



Government of Rajasthan



ASHOK GEHLOT
Chief Minister, Rajasthan

A Historic, Humane Decision

Rajasthan Implements Old Pension Scheme

A Major Step towards Employee Welfare and Development of the State

Rajasthan Government in its 2022-23 Budget has announced to implement the Old-Pension Scheme (OPS) for all government employees appointed on or after 1 January, 2004. Under this, employees will get benefits like pension/family pension, gratuity and commuted pension amount, making them much stronger socio-economically.

10% monthly salary deduction under NPS has been stopped and employees are getting increased salary from 1 April 2022. Additionally, amount remaining after adjustment of Pensioner Medical Fund (RGHS) from salary deduction will be given with interest on GPF upon retirement.

Shortcomings of New Pension Scheme

No guarantee of pension

Mandatory 10% contribution by employee

National Human Rights Commission has asked Govt of India to set up Committee for review of NPS for safeguarding human rights of employees

Second National Judicial Pay Commission has recommended that NPS should not be implemented for Judicial Services

Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have set up committees to review NPS

The New Pension Scheme was not implemented for Armed Forces. This clearly shows that the Old Pension Scheme provided sufficient social security to these employees.

CAG has revealed shocking facts about implementation, planning and monitoring of NPS:

- Even after 15 years from introduction of NPS, rules on service conditions/retirement benefits in respect of employees covered by NPS are still pending for finalisation
- There is neither any indication whether actuarial evaluation of the Scheme was conducted once in 2 years, nor has there been adoption of any other mechanism to assess the viability of the Scheme
- Assurance on 100% coverage of eligible employees is still lacking in the Scheme

Advantages of the Old Pension Scheme

Pension Guarantee: Employee gets 50% of the last monthly salary as pension every month

Employee does not have to pay any contribution

Dearness relief for securing employees against inflation

Commutation of pension up to 33%

Positive Impact of OPS on State's Development

Personnel will be more motivated towards work, leading to good governance.

More meritorious and talented candidates will apply for new vacancies.

Implementation of old pension scheme will not result in deduction of even a single rupee from development expenditure of the state and welfare of its people.

#Rajasthan_NPS2OPS

Department of Information and Public Relations
Government of Rajasthan

Rajasthan Samvad

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
E-procurement T. No. SE(AM)/AP/NGT/Ep/05/2022-23, Dated: 22-4-2022

Online tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer (AM) Guntur from the reputed firms. (i) Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Machinery for e-NAM Market Yards across the State of Andhra Pradesh. (ii) Providing Assaying services in e-Market Yards across the state of Andhra Pradesh. (iii) Supply and installation of 18 Nos Desk Top computers. Eprocurement site opens on **Dt. 25-4-2022 @ 4.00 P.M.** Any other information can be had from the www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in or from the office of the Superintending Engineer (AM) Guntur.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (AM),
O/o. Commissioner and Director of Agri. Marketing, Govt. of A.P. Guntur.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No. RWF/S/002/2022-23 Dated 22/04/2022

On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager invites Electronic Open Tender from experienced OEMs / Manufacturers or authorized agents for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways e-portal www.ireps.gov.in. The tender documents and the Compendium to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the portal only.

Sl. No.	Tender Number and Item Description	Qty	Tender Closing Date and Time
1	P2 215675A : Design, Fabrication, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of PNG Pipeline To SPC Bay.	01 Set	16/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
2	P2225255A : Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Swarf Shredder	03 Nos.	16/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
3	P3225009 (Global Tender) : Turret Head Assembly for CNC SPM. Make: O.M.G SR/Italy	02 Set	20/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
4	P3225010 (Global Tender) : Item No.1. Left Hand Mounting (LH Side) Turret, Make: Sauter/germany only, Item No.2. Right Hand Mounting (RH Side) Turret, Make: Sauter/germany Only.	01 No.	23/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
5	P3225012 (Global Tender) : Linear Guide, Make: THK Only.	56 Nos.	23/05/22 14:00 Hrs.

Tender details can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in or www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Materials Manager

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender No. PUCNB-ABS-CNB-CNBI-T-62 Dated: 21.04.2022
TENDER NOTICE (Single Packet)

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/Project, North Central Railway Project Unit, Kanpur for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-Tender from reputed contractors/JV firms with adequate experience and financial capability, for the following work on Single Packet System up to 15.00 hrs. on the opening date of E-tender mentioned therein. If date of opening is declared a holiday or offer could not be opened due to Technical issue, the offers shall be opened on the next working day.

The details of the Tender are as under:

Name of work	Estimated cost of work	Earnest Money	Tender form cost	Completion Period	Availability of tender form	Closing Date/Time of Tender	Tender Opening Date/Time	Place of Opening	Validity of Offer	Right of Railway to deal with tender
"Supply, Designing, Installation, testing and commissioning of Indoor and outdoor Work in connection with Replacement of Relay based automatic signalling system by electronic interlocking system of CNB - CNBI section of Prayagraj Division of North Central Railway."	Approx. Cost Rs.28914367.48 only (Rs. Two Core Eighty Nine Lakh Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred sixty seven and Paise Forty Eight only)	Rs. 294600.00 (Two Lakh Ninety Four thousand six Hundred only).	NIL	08 Months	Tender forms shall be available on web site, www.ireps.gov.in 21 days prior to date of opening of the tender.	13.05.2022 before 15:00 Hrs.	13.05.2022 at 15:00 Hrs.	Through Online E-Portal www.ireps.gov.in in the office of CSTE/P-III/NCRCPU, HQ Office, Subedarganj, Prayagraj (UP)	45 days from date of opening.	Railway administration reserves the rights to postpone/modify or to cancel the tender without assigning any reasons.

Tenderers who wish to participate in tenders invited on www.ireps.gov.in have to register on the website mandatorily. Please refer to website for more details. Tenderers can submit EMD only through online mode. Online payment of earnest money can be made through net banking, debit/credit card etc. Further particulars can be obtained from Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in 466/22 (SP).

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

U.PRAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD
HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH)

E-Tender Notice
Superintending Engineer, Coal Handling Circle, Kasimpur (Aligarh):

1. Tender No. STET-01/CHC/CHD-ID'TPS/HTPS/2022-23, Cleaning and removal of jammed coal from R.C. bunker of unit no. 7 and shifting of the spread coal if any in coal yard of old Coal Handling Plant in Coal Handling Division-'D' TPS for the period of One Month", Uploaded on e-procurement system of UP Government <https://etender.up.nic.in> on dated 20.04.2022. Estimated cost Rs. 1,21,340.00. Earnest Money Rs. 2427.00, Last date of E-bid Submission 04.05.2022.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MC-III, DTPS, HTPS, Kasimpur:

2. SHORT TERM E-TENDER NO.-ST-01/O&MC-III/C&IMD-I/DTPS/HTPS/2022-23, Online e-Bids are invited for the "Maintenance work of C&I field equipments, installed in Boiler, Turbine and B.O.P. area of Unit 8 & 9". E-tender has been published at <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Estimated cost: Rs. 56,19,855.00 only. Earnest Money Rs. 57,000.00 only, Time period: 01 year. Last date of submission of e-tender: 07.05.2022 up to 14:00 hrs. Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & conditions are as per tender document, available on the e-tender portal. Undersigned reserves the right to cancel the e-bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any, shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time.

Superintending Engineer, MMC, Harduaganj 'D'TPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)

3. E-Tender No. 2- ET-15/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2022, Name of Supply: Supply of activated alumina for dryer no. 1 of instrument air compressor of Unit #7 of HTPS, Kasimpur, Estimated cost of e-tender is Rs. 344560.00. Earnest money is Rs. 5800.00. Tender is uploaded on 19.04.2022. The e-Bid online submission End Date is 25.05.2022

Note- Tender ET- 15 Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers/their Authorized Dealer can participate in this tender.

Note- Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part- I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part-II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website www.uprvnl.org. The contactors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenderers are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/ Division, Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)
पत्रांक : 14 /अधीअपनि(मु) / विज्ञापन / कैम्प-1(13) / 22 दिनांक 21.04.2022

"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice
E-TENDER NOTICE NO.-ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-01-22-23

E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED WORK.

Name of work : Supply of 1,00,000 cum 50mm size machine crushed track ballast as per RDSO specification for B.G. Railway track & loading the same into any type of railway wagons F.O.R. Pakur for various projects under CAO/Con, ECR. Approx cost of the work: Rs. 13,68,82,000/-, Earnest money : Rs. 8,34,400/-, Date and time for closing of tender: 17.05.2022 at 14.30 hrs.

Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc.: The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in> and also can see in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna.

Note: Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender.

CAO/Con/North, E.C. Rly. MHX, Patna
PR/0127/CONN/Engg./T/22-23/40

"IMPORTANT"

While care is taken prior to copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Railways is not responsible for such errors, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with computers, advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any newspaper.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR
(Telefax: 0194-2496089, E-mail ID: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in)
(Short Term)

GIST OF E -NIT NO: MHCHD/TS / 2022-23/10/e-tendering Dated:21.04.2022.

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

Name of Work	Est. Cost. (In Rs Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Time of Completion (Days)	AA A	Earnest Money (In Rs)	TS No.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Providing and fitting of ABC and Co2 type extinguishers and refilling of ABC Powder type fire extinguishers of Govt. State Taxes Department, Solina, Srinagar.	0.55	200	05	EST/ACSTK/03-11, Dt:12-04-2022	1100	87 of 12/2021 (AEE-2nd) & 87 of 12/2021 (AEE-2nd)

- The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 21.04.2022 (18.00 hrs)
- The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 22.04.2022 (10:00hrs) to 27.04.2022 (14:00 hrs) in two (02) cover.
- The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 27.04.2022 (16:00 hrs) or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.

MHCHD/TS/639-43
Dt:-21-04-2022
DIPK-941/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
MHCHD, Srinagar

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Corrigendum
Corrigendum 02 of Tender Notice No CE/2021/21, Dated: 31.03.2022. After inclusion of PVC formula in tender document of tender No. 02216483SP, Modified Tender document has been uploaded on website <https://www.ireps.gov.in> on 22.04.2022. This instant tender will open on 29.04.2022 at 11.30AM.

Principal Chief Engineer, East Central Railway/Hajipur
PR/00135/HQ/Engg/C/22-23/16

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice
E-TENDER NOTICE NO.-ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-02-22-23

E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED WORK.

Name of work : Supply of 1,00,000 cum 50mm size machine crushed track ballast as per RDSO specification for B.G. Railway track & loading the same into any type of railway wagons F.O.R. Bakudhi for various projects under CAO/Con, ECR. Approx cost of the work: Rs. 13,68,82,000/-, Earnest money : Rs. 8,34,400/-, Date and time for closing of tender: 17.05.2022 at 14.30 hrs.

Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc.: The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in> and also can see in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna.

Note: Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender.

CAO/Con/North, E.C. Rly. MHX, Patna
PR/0128/CONN/Engg./T/22-23/40

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Notice Auction Tender
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Lucknow invites Open tender through E-tendering system on behalf of President of India from Registered Lease holder A & B Category for the Contract of Leasing of SLR (3.9 TONNE) of Mail express train of Lucknow division for the period of 02 year, payment of EMD and Tender Fees is paying through net banking or payment gateway. Details of Trains & Tender notice no. Reserve Price, EMD and Cost of bid document are as under-
E-Auction LOT No.: 12555-SLR-F1-GKP-HSR-22-2 (PARCEL SPACE), Train no.: 12555, From: Gorakhpur (GKP), To: Hissar, Train frequency (in a week): Perday, No of Compartment available (04 tonne) SLR: (01) FS-LR-First, Date and Time of Auction Start (all lots): Dt. 10.05.2022 at 13:00 hrs., Date and Time of Close of Auction: Dt. 10.05.2022 at 13:30 hrs., Period of contract: 02 years, Web Site address: www.ireps.gov.in (E AUCTION MODULE)
Divl. Railway Manager(Commercial), Lucknow
CPROC-21
About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794345955
DO NOT TRAVEL WITH UNLAWFUL ARTICLES IN TRAIN

For All Advertisement Booking
Call : 0120-6651214

RAJASTHAN HOUSING BOARD
क्रमांक: रा.अ.न./जैन-1/जोधपुर/2022-23/53 दिनांक: 19.04.2022

NIT NO. 01/2022-23

Bid for 1. Construction of MIG -A-42 Nos. (8.00 x 15.00 M) Houses for Board Employees Scheme at MGSAY, Sector-06, Bari, Jodhpur. 2. Construction of HIG-21 and MIG-B-22 Nos. Houses for Board Employees Scheme at MGSAY, Sector-06, Bari, Jodhpur. 3. Construction of HIG-31, MIG-B-07 and MIG-A-17 Nos. Houses at Sector-04, Manpur Housing Scheme Abu Road. 4. Const. of HIG-48 Nos. Houses for Board Employees at Patel Nagar Extn., Bhilwara. 5. Construction of MIG-B-30 and MIG-A-08 Nos. Houses for Board Employees at Patel Nagar Extn., Bhilwara. 6. Demarcation of land and const. of WBM road in main, sector dividing, peripheral and internal road at Sector - 1 to 5, Shivbari Housing Scheme, Bikaner. 7. Demarcation of land and const. of WBM road in main, sector dividing, peripheral and internal road at Sector - 6 to 11, Shivbari Housing Scheme, Bikaner are invited from interested bidders from 26.04.2022 to 16.05.2022 upto 6.00 pm. Other particular of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state & www.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rhb department website.

UBN No. - RHB2223WSOB00032, RHB2223WSOB00033, RHB2223WSOB00034, RHB2223WSOB00035, RHB2223WSOB00036, RHB2223WSOB00037 & RHB2223WSOB00038

Samwd/C/908/2022-23 Add. C.E.-II, Jodhpur

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION HANDWARA

Standard Bidding Document For

- Laying, Fitting, Testing and Successful Commissioning of Delivery and Distribution Pipe network of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves
- Construction, Testing and Successful Commissioning of Ground Service Reservoirs (GSRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants
- Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works, staff quarters etc. at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division HANDWARA of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 03 OF 2022-23 Dated: 23-04-2022

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division HANDWARA invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division HANDWARA of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ. Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No	Particular of the work	Estimated Cost(Lacs)	Tender fee (In Rs)	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion Of work(days)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	> Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves > Construction of Ground Service Reservoirs (GSRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants > Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works etc. at various Water Supply schemes of Division HANDWARA of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.	500/-	02% of the estimated cost	60/30 days	As per ANNEXURE-I to this bid document.

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division HANDWARA The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM)..

Critical Dates:

i	Publish Date	23-04-2022 at 01:00 P.M
ii	Document Download Start Date	23-04-2022 at 01:00 P.M
iii	Clarification Start date	23-04-2022 from 9:00 A.M
iv	Clarification End date	28-04-2022 up to 4:00 P.M
v	Bid submission Start date	30-04-2022 from 10:00 A.M
vi	Bid submission End date	12-05-2022 at 4:00 P.M.
vi	Date of Bid opening	13-05-2022 at 11:00 A.M.

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division HANDWARA. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar.
 - The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division HANDWARA.
 - The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any should be made at Xenphe2021@gmail.com

No: PHEDK/200-10
Date: 23-04-2022 DIPK-1034/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Division HANDWARA

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 04 OF 2022-23 Dated: 20-04-2022

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr. No	Particulars of the work	Estimated cost in lacs	Tender Fee (In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity Period	Time of completion of work (In days)
1	> Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting GI Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves. > Construction of Service Reservoirs (SRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants. > Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works etc. at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	As per ANNEXUR E-I to this bid document.	500/-	02% of the estimated cost	90 days	As per ANNEXURE -I to this bid document.

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri. The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM)

Critical Dates

i	Publish Date	22/04/2022 : 02:00PM
ii	Document download/ sale start date	22/04/2022 : 02:00PM
iii	Pre- Bid meeting date	25/04/2022 : 10:00AM
iv	Bid submission start date	27/04/2022 : 10:00AM
v	Bid submission end date	10/05/2022 : 04:00PM
vi	Date and time of bid opening	11/05/2022 : 04:00PM

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table.
 - The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri.
 - The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any should be made at kmrphabla@gmail.com.

No. HDU/CC-02/272-83
Dated: 20/04/2022 DIPK-1022/22

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
Hydraulic Division Uri

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 04 OF 2022-23 Dated: 20-04-2022

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr. No	Particulars of the work	Estimated cost in lacs	Tender Fee (In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity Period	Time of completion of work (In days)
1	> Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting GI Pipes of different Nominal Bores along with pipe fittings and control valves. > Construction of Service Reservoirs (SRs), Slow Sand Filtration Plants. > Execution of ancillary civil works like Spring Covers, Boundary walls, Protection Works etc. at various Water Supply schemes of Hydraulic Division Uri of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)	As per ANNEXUR E-I to this bid document.	500/-	02% of the estimated cost	90 days	As per ANNEXURE -I to this bid document.

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Uri. The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM)

Critical Dates

i	Publish Date	22/04/2022 : 02:00PM
ii	Document download/ sale start date	22/04/2022 : 02:00PM
iii	Pre- Bid meeting date	25/04/2022 : 10:00AM
iv	Bid submission start date	27/04/2022 : 10:00AM
v	Bid submission end date	10/05/2022 : 04:00PM
vi	Date and time of bid opening	11/05/2022 : 04:00PM

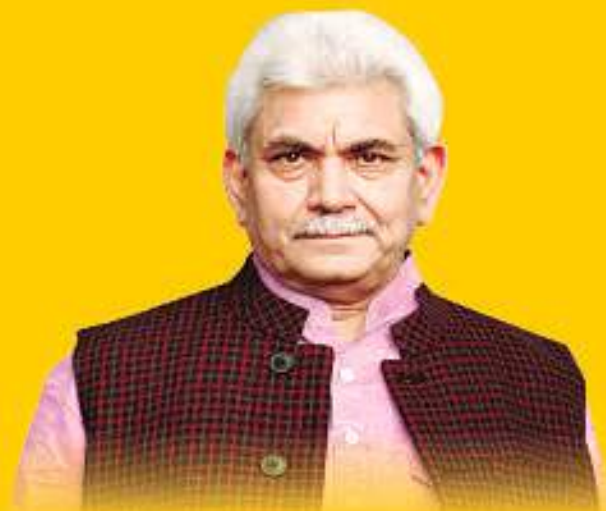
- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table.
 - The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer Hydraulic Division Uri.
 - The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any should be made at kmrphabla@gmail.com.

No. HDU/CC-02/272-83
Dated: 20/04/2022 DIPK-1022/22

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
Hydraulic Division Uri



Government
of Jammu & Kashmir



Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor, J&K

Jammu & Kashmir On the Path of Progress



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day 24 April, 2022 | 11:30 AM

Laying of Foundation Stone of
850 MW Ratle Hydroelectric Project
540 MW Kwar Hydroelectric Project
Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway

Inauguration of
Banihal - Qazigund road tunnel
500 KW Solar Power Plant at Palli Village

Dedication to the Nation of
108 Jan Aushadhi Kendras

Handing over of
SVAMITVA cards to land beneficiaries

Launch of
Amrit Sarovar Mission

Transfer of
**Award money to Panchayats
across the country**

by
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

In the august presence of

Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor,
Jammu & Kashmir

Giriraj Singh
Minister of Rural Development;
and Minister of Panchayati Raj,
Government of India

Jitendra Singh
MoS (Ind.Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology;
MoS (Ind.Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; MoS in the Prime
Minister's Office; MoS in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances
and Pensions; MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy; and MoS in the
Department of Space

April 24, 2022
Palli Gram Panchayat, Samba, J&K

3 OTHERS INJURED; SUV DRIVER ARRESTED

Civil defence volunteer loses part of his leg in hit-and-run

New Delhi

8 THE CITY

CORONAVIRUS
IN THE CAPITALVACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS

36,050



PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 101

OXYGEN SUPPORT 19

VENTILATOR SUPPORT 4

DELHI TOTAL
CASES

18,73,793

April 22 1,042

April 23 1,094

Total 3,705*

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	9,399	9,292
ICU BEDS	2,159	2,125
Cases	Recoveries	Deaths
1,042	757	2
1,094	640	2
22,442	22,714	
3,705*	18,43,922	26,166
		3,76,65,870

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA	Apr 22	Apr 23
Cases	108	126
Deaths	0	0
Gurgaon		
Cases	285	291
Deaths	0	0

Days after demolition drive, hint of normalcy in Jahangirpuri, security cover remains

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

A WEEK after communal violence broke out in Northwest Delhi's Jahangirpuri, and three days after a demolition drive was carried out in the area, residents are trying to return to their regular lives and businesses amid heavy deployment of police and CRPF personnel.

Sheikh Sabdar, who runs a small grocery store in one of the bylanes of C block, pointed to a gate near his store that opens onto the main road: "The gate has been shut all these days, ever since the incident a week ago. It was opened today. I have been opening the store over the past week, but a little later than usual and not too early in the morning." The main road is barricaded



Police personnel at Jahangirpuri, Saturday. Abhinav Saha

on both ends, with several personnel deployed on the road and standing guard at some of the gates that lead into the bylanes. Pedestrians were allowed past the barricades, but not vehicles. Sheikh Habib, a scrap dealer

in C Block, said his shop was still shut. "Businesses here have been hit for a week now. My shop is shut today as well... people haven't been coming," he said. A few street vendors selling fruits and vegetables in carts

were on the main road on Saturday evening, amidst the patrolling security forces. Some grocery and meat shops were open. "People from some distance away frequent the market here for the meat stores and vegetable shops," Sheikh Sabdar said.

Mir Sahanul Islam watched from the main road as other vendors got their carts ready. "I would have liked to get back to business too. But my cart was destroyed when they came that day. It was a metal one," he said. He had two carts to make and sell kebabs, he said, and the smaller of the two still stands in one of the bylanes. "Now that the means to do business has been taken away, I'll have to look for other work, maybe at a mandi or as a worker somewhere else. There's no money to buy another one. The first two were already bought with a loan," he said.

He had his cart running on the main road for around nine years, he said. "Some vendors on the main road are back, but several of the shops are still closed. The place is usually busier," he added.

Rafiq, a resident of C Block who is a government employee, said, "People are waiting for things to return to normal. There is no anger here. This sort of thing is new for us... it has never happened before. An Aman (peace) Committee meeting was held last evening, and maybe the gates were opened after that."

Tabrez Khan, a member of the Aman Committee in the area, said that a 'Tiranga Yatra' would be organised by the committee on Sunday evening. The yatra, in which people belonging to different communities will participate, is expected to be a show of harmony.

1,094 CASES ON SATURDAY

After spike, cases at 1,000 for fourth day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

WITH 1,094 cases on Saturday, the Covid-19 trajectory in the capital seems to have stagnated, at least for the time being.

There were around 1,000 cases recorded in Delhi over the last four days, as per the daily health bulletin shared by the government. The positivity rate — proportion of samples tested that return positive, which is indicative of the spread of the infection in a geographical area — has also remained between 4.6 and 4.8% over the last three days, when the daily tests went up and averages at the current 21,890.

Delhi's effective reproduction number (R-value), which indicates the spread of Covid-19, was recorded at 2.1 this week, implying that every infected person is infecting two others in the national capital, according to an analysis by IIT-Madras as reported by PTT. A similar estimate was generated by researchers from Chennai's Institute of Mathematical Sciences.



A woman gets the precaution dose, Saturday. Praveen Khanna

An R-value, which is indicative of the rate of increase in active cases or current infections, of less than 1 would mean that the infection is waning in the community as one person would be infecting less than one person. An R-value of more than 1 indicates an increase.

And, the number of cases in Delhi did increase suddenly over the last 12 days, bringing back the mask mandates that were removed at the beginning of the month. The number of cases went up from over 200 to over 1,000 within nine days.

The increase, however, had been sharper during the omicron-driven wave witnessed in December-end-January, with the number of cases increasing from over 200 to over 1,000 within six days and to over 2,000 within eight days. There were 28,867 cases reported at the peak of the wave, which is the highest Delhi has ever seen. However, hospitalisations and deaths during the January wave were fewer as compared to last year's Delta variant-driven wave in April-May.

There were 28,395 cases reported in a single day on April 20 last year at the peak of the previous surge in cases and a comparable 28,867 cases on January 13 at the peak of the current surge in cases. However, hospitalisations peaked at 2,734 on January 19 as compared to 20,142 on May 3 during the previous wave.

The highest number of deaths recorded in a day during the January wave was 45 as reported on January 22. The highest single day toll during the previous surge was 448 reported on May 3, as per the data shared by the Delhi government.

AAP claims Centre planning to demolish temple, BJP says rumour

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE AAM Aadmi Party Saturday protested at Delhi's Srinivaswari against what it claimed was a plan to demolish a temple by the BJP-led central government.

It shared a purported notice by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, which read, "It has been noticed that you have erected/occupied the said religious structure at the project site of Srinivaswari. It is an established fact that this is Government of India/L&DO land and you have unauthorisedly occupied/encroached upon this Government Land. Further, as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India judgment dated 29.09.2009, it has been decided that no unauthorised construction shall be carried (out) or permitted in the name of temple, church, mosque, or gurdwara, etc on public streets, public parks or other public places, etc."

The Ministry could not be reached for comment.

The temple is called Neelkanth Mahadev Mandir in



AAP MLA Atishi led the protest at Srinivaswari

Srinivaswari region.

"Being the land-owning agency of Government of India, it is hereby informed to vacate the entire premises unauthorised construction in the name of religious structure, within seven days from the date of issue of this notice, failing which the same will be got evicted forcefully and demolished with the help of local police," states the notice dated April 13.

AAP MLA Atishi, who led the protest on Saturday, said: "BJP is not only bulldozing the temple but the faith of crores of people

just because it wants to loot money from the temple's gullak. AAP has made up its mind — we will not allow BJP to demolish the temple; we are standing here with the people of Srinivaswari and we will fight back. No matter how much force BJP puts in, AAP will not allow bulldozers to run over a single temple in Delhi."

In response, BJP spokesperson Harish Khurana said it was a "rumour". "There is nothing like this... The BJP government at the Centre is not going to demolish any temple. These are just rumours. They are showing a so-called notice; nobody knows where that notice came from. The people of Delhi are angry with the Kejriwal government that they have not uttered a word against the stone pelting on people at the Hanuman Mandir. These rumours are being spread to divert attention from these issues," he said.

The row comes days after the North MCD ordered an anti-encroachment drive in riot-hit Jahangirpuri where several structures, including the outer gate of a mosque, were taken down.

Prior approval needed for protests, action against those who destroy property: DU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

DELHI UNIVERSITY (DU) has issued a notice reiterating that it is mandatory for the university community to give information to the proctor's office before any protest or gathering, adding that action will be taken against the organisers if they indulge in violence or "destruction to public property".

Proctor Rajni Abbi said the notice had to be put out as the rules were not being followed. "Prior intimation of gathering/protest/demonstration anywhere in the university is mandatory. Although protests/demonstrations are the legal right of every individual, prior permission from the proctor's office is mandatory," she said in a notice Friday.

"It is also directed that the participants shall refrain from using violence and any destruction to public property, failing which the organiser/s will be held responsible for any damage and strict action will be taken," she added.

As per the notice, organisers are required to furnish the information at least 24 hours in advance. This includes the name of the organiser, college or department, contact number, email ad-

As per the notice, organisers are required to furnish the info at least 24 hrs in advance

dress and course name.

Apart from this, details of programmes also have to be provided. These include the nature of the programme (whether it is a speech, rally, dharna etc), duration, use of logistics, list of speakers and expected number of participants.

Asked why the notice was put out, Abbi said, "It was already on the website. We just corrected it because nobody was taking permission or informing. Recently a student said he was on a hunger strike for four days and we had no information or knowledge about it. It is for the safety of the students also so that no mischievous element enters their demonstrations and makes it violent."

Asked which part of the notice was "corrected" and if any new element was added, she said, "That they should not destroy university or public property."

Abbi said while there had not been many such cases of violence or destruction of public property recently, "past experiences have made us wiser".

Gangster involved in GTB shootout escapes from police custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

A LOCAL gangster who was allegedly involved in last year's GTB hospital shootout escaped from police custody at Karkardooma court, said police Saturday. Police said Mohit Badani is a member of the Gogi-Bishnoi gang and is allegedly involved in several cases including murder, armed robbery and carjacking.

Police said last year in March, Badani and his associates allegedly helped gangster Kuldeep Fajja escape from police custody at GTB hospital by opening fire and throwing chilli powder at the police team. Fajja was killed in an encounter, while Badani was arrested in October.

On Friday afternoon, Badani escaped after he was produced at Karkardooma court in the hospital case. Police said he was last seen with a constable around 1 pm, after which he allegedly managed to free himself and flee.

DCP (Shahdara) R Sathiyasundaram said, "Badani is an underrial prisoner at Mandoli jail. He was taken to court by the third battalion of Delhi Police. He managed to escape after being produced at 1.20 pm. An FIR has been registered and teams have been sent to nab him."

An iftar walk at Jama Masjid with author-historian Sohail Hashmi

RINKU GHOSH
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

"Mohabbat ab sharbat ban gayi hai, nafrat ko bhulao (Love has now dissolved into a sherbet, let's forget hatred)," says Asif Qureshi, pouring milkshake into a tumbler and offering it to everybody making their way to Jama Masjid to break their Ramzan fast. With a smile on his face, he churns the milk with the juiciest bits of watermelon, dunking in blocks of ice before the sweltering heat can melt them. The refreshing drink washes away every anxiety under the dulcet glow of the masjid dome as the muezzin waits to strike the gong for iftar.

As the forecourt fills up with people, carrying floor mats and food to share with one another, writer and historian Sohail Hashmi takes us through the food street, a beehive of restaurants, cart vendors, stalls and squatters. It is a multi-sensory experience of food — the splashy tang of fruits, the sweet aroma of milk curdling in vats, and the smoky aroma of half-roasted meats. "This street has an unparalleled array of produce, be it fruits and nuts from around the world, vegetarian spreads of chaats, savouries, confectionery, sweet-meats, breads, flower syrups and lassis and, of course, an extensive non-vegetarian platter," he says as he shows us a variety of dates from Rajasthan, Afghanistan, Algeria, Morocco, Iraq and Iran.

And there's logic in breaking the day-long fast with dates. "You thirst for water and that fills up your belly all too soon. Dates help you transition to the heavy meal, besides having disease-fighting properties," says 72-year-old Hashmi. Having mapped the trelis of the Old City, from a forlorn corner to rich havelis, he is a true heritage keeper, conducting walks for both children and adults.

Hashmi takes us past shops selling heaps of pheni, cobweb-like rings of the finest vermicelli heaped up like tyres. "This is perfect sehri food, the dawn meal that's had before fasting. Dropped in hot milk, it dissolves quickly. Made of maida, it is heavy but sits easily on the stomach because you have it in small bowls. You don't feel thirsty through the day," he says, picking up an old Delhi speciality of khaajla. This one is a crispy, flaky, puffed up, giant poori, which is dropped in milk with a sprinkle of sugar, again, a complete meal. As cooks ready their griddle for preparing the freshest country chicken and river sole tikkas at Rafiq's, pakoras of leafy greens sizzle on the other side. And it is in this tehzeeb of culinary confluence that street food in Old Delhi patented the keema gujia and the keema samosa.



Historian Sohail Hashmi (left) said most of these shops came up after the 1950s to cater to the new inhabitants. Photos: Prem Nath Pandey

Inside the masjid, the gong has been struck, the lights come on and families, the old and the young, pass the food trays around, merrily having what each has to offer, from home-cooked food to street eats, even biscuits and juices. Says Hashmi, "The tradition of a commune-like iftar feasting is fairly recent. But it is a great way of building camaraderie, making friends and children just love it. Nobody feels alone during the difficult time of fasting." It is a heaving mass of humanity united in prayer and spirit, drawing everybody in, no questions asked.

The food street, too, came up at the turn of the last century. "Historically, eating out was looked down upon because of social hierarchies. Intermingling wasn't allowed. For Hindus, it was caste. Muslims had a deep cleavage between the high-born and low-born. These parts were largely inhabited by the artisanal community, lower down in the pecking order, and the area had not been gentrified. These shops were meant for travellers, who came to the city to pick up supplies in bulk. Local Dilliwallas never bought anything here. Things changed with the British Raj shifting capital in 1911. Construction began in Kingsway camp and in New Delhi. So, a row of hotels and inns came up around the periphery of the Jama Masjid, where overseers, contractors and material suppliers stayed. The labourers slept on the

grounds here, as New Delhi was a wilderness. Food stalls came up for labourers and then the overseers and supervisors also had their meals here."

A sociological change happened post-1947 when the Punjabi settlers came in and normalised the culture of eating out.

"Most of the Khatri families were followers of the Arya Samaj and stopped eating meat at home. Women would follow vegetarianism as they visited temples regularly. But the men needed their drinks with meat and

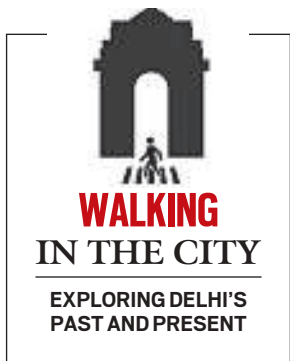
would come here. Most of these shops came up after the 1950s to cater to the new inhabitants," says Hashmi. Over time, there were other settlers, like the Kashmiri Muslim migrants, mostly belonging to the houseboat, transport, packaging and fruit trade, who fled as militancy robbed them of their livelihood. That's how Kashmiri restaurants developed from just "hole-in-the-wall". Now, neat little cafes like Ebony right behind the Masjid cater to the younger, aspirant crowd who want to break their fast over pizzas, pastas and hazelnut coffees instead of chai.

As food gives way to prayers, with some devotees performing rituals till the break of dawn, the food street never sleeps. At Rehmatullah's, the scent of spices spirals out of the cauldron of the thick meat broth or yakhni, considered to be a healing food for Ramzan. The whole spices are

wrapped and tied in a muslim cloth to make a potti and dipped into the pot. Once the aroma of the spices has been absorbed by the meat and rice, the potti is taken out and the rice is cooked on a slow coal fire. Of course, the distinct influence of the Mughal courts lies in the nihari, which the shahi khansama and the shahi hakim of emperor Shah Jahan invented in the 17th Century to build immunity against a virulent flu. The robust spice-packed meat stew, slow-cooked overnight, is still the favourite.

While the grilled delicacies and kebabs smoke up over red-hot charcoal, there's no dearth of the soft and spongy dahi vada, chole or chane ki daal. "What everybody forgets is that the jewellers here hold a food festival featuring no less than 150 chaats during Dussehra or Diwali," says Hashmi.

It is said that Ramzan is the time to "break free from the deceptions of this world and indulge in the sweetness of imaan". And what better way to do it than indulge in old Delhi specialities like imartis, bahushahis, the nut-crusted sheerma and the distinctive paneer jalebi. "This, the khoya samosa and the classic black jalebi made of mawa (evaporated milk solids) are made here only this time of the year. So that the aftertaste stays with you," says Hashmi, who always ends his heritage walks for visitors with some sweet talk. If the food is about a celebration of the five senses, then harmony sits in a corner with the Hindu Kanya Vidyalaya adjacent to the house of the baoli keeper of the Jama Masjid. It was started by Dr Annie Besant to localise girls' education in the neighbourhood. As they say, good food is fuel for the soul.

WALKING
IN THE CITYEXPLORING DELHI'S
PAST AND PRESENT

BRIEFLY

Officials from Kerala visit govt school

New Delhi: Senior AAP leader and MLA Atishi Saturday met educationists and dignitaries who expressed the desire to implement mindfulness and happiness curricula in their schools. Victor T I, the regional secretary of CBSE School Management Association, Kerala; Dr M Dinesh Babu, the Treasurer of Confederation of Kerala Sahodaya Complexes; and other dignitaries visited a 'Connected Classroom', a STEM lab and a library of the school, and lauded the "world-class" facilities.

Jahangirpuri violence: Five sent to police custody

New Delhi: A Delhi court sent five men booked under the National Security Act, in connection with the communal violence in Jahangirpuri, to police custody for eight days. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Satvir Singh Lamba sent accused Ansar, Salim, Ahir, Dilshad and Sonu to eight-day custodial interrogation after police told the court that remand is required to confront all co-accused persons with each other to link the chain of the incident and to ascertain the role of each accused person properly.

Rs 100 coin to commemorate Delhi Univ's centenary year

New Delhi: The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Friday issued a gazette notification announcing the minting of a 100 rupee commemorative coin on the occasion of DU's centenary year. "The coin of one hundred Rupees denomination shall only be coined at the mint for issue under the authority of the central government on the occasion of, "CENTENARY YEAR OF UNIVERSITY OF DELHI", Manisha Sinha, Joint Secretary (Coin and Currency) said in a notification dated April 22.

Four men held for murder of BJP worker

New Delhi: Days after a BJP worker was shot dead outside his house in East Delhi's Mayur Vihar, police arrested four men. Police said the accused, who lived near the victim's house, wanted to take revenge on him. Police said on Wednesday night, the assailants called Jitender Chaudhary outside his house on the pretext of work and shot him dead. **ENS**

9 GOVT & POLITICS

Proposal to open commandant posts in BSF for IPS officers

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

EVEN AS a proposal to debar IPS officers from central deputation if they don't have a prior stint with the Centre as SP or DIG remains pending with the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Home Affairs is considering another proposal to open commandant-level posts in the Border Security Force for IPS officers.

Currently, IPS officers can join forces such as CRPF, BSF and ITBP only at the level of DIG and above. The move will create more posts for IPS officers at the SP-level in the central armed police forces and central police organisations where 50% such posts are vacant.

The proposal, sent by the BSF to the ministry earlier this month, has asked for change in recruitment rules of the border guarding force to ensure IPS can come on deputation at the commandant level.

The proposal has caused much disappointment in the rank and file of the CAPFs who are of the opinion that if it is approved for the BSF, it will eventually find its way to the CRPF and ITBP. The cadre officers of the said forces have been facing severe career stagnation and there is apprehension that reserving more posts for the IPS officers will only exacerbate the problem.

"They have already reserved 40% posts at the DIG level for themselves even though rarely it happens that DIGs come on deputation, and the posts remain vacant. Now, they want to stifle our promotion chances further by claiming a share in the commandant pie as well. If the MHA approves this proposal, we are going to challenge it in court," a senior CAPF official said.

Already, CAPF officers have filed multiple petitions in courts, demanding that IPS deputations at DIG-level be abolished or the quota reduced as posts remain perennially vacant. They have argued that because of non-availability of promotional avenues in the forces, many officers are re-

tiring at assistant commandant level, which is the entry-level post in the CAPFs. This, they have argued, has had demoralising effect on the officers and has led to high attrition rate in the forces.

Recently, the MHA wrote to all CAPFs asking for their opinion on a proposal to change the designation of second-in-command ranks in the CAPF to "Additional Commandant". The MHA wrote that this was required as officers retiring at 2IC levels found it difficult to explain their rank to the society as it had no parallel in any other force and thus faced embarrassment. CAPF sources said this was an admission of the fact that a large number of CAPF officers were retiring at 2IC level.

IPS officers, however, argue that the move is not aimed at making CAPF officers suffer, rather is a preparation for what the government is planning in terms of IPS deputation. "The Centre is taking many steps to ensure states send the quota of IPS officers as fixed for central deputation. In due course, as various proposals in this direction are passed and accepted by the states, the Centre will need to have enough posts available to accommodate these officers. Also, now, we are having IPS batches as large as 200. Where will these officers be accommodated," a senior IPS officer asked.

According to IPS officers in the BSF, this was also seen to be operationally important. "The commandant is a field officer with units being directly under him. So, if an IPS officer joins at commandant level, he will have hands-on field experience and will also command respect among the rank and file when he goes to senior posts as he has done the field assignment," an officer said, adding that in the SSB and CISF such arrangements already exist.

The MHA recently sent a proposal to the PMO to bar IPS officers who do not join the Centre at SP or DIG level from any further central deputation. Currently, an IPS officer must have at least three years of central deputation at IG level for any further deputation with the Centre.



CHOUHAN MEETS PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in New Delhi on Saturday. During his meeting with Modi, Chouhan briefed the PM about various initiatives of the Madhya Pradesh government. The two leaders also discussed a host of other issues. After the meeting, Chouhan called Modi a "man of ideas" and said the PM's suggestions would be implemented in the state. PTI

KARNATAKA MINISTER QUIT AFTER CONTRACTOR DEATH

Forgery in letter seeking nod for projects: official

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, APRIL 23

AN OFFICIAL of Karnataka's Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, which is at the centre of a controversy over the death of a civil contractor whose bills were allegedly not paid by the department, has filed a police complaint about alleged involvement of forgery in clearance provided for the civil work reportedly implemented by the deceased contractor in Hindalga village of Belagavi district.

Senior BJP leader K S Eshwarappa was forced to quit as state state Rural Development minister last week after being named as first accused in the case of alleged abetment of suicide.

The case was registered by



Eshwarappa has claimed no link with the death

Udupi police on the basis of a complaint filed by Prashanth Patil, brother of the deceased contractor, Santhosh Patil. Eshwarappa has claimed he is not linked in any way to the death.

A deputy director in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Ramesh D, has filed a complaint with Vidhana Soudha police in central Bengaluru stating that jottings of approval on a letter dated February 2, 2021, sent by then Hindalga gram panchayat president Asha Aihole, were forged. No official of the department had given any approval for

various works in Hindalga village, the complaint said.

Santhosh Patil was found dead on April 12 at a lodge in Udupi. Before his death, he had alleged that then minister Eshwarappa had failed to clear his bills, worth more than Rs 4 crore, for 108 civic works he had carried out in Hindalga based on informal approvals.

In the police complaint, filed two days ago, it has been stated that Aihole had sent a letter dated February 2, 2021, seeking clearances for implementing 108 different pieces of work for improvement of drainage and roads in Hindalga. The complainant stated that the letter was received by Rural Development Department on February 17, 2021.

Later, it stated, an unidentified person made a noting on the let-

Pentagon: Don't want to see India relying on Russia for defence needs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, APRIL 23

THE US is discouraging India from relying on Russia, its largest defence supplier, for its defence needs, citing the crippling impact the Western sanctions will have on Russian military-industrial complexes after Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, top American officials have said.

The remarks come amid growing disquiet in Western capitals over India's refusal to directly condemn the Russian aggression in Ukraine and its decision to procure discounted Russian oil.

"We've been very clear with India as well as other nations that we don't want to see them rely on Russia for defence needs. We've been nothing but honest about that and discouraging that," Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby told reporters in Washington on Friday.

"At the same time, we also value the defence partnership that we have with India. And as was evidenced a week ago, we're looking at ways to improve that going forward. That's going to continue because it matters and it's important," he said.

"India is a provider of security in the region and we value that," Kirby said. **PTI**

MRI MACHINES TO GLOVES

Supplies from West hit, Russia looks at Indian medical gear

RITU SARIN
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

EXISTING SUPPLY chains from US and Europe disrupted because of its invasion of Ukraine, Moscow's trade promotion body, Russia Business Council, is in talks with India for supplies of a wide sweep of medical gear: from implants to prosthetic devices, X-ray, ECG and MRI machines to surgical needles, instruments and gloves.

A meeting between the Indian and Russian stakeholders as well as the Ministry of Commerce is scheduled for April 29 and Olga Kulikova, Business Ambassador to India, told *The Indian Express* from Moscow that among the eight broad categories of medical devices Russia was looking at includes dental equipment, medical furniture and cosmetology devices.

Russia, incidentally, had become one of the largest importers of cosmetics and cosmetology equipment from South Korea but the invasion of Ukraine has stalled that trade. Russia imports a significant share of its medical equipment from the European Union and the United States — estimated at \$1.6 billion a year.

"There is no shortage of most medical devices in Russia yet but despite medical devices not being on lists of sanctions, supplies coming from our partners in UK, the USA, France and Germany have been badly hit," said Kulikova. "So the situation is unpredictable. We hope India will pay attention to this potential which has opened up in the Russian market."

"Our stocks of crucial medical devices were adequate but now it is not possible for Russia to import medical equipment, implants or devices from the Western world. We are looking to India since it is a manufac-

turing leader for several categories of medical devices such as orthopaedic implants and syringes," she added.

Early this month, Business Russia Council and the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) began talks with the Indian organisation having sent a list of around 100 registered Indian medical device manufacturers to Moscow.

On the agenda for the upcoming talks is the registration of Indian medical devices and equipment in the Russian Federation and the EAEU (Eurasian Economic Union) and processes needed for the documentation and translation as well as sampling and testing of medical devices and equipment.

According to Rajiv Nath, Forum Coordinator for AiMeD, a major advantage was the fact that a Memorandum of Understanding was already signed in 2020 between them and All Russia Public Organisation Business Russia for cooperation in the sector.

"Russia is a huge potential market for Indian medical devices and equipment and we are looking towards a favourable Rupee-Rouble exchange rate and the easing of regulatory barriers for fast-tracking such exports" he told *The Indian Express*.

According to a Reuters report, exports of essential medical devices to Russia from the West has been "partly restored, reducing the immediate risk of life-threatening shortages after a near-total collapse when the war in Ukraine began."

"While medical devices and prescription drugs are exempt from sanctions, their delivery to Russia has been hit by transport, insurance and customs hurdles caused by the war and by the restrictive measures," Reuters reported.

Naresh Patel meets Kishor, denies joining Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, APRIL 23

SHREE KHODALDHAM Trust (SKT) chairman and Rajkot-based industrialist Naresh Patel on Saturday said he met political strategist Prashant Kishor on Friday but denied reports that he is joining the Congress next month.

"I went to attend a wedding in Delhi yesterday. Prashant Kishor was also there, and I met him. But the talk about me joining Congress on May 2 is not true," Patel told the media on landing at Rajkot airport on Saturday.



Naresh Patel; Prashant Kishor

"There were many political leaders at the event (wedding)," he said. "There was no formal talk...I will not disclose names of leaders I met (there)."

To a question, he said that state Congress working president Hardik Patel has also met him (Naresh Patel), "to sort out some issues he had with the

Congress", the Patidar leader said. Asked about Hardik keeping his options open, including that of joining BJP, Patel said that is "his personal view".

Kishor has been holding talks with Congress leaders in Delhi to make the party battle-ready for 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Patel had last month announced his readiness to join active politics and said that he had offers from BJP, Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party. He had later said that SKT was conducting a field survey on whether he should join politics, and which party he should join.

On Saturday, Patel said he

will announce by May 15 whether he will join active politics. "I am also very confused...I have to be answerable to you and the society...I don't want to take a hasty decision and get trapped," he told mediapersons.

To a question whether the political parties reach out to him, (or he to them), Patel said, "You all know that each time there is talk about elections, every political party contacts me...I am also in touch with everyone...whenever necessary, we hold discussions."

Asked if he will join BJP if cases against Patidars were withdrawn, Patel said, "All cases are not yet withdrawn."



Union Home Minister Amit Shah during Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav at Jagdishpur in Bhojpur district of Bihar on Saturday. PTI

On Bihar visit, Shah honours 1857 Rebellion hero Kunwar Singh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, APRIL 23

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said all important heroes of the freedom struggle would be duly honoured. He also announced installation of a statue of Revolt of 1857 hero Kunwar Singh at Ara, the district headquarters of Bhojpur.

He was speaking on the birth anniversary of Kunwar Singh at Jagdishpur (Ara), the birth place of the 1857 war hero. Around 78,000 national flags were waved collectively as a matter of world record, beating previous world record of collective waving of about 57,000 national flags by Pakistan.

"Spirit of all nationalists

should be *buland* (strong) on the occasion. Let all of you wave the national flag and say *Bharat mata ki jai*," he said.

Playing up the development card of PM Narendra Modi, Shah said the current government had been working on making India number one by 2047. Talking about welfare measures of the Centre, he said free ration scheme for the poor had been going on for the last two years.

Mentioning Union Minister of State Nityanand Rai for inviting him to the function, Shah said: "I am 58 and have attended many big functions but I have not seen such a display of nationalism as being seen with unfurling of national flags on the occasion... History has not done justice to

Babu Kunwar Singh. Historians have not written about him in the manner he deserved."

Top Bihar BJP leaders, including former Union Minister Ravi Shanker Prasad, Rajya Sabha MP Sushil Kumar Modi, Ara MP and Union Minister RK Singh, Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Bihar Deputy CMs Tarkishore Prasad and Renu Devi, and Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha were present.

Targeting the RJD, Shah said: "One still has not forgotten jungle raj of Lalu Prasad. It is Nitish and Sushil who had taken Bihar out of jungle raj."

He said the Barauni refinery was being expanded and a new airport at Darbhanga was being constructed for Rs 100 crore.

Pawar slams Centre over violence in Jahangirpuri

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, APRIL 23

SLAMMING THE Centre for the recent violence in Delhi's Jahangirpuri, NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday said that people at the helm in the Union Home Ministry "should have ensured that the nation's capital remained united".

He said, "Who rules Delhi? The (Arvind) Kejriwal government. But the Delhi Home ministry is with the Centre, with BJP, and (Union Home Minister) Amit Shah. Those who held the Home Ministry should have ensured that the nation's capital remained united. They should have taken necessary steps towards that, but he has not done so."

"You (NDA) are ruling the nation, yet you can't take care of the national capital.... If anything happens in Delhi, the message goes out to the world that there is instability in this country," Pawar he said at NCP's 'Sankalp Sabha' in Kolhapur.

Calling for relentless efforts to oust a "communal party like BJP" from power, Pawar said that in the backdrop of the violence in BJP-governed states, the nation is facing the challenge of remaining united today. "We have to work relentlessly to oust a communal party like BJP from power across the country."

On the situation in Karnataka, Pawar said, "A few days ago, I had gone to Karnataka. I was told that a place like Hubli had seen violence. Boards are being put up, warning people not to purchase goods from shops owned by minorities... What should we make of this? ... Be it Karnataka or Delhi, wherever BJP rules, the situation is similar. That's why we are all facing a big challenge..."



10 EXPRESS NETWORK

2 UP teachers booked for ‘locking students on terrace’ to protest transfer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, APRIL 23

TWO GOVERNMENT school teachers were booked in Lakhimpur Kheri’s Behjam Block after they allegedly confined around 25 students to the terrace of the school to protest against their transfer orders, police said on Saturday.

Officials said three contractual teachers were recently transferred from the Kasturba Gandhi school for girls to other schools in the district over complaints of “groupism” among teachers.

Police identified the two teachers as Manorama Mishra and Goldi Katiyar. They have been booked under IPC sections 342 (wrongful confinement), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace) and 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others). The FIR was registered at Neemgaon police station based on a complaint from district coordinator for girls’ education, Renu Srivastava.

Lakhimpur Kheri Basic Shiksha Adhikari Laxmikant Pandey said Saturday, “On Friday, some students of the residential school were confined by two teachers at the school as they were apparently unhappy about their transfer orders. There was some groupism among teachers at the school, due to which three teachers were transferred to a school in different blocks in the same district. To protest against this, the two teachers took the students to the terrace of the school and locked them there from inside.”

“We had to call the police to control the situation... The students said they were coaxed by the two teachers to protest against their transfer orders,” said the BSA. An official said, “On Thursday, after they received their transfer orders, the two resorted to coaxing girl students to put pressure on the department to cancel their transfer orders,” he added.

Defence PRO deletes Twitter post on iftar hosted by Army in J&K after ‘criticism’

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
CHANDIGARH, APRIL 23

THE DEFENCE Ministry’s public relations officer (PRO) in Jammu allegedly deleted a tweet highlighting the Indian Army’s tradition of holding an iftar party in Jammu and Kashmir’s Doda, after the post came under attack from the editor-in-chief of Sudarshan News.

On April 21, the PRO tweeted photographs of an iftar held by the Army in Doda saying: “Keeping alive the traditions of secularism, an Iftar was organised by the Indian Army at Arnora in Doda district.” The photographs showed the iftar gathering, the General Officer Commanding of the Delta Force of the Army’s Rashtriya Rifles interacting with local Muslims and

a uniformed person offering namaz with civilians.

Later that day, Sudarshan News CMD and editor-in-chief, Suresh Chavhanke tweeted, “Ab ye bimari Bhartiya sena mein bhi ghuss gayi hai? Dukhad...” (Now this disease has spread even in the Indian Army? Sad). The comment drew widespread support from several Twitter users.

While there was no reaction from the Army or the defence PRO to Chavhanke’s remarks, the PRO defence (Jammu) deleted the original tweet highlighting the iftar. Lt Col Devender Anand, PRO defence (Jammu), declined to comment on the deletion of the tweet when contacted.

Reacting to the development, former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Command, Lt Gen Tej Sapru (retd), who commanded

the Nagrota Corps under which Doda falls, expressed his dismay at the removal of the tweet. “There was nothing wrong in the tweet. It should have been vigorously defended. The Army holds iftar in the insurgency-prone area because reaching out to the local population is an integral part of fighting the militants. And the Muslims in this part of the J&K are more Indian than you or me. The Army would do the same thing for any other religion if there was strife in that area and which it was tackling. In fact, we do so in the northeast too by reaching out to the Christian population. This has nothing to do with religion or politics and it is purely an instrument to fight militancy by taking people along with you,” he said.

Retired officer Maj Gen Yash Mor too defended the original tweet. “Indian Army has been at

the forefront of interfaith harmony. We as officer’s take pride in the fact that we have NO religion, we just adopt the religion of the troops we command,” he tweeted.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Lt Gen H S Panag (retd), former GOC-in-C, Northern Command, said, “The concerned PRO and the Army should have had the guts to defend the tradition of holding iftar during Ramzan. There is nothing wrong in it. This is part of the Army’s policy to win the hearts and minds of the local population. We run Army Goodwill Schools for the local population too and all these measures are meant to take the local population along as we fight a foreign-sponsored militancy. And the locals appreciate these efforts. In any case, there is nothing new in holding an iftar in J&K and this has been a practice for many years,” he said.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, in Guwahati on Saturday. PTI

Rajnath: India won’t hesitate to cross border to tackle terrorists

Guwahati: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said Saturday that India would not hesitate to act against terrorists who target the country from across the border.

Speaking at a programme, where Assam-based veterans of 1971 India-Pakistan War were felicitated, Singh said the government was working to wipe out terrorism from the country. “India has been successful in giving out the message that ter-

rorism will be strongly dealt with. We will not hesitate to cross borders if the country is targeted from outside,” he said.

On the withdrawal of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act from different parts of northeast, he said the government did so wherever the situation improved.

He said, “When I was the Union home minister, AFSPA was lifted from Arunachal Pradesh (most parts) and Meghalaya.” PTI

UGC forms committee to firm up rules for foreign varsities’ India campuses

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE UNIVERSITY Grants Commission (UGC) has formed a five-member committee to prepare regulations to allow foreign higher education institutes, placed among the top 500 globally, to set up campuses in India, particularly in areas of science and technology.

The committee’s formation is the first step in preparing the ground for opening up the higher education sector to foreign universities, a key proposal in the National Educational Policy (NEP) to “internationalise” the higher education sector.

UGC chairperson Prof M Jagadesh Kumar told *The Sunday Express* that the committee, set up on April 11, is expected to submit its report by April-end. “The committee’s mandate is to frame draft regulations so that foreign universities can start functioning in India in tune with the NEP. It was given three weeks to prepare its report,” Kumar said.

Without giving out names of panel members, Kumar said it is being headed by a “top academic with a legal background”. The other members are also reputed academics, including from IITs.

EXPLAINED The idea predates NEP

THE BID to allow foreign institutes to start operations in India predates NEP. In 2010, under UPA-2, the Foreign Education Institutions Bill was introduced in Parliament. The Bill lapsed in 2014 after NDA came to power. While in Opposition, BJP, along with the Left and Samajwadi Party, had opposed the Bill, questioning the degree of autonomy it sought to give to foreign institutions setting up campuses in India. In 2015, the Centre advised HRD Ministry to consult with Niti Aayog, which was in favour of allowing foreign universities.

Besides drafting a legal framework, Kumar said, the committee will attempt to frame broad outlines of institutional structures required to invite foreign universities to start operations in India. But he made it clear that the major thrust will be on research.

“The idea is to create an

ecosystem to enable global educational institutions to set up campuses in India, particularly in emerging areas including Artificial Intelligence (AI), data sciences,” he said. “Attempts will be made to attract institutions in areas of science and technology. We would like them to grow into research institutes; it will help students in India to access world-class education.”

The UGC believes that if it efforts strike success, top educational institutions here will benefit through collaborations with their foreign counterparts. Earlier this week, the Commission had issued amended regulations to promote tie-ups between domestic and international institutes for offering dual-degrees, joint degrees and twinning programmes.

Kumar said that initially institutes among top 500 in various global rankings, such as the ones issued by Times Higher Education or Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), are likely to be approached once the regulations are in place. He said the existing UGC Act need not be amended to allow such an arrangement in the future. “We have studied the UGC Act and felt that no amendment is required. Regulations are needed, which the five-member committee is drafting,” Kumar said.

Govt advisory against studying in Pak leaves J&K students on edge

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, APRIL 23

THE CENTRE’S decision to debar students who study in Pakistan from higher studies and jobs in India has created anxiety among students in the Valley.

They say the order is ambiguous and doesn’t talk about those who have studied in Pakistan in the past.

While there are no official figures, the number of students who have completed their MBBS

degree from Pakistan is believed to be over 400, while a few hundred have studied other courses like engineering.

“We are victims of politics,” says a student, who was studying in Pakistan but hasn’t been allowed to go back after he returned home for vacation before the Covid outbreak.

“If a student who studies in Bangladesh or any other central Asian country is eligible for jobs and higher education why have they singled us out? We have already lost a year because of this politics. Like other countries, we had to appear for the MCI certification before being eligible for jobs and education,” he said.


On Friday, the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) debarred those

studying in Pakistan from jobs and higher studies in India.


On the trigger for such a circular, UGC chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar said the higher education regulator wanted students to be careful while picking countries to pursue advanced education.

“There are no immediate triggers as such. It is our responsibility to ensure that students are sufficiently aware while making these choices. As regulators, we are concerned about our students and want to ensure they don’t face any difficulties,” Kumar said, citing the examples of Indians studying in Ukraine and China.

Kumar said the circular would not be implemented on a retrospective basis. The order is also not clear about the seats earmarked under the SAARC quota for medical and engineering.



TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
Chief Engineer Office, TWAD Board,
30, Bharathi Park Road, Siruvani Nagar, Coimbatore - 641 043.




ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM
E- Submission - Extension of Tender Notice
No. 16-1 / FCWSS to Rasipuram Package -1 & 2 / DO(T2) / CE / CBE / 2022 / Dated, 22.04.2022.
Name of Work : Combined Water Supply Scheme to Rasipuram Municipality, 8 Town Panchayats and certain other rural habitations in Namakkal District (Construction period : 18 months, Trial Run : 6 months and Pald Maintenance : 60 months) for Package 1 & 2 - Extension of e-tender Notice - Intimation - reg.
Ref : This office IFB No. 16 / F.CWSS to Rasipuram Package -1 & 2 / DO(T2) / CE / CBE / 2022 / Dated, 18.03.2022.
The sale price, Last date for receipt and opening of the tender through e-submission called for in the reference cited for the above work is here by extended as below.

Sl. No.	Description	Existing	Extended up to
1	The last date for free download/ Sale of e-document Tender	25.04.2022 upto 17.45 Hours	09.05.2022 upto 17.45 Hours
2	The last date for receipt of Tender through e-submission.	26.04.2022 upto 15.00 Hours	10.05.2022 upto 15.00 Hours
3	Date & Time of opening of Tender through e-submission using DSC Keys	27.04.2022 at 15.30 Hours (Package –1) and 16.00 Hours (Package–2)	11.05.2022 at 15.30 Hours (Package –1) and 16.00 Hours (Package–2)

All other terms and conditions already published remain unaltered.
DIPR/1967/Tender/2022

Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Coimbatore.

"சென்னை ஊட்ட தர்ப்புறப் பட்டிப்படிப்பு, ஊழமை புறப்படிப்பு எந்திர்ப்புறப் பட்டிப்படிப்பு"



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD (R&B) SPL. SUB-DIVISION GANDOH
SHORT-NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E-NIT No. 01 OF 2022-23 DATED 20.04.2022

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders are invited on %age rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Union Territory, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work.

S. No	Name of the work	Est. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of documents in shape of Try receipt	EMD	Time of completion	Class of contractor
1	Blacktopping of Thathri Kilhotran Road (Balance Portion) by way of providing and laying WBM Grade II and Grade III, 50mm thick BM (in stretches) and 25mm thick premix carpet under Cities and Towns	100.00	1500	200000/-	45 days	A
2	Blacktopping of Changa Kahalugasser road by way of providing and laying WBM Grade III, 50mm thick BM (in Stretches), 25mm thick premix carpet, construction of Cross Drainage & Pucca Drain under Cities and Towns	115.00	3000	230000	45 days	A
3	Blacktopping of Changa Chancer Road up to Chabutra Bridge by way of Providing and laying WBM Grade III, MB 50mm thick (in stretches) and 25mm thick premix carpet under Cities and Towns	35.00	600	70000	15 days	A & BEE
4	Improvement and up-gradation of Kahara Jai Road in Km 13th RD(200) to Km 14th RD (700) by way of Providing and laying WBM Grade II, III, Bituminous Macadam 50mm and Premix Carpet 25mm	75.00	1500	150000	45 Days	A

Position of Funds:
Status of AAA:
Status of Technical Sanction:
Defect Liability period:

Available
Accorded
Submitted
03 Years

1. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jkten-ders.gov.in as per below schedule:

1. Date of publishing of Tender Notice	20.04.2022
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 21.04.2022 0900 Hrs to 27.04.2022, 1800 Hrs
3. Bid submission Start Date	21.04.2022 Hrs
4. Bid Submission End Date	27.04.2022, 1800 Hrs
5. Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	28.04.2022 at 1100 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Spl. Sub- Division Gandoh

Sd/-
(Er. Sheikh Mushtaq Ahmed)
Executive Engineer,
PWD (R&B) Spl. Sub-Division,
Gandoh

No.: 23-28
Dated: 20.04.2022

DIP/J-786/22

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय आबकारी आयुक्त, राजस्थान, उदयपुर
आबकारी भवन 2-गुणियावाला, पंचवटी, उदयपुर-313001

क्रमांक प. 32 (बी X 1) आब/एल/2022/3801
दिनांक: 23.04.2022

आबकारी एवं मद्य-संयम नीति वर्ष 2022-23 एवं वर्ष 2023-24 के तहत मदिरा की रेटिल ऑफ कम्पोजिट दुकानों के अनुज्ञापत्र हेतु ई-नीलामी आमंत्रण सूचना :

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि आबकारी एवं मद्य-संयम नीति वर्ष 2022-23 एवं वर्ष 2023-24 के अनुसार बन्दोबस्त वर्ष 2022-23 व 2023-24 (1 अप्रैल, 2022 से 31 मार्च, 2024 तक) के लिए नवीनीकरण से शेष रही मदिरा दुकानों के लिए ऑनलाईन भारत सरकार के उपक्रम एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड के माध्यम से ई-नीलामी प्रक्रिया से बन्दोबस्त करने हेतु निम्नानुसार ई-बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.सं.	नीलामी की दिनांक	नीलामी का समय
1	28.04.2022	प्रातः 11.00 बजे से सांय 4.00 बजे तक

1. इच्छुक बोलीदाता एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड की साईट पर दिनांक 25.04.2022 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे से आवेदन कर सकेंगे।

2. नीलामी न्यूनतम पांच घण्टे की होगी एवं उसके पश्चात जब तक बोली लगती रहे तब तक 20 मिनट के अनन्त विस्तार (indefinite extension) तक जारी रहेगी।

3. देशी मदिरा, राजस्थान निर्मित (RML), भारत निर्मित विदेशी मदिरा (IMFL) एवं बीयर की कम्पोजिट दुकानों का जिवेलार एवं उनके आवेदन शुल्क, न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्राईज अमानत राशि, धरोहर राशि, पंजीकरण की प्रक्रिया, पंजीकरण शुल्क का विवरण विभागीय वेबसाईट <https://rajexcise.gov.in> एवं एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड की वेबसाईट <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> पर उपलब्ध रहेगा।

4. ऑनलाईन नीलामी में भाग लेने हेतु इच्छुक आवेदक द्वारा मदिरा दुकानों का चयन कर आवेदन शुल्क एवं अमानत राशि यथासंभन नीलामी की तिथि से एक दिवस पहले अर्त 11.59 तक MSTC की वेबसाइट पर बोलीदाता के ऑनलाईन वॉलेट में जमा हो जानी चाहिए। ऐसा करने से बोलीदाता विभिन्न प्रकार की तकनीकी समस्याओं से बच सकेंगे।

5. प्रत्येक दुकान के लिये ऑनलाईन निलामी में भाग लेने हेतु निर्धारित न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्राईस की 2 प्रतिशत राशि अमानत राशि के रूप में आवेदन के साथ जमा करायी जानी है। बिड राशि के अनुसार अतिरिक्त अमानत राशि भी जमा करानी होगी। ऑनलाईन नीलामी में Dynamic अमानत राशि का प्रावधान रखा गया है।

6. सफल बोलीदाता को धरोहर राशि, अग्रिम वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि एवं वार्षिक लाईसेंस फीस ई-नीलामी के संबंध में विस्तृत दिशा निर्देश एवं शर्तों, जो विभागीय वेबसाईट एवं एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड की वेबसाईट पर उपलब्ध है, के अनुसार जमा करानी होगी।

7. निर्धारित समय में वॉछ्छ राशिवाँ यथा-धरोहर राशि, अग्रिम वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि एवं वार्षिक लाईसेंस फीस जमा न कराने पर स्वीकृति निरस्त कर समस्त जमा राशि जफ़राज की जायेगी।

8. बोलीदाता को ई-नीलामी में भाग लेने से पूर्व विभागीय वेबसाईट <https://rajexcise.gov.in> एवं एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड की वेबसाईट <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> पर उपलब्ध आबकारी एवं मध्यसंयम नीति वर्ष 2022-23 एवं 2023-24, समस्त दिशा-निर्देश, प्रक्रिया एवं शर्तों का सवधानीपूर्वक अध्ययन कर लिया जाना चाहिए।


9. मदिरा दुकानों के बन्दोबस्त हेतु वे ही व्यक्ति ई-नीलामी में भाग ले सकेंगे, जो राजस्थान आबकारी अधिनियम, 1950 एवं इसके अन्तर्गत बनाए गए नियमों, आबकारी एवं मध्यसंयम नीति वर्ष 2022-23 व 2023-24 व भारतीय संविदा अधिनियम के तहत अनुबन्ध करने की योग्यता रखते हों। इस सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत दिशा निर्देश <https://rajexcise.gov.in>, व <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> पर उपलब्ध है। अन्य जानकारी हेतु संबंधित अतिरिक्त आयुक्त जेए, जिला आबकारी अधिकारी एवं जिला आबकारी अधिकारी कार्यालय से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है तथा एमएसटीसी हैल्प डेस्क पर भी कार्यालय समय में मार्गदर्शन लिया जा सकता है।

10. आबकारी एवं मद्य-संयम नीति, 2022-23 के बिन्दु संख्या 2.9.3 के अनुसार दुकानवार निर्धारित वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि 12 महीनों या शेष महीनों (एक वर्ष से कम अवधि के लिए स्वीकृति की स्थिति में) में बराबर बाँटी जायेगी एवं तत्पुनार प्रसिमाह मदिरा का उठाव करना होगा।

11. ई-नीलामी के संबंध में अन्य प्रावधान आबकारी एवं मद्यसंयम नीति वर्ष 2022-23 व वर्ष 2023-24 एवं राजस्थान आबकारी अधिनियम, 1950 एवं इसके अन्तर्गत बने नियम के अनुसार रहेंगे।


12. ई-नीलामी के संबंध में यदि कोई विवाद उत्पन्न होता है तो न्यायिक क्षेत्र संबंधित जिला ही रहेगा।

हस्ता/-
(प्रकाश राजपुरोहित)
आबकारी आयुक्त, राजस्थान



Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited vidyut Nagar, P.O.-BLW
Varanasi-221004 E-Tender Notice

E-tender are invited for the following material. The tender will be accepted up to at 15.00 hrs. Please visit our website: www.etender.up.nic.in for details/download and for any other corrections/ amendments/modifications/ extensions till the date of submission of bids. **Sl. No.:1, Tender Specification No.: EAV-12/2022-23, Name of Material: AB Cable (3x120+1x95+1x16 Sq.mm., Qty. (Km.): 60, Earnest Money (Rs.): 3,41,500.00, Tender Fee (Rs.): 5,000+GST@18%, Last date & Time for online submission of tender document: 25.05.2022 15.00 Hrs., Date & Time for opening of tender part-I: 26.05.2022 15.00 Hrs. Sd/- SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-I) "Save Electricity in the interest of Nation" पत्रांक: 1142 /पू.वि.वि.नि.लि.(वा.)/सा.प्र.-I/अअ-I/विज्ञापन दिनांक: 23.04.2022**



JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E)
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e.NIT No. . 01 ELC of 2022-23 Dt: 22/04/2022

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu. The Executive Engineer, Electric Division. Municipal Corporation, Jammu is inviting online tenders from registered class of Electrical contractors/Firms as per the prescribed format for the works shown here under.

S. No.	Description of Work/Items	Approx Qty. in No.	Adv. Amount (in Rs.)	Cost Of NIT Doc. (in Rs.)	Bid Securing Declaration	Time of Completion
1.	Balance work of Baba Yamuna Puri Community Hall with Kitchen Shed in Channi Himmat Ward no. 51 (Electrical Part)	As per BOQ	8.19	600/-	Bid Securing Declaration Form as per format enclosed at Annexure 'C'.	30 days

1. The complete bidding process will be online.

2. The bid shall be uploaded in electronic format on the website <http://jk tenders.gov.in> upto 13 /05/2022 till 15:00 hours.

3. The bid received will be opened on 18/05/2022 up to 12.00 hrs same day or any other day convenient to the tender opening committee.

A Documents required to be uploaded online for Technical Bid.

- Scanned copy of Bid Securing Declaration Form as per the form enclosed.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-Challan/Single Window Challan of JMC pledged to Chief Accounts Officer JMC/tender fees receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>.
- Contractor registration card renewed up to 31.12.2022.
- Scanned copy GST Card.
- Scanned copy of Pan Card.
- Scanned copy of duly filled Annexure "A" and Annexure "B" on Letter head of the contractor.

Note:- Non Submission of any of the above documents online shall render the bidder as non responsive and his financial bid shall not be opened.

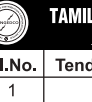
Executive Engineer (Elect.)
Jammu Municipal Corporation.

No.: e-NIT No. 01 ELC of 2022-23
Dt.: MC/JEN/E/Dw Dt: 04/2022
DIP/J-359/P-22



SHRI AMARNATHJI SHRINE BOARD
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

For and on behalf of Chairman, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, sealed tenders on the prescribed format affixed with Revenue Stamps worth Rs. 6/- are invited from reputed professional Firms/ Companies for Selection of Operator for Installation, Operation, Maintenance & Management of eco-friendly tents at different locations enroute to the Shri Amarnathji Shrine in Jammu & Kashmir.
No. SASB/2022/DNITNo.36
Dated: 23.04.2022
Last Date of Submission of Bids: 09.05.2022.
Pre Bid Conference on 29.04.2022
The DNIT, Bidding Document and other details can be obtained from the official website: www.shriamarnathjishrine.com



TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Sl.No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE/Hydro	2419	1
2	CE/MTS	002	1

For details of works / procurement / due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit website www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in / ncgep/app
DIPR/1975/Tender/2022
"சென்னை ஊட்ட தர்ப்புறப் பட்டிப்படிப்பு, ஊழமை புறப்படிப்பு எந்திர்ப்புறப் பட்டிப்படிப்பு"



E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No. - TM/E-OPEN TENDER /01/2022-23, Dated: 20/04/2022
On line (through e-tendering) Tender for the following work is invited by Dy. Chief Engineer (Track Machine), Plant Depot, East Central Railway, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay for and on behalf of the President of India, from reputed Firms.
E-Tender Closing Date : 12.05.2022.
1. Name of the work with its Location : S/1 : TT/2021 6043-Rail clamp Roller with nut Plasser Part No-DL-150-011A, under main Drawing No.- UD150-1 V 2, etc. (05 Items). Make-Plasser or Equivalent., Approx. Cost of the work: S/1 : Rs. 14,42,900.00, Earnest money : S/1 : Rs. 28,900.00,
2. Name of the work with its Location : S/2 : TT/2022 6000- Servo Valve, Plasser Pt. No.- ELT-76-00M0, Star- Hydraulic U.K. Part. No.- 650-191K, Qty.- 18 Nos., Make-Plasser or Star-Hydraulics (U.K.), Approx. Cost of the work: S/2 : Rs. 24,84,018.00, Earnest money : S/2 : Rs. 49,700.00
• Date and time for closing of E-tender : 12.05.2022 upto 16.00 hrs., • Website particulars of e-tendering : www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Engineer/TMC, Plant Depot, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay
PR/0136/PDM/ENG/T/22-23/40

New Delhi

BRIEFLY



Ripun Bora

WEST BENGAL
Ripun Bora appointed TMC Assam president

Kolkata: Former Assam state Congress chief Ripun Bora, who recently switched over to the Trinamool Congress, was appointed the party's president in the north-eastern state on Saturday. Bora, a former Assam minister, had joined the Trinamool last Sunday in the presence of the party's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee. **ENS**

WEST BENGAL
19 crude bombs, pistol found in auto-rickshaw

Kolkata: 19 crude bombs, one country-made pistol and two cartridges were recovered from an abandoned auto-rickshaw near a children's home in south Kolkata's Haridevpur area, police said on Saturday. A senior police officer said, "We are checking CCTV footage of the area to find out how the bombs came there." The development has triggered a war of words between political parties. BJP state president Sukanta Majumdar said, "This is nothing new. This has been going on for a very long time. Without bombs and arms, TMC cannot carry out extortion. The recovery of bombs and arms are nothing but the tip of the iceberg." Left Front chairman Biman Bose said, "Today manufacturing of bombs and arms have become an industry in West Bengal. Maybe people are being encouraged to enter this industry in the absence of an actual industry. This must end immediately." TMC MP Subhasis Chakraborty retorted that miscreants are dumping bombs as they are scared of the police. **ENS**

NEW DELHI
Allot unfit grain to ailing poultry industry: NECC

New Delhi: The National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC) has appealed to the Government of India to allot at least 2.0 million tonnes of damaged wheat, paddy and/or broken rice — unfit for human consumption — for use in poultry feed, as a partial substitute for maize so as to enable farmers to tide over the crisis caused due to acute shortage and steep increase in the price of maize and soya meal in the domestic market. The price of maize has increased from Rs 18,000/- per tonne to approximately Rs 25,000/- and it is expected to increase further to Rs 30,000/-. **ENS**

RAJASTHAN
ACB nabs IAS, 2 RAS officers for taking bribe

Jaipur: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Rajasthan Police Saturday arrested an IAS officer and two others including an officer of the Rajasthan Administrative Service (RAS) on bribery charges, officials said. ACB DGBL Soni said that IAS officer Nannumal Pahadia, who till recently was posted as the Alwar district collector, was arrested Saturday along with RAS officer Ashok Sankhla and a middleman named Nitin Sharma. The ACB trapped Sankhla and Sharma while they were accepting the bribe, said officials. **ENS**

PRAYAGRAJ

2-yr-old among 5 of family killed, 4 held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, APRIL 23

A TWO-YEAR-OLD girl and three women were among five members of a family found murdered with severe head injuries at their residence in Khebrajpur village in Prayagraj district in the early hours on Saturday. Police have detained four suspects and formed seven teams to investigate the case.

Police identified the victims as Rajkumar Yadav (55), his wife Kusum (50), their daughter Manisha (25), daughter-in-law Savita (30) and granddaughter Mitakshi (2). Five-year-old Sakshi, another granddaughter of Rajkumar, the head of the family and a cattle trader, was found alive, said a senior police officer. Kusum died on her way

to hospital while the other four were found dead with severe head injuries, the officer added.

A portion of the house was burnt but the bodies were found in a separate room, police said. The reason behind the fire is not clear yet, said police, adding that a total of six family members were in the house on Friday night when the incident took place.

"The incident came to light when neighbours spotted smoke coming out of the house and tried to find out about it. When they looked inside the house, they found the bodies lying on separate cots," said an officer.

Prayagraj SSP Ajay Kumar said on Saturday, "Post-mortem reports have come, and according to the reports, the deaths were caused due to severe head



Police investigate after five members of a family were found dead inside their home at Khebrajpur village, near Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, on Saturday. **PTI**

injuries inflicted by a hard and blunt object. There are no visible signs of sexual assault on external parts. The doctors have made

slides for internal parts, which will be sent to labs and the reports will come soon." "We have picked up four

people, who are part of a criminal group indulged in murder, assault and robbery. We are interrogating them. These gangs generally attack houses with the purpose of robbery," added the SSP.

UP ADG (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said a case has been registered under the IPC section for murder. "We have registered a case based on a complaint lodged by a family member," said the ADG.

A statement issued by the Prayagraj police said, "Around 5.30 am, the police were informed about the incident. Immediately, police teams with field units and dog squads reached the spot. They found that a woman was still breathing and one five-year-old girl was alive and fine. There were four dead bodies at the house."

JAHANGIRPURI

ED charges prime accused in violence with money laundering

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) has booked Mohammed Ansar — a key accused in the Jahangirpuri violence case who has been arrested by the Delhi Police — under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). "The Delhi Commissioner of Police had sent us relevant case papers asking us to probe Ansar for alleged money laundering. We have examined the papers and his financial activities and found that prima facie there is a case for investigating him under PMLA. We have thus registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR)," an ED official said on Saturday.

Sources said if there is evidence of money laundering, the ED will proceed with attachment of Ansar's properties and assets. "We will also take his cus-

tody in due course after Delhi Police has finished examining him," said another ED official.

According to sources, Ansar was allegedly involved in various illegal activities including gambling. He was earlier named in several cases related to assault, gambling and under the Arms Act.

"We will probe if money generated through these criminal activities was used to foment trouble in Jahangirpuri," said an ED official.

While at least 20 people have been arrested for the communal clashes in Delhi's Jahangirpuri last week, Usha Rangnani, DCP (Northwest), had earlier said that Ansar was one of the main accused and a key conspirator.

A resident of B-Block of Jahangirpuri, Ansar is originally from West Bengal. The BJP, AAP and TMC have been trading charges, each claiming that Ansar had links with the other.

SUNJWAN ENCOUNTER

‘Suicide bombers spoke Pashto’; 2 locals arrested for sheltering, transporting terrorists: police

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, APRIL 23

TWO KASHMIR residents were taken into custody in connection with the Friday's Sunjwan encounter in which two suicide bombers of Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) were killed when they were on a "big terror mission" aimed at sabotaging PM Narendra Modi's April 24 visit to Jammu, police said on Saturday.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) for Jammu Mukesh Singh said they were looking for two more conspirators involved in the planning and transportation of the terrorists from Sapwal near the International Border in Samba district to Jammu.

According to one of the arrested persons, the slain terrorists spoke in Pashto, the ADGP told reporters here in the evening. "During investigation, police on the basis of technical analysis succeeded in effecting the arrest of Shafiq Ahmed Sheikh of Mir Mohalla village in south Kashmir's Tril, who had facilitated the stay of terrorists in Jallalabad area of Jammu," Singh said.

On the disclosure of Shafiq, he said, one more person, Mohammad Iqbal Rather of Malwan village in south Kashmir's Kulgam, in whose residence at Jallalabad the terrorists had taken

shelter, was also detained.

The ADGP said on the basis of technical analysis and other evidence, police had zeroed in on Shafiq who was working at a walnut factory in Narwal, an area which was not far from Sunjwan's Jallalabad area where the encounter took place on Friday morning.

Singh said Shafiq's brother Asif had created an ID on Telegram (social media app) by the name of "Pagal Jamaat" through which the former contacted the Pakistan-based Jaish commander code-named "Veer" who asked him to "take home some suicide attackers brought by someone from Jammu", he said. Though the Jaish commander did not disclose name, the ADGP said that police have identified him as Bilal Ahmed Beig of Kokernag in Anantnag on the basis of technical analysis and other evidence.

Following directions, Bilal had set out from Pulwama on the morning of April 20 and reached Jammu the same evening and stayed at Transport Nagar there, the ADGP said. Around midnight, he left for Sapwal in Samba district where he picked up both the terrorists in a truck and moved towards Jammu's Jallalabad area.

At Jallalabad, Shafiq took the terrorists to his house where they stayed the whole day and discussed the plan with their han-

2 JeM terrorists killed in Kulgam

Srinagar: Two Pakistani terrorists of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit were killed in an encounter with security forces in Mirhama area of Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said, adding that the operation was still on. A police spokesperson said based on specific input, a cordon and search operation was launched. Terrorists started firing indiscriminately, leading to a gunbattle, he said. In the ensuing encounter, two JeM terrorists were killed and their bodies retrieved from the site, he said. **PTI**

dlers in Pakistan. "When Shafiq was made to hear Pashto, he immediately recognised the language of the terrorists which indicate that they were either from an area of Pakistan border near Afghanistan or Afghanistan itself," he said. The plan was to take them to the nearest security location and inflict maximum casualties on the security forces, to sabotage the PM's April 24 visit to Palli village in Samba district, the ADGP said.

Checking executive, legislative excesses courts' constitutional responsibility: CJI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

CHIEF JUSTICE of India N V Ramana said on Saturday that the judiciary is vested with immense constitutional responsibility of maintaining the rule of law and checking executive and legislative excesses. He was speaking at the foundation stone-laying ceremony for a nine-storey administrative block of the Madras High Court in Chennai.

CJI Ramana who completed

one year in office Saturday said the Supreme Court Collegium headed by him had made 180 recommendations for High Court judges in the last one year of which 126 appointments were made while 54 are still pending with the government. He said that "from day one, it has been my endeavour to fill judicial vacancies" and that "as on today, out of 1,104 sanctioned posts of High Court judges, there are 388 vacancies".

CJI Ramana recalled that during his tenure, he has been high-

lighting various issues affecting the country's legal system and added that "the biggest issue affecting all institutions nowadays, including the judiciary, is ensuring sustained faith in the eyes of the public".

"We have the duty of upholding and enforcing the constitutional values. It is no doubt a heavy burden. But it is one that we have gladly chosen on the day we took our constitutional oath. This is the reason why strengthening judicial institutions has been my top priority,"



CJI N V Ramana

he said.

The CJI pointed out that though "conflicts are inevitable for any society...constructive res-

olution of conflict is integral to maintain the social order".

"Constructive conflict resolution is not a mere technical job. Particularly in a country like India, judges cannot blindly apply the rules, procedures and statutes. After all, conflicts have a human face. We are constantly aware about our duty to render justice, not merely procedural, but also substantial," he added.

Pointing out that the world is moving fast, he cautioned that "real justice will" however "be a casualty if we strive for instant

2 Dalit men tortured, killed in Karnataka

KIRAN PARASHAR
BENGALURU, APRIL 23

TWO MEN were tortured and killed in Karnataka's Tumakuru district on Thursday night. Both the men belonged to the Dalit community, but police said it could not yet be determined whether their killing was linked to their caste. According to police, the duo were "involved in theft cases".

The deceased were identified as Girish Mudalagiappa (30) and Girish (32), both residents of Tumakuru's Peddanahalli village, about 120 km away from Bengaluru. Their bodies were found on Friday.

According to police, one of the accused convinced both the victims on Thursday night to accompany him to a secluded place in the village, where other alleged assailants were waiting. They

were then beaten and tortured, with the accused setting fire to dry leaves near the victims' feet, police said. Police added that one of the victims died on the spot, and the other tried to escape but was bludgeoned to death. Both their bodies were then allegedly thrown into a pond.

Tumakuru district SP Rahul Kumar Shahapurwad told *The Indian Express* that 12 people were arrested in connection with the case. "The victims were involved in theft cases, including motors from a farm of an accused," he said.

"We cannot come to any conclusion about whether they were killed because they were Dalits. The probe is still underway, and we will be able to tell only after interrogations and investigations," he added.

Dalit organisations in Tumakuru have demanded strict action against those responsible for the attack on the two men.

ED CHARGESHEET

Forced to pay Priyanka Rs 2 crore for M F Husain work: Rana Kapoor

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, APRIL 23

YES BANK co-founder Rana Kapoor has told the Enforcement Directorate that he was "forced" to buy an M F Husain painting from Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and the sale proceeds were utilised for medical treatment of Sonia Gandhi in New York, as per chargesheet filed by the federal anti-money laundering agency in a special court here.

Kapoor also told the ED that he was told by the then petroleum minister Murlidhar Deora that the refusal to buy the painting will not only prevent him from building a relationship with the Gandhi family but also prevent him from getting the 'Padma Bhushan'.

The statements of Rana Kapoor are part of the second supplementary chargesheet (overall third) filed in the special court recently against the Yes Bank co-founder, his family, Dewan Housing Finance Limited (DHFL) promoters Kapil and

Dheeraj Wadhawan, and others in a money laundering case.

Stating that he had paid a cheque for Rs 2 crore, Kapoor said "Milind Deora (son of the late Murlidhar Deora and former Congress MP) later conveyed to him confidentially that the sale proceeds were utilised by the Gandhi family for the medical treatment of Sonia in New York".

Kapoor also told ED that late Ahmed Patel had told him that by supporting the Gandhi family at an opportune time, I (Kapoor) had performed a good deed and it would be duly considered for the 'Padma Bhushan'.

The banker is currently in judicial custody following his arrest in the case in March 2020. "First of all I wish to state that it was a forced sale for which I was never ready," the chargesheet said about the painting Kapoor allegedly bought from Priyanka.

Milind Deora had made several visits to his (Rana Kapoor's) house and office to persuade him for purchasing an MF Husain painting from Priyanka,

it said. "He had even made me several calls and messages also in this regard from multiple mobile numbers. In fact, I was very much reluctant to go for this deal and I had tried also to avoid this deal several times by ignoring his calls/messages and personal meetings," Kapoor told the ED, as per the chargesheet.

"Despite my best efforts to avoid this deal they were exceptionally persistent to finalise the deal rapidly," Kapoor claimed, adding, "...I could not afford to invite any form of enmity with the two powerful families involved and thus I had to hesitatingly proceed given the looming and overhanging threat involved."

Kapoor told the ED that formalities for closing the deal were held at Priyanka's office, the chargesheet says.

"Milind Deora had actively coordinated this final closing meeting. I wish to state that for this deal, I had made a payment of Rs 2 crore through a cheque of my personal account in HSBC Bank," he added.

HC admits Goa govt appeal against Tejpal acquittal

MAYURA JANWALKAR
PANAJI, APRIL 23

THE HIGH Court of Bombay at Goa on Saturday granted the Goa government leave to appeal against the acquittal of Tarun Tejpal, former editor of Tehelka, in a 2013 rape case.

Rejecting the preliminary objections raised by Tejpal's counsel, Amit Desai, about the maintainability of the state government's application seeking leave to appeal against his acquittal, Justices M S Sonak and R N Laddha said, "...We believe that deeper scrutiny and reappreciation may be necessary of the evidence of the Respondent's (Tejpal's) SMS, Whatsapp, and email messages sent to the victim. This examination is essential for several reasons that need not be elaborated."

The high court also said some of the inferences drawn by the trial court that acquitted Tejpal needed to be revisited.

tors in October 2021, he alleged.

After Kharge's press meet, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said in Bengaluru, "The investigation would consider any material that is related to the case. It contains a conversation between two persons. Who are they? What is their credibility? All these will be known when probed," he said.

officials of the government and politicians. Without their involvement, such a huge fraud cannot be committed," Kharge said, adding that those arrested in the scam were small fish but the kingpin was yet to be caught. At least 300 aspirants were involved in rigging the exam held to recruit 545 police sub-inspec-



New Delhi



Football’s own country

What happens when Santosh Trophy comes to a football-crazed town in a football-crazed state? Life hits a pause, little ‘Ronaldo’ and ‘Messi’ accompany their grandfather to the stadium, and the beautiful game goes on long after the match ends. SANDIP G watches from the bleachers



EIGHTY MINUTES into a scruffy encounter between Kerala and West Bengal at Manjeri’s Payyanad stadium, amidst a billowing mass of humanity, the fans have not stopped chanting and the bands have not stopped playing. Seized by a ceaseless flow of energy, the chants become louder and the beats become thunderous as hosts Kerala search frantically for a deadlock-breaking goal in the Santosh Trophy game on a soggy out-field, where the players slipped and stumbled.

The self-designated conductor of the band is Bhaskar *ettan* (elder brother), a spry man in his late fifties in a Castro hat, the ends of his long hair hugging the shoulders. He has elastic wrists that he contorts to his will. Bhaskar *ettan* used to play the drums for a circus group. “When the elephants played cricket and leopards leapt around,” he says, bursting into peals of laughter. He wanted to be a footballer, but now satisfies himself playing drums on the football field around Malappuram, the most football-mad district of the football-mad state.

There are other musicians in the 25,000-strong crowd that has converged to the suburb in Manjeri from distant corners of Kerala’s Malappuram district (from Ponnani and Vazhikkadavu) and from beyond the borders of the district (Thirissur and Kozhikode), with banners and crackers, whistles and drums, passion and fervour. The stadium is not connected by bus, but just for this occasion, a couple of state transport buses have been arranged to ferry people from the neighbouring town of Perinthalmanna.

The stretch has no human settlement. There are no buildings or tea stalls, not even a streetlight, only trees and canopies as far as the eyes go. But on match days, it turns into a shrine for football pilgrims of all age-groups.

A bunch of teenagers, some in brand-new football jerseys, are here with the drums and clarinets they stole from the school band. A local party member had snuck out of an important meeting, lying that he had tested positive for the coronavirus — the face mask is his weapon of disguise. Majeed, a man in his late 20s, who works in Kuwait, is on leave for three weeks “to watch the tournament peacefully” with his friends — he lied to his boss that his mother was sick.

When football fever grips, everything else pales. “How can I focus on my work when my hometown is hosting a football match? If you lose a job, you will find another; but if you miss a game, you can never recreate that experience,” Majeed reasons.

All these sacrifices are for the Santosh Trophy, a tournament that lost its grandeur and glamour long ago — a national tournament that faces an existential pang. Forget the country’s best footballers, even the second best hardly appear for Santosh Trophy, even if they are not tied by club duty. But it never fails to fascinate the audience in Kerala. To them, it sits alongside the European league competitions, the Champions League, the World Cup and Euros, and now the Indian Super League (ISL) in fervour. Most of the 25,000 seats for the Kerala versus Bengal game were sold out days in advance, most in the audience have purchased season tickets. Even those matches that don’t feature the home side are reasonably well-attended.

In a sense, the fans here are football citi-

zens of the world. Their worlds jostle between Brazil and Argentina, Real Madrid and Barcelona, Kerala Blasters and Gokulam FC, Manchester United and Liverpool. The heroes that adorn their walls range from Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi to Sunil Chhetri and Abdul Sahal Samad, the brightest contemporary footballing talent from Kerala. More than those of politicians and actors, it’s the faces of Ronaldo and Messi that peer at you from the shops, T-shirts, and even sling bags. Textile shops have an enormous collection of jerseys, not just of the elite players of the elite clubs, but even those of players from little-known European clubs such as Watford and Osasuna.

No Santosh Trophy match strikes a bigger emotional chord than those between Kerala and West Bengal, two erstwhile powerhouses, two cultures that sentimentally cling onto the glory days of football when they competed in churning out the best players for the country. Bengal has the bragging rights — they have won the trophy a record 32 times; Kerala has triumphed just six times.

Back on the field, the moment the crowd has been waiting for finally arrives. Local boy P N Noufal slips the ball past the onrushing goalkeeper to the bottom-right corner, sending the crowd into a frenzy that would hang in the air all night. They let a roar so loud that it would have been heard as far as the Unity Hills, a tourist haunt that’s some 10 km from Payyanad.

Bhaskar *ettan* begins to pound his drums with the frenzy of a temple oracle, but his beats get drowned in the percussion of 25,000 pairs of clapping hands. Plumes of yellow and grey flares from smokegrenades wrap the stands. The banners wave like mainsails in a storm. Policemen rush to the iron barricades to prevent a few potential pitch invaders. And then, the crowd sings that tweaked version of a staple political slogan on a loop: “Vanganatile vankammare, thotta charithram njangakilla!” Literally translated: “Listen, the fools of Bengal, we don’t have a history of losing.”

The scoreline: 2-0.

For the next hour, from the last goal to the moment the team bus leaves, the celebrations go on — dancing, chanting, singing, picking souvenirs, clicking selfies in the backdrop of the gallery that’s painted green and yellow, and thronging the team bus as it leaves. The stadium, in the wilderness of columns of teak, rubber and mahogany, is now an island of joy — an independent, football-obsessed planet.

“It’s the night to celebrate,” shouts Bhaskar *ettan*, giving his drums a loud thud. It’s not different from what Brazil’s greatest playwright Nelson Rodrigues wrote about the country’s fixation with football. “Abroad, when you want to learn about people, you examine their fiction. In Brazil, football plays the role of fiction.”

Rodrigues’s Brazil might as well have been Manjeri or Malappuram.

■ ■ ■

Minutes before the match began, as dusk descends over the Payyanad Stadium, Mujeeb, in his 20s, and his friends begin their search for a quiet corner where they can offer the evening prayers. They find a verandah in the adjoining building, where they spread the mat. The sta-



(C’wise from left) Salam Haji with his grandchildren “Ronaldo *kuttan*” and “Messi *mon*”; Local boy P N Noufal celebrates after scoring a goal; Over 25,000 people came to the suburb in Manjeri for the match. Sandip G/Kerala Football Association

dium falls silent, as the muezzin calls for the Maghrib from the Pandulur Masjid.

Prayers offered, Mujeeb, a kerchief wrapped over his head, and his friends, rush back to their seats. The Kerala team has just begun to practise and he can’t hide his excitement. “Look at the pony-tailed left-back Saheef, he is quite fast... Captain Jijo Joseph has a killer back-heel...”

In his enthusiasm, he has forgotten to break the fast. A friend reminds him and he opens a shiny polythene bag filled with local delicacies — onion *samosas* (not *samosa*), stuffed *pathiri*, dates and almonds. He distributes some to those sitting around him. So do many others in the stadium as the galleries, for a few minutes, host a full-scale iftar party.

Both football and faith are integral to the locals. There are as many football grounds as mosques and temples in Malappuram — from

grass-turfs to asphalt ones, from concrete to cobblestone, from sand to mud grounds.

Mujeeb adds: “We play football even inside our house. The moment we see a piece of land, the first thought is, can we play here?”

Mujeeb is from Mampad, the seven-a-side or Sevens football hub of Kerala, some 30 km from Manjeri. Sevens are Kerala’s version of Brazil’s *pelada*, though without much rule-tweaks. Sevens was once much-maligned by the puritans of the conventional 11-a-side brand. But now, with Sevens becoming a supply chain to the state side, after the emergence of Anas Edathodika, Ashique Kuruniyan, Mohammad Rafi and C K Vineeth, it has shed its stigma.

For Mujeeb, it does not matter whether they are playing five-, seven- or eleven-a-side. “I pray five times a day and I used to play football almost as many times a day,” he says. The

routine has been drilled into his mind since he was a child. “You play in the morning, then go to school, come back, then play again till the evening prayers, and then play for half an hour more,” he says, ruling that the government job he does in his village in Edappal has eaten into his football-playing hours.

Many of the Sevens players play out of passion. Only those in the top teams earn a sustainable income. Their teams comprise mostly Sudanis — the catch-all term for all Africans that’s without any pejorative undertones — who are the most sought-after stock in the Sevens league.

“Football is a slice of our lives,” says Salam Haji, fondly called Hajikka (elder brother Haji). He is accompanied by two of his grandchildren to the stadium. He introduces the elder one as “Ronaldo *kuttan*” and the other as “Messi *mon*” (*kuttan* and *mon* are terms of endearment re-

served for little boys). Hajikka wanted to name one of his four sons Zico, after the Brazilian great, but his wife would have none of that.

A football tragic who boarded a train to Madgaon in Goa for the ISL final between Kerala Blasters and FC Hyderabad and lingered on though he did not manage a ticket for the game, Hajikka says he teaches his grandchildren verses from the holy Quran as well as the rules of the game. “Both sports and religion play an important role in our lives. Here, parents don’t stop children from going to two places — the mosque and the grounds,” he says.

He then strikes a moralistic position: “It’s better to play football than to idle around eating, smoking or watching movies. It teaches you discipline and makes you strong,” he says, proudly flaunting his taut biceps.

A football match is also where new friends are made and old acquaintances dusted up. Hajikka has stumbled onto a distant cousin of his, whom he last met during an I-League match of Gokulam FC at the same ground last year.

■ ■ ■

The day after the match, Manjeri wakes up late. The bristling business town — long past its glory days as the headquarters and military centre of the Kingdom of Mysore under Tipu Sultan or its significance as centre of politics during India’s struggle for Independence — is still hung over from the previous night’s football-induced intoxication. Some of the restaurants have skipped the breakfast hours; some of the 24-hour medical shops in the vicinity of the Manjeri Medical College stayed shut till noon. Just a handful of road-side tea vendors are open, and they complain of dull business. “The day after any match, our business is always dull. There is hardly anyone on the streets,” says a tea vendor, between wide yawns.

Beside the stall, under a bright-blue *shamiana*, a group of teenage football fans, who were part of the 25,000-strong crowd at the Payyanad Stadium, sit reminiscing the night before — the euphoria as the ball pierced into the net and the helpless shriek of the Bengal goalkeeper who wore a pink jersey “like (Italian footballer) Gigi Buffon”.

One of them had his pair of new sneakers stamped by a fellow spectator. Another is still wearing his shirt that got torn when he leapt from his seat to celebrate. Another shows a recent selfie with P N Noufal. “Noufal *ikka* is my friend. He is my uncle’s neighbour,” he says, proudly stroking his chin.

They recall how the Kerala coach knelt onto the turf and kissed it after the team’s win, their futile attempt to leap over the barricades that were fastened to each other with ropes that resembled pythons, the pride they felt when the Kerala players waved and applauded them for their ceaseless support. They also speak about the countless goal-scoring chances the home side’s strikers fluffed, the referee who they felt was a “*moyanthan* (stupid)”.

The group is so ecstatic that they decide to bunk their tuition class and head to an abandoned piece of land behind the Manjeri Medical College for a game of football. The seven of them divide themselves into two groups — three on one side and four on the other. How will that work? “Come here after 10 minutes. There will be more than 11 players in a team,” says one of them.

Sure enough, barely five minutes later, the ground is filled with teenagers running and spinning, passing and dribbling. Some play in sneakers or trainers, others barefoot; some in shorts, others in jeans and *lungi*.

Not far away, on a street barely wide enough for a car to pass, under dangling overhead wires, a bunch of adolescents are running behind a ball. They bump into kerbs and walls and into each other. Somewhere in the distance, you can hear the pounding of Bhaskar *ettan*’s drums.

Across
THE AISLE



PCHIDAMBARAM

Website:pchidambaram.in
Twitter:@Pchidambaram,IN

There were 6,64,369 villages in India in 2019. Assuming that 20% of these were too remote and therefore not affected by the pandemic, that leaves over 5,00,000 villages. Even if, two persons in every village had died due to Covid (a gross underestimate), that will out deaths at 10,00,000. Add the number who had died in towns, cities, we will arrive at a total of 15,00,000

inside
TRACK

COOMIKAPOOR



USEFUL FALL GUY

WHEN PRIYANKA Gandhi Vadra first suggested Prashant Kishor's name as the right man to lead the Congress poll campaigns, there was general resistance. Even close lieutenants of Rahul Gandhi were opposed as it would clip their wings. But with Sonia Gandhi personally meeting Kishor and listening to his presentation of how to handle the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the Gandhi family seems to have come around. For the Gandhis, Kishor would serve as a convenient fall guy should the party fail yet again at the hustings. The blame will shift from Rahul to Kishor. Of course, any victory will still be ascribed to the Gandhis' magnetism. A sticky point of difference between Kishor and the Congress remains as to how the partnership should be worked out. Kishor wants to focus only on the 2024 general election, liaising also with other Opposition parties, many of which have been his clients. The Congress feels he should first test his mettle by handling the difficult Gujarat Assembly elections due later this year. In fact, the Gujarat Congress leadership is still sitting idle, expecting Kishor to chalk out a plan.

DOUBTFUL LOYALTY

But nothing is ever certain in the Congress. And party persons are already questioning just whose side Kishor is on. For instance, this week he congratulated Ripun Bora who quit the Congress to join the TMC in Assam, a move seen as exposing his divided loyalties. The buzz in the party is that when a senior Congress leader in a conversation with Kishor sought to compare his proposed role to that of the late Ahmed Patel, Kishor protested that Patel was a party minion while he saw himself as a stake holder. Kishor's game plan for the Congress suggests he personally work out the seat-sharing numbers in states like Telangana, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand in 2024, a move acceptable neither to the regional parties nor to the Congress.

FITTING THE BILL

Vinay Mohan Kwatra was a surprise choice as Foreign Secretary. The low-profile Kwatra was posted in Nepal, a relative backwater in the pecking order of ambas-

ADNORMAL life, we keep a count of time; we count money; we count games, runs and goals; we count successes and failures; we count votes and seats, and so on. There is no shame in counting accurately — except, it seems, in counting the dead. The coronavirus pandemic caused death every where. How many died because they were infected could be known accurately only if every sick person had been traced, tested and treated when alive or the body had been subjected to a post-mortem. That was possible in countries with a relatively small population or with advanced healthcare facilities. India in 2020 did not have either advantage.

HOW MANY DEATHS?

Owing to the virus, people died all over India. Most certainly, not all of them were diagnosed or treated; and not all of them died in hospitals. We found that bodies were thrown into rivers or dumped on river banks. The bottom line was that there was *no accurate count of the dead*. Everybody accepted that fact — except the government which maintains that the number of persons who had died owing to the virus (as on the morning of April 22, 2022) was 5,22,065. Study after study has debunked that number. The first expose was done in Gujarat. By collating the number of death certificates issued by government au-

thorities, a newspaper proved that more people had died in the pandemic year(s) than in the pre-pandemic years and the difference could be attributed only to the virus. The 'difference' was larger than the official number of pandemic-related deaths. When the exercise was done in municipalities in other states — by comparing the number of death certificates or number of cremations — it was proved again and again that more people had died due to the pandemic than the government was willing to admit.

SCIENCE AND COMMONSENSE

At this point, science stepped in. In a study published in January 2022 in *Science*, it was estimated that the number of pandemic-related deaths in India was over 30,00,000. A second study published in April in *Lancet* estimated the number as 40,00,000. A third, year-long study sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), yet unpublished, has also put the number at 40,00,000. (Globally, the number was estimated to be 90,00,000.) If the number of pandemic-related deaths was between 30,00,000 and 40,00,000, the government of India can be accused of failure on a number of grounds. Despite six years at the Centre, and for many more years in the states, the BJP governments failed to invest ad-

equately in healthcare. Despite early warnings, the government was totally unprepared to face the health disaster. Its decisions on banning travel, lockdown, creating temporary healthcare facilities, placing orders for the vaccines, etc. were hopelessly delayed. Be that as it may, what is alarming is the unwillingness of the government to admit that the true number of pandemic-related deaths is 6-8 times more than the official number. Instead, the government is picking holes in the studies. The Ministry of Health has objected to the 'methodology' adopted by the WHO study that involved experts from around the world! Leave the methodology aside, let's go by common sense. There were 6,64,369 villages in India in 2019. Assuming that 20 per cent of these villages were too remote and therefore not affected by the pandemic (a wrong assumption), that leaves over 5,00,000 villages. Even if, on average, two persons in every village had died due to the virus (a gross underestimate), that will make the number 10,00,000. Add the number who had died in towns and cities (urban population is 35 per cent), we will arrive at a total of 15,00,000. POVERTY AND TAXES Another count has also kicked up a controversy, though the government is pleased with the outcome. A working

paper of the World Bank said that extreme poverty in India declined by 12.3 per cent from 22.5 per cent (2011) to 10.2 per cent (2019), with rural areas showing a better result (decline of 14.7 per cent). I agree that poverty has declined, but there are many caveats. Firstly, the study stops in 2019 and does not take into account the devastation caused by the pandemic. Secondly, all the indicators since March 2020 have pointed downward and Azim Premji University has estimated that 23 crore people were, since 2020, pushed into poverty. Hence, the presumed gains made until 2019 have been wiped out. Thirdly, the negatives have not yet been overcome: the bulk of the lost jobs have not come back, the increase in household debt has not been reversed and new job opportunities are still scarce. Yet another count is controversial. In Washington, the Finance Minister claimed that "Our revenue to rescue the economy was not going to come from taxing people. No 'COVID tax' was levied on anybody". That's a tall claim, considering that the Central government had collected during 2020-21 and 2021-22 through fuel taxes alone Rs 8,16,126 crore and through other contributions to the exchequer from oil companies (thanks to super profits) Rs 72,531 crore. There is no shame in admitting that Covid deaths are understated, the reduction in poverty is overstated and crippling taxation is not stated at all.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Twitter:@tavleen_singh



Bulldozing to instill terror

LAST WEEK, I said that the real victims of the bulldozers in Khargone were the rule of law and the Indian Constitution. Sadly, this has happened again. This time in a Delhi slum. It has also become clear that there is nothing random about where the bulldozers go. There is a pattern. So, the homes and businesses smashed to smithereens in Delhi were in a Muslim area from which stones were thrown at a Hindu religious procession. The BJP chose its most aggressive spokesmen to defend this policy on primetime. "Who are these secularist lawyers who manage to get to the Supreme Court so quickly?" screeched one particularly belligerent spokesman before asking "why is it always Azhar and Ahmed that violate the law and not Arjun or Ajay". To name this spokesman would be to dignify the hate and venom he spewed. Suffice it to say that he is virtually the TV face of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Meanwhile, in the Supreme Court, the Solicitor General of India, Tushar Mehta, had this to say. "It is an ongoing demolition drive... No one can point a finger that a particular encroachment was removed just because the encroacher belonged to a particular community or participated in the communal riots." To say that it was just a coincidence that bulldozers turned up at the exact spot where the Hindu procession was attacked is disingenuous. But personally, I have been disappointed more with what Opposition political leaders have said. Those who hotfooted it down to this neglected, relatively obscure slum concentrated on making the point that it was Muslim homes and businesses targeted. Not true. Among the saddest images from this bulldozer attack was of a small Hindu boy picking through the debris of his father's juice shop to retrieve what little he could. The other was of a Bihari Hindu *paamwala* weeping over the wreckage of the frail handcart from which he sold his ware.

The bulldozers did not distinguish between Hindus and Muslims, nor did they distinguish between legal and illegal structures. There are clear rules that must be followed before demolition squads arrive, and these were not followed in Delhi, just as they were not followed in Khargone the week before. The message that the bulldozers hammer home is that the Indian State is prepared to disrespect the rule of law to instill fear and obedience. If the rules of the jungle are needed to silence those who oppose the might of the State, then so be it.

What sickened me most about the events of last week was the support that the demolition squads got from major TV anchors. One famous anchor tweeted jokingly about how there could soon be a shortage of bulldozers in the country. And another famous lady anchor declared in a panel discussion before a live audience that people should be careful not to defy the might of the State. These ladies showed a lack of empathy and servility that prove that the Indian media is now truly worthy of being called 'godi media'.

If there was one pillar of democracy that stood tall, it was the Supreme Court. It has stopped the bulldozers for 15 days to examine what really happened and whether rules were broken. And it has said clearly that it will take very seriously any instances of the bulldozers continuing with their bulldozing after it issued orders to stop. Municipal officials in charge of the demolition squads did continue their activities in defiance of the Supreme Court until Brinda Karat, whom I am proud to have known from school, physically stood in front of a bulldozer with the order in her hand. As the heroine of the day when she was later interviewed on television, she said that what was truly distressing was that the victims of the bulldozers were among our poorest citizens.

This was something that disturbed me too, because it brought back horrific memories of Sanjay Gandhi's 'beautification drive' during the Emergency. The poorest of Delhi's citizens had their sad little homes bulldozed that time as well and they were 'resetled' across the Yamuna. They were thrown on to a wasteland on which tiny plots were marked out in chalk to indicate where they should build their new homes. The result was that slums like Jahangirpuri came into existence. Somehow, the resettled people managed to survive and even thrive despite not being given any of the utilities that municipalities provide, like water, electricity, and garbage collection.

Instead of slums on this side of the river, India's Capital now has slums on the other side of the river where visiting prime ministers and presidents do not go. They stop as Boris Johnson did in Rajghat. Speaking of Boris, did nobody warn him that posing for pictures on a bulldozer was very bad timing? What does it matter, though, since the people whose homes and businesses have been bulldozed have no time to worry about visiting dignitaries. What does matter to them is what the Supreme Court will decide. We must hope that it declares in the clearest possible terms that when the officers of the State start to violate the rule of law, they lose the right to uphold it. The Supreme Court cannot show weakness, or in India we could be in serious danger of having blindfolded Lady Justice replaced with a new symbol. The bulldozer.

history
HEADLINE

KINGSHUK CHATTERJEE



THREE WEEKS ago, when Imran Khan was still in office as the Prime Minister of Pakistan but was looking at the edifice of power beginning to crumble, he lashed out at the opposition in a rally in Islamabad. Imran claimed that the political crisis was the handiwork of the US because he had dared to go against them in trying to pursue an independent foreign policy by reaching out to Russia. Denouncing his political adversaries of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the Pakistan Peoples' Party, he accused them of "trying to devastate the country" through "foreign conspiracy" and branded them as Mir Jafars and Mir Sadiqs — two figures from 18th century India who have come to represent the ultimate sin of *ghaddari* (treason) in the subcontinent.

Mir Sadiq was the man Tipu Sultan left in charge of Sreerangapattanam fortress when he went for his last battle. Unknown to him, the British had already crossed Mir Sadiq's palm with silver — so when Tipu, battle-scarred and exhausted, needed to beat a tactical retreat, he found the doors of the fortress barred. Unable to retreat, Tipu kept on fighting till he breathed his last in a rare example of valour against the British on the battlefield. In trying to convey the impression that he was fighting as valiantly as Tipu, Imran was somewhat inaccurate in comparing his adversaries to Mir Sadiq, because unlike Tipu, he was not really let down by someone he had placed his trust in.

The other allusion, to Mir Jafar, has more resonance in subcontinental memory and is more frequently resorted to — albeit in most cases somewhat incorrectly.

Syed Mir Muhammad Jafar Ali Khan Bahadur was a Mughal warrior aristocrat in the Subah of Bengal, who, during the days of Nawab Alivardi Khan, rose as high as the Subehdar of Orissa before temporarily falling from grace for his failure to stem the Maratha raids. He was later rehabilitated, and when Alivardi was succeeded by his grandson Siraj al-Daulah, Mir Jafar was given a high military rank befitting his status, being a nephew of one of the wives of Murshid Quli Khan, the architect of the de facto independent Subah of Bengal.

In the nationalist lore, Siraj al-Daulah was the brave Nawab who dared to confront the increasingly ambitious and unscrupulous East India Company in mid-18th century. He even threw the Company out of its base in the burgeoning township of Calcutta because they dared not defer to his authority over the Subah of Bengal. The Company fought back, wrested Calcutta,

Of traitors & Mir Jafars — and some uneasy truths



Robert Clive, who led the Company troops, meeting Mir Jafar after Plassey. Oil on canvas by Francis Hayman. Wikipedia Commons

and conspired to oust Siraj after defeating him at the Battle of Plassey in 1757. From all accounts, Siraj was doing well in the battle before Mir Jafar advised him a retreat instead of pressing home the advantage, and that he advised him so because he was a part of a conspiracy to topple Siraj, and had been promised the *gaddi* of Bengal. Ever since, Mir Jafar has been considered the personification of betrayal, without which — it is argued — British conquest of the Indian subcontinent may never have really begun. By invoking this particular trope of *ghaddari*, Imran was invoking not only the nationalist ire against the infamous "foreign hand" that has dogged the post-colonial political imagination of the subcontinent, he was also invoking the trope of a Muslim ruler being let down by *ghaddars* (who happened to be Muslims) in his struggle against non-Muslim foreign powers. Of course, the nationalist lore never really bothered to explain why the British would want to commit their resources in a military adventure even as they had just embarked on the Seven Years War (1756-63). A large segment of people who have since studied the history of British India tend to turn the nationalist lore on its head. In their reckoning, Siraj was a tempestuous personality well set to become a tyrant, whom neither the bulk of Muslim aristocracy of Subah Bengal, nor the overwhelm-

ingly Hindu banking fraternity (led by house of Jagat Seth), could accept. They were unable to oust Siraj by means of any palace coups, hence a conspiracy to topple Siraj was hatched in the Murshidabad court. Upon the Company's successful recapture of Calcutta from Siraj, the conspirators of Murshidabad decided to use the Company troops as guns-for-hire. The understanding was Mir Jafar was to replace Siraj, and the officials of the Company were to be rewarded with an unfettered access to the fabled Murshidabad treasury. So Siraj may not really have been victim of a grand "sell-out" to a foreign adversary, but a petulant tyrannical ruler who was overthrown by the political class of his own polity. That Mir Jafar was himself ousted in 1760 when he tried to stand up to the British had not been originally factored into the conspiracy — an inconvenient detail that the nationalist lore conveniently overlooks. Mir Jafar, in other words, has historically been the victim of bad press. What he had actually tried to do was pretty routine in politics (yes, even in the 21st century), and, historically speaking, the charge of *ghaddari* does not really stick. Nearly the same is true of those whom Imran charges with being like Mir Jafar and Mir Sadiq.

Kingshuk Chatterjee is a Professor in the Department of History, University of Calcutta

She
SAID

SHALINI LANGER

shalini.langer@expressindia.com



HATE NEEDS loud slogans, blaring songs and increasingly a bulldozer. Love needs no language. It is perhaps due to this that it is easy to overlook love. Swamped by puny men with their bulging neck veins, desperately seeking valour and validation in roughing up harmless adversaries, it's easy for us to forget that most people, every day, choose an act of love over one of hate, an act of tolerance over malice, an act of accommodation over exclusion. I come away full of this hope and music from a recent wedding involving two people from different corners of the world, coming together in a third, smaller part, that seems by every definition far re-

Giving love a chance

moved from its cosmopolitan counterparts. But here, where the increasingly vicious battlelines of J&K are drawn and redrawn every day, different cultures rushed towards each other, mixing, swirling, rising and bursting forth in a profusion of senses — of smells, tastes and sights — that for those two days made every kind of integration possible. Hearts were full there, and hearts were open and big. For a bride who could switch from *sindoor* to dancing shoes, touching feet to swigging wine. For a groom who could leave curly long hair uncut, sport tattoos and piercings, and declare his love in song. For friends and family who spoke at least four languages between them — rendered in four times four accents — but moved in one beat to Bollywood's evergreen band and *bagja*. And yet, even here in the background,

a TV set beamed images of mobs clashing in Jahangirpuri in the national Capital — next to where people tucked into *paranthesis* to *pancakes*, *idlis* to sausages, in that cornucopia of a hotel buffet. The assembled guests, who had skirted the issue just hours earlier of two religions seamlessly exchanging vows in front of the "holy" fire, turned their eyes away — or vented anger at "those" people who were behind all the violence. In the hypocrisy of that scene, the food bathed in the warmth of an evening well spent, untouched by any veg, non-veg wars, moved a hijab-wearing restaurant staff. She seemed unfazed with multiple demands of the excited guests, not looking at the TV, but not looking away either from the wariness with which we caught each other's eye. What if she asked then which kind of inter-faith love had social

sanction, and which could not be condoned, I wondered. But I also could not ignore in the other faces around, across four and more generations, the distance travelled so far already, if not with a leap then with small steps. From the time that the women of the house could not show their faces to "other men". The veil then shrunk to a head covering, to next a stole flung casually over the chest, to one that could go on and off as per convenience, to sharing the dance floor with one's in-laws. The lines shifted because love is, above all, generous. The lines shifted so as to expand the boundaries especially of women's lives. One afternoon at the wedding, we had around us potential aspirants in everything from the Army to fashion, business to robotics, literature to software, every

step taken by them setting them forth from their homes, north to south, east to west. There were no glass ceilings here, only ones that could mirror their hopes. Many of the paths being forged that afternoon would take these girls to where it all began, with love. For, is not every grisly re-enactment of "love jihad" an affirmation that love always finds a way, cities to villages, colleges to fields, mobiles to postcards. No matter what manly name the latest Sena gives itself as it fights all of two people on the other side. And when it's the turn of these girls to stand on that side — add the numbers, house to house, city to city, village to village, college to college — the Senas might find themselves, well, bulldozed.

National Editor Shalini Langer curates the 'She Said' column

14 ECONOMY

SECTOR WATCH BANKING

Capex push, rising inflation fuel credit offtake growth to over two-year high

GEORGE MATHEW & SANDEEP SINGH
MUMBAI, APRIL 23

AFTER ALMOST two-and-a-half years, credit growth in the banking sector hit double digits with offtake by borrowers rising by 11.2 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) as on April 8, 2022, riding on the back of a big capital expenditure (capex) plan by the government and corporates, and demand for working capital requirement.

Among other factors, a senior banking official said, "Rising inflation has led to enhanced working capital requirements across various sectors leading to a jump in credit growth." With the Covid-19 pandemic hitting the economy, credit growth had dipped to 5.3 per cent in the same period of last year, according to latest Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data.

In absolute numbers, credit offtake more than doubled by Rs 12.03 lakh crore in the 12-month period ended April 8 as against Rs 5.50 lakh crore a year ago. Total credit outstanding was Rs 119.88 lakh crore as on April 8, the RBI data shows.

Growth in bank credit was 14.5 per cent y-o-y during the fortnight ended March 15, 2019. Credit growth had since then declined and fallen below the 10-per cent level in October 2019.

The fortnight ended April 8 witnessed credit offtake of Rs 96,708 crore. Normally, the last fortnight of the financial year shows substantial rise in growth as banks release the credit in the last few weeks of the fiscal, said a senior banker.

Further, the central bank's decision to keep the key policy rate — repo rate — at 4 per cent is expected to boost the lending activity. "Investment activity may gain traction with improving business confidence, pick up in bank credit, continuing support from government capex and congenial financial conditions," RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said while unveiling the monetary policy last week.

State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest commercial bank, last week raised the marginal cost of funds-based lending rates (MCLR) for the first time in three years, signalling that the soft rate regime that has prevailed since 2019 may be over.

Banks expect the repo rate to go up from June onwards as the Reserve Bank seeks to suck out liquidity from the system to rein in inflation.

Indicating upward pressure on interest rates, the yield on 10-year benchmark government bonds has reached 7.15 per cent, rising 24 bps in less than two weeks. On the other hand, the cost of funds is set to increase, prompting

RBI DATA



File

■ In absolute numbers, credit offtake more than doubled by ₹12.03 lakh crore in the 12-month period ended April 8 as against ₹5.50 lakh crore a year ago, RBI data showed

banks to hike lending rates.

On April 8, the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee restored the policy rate corridor under the liquidity adjustment facility to the pre-pandemic width of 50 basis points (bps) by introducing the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) at 3.75 as the floor of this corridor. SDF is an additional tool employed by the RBI to absorb excess liquidity. In essence, overnight rates were hiked to 3.75 per cent.

In response to the 250-bps reduction in the policy repo rate since February 2019 — when the current easing phase started — the WARRs on fresh and outstanding rupee loans had declined by 213 bps and 143 bps respectively. This cycle is now being reversed.

Industry-wise deployment of gross bank credit data for the month of February shows that while the overall credit demand from the industry rose by 6.5 per cent, the credit demand from the infrastructure segment rose by 11.5 per cent during the month.

Food processing and petroleum witnessed double digit growth. Drugs & pharmaceuticals and textiles saw credit growth of 9.9 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.

Personal loans showed a growth of 12.3 per cent to Rs 33.06 lakh crore as of February 2022. On the other hand, outstanding deposits increased by 10.06 per cent to Rs 167.42 lakh crore as on April 8. Deposits increased by Rs 15.30 lakh crore in the last 12 months.

According to RBI data, the credit disbursement in the two fortnights ended November 5, 2021 (covering Diwali, Dussehra and Navratri) amounted to Rs 1,50,278 crore, significantly higher than that in 2020, when it amounted to Rs 81,361 crore in the two fortnights covering the three festive periods.

The credit disbursement this year was even higher than that in the two fortnights of 2018 and 2019 when it had amounted to Rs 1,18,050 crore and Rs 70,799 crore, respectively.

TELECOM SECTOR REFORMS

DoT plan for foreign cos: Easing investment, spectrum bid norms

AASHISH ARYAN
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE NEXT set of reforms for the telecom sector, set to be announced before the quarter ends in June, is likely to further ease the norm on allowing foreign companies to start telecom services in India. This will be over and above the 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) allowed through the automatic route, sources in know of the development said.

One of the major changes, an official said, will be allowing these foreign companies to come and start operations in India without them needing to tie up with an Indian company to bid for and retain spectrum bought in auctions.

"The (telecom) ministry is of the considered view that the current situation of only three private telecom companies, of which one

'NO CUT IN LICENCE FEE PLANNED'

■ The DoT may not go for further cut in licence fee and other statutory fees, an official said, adding that the number of telecom users in India is far more than most other geographies

is ailing under debt, is not sustainable in the long run for the health of the sector. The norms will be eased so that foreign companies can either set up shop in India or invest more in domestic firms. The relevant rules will of course have to be followed," said the official, asking not to be named.

The decision will be a part of

the next set of reforms for the telecom sector and will follow the first part of reforms announced in September 2021. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is currently working on the final aspects of the next set of telecom reforms, another official said.

"The target is to get more players in the domestic market so that there is competitive bidding for precious national resource such as spectrum," the official added.

The DoT, however, may not opt for further reduction in licence and other statutory fees, one of the officials said, adding that the number of telecom users in India is far more than most other geographies and hence a cut does not make much "economic sense".

The official added, "Right now, we have about 700 million internet users in India, and that is set to double in within the next five years. Spectrum is a national re-

source and it must be used judiciously to ensure optimal revenue for the government."

Last September, the Union Cabinet had approved a set of nine structural and procedural reforms to address the short-term liquidity needs as well as long-term issues of telecom companies.

Among the steps announced then, one of the major reforms was to provide a four-year moratorium on payment of all dues arising due to the Supreme Court's September 1, 2020, judgment on adjusted gross revenue (AGR).

A moratorium of four years on payment of spectrum purchased in past auctions, barring the 4G spectrum auction of 2021, had also been offered to the telcos.

Of the three private telecom players, Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel had opted for the four-year moratorium, while Reliance Jio Infocomm had refused the option.

Joshi: Sufficient coal available, stock being replenished daily

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

COAL MINISTER Pralhad Joshi on Saturday said the country has sufficient availability of the dry fuel, with 72.50 million tonnes (MT) available at different sources and 22 MT at thermal power plants.

The minister asserted that available coal stocks will last for a month and availability is getting replenished on a daily basis with record production. Joshi said that at present 72.50 MT of coal is available at different sources of Coal India Ltd (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCLL) and coal washeries among others.

According to the provisional data from the government, the total coal production last fiscal was at 777.23 MT as against 716 MT in

FY21, recording a growth of 8.55 per cent, the Coal Ministry said in a statement.

CIL's output rose by 4.43 per cent to 622.64 MT in FY22 from 596.24 MT in FY21, while that of SCLL grew 28.55 per cent to 65.02 MT from 50.58 MT a year ago.

At the same time, coal production of captive mines has increased to 89.57 MT. During FY21 it was only 69.18 MT. Total coal dispatch during FY22 increased by 18.43 per cent to 818.04 MT against 690.71 MT in FY21.

CIL accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output.

Heat waves across several parts of India, the consequent increase in power demand, and fears of a coal shortage have triggered planned blackouts in many states in the country, including Maharashtra. **WITHPTI**

HDFC Bank declares 1550% dividend for shareholders

New Delhi: HDFC Bank on Saturday declared a 1550 per cent or 15.50 per share dividend to its shareholders for fiscal 2021-22.

The board at its meeting has recommended a dividend of Rs 15.50 per equity share of Re 1 (1550 per cent) out of the net profits for the year ended March 31, 2022, HDFC Bank said in a filing, adding this is subject to the approval of the shareholders at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

The record date for determining the eligibility of members entitled to receive dividend on equity shares is May 13, 2022, it said.

Last Saturday, the private sector lender reported a 23 per cent jump in standalone net profit to Rs 10,055.20 crore for the March quarter, led by growth in loan demand across categories and lower provisioning as bad loans were trimmed. **PTI**

'NEED TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO LANKA'

FM to World Bank: Rescue countries facing debt stress



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with World Bank Group President David Malpass in Washington DC. **PTI**

Russia stance: 'US must understand India shouldn't be weakened'

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, APRIL 23

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman has said India is taking a "calibrated position" on matters like Russia given the geographical locational realities, emphasising that if the US wants a friend in India it should understand that the friend should not be weakened.

Sitharaman was here to attend the annual spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Interacting with a group of Indian reporters here, the Finance Minister said the bilateral relationship between India and the United States has moved forward and deepened and saw more and more windows of opportunities opening post the Ukrainian war.

During her visit, she also held a host of bilateral meetings and participated in many multilateral meetings. She interacted with several top officials of the Biden administration. **PTI**



NITI AAYOG V-C ELECT JOINS

(From right to left) NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, with Member VK Paul and Suman Bery, who was appointed as a full-time member of the government think-tank on Saturday. Bery will take charge as the organisation's vice chairperson on May 1. via [Twitter @NITIAayog](#)

BRIEFLY

Tata Motors hike

New Delhi: Tata Motors hiked passenger vehicle prices by an average of 1.1% to partially offset rising input costs.

Data framework

New Delhi: The Centre will release a framework within 10 days comprising the use of non-personal data for providing better service to people, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. **PTI**

IACC, Sebi chief

New Delhi: The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) felicitated Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch and shared interest in future collaborations. **ENS**

AGREEMENT ON DIGITAL SERVICES ACT COMES AFTER OVER 16 HOURS OF NEGOTIATIONS

EU sets new online rules for Google, Meta to curb illegal content

FOO YUN CHEE
BRUSSELS, APRIL 23

ALPHABET UNIT Google, Meta and other large online platforms will have to do more to tackle illegal content or risk hefty fines under new internet rules agreed between European Union countries and EU lawmakers on Saturday.

The agreement came after more than 16 hours of negotiations. The Digital Services Act (DSA) is the second prong of EU antitrust chief Margrethe Vestager's strategy to rein in Alphabet unit Google, Meta and other US tech giants.

Last month, she won backing from the 27-country bloc and lawmakers for landmark rules



EU antitrust chief Margrethe Vestager. The Digital Services Act (DSA) is the second prong of her strategy to rein in Alphabet unit Google, Meta and other US tech giants. *Reuters file*

called the Digital Markets Act (DMA) that could force Google, Amazon, Apple, Meta and Microsoft to change their core

business practices in Europe. read more

"We have a deal on the DSA: The Digital Services Act will

make sure that what is illegal offline is also seen and dealt with as illegal online - not as a slogan, as reality," Vestager said in a tweet.

EU lawmaker Dita Charanzova, who had called for such rules eight years ago, welcomed the agreement.

"Google, Meta and other large online platforms will have to act to better protect their users. Europe has made clear that they cannot act as independent digital islands," she said in a statement.

In a statement, Google said: "As the law is finalised and implemented, the details will matter. We look forward to working with policymakers to get the remaining technical details right to ensure the law works for

everyone."

Under the DSA, the companies face fines up to 6 per cent of their global turnover for violating the rules while repeated breaches could see them banned from doing business in the EU.

The new rules ban targeted advertising aimed at children or based on sensitive data such as religion, gender, race and political opinions. Dark patterns, which are tactics that mislead people into giving personal data to companies online, will also be prohibited.

Very large online platforms and online search engines will be required to take specific measures during a crisis. The move was triggered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the related disinformation.

The companies could be forced to hand over data related to their algorithms to regulators and researchers.

The companies also face a yearly fee up to 0.05 per cent of worldwide annual revenue to cover the costs of monitoring their compliance.

EU lawmaker Martin Schirdewan criticised the exemption granted to medium-sized companies.

"Under pressure from the conservatives, an exception rule for medium-sized companies was integrated, this is a mistake. Due to the large number of companies that fall under this definition in the digital sector, the exception is like a loophole," he further said. The DSA will be enforced in 2024. **REUTERS**

Aditya Birla Capital names Vishakha Mulye CEO

Mumbai: Vishakha Mulye, an ICICI Bank veteran, will take over as CEO of Aditya Birla Capital, the non-bank lender said Saturday.

Mulye, who was the executive director of ICICI Bank in charge of the wholesale banking portfolio, will take over her role on June 1, Aditya Birla Capital told exchanges. She will be the first female to join Aditya Birla Management Corporation, the conglomerate's top decision making body.

Mulye replaces Ajay Srinivasan, who is taking up other responsibilities within the group, as per the exchange filing.

The appointment has been made as per the recommendations of the company's nomination, remuneration and compensation committee, it said. **PTI**

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,Bansu Sharma s/o Rajesh Kumar Sharma r/o 585/586, kesari mohalla, shahdara, delhi 110032; declare that my father's name is Rajesh Sharma in my educational documents but his actual name is Rajesh Kumar Sharma which may be amended accordingly. 0050195678-1

I,hitherto KNOWN AS SYED KHADIM RAZA,S/o S. MEHDI RAZA,R/O-G301 Vivekanand-APARTMENTS plot.no.2,sector-5,Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JAVED RAZA. 0040611185-5

I,Vinod Rajagopalan S/o Aniyath Rajagopalan R/o 803, 2nd floor near DPS School, Arun Vihar, Sec-29, Noida G.B.Nagar U.P-201301 have changed my name to Vinod Kumar Rajagopalan for all purposes. 0040611192-1

I,VASVI POOJA MITTAL W/O SUMIT GOEL,R/O F-22/74, SECTOR-3, ROHINI,DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VASVI GOEL. 0040611185-3

I,Sonu W/O Manjeet Singh,D/O Phool Singh Dankher R/O-556,Sector-5, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001,changed my name to Sangeeta Kataria. 0040611185-2

I,Simranjeet Kaur W/o-Kuldeep Singh R/o-33,Ambedkar Nagar,Police Line ,Pali Rajasthan-306401,have changed my name to Simran Kaur. 0040611185-6

I,Saijan Kumar,S/o-Jagdish Prasad Chachan,R/o-7/236, First-Floor, Outer-Ring Road, Sunder-Vihar, Paschim-Vihar, New-Delhi-110087,Have Changed My Name To Saijan Kumar Chachan,For All,Future Purposes. 0040611185-7

I,SUBHAM ATRI,S/O SHRI.NIWAS ATRI,R/O-R-86,GALI.NO-15A, SWATANTER-NAGAR NARELA,DELHI-110040,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME,FROM SUBHAM ATRI TO SUBHAM ATRI,FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040611185-1

I, Gurjeet Kaur, W/O S. Lakhbir Singh, R/O J-5/56 Rajouri garden ND-110027. Have changed my name to Gurjit Kaur for all future purposes. 0040611190-1

I,Emervan David S/o David Adam R/o Plot No.25/26, 3rd Floor, Flat No.303,Chandra Park, Sai Residency N.S.I.T. Dwarka, New Delhi-110078,have changed my name to Emenual David for all purposes. 40611032-1

I,Rubeena Noor,W/o Mohammed Sharif Qureshi R/o,H.No.776, Ground-Floor, Sector-9A,Gurgaum, (Haryana) -122001,have changed my name to Rubeeena Sharif. 0040611191-9

I,R.T. Suman,D/o K Raja, R/o H-1-247, Madangiri, R.Ambedkar-Nagar,South Delhi,Delhi-110062,have changed name of mine and my father,from R Suman,D/o K Raja to Suman,D/o R Raja.In future I will be known as Suman,D/o Raja,for all purposes. 0040611191-5

I,PARAS SINGH GUJRA,S/O NAKAN SINGH,H.No-6/118, Subhash Nagar, Delhi-110027, have changed my name to PARAS SINGH, permanently. 0040611191-8

I,PANKAJ KUMAR JAIN,S/O JAI KUMAR JAI, R/o-1/11160-A, SUBHASH PARK NAVEEN-SHAHDRA DELHI-110032, have changed my name to PANKAJ JAIN. 0040611191-7

I,Nidhi Setia alias Nidhi Mahendru,W/o Amandeep Mahindru,R/o B-2,Kirti Nagar Delhi-15,have changed my name to Nidhi Mahindru. 0040611191-1

I,Manish Garg S/o Krishan Ram R/o M-28,Vikasपुरi New.Delhi-18,have changed the name of my minor daughter, from Gayatri Garg to Mehr Garg for all purposes. 0040611185-8

I,MOHAMMED HAMZA SIDDIQUI,S/O-ADIL SHARIF SIDDIQUI,R/O-D-219,2ND-FLOOR ABUL-FAZAL-ENCLAVE JAMIA-NAGAR,OKHLA,NEW-DELHI-110025,IN MY PASSPORT MY DATE-OF-BIRTH-6-11-1996 IS NOT-CORRECT MY CORRECT DATE-OF-BIRTH-25/09/1996 AS MY CBSE-MARKSHEET. 0040611191-6

I,Kanchan Bansal W/o-Akshay Goel R/o-Hno.81 Block-03 DDA Flats, Four Storey, Garhi East of Kailash, New Delhi-110065 have changed my name to Kanchann Goel for all purposes. 0040611184-1

I,HARBANS LAL S/O THAKUR DASS R/O H.NO.2270-B,SECTOR-15, PART-2, SONIPAT-131001.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO HARBANS LAL THAKKAR. 0040611185-4

I,Ex.No- 9089576X,Naik Ab Shakoor Ganie.In my service record the name and D o B of my children's has been wrongly mentioned as Towseef Shakoor (B o B -05-05-2000),Tahseena Shakoor (O B-29-09-2004) instead of Towseef Shakoor (26.05-2006)and Tehseena Shakoor (25-10-2007).It needs correction. objections be filed to Zaila Sainik welfare Office Batmaloo within seven days. 0020437980-1

I,Bharti Kalra W/o Vijender Kumar R/o-H.No.200-A, Sector-24, Huda, Panipat, Haryana-132103 have changed my name to Bharti for all-purposes. 0040611216-4

I,MOHD SHAKEEL S/O ABDUL WAHEED R/O 700/34 ST.NO 18-A V BLOCK, VIJAY PARK, MAJUPUR, NORTH EAST DELHI-110053, DECLARE THAT NAME OF MY FATHER HAS BEEN WRONGLY WRITTEN AS ABDUL VAHID IN MY EDUCATIONAL RECORDS.THE ACTUAL AND CORRECT NAME OF MY FATHER IS ABDUL WAHEED, WHICH MAY BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY. 0070782260-1

I, Khushbu Suresh Rao Khandare w/o Akshay Kumar Thote r/o NS-24, First floor, back portion, Paschim Vihar, Sunder Vihar, Delhi-110087 have changed my name to Khushbu Thote. 0040611183-1

I, Gagina Gambhir W/o Harman Singh Gambhir R/o D-130, Sector-49, Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar, have changed my name to Gagina Marwah for all future purpose. 0070781571-1

I, Devashish Misra S/O T.P. Misra, R/O B-88 First Floor Suncity Gurgaon Sector-54, Gurgaon Sector-56, Haryana-122011, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Devashish Misra. 0070782247-1

I, Arun Kumar S/o Chandu Ram R/o P-10/3, DLF City, Phase-2, Gurgaon,Haryana-122002, have changed my name to Arun Kumar Rakheja Permanently. 0040611178-1

I, Anand Kumar Jain S/o Shri Ramkumar Jain, R/o 2380/T27, Bawana Road, Narela, North West, Delhi-110040, do hereby declare that I have changed my name to Anand Jain for all purposes. Even though in some of my documents, my old name is registered. From now onwards for all purposes, my name should be considered as Anand Jain. 0040611176-1

I, Sunita Jain W/o Sh. Parveen Kumar Jain R/o 1/7581-Second Floor, Gali No-9, East Gorakhpark, Shahdra, Delhi-110032, have changed my name from SUNITA RANI to SUNITA JAIN for all future purposes. 0040611156-1

I, Nita Sonkusare D/o Sh. Trimbakrao Sonkusare W/o Sh. Vinit Sinha R/O Flat No-506, Amrapali Silicon City, Plot No.GH-01/A, Sector-76, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name after marriage to Nita Sinha for all purposes. 0040611150-5

I, Shreya Sharma Narula W/O Amit Narula, R/O B1-602, 6th floor, Tower 12, Purvanchal Royal Park, Sector 337, Noida, 201305 has changed my name to Shreya Sharma for all future purposes. 0070782239-1

I, Seema Chopra W/o Sumit Kumar Chopra,R/o-A-170 2nd-floor,Hri Nagar,Gandhi park front-portion delhi-110064, Have change my name Sheetal Chopra to Seema Chopra, for all future purposes. 0040611178-3

I, Saurabh S/o Rajender Parshad, R/o B-401, Peace Tower, Sikka Karmic Green Sector-78, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Saurabh Singhal in my minor daughter Ishita Singhal aged 10 years in her School Records. The actual name of mine is Saurabh. 0070782261-1

I, Raju alias Ashwani Kumar S/O Shkuntla Devi, R/o WZ-15 Plot No.-82, Vishnu Garden, Delhi-110018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Ashwani Kumar. 0070782241-1

I, Preety Nanda W/o Bharat Bhushan Nanda,R/o K-1118 Krishna-Park Extn.Tilak Nagar West-Delhi-110018,have change my name Preety kalra to Preety Nanda,for all future purposes. 0040611178-2

I, Paramjeet Kaur W/o Late Davinder Singh S/O H.No.667, Gali No.2, Punjabi Basti, Anand Parbat, N.Delhi,have changed my daughter's name from Gursimran Kaur to Gursimran Kaur, for all future purposes. 0040611148-1

I, Neetu Sharda, W/o Sharad Bhatnagar, R/o B-108, Vivek Vihar, Noida, Sector 82, Salarpur Gautam Buddha Nagar U.P. -201304, do hereby solemnly declare that my name is Neetu Sharda in all my documents however in some documents it is written as Neetu Bhatnagar henceforth, have changed my name from Neetu Bhatnagar to Neetu Sharda. Now I will be known as Neetu Sharda, for all future purposes. 0040611166-1

I,Namrata Dhar, W/O Ajay Dhar R/o House No-623-B, Sector-23, Near Gate No-3, Choma-62, Carterpurj, Gurgaon, Haryana-122017, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Aswatha Dhar. 0070782240-1

I,Mradul Mishra S/O Prafulla Krishna Mishra, R/O 347/324, Old Tikait Ganj, Rajajipuram, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226017, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Rishabh Mishra. 0070782246-1

I, Madhulika Jain W/o Ankur Gupta R/o-29, Old Geeta Colony, East Delhi-110031, have change my Son name from Hunar to Hunar Gupta for all purposes. 0070782285-1

I, Aakashdeep alias Aakashdeep Aarye S/O Kishan Lal, R/O House No-R-500, Gali No.-8A, Near Narela Railway Station, Swatantra Nagar, Narela, Delhi-110040, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Abhay Singh. 0070782242-1

I,RAJAT JAIN S/O.NIRMAL BARARIA, ADD-403/D 4/KLJ PLATINUM PLUS SEC-77, BALLABHGARH-FARIDABAD HARYANA-121004.Changed my name to RAJAT JAIN BARARIA, for all, future Purposes. 0040611191-2

I, Rajesh Manak S/O O P Manak have lost my allotment-letter & all-original pm receipts of UGF-355,Sumanglam,Raj-Nagar,Gaziabad,If found-pls contact.9999975090. 0040611185-10

SITUATION VACANT

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

Wanted DTP Operator, Accountant, Computer Operator and experienced Automatic Car Drivers. Apply to IIF Noida, Email instufin_job@yahoo.com or whatsapp to 9999321586 0040611205-1

MATRIMONIAL

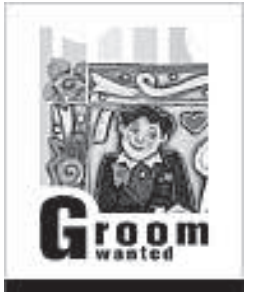


CASTE NO BAR

Match for Punjabi Khatri Boy 5'7", 23/12/1991, 06.05 PM, Postgraduate Educated Business Family, Delhi, Contact 9811044874 0050195458-1

RAJPUT

Well settled delhi based educated Rajput family only son Age - 28 Height - 5'9" Income- 30Lac P.A successful professional. Contact 9560158500. 0050195476-1



GUPTA/AGGARWAL

IAS/IRS/HCS/Prof match for Extreme Beautiful girl (Goyal non Manglik) 28, 5' -4 Gold Medalist (Msc physics) NET PHD contact 8295964421 0050195511-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC AT LARGE: BE INFORMED VIDE THIS NOTICE THAT CHIVAN VANDANA DHANU W/O SH. SURENDER DHANU R/O HOUSE NO-5/3, PIVISH, HEIGHTS, SOCIETY, SECTOR-89, GREATER FARIDABAD, HARYANA, THE ABSOLUTE AND RIGHTFUL OWNER OF PROPERTY BEARING NO-3/11, GALI NO. 5, MALLAH PARK, AGRAH NAGAR, NORTHWEST, DELHI-110033. THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS OF THE ABOVE PROPERTY HAS BEEN MISPLACED AT AIMS HOSPITAL AND SAME HAS NOT BEEN TRACED OUT AND IN THIS REGARD MY CLIENT LOGGED AN NDR VIDE LR NO.7520892021 DATED 26.09.2021 AND IF ANYBODY FOUND THE SAME THEN SAME SHALL NOT MISUSED IN ANY MANNER OTHERWISE MY CLIENT HAS INTIMATE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THEM.

S/O: SHRI PRAKASH SHARMA Advocate Ch. No. 508, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that Shri Indrajit Singh S/o Shri Pura Singh and Smt. Suman Singh W/o Sh. Indrajit Singh are the "Title Holder's in possession of "Freehold Built Up Property Bearing Plot No.27, Pocket-C-7, Sector-7, Rohini Residential Scheme, Rohini, New Delhi and measuring area 48.00 sq. mtrs, hereinafter referred to as "Schedule Property" vide Sale Deed dated 03.12.2010, registered as Regn. No.22805, Book No.1 Vol. No.4048, on page No.117 - 123 on 09.12.2010 in the office of Sub Registrar-VI (C), New Delhi. That the Original Document(s) w.r.t the Schedule Property, (i) Handing Over Possession Letter dated 26.11.84 & (ii) Registration Related Detail Page of Sale Deed dated 03.12.2010, have been lost/misplaced in original on record as on date and are untraceable, hence unavailable for verification in original, in lieu of which information Report dated 12.04.2022 is filled with Delhi Police bearing L.R. No. 307712/2022. This Notice is issued to Public at Large, i.e., any Person (s), Company(ies) Authority (ies), Society (ies) Organization(s), Financial Institution (s), Bank(s), HUFs etc., having any knowledge custody or possession of the lost/misplaced/untraceable documents as mentioned herein above or otherwise having any claim, right, title, interest, possession in the Schedule Property, by way of ownership, Succession, Inheritance, Sale, Mortgage, Exchange, Charge, Lien, Gift, Trust, Encumbrance etc., or objection to the sale of the schedule property, may come forward with supporting documents to be delivered to the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this publication post expiration of which, any claim(s) or objections (s), if raised or received, shall be treated as null & void and such claims or objection shall be treated as waived, and the Title Holder(s) shall proceed to mortgage the Schedule Property with State Bank of India as presently intended.

I,SUMAN JAIN,W/O.NIRMAL BARARIA,ADD-403/D 4/KLJ PLATINUM PLUS SEC-77, BALLABHGARH-FARIDABAD HARYANA-121004.changed my name to SUMAN DEVI BARARIA,for all,future Purposes. 0040611191-4

I,Indrajeet Sohdi S/o Jeevan Singh Sodhi R/o-GH-8/612 Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110087 have changed my name to Indar Jit Sodhi Permanently. 0040611178-4

I,NIRMAL KUMAR JAIN,S/O.TARA CHAND BARARIA,ADD-403/D 4/KLJ PLATINUM PLUS SEC-77,BALLABHGARH-FARIDABAD HARYANA 121004.Changed my name to NIRMAL BARARIA,for all,future Purposes. 0040611191-3

It is for general information that I,Gouavry Singh S/o Ishwari Prasad Morya, residing at VillageKachhura, Kirawali,Distt. Agara, U.P. declare that name of mine has been wrongly written in Army Certificate No.2896156A Hav Rank-9 Raj Rif.,The actual name of mine is Gouavry Singh,which may be amended accordingly. 0040611084-1

LOST & FOUND

I, Binay Kumar Dubey S/o Satya Narayan Dubey R/o A-53, Alpha-1, Greater Noida G.B.Nagar U.P., have lost my Allotment letter & Allocation letter (Allotment No.A010070), of A-53, Alpha-1, Greater Noida, U.P. 0070782282-1

I,Ashok Nagpal S/o B R Nagpal have lost my property,Original,Documents Allotment-Letter of,Flat No.51-B,Jhang Co-operative G.H.S Ltd, Rohini Sector-13 Delhi-85,finder Contact-9212718533. 0040611216-9

I,Rajesh Manak S/O O P Manak have lost my allotment-letter & all-original pm receipts of UGF-355,Sumanglam,Raj-Nagar,Gaziabad,If found-pls contact.9999975090. 0040611185-10

RAJENDER SINGH RAJPUT ADVOCATE(D/8608/18) MOBILE NO. +91 880 222 4 777

CLASSIFIEDS & TENTERS 15

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is given to the general public that my clients namely Mahesh Chand Sharma S/o Late Dhuni Lal Sharma and Sharda Wo Mahesh Chand Sharma R/o H.No-5-157, Gali No-11, Bhagratli Vihar, Gokul Park North East Delhi-110094, have severed their all relations with their son namely Pawan Kumar Sharma. S/o Mahesh Chand Sharma they have disowned him from all their movable and immovable properties and my clients shall not be held responsible for any act of him.

Sd/- M.N. Khan Advocate Chamber No. 618, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known that my clients MANINDER SINGH MEHTA S/O LATE S. PREM SINGH MEHTA & MRS. GURDEEP KAUR MEHTA W/O S. MANINDER SINGH MEHTA BOTH RESIDENT OF 504, STARLITE APARTMENT, SECTOR-14 EXTENSION, ROHINI, DELHI-110085, had borrowed and secured their loan from my client GAGAN PREET SINGH MEHTA and HIS WIFE RAMNEET KAUR MEHTA and delivered them from their movable and immovable properties and the said properties against my clients and also published a Public Notice in New Newspaper The Indian Express Dated on 23.03.2011. Now, my clients relations have become void and my clients GAGAN PREET SINGH MEHTA and his wife RAMNEET KAUR MEHTA. Therefore, I, MANINDER SINGH MEHTA and his wife RAMNEET KAUR MEHTA shall have full right on my clients movable and immovable properties after their death.

KANAL SINGH (Advocate) Enrl. No. D7482014

PUBLIC NOTICE

"This is to inform to the general public that my clients SH. BHAGWAN SINGH S/O SH. MOHAN SINGH AND SMT. MANJEET Kaur W/O SH. BHAGWAN SINGH BOTH R/O WZ-598 GALI NO. 3 RAJU NAGAR, PART-1, SYNDICATE MARKET PALAM COLONY NEW DELHI 110045 have disowned and disinherited their son namely BHAGAT SINGH from their all movable & immovable property/assets wherever situated and severed all connections with him and whoever dealing with him shall be doing so at his own risk and my clients shall not be liable for his acts and deeds."

UDHAM SINGH (Advocate) Ch. No. 650, Lawyer's Chambers Dwarka Courts Complex, N.Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

"Notice is hereby given that the share certificate NO.0054 for 1320 shares bearing dividend No.5 from 1537487 to 1537638 standing in the name of Ajay Bhushan Kalia, Suman Lata Kalia and Deah Bhushan Kalia has been lost and the advertisement applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu thereof. Any person(s) who has/have in his/her/their possession of the said share(s) should lodge such share(s) with the Company's Registrars and Transfer Agents, viz. KIRAN Technologies Ltd,SELENIUM TOWER 8/F, PLOT NO. 31 & 32, GACHOWALI, FINANCIAL DISTRICT, NARAINAMUDA, NEW DELHI-110028, INDIA. OVERDRAFT-500032, TELENGANA, Tol Free No: 1800-4001 within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Company will proceed to duplicate share certificate(s) in respect of the said share(s).

Name(s) of the Shareholder(s) Ajay Bhushan Kalia Suman Lata Kalia KALIA & CO. Ajay Bhushan Kalia (Advocate) Enrolment No. D-361, 198629

PUBLIC NOTICE

THIS IS TO INFORM TO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE ON BEHALF OF MY CLIENT SMT. KAMLESH BAWA W/O LATE SH. PARMINDER DASS BAWA NO 3027A, RAJNIT NAGAR, NEW DELHI THAT THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS OR PROPERTIES OF MY CLIENT NAME ABOVE BEARING PLOT NO. 3027A, RAJNIT NAGAR, NEW DELHI AND SECTOR 36, POHNI, DELHI AND JOKTA FLAT NO. 501, GROUND FLOOR, POKET-78, PHASE-3, CATEGORY-A, GROUP-1, SECTOR-18B, SWAKRA, NEW DELHI ARE STOLEN AND PUBLIC AT LARGE IS REQUESTED TO REPORT TO THE AGENT OF THE AGENT'S INTEREST, MORTGAGE OR FAVOUR OF ANYONE ELSE, HENCE, ANYONE DEALING WITH THE ABOVE PROPERTY HAS BEEN MISPLACED AT AIMS HOSPITAL AND SAME HAS NOT BEEN TRACED OUT AND IN THIS REGARD MY CLIENT LOGGED AN NDR VIDE LR NO.7520892021 DATED 26.09.2021 AND IF ANYBODY FOUND THE SAME THEN SAME SHALL NOT MISUSED IN ANY MANNER OTHERWISE MY CLIENT HAS INTIMATE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THEM.

Sd/- VIMAL KUMAR DHINGRA Advocate Ch. No. 611, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is hereby given to general public that Mrs. Firdaus, who claimed to be owner and in possession of the First Floor, P.Vt. Bearing No. FF-02, without right rights. Part of Built up Property No. RZ-243 N1 E-55, area measuring 60 Sq. Yds., out of Kharsa No. 54/17, situated in the revenue estate of village palam and colony known as Raj Nandini, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110077; by virtue of Sale Deed dated 13.07.2020, now Mrs. Firdaus is selling said property to Mr. Ranu Mandal & Mr. Abhinav Mandal and now Mrs. Ranu Mandal & Mr. Abhinav Mandal has approached Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd. for financial assistance and therefore said shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. We give this public notice that if any person having any claim/objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property or any part of the said property in favour of Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd. is/are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to undersigned with supporting documentary evidence at the address mention below within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any claim, if any of such persons will be considered to have been waived and/or, abandoned or our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan against the said property and subsequent creation of Mortgage in respect thereof.

For Juries NextGen Law Offices E-54/LG, Greater Kailash East Part-1 New Delhi-110048

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client Mrs. Naina Bedi, W/o. Shri Kanish Aggarwal, R/o 24/57, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026, hereby underakes that she wants to change her surname from Naina Bedi to Naina Aggarwal as she have been married to Mr. Kanish Aggarwal and registered their marriage, before the office of District Magistrate, Punjabi Bagh, vide Marriage Certificate No. 90793000013281, dated 11.03.2022, anteposed to, to adapt his surname i.e. Aggarwal as her surname.

Sd/- KARTIK SHIVASTAVA (ADVOCATE) D-28622020 DELHI HIGH COURT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my clients had agreed to purchase Property bearing No. 89, Endre First Floor, Pocket No. KI, C Park, New Delhi from its owner Mr. Ajay Gupta & Ms. Anjali Gupta vide written agreement, free from all encumbrances, charges, liens, and mortgages etc. Advance money under the said agreement has been paid by my client. Further, ALL PERSONS having any claim in respect of the sale, lien, or otherwise however are requested to put their claim in underwriting with undersigned with documentary proof therein, within 14 days hereof failing which the claim(s) if any, of such person(s) will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and the said process shall be completed.

K M Monika (Advocate) Kris Jurb & Co. E-mail:-monika@krisjurb.com. Mob:- +91-8595133164 C-87, LGF, Lajpat Nagar-1, Delhi-110024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my clients had agreed to purchase Plot/Unit No. D-25, Jyoti Vihar, Sector 21, Noida from its owner LT.CDR. M.S. Mahindroo vide written agreement, free from all encumbrances, charges, liens, and mortgages etc. Advance money under the said agreement has been paid by my client. Original Allotment Letter dated 30.11.1984 Mahindroo for Schedule Property has been lost/misplaced. If anyone found the aforementioned documents, kindly contact the undersigned. Further, ALL PERSONS having any claim in respect of the sale, lien, or otherwise however are requested to put their claim in underwriting with undersigned with documentary proof therein, within 14 days hereof failing which the claim(s) if any, of such person(s) will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and the said process shall be completed.

K M Monika (Advocate) Kris Jurb & Co. E-mail:-monika@krisjurb.com. Mob:- +91-8595133164 C-87, LGF, Lajpat Nagar-1, Delhi-110024

PUBLIC NOTICE

On behalf of my client Smt. Kawaljeet Kaur Gandhi Wife Late Sh. Harvinder Singh Gandhi resident of 33, Church Lane, Jangpura, Bhopal ND-46, that her daughter Ms. Harneet Kaur (28yrs) is not the family norms and living in her own lifestyle. She is not resident with her client since 2 years and even she is not contacting to our client therefore our client disowned and severed all relationship with her daughter namely Harneet Kaur debarring her from her movable & immovable properties/ assets due to her disobedient and arrogant attitude. Our client shall not be held responsible for any kind of transaction relationship or any legal and illegal incident if take place in future from her daughter.

Mohit Bai (Advocate) Enrol No.D-3234-12-M: 9891121274

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public at large that my client Sh. Vinod Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Radha Krishna Tharja R/o House No.30, Pocket GG-3 Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018, has severed all his relations from his son Sh. Anil Tharja who is Smt. Rashmi Tharja, their legal heirs and their associates, disowned and debarrd all of them from all his movable and immovable properties with them in future, it will be at his / her own risk. My client will not be responsible in any manner for the same.

A.K. Verma (Advocate) Enrol No. D/56313

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public at large is hereby informed that my client Smt. Kamlesh Grover W/o Late Sh. Ramesh Lal Grover R/o 319-320, Double Storey, New Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060 has debarrd her son Manoj Grover and his wife Shefali (daughter-in-law) from her life, all her movable and immovable properties due to their bad conduct / quarrel and disobedience towards my client. Now my client has no control over them, if anyone deals with them in future, it will be at his / her own risk. My client will not be responsible for that in any manner as my client has severed all her relations with them in every manner for all purposes.

VISHAL TOMAR (ADVOCATE) Ch. no. 271, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi-54 M: 9810777879

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it know to all that my client Smt. Savita Sharma W/o Late Sh. Ramesh Chander Sharma R/o Flat No. 3103, Plot No. 3, Asha Kunj Sector-9 Dwarka Delhi-110078, do hereby debarr and disown their Son Sandeep Shukla and daughter in law Ruchi Shukla from all movable and immovable properties due to their misbehave and misconduct. That Sh. Sandeep Shukla is not obedient towards my client therefore they have also severed with all relation. Henceforth they have no rights and interest in any of my properties. Now onwards they Cease to be their legal heir for all purposes whatsoever. Anybody dealing with them shall be at their/their own risks, costs and responsibility for which my client shall not be responsible in any manner.

Sd/- AADISH KUMAR SARASWAT (ADVOCATE) D-28622020 Office: 10A, F.F. RD, METRO ACHADE SECTOR-11, ROHINI, DELHI-

TOPOF THE WORLD



IMF raises global food insecurity issue. Reuters

US World Bank, IMF urge quick action to address food security

Washington: The leaders of the International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization and the World Bank on Friday called for quick work on a new action plan on food security to be prepared by international financial institutions. "It is truly pressing to get it to move so we avoid people dying unnecessarily," IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva told an event held as part of the spring meetings of the IMF and the World Bank. World Bank President David Malpass said one critical step would be to get greater transparency about countries' food stockpiles to help markets function better. REUTERS

JAPAN Search on for missing boat with 26 on board: Report

Tokyo: Japan's coast guard dispatched patrol ships and aircraft to search for a sightseeing boat that went missing with 26 people on board after reporting it was sinking off the northern island of Hokkaido on Saturday, public broadcaster NHK said. Authorities lost contact with the crew of the "Kazu 1" after the crew reported water was flooding into the stern of the vessel and it had started to sink, NHK said. There were 24 passengers, including two children, on board and two crew members, the broadcaster said. REUTERS

NEPAL US team talks bilateral ties with Deuba

Kathmandu: A US Congressional delegation led by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand paid a courtesy call on Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on Saturday and exchanged views on various aspects of bilateral relations, including on institutionalising democracy. Prime Minister Deuba thanked the US Congress for its continued support to Nepal, specially during the difficult times of the 2015 earthquakes and the recent Covid-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. PTI

ZELENSKY: ALLIES DELIVERING WEAPONS, BETTER ABLE TO MOUNT DEFENCE

Russia renews assault on Mariupol, missiles hit Odesa killing 6: Ukraine



Missile destroyed houses in Lyman, Donetsk region, on Saturday. Reuters

AGENCIES KYIV/MARIUPOL, APRIL 23

RUSSIA RESUMED its assault on the last Ukrainian defenders holed up in a giant steel works in Mariupol, a Ukrainian official said on Saturday, days after Moscow declared victory in the southern port city and said its forces did not need to take the plant.

Russian forces were hitting the Azovstal complex with air strikes and trying to storm it, presidential adviser Oleksiy Arestovych said, adding "the enemy is trying to strangle the final resistance of Mariupol's defenders".

The reported assault on the eve of Orthodox Easter came after the Kremlin claimed its military had seized all of the shattered city except for the Azovstal plant, and as Russian forces

RUSSIA TO DEPLOY SARMAT MISSILES BY AUTUMN

London: Russia said on Saturday it plans to deploy its newly tested Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missiles, capable of mounting nuclear strikes against the US, by autumn. The target stated by Dmitry Rogozin, head of the Roscosmos space agency, is an ambitious one as Russia reported its first test-launch only on Wednesday and Western military experts say more will be needed before the missile can be deployed. REUTERS

pounded other cities and towns in southern and eastern Ukraine. Two missiles struck a military

facility and two residential buildings in the Black Sea port city of Odesa, and two more were destroyed, the southern air command of the Ukrainian armed forces said. Ukrainian presidential aide Andriy Yermak said six people had been killed and 18 wounded. A 3-month-old baby was among six people killed.

President Zelenskyy said Russia's invasion was just the beginning and that Moscow has designs on other countries. "We are the first in line. And who will come next?" he said. He also said Ukraine's allies were finally delivering weapons Kyiv has asked for.

Meanwhile, Boris Johnson, told Zelenskyy that Britain would give Ukraine more military aid, including protected mobility vehicles, drones and anti-tank weapons, according to Johnson's office.

Blinken and Austin to visit Kyiv today, says Zelenskyy

AGENCIES APRIL 23



Volodymyr Zelenskyy

Zelenskyy, the Ukrainian leader said on Saturday.

He told a news conference in Kyiv that he would discuss the kinds of weapons that Ukraine needs to battle Russia's invasion. Zelenskyy spoke of the plans Saturday during a press conference. He did not immediately share more detail about the visit from Antony Blinken and Lloyd Austin. The White House declined to comment on Saturday.

Zelenskyy has for weeks urged Western allies to send Ukraine more weapons. The US State Department or the Pentagon has said Austin would be in Germany next week for meetings about Ukraine's future needs.

MEANWHILE

GUTERRES TO MEET PUTIN, ZELENSKY NEXT WEEK

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will meet Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy next week, as he steps up diplomatic efforts to "silence the guns" in Ukraine. Guterres will visit Moscow where on April 26 he will have a working meeting and lunch with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and will be received by President Vladimir Putin, Eri Kaneko, Associate Spokesperson for the Secretary-General said.

LE PEN RACING HARD

France runoff today, Macron in pole position

SYLVIE CORBET PARIS, APRIL 23

FRENCH PRESIDENT Emmanuel Macron is in the pole position to win reelection Sunday in the country's presidential runoff, yet his lead over far-right rival Marine Le Pen depends on one major uncertainty: voters who could decide to stay home.

A Macron victory in this vote — which could have far-reaching repercussions for Europe's future direction and Western efforts to stop the war — would make him the first French president in 20 years to win a second term.

All opinion polls in recent days converge toward a win for the 44-year-old pro-European centrist — yet the margin over his nationalist rival varies broadly, from 6 to 15 percentage points, depending on the poll. Polls also forecast a possibly record-high number of people who will either cast a blank vote or not vote at all.

Overseas French territories allowed voters to start casting ballots Saturday in polling stations that ranged from near the Caribbean shore in the Antilles to the savannahs of French Guiana on the South American coast. Back on the French mainland, workers assembled a stage Saturday beneath the Eiffel Tower where Macron is expected to make his post-election speech, win or lose.

France's April 10 first-round vote eliminated 10 other presidential candidates, and who becomes the country's next leader — Macron or Le Pen — will largely depend on what supporters of those losing candidates do on Sunday. The question is a hard one, especially for leftist voters who dislike Macron but don't want to see Le Pen in power either.

Le Pen's campaign this time has sought to appeal to voters struggling with surging food and energy prices amid the fallout of Russia's war in Ukraine. The 53-year-old candidate said bringing down the cost of living would be a top priority if he was elected as France's first woman president. AP



Presidential campaign posters of Emmanuel Macron, left, and French far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen, in Salies de Bearn on Saturday. AP

Macron or Le Pen: why it matters for France, others

THE FRENCH will decide on Sunday whether to re-elect pro-business centrist President Emmanuel Macron or blow up decades of mainstream consensus in favour of far-right Marine Le Pen.

Economy

Le pen has transformed the former National Front, turning her father's free-market, small-government party into a big-spending, protectionist one. She wants to implement a "Buy French" policy for public tenders, cut the minimum retirement age to 60 for those who started work before 20, scrap income tax for those aged under 30, and cut VAT on energy to 5.5% from 20%. Macron plans to double down on supply-side reforms he has implemented during his first mandate, with the main plank of his manifesto being an increase in the minimum pension age to 65 from 62.

Europe

Le pen insists she has no "secret agenda" for France to leave the 27-nation bloc, its single cur-

rency or its passport-free Schengen zone. Macron would continue his push to develop what he calls Europe's "strategic autonomy" in defence, technology, agriculture and energy and reduce the bloc's dependence on other powers.

EXPLAINED

West

Le Pen wants to pull France out of NATO's integrated command, in a challenge to the West's post-Cold War security architecture. Opponents accuse her of being too close to Moscow. Although Macron ruffled feathers across the trans-Atlantic alliance, notably in eastern Europe and Germany, when he called NATO "brain-dead" in 2019, he would nonetheless seek to make Europeans less dependent on the US military for security. He has also pushed the EU to focus more on the Indo-Pacific and China's rising influence in the region. However, he clashed with Washington, London and Canberra after Australia ditched a massive submarine deal with France. REUTERS

For France's Muslims, choice between lesser evils in vote

NORIMITSU ONISHI & AIDA ALAMI BONDY, APRIL 23

ABDELKRIM BOUADLA voted enthusiastically for Emmanuel Macron five years ago, drawn by his youth and his message of transforming France. But after a presidency that he believes harmed French Muslims like himself, Bouadla, a community leader who has long worked with troubled young people, was torn.

He likened the choice confronting him in France's presidential runoff Sunday as "breaking your ribs or breaking your legs."

Macron and Le Pen are now fighting over the 7.7 million voters who backed Jean-Luc Mélenchon, the leftist leader who earned a strong third-place finish in the first round of the election. Were they to break strongly for one of the candidates, it could prove decisive. Nearly 70% of Muslims voted



The Mosque of Bondy in the Seine-Saint-Denis region outside Paris. NYT

for Mélenchon, the only major candidate to have consistently condemned discrimination against Muslims, according to the polling firm, Ifop.

By contrast, Macron garnered only 14% of Muslim voters' support this year, compared with 24% in 2017. Le Pen got 7% in the first round this year. Nationwide, according to Ifop, the turnout of Muslim voters was a couple of percentage

points higher than the average. As the two candidates battle it out in the closing days of a tight race, Macron's prospects may rest partly on whether he can persuade Muslim voters like Bouadla that he is their best option — and that staying home risks installing a chilling new anti-Muslim leadership.

Most polls show that Macron's lead, but as Eric Quereau, a national lawmaker and a close ally of Mélenchon, said, the turnout by Muslim voters could tip the balance if the race "becomes extremely tight." Much of Muslim voters' anger toward Macron centers on his pushing a widely condemned 2021 law and the subsequent closing of more than 700 Muslim institutions that authorities say encouraged radicalization, a charge that many Muslims and some human rights groups dispute. But it remains unclear how this resentment might be transformed into a political force. NYT

RATES STALLING IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES WHERE WHO'S AIMS TO IMMUNISE 70% PEOPLE IN EACH NATION

Drive to vaccinate world against Covid is losing steam

REBECCA ROBBINS & STEPHANIE NOLEN APRIL 23

IN THE middle of last year, the World Health Organization began promoting an ambitious goal, one it said was essential for ending the pandemic: fully vaccinate 70% of the population in every country against Covid-19 by June 2022.

Now, it is clear that the world will fall far short of that target by the deadline. And there is a growing sense of resignation among public health experts that high Covid vaccination coverage may never be achieved in most lower-income countries, as badly

needed funding from the US dries up and both governments and donors turn to other priorities.

"The reality is that there is a loss of momentum," said Dr Isaac Adewole, a former health minister of Nigeria who now serves as a consultant for the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Only a few of the world's 82 poorest countries — including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia and Nepal — have reached the 70% vaccination threshold. Many are under 20%, according to data compiled from government sources by the Our World in Data project at the University of Oxford.

By comparison, about two-



Mainland China reported 24,326 new infections on Saturday. AP

thirds of the world's richest countries have reached 70%. The consequences of giving up on achieving high vaccination coverage worldwide could prove se-

vere. Public health experts say that abandoning the global effort could lead to emergence of dangerous new variants that would threaten the world's precarious efforts to live with the virus.

"This pandemic is not over yet — far from it — and it's imperative that countries use the doses available to them to protect as much of their population as possible," said Dr Seth Berkeley, CEO of Gavi, nonprofit that runs global vaccine clearinghouse COVAX.

Countries in different parts of the world, including some in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, have seen their vaccination rates stagnate in recent months at one-third or less of their pop-

ulations. But Africa's vaccination rate remain the most dismal.

Fewer than 17% of Africans have received a primary Covid immunisation. Nearly half of the vaccine doses delivered to the continent thus far have gone unused. WHO officials attributed the drop to mass vaccination pushes being replaced by smaller-scale campaigns in several countries.

Some public health experts point to reasons for optimism that the global vaccination campaign still has steam. There is also hope that a global Covid summit White House plans to co-host next month could be an opportunity to generate momentum, funding.

The African Union still aims

to vaccinate 70% of its population by the end of 2022. But with countries slow to use up donated vaccines, the bloc has not exercised its options to order more doses of the shots from Johnson & Johnson and Moderna.

The Serum Institute of India, the world's largest vaccine maker, stopped its production of Covid shots in December, when its stockpile grew to 200 million doses; Bharat Biotech, another Indian firm that was a major producer, also stopped making vaccine in the face of low demand. The companies say they have no further orders since their contracts with the Indian government ended in March. NYT

Biden quotes Xi: US strengthening Quad against Beijing

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, APRIL 23

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden on Friday said his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping once told him that he was strengthening Quad against China. "I indicated to Xi Jinping that I was going to pull together the Quad: Australia, India, Japan, and the United States. He said, 'You're just doing that to affect us.' I said, 'No, it's because we're trying to put together those folks who have an opportunity to work together in the Indo-Pacific,'" Biden said during a party fundraiser event at a private residence in Seattle. "The point being that one of

the things that the autocrats fear the most — and India has its own problems; all those countries have their own problems — is the notion that somehow we can work together in concert and contrary to what are essentially dictatorships, which a lot of countries have become, particularly not only China but Russia and other countries...the Philippines," he said. Biden said when he got elected, Russian president Vladimir Putin thought that he would easily be able to break up NATO. "That's what part of his objective was from the very beginning. And I know I've been saying that for eight years, but it was part of his objective," he said. PTI



ARTS etc

The Lives of Others

Despite the many shortcomings in its depiction of the colonised, period drama *Bridgerton* Season 2 allows for a satisfying slow burn over eight tantalising episodes



BOOKS

- Review of Arun Shourie's *The Commissioner for Lost Causes*
- Review of GN Devy's *Mahabharata: The Epic and the Nation*

IMAGINE A FOREST

Ahead of a celebration of his art, the story of Gond artist Jangarh Singh Shyam, who would have turned 60 this year, and his journey from a village in Madhya Pradesh to some of the finest museums in the world

Vandana Kalra

ARTIST VENKAT Raman Singh Shyam distinctly remembers the morning of July 3, 2001, when he received the news that his uncle and mentor Jangarh Singh Shyam was no more. He was in the middle of painting a hoarding in Bhopal and found it difficult to believe that a homesick Jangarh had committed suicide during a three-month residency at the Mithila Museum in Japan's Niigata. This was Jangarh's third visit to the country. He seemed to have been enthralled by Japan and had even named his daughter Japani, but he had been reluctant about this trip. "He wasn't really keen to go. He was also displeased when the trip was extended. He was missing his family and friends," says Venkat.

The death of Jangarh at only 38 shook the art world. It was also a personal loss for the younger artists of his tribe of Pradhan Gonds who had been following in his artistic footsteps. Until then, most of his kin had been assisting Jangarh, as he brought global recognition to the largely oral myths and legends of the tribe by transforming them into visual

narratives. Through dotted lines, he created jagged patterns to tell the tales of their gods and goddesses and the waves and squiggles embodied movements of the animals that inhabited the deep forests. He single-handedly established a new school of painting: "Jangarh Kalam".

In the year that marks his 60th birth anniversary and 20 years after his demise, Jangarh will be celebrated at the 13th edition of the India Art Fair that begins on April 28 in Delhi. The event will have a special section devoted to his works from the private collection of Delhi-based art collector Ajay Kumar Gupta. Several booths will showcase works of other practitioners of Gond art, including those of his protégés. In addition, an exhibition at Delhi's Ojas Art Gallery features works of artists Bhajju Shyam and Durgabai Vyam, alongside contemporary artists such as Ranbir Kaleka, GR Iranna and Jagannath Panda. Another parallel exhibition in the capital's India Habitat Centre will include Jangarh's works from the collection of Niloufar and Mitchell Abdul Karim Crites, who knew him for over 15 years, from the time Mitchell first met him at the Surajkund Mela in Haryana in 1987. "One of the first Gond artists to use acrylic on canvas, his un-



JYOTI BHATT ARCHIVE, ASIA ART ARCHIVE



FABULEUX ART

COLOUR ME A WORLD

(Above) Artist Jyoti Bhatt's portrait of Jagdish Swaminathan with Jangarh Singh Shyam and his wife Nankusiya Shyam; one of Jangarh's works, *Krishna Leela* (2001), acrylic and serigraphy on canvas, to be shown at the India Art Fair

conventional colours for the time were distinctive of his style. Ahead of his times, he had a contemporary take on what was a traditional art form," says Jaya Asokan, director, India Art Fair.

Though Jangarh received acclaim during his lifetime, in the last decade, Gond art has flourished and taken diverse trajectories, on canvas and beyond. While urban themes are now commonplace, the repetitive lines and minuscule dots have come together to illustrate several books and also entered homes in the form of murals and everyday objects.



Born in Patangarh in Madhya Pradesh in a

family of Pradhans, the bards of the Gonds, at a young age Jangarh was forced into manual labour due to financial compulsions. A flautist, he liked to play Ram in village *Ram leelas* and painted murals with natural pigments on rainy walls that the villagers often admired. It was serendipitous that around the same time artist J Swaminathan was sending teams to the interiors of Madhya Pradesh to scout for talent, ahead of the opening of Bharat Bhavan, a multi-arts centre in Bhopal in 1982. During one such excursion, artist Vivek Tembe spotted 17-year-old Jangarh's Hanuman in *peeli mitti* and requested him to paint on paper, taking the sheets back to Swaminathan, who invited him to work in Bhopal. A keen learner, he soon became adept with acrylics and the techniques of printmaking. Though his narratives often centred around indigenous traditions and folklore, the urban surroundings were also embraced and imbibed and his palette ranged from paints in vivid hues to black ink line drawings.

While his innate talent garnered attention and monetary appreciation, it also led to resentment. In his book *Jangarh Singh Shyam: A Conjuror's Archive* (2019, Mapin Publishing), art historian Jyotindra Jain writes, "He (Jangarh) said that when he was initially appointed as an attendant at Bharat Bhavan, he was rudely asked by some of his modern-art colleagues to serve them tea or clear away empty cups and plates, often with a sarcastic comment that 'you have now become a big artist.' Jangarh found these insults difficult to bear and often complained to Swaminathan, who was the director. Eventually, Jangarh was given the position of 'artist' at Bharat Bhavan, a special designation created for him."

Jangarh's works travelled the world before him. In 1988, the artist made his first trip abroad when he visited Japan for the opening of the travelling exhibition "Art of the Adivasis" at Museum of Modern Art, Saitama. Next year, he was one of the five Indian participants in the landmark exhibition, "Magiciens de la Terre" at the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

However, even as the dotted patterns made headway in contemporary art spaces overseas, closer home Jangarh found himself caught in the delineation between the mainstream and the marginal.

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Veena World Women's Special Tours

Let's make life more interesting!

Chalo, Bag Bharo, Nikal Pado!

Join Veena World's girl gang and rock the world!

Group Tour Switzerland 239000 10 Days May 31

Group Tour Dubai Abu Dhabi 95000 6D-May 15, 23

Maritim Crystals Beach Group Tour Mauritius 115000 7D-May 18

Eriyadu Resort Group Tour Maldives 80000 4D-May 10, 17

Group Tour Nepal 60000 8 Days onwards

Women's Special Tours

Leh Ladakh Nubra Pangong (9D) May 20 - 66000

Leh Ladakh Nubra Pangong (7D) May 8 - 52000

Kashmir (6D) May 11 - 49000

Shimla Manali (6D) May 11 - 39000

Amritsar with Attari Wagah Border (4D) May 9-28K

Nainital Mussoorie Corbett Park (9D) May 23-55K

Assam Arunachal Meghalaya(12D)May3 - 85K

Sikkim Darjeeling Gangtok (7D) June 5 - 59000

Jaipur Udaipur Pushkar (6D) May 8 - 32000

Kerala (6D) May 8 - 35000

Nepal Pokhara Chitwan (8D) May 18 - 60000

Dubai Abu Dhabi (6D) May 29 - 95000

Mauritius (7D) May 25 - 115000

Switzerland (10D) May 31 - 239000

Couples Only (for middle-age couples)

Leh Ladakh Nubra Pangong (9D) May 21 - 66000

Kashmir (8D) June 18 - 60000

Shimla Manali Manikaran (8D) May 24 - 48000

YOLO Adventures (for 18-35 year olds)

Leh Nubra Pangong Hanle (10D) May 31-72K

Pahalgam Gulmarg Sonmarg Srinagar (10D) June 13-69K

YOLO Adventures (for 10-55 year olds)

Pahalgam Gulmarg Sonmarg Srinagar (10D) June 24-65K

Meghalaya Shillong Cherrapunjee (8D) May 28-70K

Honeymoon Special Tours (for young couples)

Leh Ladakh (7D) 54000 - 56000

Kashmir (6D) 47000 - 50000

Shimla Manali (6D/8D) 38000 - 48000

D'shala D'house Palampur Pragpur (8D) 52K - 54K

Sikkim Gangtok (6D) 53000 - 55000

Coorg Mysore Bengaluru (7D) 43K - 45K

Munnar Periyar Kumarakom (7D) 38K - 40K

Maldives - Eriyadu Resort (4D) 80000

Mauritius - Maritim Resort (7D) 115000

Road Trips-Bharat Jodo Paryatan Abhlyan

Leh Ladakh Manali Kashmir (15D) July 15 - 90000

Leh Ladakh Manali (11D) July 15 - 76000

Laheul Spiti Chandrataal (12D) June 2 - 66000

Kashmir to Kanyakumari (40D) Nov 12 - 200000

Short Trips

Amritsar with Farm Stay (4D) 29000 - 32000

Sarnath Varanasi (5D) 34000 - 36000

Statue of Unity+Narmada Tent City (3D) 28K-30K

Indore Ujjain Mandu (5D) 36000 - 38000

Young Explorers (for 8-18 year olds)

Shimla Manali (6D) May 28 - 40000

Family Tours

All of Leh (13D) May 29 - 87000

Leh Nubra Pangong (7D/9D Kargil) 54000-68000

All of Kashmir (11D) June 12 - 73000

Kashmir (5D/6D/8D) 44000 - 63000

All of Himachal (15D) 84000 - 86000

Dalhousie D'shala Amritsar Shimla Manali (13D) 73K-75K

Dalhousie D'shala Amritsar (8D) 47K-50K

D'shala D'house Palampur Pragpur (8D) 49K-52K

Shimla Manali (6D/8D) 37000 - 48000

Nainital Mussoorie Corbett Park (9D) 53K - 57K

Nainital Mussoorie Haridwar (6D) 40K - 42K

Nainital Corbett Park (6D) 40000 - 42000

Sikkim Darjeeling Gangtok Lachung (9D) 68K - 70K

Sikkim Darjeeling Gangtok (7D) 59000 - 62000

Shillong Cherrapunjee Guwahati (8D) 62K-64K

Madhya Pradesh Magic (9D) 54K - 56K

Rajasthan (6D) 32000 - 34000

Gujarat+Statue of Unity (10D) 48000-50000

Coorg Mysore Bengaluru (7D) 44K - 46K

Kerala (6D) 35000 - 37000

Andaman (7D) May 8, 29 - 61000 - 63000

Seniors' Special Tours (golden age celebration for 55+)

Leh Ladakh Kargil(7D)June 27-53K

Kashmir (6D) May 23 - 50000

Shimla Manali (8D) May 2 - 46000

Dalhousie D'shala Amritsar (8D) May 2-48K

Nainital Mussoorie Corbett Park (9D) May 17 - 54K

Sikkim Darjeeling (7D) June 1 - 59000

Gujarat+Statue of Unity (10D) May 4 - 47000

Nepal Pokhara Chitwan (8D) May 11 - 62000

Mauritius (7D) June 8 - 115000

International Tours (with Airfare, VISA Fee & Insurance*)

All of Nepal (13D) June 17 - 117000

Dubai with Burj Khalifa (4D) May 31, June 16-70K

England Scotland Ireland Wales (15D) 335000

England Scotland (10D) 250000

Iceland (10D) 325000

Iceland Northern Lights (10D) Nov 13-325000

Maldives-Eriyadu Resort (4D) May 17-80000

ROE @1USD=₹77, 1EUR=186. Prevailing rate will apply.

Customized Holidays (ex-destination)

Mauritius with Tarisa Resort (7D) 37000

Leh Nubra with Pangong (6D) 33K

Swiss Getaway (5D) 74000

Iconic Himachal (7D) 36K

Nainital Corbett (6D) 40K

Today SUNDAY All Sales Offices are OPEN 11 to 7

Main Hoon Na!

Group tour price includes to and fro airfare, transport, accommodation, all meals: breakfast-lunch-dinner, sightseeing with entrance fees, tips and services of a Tour Manager.

veenaworld.com • Call: 1800 22 7979 • Mon-Sat 10 to 7 • travel@veenaworld.com • Follow f @ t w

Dadar - Prabhadevi 887 997 2203	Vile Parle(E) 887 997 2213	Borivali 887 997 2201	Matunga(C.R.) 887 997 2214	Thane 887 997 2205	Pune 887 997 2300
Girgaon - Charni Road 887 997 2215	Vile Parle(W) 887 997 2212	Andheri 887 997 2216	Chembur 887 997 2202	Dombivali 887 997 2206	Chinchwad 887 997 2310
Ghatkopar - Vidyavihar 887 997 2221	Vasai 887 997 2209	Vashi 887 997 2207	Bengaluru 887 997 2217	Kolkata 887 997 2288	Toll Free 1800 22 7979

Corporate Office: Mumbai (Vidyavihar) 022 2101 7979 • For contact details of Sales Partners across India, visit veenaworld.com



VEENA WORLD

Travel. Explore. Celebrate.

All group tours are ex-Mumbai. Tour price is per person and on twin sharing basis. These 'Super Deal' Tour Prices are nett and no discount is applicable. At the time of booking, tour price to be paid in full INR by Google Pay/PhonePe/PayTM/-Card/NEFT/RTGS, in the name of 'Veena Patil Hospitality Pvt. Ltd.'. No cash transactions at Veena World. Government taxes apply. Any increase in YQ taxes, fuel surcharges, airport taxes will have to be borne by the travellers. T&C apply.

DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal

Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

All the Wheels

When Mother Nature forgot to invent the wheel

IT REALLY is a bit galling: you think of any “great” invention of ours and you’ll find that good old Mother Nature and her evolutionary engineering department had got there, done it millions of years earlier, turning us into nothing but copycats — and nowhere as good as her. So, she had planes: bats, those monstrous flying lizards, birds and insects; helicopters: spiraling seed pods; submarines: fish; and parasailing baby spiders, *et al*. She could produce very efficient cold light in the blackness of the ocean depths and had the technical prowess to zap you with a 600-volt electric shock. She could sense the Earth’s magnetic and gravitational fields and the faintest electrical signals given out by living bodies. She was in the arms race and into chemical warfare much before we thought they were ideas we could use. She seemed to have invented everything needed — offensive or defensive — for the survival of billions of life forms she evolved.

Then I grinned: aha, there was one little thing she’d left out of her box of tricks — and thus was our biggest triumph of all! She hadn’t thought of inventing the wheel. This was a toughie because even we only got serious about the wheel during the Bronze Age and two ancient civilisations actually discarded it as being useless. But for Mother Nature to not think of it at all: Curious really, because a man on a bicycle is 25 per cent more efficient than a man walking, 15 per cent more efficient than an automobile and 400 times as efficient as a cockroach walking. So, why did nature miss out on this form of locomotion?

Well, there were several technical problems she found impossible to surmount. For one, a wheel needs an axle which will give it the motive power to rotate. All living creatures need blood vessels and nerves to operate them — to provide energy and get rid of waste, and the wheel would need that, too. But a single rotation of a “natural” living wheel would strangle any attached veins or nerves, shutting down the system. But Mother Nature is ingenious, so why didn’t she think of attaching wheels to their axles with dead tissue — like the keratin in our hair and nerves? The motive power could come from the usual leg muscles: in other words, why could rats (and cats) not zoom around on wheels resembling roller skates? We’ll come to the answer in a moment, after tackling some of the other major issues Mother Nature is faced up with.

A wheel is a totality in itself — you cannot think of half



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

HORSING AROUND

Why legs may be better than wheels

a wheel or quarter of a wheel. Mother Nature, unfortunately, doesn’t get full-blown brainwaves (or eureka moments) like the wheel demands. She has a completely different methodology. She goes about making infinitesimal improvements to her existing genetic designs often taking million of years to achieve perfection. Even her starting points must have some survival value — otherwise she would discard them. For example, the development of the eye started with light-sensitive cells whose performance improved when they were concentrated in pits, because the organism was now more sensitive to light, shade and movement, which in turn helped it to survive. From here developed the lens, the rods and cones, the diaphragm and iris: the eye. But if she were given, say, a quarter of a wheel to start off with, what would she do with it? It had no intrinsic value in the first place!

A natural wheel would have to grow — and, if attached to the axle with dead tissue, how would that happen?

The big question, however, was: were wheels really of any use to Mother Nature’s menagerie and its philosophy of survival? I keep grinning when I imagine rats, cats and dogs racing after each other on roller-skate-like wheels, but they’d need a minister like our honourable Nitin Gadkari to build them the roads for that! Extrapolate those to elephants and hippos and they’d need expressways! In their natural environment — and even in cities — they’d be tripping and flipping over all the time in pot-holes, kerbs and ditches! Even we do. I remember the sheer disdain with which a Great Indian bustard (may its soul rest in peace) outpaced our Buckingham Palace Jeep with easy strides in the Karera Wildlife Sanctuary (now extinct). Imagine cheetahs chasing impala on the African plains — both on wheels! Powerful, strong legs were easily the better option. So, even if there was a way Mother Nature could evolve wheels — she wouldn’t.

To be sure, there is one, minute bacterial creature that does use a “wheel”. Using a rotary motor, the flagella of the prokaryote cell freely spin like a wheel, creating a corkscrew-like movement in a filament, to which it is attached to move the cell around. This system, however, can only work at the molecular level and can’t be scaled up for larger organisms. Ah, you may argue, what about the pangolin that curls up into a globe and that spider in the desert that rolls itself into a ball and zooms down the dunes, and tumbleweed drifting for miles across the desert? Well, here the entire animal turns itself into a “wheel”, just like a child somersaulting, and that doesn’t really count!



LIAM DANIEL/NETFLIX

Benita Fernando

THESE A perfectly admissible explanation for the Kate Sharma-Appa-Bon-Didi problem. Perhaps, Kate’s mother was Tamil, and “Appa” is Kate’s way of honouring her roots. Perhaps, she calls Edwina “bon” (the Bengali “bone” means younger sister) as an inside joke between the two. Edwina is fluent in Marathi, which is understandable as the Sharmas are from Bombay. Perhaps, their father, a clerk, was smart to learn the local language (Gujarati would have been of interest, too). Any number of conjectures could untangle this caricature of an Indian family that *Bridgerton* served this season, drawing flak from Indian audiences for its wilful ignorance and poor understanding of India’s complexities.

Paromita Vohra, filmmaker and founder of Agents of Ishq, a multimedia platform on sex and desire, says, it is indeed perplexing that people just can’t seem to get the textures of Indian identity right. She says, “In *Bridgerton*, one takes nothing seriously, to be honest, not the exaggerated panting of the main leads and not the hilarious masala chai. Rather, like older Bollywood, a certain preposterousness comes with the territory. And yet, it is definitely part of an entire history of *gadbad* representation of Indian characters, whether it is Mangal Pandey being denoted as Bengali, or Bon and Appa being words of address in the same family.”

Season 2 is currently Netflix’s most-watched English-language series with 627.11 million hours of viewership in their first 28 days on the OTT, beating Season 1 by 1.62 million hours. The second season focuses on a match for the eldest Bridgerton, Anthony — a viscount and the man of the house. His sights are set on Edwina as a suitable match even as his heart aches for Kate. The series is set in 1813-14, in a fantasy version of the Regency era, where the reigning queen is black, the East India Company (EIC) doesn’t exist, and colonialism, like racism, is unheard of. Tea, spices, and the sheer cotton shirt that sticks to Anthony’s chest (a role reversal of Bollywood’s obsession with wet-sari scenes) have been stripped of their dark connotations and somehow landed in *Bridgerton* despite the absence of colonialism. Kate dismisses “this pitiful excuse for tea the English so adore” and makes her own chai with spices — a move that has won brownie points from Indian audiences for the show. In reality, tea wasn’t a popular

beverage among Indians until a century later, as Krish Ashok, author of *Masala Lab: The Science of Indian Cooking* (2020), confirms. A majority of the Indian population did not have a morning or evening beverage. In some parts, a carb-heavy rice milk was consumed by those who performed hard labour.

Ashok says, “The only people drinking tea in the early 19th century were British officials, some indigenous people in Assam and elite Indians who picked up the habit from the colonial masters.” In 1903, the government’s tea board (now Tea Board India) started heavily marketing the brew in India. The Indian response was to initially reject tea’s subtle flavours and infuse it with ginger and cardamom, giving rise to masala chai’s popularity. *Bridgerton* also dismisses tea’s controversial links with opium. In the early 19th century, the only teas available were from China, supplied to Britain in exchange for opium from India — a trade that would result in the infamous Opium Wars in the mid-19th century.

How far can storytellers go in their attempts to revise history? Shashi Tharoor, Lok Sabha MP and author of *Inglorious Empire: What the British did to India* (2017), says that while he hasn’t watched *Bridgerton*, he has, for long, had a problem with the “gauzy romanticism” with which the British like to view the colonial era. He says, “It wasn’t all tea parties and croquet on the lawn... Colonialism rested on the cruel

The Lives of Others

Its many shortcomings aside — anachronisms, portrayal of the colonised, confused cultural references — period drama *Bridgerton Season 2* is a satisfying slow burn

edifice of racism and exploitation, and to gloss over that is rank dishonesty... Colour was an indistinguishable factor governing the way people were perceived and treated, well into the middle of the twentieth century.”

Perhaps, Kate invents masala tea in this fantasy *Bridgerton*. And while she is welcomed here, historically, things were not easy for Indian women in elite British circles. Arup K Chatterjee, professor at OP Jindal Global University and author of *Indians in London: From the Birth of the East India Company to Independent India* (2021), says that Indian wives, *begums* and mistresses who travelled with Europeans to London led relatively unfortunate lives compared to the men. He says, “Indian or Indian-origin

women in Britain were unrelentingly yoked to their racial identity and their ability to imbibe ‘Englishness’ by virtue of mimicry of English manners and contracting expedient romantic alliances, preferably with EIC officials and soldiers.” These didn’t always guarantee successful integration.

Chatterjee cites the example of Halima Begum of Awadh, who travelled with a French mercenary soldier General Benoît de Boigne in 1796 and began living in London, rechristened as Helene Benoit or Bennett. Her husband left her for the daughter of an exiled French ambassador. Eventually, she retired to Sussex, where she lived the rest of her life on a small

pension arranged by friends. She carried on with a few vestiges of her bygone *begum*hood, one of them being the habit of smoking *hookahs*. Yet, she was generally regarded as a pious Catholic woman — having converted to her husband’s religion before marriage. It has been speculated that the Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley saw her roaming about St Leonard’s Forest as a “Black Princess”.

Bridgerton 2 deftly escapes the timeworn tropes of an exotic, mysterious Orient. By casting two British-Tamil actors — Simone Ashley and Charithra Chandran — in leading roles, *Bridgerton* has done a better job than mainstream Tamil cinema, where dark Dravidian female actors are mostly seen in roles signifying a lower-economic class, an oppressed caste or rural India.

If history has to be sacrificed at the altar of fantasy, such rewards could be worthwhile. *Hamilton*, Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Pulitzer-winning hip-hop musical that premiered in 2015, reimagined America’s Founding Fathers as people of colour through a diverse cast. Productions like these allow Bipoc (Black, indigenous, and people of colour) actors to participate in period settings that are otherwise solely associated with slavery, racism and colonialism. There may not have been space for the Sharma sisters in Regency England, but there certainly is for Ashley and Chandran in roles that don’t portray them as oppressed in a historical setting that was predominantly White and upper class.

Vohra believes filmmakers can go as far as they want when it comes to rethinking historical facts so long as the work has artistic and ethical integrity, allowing viewers to follow the filmmakers’ logic, whether it’s factually rooted, an imaginative creative or political gesture.

Recent criticisms of *Bridgerton* have attacked its complacent acceptance of the dowry system and its use of an upper-caste surname. Sure, there is a lot to hate about it, but what is *Bridgerton*, if not desire persevering? The series seemingly upholds courtship, but has lovers unite despite strict moral codes. It should appeal to India, where love matches are violently regulated. Besides, if we can accept a Malti Marie Chopra Jonas, why not the fictional Sharma family mash-up? If we allow ourselves, we can appreciate Season 2 for what it is — one long foreplay session, lasting nearly till the end, so that it achieves a stronger climax. Or, as genteel folk call it — a slow burn. The gloves should come off, but sometimes it’s okay to do that under a gazebo, in the arms of a lover.

» FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

FEW MODERNISTS attended his first solo at Dhoomimal Gallery in Delhi in 1984 and his work customarily found space at craft museums rather than art galleries. Even today, though he is recognised as an established master and his works are in prestigious international museum collections, including London’s Victoria & Albert Museum, the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) in India does not own a single work by a Gond artist. “We have been promoting folk and tribal art through other initiatives and have reached out to artists pursuing the genre in recent years. It is important to give artists pursuing indigenous art forms their due and we are considering acquisition of works that we hope to have in our collection soon,” says Adwaita Gadanayak, director general of NGMA.



The cornerstone of Gond art might be the tribe’s oral tales, but over time, there have been reinventions. In his short career span, Jangarh produced a substantial body of work, experimenting with themes and mediums, illustrating for a children’s publication *Chakmak* and maps for the Dastkari Haat Samiti. Much larger than his own work, his contribution extends to the numerous artists he trained to carry forward his idiom. At all times, his Bhopal studio had apprentices who’d assist him in filling fine patterns and fulfilling his pictorial vision. For architect Charles Correa, who designed Bhopal’s Vidhan Bhavan in 1996, the mammoth murals Jangarh was commissioned to paint involved a team of



COURTESY: VENKAT SHYAM



DOWN TO EARTH

(From left) Venkat Shyam’s *Mother Earth*; Bhajju Shyam’s *Mitrata* (Friendship); Durgabai Vyam’s *Fireflies and Cow*



IMAGES COURTESY: OJAS ART GALLERY

artists he tutored. Some of them are now prominent names, including Ram Singh Urveti, Subhash Vyam and Bhajju Shyam. “He encouraged us to develop an individual language of expression. He’d say, Bhajju bano, Jangarh nahi (become Bhajju, not Jangarh),” says Bhajju, 51. He was working as a night watchman when Jangarh asked him to work for him as his apprentice for Rs 600 a month. As the 2018 Padma Shri awardee prepares for a solo at Kolkata’s Aakriti Art Gallery in July, he recalls his first sale by Jangarh when he sold five of his paintings for Rs 1,200 in Delhi in 1994. “Most collectors used to travel to Bhopal to buy his works but he always promoted younger talent,” says Bhajju.

The art form that Jangarh birthed, ironically,

found a renewed life after his death. The artist’s tragic demise under suspicious circumstances away from home drew curiosity to his art. Within his community, too, Venkat, 51, notes, the artists he’d handheld were compelled to explore independent avenues and individual talents. In *Finding My Way* (2016, Juggernaut), he writes: “It was only after Jangarh’s death that I felt the calling to be an artist.”

Notwithstanding their inherited legacies, each artist in the genre has developed their individual vocabulary. “Somewhere along the line, each artist evolved a signature style based on their individual manner of creating patterns using dots, strokes, lines. Bhajju Shyam’s parallel lines and running chain, and Ram Singh’s chevron or arrowhead patterns, for example, became the hallmarks of these two

artists’ works,” writes Jain.

Recipient of this year’s Padma Shri award, Durgabai Vyam, 49, says reinventing is crucial for sustained interest and growth. Though she’d assist her mother in making *digna* patterns (geometrical patterns) on the walls and floor, she was introduced to acrylics by her cousin Jangarh, after her marriage to Subhash. “The oral narratives also have various versions and each artist’s individual experience reflects in their work,” she says. She’s also illustrated numerous publications — from *Bhimayana* (2011, Navayana), where she and Subhash illustrated BR Ambedkar’s life story, to the feminist utopia *Sultana’s Dream* (2018, Tara Books) by Begum Rokeya. “Books require much more detailing, but the reach is much wider,” she adds.

While no Gond artist has managed to surpass Jangarh’s 2010 record of garnering Rs 14.5 lakh at a Sotheby’s auction, the category has seen a steady price rise in recent years. “The demand has been increasing, as have the prices. The collectors are primarily expats and when compared to their contemporary counterparts, the prices fetched by Gond artists are relatively much lower. We are seeing increased interest among Indian institutions,” says Anubhav Nath, director of Delhi’s Ojas Art Gallery, where indigenous art has been sharing space with the contemporary for over a decade.

With popularity comes its downsides. Bhajju, who’s been teaching and conducting workshops, says youngsters now sell reproductions at cheaper prices, adding, “Going forward, if people don’t learn and practise, art will suffer.” Like Bhajju’s, Durgabai’s house in Bhopal teems with eager youngsters. “We want our next generation to get more opportunities, to be able to tell the world about our art and tradition,” says Durgabai.

These are, perhaps, the wrong questions to ask and certainly ones with no answer. Yet, in New India, it is rare that work on the country's cultural, collective consciousness leads one to them. For that reason, among many others, Devy's work is of great significance.

Archery World Cup: Indian men bag team gold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ANTALYA, APRIL 23

INDIAN MEN'S compound archery team of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini downed France by one-point in a thrilling final to win the gold medal at the World Cup Stage 1 here on Saturday.

This was the men's compound team's first World Cup gold medal since Shanghai 2017. The Indians won 232-231 to clinch the gold. India, however, lost out on a second medal after the compound mixed pair of Verma and Muskan Kirar went down 156-157 to Croatia in the bronze medal playoff.

In the compound men's team final, the Indian trio started off with a one-point deficit, losing the first end 56-57 to their French rivals of Jean Philippe Bouch, Quentin Baraer and Adrien Contier.

India slowly improved on their first-end score by one-point but the French team had a near perfect set of 59/60 comprising three four 10s, including arrows closer to the centre (X) to extend their lead (113-116).

Trailing by three points, Indians showed amazing resilience to drill in a perfect end of 60/60 with two Xs to win the third set 60-58, and curtail the deficit by one-point (173-174).

There was no stopping the Indian trio thereafter as they shot a 59 in the fourth end, with the under-pressure Frenchmen managing 57 to go down by one-point.

"Mentally we were really strong today, and we've been preparing for this event only and we have the Asian Games coming up this year which is something we also want to do well at," 24-year-old Saini, who bagged his first World Cup gold, said. "After the gold medal that gives us a great confidence boost especially for the other world cup events, it will hopefully help us."

On Sunday, India's recurve mixed team pair of Tarundeep Rai and Ridhi Phor will be vying for a second gold after having defeated Spain in the semi-final 5-3.

Mentally we were really strong today, and we've been preparing for this event only and we have the Asian Games coming up this year which is something we also want to do well at. After the gold medal that gives us a great confidence boost especially for the other world cup events, it will hopefully help us."

AMAN SAINI
COMPOUND ARCHER, INDIA

Bajrang's silver medal raises several red flags

Lack of cohesiveness and rehab mismanagement impacts wrestler's preparation

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, APRIL 23

BAJRANG PUNIA settled for a silver, but there's barely any silver lining to his Asian Championship medal.

The only consolation, if any, was that the Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist reached the final in his first international competition since the Games last year. But the gold medal bout, against the junior world champion from Iran Rahmad Mousa Amouzadkhalili, should be a forewarning.

If the Tokyo Olympics bronze medal bout was a show of sheer bravado - with Bajrang flinging aside his knee strapping and going all out, even risking his injured knee in the process - Saturday's Asian Championship final was the very antithesis of that bout. It was conservative, cagey and lacked the velocity that's usually associated with the Indian star.

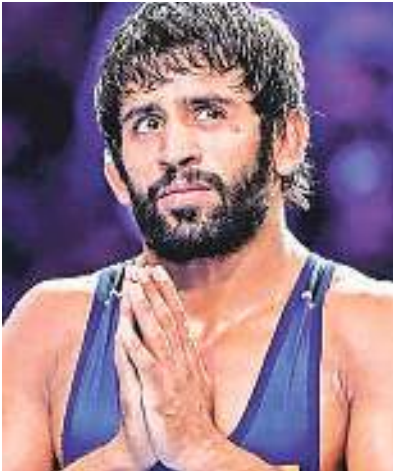
In that sense, Bajrang's performance was similar in nature to the one at last month's selection trials for the continental championship, where he was far from convincing in his narrow win over Rohit Singh in the final.

It can partly be put down to rustiness. Bajrang, after all, has rarely been away from the mat for such a long period. But largely, it can be attributed to mismanagement on the part of everyone involved in managing the wrestler.

In the eight-month gap between his two international tournaments, Bajrang has primarily been trying to recuperate from his knee injuries. He hurt his right knee during a tournament in Russia just before the Olympics last year. Then, in January, while he was still recovering, he injured his left knee as, he claimed, all the pressure came on one leg. However, after the selection trials last month, he claimed he was undergoing rehab, without a full-time physiotherapist who could monitor his rehab.

"I was recovering from a knee injury and doing my own rehab with no doctor or physio. I had their services till the Olympics. After that, I requested... but no one was made available... I have not been able to train continuously because of the injuries. Had there been a physio, I would have been fit by now and played in the ranking series," Bajrang, who had to skip two international tournaments this year because of the injury, had said after the selection trials.

The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and the Sports Authority of India pointed fin-



Wrestler Bajrang Punia took longer than expected to recover from his knee injury. File

gers at the Railways for not releasing Dr. Anand Kumar, whose services Bajrang had requested in an email dated November 22, 2021. Then, they blamed Bajrang for not choosing to avail services of two physios at the national camp.

Post Olympics, the WFI has discouraged wrestlers from working with personal physios. On the other hand, Bajrang, until now one of the fittest Indian athletes, has claimed he needs one since 'he has been getting injured more frequently'.

Simply put, it's been an example of how not to support an athlete, least of all an Olympic, world and Asian medalist and someone who firmly remains a contender for the Paris Games in two years' time.

On Saturday, the effects of these decisions and delays were visible. Throughout his bout against Amouzadkhalili, Bajrang looked hesitant to go all out in attack, perhaps still not confident about the recovery of his knee, at on occasions, seemed lacking a strategy as he got undone by the Iranian's underhooks and leg-holds. Bajrang, favourite to win the gold in a relatively weaker field, succumbed to a 3-1 defeat.

It's only going to get tougher for the Indian in the upcoming tournaments, especially the Asian Games where his nemesis Takuto Otoguro of Japan is likely to return. By then, Bajrang, who said at the trials last month he was 90 percent fit, will hope to re-

Simply put, it's been an example of how not to support an athlete, least of all an Olympic, world and Asian medalist and someone who firmly remains a contender for the Paris Games in two years' time

cover fully and have a proper support system like before.

Dahiya's golden hat-trick

While Bajrang stumbled at the final hurdle, Ravi Dahiya has emerged as the undisputed best in Asia in the 57kg weight category once again. The Olympics silver medalist won his third-straight continental gold, beating Kazakhstan's Rakhat Kalzhan by technical superiority - that is, with a point differential of 10.

Dahiya, who won a silver medal at the Don Kolov tournament earlier this year, has been unstoppable since winning his first Asian title three years ago. Since then, he has medalled in almost every tournament he has taken part in, including the Tokyo Games. And on Saturday, he extended his dominance, swatting aside his opponents with utmost ease.

In each bout, Dahiya conceded points early on but in his trademark style, he bounced back with his tremendous speed and skill. He outsmarted Japan's Rikuto Arai by technical superiority and then defeated Mongolia's Zanaabazar Zandanbud 12-5 to reach the final, which he made a one-sided affair and won halfway into the second period to clinch the gold.

It was a day when, as expected, all five Indian wrestlers earned podium finishes.

Gourav Balian, competing in the 79kg class, was impressive in his silver-winning effort, especially in the final against Iran's Ali Bakhtiar Savadkouhi, which he lost on criteria. Balian was trailing 0-8 in the second period but staged a remarkable comeback to end the bout with scores tied 9-9. However, since his Iranian opponent had a high-scoring four-point move, Balian lost the bout.

Naveen, in 70kg, and Satyawart Kadiyan (97kg) won bronze medals.

Arsenal dent Man United's top-four hopes with 3-1 win

REUTERS
LONDON, APRIL 23

ERIK TEN Hag looks increasingly likely to be taking over a Manchester United team missing from the Champions League.

Potentially a squad of superstars in disarray, too.

Despite Cristiano Ronaldo making an emotional scoring return, United was beaten 3-1 at Arsenal in the Premier League on Saturday and dropped six points off its rival in the race for a top-four finish.

Granit Xhaka blew kisses to the home fans - who have often criticized him - after his long-range, 70th-minute strike clinched victory for Arsenal in a wild game at Emirates Stadium that saw the hosts lead 2-0 after 32 minutes on goals by Nuno Tavares and Bukayo Saka before withstanding a fightback from United launched by Ronaldo's 100th Premier League goal.

The Portugal superstar, who missed the 4-0 loss to Liverpool on Tuesday while grieving the death of his newborn son, raised his left arm and pointed to the sky after scoring in the 34th minute.

Ronaldo might have had a chance to score an equalizer when United was awarded a penalty in the 55th after the ball struck the raised hand of Tavares at a corner. But instead of Ronaldo taking the spot kick, compatriot Bruno Fernandes took over and sent a weakly hit effort against the outside of the post following his trademark stuttering run-up.

To make matters worse for Fernandes, it was his miscontrol that gave Xhaka the opportunity to take aim and claim the crucial third goal for Arsenal, which climbed into fourth place above north London rival Tottenham. "If you look at the table," interim United manager Ralf Rangnick said, "I don't think it's very realistic to dream and think of the top four." Sixth-place United has four games left of a miserable season that will end with no trophies - for the fifth straight year - and see Ten Hag take over from Rangnick, the second of two caretaker managers installed by the club since Ole Gunnar Solskjaer was fired in November.

Ten Hag has a major job on his hands to rebuild United into the trophy-winning force of old. Rangnick said Friday the team needed open heart surgery as opposed to cosmetic changes and he was just as blunt a day later in assessing United's current problems.

"I think the whole group get on reasonably with each other - I'm daring to say they get on well with each other," Rangnick said.

"Quite obviously it's hard to motivate ... to keep the energy level high," he added.

"That's why it was still important to show some improvement and a reaction today, which was the case. Obviously there is no



Arsenal's Granit Xhaka celebrates with Alexandre Lacazette after scoring the team's third goal. Reuters

AWAY BLUES

Number of consecutive away matches Manchester United have lost in the league. It's the first time they've lost these many matches in a row since a run of six between December 1980 and March 1981, according to Opta.

substitute to success."

This was another worrying defensive display after United's mauling by Liverpool.

Club captain Harry Maguire was left out by Rangnick, because of a combination of the England defender's poor recent form and the fact he received a bomb threat at his home during the week. "After all the issues Harry had to deal with, it was a tough week for him," Rangnick said.

Saka went off injured midway through the second half but he had already done his damage by then. It was his curling shot that was palmed out by David De Gea straight to the feet of Tavares, who turned the ball home from close range in the third minute.

Then Saka scored a penalty for the second straight game - after doing so in the 4-2 win over Chelsea on Wednesday - after he was bundled over by Alex Telles. Eddie Nketiah pounced on the loose ball and converted his shot but was adjudged offside, only for VAR to spot the foul on Saka in the buildup.

Man City extend lead

Four goals from Brazilian forward Gabriel Jesus earned Manchester City a 5-1 win over relegation-threatened Watford. The victory moved champions City on to 80 points from 33 matches played, four clear of Liverpool ahead of Sunday's Merseyside derby, while Watford head towards relegation, sitting 19th seven points from safety.

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: Both

NORTH		WEST		NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	
♠ J876	♥ QJ6			1H			
♦ KQJ10	♣ J5	Pass	TNT	Pass	2H		
EAST		Pass	3H	Pass	4H		
♠ A1095	♥ 105	Pass	Pass	Pass			
♦ A652	♣ Q109						

West leads the king of spades. You signal with the ten and West continues the suit. South ruffs the second round and draws two rounds of trumps with the ace from his hand and the queen from dummy. West shows up with two hearts so you know that South started with six of them, not seven. Next North leads the king of diamonds. It is dangerous to play low on this since South might have a singleton. So you take it, West signaling with the eight. This looks like a high diamond suit so it is likely that West is showing a doubleton. If South has just one diamond, he is about to discard a lot of clubs on dummy's diamond winners. What card should East return?

The West Hand: S-KQ42H-94D-9874C-A82
The South Hand: S-3 H-AK8732D-3 C-K7643
Actually, the question is not which card East should return but which suit East should avoid returning. It looks like the diamond suit might be a worry but it is not a worry if you think about the right things. Try counting. What should East count here?

East should count everyone's points and he should try to count South's distribution and he should also count declarer's tricks. On this hand it is the tricks that are important. How many heart tricks does South have? Six. How many diamond tricks does South have? Three. How many spade tricks does South have? He has none, and won't get any either. How many club tricks does South have? Unknown. But you do know that if South does have a club trick, he will have ten in all. And if he has the ace and king of clubs, he will have eleven in all. What you need to find is a layout where South gets no club tricks. If he has the ace you can't do anything about it but if he has the king, your partner has the ace and between you and your partner you will be able to keep declarer from getting a club trick. Unless you lead one yourself. What's your best play? Anything but clubs. Say you lead a diamond. Dummy will win. At some time declarer will lead a club to his king and you will get your partner's ace and your queen. If you had led a club, thinking there was some urgency to this hand, declarer might guess to play low and that would force your partner's ace, giving declarer a trick with his king.

Count, count, count. I have given this advice many times and will give it again. Dealer: North Vulnerable: East/West

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ QJ43	♥ AKQ	♠ AK	♥ 10974
♦ 854	♣ AQ10	♦ 763	♣ 8743
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1C	Pass
Pass	3S	Pass	1S
Pass			Pass

South rejected his partner's invitational 3S bid and West got off to the lead of a trump. What should East do with this lead?

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Each life makes its own imitation of _____. - Stephen King (11)

CKAOR	EHYLMT
<div></div>	<div></div>
PPIIT	ILPRMY
<div></div>	<div></div>

ANSWER: Each life makes its own imitation of immortality. - Stephen King

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2370

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Commenting, declaring or noting (9)
- Rise? (3,2)
- Prickly plants that usually grow in the desert? (5)
- Insects that cause diseases in young birds (9)
- Looking good in snapshots (10)
- Netting (4)
- Big she-cat (7)
- Is very economical (7)
- Write a musical piece (7)
- Aggravate, anger or annoy (7)
- Diplomacy (4)
- Convincingly final (10)
- Inflated or pretentious? (9)
- Furious (5)
- Cursed or took an oath? (5)
- Child (9)

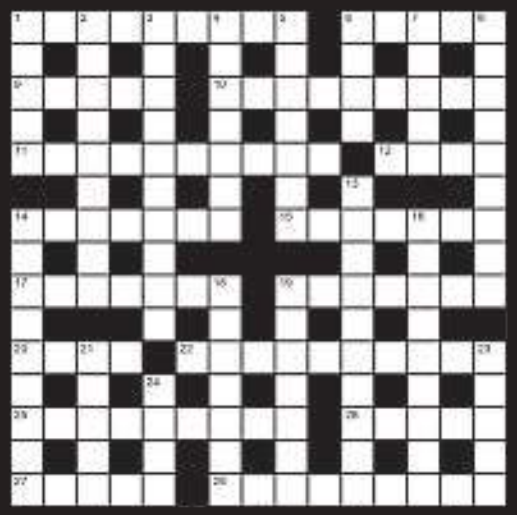
DOWN

- Sum up (5)
- Miniature world (9)
- Horned mammal (10)
- Place of entering (7)
- Nomadic people (7)
- Loose flowing garment usually worn by ladies (4)
- With utmost speed? (4-5)
- Rich cake (5)
- Making impossible by previous action (10)
- Positions; settings (9)
- A beggar (9)
- Thrift or frugality (7)
- An unknown person (French) (7)
- Belief system (5)
- An Arab chieftain or prince - "ere me" anagram? (5)
- Musical instrument (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- He never adds anything new to his collection (9)
- Eight kings of England were entitled to be called this (5)
- Dashed with the fish-hook I assembled for one of England's Indian run-makers (5)
- Reservoir should be so sound (4,5)
- Soft prelude EP confused rock band (4,6)
- International development agency students were initially girls I (4)
- Get out of control - like pins, perhaps (4,3)
- Geel! Our French mate after Asian fish? (7)



- Secures damages and saves (7)
- Record first the foreign communication (7)
- Spots indications of junior officers (4)
- Shady rumba participants seen by George and Uncle Sam (10)
- Arraigns him guillotined with very pretty girls (9)
- Consider getting work in Ecuador initially (5)
- Stares in wonder at the space available in the two courses (5)
- Lacking the resolution to provide strong joint support (4-5)

DOWN

- Pungent end pieces of celeriac free (5)
- Attempts to kidnap queen's daughter - hides here? (9)
- Money you don't get for nothing? (4,3,3)
- Longing to redevelop this art (7)
- One taken to be burnt on a celebrated occasion (4,3)
- Warmonger seen in a mortarboard? (4)
- It isn't the journalist who's famous (5)
- Hero engaged in risky manoeuvres in England (9)
- Instrument noted for precision (6,4)
- Robust saint knocking (9)
- Writer given one's English to

- approve (9)
- Miss Piggy as a mother getting round home difficulty in a way (7)
- Aria Sue belted for a very big hunk? (7)
- Go to university and make it more lively (3,2)
- Blue tricycle ends in place (5)
- Means of identification (4)

Solutions to 2369

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Vitrific, 6 Basic, 9 Chiffon, 10 Tangent, 11 Scourge, 12 Mountie, 13 Tricolour, 15 Tenor, 16 Deslate, 19 Nonpareil, 22 Officer, 23 Delicate, 25 Soreech, 26 Aimless, 27 Yanks, 28 Prognosis. Down: 1 Vices, 2 Tripoli, 3 Inferno, 4 Lounge, 5 Catamaran, 6 Banquet, 7 Sweetest, 8 Cathedral, 13 Tediously, 14 Ownership, 17 Saffron, 18 Success, 20 Albumen, 21 Eschews, 23 Draco, 24 Eases. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Unlimited, 6 Bevel, 9 Fag-ends, 10 Ear-plug, 11 Detects, 12 Fondant, 13 Garibaldi, 15 Congo, 16 Nudes, 19 Made a note, 22 Urnskin, 23 Citadel, 25 Not ago, 26 Red wine, 27 Rapid, 28 Eos-sphere, Down: 1 Unfed, 2 Lighter, 3 Mini-cab, 4 Tusks, 5 Deep-fried, 6 Byronic, 7 Villain, 8 Lightsome, 13 Gun-runner, 14 Lemon sole, 17 Desktop, 18 Stamped, 20 Acted up, 21 Old-time, 23 Carlo, 24 Liege.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday April 24

You do seem to be facing chances to make a fresh start. There is a possibility of an unusual offer, but the responsibility may lie with you to take the initiative.

Monday April 25

The key to success over the coming year is careful timing, and getting everything finished in the right order. You can do it.

Tuesday April 26

There's a major advantage in your current Sun-Moon alignment. You've got all angles covered, which means you have lots of options. Make compromise the key to success over the coming year.

Wednesday April 27

If you don't set aside time for enjoying yourself, you'll definitely be missing the fun. A new person you meet now could become a friend for life.

Thursday April 28

You will be making the most of every golden opportunity which comes your way. Don't take other people's goodwill for granted or you'll lose some support over the next year.

Friday April 29

The Sun's smooth movement is keeping you on the straight and narrow. You could also be facing a burst of the emotional wobbles, so stay out of trouble over the next few weeks.

Saturday April 30

You're feeling sensitive. Hopefully friends and family will shower you with affection. The key to happiness is that you should be free to follow your deep, inner interests.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Planetary aspects come and go, measuring and describing monthly, daily and even minute-by-minute changes in mood. Yet a long and intensely harmonious set of transits is becoming a pretty-well permanent fixture. This is the cause of all the professional drive and upheaval.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You may now feel that you must become even more committed to a person or a project if the tidal wave of change is to rush on. Yet, during the course of the month, you will also come under mounting pressure to say farewell to one particular emotional commitment.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You do not have to accept what is currently on offer; for it is clear that developments in the family are under your control. You may act decisively to influence the course of events, not just out of self-interest, but for everyone's good.

CANCER (July 22 - July 23)

Jupiter, the great planet of good fortune, is exerting a peculiarly lively impact on your personal affairs. By the end of the month some of you will already be feeling the pleasant stirrings of rewards for past efforts, others will be experiencing a sense of hope as old doubts are dispelled.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Yours is a sign which habitually deals in grand gestures, but the major planetary aspects at present are not those which naturally reinforce your sunny nature. It is work, responsibility and routine which figure large. This is a period when you must put down emotional and practical foundations with great care and patience.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Mercury, Venus and Mars, the so-called personal planets, all come to your support, suggesting that this is the moment for you to take personal charge of a number of areas in which you have allowed your control to slip. It seems likely now that vague fears will be cleared up.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Nobody knows better than you that there is no easy way to deal with life's varied problems. Yet now that the Sun is so tough and the Moon so gentle, you must see that events are moving your way. Indeed, what once seemed to be an insurmountable problem may now appear to be a source of encouragement.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Take the full possible advantage of some reassuring aspects from Mercury. Venus and Mars, three planets which are calculated to boost your personal image. It is time to temper your secretive tendencies, permitting partners and colleagues access to the information they require.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

The Sun is exerting a decisive impact on the part of your chart related to

travel and overseas connections. Very convenient too, you might think, in view of the fact that you're ready to expand your horizons. What is really being released is your thirst for romantic adventure.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You are now in a strong position to air any grievances or deeply-held opinions, encouraged by generous Jupiter's challenge to your sign. However, do not mistake other people's well-meaning efforts to help you as an attempt to dominate your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

The reason why business partners and friends have been so off-hand lately should now be clear, and you may see that no ill-will was intended. Indeed, you must let go of all old and stale feelings, realising that bitterness and resentment are alien to the true Aquarian spirit.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Your approach to work of all kinds is creative and innovative. You must press ahead with all speed, for life will not always give you the opportunities it does now. One further word of warning: look after your ever-delicate Piscean health, and wrap yourself in cotton-wool if need be.

Attack fails, defence works

Gujarat Titans big-hitters fail to post tall score, but bowlers help team bounce back against Kolkata Knight Riders

SYNOPSIS: Andre Russell's six sixes fell just short of taking KKR home as GT scraped through by 8 runs

ABHISHEK PUROHIT
NAVI MUMBAI, APRIL 23

GUJARAT TITANS squandered a strong base to collapse at the death but Alzarri Joseph dismissed Andre Russell in the last over even as he seemed set to drag Kolkata Knight Riders to victory. His exit brought GT their sixth win in seven games, and KKR slumped to their fourth successive defeat on a sticky DY Patil Stadium surface.

Russell does it, almost

A ball after the powerplay, KKR had lost captain Shreyas Iyer and were struggling on 34 for 4. Having seen how KKR themselves had bowled, GT too hit the hard back of a length and their pacers easily ripped out the top order, which featured another fresh opening pair of Sam Billings and Sunil Narine.

Rinku Singh kept them in the chase through the middle overs with the odd boundary as GT erred on the fuller side and paid the price. But the impressive Yash Dayal provided the breakthrough in the 13th. In the next over, Rashid had Venkatesh Iyer caught superbly at deep midwicket on the shorter boundary by Abhinav Manohar off a wrong 'un.

At 98 for 6, only Andre Russell stood in between victory and GT. Dayal had him on the third ball with a vicious bouncer that leapt at the Jamaican, who could only fend it to fine leg. But it turned out to be a no-ball and Russell went on to rain six sixes on GT's hopes; either targeting the shorter side, or the straight, Russell took KKR to within two maximums needed with five balls left.

But now Alzarri Joseph got his bouncer on target. Lockie Ferguson first ran in too much from fine leg, but changed direction just in time to swallow Russell's top edge. And that was the match there for GT.

GT lose 7/23 at death

At 133 for 2 into the 17th over, GT had a solid platform from which to launch towards a total of 175-180. But they managed to add only 23 more runs in a collapse that saw them losing seven wickets.

After the initial couple of overs, KKR had realised that digging the ball short of a length into the pitch, and taking the pace off was the way to go. If they executed that well, it was all but impossible for a new batsman to come in and force the pace right away.

Even a set David Miller could not; he tried to flay Shivam Mavi but the ball kicked as Mavi cut it across the left-hander, and lobbed up for a simple catch in the inner circle.

Then began a procession of batsmen failing to clear the long western boundary, be it with the slog or the cut. That side was around 13-14 metres farther than the eastern one as the pitch for this game was right on one side of the square. Three batsmen failed to get it past Rinku Singh in the deep on the longer rope in the last over alone bowled by Andre Rusell.

Dhoni, Miandad, Kohli & importance of a calm mind

SANDEEP DWIVEDI
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

EARLY IN the week, the internet, that ever-eager celebrator of all events, was raising a toast to Javed Miandad's 1986 last-ball six, and also recalling Chetan Sharma's waist-high full toss. Days later, late at night, it was busy glorifying MS Dhoni's last-ball four and trolling Jaydev Unadkat's shin-high full toss.

The Miandad moment was iconic, it shaped the destiny, defined the demeanour, of India and Pakistan cricket. In contrast, Dhoni's four was routine. It was just another IPL spark in this long T20 season of daily fireworks.

But it did provide a reminder that elite sport, despite the change of formats and rules, isn't always about skills. At the highest level, where most players have been child prodigies as juniors and proven match-winners as adults, most top sporting battles are won and lost in the mind.

Pundits say that the secret of batsmen like Dhoni middling the ball more often than not in the slog overs is their capacity to 'retain their shape'. These nonplussed clinical hitters are praised, and envied, for their stillness at the crease. The lesser discussed, and a far more important, attribute of their batting is the stillness of their mind.

When in pressure situations, the Zen masters don't think about the consequences of winning or losing. They don't start imagining the hugs of their mates, the applause of the crowd, or the pictures in the newspapers the next day. They also don't let the fear of failure cloud the immediate task at hand - facing the ball and sending it over the fence.

IPL TABLE						
TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR	
GT	7	6	1	12	0.396	
SRH	7	5	2	10	0.691	
RR	7	5	2	10	0.432	
RCB	8	5	3	10	-0.472	
LSG	7	4	3	8	0.124	
DC	7	3	4	6	0.715	
KKR	8	3	5	6	0.080	
PBKS	7	3	4	6	-0.562	
CSK	7	2	5	4	-0.534	
MI	7	0	7	0	-0.892	

GT hit only two boundaries in the last five overs, both came from Rahul Tewatia, including one off an outside edge. Tewatia was sent in at No 5 at the fall of Miller, perhaps to keep the left-right combination going with Hardik. But GT also promoted Rashid Khan next ahead of Abhinav Manohar, perhaps due to his exploits in their previous game against Chennai Super Kings. But none of their moves worked this time.

Hardik the injured lone warrior

Skipper Hardik carried the GT batting once again with his third successive half-century, but also hurt himself again. Tewatia pushed for a quick single at the end of the 17th over and as Hardik ended up rushing all the way to the edge of the circle, he seemed to have aggravated the groin injury that had kept him out of the CSK game. He immediately called for the physio and was gone off the next ball he faced from Tim Southee, finding no power or distance as he sent a tired-looking heave to deep midwicket.

Until his fall in the 18th, Hardik had deftly guided GT's progress. Batting for the first time this season at No 3 instead of No 4, he came in at the start of the second over. A couple of fours to the shorter side off Southee got him going, although the New Zealander missed a clear run-out chance to send back the GT skipper.

Hardik tried to force-hit a boundary every now and then, but the ball just wasn't coming on well enough for him to time those on-the-up drives. The only time that came through was when he correctly judged Mavi would overpitch the next ball after his short ball was guided over third man.

With GT playing four specialist fast bowlers plus Rashid and Tewatia, perhaps Hardik wasn't going to have bowled even if he hadn't injured himself further during the match. In the seventh over, he ended up jogging after a Rinku Singh drive to the wide long-off boundary, put in a futile dive at the last instant and left the field soon after. He'd hover around the dugout for the rest of the game, with Rashid taking over the reins on the field again.

BRIEF SCORES: Gujarat Titans 156 for 9 in 20 overs (Hardik Pandya 67, Andre Russell 4/5) bt Kolkata Knight Riders: 148 for 8 in 20 overs (Andre Russell 48, Mohammed Shami 2/20, Rashid Khan 2/22) by eight runs



Hardik Pandya's half-century led Gujarat to a decent total despite losing seven wickets in the last three overs. *Sportspics for IPL*

A Royal implosion: Bangalore batsmen no challenge for SRH pacers, bowled out for 68

SYNOPSIS: Jansen's Test-match length does the trick. Kohli perishes for another golden duck

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
APRIL 23

THIS HAS been their trend. Every now and then, Royal Challengers Bangalore would come up with a batting disaster-class, when collectively they would implode.

Last year, they were bundled out for 92 against Kolkata Knight Riders in Abu Dhabi. In 2017, they had folded up for 49 against KKR at Eden Gardens. The only solace from their 68 all out in 16.1 overs against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Saturday could be that it came fairly early into the season, with RCB on 10 points from eight games and still a lot of cricket left in this IPL.

Once RCB had lost three wickets in Marco Jansen's first over, their recovery depended on Glenn Maxwell and Dinesh Karthik. The former perished for 12 and Karthik, for a change, got out without opening his account. For Sunrisers Hyderabad, it was about getting to the victory target quickly and improving their netrun rate. Their nine-wicket win, with 12 overs to spare, took them to 10 points and upped their net run rate to 0.691. Abhishek Sharma was the enforcer with 47 off 28 balls.

Test-match length

Sunrisers arguably boast the finest pace attack in this tournament, along with Gujarat Titans. The advantage of having four quality



SRH's Marcus Jansen took three RCB wickets in his first over. *Sportspics for IPL*

seamers is that attack can be relentless. As Jansen had RCB on the mat upfront, his pace partners ensured that there was no fightback from the opponents. Jansen played a big part in South Africa's home Test series win against India in the winter. Here, his Test-match length undid the RCB top order. The first ball of his first over had nipped into Faf du Plessis. When he made the next ball hold its line, du Plessis was outwitted. The RCB captain, squared up by the length, played down the wrong line and was bowled neck and crop.

Virat Kohli departed on his heels - another full-length ball that angled across and took the outside edge to Aiden Markram at slip. In the final ball of the over, Anuj Rawat jabbed at an away-goer without conviction and Markram took another fine catch at slip. That three-wicket over broke the backbone of the RCB batting. There was still the small matter of removing Maxwell, who had warmed up with a couple of fours against Jansen. But mistim-

ing a T Natarajan delivery cost him dear, as he looked to clear the in-field. Kane Williamson took a fine diving catch at mid-off. Sunrisers' catching was excellent. Natarajan, meanwhile, returned with 3/10 from three overs. Jansen's figures read 3/25 from four.

As for Karthik, gloving an innocuous delivery down the leg side from left-arm spinner Jagadeesha Suchith was an anti-climax. The RCB innings had only two double-digit scores.

Kohli's golden duck

Back-to-back golden ducks would increase the clamour around Kohli. To be fair to him, he got a very good ball to start with. Jansen bowled it full and it also swung a bit. Kohli made a mistake by approaching it with hard hands and pushing at it, but more than anything, it was typical of a batsman going through a wretched run of form. The rub of the green has deserted him. Whether a break from cricket, as advised by Ravi Shastri, would serve him well, is completely Kohli's call.

Advice at the moment is coming thick and fast though. As Kohli departed for another first-ball duck, former India captain Mohammed Azharuddin posted on Twitter: "Virat Kohli deserves a much-needed break from some matches. A little rest should rejuvenate him."

In eight matches so far, the RCB skipper has scored 119 runs. Quitting captaincy hasn't augured well for him.

BRIEF SCORES: RCB 68 all out in 16.1 overs (Suyash Prabhudessai 15; Marco Jansen 3/25, T Natarajan 3/10) lost to SRH 72 for 1 in 8 overs (Abhishek Sharma 47, Kane Williamson 16 not out; Harshal Patel 1/18) by 9 wickets

Pant told Amre: 'Sir, will you go and talk to the umpires? Or else I will go'

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, APRIL 23

"SIR, WILL you go and talk to the umpires? Or else I will go." That is what Delhi Capitals skipper Rishabh Pant is believed to have told coach Praveen Amre while protesting against the much-talked about umpiring decision during the game against Rajasthan Royals last night.

After DC batsman Rovmen Powell had hit the third six off RR pacer Obed McCoy, Pant, along with others around him in the dugout, were seen gesturing to the umpire, asking for a referral to check for no-ball. At that stage, DC, needing 36 runs from the final over, were staring at a winning target of 18 runs from the last three balls.

Had the umpires ruled that McCoy's high full-toss was above the waist, as the DC dug out was vehemently demanding, RR would have to bowl an extra ball and also concede a free hit. Pant, David Warner, along with coaches Amre and Shane Watson, were seen signalling a no-ball from outside the boundary line as soon as Powell sent the full toss out of the ground.

When the on-field umpires, Nitin Menon and Nikhil Patwardhan, were unmoved by the shouts of referral from the sidelines, Pant seemed to be getting restless. He first signalled the on-field batsmen - Powell and Kuldeep Yadav - to walk off the field. When that didn't materialise, he was seen speaking to coach Amre.

Those in the know say that Amre was initially not keen to go and tried to quell his captain. But Pant was in no mood to give up.

"Pant told Amre that 'Sir, will you go and

BRIEFLY

Daruvala finishes second in F2 race

Imola: Jehan Daruvala took his third podium finish from as many rounds this season on Saturday after crossing the line second in the Formula 2 championship at Imola. The Indian started third on the grid for the sprint race but got a good getaway to gain a place and slot into the spot behind race leader, and eventual winner, Marcus Armstrong. Daruvala finished ahead of teammate Dennis Hauger, who finished third to complete a double podium for Prema in their home event.

Pujara scores second ton of County season

Worcester: Out-of-favour veteran Cheteshwar Pujara continued his good form in the English County championship with a second successive hundred for Sussex against Worcestershire in an away match but couldn't stop his team from being enforced follow-on. Pujara scored 109 off 206 balls, his 52nd first-class century, following his 201 not out against Derbyshire in his first game of the season. Pujara, whose knock was laced with 16 boundaries, took Sussex to 269 all-out in reply to Worcestershire's first innings score of 491, riding on skipper Brett de Oliveira's 169.

Delhi among 5 venues for SA T20s in June

New Delhi: Delhi, Cuttack, Vizag, Rajkot and Bengaluru were named as the host cities for the five-match T20 series against South Africa to be held from June 9 to 19. Following an apex council meeting on Saturday, the BCCI also confirmed that the three-team women's challenger will be held in Lucknow from May 24 to 28. It was also decided that the first play-off and eliminator of the IPL will be played in Kolkata on May 24 and 26, followed by second play-off and final at Ahmedabad on May 27 and 29 respectively. Capacity crowds will be allowed for the IPL matches in Kolkata and Ahmedabad.

Mumbai City suffer 0-6 loss in ACL

Riyadh: Indian Super League side Mumbai City FC were eliminated from the AFC Champions League after suffering a 0-6 drubbing at the hands of Al Shabab of Saudi Arabia in a group B match here. It was Hattan Bahebri's hat-trick which confirmed Al Shabab as the winners of group B on Friday night. Unbeaten in five and with 13 points to their name, Al Shabab march into the next round, joining city rivals Al Hilal and Qatar's Al Duhail SC in the Round of 16. They conclude their group stage on Tuesday against Al Jazira, while Mumbai City have been officially eliminated and will look to improve their place on the table when they face Air Force Club.

PTI & ENS

On Saturday morning, the IPL governing body came down heavily on Pant, Amre and Shardul Thakur. Pant was fined 100 percent of his match-fee which is close to Rs 1 crore rupees. Thakur was charged with 50% percent of match fee while assistant coach Amre was handed a one-match ban for the offence

talk to the umpires or shall I go?'. At that stage, Amre felt it would be unwise for the skipper to walk on to the field and that is why he went and spoke to the umpires," said a source the DC dug out.

In hindsight had Pant gone inside, he might have faced a one-match ban, the punishment that Amre meted out for crossing the line. On Saturday morning, the IPL governing body came down heavily on Pant, Amre and Shardul Thakur. Pant was fined 100 percent of his match-fee which is close to Rs 1 crore rupees. Thakur was charged with 50% percent of match fee while assistant coach Amre was handed a one-match ban for the offence.

After the match Pant commented on the incident. "Everyone was frustrated because it was not even close, so I thought it was only a no ball. Everyone on the ground saw that. I think the third umpire should have intervened in between and said it was a no ball, but I can't change the rule myself I guess."

LIVING IN LUXURY

Ghaziabad, the new haven for luxury living

Competitive prices in this well-connected NCR hub have meant that professionals can upgrade to bigger apartments that are equipped with smart amenities

IN THE midst of the Covid pandemic and with work-from-home becoming the new normal, more people have started buying homes, boosting residential real estate investment. People are interested in more than affordable housing; sales of luxury and ultra-luxury homes (costing more than Rs 1.5 crore) have shot up as they look for enhanced and multi-use spaces. Real estate developers in Delhi and the NCR region have responded by building more luxury homes in response to this growing trend. According to Anarock Property Consultants, 17 per cent of the 10,570 housing units launched in Delhi-NCR during the first six months of this year were in the premium sector. Luxury homes accounted for less than 9 per cent of total housing construction last year.

In the Delhi-NCR region, 11,300 new luxury units have been launched between 2018 and June 2021. The lowest share of luxury dwelling supply was in 2020. In FY 2021-22, the real estate sector grew dramatically, with considerable increases in residential and commercial real estate investments. According to an industry research report, the real estate sector will contribute 13 per cent of India's GDP by 2025. By 2040, the market is estimated to rise by Rs 650 crore. The real estate market has also seen amazing post-pandemic expansion, since it has enticed many on the fence to make a final decision. According to a recent report, Noida contributed for 55 per cent of net absorption between January and March 2021, followed by Gurugram with 38 per cent.



Many metropolitan towns, like Gurugao, Noida and Ghaziabad, have seen a 96 per cent increase in house sales and a 24 per cent increase in new projects and launch debuts. Home sales in Gurugram increased by 129 per cent in FY 2021-22, while housing sales in Noida increased by 116 per cent. Residential sales in Delhi increased by 100 per cent, Ghaziabad increased by 84 per cent, and Greater Noida increased by 58 per cent. Sales are improving, according to numerous developers, and will soon return to pre-pandemic levels.

After Bengaluru and Pune, Delhi NCR is in third place, with more NRIs and HNIs looking to invest in luxury properties in the NCR. Around 31 per cent of HNIs are interested in investing in luxury residential real estate. The region has experienced an exponential increase in high-rise residences built by well-known and trusted real estate companies, making NCR one of the most in-demand regions.

In the NCR region, premium homes, particularly 4BHK and huge houses, are

in high demand. As a result, 2021 is shaping up to be a good year for real estate. Because of the tremendous demand, developers are eager to start new projects and finish those that are currently under construction. This will provide the real estate sector a significant boost in the coming year.

Ghaziabad is an emerging hotspot. From being a densely-packed suburban city in NCR, its planned infrastructure development, improved connectivity and expansion possibilities have made it a most sought after real estate haven. Besides the Metro rail network, the Eastern Peripheral Expressway connects it radially with the other highways in the north and south of the national capital. Ghaziabad has always been known for its affordable housing but now Vaishali is comparable to Noida Expressway for luxury homes, with both regions having properties at similar price points. Siddharth Vihar is a new area and has an "automated smart home" project. Ostensibly, the competitive prices have meant that professionals and retired bureaucrats

are upgrading to bigger apartments that have better amenities. There is a good demand from IT companies and hospitals for leasing.

Investment is on the upswing in areas such as Crossing Republik, Vaishali Sector 1, Vaibhav Khand and Govind Puram. Rental returns are also high.

Many real estate agencies have begun to adapt to online transaction methods. Increased sales momentum requires digital marketing and online registrations. This has boosted the real estate market's expansion in the Delhi NCR region, resulting in more sales and investments.

Revenues for real estate developers have increased significantly this year and the trend is expected to continue. Many new launches, handover of completed projects and infrastructure development are expected in the next one or two years. Customers are looking for the ideal properties to invest in and developers are willing to provide both time and support to their customers.

Despite COVID-19 stifling real estate project growth in the short term, real estate projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities are booming. In FY 2021-22, the market saw tremendous growth, and it will continue to rise to pre-pandemic positions. The rebound of the real estate market has also pushed investors and developers to start additional projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities, based on client demand. Due to decadal low borrowing rates and desire for residential ownership due to the pandemic, housing sales in the NCR increased by 73 per cent from 23,210 units in 2020 to 40,050 units in 2021.

WAVE
City

Veridia – Taking lifestyle to the next level

WAVE CITY, the first operational hi-tech smart city in North India, seamlessly amalgamates the latest technology, sustainable development and eco-friendly practices, and modern-day luxuries. Spread across 4,300 acres, the township is strategically located on NH-24. The estate is designed to provide an enriching lifestyle, ticking all the boxes of smart, sustainable, and green living. It is the world's largest green pre-certified Platinum Rated township. The project's seamless connectivity makes it an alluring prospect for buyers. The area is flanked by a wide and congestion-free network of roads besides good hospitals, schools, and utility marts. It offers a bouquet of residential innovations from sky villas, independent floors, plots, apartments to homebuyers and embodies a mix of technology and tradition, while providing for holistic living in its truest sense.

As industries across the globe are advancing towards the technology-driven process and offerings, the real estate is not far behind, and a plethora of well-known real estate entities are heavily investing in home automation to diversify their offers and secure a foothold in this competitive sector. Homebuyers, especially millennials, desire complete control of their residence at their fingertips. To relieve you from the pain of finding your perfect digital home, we at Wave City present our uber-luxury residency, Veridia. It's the perfect embodiment of luxury amassed with numerous high-tech home automation features.

Veridia, designed in the backdrop of the breathtakingly beautiful, lush green landscape, is the new sought-after address in Ghaziabad. An ultra-luxurious residency that boasts thoughtful layouts, immaculate design, and modern amenities that sets it apart from any other property on NH-24. As a thoughtfully designed and ultra-luxurious residential project, Veridia is nestled on a 57-meter wide

road with state-of-art amenities for a smart lifestyle like home automation system, front door digital lock, video door phone, and EV charging point at every car parking.

Veridia offers 4 BHK Floors and 5 BHK Sky Villas that exuberate extravagance and elegance for the contemporary home buyer. The 4 BHK floors host spacious living with 4 grand bedrooms, furnished fittings, and a smart set-up that makes it a complete home. The 5 BHK Sky Villas with grand double-height ceiling is the epitome of style, design, comfort quotient in tandem with luxury lifestyle.

Veridia ensures utmost privacy as there are only 2 apartments on each floor. All apartments are fully air-conditioned, well-ventilated, and sunlit. Veridia offers spacious balconies with spectacular scenic views. All the residents of Veridia get exclusive access to ultra-luxurious clubhouse with a wide array of amenities to indulge in. The clubhouse includes a swimming pool, modern gymnasium, world-class squash court, grand multi-purpose hall, and provision for fine dining to savor exquisite delicacies. Veridia is extremely secure as it includes 3-tier security along with being a gated community. To top it all, 5 BHK Sky Villas comes with a ravishing private splash pool, mesmerizing sky garden, and pre-fitted wardrobes with dressers.

The unit size of the 4 BHK floors is a massive 2385 sq. ft. and their starting price is Rs 1.20 crore. On the other hand, the 5 BHK Sky Villas boast of a 4089 sq. ft unit size and their starting price is Rs 2.11 crore.

Veridia is 30 minutes from the famous Akshardham Temple in Delhi and 15 minutes away from Indrapuram and Noida's Sector-62. Veridia is six minutes away from the Eastern Peripheral Highway and five minutes away from a proposed Metro station. On top of that, well-known schools, colleges, and hospitals are within a 2-km radius from the project.

WAVE
City



Artistic Image

Promoter's Rera Reg. No.: UPRERAPRM5538
Project's Rera Reg. No.: UPRERAPRJ494396
Rera Website: WWW.UP-RERA.IN

FOR THE ONES WITH FINER TASTE,
OPPORTUNITY DOES KNOCK TWICE.

AFTER THE GRAND SUCCESS OF PHASE 1

LAUNCHING PHASE 2

VERIDIA
LOW-RISE UBER RESIDENCES

TAKING LIFESTYLE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

5 BHK SKYVILLAS & 4 BHK FLOORS
STARTING FROM ₹1.20 CRORE*



FOR BOOKING, CONTACT:
8010 691 691



Sales Gallery: Veridia, Oakwood Enclave, Wave City,
NH-24, Uttar Pradesh-201015 ☎ www.wavecity.in/veridia

Disclaimer: This is not an invitation or commitment. Recipients are advised to make themselves fully aware of the necessary and relevant information of the project before making any purchase decision. Renderings or shadow pattern is only artistic or instructional, it does not reflect the final form of the project. Other charges & taxes will be applicable as per rules & norms. *T&C apply.