of the PFI's Bengaluru unit, as an accused.

■ Also in 2016, Mysuru Police arrested Abid Pasha, a youth with PFI links, for the murder of Bajrang Dal worker K Raju. Pasha has been accused of being involved in six communally motivated murders in the area.

■ In 2017, police in Dakshina Kannada arrested two PFI activists in connection with the stabbing of RSS worker Sharath Madivala, 28, in Bantwal town.

■ Persons linked to the SDPI are accused in a 2019 attempt to murder Tanveer Sait, Congress MLA from Narasimharaja.

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## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION &amp; ANSWER

## WHO &amp; traditional medicine

PM Narendra Modi & WHO chief Tedros Ghebreyesus will perform the groundbreaking ceremony of the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar today. What is it about, and what are WHO's objectives?

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M  
& SOHINI GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, AHMEDABAD, APRIL 18

ON TUESDAY, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, will perform the groundbreaking ceremony for the first-of-its-kind WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Jamnagar, Gujarat. Earlier, the Prime Minister had said the GCTM would go a long way in enhancing wellness in society.

## What is traditional medicine?

The WHO describes traditional medicine as the total sum of the "knowledge, skills and practices indigenous and different cultures have used over time to maintain health and prevent, diagnose and treat physical and mental illness". "Its reach encompasses ancient practices such as acupuncture, ayurvedic medicine and herbal mixtures as well as modern medicines," the WHO says.

Traditional medicine in India is often defined as including practices and therapies — such as yoga, Ayurveda, Siddha — that have been part of Indian tradition historically, as well as others — such as homeopathy — that became part of Indian tradition over the years. Ayurveda and yoga are practised widely across the country; the Siddha system is followed predominantly in Tamil Nadu and Kerala; the Sowa-Rigpa system is practised mainly in Leh-Ladakh and Himalayan regions such as Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Darjeeling, Lahaul & Spiti.

## What will the GCTM be about?

On November 3, 2020, Dr Tedros announced the establishment of the WHO GCTM in India. The Union Cabinet in March this year approved its establishment in Jamnagar with the signing of a host country agreement between the Government of India and the WHO. India has committed an estimated \$250 million to support the GCTM's establishment, infrastructure and operations.

The GCTM will aim to focus on evidence-based research, innovation, and data analysis to optimise the contribution of traditional medicine to global health. Its main focus will be to develop norms, standards and guidelines in technical areas relating to traditional medicine.

At press conference on Monday, the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) said it will seek to set policies



The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar, will temporarily house the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine. ITRA

For many millions of people around the world, traditional medicine is the first port of call to treat many diseases... This new center will help to harness the power of science to strengthen the evidence base for traditional medicine"

— DR TEDROS  
ADHANOM  
GHEBREYESUS  
WHO DIRECTOR-  
GENERAL

have asked for its support in creating a body of "reliable evidence and data on traditional medicine practices and products". It says the Jamnagar centre will serve as the hub, and focus on building a "solid evidence base" for policies and "help countries integrate it as appropriate into their health systems".

The WHO has flagged many challenges faced by traditional medicine. For instance, national health systems and strategies do not yet fully integrate traditional medicine workers, accredited courses and health facilities.

Second, the WHO has stressed the need to conserve biodiversity and sustainability as about 40% of approved pharmaceutical products today derive from natural substances. "For example, the discovery of aspirin drew on traditional medicine formulations using the bark of the willow tree, the contraceptive pill was developed from the roots of wild yam plants and child cancer treatments have been based on the rosy periwinkle," the WHO says.

Third, the WHO has referred to modernisation of the ways traditional medicine is being studied. Artificial intelligence is now used to map evidence and trends in traditional medicine. "Functional magnetic resonance imaging is used to study brain activity and the relaxation response that is part of some traditional medicine therapies such as meditation and yoga, which are increasingly drawn on for mental health and well-being in stressful times," it says.

Fourth, the WHO has said traditional medicine is also being extensively updated by mobile phone apps, online classes, and other technologies. The GCTM will serve as a hub for other countries, and build standards on traditional medicine practices and products.

## Has India taken up similar collaborative efforts earlier?

Yes. In 2016, the Ministry of AYUSH signed a project collaboration agreement (PCA) with the WHO in the area of traditional medicine. The aim was to create benchmarks for training in yoga, Ayurveda, Unani and Panchakarma, for traditional medicine practitioners. The collaboration also aimed at promoting the quality and safety of traditional medicine and consumer protection by supporting WHO in the development and implementation of the WHO Traditional and Complementary Medicine Strategy.

At least 32 MoUs for undertaking collaborative research and development of traditional medicine have been signed with institutes, universities and organisations from the US, Germany, UK, Canada, Malaysia, Brazil, Australia, Austria, Tajikistan, Saudi Arabia, Ecuador, Japan, Indonesia, Reunion Island, Korea and Hungary.

A constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research — Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur — has signed an MoU with National Research Institute of Chinese Medicine, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan, to collaborate in areas of mutual interest, which include medicinal plants, bioactive molecules, and herbal formulations etc.

Also, the CSIR and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have signed an MoU to identify opportunities for scientific and technological research between researchers within and outside India, including collaborations with foundation-funded entities in the areas including traditional medicine as well as beyond.

## Why Jamnagar?

An interim office of the GCTM is planned to be set up at the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA) in Jamnagar. The Central Public Works Department is expected to set up the office by July 31, at an estimated cost of Rs 13.49 crore.

ITRA, supported by the Gujarat government and financed by the central government, is the first university to offer education and training in the field of Ayurveda across the world, according to the Ministry of AYUSH. The university is a WHO collaborating centre for traditional medicines. The WHO and the central government are also aiming at using technology and innovation, such as artificial intelligence, to map traditional medicine trends, innovations and patents, linking to WHO's Innovation Hub.

## Why markets fell: War, China, price worries

SANDEEP SINGH  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

THE BENCHMARK Sensex at the BSE fell sharply by 1,172 points or 2% on Monday under pressure from lingering global inflation concerns, expectations of a faster pace of rate hikes by the US Federal Reserve, and concerns over weakness in the Chinese economy, alongside rising cases of coronavirus infection.

While the Sensex fell 2 per cent and Nifty was down 1.7%, other key Asian indices too fell sharply. The Nikkei in Japan was down 1.9% and the Shanghai Composite in China fell by up to 1.3%. Premier indices in leading European markets, however, traded in the green.

Infosys was the biggest loser on the BSE, falling 7.3% during the day. Other major losers were HDFC Ltd (4.8%) and HDFC Bank (4.7%). Infosys and HDFC Bank announced worse-than-expected fourth quarter results last week.

## War, Fed worries

The Indian markets that opened after four

days responded to growing concerns over developments including the continuing Russia-Ukraine war, and a possible European Union embargo on Russian gas and sanctions on Russian crude in the next set of punitive actions against Moscow.

Given the persistent inflation, there is apprehension in the market that the Fed might increase the pace of rate hikes — increase by 50 basis points instead of 25 basis points. While rates are expected to be raised, a sharper hike could result in faster outflows of foreign portfolio investor funds, keeping emerging economy markets and Indian domestic equity markets under pressure.

FPI outflows that had tempered since March 15, have increased over the last six trading sessions. Monday witnessed a sharp outflow of Rs 6,387 crore; outflows over the last six trading sessions have amounted to Rs 16,358 crore.

## Chinese concerns

Concern over rising Covid cases in China and slower-than-expected growth in the Chinese economy have impacted market

sentiment. Shanghai, which has been under a strict lockdown since March, reported three deaths on Monday. With the resurgence of the virus slowing down economic activity, China's economy grew 4.8% in the first quarter, AFP reported. The Chinese National Bureau of Statistics warned of "significant difficulties and challenges" ahead, AFP said.

Experts feel that restrictions in China are likely to hurt global supply chains that have already been impacted by the war in Ukraine, and fuel inflation further.

## Spike at home too

Along with inflation, the recent spike in Covid cases in Delhi and parts of Haryana has emerged as a fresh concern.

On Monday, Delhi reported 501 new infections, a little lower than the 517 on Sunday (but with a sharp fall in tests from 12,270 on Saturday to 6,492 on Sunday), but still almost four times the number of 131 at the beginning of the month. Haryana has seen an increase by a similar factor, although absolute numbers are lower than Delhi's.

## Markets outlook

Given global geopolitical concerns and inflation, equity markets are likely to remain volatile in the near term. FPI flows may remain unstable, and may witness an increased outflow in line with an anticipated increase in the pace of the Fed's rate hike.

Domestic inflation, which hit 6.95 per cent in March, continues to be a cause for concern. Continued inflation pressure may force the RBI to go for faster rate hikes, which would hurt growth and demand in the economy.

In its recently released Monetary Policy statement, the central bank signalled a shift in its focus from reviving growth to mitigating risks posed by inflation. While keeping policy rates unchanged for now, it indicated a possible hike in repo rates going forward.

"In the sequence of priorities, we have now put inflation before growth. Time is appropriate to prioritise inflation ahead of growth," RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said after unveiling the bi-monthly policy review.

Over the next few days, earnings announcements for the fourth quarter will also play a part in the movement of the markets.



## TOP OF THE WORLD



Rally opposing joint military exercises in Seoul Monday. AP

NORTH KOREA  
Missile tests:  
US, S Korea  
urge fresh talks

Seoul: The US special envoy for North Korea said on Monday that Washington and Seoul agreed on the need for a strong response to North Korea's recent spate of missile tests, though they remain open to dialogue with the country. Sung Kim flew to South Korea on Monday for talks two days after North Korea conducted a new type of missile test in its 13th round of weapons firing this year. Experts say North Korea wants to advance its weapons arsenal and wrest concessions such as sanctions relief from its rivals. Weapons tested include nuclear-capable missiles able to target both the US mainland and its allies, such as South Korea and Japan. AP

ISRAEL  
Intercepted  
rocket fired from  
Gaza: Military

Jerusalem: The Israeli military says it intercepted a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip into Israeli territory on Monday. It was the first time in months that a rocket has been fired into Israel from the blockaded Palestinian territory controlled by the Hamas militant group. Earlier on Monday, Israeli troops shot and injured two Palestinians during clashes that broke out during an arrest raid in occupied West Bank. Israeli military said it arrested 11 Palestinians in operations across territory overnight. AP

IRAN  
Tehran warns  
Israel on making  
'tiniest move'

Tehran: Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on Monday warned that Israel will be targeted by his country's armed forces if it makes "the tiniest move" against Iran. He spoke as talks stalled in Vienna over a deal to rein in Iran's nuclear capabilities, which Tehran says are used for peaceful purposes. Israel opposes a deal, saying it does not do enough to curb Iran's nuclear programme or its military activities across the region. "If the tiniest move by you happens against nation of Iran, center of the Zionist regime will be destination of our armed forces," Raisi said, referring to Tel Aviv. AP

## MISSILES ALSO SLAMMED INTO KHARKIV; 7 KILLED IN LVIV

## Russia strikes Lviv, prepares for assault in eastern Ukraine



A tyre shop destroyed by an airstrike in Lviv on Monday. AP

YURAS KARMANAU  
LVIV, APRIL 18

RUSSIAN FORCES launched missile attacks on the western city of Lviv and pounded a multitude of other targets across Ukraine on Monday in what appeared to be an intensified bid to grind down the country's defences ahead of an all-out assault on the east.

At least seven were reported killed in Lviv, where plumes of black smoke rose over a city that has seen only sporadic attacks during almost two months. In other developments, a few thousand Ukrainian troops, by Russia's estimate, remained holed up at a mammoth steel mill in Mariupol, the last known pocket of resistance in the devastated southern port city after seven weeks of bombardment.

And Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy submitted a filled-out questionnaire in the first step toward obtaining accelerated membership in the EU — a desire that has been a source of irritation to Russia for years. Zelenskyy, though, has offered to

drop any effort to join NATO, one of the Kremlin's key demands. The Russian missile strikes on Lviv hit three military infrastructure facilities and an auto mechanic shop, as per region's governor, Maksym Kozlytsky. He said wounded included a child.

A hotel sheltering Ukrainians who had fled fighting in other parts of the country was among the buildings badly damaged, Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi said. A powerful explosion also rocked Vasylykiv, a town south of the capital of Kyiv that is home to a military air base, according to residents. It was not immediately clear what was hit.

Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, was hit by shelling that killed at least three people, according to AP journalists on the scene. One of the dead was a woman who appeared to be going out to collect water in the rain. Military analysts say Russia is increasing its strikes on weapons factories, railways and other infrastructure targets across Ukraine to wear down the country's ability to resist a major ground offensive in the Donbas. AP

## Nepal cuts fuel allowance of govt agencies by 20%

PRES TRUST OF INDIA  
KATHMANDU, APRIL 18

THE NEPAL government has cut fuel allowance of its ministries and state-owned enterprises by 20 per cent, as the country battles a foreign exchange crisis and the price of petroleum products sky-rocketed, officials said on Monday.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Council of Ministers held on April 13, the Ministry of Finance officials said.

"Different ministries, line agencies and the public/state-owned enterprises will have to slash fuel budget from their budget under the same heading by 20 per cent. This decision is not applicable, however, to development projects, peace and security, essential service and the upcoming local level election," the ministry said.

## Shanghai quarantine centre: 24-hr lights, no hot showers

## City reports three Covid deaths

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BEIJING, APRIL 18

SHANGHAI AUTHORITIES on Monday reported the first Covid-19 deaths. All three people who were elderly, had underlying diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension, and had not been vaccinated against the coronavirus, city Health Commission inspector Wu Ganyu told journalists.

China on Monday said 23,362 people had tested positive for the virus over the previous 24 hours, most of them showing no symptoms and almost all of them in Shanghai. As the cases surge, National

## Britons captured in Ukraine appear on Russian TV, ask for swap with Putin ally

REUTERS  
APRIL 18

TWO BRITISH fighters captured in Ukraine by Russian forces appeared on Russian state TV on Monday and asked to be exchanged for a Ukrainian ally of President Putin who is being held by Ukrainian authorities.

It was unclear how freely the two men — Shaun Pinner and Aiden Aslin — were able to talk. Both spoke separately after being prompted by an unidentified man. The footage was broadcast on Rossiya 24 state TV channel. The two men asked British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to exchange them for pro-Russian politician Viktor Medvedchuk. Medvedchuk was shown asking to be swapped, too, in a video released around the same time on Monday by Ukraine's SBU intelli-



Shaun Pinner (left) and Aiden Aslin. Reuters

gence service via social media. Medvedchuk, in his appeal to Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, asked to be exchanged for the "defenders of Mariupol and its citizens who are there today and have no opportunity for a safe exit through a humanitarian corridor."

Both Pinner and Aslin fought on the Ukrainian side in Mariupol, which is now almost under Russian control apart from the sprawling Azovstal steelworks where some Ukrainian fighters remained holed up.



As many as 23,362 people tested positive in China in the past 24 hour. AP

Exhibition and Convention Center, with 50,000 beds, is among more than 100 quarantine facilities set up in Shanghai for people who test positive but have no symptoms.

Beibei sleeps beside thousands of strangers in rows of cots in a high-ceilinged exhibition center. The lights stay on all

night, and the 30-year-old real estate saleswoman has yet to find a hot shower.

Other quarantine sites include temporary prefabricated buildings. Residents of other facilities have complained about leaky roofs, inadequate food supplies and delays in treatment for medical problems.

"We haven't found a place with a hot shower," Beibei said. "Lights are on all night, and it's hard to fall asleep."

"Bathrooms are not clean" at NECC, Beibei said. "So many people use them, and volunteers or cleaners can't keep up." Beibei and her husband were ordered into the massive centre last Tuesday after spending 10 days isolated at home following a positive test. Their 2-year-old daughter, who was negative, went to her grandfather, while her nanny also went into quarantine. AP

## DOZENS STILL MISSING

## SOUTH AFRICA FLOODS TOLL TOUCHES 443

Rescuers searched for dozens of people still missing in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province on Sunday after heavy rains in recent days triggered floods and mudslides that have killed 443 people, with a further 63 people unaccounted for. The floods have left thousands homeless, knocked out power and water services and disrupted operations at Durban

## Pak court sentences six men to death for lynching Sri Lankan

M ZULQERNAIN  
LAHORE, APRIL 18

AN ANTI-TERRORISM court in Pakistan's Punjab province on Monday sentenced six men to death and nine others to life imprisonment for their involvement in the lynching of a Sri Lankan national over alleged blasphemy.

Anti-Terrorism Court Lahore Judge Natasha Nasim also handed down two-year rigorous imprisonment each to 72 accused people, including nine juveniles.

The judge, who held the in-camera trial inside high-security Kot Lakhpat Jail on a day-to-day basis, sentenced one accused — Ali Asghar — to 5 years in jail while acquitted another suspect, Bilal. "Of the total 89 suspects, the

EXPLAINED  
What was the case

A MOB of over 800 men, including supporters of radical Islamist party Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan, allegedly attacked a garment factory and lynched its general manager Priyantha Kumara and set him ablaze for tearing a poster of TLP inscribed with Islamic verses during his inspection of machines in the factory on Dec 3.

ATC on Monday announced its verdict handing down death sen-

tence to six, life imprisonment to nine and two years jail term each to remaining 72 accused for their involvement in lynching and burning the Sri Lankan national," a court official said.

The judge also instructed the six prime suspects, who were sentenced to death, to pay Rs. 2,00,000 as compensation to the legal heirs of the deceased.

The nine accused who were given life imprisonment will have to pay a fine of Rs 2,00,000/- each and Rs 2,00,000/- compensation to the legal heirs of the deceased.

The court official said total 46 prosecution witnesses had recorded their statements against the suspects. The prosecution had sought death penalty for 80 suspects. PTI

## PM SEEKS CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR KARACHI CIRCULAR RAILWAY

## Shehbaz to take CPEC forward with new vigour: PML-N leader

SAJJAD HUSSAIN  
ISLAMABAD, APRIL 18

PRIME MINISTER Shehbaz Sharif will take \$60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) forward with new vigour, vitality and in a rejuvenated manner, ensuring multifaceted development of the flagship project of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a top leader of the ruling PML-N said. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, a leader of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), made the remarks on Sunday while discussing the future of the Pakistan-China relations and future cross border collaboration in China's CGTN programme 'The Hub' with Wang Guan.

## Imran partyman is new PoK 'premier'

Islamabad: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's regional president Sardar Tanveer Ilyas was on Monday elected as new "premier" of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in an election boycotted by the Opposition. Khan nominated Ilyas as the party's candidate after his hand-picked "premier" Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi resigned on Thursday following a revolt in the ruling party against him. PTI

"In the first day in office as PM, Shehbaz Sharif met the Chinese Acting Ambassador and told her

that Pakistan considers China as Pakistan's closest friend and strongest partner and we will take the CPEC forward with new vigour, with new vitality and in a rejuvenated manner," he was quoted as saying by Express Tribune.

Meanwhile, Shehbaz Sharif on Monday requested China to support the planned revival of the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) project to end the woes of hundreds of thousands of commuters in the country's largest metropolis.

Stressing that KCR would be a "gift for the people of Karachi" and bring great dividends, Shehbaz took the opportunity of the inauguration of a mass transit bus project here to convey his request to Chinese President Xi Jinping to "reconsider supporting KCR for Karachi". PTI

## Boris faces new 'partygate' claims ahead of India visit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LONDON, APRIL 18

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson is facing new allegations on Monday around "partygate", the scandal surrounding government officials breaching Covid rules with illegal lockdown gatherings, and will be hoping to escape some of the heat when he leaves for India on Thursday.

Johnson has already been fined for one such party for his birthday in June 2020 along with UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak.

However, according to UK media reports, Johnson is believed to have been linked with around six of the 12 lockdown parties under police investigation.

The Sunday Times' quoted a source as saying that a leaving drinks gathering for Number 10 Downing Street's outgoing director of communications, Lee Cain, in November 2020 was allegedly "instigated" by Johnson.

It has led to renewed Opposition calls for Johnson, 57, to step down. Labour Party Deputy Leader Angela Rayner said that "if the latest reports are true", it means "not only did the PM attend parties, but he had a hand in instigating at least one of them"

## LANKA CRISIS: PM MAHINDA PART OF TEAM

## Gotabaya appoints new Cabinet, calls for system change

PRES TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, APRIL 18

SRI LANKAN President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Monday appointed a new 17-member Cabinet that excluded his close relatives except Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, as he called for a "system change" amid growing demand for his resignation over the worst economic crisis faced by the island nation.

Rajapaksa, 72, swore in a 17-member Cabinet on Monday in addition to the three ministers he had earlier appointed.

That meant no place for the oldest member of the family Chamal Rajapaksa, Mahinda's son Namal Rajapaksa.

Speaking to the new ministers, President Rajapaksa sought their support for an efficient, clean government. He said he expects honest, efficient, and untainted governance from the Cabinet.

The President's Media Division said there were no changes to the ministerial positions held by the President, Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister GL Peiris, and Finance Minister Ali Sabry.



Sri Lanka President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

## Court extends travel ban on central bank former governor

Colombo: A local court on Monday extended a travel ban on Ajith Nivard Cabraal, former governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, from travelling abroad. The court has also ordered him to appear in court again on May 2, the Colombo Gazette newspaper reported. PTI

Speaking to his newly inducted Cabinet Ministers, the President termed his decision to ban chemical fertilisers in farming "a mistake" and that corrective steps were being taken now.

Rajapaksa also said his government should have opted to go for an IMF bailout much earlier. "It was a mistake not to go".

## THE WATCH, MADE AS GIFT IN 1910, HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE MAKER'S FAMILY IN THE NETHERLANDS. IT STILL WORKS

## A Nazi soldier stole a watch in 1942 that turned up 80 years later

CLAIRE MOSES  
APRIL 18

AFTER NEARLY 80 years, a watch that was taken by a Nazi soldier during World War II, lost in a cornfield and later hidden in a clock on a farm in Belgium has been returned to the grandchildren of its maker. And it still works.

"I think it's really beautiful and remarkable that this all came together," said Richard van Ameijden, the grandson of the watchmaker. "It came right out of the blue."

The pocket watch was crafted in 1910 by Alfred Overstrijid, a Jewish man from the Dutch city

of Rotterdam who was then learning to be a watchmaker. He made it as a gift for his brother, Louis, for his 18th birthday. An inscription on the back of the watch includes Overstrijid's name and the place and time it was made as well as the fact that it was intended for his brother.

In 1942, Louis Overstrijid was arrested by the Nazis, at which point it's likely that a soldier took the watch from him, or from his house, according to Rob Snijders, a Dutch historian who specialises in Jewish history. Both Overstrijid brothers were ultimately sent to the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz and did not survive the Holocaust.

For van Ameijden, the reunion with his grandfather's watch was uplifting, but it was also a rude awakening to continuing atrocities.

"When I look at the watch, it touches me partly because there's a war now as well," van Ameijden said, referring to Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine. "I imagine that children and older people who are sleeping in subway stations in a bombed Mariupol are holding their belongings. I think of that when I see this watch."

How the watch travelled from Louis Overstrijid in Rotterdam to a cornfield in the Flemish part of Belgium is not



The pocket watch includes an inscription on the back stating the maker's name and the place and time it was made. NYT

entirely known, but Snijders has reconstructed the journey.

During the war, people across Belgium and the Netherlands

were forced to accommodate Nazi soldiers. A Belgian farmer named Gustave Janssens housed three soldiers and, unhappy about the situation, made them use a cornfield next door as a bathroom. It's likely that the watch fell from the pocket of one of the soldiers in the field, Snijders said.

When Janssens found the watch, he must have noticed the Dutch name on the back and figured that the soldier had stolen it, Snijders explained. Which is where it stayed for next 80 years.

Recently, the farm in Belgium was sold, and members of Janssens' family went through the belongings, Pieter Janssens, the farmer's grandson, said. By

chance, he said, the family came upon the pristine pocket watch made in 1910, with the inscription on the back. He then emailed Snijders, in an effort to trace the watch to its original owner.

Such requests can be difficult, Snijders said. "It's complex; most of the time it doesn't work," he said. "It can take years."

Still, Snijders posted details of the watch's history on social media and hoped for the best. Within 24 hours, Snijders received the information that the watchmaker, Alfred Overstrijid, had a daughter who had survived the war and had three children living in the Netherlands. Snijders later found van

Ameijden, one of the watchmaker's three grandchildren, on LinkedIn. He arranged a meeting between the descendants of the farmer and the watchmaker, during which the watch was officially handed back. "There were tears, I saw them," said Snijders, who attended the two-hour gathering this month in Rotterdam, which was earlier reported by Radio Rijnmond, a Dutch radio station.

Van Ameijden said he and his sisters would share possession of the watch for the time being and that they regretted that their mother was not alive to see the heirloom from her father, with whom she was close. NYT



SECTOR WATCH  
FOOD DELIVERYWhy have rivals  
Swiggy, Zomato  
come together to  
fund an SaaS firmPRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

Delivery executives in Mumbai. Swiggy, Zomato invested in UrbanPiper. File

RIVALS IN the food-delivery space Swiggy and Zomato have together invested in SaaS company UrbanPiper, which provides a single-window platform to restaurants to help run their operations. The Bengaluru-based startup, which counts marquee restaurant chains like McDonald's, Pizza Hut, KFC, Subway, Taco Bell, Rebel Foods among its customer base, raised \$24 million in its Series B funding round, it said.

## Investment round

The round was led by existing investors Sequoia Capital India and Tiger Global with Swiggy and Zomato being onboarded as new investors. "A slew of reputed angel investors also participated in the funding round including Pankaj Chaddah (Shyft), Ankil Nagori (Curefoods), Saahil Goel and Vishesh Khurana (Shiprocket), Khadim Bhatti and Vara Kumar (Whatfix), among others," the company said.

It added that currently it processes over 18 per cent of all online food orders placed each month in India, and has grown over 10 times in the last two years. "Currently, a restaurant signs up with an average of 6-10 different online channels/aggregators - making it challenging to manage multiple tablets/dashboards. Through UrbanPiper, restaurants can integrate all these ag-

gregators onto a single dashboard and connect with their points of sale resulting in a 70 per cent decrease in order failure," it said. The company, which has over 150 employees in India, plans to increase its headcount to over 250 in the next 1 year.

## The significance

Sequoia India's principal Shraeyansh Thakur said: "Due to pandemic-led disruptions, merchants now increasingly want to adopt digital channels and upgrade their operations. UrbanPiper is at the forefront of this digital transformation and is strategically positioned to build infrastructure connecting digital players to merchants in the F&B ecosystem..." The investment round also assumes significance because it brings rivals Swiggy and Zomato on the same table for the first time. Both the companies have been strategically funding startups albeit with different future roadmaps. Swiggy recently led a \$180 million investment round in bike aggregator platform Rapido, while Zomato agreed to buy Blinkit, in addition to buying a stake in food robotics firm Mukunda Foods.

## RBI 'STATE OF THE ECONOMY' REPORT

## 'Global policy tightening may precipitate rocketing inflation'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

The RBI, Mumbai. Near-term global outlook appears grim, it said in a report. File

CAUTIONING ON the 'grim' near-term global outlook, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday said the surge in commodity prices is already posing inflation risks, especially through the conduit of surging imports.

"Rapidly widening trade and current account deficits co-existing with portfolio capital outflows weigh on external sustainability, although the strength of underlying fundamentals and the stock of international reserves provide buffers," the RBI said in its 'State of the economy' report. Retail inflation has gone up to 6.95 per cent in March. Food and beverages in-

flation was the main driver, rising to 7.5 per cent in March from 5.9 per cent in February, the RBI report said. "India too is experiencing tremors from these (global) developments. The fallout of the war and retaliatory sanctions is already evident in inflation prints and balance of payments developments," the RBI report said. While the RBI

kept the repo rate unchanged in the April policy review, it has initiated the process of normalisation of the accommodative policy.

According to the RBI, the near-term global outlook appears grim, caught up in a vortex of geo-political risks materialising rapidly, strained supply chains and the quickening pace of monetary policy normalisation. "Emerging market economies are bracing up to contend with swift shifts in risk sentiments and tightening of global financial conditions that could produce real economy consequences which may thwart incipient recoveries or even precipitate rocketing inflation and economic downturns," it said.

"The Indian economy is not immune to these negative exter-

nalities," the report said.

India faces these challenges from a position of strength built on broadened vaccine coverage, financial sector resilience, robust export and remittances and fiscal reprioritisation to spur capital spending on infrastructure, it said. "Going forward, spurring private investment remains a key thrust area for sustaining growth on a durable basis," the report said.

As India enters Samvat 2079, the third wave seems to be behind and, with the removal of all curbs, alongside a broadening of vaccination, economic activity is returning to speed, it said. "Most sectors are reaching or have exceeded pre-pandemic levels. Bank credit has gathered pace and the job market is gathering steam..."

## 'Loan assets securitised by NBFCs jump 43% in FY22'

Total value of loan assets securitised by NBFCs, including housing finance firms, rose around 43% last fiscal to Rs 1,25,000 crore, an IcrA Ratings report said

₹87,300 cr

amount of loans securitised in FY21 by NBFCs (non-banking financial companies) and HFCs (housing finance companies)

Securitisation refers to pooling of cash-flow-producing assets such as mortgages, loans, bonds and subsequent issuance of securities in the capital markets backed by these collateral pools

SAT admits  
Ramkrishna  
plea against SebiSAT admits  
Ramkrishna  
plea against Sebi

Mumbai: The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) has admitted former NSE MD-CEO Chitra Ramkrishna's plea against an order by Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) relating to governance lapses at the bourse and directed her to deposit an amount of Rs 2 crore.

It also directed NSE to deposit Rs 4.73 crore towards leave encashment and deferred bonus of Ramkrishna in an escrow account as against Sebi's direction where the amount was to be parked in the Investor Protection Fund Trust. In an order dated February 11, Sebi slapped a penalty of Rs 3 crore on Ramkrishna for alleged governance lapses in a case related to the appointment of Anand Subramanian as the Group Operating Officer and Advisor when she was at the helm of NSE as its MD&CEO. Sebi had asked NSE to forfeit the leave encashment of Rs 1.54 crore and the Rs 2.83 crore deferred bonus of Ramkrishna. ENS

## MINDTREE IN EXCHANGE FILING

## 'Merger talks with L&amp;T arm speculative'

Mumbai: Stock markets were on Monday abuzz with "speculative" talks about the merger of Larsen & Toubro Infotech and Mindtree Ltd, both belonging to L&T group.

L&T acquired 61 per cent in Mindtree in July 2019 and had been categorised as the promoter. L&T holds 74.05 in L&T Infotech.

"We wish to clarify that news reports of a merger between

Mindtree Ltd. and L&T Infotech are speculative in nature," Mindtree said. "In this regard, we would like to state that there is no information available with the company as of today, which is required to be reported under extant SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, and which may have a bearing on the stock price of the company,"

Mindtree said in an exchange filing. "The share price movement on April 18, 2022, was in line with that of industry peers as well as the day's market indices," it said. "At present, we do not have any information that is required to be disclosed in accordance with the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015," L&T Infotech said in a filing. ENS

SBI, others  
hike MCLR;  
EMIs to rise

Mumbai: Equated monthly instalments (EMIs) on home, car and other loans for borrowers are set to rise with several banks, led by SBI, raising the marginal cost of funds based lending rates (MCLR).

SBI hiked the MCLR by 10 bps across tenures. MCLR is the lowest rate that a bank or lender can offer. Other banks including Bank of Baroda, Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank also raised their MCLRs by 5 bps each across tenures. MCLR is applicable to fresh corporate loans and floating rate loans taken before October 2019. SBI's 1-year MCLR stands at 7.1 per cent, slightly lower than the 7.25 per cent at HDFC Bank, PNB and ICICI Bank. BoB's 1-year MCLR is 7.35 per cent, while Axis Bank's is 7.4 per cent. The RBI recently kept repo rate steady at 4 per cent, announcing its plan to gradually withdraw accommodative policy. ENS

MoS IT: Leading global names  
interested in India as chip hub

New Delhi: The government is expecting to sign a "significant" number of MoUs with players in the semiconductor ecosystem during India's first global semiconductor conference that is scheduled for later this month, said Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on Monday.

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR  
MoS, Electronics & IT File

The conference, called Semicon India 2022, will be organised in Bengaluru from April 29 to May 1. "The interest that is being

shown by leading names of the world in India as a design, manufacturing, packaging, display, compound fab hub is unprecedented," he said. The Centre is expecting some of the biggest names in the semiconductor space to participate in the conference, Chandrasekhar said.

In December last year, the Union Cabinet had approved a Rs 76,000-crore policy programme for semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem. ENS

ED attaches assets worth  
₹757 cr of Amway India

## Cooperating with authorities 'towards fair legal, logical conclusion of outstanding issues': Firm

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth over Rs 757 crore of one of the country's most known multi-level marketing (MLM) and direct-selling companies, Amway India, as part of a money-laundering investigation.

The agency issued a statement on Monday, alleging that the company was perpetrating a "scam" by running a pyramid "fraud" in the guise of direct-selling MLM network. "The entire focus of the company is about propagating how members can become rich by becoming mem-

bers. There is no focus on the products. "Products are used to masquerade this MLM pyramid fraud as a direct-selling company," the ED alleged. An Amway spokesperson said they are cooperating with the authorities "towards a fair legal, and logical conclusion of the outstanding issues". Amway said the ED action was with regard to an investigation dating back to 2011 and since then, the company has been cooperating with the agency and has shared all the information sought by it from time to time. PTI

Canon's new demand segment:  
Streaming of religious servicesNANDAGOPAL RAJAN  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

CANON, A global leader in camera and imaging technologies, is seeing the pandemic trigger surge in new demands. Manabu Yamazaki, CEO and president, Canon India, said the demand for high-definition, highly functional equipment to stream religious services is something they had never before imagined as an independent vertical.

He told indianexpress.com, "This is probably where we realise maybe some of these

professional equipment need even more marketing investments to make itself known to those new groups of customers," adding that online education and the wedding industry is also pushing demand for professional video equipment.

Yamazaki said there are "encouraging signs of people trying to reinvest in the market and restart this whole operation and even migrate into something new", adding that there are signs of new businesses flourishing in the market.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH  
UTTAR PRADESH CORE ROAD NETWORK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UPCRNDP)  
REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)  
E-Procurement Notice  
(Engineering, Procurement, Construction ("EPC") Contract following Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)  
NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT  
Date: 18 April 2022

1. The Government of India has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Uttar Pradesh Core Road Network Development Project and intends to apply a part of the proceeds to cover eligible payments under the contract for construction of works as detailed below.

2. Bidding will be conducted through national open competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016, Revised August 2018" ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

3. The Government of Uttar Pradesh through Chief Engineer, Externally Aided Projects (Roads), UPPWD (Implementing Agency) now invites online Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction of works as tabulated below.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Contract Package No.	Cost of Document (Rs.)	Period of Completion (Days)
1	Up-gradation and Maintenance of Bore - (Mehandawal - Khalilabad section of SH-68, from Km 0.000 to Km 28.870	UPCRNDP/UPG/06/2022	500/- including GST	Construction Period - 730 + Maintenance Period - 1626

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address given below during office hours. Bidders are advised to note the clauses on eligibility (Section I Clause 4) and minimum qualification criteria (Section II - Evaluation and Qualification Criteria), to qualify for the award of the contract. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 3.14 and 3.15 of the "Procurement Regulations" setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

4. The bidding document is available online at <http://tender.up.nic.in> (under the organisation head "PWD - Externally Aided Project (World Bank Tenders) (website) from 27-04-2022 to 27-05-2022 for a non-refundable fee as per column no 4 of the table above. This fee is to be paid online on website <https://rajkoosh.up.nic.in/PayWithoutReg.aspx> as per instructions given in BOS Clause 6.3. The bidders would be responsible for ensuring that any addenda available on the website is also downloaded and incorporated.

5. For submission of the bid, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the Certifying Authorities authorized by Government of India for issuing DSC. Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-procurement in this project, may obtain the same from the website: <http://tender.up.nic.in>. The Invitation for Bids under UPCRNDP is published on this website under the organisation head "PWD - Externally Aided Project (World Bank Tenders)". Any prospective bidder can log on to this website and view the Invitation for Bids and can view the details of works for which bids are invited. The prospective bidder can submit bids online; however, the bidder is required to have enrolment/registration in the website and should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC), for signing and encryption issued by a Certifying Authority licensed under Controller of Certifying Authorities of India, in the form of smart card/token. The DSC can be obtained from any authorized certifying agencies. The bidder should register in the website <http://tender.up.nic.in> using the relevant option available.

6. Bids comprise two Parts, namely the Technical Part and the Financial Part, and both parts must be submitted simultaneously online on <http://tender.up.nic.in> on or before 17:00 hours on 27-05-2022 and the Technical Part of the bids will be publicly opened online at the address given below on the same day at 17:30 hours, in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend. The Financial Part shall remain unopened in the e-procurement system until the second public Bid opening for the financial part. Any bid or modifications to bid (including discount) received outside e-procurement system will not be considered. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids.

7. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Securing Declaration.

8. A pre-bid meeting will be held on 13-05-2022 at 15:00 hours at the office of Chief Engineer, Externally Aided Projects (Roads), UPPWD, Niman Bhawan, 95, MG Marg, Lucknow-226 001 to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in ITB Clause 7.4 of Instructions to Bidders of the bidding document. Bidders are advised to download the bidding document prior to the pre-bid meeting in order for bidders to have a good understanding of the scope of work under this contract for discussion and clarification at the pre-bid meeting.

9. Other details can be seen in the bidding document. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to this bid.

10. The address(es) referred to above are:  
(a) Name & Designation of Officer: Chief Engineer, Externally Aided Projects (Roads), UPPWD.  
(b) Official Address: Niman Bhawan, 95, MG Marg, Lucknow-226001.  
(c) Email: [ceapppwd@gmail.com](mailto:ceapppwd@gmail.com).  
(d) Telephone: (+91)112222226496

(V.K. Jain)  
Chief Engineer (EAP)

## TOTAL INDUSTRY PREMIUM UP AT ₹2.2L CR

FY22: Pvt insurers  
gain market share,  
health top portfolioGEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

COMING OUT of the stress created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the domestic general insurance industry - led by state-owned New India Assurance (NIA) - has ended FY22 with a premium of Rs 2.20 lakh crore, up 11 per cent over Rs 1.98 lakh crore premium mobilised in FY21. However, latest Irdai data shows that private players are fast gaining market share and catching up with four public sector players which hitherto dominated the sector.

Thanks to the pandemic and stagnant motor third party premium for the last two years, in FY22, health portfolio has topped the motor business to become the largest segment in the industry for the first time in the history of Indian general insurance industry.

The total health premium of the industry has risen by 26 per cent to Rs 66,167 crore (Rs 52,689 crore in the year ago) till February 2022 while total motor premium (own damage and motor third party motor premium) has expanded only by 3.62 per cent to Rs 63,052 crore (Rs 60,851 crore a year ago) during the period. Crop insurance premium which has fallen by five per cent to Rs 26,654 crore till February 2022, is still the third largest portfolio of the Indian general insurance industry.

While NIA raised its market share to 14.76 per cent (14.33 per

## '20-46 days for health claim settlement'

Mumbai: Settlement of health insurance reimbursement claims after discharge on an average takes about 20 to 46 days from the date of intimation to the insurer, reveals a survey. Conducted by insurance player SecureNow, it showed patients are quite prompt in informing the insurer of the claim, with most intimating the concerned insurance company within a week of hospitalisation. ENS

cent in FY21), all four main line general insurers - NIA, National Insurance, United India Insurance, Oriental Insurance and National Insurance - lost 212 basis points of their market share to private players and have a total share of 34 per cent as of FY22-end.

Five standalone private health insurance companies, led by Star Health & Allied Insurance Company, saw a 32.53 per cent rise in gross direct premium income in FY22 to Rs 20,880.08 crore against Rs 15,755.18 crore a year ago. For the first time, private player ICI Lombard General Insurance, with a premium of Rs 17,976 crore emerged India's second largest general insurer. Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-TENDER NOTICE

Tender No: T.No.11/2022-23/SE/Q  
Laying of pumping main and gravity main to OHSRs, distribution network in Erour Edam road and its by roads.  
● EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-  
● Tender fee : Rs. 10000+1800 (18% GST-it will be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns) ● Last Date for submitting Tender : 09-05-2022, 02:00 pm ● Phone : 0474 2745293  
● Website : [www.kwa.kerala.gov.in](http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in) | [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in)  
KWA-JB-GL-6-70-2022-23  
Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam

## GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Tender Notice No.01/2022-23/SE/(PD-3)/EE/(PD-4)/DB/GVMC/  
Dt:16-04-2022 (Package-I&II)  
1.Number of Works : 02 (Two)  
2.Value of works (ECV) : Rs.16.98 Crores  
3.Down loading Starting Date : 16-04-2022 @ 5.00 PM  
4.Down loading End Date : 04-05-2022 @ 4.00 PM  
5.Last date for Submission of bid : 04-05-2022 @ 5.00 PM  
Note: Further details at <http://www.appeprocurement.gov.in>  
O/o the Executive Engineer (PD-IV) Division Commissioner GVMC

## NMDC Limited

(A Government of India Enterprise)  
Ballalidia Iron Ore Mine, Kirandul Complex,  
Kirandul-494556, Dist.-South Bastar Dantewada, Chhattisgarh.  
CIN : L13100TG1958GOI01674

No. BIOM/KDL/CTR/OT/2022/001 Dated: 18-04-2022

## Press Notification

E-OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY  
Ballalidia Iron Ore Mines (BIOM), Kirandul Complex, Kirandul, CG invite offers in 2 bid system from the eligible bidders for the following works:

Sl. No.	Name of work	Downloading of document from website	Esttd. Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Last Date & time of bids submission
1.	Face-lifting work of Type - I/NC/DS Quarters from I/NC/DS/193 to I/NC/DS/288 at Kirandul Township.	29-03-2022	127.41	26-04-2022 15:00 hours
2.	Face-lifting work of Type - I/NC/DS Quarters from I/NC/DS/385 to I/NC/DS/488 at Kirandul Township.	28-03-2022	137.53	26-04-2022 15:00 hours
3.	Construction of Retaining wall and Channel for Slope protection work behind Ground Gallery TR-26 and TR-34 of BC-1117 at Dep. 11B.	28-03-2022	197.69	25-04-2022 15:00 hours
4.	Construction of Ladies Rest Shelter at SP-II and 11B Mines, BIOM, Kirandul Complex.	28-03-2022	46.75	25-04-2022 15:00 hours
5.	Loading and transportation of Fine Ore or 10.00 LT.	28-03-2022	123.90	25-04-2022 15:00 hours
6.	Construction of Multi Gym and Yog Shala at Kirandul.	29-03-2022	198.99	28-04-2022 15:00 hours
7.	Expansion of Dumper platform Dep. 14 for operation of 100 ton Dumpers.	28-03-2022	41.18	26-04-2022 15:00 hours
8.	Miscellaneous works at Baila Club.	29-03-2022	62.14	29-04-2022 15:00 hours

The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and / or downloaded from 28/03-03-2022; 11:00 Hrs. from following website links :

1. NMDC website - <https://www.nmdc.co.in/nmcdctender/default.aspx>
2. Central Public Procurement Portal - <https://www.eprocure.gov.in/publish/app> and search tender through tender enquiry number.
3. MSTC-Portal : [https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eproc/home/nmcd/buyer\\_login.jspwww.nmdc.co.in](https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eproc/home/nmcd/buyer_login.jspwww.nmdc.co.in)

The bidders are requested to submit their bids online through MSTC Limited website. The details of submission of bid through online are given in NIT. The Bidders on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website / CPP Portal / MSTC website for corrigendum, if any, at a future date. For further clarifications, bidders may contact General Manager (Contracts), NMDC Limited, BIOM, Kirandul Complex, email : [contract.kdl@nmdc.co.in](mailto:contract.kdl@nmdc.co.in)

For and behalf of NMDC Limited



**WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD**  
(SURVEY & CONSTRUCTION)  
E-Tender Notice  
No.DY/CE/CI/ADI/ADI-MSH/29  
(SINGLE PACKET)

1. Name of work with its location : E Tender No. Dy.CE/CI/ADI/ADI-MSH/29  
Name of Work: Supply of 50 mm machine crushed stone ballast including transporting and stacking in cress on either side of the track, station yards as per specifications between Jagudan - Mehsana Section in connection with Ahmedabad-Mehsana GC Project.  
2. Approx. cost of work : Rs. 3,14,70,000.00  
3. Earnest money to be deposited : Rs. 3,07,400.00  
4. Tender form fees : Nil  
5. Completion period of work : 04 (Four) months including monsoon.  
6. Date and submission of bid : Submission of e-tender : 06.05.2022 upto 15.00 Hrs. Opening : 06.05.2022 at 15.30 Hrs.  
7. Website particulars Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen & address of the office : Website : www.irops.gov.in Office of Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction), Western Railway, 2nd Floor, 'C' Wing, Nirman Bhavan, Near DRM Office, Asarwa, Ahmedabad-382 345. CPM-54  
Like us : www.facebook.com/WesternRly

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**1st CORRIGENDUM**

Sub: 1st Corrigendum to the NIT No. 03-TRD-NDLS-2022-23. Following changes in the subjected NIT may kindly read and follow for future reference as below.

Description	Existing	Revised
Tender Clause No.1.1.26.1(c)	Definition of similar nature of Work: "Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 50 Hz single phase 25 KV AC overhead equipment (OHE) OR "Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 66 KV or higher voltage 3-phase grid substation" OR "Design, supply, erection, testing & switching station commissioning of 50 Hz, single phase, 25 KV (SP, SSP)".	Definition of similar nature of Work: Similar work means that the contractor should have completed the work of Maintenance / Repairs / Rehabilitation / Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 50 Hz, single phase 25 KV AC OHE. OR Maintenance/ Repairs / Rehabilitation / Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 50 Hz single phase 25 KV AC Traction Substation/Switching substations. OR Repairs / Maintenance / Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of sub-station of 132 KV or Higher voltage.

All other terms and conditions of Tender are remaining same; a copy of this letter is also uploaded on IREPS website for ready reference.  
No.: 230-Elect./TRD/14/10/AE/VI.-V/2019-20/01/DE  
Dated: 13.04.2022 853/2022

**SEEKING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER M-3**  
**DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (T) M-3**  
**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI**  
H-BLOCK: SECTOR-15: ROHINI: DELHI-89 E-mail Id: ceentenderingm3.dib@gmail.com  
PRESS NIT No. 01 (2022-23) e-tendering Tender

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender/ Estimated cost	EMD/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement solution/D.No.	Last date/time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1	PIL 400 mm dia M.S. connection line from A-5 RW to feeding main of Palla RWTW for improving water supply at Holambi (Kalan and SGT UGR under ACE(M)-3.	Rs. 90,21,961/-	Rs. 1,80,500/- Rs. 1000/-	16.04.2022 2022_DJB_220623_1	25.04.2022 pto 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.  
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Adv. No. J.S.V. 39 (2022-23)  
Sd/-  
Dy. Superintending Engineer (T) M-3  
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

**NOTICE**

General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely: Mosiur Rehman S/o: Majbool Shaikh R/o: Gaun Bachhar Malda, West Bangal-732124 Age: 35 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Medium.** This person is the real owner of **TSR No. HR 55 X 9869.** Against the Driver of above **TSR** a case **FIR No. 195/20, U/s 279,337 IPC** has been registered at **P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi** and **TSR** is deposited in the above police station. Sincere efforts have been made to trace the above missing owner of the **TSR** by local police but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing owner of **TSR** please inform to the following:

Web-site : <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO  
E-Mail ID: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi  
Fax: 011-23011334 Ph.: 011-25472410, 25472166  
DP/1692/OD/2022

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir.**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE, Ground Water Division, Sgr.**  
**Gist of e-Tender.**  
**e-NIT No -PHE/GWDS/02 of 04/2022**

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited in 02 Cover System for the below mentioned work from registered Mechanical contractors/Firms as per the details given in tender document.

S. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost Rs. in Lacs	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Programme	Technical sanction
1.	Development of production tube wells by P.T.O of Air Compressor in Kashmir Valley	Rs. 25.00 lacs	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 1000/-	30 Days	Mechanical Contractor/ Firms	M&E (Non-Plan)	PHE/GWD/02 of 04/2022
2.	Development of production tube wells by P.T.O of Air Compressor Pulwama, Sopore and Srinagar Districts	Rs. 24.52 lacs	Rs. 49,000/-	Rs. 1000/-	30 Days	Mechanical Contractor/ Firms	M&E (Plan)	PHE/GWD/03 of 04/2021

**Note:** The Technical sheet appended with the e-NIT shall have to be filled by firm for the Technical evaluation of the item of work.  
S.No:-01: AAA Accorded Order No.:-PHE/MCN/Works/18 of 03/2022, dated: 18-03-2022.  
S.No:-02: AAA Accorded Order No.:- PHE/MCN/Works/18 of 03/2022, dated: 18-03-2022.

**Critical Dates/Information.**

Sl. No.	Event	Date
1.	Publishing Date	16-04-2022 (02:00 PM)
2.	Period of Downloading of Bids	16-04-2022 (02:00 P.M) to 06-05-2022 (04:30 P.M)
3.	Period of Submission of bids	16-04-2022 (02:00 P.M) to 06-05-2022 (04:30 P.M)
4.	Date of opening of tender	07-05-2022 at (02:00 P.M)
5.	Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer, (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Srinagar/Kashmir-190011	
6.	Document Cost: Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Challan/receipt deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar/ at Sadder Treasury Srinagar/ (The firm shall specify the name of work for which apply)	
7.	Bid Validity Period: 180 Days	
8.	The bids can be downloaded or uploaded on <a href="http://www.jktenders.gov.in">www.jktenders.gov.in</a>	
9.	The bids of only those agencies shall be accepted who possess valid registration certificate of Mechanical Contractor/Firms.	

No.:-PHE/GWDS/190.  
Dated: 15-04-2022.  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division, Srinagar.  
DIPK-673

**HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Ghumarwin Distt Bilaspur H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, of from the eligible class of contractor registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in table.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Starting date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money	Deadline for submission of bid	Time Limit
1	C/o addl. Accommodation (Commerce Block) SVNGDC Ghumarwin Distt. Bilaspur HP (SH: C/o science block)	Rs. 3,08,63,603/-	28.04.2022	Rs. 3,41,000/-	12/05/22	One year
2	C/o multipurpose hall badminton court and examination hall at GSSS (B) Ghumarwin Distt. Bilaspur HP (SH: C/o C/o building portion)	Rs. 3,15,67,600/-	28.04.2022	Rs. 6,08,000/-	12/05/22	Two years

The bidder is advised to note other detail of tenders from the department website. [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in)  
0341/HP  
Executive Engineer Ghumarwin Division HPPWD Ghumarwin On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

**Government of Odisha,**  
**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL),**  
**ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR-751001**  
email: [cworldbankprojects@gmail.com](mailto:cworldbankprojects@gmail.com)  
**ROAD CONNECTIVITY PROJECT OF LEFT WING EXTREMISM AFFECTED AREA (RCLPWEA)**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
**e-Procurement Notice**  
**Bid Identification No. CE-WBP(O)-02/2022-23**

**File No- CEWP-RCLPWEA-3-56/2020- 15135** Dated: 16-04-2022

The Chief Engineer, (World Bank Projects), Bhubaneswar, Odisha on behalf of Odisha State Rural Connectivity Project Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under RCLPWEA in the districts of Malkangiri & Kandhamal for 4 number of packages with estimated cost as mentioned in IFB totaling to Rs.3340.80 lakhs including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tenders	Last Date & Time for Submission of e-tenders	Date & Time for opening of e-tenders
1.	Construction of road and CD works including five year maintenance under RCLPWEA @ Batch-1 for the year 2021-22	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
2.	As mentioned in Annexure	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
3.	04 No of Package	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
4.	Varies from Approx. Rs.208.01 Lakh to Rs.1421.16 Lakh (Information in DTGN will be Final)	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
5.	Rs. 10,000/(Non-Refundable)per set of package	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
6.	Only through online in website. <a href="http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in">www.pmgstenders.gov.in</a> .	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	29.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	16.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	17.05.2022 at 11:00 AM

**Summary of key dates are provided below:**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding	Last date & time for seeking clarification	Last date & time of submission of Original documents	Date & Time of opening of tender
Chief Engineer, (World Bank Projects), Bhubaneswar, Odisha	CE-WBP(O)-02/2022-23	20-04-2022 From 11.00 A.M To 10-05-2022 Up to 05.00 P.M.	07-05-2022 Up to 01.00 P.M.	13-05-2022 By 01.00 P.M.	11-05-2022 At 11.00 A.M. Will be intimated later

\* Special conditions 1-EFF registration is mandatory before draw of agreement-2. Rate quoted by the contractor shall be excluding GST. 3. Original Bid Security Declaration format. Bid submission fee and original affidavits should be submitted at the O/o Chief Engineer, (World Bank Projects), Bhubaneswar, Odisha O/o. Superintending Engineer of Concerned (R&B) Division.  
\*Details can be seen from the e-procurement portal [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in)  
\*Subsequent modification/corrigendum/Addendum if required shall be appeared in the website only.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer, World Bank Projects, Odisha  
OIPR- 34003/11/0002/2223

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Sh. Sunil Kumar S/o Nakli Singh R/o C-1/48, Gali No.19, Khajoori Khas Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **CC No.3468/17 u/s 138 NI Act.** has been registered at **P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the Said cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sh. Sunil Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sh. Sunil Kumar of CC No. 3468/17 u/s 138 NI Act., registered at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 25.05.2022

By Order,  
Ms. Sakshi Jaiswal MM,  
(NI Act)-05 Central Room No.-2  
Ground floor ANNEX-1  
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi  
DP/2185/N/2022- Court matter

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male **Namely Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 21 years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, ID: Cut mark on Left Eyebrow, was found dead on 07.04.2022 from Bihari Colony DDA Park, Todapur.** The dead body has been preserved at the Mortuary of RML Hospital, Delhi. In this regard a **DD No.26A, dated 07.04.2022** has been lodged at **P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi.**

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO  
P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-25832201, 25832400  
DP/812/WD/2022 Mob.: 9250778080

**OFFICE: GOVERNMENT COLLEGE SIDHRAWALI, DISTRICT GURUGRAM**  
**NOTICE FOR CANTEEN BID (SESSION 2022-23)**

A "Refreshment Arrangements Bid" is being organized for College Canteen at Government College, Sidhrawali for the Session 2022-23 on 23.04.2022 at 11.00 A.M. Interested bidders may come to the College Campus and participate in the bid.  
**NOTE: TERMS AND CONDITION APPLIED**  
(Interested parties can visit and obtain terms and conditions from the Office of Government College Sidhrawali on any working day.)

9038/HRY PRINCIPAL

**The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking**  
(OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGRALIKA)

**TENDER NOTICE**

E-tender is invited for the supply of following item :-  
1. Wet lease of 1400 (+50% variation i.e. upto 2100) SD AC Electric Buses with Drivers (Bid End Date Extended upto 25.04.2022).

Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.  
PRO/AM(M)/13/2022 GENERAL MANAGER

**U.P. RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
(U.P. Government Undertaking)  
(An ISO 9001:2000 Certified Company)  
Visheshwaraya Bhawan, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

**Notice inviting E-TENDER**

The Project Manager, UPRNN LTD Unit-12 Lucknow invites for and on behalf of Managing Director U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd, online percentage rate bids in two bid system for the following work :  
**NIT NO.: 447/U.L./Unit-12/Paryatan Work Sitapur/RNN/2022 Dated 13.04.2022** Name of work: Construction of Main Gate & Other Gate of Chakrathirth for developing Corridor in Naimisharanaya-Mishrikh District-Sitapur. Estimated Bid Value: **Rs. 748.90 Lakh (Civil Works Rs. 716.21 Lakh, Electrical Works : Rs. 32.69 Lakh), Earnest Money: Rs. 15.50 Lakh, Period of Completion : 10 Months.** Last time and date of submission of bid **03:00 PM on Date 22nd April, 2022**

The bid forms and other details can be obtained / downloaded from the website: <https://tender.up.nic.in> The NIT is also available on <http://www.uprnn.com>

**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.**  
(A State Govt. Undertaking)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (E-tendering, Mode only)**

Online tenders in two part bidding system are hereby invited on behalf of HPSEB Ltd. by the Superintending Engineer (Designs), Power House Electrical, H.P.S.E.B. Ltd., Sunder Nagar, Distt. Mandi (H.P.) - 175019 for "Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 02 Nos. 415V AC 3phase 4 Wires, 220V DC/130 Amps Dual Float cum Boost Battery Charger for 220V, 645Ah Plante Type Battery bank along with dismantling & lifting of old Battery Charger on Buy Back basis from 2x11.25MW Ganvi Power House Stage-1 under Ganvi Power House Division, HPSEBL, Jeori, Distt. Shimla" from manufacturers or authorized dealers who regularly manufacture/ provide the equipment of the type specified and have adequate technical knowledge and experience in respect of all items covered under Scope of Supply and experience in Tender Specification No: HPSEBL/PHE/GANVI HEP-CHARGER/ 2022 as per the following:

- Date and Time of Online Publication: 20.04.2022
- Date of pre bid meeting: 23.04.2022 (11:30 AM)
- Start Date and Time of Online Bid Submission: 25.04.2022 (11:00 AM)
- Last Date and Time of Online Bid Submission: 30.04.2022 (11:00 AM)
- Date of opening of Techno-commercial bid (Part-I): 30.04.2022 (4:00 PM)
- Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 2950/-

The detailed scope & specification of tender can be viewed/ downloaded free of cost from website <http://www.hptenders.gov.in>.  
Tel/FAX: 01907 - 262596, Superintending Engineer (Designs),  
Email: [sdphel@gmail.com](mailto:sdphel@gmail.com), Power House Electrical, HPSEB Ltd.,  
Mandi, Distt. Mandi (HP)-175019.  
Follow COVID protocol

**verka**  
**THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.**  
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041612-13 [www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)

**Section-A**  
**e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -**

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tenders	Last Date & Time for Submission of e-tenders	Date & Time for opening of e-tenders
1.	Glass Bottles 100 ML SFM	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh. Ph No. 0172-5041612-13	200/-	5,00,000/-	21.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	06.05.2022 up to 10:00 AM	06.05.2022 at 2:00 PM
2.	Mechanical Can Scrubber for BMC	310 No's	Verka Mohali Dairy Ph No. 0172-2271784, 2271020-21	1000/-	475,000/-	22.04.2022 from 2:00 PM	09.05.2022 up to 11:00 AM	10.05.2022 at 12:30 PM Financial Bid 13.05.2022 at 12:30 PM
3.	Electric Geyser, Capacity 40 Lit. (Compton, Bajaj, Havells, AO Smith)	310 No's	-do-	1000/-	80,000/-	22.04.2022 from 2:30 PM	09.05.2022 up to 11:00 AM	10.05.2022 at 1:00 PM Financial Bid 13.05.2022 at 1:00 PM
4.	A.I. Crates	100 No's	-do-	500/-	20,000/-	25.04.2022 from 2:00 PM	14.05.2022 up to 11:00 AM	17.05.2022 at 12:30 PM Financial Bid 19.05.2022 at 1:00 PM
5.	Computer system (Desktop) Make Dell/HP	20 No's	-do-	500/-	20,000/-	25.04.2022 from 2:30 PM	14.05.2022 up to 11:00 AM	17.05.2022 at 1:00 PM Financial Bid 19.05.2022 at 1:30 PM
6.	Mahindra Bolero Model. Less than 05 years	One year/01 No	-do-	5000/- Per Tender Form	50000/-	19.04.2022 from 12:00 PM	02.05.2022 up to 5:00 PM	03.05.2022 at 12:00 PM Financial Bid 11.05.2022 at 12:00 PM
7.	Swift Dezire/Toyota Etios or equivalent	29 No's	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
8.	Rate Contract for disposal of scrap material like Polyfilm, trays, SMP bags, Corrugated Boxes, Plastic Matkas & Cups and miscellaneous scrap etc. (NOTE: In case some scrap items POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD Certificate is mandatory)	30,000/- for each Annual Rate Contract and 30,000/- for Half Yearly Rate Contract	-do-	-do-	-do-	18.04.2022 from 2:00 PM	29.04.2022 up to 12:00 PM	29.04.2022 at 2:30 PM
9.	Cars such as Swift Dezire, Indigo, Honda Amaze etc. for Marketing activities	01 no's for 01 year	Verka Patiala Dairy (Ph. 94787-4614, 80549-98534, 80549-98535)	5000/-	-do-	19.04.2022 from 2:00 PM	27.04.2022 up to 12:00 PM	28.04.2022 at 12:00 PM Financial Bid 29.04.2022 at 12:00 PM
10.	Hiring of Vehicle Tata 207, Mahindra Maxi truck etc. for transportation of Milk from Societies/ Farms. (Route no. 14, 15, 28 at MCC Samana)	03 No's	-do-	15,000/- per vehicle	-do-	16.04.2022 from 5:00 PM	25.04.2022 up to 12:00 PM	26.04.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 27.04.2022 at 12:00 PM
11.	Forage Harvester Machine (class 850/new Holland FR500 type)	One Time Purchase	Verka Luchiana Dairy Ph No. (0161-5203303, 5203301, 5203334, 5203338, 5203350, 5203363)	5000/-	10 lacs	20.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	05.05.2022 up to 1:00 PM	06.05.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 10.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
12.	Outsourcing of Verka Milk Bar Machhwar	Two year with extension up to one year	-do-	500/-	25,000/-	16.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	25.04.2022 up to 3:00 PM	26.04.2022 at 11:30 AM Financial Bid 29.04.2022 at 2:30 PM
13.	Labour Contract for loading/unloading of SMP/WMP bags, uree and buter cartons etc.	One year	-do-	500/-	10,000/-	18.04.2022 from 12:00 PM	05.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	06.05.2022 at 11:30 AM Financial Bid 10.05.2022 at 11:30 AM
14.	Rate Contract for outsourcing the activity for preparation and serving of food, tea in staff canteen and cleaning of canteen and closets etc.	Annual Contract	-do-	500/-	40,000/-	27.04.2022 from 11:00 AM	12.05.2022 up to 12:00 PM	13.05.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 20.05.2022 at 11:00 AM

**Section - B**  
**Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performa for the purchase of following items:-**

Sr. No.	Name of work/item	Qty	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Date & Time for sale of the sealed tender	Last Date & Time for Submission at tender	Date & Time for opening of tender
1.	Milkbar Civil Hospital, City Malerkotla (Only for Widows/ War/Widow) (Contract Period Three Year)	01	Verka Sangrur Dairy Ph. 01672-505250	500/-	10,000/-	19.04.2022 to 25.04.2022 up to 1:00 PM	26.04.2022 up to 12:00 PM	26.04.2022 at 3:00 PM
2.	Milkbar P.G.I. Ghasdan, Sangrur (Only for General Category) (Contract Period Three Year)	01	-do-	500/-	10,000/-	-do-	-do-	-do-
3.	Tender for outsourcing of Milk Bar at MCC Lapokha, Milk Booth Civil Hospital Patti & Milk Booth Civil Hospital at Amritsar	-	Verka Amritsar Dairy Ph. 73555-48153, 73555-99492	-	-	11.04.2022	21.04.2022 up to 12:00 PM	21.04.2022 up to 1:00 PM

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5 PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website ([www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)).  
**TENDER (S) WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED.** The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.  
Incharge (Purchase)







**BRIEFLY**

**United's Fernandes involved in car crash**

London: Manchester United midfielder Bruno Fernandes was involved in a car crash on Monday on his way to the club's training ground. No parties involved were understood to have sustained serious injuries and the Portugal international is expected to train today, a club source said. United manager Ralf Rangnick will address the media later on Monday. United, who are fifth in the Premier League standings with 54 points from 32 games, face second-placed Liverpool on Tuesday.

REUTERS

**PM condoles TT player Vishwa's death**

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Monday condoled the death of promising table tennis player Vishwa Deenadayalan in a road accident near Shillong in Meghalaya. Modi said the death of the Tamil Nadu paddler on Sunday was shocking and saddening. "The demise of TT champion Vishwa Deenadayalan is shocking and saddening. He was admired by fellow players and had distinguished himself in several competitions. In this tragic hour my thoughts are with his family and friends. Om Shanti," the Prime Minister tweeted. Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju too condoled the death and posted on Twitter: "Very sad to learn that young Table Tennis player from Tamil Nadu, Deenadayalan Vishwa died in an accident at Ri-Bhoi in Meghalaya while on his way to Shillong to participate in the 83rd Senior National Table Tennis Championship. My deepest condolences to his family. RIP" PTI

**Herah clocks fastest 100m of 2022**

Sacramento: Five-time Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah posted the fastest women's 100 metres in the world this year with a time of 10.89 seconds at the Golden Games in Walnut, California on Saturday. The Jamaican won her semi-final in what was her first outdoor 100m of the season. She opted not to run the final, with no reason given for her decision. "Feels good to be back. Season opener 10:89," the 29-year-old said on Twitter. Thompson-Herah became the first woman to win back to back Olympic sprint doubles when she retained her 100m and 200m titles in Tokyo and capped a memorable Games with gold in the 4x100m relay.

REUTERS

**Nadal back on court ahead of French Open**

Madrid: Australian Open champion Rafa Nadal resumed training on Monday after four weeks out due to a stress fracture in his rib, a month out from the French Open where the Spaniard will bid for a record-extending 14th title. Nadal, 35, last played in the final of Indian Wells against Taylor Fritz on March 22, falling to a straight-sets defeat. The injury forced him to skip claycourt tournaments in Monte Carlo and Barcelona.

REUTERS

## A hundred, a hat-trick, a thriller

Buttler's aggression with the bat, Chahal's guile with the ball help Rajasthan Royals edge out competitive Kolkata Knight Riders by 7 runs



RR spinner Yuzvendra Chahal, who grabbed a hat-trick, ended up with impressive figures of 5 for 40.

**SYNOPSIS:** Jos Buttler's 103 off 61 and Yuzvendra Chahal's 5 for 40 overcame Aaron Finch's 58 and Shreyas Iyer's 85 as RR narrowly beat KKR

**IPL TABLE**

TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR
GT	6	5	1	10	0.395
RR	6	4	2	8	0.380
LSG	6	4	2	8	0.296
RCB	6	4	2	8	-0.142
SRH	6	4	2	8	-0.077
KKR	7	3	4	6	0.160
PBKS	6	3	3	6	0.109
DC	5	2	3	4	0.219
CSK	6	1	5	2	-0.638
MI	6	0	6	0	-1.048

**ABHISHEK PUROHIT**  
APRIL 18

RAJASTHAN ROYALS edged a thriller by seven runs to hand Kolkata Knight Riders their third successive loss at the Brabourne Stadium. Jos Buttler's second century of the season launched RR to 217, but despite Yuzvendra Chahal's game-changing hat-trick, KKR were in with a chance before they were dismissed in the last over.

**Buttler belts ton No 2**

What does Buttler bring to T20? The ability to whack any length out of the park. But equally important, also an almost uncanny awareness of the field and the ability to exploit any opening he can find. There was a 13-metre difference in the boundaries on both sides of the wicket at the Cricket Club of India on Monday night. Now all batsmen look to target the shorter side and bowlers try to prevent that.

But Buttler's game sense is something else. He'd already carved Umesh Yadav for two boundaries in the third over when he squeezed him square to the longer side. It would have been a certain four had Venkatesh Iyer not given chase and pulled it back a couple of inches inside with a big slide. Batsmen are nearly always content with the third run in such cases, and on shorter outfields, even the third is a stretch. But Buttler had already completed the third by the time another fielder picked up the ball, and he glimpsed a window for the fourth. He rushed back and was prepared to put in the dive, which saw him safely in.

The rest of the innings was a blur of boundaries, as was the entire match for that matter. Again, it was interesting to see how Buttler operates. Pat Cummins attempted a yorker around off; it didn't quite land in the blockhole but wasn't far. But Buttler has

hardly any across shuffle, it is more of a coiling setup where he bears down harder into the ground. That allowed him to stay inside the line and shovel the ball back over Cummins to the straight boundary. An across step would have likely cramped him for that particular line. In any case, he is adept at clearing the front leg to create some room if it comes to that.

Buttler does move around when he has to, as he did when he was aiming to swing to the shorter leg-side rope. In his first century of the season against Mumbai Indians, he'd slowed down considerably at the end; he didn't let that happen on Monday in a 59-ball ton. A fortnight ago, Lucknow Super Giants had chased down 211 against Chennai Super Kings at the same ground with three balls and six wickets to spare. And a week ago, also at the same ground, KKR had been dismissed for 171 chasing Delhi Capitals' 216, albeit in an afternoon start.

**Finch, Shreyas respond in kind**

The fresh opening combination of Sunil Narine and Aaron Finch failed first ball as the former was run out, but it was all KKR thereafter for a while. Finch was jittery initially, walking down the pitch and getting beaten. He soon settled in to play some incredible shots, pummeling it through the line. He backed away to R Ashwin, to a ball that was neither short nor full. If he was done in the

**At 178 for 4 after 16, it was KKR's game to lose. Chahal made that a reality. Within four balls, he had the two Iyers, Venkatesh and Shreyas, stumped and leg-before.**

air, it didn't show, for he just went through with his shot and the ball landed beyond long-off. Eleven of the 28 balls he faced were hit for boundaries. He was gone by the ninth over, but KKR had gone past 100 too.

Skipper Shreyas' strength lies square of the wicket on the off and he made sure he played to it. He went back in the crease to guide the ball between short third man and backward point. He moved to the leg side and upper-cut for six when the shorter off-side boundary was in play. He reverse-swept Ashwin flat over the third-man rope, and also stepped out to lift him over midwicket. All along, he kept working the ball around the outfield, more so on the leg side. It was highly effective, calculated chasing, and seemed set to take KKR home, but Yuzvendra Chahal was not done yet.

**Chahal tricks KKR**

At 178 for 4 after 16, it was KKR's game to lose. Chahal made that a reality. Within four balls, he had the two Iyers, Venkatesh and Shreyas, stumped and leg-before. He spun a wrong'un past an advancing Venkatesh, and after bowling wide to Shreyas, slid it in full and quicker into the KKR captain, completely cramping him. Shivam Mavi and Pat Cummins followed off the last two balls of the over, giving Chahal a hat-trick as well as a five-for.

Umesh Yadav had RR worried with an assault on Trent Boult in the 18th, but Prasidh Krishna and Obed McCoy would keep KKR seven runs short.

**Brief scores: Rajasthan Royals 217 for 5 (Buttler 103, Samson 38, Narine 2-21) beat Kolkata Knight Riders 210 (S Iyer 85, Finch 58, Chahal 5-40) by seven runs**

**EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER**



Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game

**When McCullum touched the sky**



Down memory lane, Brendon McCullum found a reason to smile. Fifteen seasons ago on this day, it was the unveiling of the Indian Premier League and the cricketing razzmatazz that would gradually become 'India ka tyohaar', had a heavy metal beginning, thanks to McCullum's 73-ball 158 not out for Kolkata Knight Riders against Royal Challengers Bangalore. Cut to the present, and Knight Riders were at the receiving end of a Jos Buttler onslaught in their game against Rajasthan Royals at Brabourne Stadium on Monday. It offered a throwback to McCullum's

2008 mayhem - sweet reminiscing for the KKR head coach, albeit with a pinch of salt, as he spoke to the host broadcaster mid-game. What has changed in 15 seasons? "After-game parties trumped cricket back then. Now it has changed, with the emergence of so many talented players from all over the world, especially young Indian talent," McCullum said with a smile. Even after 15 seasons, his blitzkrieg remains KKR's tenuous link to an IPL hundred. The head coach wants it to change, having a feeling that something special could happen tonight.

**New grunt in town**



That Shimron Hetmyer grunt would have comfortably out-grunted the original "grunt creators": Jimmy Connors and Monica Seles - never mind that they played tennis.

It was loud enough to be audible in every living room, via the stump mic. Hetmyer was looking for full monty against Andre Russell in the final over of the Rajasthan Royals' innings. He had hit back-to-back sixes and was nicely set up to hammer a slower bouncer. Just that he swung a little too early and missed the ball. A frustrated Hetmyer reacted with a jump and a 'double-yelp'. The delivery was there for the taking. About 15 minutes later, Hetmyer was jumping with joy though, after his direct hit from cover-point effected Sunil Narine's run-out.

**Bragging rights**



It was a case of unadulterated class trumping T20 pyrotechnics. Take this with a rider, for Andre Russell offered a tentative prod to a Ravichandran Ashwin carrom ball rather than at-

tempting a big hit. It was comfortably the ball of the match, good length, pitching on off-and-middle, turning away a shade and knocking the off stump. It was too good a delivery to get first ball. Russell is strong-armed enough to hit any delivery out of the park, but he couldn't pick the carrom ball. His forward defence was tentative, his dismissal for a golden duck in a high-scoring game was an anti-climax. Ashwin didn't mind. He went for a celebratory run, his fingers pointing towards himself. There was absolutely no doubt about who was the boss.

**Real McCoy with the Pushpa hook**

Obed McCoy ending up being the man of the moment on his IPL debut was probably not in the script, especially on the night when Jos Buttler scored a century and Yuzvendra Chahal bagged a fiver, including a hat-trick. IPL, however, revels in throwing up unlikely heroes and McCoy was re-pleasent in his 'Pushpa' dance moves. Umesh Yadav refused to throw in the towel and kept Rajasthan Royals on



the edge until the end. Kolkata Knight Riders needed 11 runs from the final over and 25-year-old McCoy from Windward Islands had the ball. Sheldon Jackson was taken care of with a delivery that barely arrived, while another slower ball

castled Yadav. McCoy was surrounded by his team-mates who celebrated wildly. As for the bowler, his hook step would have had Allu Arjun's approval.

## DC's Marsh in hospital after testing positive for Covid

**DEVENDRA PANDEY**  
MUMBAI, APRIL 18

DELHI CAPITALS all-rounder Mitchell Marsh has tested positive for COVID-19 and has been admitted to a Mumbai hospital. The Australian was found infected during a Rapid Antigen Test conducted on Monday morning. He complained of a headache and slight fever, so the Delhi Capitals decided to have an RT-PCR Test of all its members, out of which Marsh's result returned positive.

Later in the evening, Delhi Capitals confirmed Marsh's positive test result and said the franchise is closely monitoring his condition. "A few more members from the Delhi Capitals bio-bubble, including support staff members, have returned positive tests as well. Though they are all asymptomatic, their condition is being monitored closely by the franchise. All remaining members of the bubble are currently in isolation in their respective rooms, and will be tested regularly," it said in a statement. In the morning, the development had prompted the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to advise Delhi Capitals to put their departure to Pune on hold till a fresh round of

RT-PCR testing was done.

Marsh became the third member in the Delhi Capitals camp to test positive. On Friday, their physio Patrick Farhart returned a positive result and a day later, a masseur was shown to be infected. Both were separated from the rest of the team.

Delhi Capitals are scheduled to meet Punjab Kings at Pune's Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium on Wednesday evening. The biggest worry for the Indian board now is to stop the virus from spreading across the teams and they are now working to chalk out another plan to prevent this from happening. On Saturday, for the Delhi Capitals-Royal Challengers Bangalore game, the Indian board had instructed that there would be no handshakes or hugging between players of both teams to avoid any possible transmission.

The players from different teams usually congregate for a chat after games before they disperse. The Delhi players were advised to maintain social distancing during chats and the use of masks had also been recommended. The non-playing team members watching the game from the stands were requested to wear face masks throughout the match, except when eating or drinking.

## Ukraine's spirited players, a visiting team like no other

**NEW YORK TIMES**  
ASHEVILLE, APRIL 18

THE UKRAINIAN comeback attempt had come up just short, and Dayana Yastremska and her four teammates were preparing to pose for their final formal photograph at this Billie Jean King Cup qualifier. The blue and yellow ribbon representing Ukraine that had been stenciled onto the tennis court by special permission was no longer visible, obscured by the red, white and blue streamers that had fallen to the ground as part of the Americans' celebration after their 3-2 victory Saturday night.

The Ukrainians, with some help from the United States' team captain, Kathy Rinaldi, cleared away some of the streamers. But as another official began removing them altogether, Yastremska insisted that they remained next to the ribbon for the photograph.

"They were in the colors of USA, and I wanted to leave this near the Ukrainian colors," she said in an interview. "Because I think it's a good sign of the support we got here and a sign for peace. I wanted it to stay."

It was that kind of week in Asheville: The symbolic gestures were more indelible than the results, and the usual rules of engagement were rewritten in an attempt to dull the edges of a national team competition.



Dayana Yastremska, far right, made sure red, white and blue streamers were not removed from the Ukrainians' formal team photograph after the event.

"It's been hard not to cry," said Billie Jean King, 78, the American who once starred in this competition, which was formerly known as the Fed Cup long before it was renamed for her in 2020. She visited both teams Friday shortly before play began. "I just hope the Ukrainians had a moment of escapism."

After Russia invaded Ukraine in February, United States Tennis Association officials offered to postpone this qualifying-round match.

The Ukrainians demurred, but when it came time to book hotels in Asheville, they conceded they no longer had the money for the usual visiting team expenses. "We said, 'No problem, we will cover all your local costs,'" said Stacey Allaster, CEO for professional tennis at the USTA, which also provided support staff to the delegation. "With the war, it's so horrifying what's going on. What can any individual do? But we can all do little things, and what we can

do is provide a platform for the Ukrainians to demonstrate that they are strong and fighting and are not going to quit." The posters around this city in the Blue Ridge Mountains did not read, "USA vs. Ukraine." They read, "USA hosts Ukraine." On changeovers, the scoreboard flashed information on how to donate to the Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund, and about \$225,000 was raised in connection with the matches. The American cheering squad supported individual players instead of chanting, "Go, USA!"

"We were just trying to find the proper tone and balance," Allaster said.

In that supportive atmosphere, the Ukrainians nearly managed the upset. After falling behind 0-2 Friday, they won both singles matches Saturday in straight sets. Yastremska, a former top-25 player now ranked 93rd on the WTA Tour, often overwhelmed No. 14 Jessica Pegula. More surprisingly, the 201st-ranked Zavatska defeated No. 46 Shelby Rogers. That meant the concluding doubles match would be decisive, and Pegula and Asia Muhammad, making her King Cup debut, earned a 7-6 (5), 6-3 victory over Yastremska and Lyudmyla Kichenok.

"All day, we just really felt that fighting spirit of Ukraine," Rogers said. "It was really special to see but really tough to go against. I'm just so proud of my team for stepping up to that, having nerves of steel."