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MARCH IIP SHOWS 1.9% GROWTH

Retail inflation at 8-year high of 7.79% in April

High price levels of fuel, food items and household services contribute to surge

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

RETAIL INFLATION surged to a near 8-year high of 7.79 per cent in April, persisting above the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) inflation target for the fourth straight month, data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) showed Thursday.

High price levels of fuel and food items, especially of vegetables, spices and oils/fats, along with household services, contributed to the sharp rise in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED Why RBI may act

IN ANTICIPATION of the inflation print, the rupee slipped to a record low, while stocks plummeted 2 per cent amid concerns that runaway prices may force RBI to tighten rates more aggressively. There could be back-to-back rate hikes in the next MPC meet in June. **EXPLAINED, PAGE 13**

Glimmer of hope: Pulses, milk prices fall

HARISH DAMODARAN & PARTHASARATHI BISWAS
NEW DELHI, PUNE, MAY 12

IS THE worst of food inflation — 8.38 per cent year-on-year in April — over? Some hope is provided by milk, which has the highest weight among food items in the consumer price index after cereals. And also pulses, besides the likes of onion and potato.

International prices of dairy commodities have fallen off a cliff

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNAY



Grief, anger as Kashmiri Pandit govt staffer is killed by militants in Valley

BASHAARAT MASOOD & ARUN SHARMA
SRINAGAR, JAMMU, MAY 12

MILITANTS THURSDAY barged into a government office in central Kashmir's Budgam district and fatally shot a Kashmiri Pandit employee — the third attack against the minority community in the Valley this year.

Police said Rahul Bhat, a revenue department official at the tehsil office in Chadoora, was taken to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. They said



Rahul Bhat; (above) his grieving relatives.
Shuaib Masoodi

two militants were involved in the attack and that Bhat was shot point blank with a pistol.

The attack on Bhat, in his 30s, triggered protests from Pandits

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Opp leader told me 'PM twice, what more', but I can't rest: Modi

KAMAAL SAIYED
BHARUCH, MAY 12

HINTING THAT he was ready for another term, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that a "very senior" Opposition leader, whom he respects, had once asked "what else" was left for him to accomplish after becoming PM twice — but he will not rest till "100 per cent" coverage of Government schemes was achieved.

Speaking virtually at the Utkarsh Samaroh in Bharuch, where beneficiaries of four Central Government schemes were assembled, Modi said: "Once I met a leader...he is a very senior leader...he has been a political opponent, but I do respect him. One day, he came to meet me, to sort out some issues. He said, 'Modiji, now what else do you want to do? The country has made you prime minister twice.'" Modi said: "He thought that becoming prime minister twice was a huge achievement."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Gyanvapi survey: Break locks if need be, submit report by May 17, says court

ASAD REHMAN
VARANASI, MAY 12

STATING THAT "an atmosphere of fear has been created", a Varanasi court on Thursday ordered resumption of the video survey of the Kashi Vishwanath temple-

Gyanvapi mosque complex, which was halted last week following allegations of bias against the official in charge — even if it meant getting "locks opened/broken". The survey report should be submitted on May 17, it said.

While passing an order on an application filed by the mosque

committee, which had accused court-appointed Advocate Commissioner Ajay Kumar

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

HC JUNKS PLEA TO OPEN SEALED DOORS IN TAJ MAHAL **PAGE 9**

Age ceiling, RS term limit on Congress table, Chintan Shivir starts today

MANOJ CG
UDAIPUR, MAY 12

THE CONGRESS top brass is actively considering a radical idea to bring new faces into leadership levels. Sources said the party is seriously thinking of imposing an age-ceiling for leaders to hold positions in the organisation at all levels and for contesting elections besides putting in place a term-limit for Rajya Sabha members. The idea is part of the party's attempt to give it a "young look."

Two senior leaders, who are playing a key role in deliberations in the run-up to the Congress Chintan Shivir beginning Friday in Udaipur, told *The Indian Express* that the party is "seriously thinking" about the two ideas though it is not yet clear "what shape these proposals will take".

"I can tell you there is certainly a thinking in this direction... We are seriously thinking, but I cannot say now how it will come up," one leader said.

It remains to be seen whether the ideas will come up for discussion at the Chintan Shivir which is being held to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE WORLD

WICKREMESINGHE RETURNS AS LANKA PRIME MINISTER

FIRST IMAGE OF MILKY WAY'S HUGE BLACK HOLE **PAGE 12**

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LIFESTYLE



AUTHOR RAMG VALLATH

Talks about his new book and challenges parents face

EXPRESS AUDIO

Delhi HC on marital rape, alarming data on children, and when rupee falls

The significance of the Delhi HC's verdict regarding marital rape, what the latest NFHS data reveals about children's diet in India, and how the rupee falling affects you

FROM PAGE ONE

Kashmiri Pandit

the Valley. Police sources said demonstrations were reported from Qazigund, Pulwama, Budgam, Gandelbal and Baramulla. The protesters threatened to resign en masse if the killings were not stopped and raised slogans against the BJP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, seeking protection.

Political parties across the spectrum — including PDP, NC, People's Conference and BJP — strongly condemned the killing.

On the incident, the Jammu and Kashmir Police tweeted: "Terrorists fired upon one employee namely Shri Rahul Bhat from minority community in Tehsildar office Chadoora, Budgam. He has been shifted to hospital."

"The injured was immediately brought to SMHS Hospital (in) Srinagar for treatment, where he succumbed to his injuries," it said.

Following the attack, a joint team of Jammu and Kashmir Police, Army and Paramilitary forces cordoned off the area and launched a search for the assailants.

Bhat, who is survived by his wife and a 6-year-old daughter, was staying with them in a government accommodation at Sheikhpora village in Budgam district. The accommodation was constructed for Kashmiri Pandit employees under a Central scheme. Bhat was appointed under this scheme in 2011 and his first posting was in Budgam. He was transferred to Chadoora tehsil two years ago.

Bhat's father Bitta Ji Bhat, a retired Assistant Police Sub Inspector, questioned the safety of Pandits in the Valley. The family is based in Jammu.

"Is this how the government will take us back home to the Valley," he asked. "The government has totally failed to protect Kashmiri Pandits."

On April 13, a militant shot and killed Satish Kumar Singh, a Rajput, outside his home in Kakran village bordering Shopian and Kulgam district. Members of this community have been living in some villages of south Kashmir for seven decades now.

On April 4, militants shot and injured a Kashmiri Pandit, Bal Krishan Bhat (39), in south Kashmir's Kulgam. Bhat was shot inside his medical shop near his residence in Shopian's Chotigam village.

Militants had also carried out a number of attacks on Kashmiri Pandits and migrant workers in October last year. Seven people had died in those attacks.

Former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti tweeted: "Condemn the gruesome act where in a Kashmiri Pandit boy Rahul Bhat was murdered in Chadoora. Another life ended and another family devastated. My heart goes out to the bereaved family in this hour of grief. It also belies the false claims of normalcy in Kashmir."

National Conference Vice President and former CM Omar Abdullah tweeted: "I unequivocally condemn the murderous militant attack on Rahul Bhat... My heartfelt condolences to Rahul's family."

People's Conference leader Sajad Lone called the attackers "psychopaths". "Strongly condemn the killing of Rahul. It is difficult to read the minds of these psychopaths who indulge in such killings. Yet another family is added to the list of victims of violence. May the departed soul rest in peace," he tweeted.

The BJP, in a statement, quoted its state unit chief Ravinder Raina as saying that "all those involved in this heinous crime will be neutralised very soon".

Modi

He does not know that this Modi is made of something else...it is the soil of Gujarat that has shaped him. It is not enough that I should rest now, (thinking) that everything that has happened is good...No...My dream is saturation...meet your target 100 per cent. Get the government machinery into a habit, create faith in the citizens."

The Prime Minister said when he was elected in 2014, "almost half the country was 100 miles away from toilets, vaccination, electricity, bank accounts, in a way they were denied. In all these years with all our efforts many schemes have achieved 100 per

cent saturation". According to him, these were "difficult tasks and politicians are afraid to touch them" but he was not here to "do politics, but to serve citizens of the country".

"The country has vowed to reach the target of 100 per cent. When this happens, the citizen begins to believe that I have a right to this money, and this sows a seed of duty. And when this saturation happens, there is no possibility of discrimination, there is no need for recommendation. When this happens, the politics of appeasement ends," Modi said.

"Once there was news about a security threat to me, once there was news about my illness...then I said, 'brother, I have the blessings of crores of mothers and sisters and till the time I have this shield, nobody can do anything to me,'" he said.

He said he was working like a "family member" and that his Government, having completed eight years in office, was moving ahead with a "new promise and new energy".

Modi also said that his Government had provided 50 crore people the cover of Rs five lakh each under the health insurance scheme, crores had been covered under the accident insurance scheme, and the pension scheme for the senior citizens.

People have got their own homes, gas connections, power connections, water connections and bank accounts, he said. "The poor would spend half their lives running around government offices, our government changed all that," he said.

Gyanvapi

Mishra of being "biased", the court appointed two additional commissioners — lawyers Vishal Singh and Ajay Pratap Singh — to assist him. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar said top district officials "have the responsibility" to complete the survey by the court-appointed Commission, and directed the DGP and Chief Secretary to supervise "related action".

It ordered for an FIR to be registered "if anyone creates any hindrance". "Under no condition should the Commission's work be stopped even if any of the petitioners cooperate or not," said the court.

In the order, the civil judge also struck a personal note after stating that "this action by the Commission is common, which is done in most civil matters, and very rarely is the Advocate Commissioner questioned".

"This common civil matter is being made into a very uncommon one and an atmosphere of fear has been created. The fear is such that my family is constantly worried about me and I am worried about them," the judge said in the order.

"When (I am) away from home, my wife expresses worry about me repeatedly. Yesterday, my mother in Lucknow during our conversation expressed worry about my security and she got information through the media that I may go to the spot as Commissioner. She asked me not to go as Commissioner as this may be a threat to my security," the judge said.

"In the concerned matter, the Advocate Commissioner has partially done the work and it doesn't seem justified to raise fingers," the court said, adding that the report should be submitted to the court by the Advocate Commissioners on May 17.

Speaking to The Indian Express, S M Yasin, general secretary of the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee (Gyanvapi), said: "Following the court's orders, we will allow the work of the Commission, and the inspection work will be done. We will not do anything against the court's orders."

Abhay Nath Yadav, the lawyer representing the mosque com-

Retail inflation rises to 8-year high, touches 7.79% in April

inflation, a level which is seen as being partly responsible for pre-empting the unscheduled repo rate hike of 40 basis points by the RBI last week.

The food price inflation (combined for rural and urban) surged to a 17-month high of 8.38 per cent in April from 7.68 per cent in March. Rural inflation rose to an 8-year high of 8.38 per cent in April, while urban inflation was at a 18-month high of 7.09 per cent. The previous high of the headline retail inflation was recorded at 8.33 per cent in May 2014.

Among states, the highest inflation rate was recorded by West Bengal, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. Core inflation — the non-food, non-fuel component of inflation — in April also touched a 95-month high of 6.97 per cent, remaining more than 5 per cent for 24 consecutive months.

Experts said the base effect may moderate inflation levels in May but it is still expected to remain above 6.5 per cent, raising expectations of a back-to-back rate hike in the June monetary policy meeting of the RBI.

Inflation is being seen as posing the "biggest threat" to the economy and the RBI is looking at reversing all measures — liquidity infused and policy rate cuts — taken during the pandemic over the next 1-2 years along with measures to kill de-

mand. "In the next 6-8 months, we will get inflation down by killing whatever little demand there is; this will happen the world over. All central banks including RBI are going to drive their economies into declining demand," a source with knowledge of the development had said Wednesday. The RBI had reduced the repo rate by 115 bps in 2020.

Inflationary pressures are now seen getting generalised, with the segments of fuel and light, clothing and footwear showing an uptick. Transport and communication inflation increased to 10.91 per cent in April from 8 per cent in the previous month, with the second round impact of higher fuel prices also beginning to reflect in other goods and services.

Inflation for miscellaneous goods and services jumped to a 115-month high of 8.03 per cent, marking 23 consecutive months of over 6 per cent inflation, as per India Ratings.

In April, cereals and products inflation touched a 21-month high of 5.96 per cent, vegetables inflation surged to a 17-month high of 15.41 per cent, and spices hit a 17-month high of 10.56 per cent. Pulses and products inflation moderated to 1.86 per cent in April from 2.57 per cent in the previous month.

"India Ratings has been

pointing out for a while that inflation in health services is turning structural, as it has remained in excess of 6% for the last 16 months. Education inflation, although low, touched a 23-month high of 4.12% in April 2022... based on present trend, average inflation in FY23 is likely to be closer to 7% and may peak in September 2022, thereafter declining marginally. RBI has increased repo rate by 40 bps and CRR by 50 bps in May 2022. India Ratings expects monetary tightening to continue and expects repo rates to increase by 60-75 bps and CRR by 50 bps in FY23. However, Ind-Ra believes the future rate hikes will be data dependent," Sunil Kumar Sinha, Principal Economist, India Ratings and Research, said.

In a separate dataset released by the NSO Thursday, industrial output for March showed a growth of 1.9 per cent, on a high base of 24.2 per cent in the corresponding period a year ago. Manufacturing output, which accounts for 77.6 per cent of the weight of the IIP, grew 0.9 per cent in March as against 28.4 per cent a year ago, while mining and electricity grew at 4 per cent and 6.1 per cent, respectively.

Among the use-based components of industrial output, four segments of primary goods (5.7 per cent), capital goods (0.7 per cent), intermediate goods

(0.6 per cent) and infrastructure goods (7.3 per cent) recorded growth in March, while both consumer durables and non-durables recorded a contraction of 3.2 per cent and 5.0 per cent, respectively. For consumer durables output — indicator of consumption demand — this is the fifth straight month of contraction.

Experts said weak consumption demand is likely to witness more headwinds in the coming months. "Going forward, the surge in global commodity prices following the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and the resultant rise in domestic inflation owing to a pass-through of higher input costs across several categories of goods is expected to impact consumption demand and thereby hurt the growth in the output of consumer goods. Further, protracted tensions could also impact corporate profits and dampen the investment climate, impacting the output of capital goods and infrastructure goods. Besides, the supply chain implications of the continued lockdowns in China along with geopolitical tensions will continue to impart downside risks for the output of sectors that are dependent on key raw materials provided by Russia, Ukraine or China," Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA, said.

"Whenever the organisational revamp happens, be it in the CWC or the central election committee, care will be taken to ensure that a certain percentage of young leaders find a place. The same will apply to PCCs (state units) and district committees," the leader said. Leaders above the age of 70 and 75 are holding positions at several levels in the party. Sources said it is unlikely that they will be asked to step down. "There could be a gradual phase-out," one leader said.

Sonia Gandhi is 75. There are indications that she will make way for a new president in August-September unless the CWC insists that she should continue until the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Addressing a press conference in Udaipur, Congress communication department head Randeep Surjewala reiterated that "Congress jan (people) want Rahul Gandhi to take over as Congress president" but said that the organisational election process to elect a new president is underway and will be completed in August.

Mallikarjun Kharge, leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, is 79. While AICC general secretary Oommen Chandy is 78, CWC members like Manmohan Singh and A K Antony are above 80 and Ambika Soni, Harish Rawat, P Chidambaram, Ghulam Nabi Azad are above 70. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is 71.

In states, Madhya Pradesh Congress president Kamal Nath is 75. If the Congress returns to power in Assembly elections, he is likely to be the frontrunner for the post of Chief Minister. The same is the case of Bhupinder Singh Hooda in Haryana. So will there be exceptions? Sources said clarity on these aspects are yet to emerge.

Incidentally, the Congress leadership has ensured that half of the delegates at the Chintan Shivir are below the age of 50 who are, of course, expected to enthusiastically cheer and support such ideas if they come up.

The BJP has already set an age ceiling of 75 years for holding posts in the organisation and for contesting elections. The CPM has put in place a retirement age of 75 for members in all bodies including the Politburo and Central Committee. The CPM has also been enforcing a norm barring a member from being elected to the Rajya Sabha for the third time.

The other ideas which may come up are revival of the Parliamentary Board mechanism, enforcing a "one family, one poll ticket" rule, the setting up of a dedicated structure to manage elections, and a cooling-off period of three years for office-bearers at all levels after a five-year term.

Ganesh, Lord Hanuman and Nandiji in the "old temple complex situated at settlement Plot No. 9130". The mosque side has said that the petitioners should first identify the plot.

Chintan Shivir

deliberate and find a roadmap for the party's electoral revival. As many as 430 Congress leaders have assembled for the Shivir; the first such brainstorming session since the party's electoral slide began in 2014. Addressing a meeting of the Congress Working Committee earlier this week, party president Sonia Gandhi said she was "determined" to ensure that the Shivir "heralds a restructured organisation to meet the many ideological, electoral and managerial challenges" that the party confronts.

Sources said a final shape on the two proposals is yet to emerge. For instance, what should be the age ceiling: 70 or 75? And whether to limit the terms of Rajya Sabha to 2 or 3? Another idea is to ensure that no new member above a certain age is inducted into any of the organisational bodies.

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in the past month, and the effects are percolating to India as well.

The average price of skim milk powder (SMP) at the Global Dairy Trade fortnightly auction platform hit a high of \$4,599 per tonne on April 5, almost twice its early-May 2020 low of \$2,373. But that price has since eased to \$4,130 per tonne in the latest May 3 auction.

The drop has been even more for anhydrous milk fat (ghee) prices, which have crashed from \$7,111 to \$6,008 per tonne between March 15 and May 3. These had again soared from the worldwide Covid lockdown-induced lows of \$3,870 in July 2020.

"Prices had gone up to unsustainable levels. Milk fat prices were also partly rising along with vegetable fats, especially palm oil," said R S Sodhi, managing director of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, better known as Amul. The impact of demand destruction — buyers balking at

record high prices — is being felt in India, too. Since mid-April, dairies have lowered prices of SMP and white butter produced from buffalo milk, from Rs 320/kg to Rs 300/kg and Rs 375/kg to Rs 365/kg, respectively.

Ex-factory prices of cow milk SMP have also dropped from Rs 315/kg to Rs 295/kg in Karnataka and from Rs 295/kg to Rs 275/kg in Maharashtra; yellow cow butter from Rs 405/kg to Rs 395/kg in Karnataka and from Rs 400/kg to Rs 380/kg in Maharashtra.

According to Ganesan Palaniappan, a leading Chennai-based dairy commodities trader, there are two reasons for the fall in prices. First, domestic prices are tracking the global decline, over 15.5 per cent since mid-March for milk fat. Second, the early pre-monsoon showers in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu — normally from around the first week of May, it was 15 days early this time. "Cows start producing more milk with the rains, which aid fodder growth. Traders are

and only other persons related to the Commission's work will be the only people present at the spot. No outside person will be allowed there except those part of the Commission. The Advocate Commissioners will be independent to take photos and videos as per pointers being given by the parties."

The court said that "if anyone creates any hindrance to this, like if there are some locks, then the district administration will have the full right to get the locks opened/broken for the Commission's action".

The mosque management had earlier said that there were locks preventing access to two basements. "The Varanasi District Magistrate, police Commissioner have the personal responsibility to complete the Commission's action. The UP DGP, UP chief secre-

destocking seeing the rains, anticipating a pick-up in milk arrivals," he said.

The lower SMP and fat realisations have already led Maharashtra dairies to reduce milk procurement prices. Dashrath S Mane, chairman of Indapur Dairy and Milk Products Ltd, confirmed that his plant in Pune district, which was procuring cow milk (containing 3.5% fat and 8.5% solids-not-fat) at Rs 35-36 per litre till May 5, has now cut it by Re 1/litre. He predicted further downward price corrections, "though it is unlikely to go below Rs 30-31".

Sodhi felt that prices, including SMP, butter and ghee, will stabilise and hover around current levels. "They will neither go up nor go down much," he said. Palaniappan was of the view that prices will be supported by milk production in North India, which is primarily a buffalo belt, remaining low till at least July-end. Buffaloes begin calving only from August, with their milk flows peaking in the winter and

secondary (administration) are directed to supervise the related action so that the district officials can't make any excuses to postpone the Commission's action. The Commission's action will be undertaken from 8 am to 12 noon every day till the Commission's work concludes," said the order.

It also said that "if any hindrance is created by anyone in the Commission's action, then the district administration should lodge an FIR and take the strictest action possible".

In a separate order on the application filed by the mosque committee accusing Advocate Commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra of bias, the court said, "...Advocate Vishal Singh is appointed as Special Advocate Commissioner. And Assistant Advocate Commissioner will be Ajay Pratap Singh."

On April 8, while hearing the petitioners, the Varanasi court had appointed Mishra to carry out a survey of the Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal at the disputed site — and directed him to "prepare videography of the action" and submit a report.

On April 21, the Allahabad High Court dismissed a petition filed by the masjid committee challenging the local court's order. On April 26, the Varanasi court again ordered videography of the disputed site, which began last Friday amid heavy security.

The petitioners have sought protection of their right to religion guaranteed by Article 25 of the Constitution, and orders for the defendants (mosque committee) to not create any hindrance to worship at the disputed site. The petition had sought freedom to worship Maa Shringar Gauri, Lord

Jain: Coal scarcity in country created for somebody's benefit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

ASCARCITY of coal in the country was "created for somebody's benefit," Delhi Power Minister Satyendar Jain said Thursday.

"A huge scarcity of coal was created in the country for somebody's benefit... Coal was not taken from our mines. Then, the Delhi government and other governments made noise about the shortage of coal in power plants. First, they said Jain is lying. Now, the power plants have been directed to use 10% of imported coal. The impact of this is that the average power cost will increase by 30%. Why is this? Do we not have coal mines?" he said.

Jain was speaking at a stakeholder consultation for Delhi's new solar policy. The Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) signed a partnership last week with RMI India to develop a new solar policy. DDC Vice-Chairman Jasmine Shah said the new policy is likely to be ready by June, and that a lot has changed since the previous one was introduced in 2016.

Addressing the meeting, Shah said, "The total installed capacity of rooftop solar panels in Delhi is



Delhi Power Minister Satyendar Jain with DDC Vice-Chairman Jasmine Shah

230 MW. 83% of the capacity has been installed after the Delhi Solar Policy of 2016, marking the policy's importance." Consumers, DISCOM representatives, think tanks and solar developers attended the meeting.

The Power department's Additional Chief Secretary Satya Gopal said, "The contribution of solar power in the energy basket of Delhi is approximately 7% and from other renewable sources is 8.4%. The overall share of renewable energy is around 15%."

The Power Minister also identified some issues that are to be addressed. Consumers should be able to get panels shifted if a building is to be reconstructed, he said.

'HONEY-TRAPPED' ONLINE

Indian Air Force jawan arrested on espionage charges: Crime Branch

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

AN INDIAN Air Force jawan has been arrested on espionage charges, Delhi Police Crime Branch officials said Thursday, adding that they suspect he was 'honey-trapped' online by an unidentified woman who allegedly collected sensitive information from him.

Devendra Sharma, who hails from Kanpur, works as an administrative assistant at the Air Force Records Office in Subroto Park, police said, adding that he was arrested based on inputs received on May 6 and is currently being questioned.

"We received a complaint from the IAF, stating that Sharma had leaked information about defence installations after deceitfully getting the information from computers. He allegedly leaked information to an agent of an adversary coun-



Police said a case under the Official Secrets Act has been registered against Devendra Sharma. Express

try and also received money for it," the police wrote in a statement.

Police said a case under the Official Secrets Act has been registered against Sharma.

According to police, Sharma,

who was arrested from Dhaura Kuan, met a woman on Facebook. The woman befriended him and called him frequently, trying to collect information about the IAF. "She was trying to get information about positions of the IAF radars, posting of senior officials and their details," police said in their statement.

"We also analysed his wife's bank account and found suspicious transactions. We also found the number that the woman used was from an Indian Service Provider, and we are trying to trace her," a police officer said.

The Crime Branch seized all electronic gadgets and documents in connection with the case.

Last year in July, police had arrested a Naik for allegedly providing classified documents from the Pokhran camp to Pakistan's ISI with the help of a contractor. He was arrested from Agra, UP.

Water supply to be hit today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

WATER SUPPLY is likely to be affected in parts of Delhi on Friday on account of the water level depleting in the Yamuna at Wazirabad, according to the Delhi Jal Board (DJB).

The water level in the Wazirabad pond has fallen from a normal level of 674.5 ft to 671.8 ft, affecting water production from water treatment plants at Chandrawal, Wazirabad and Okhla which draw water from the pond.

Water supply is likely to be hit in parts of Kamla Nagar, Model Town, Civil Lines, Karol Bagh, Greater Kailash, Punjabi Bagh, Moolchand, Burari, Tughlakabad,

Kalkaji, Sangam Vihar, Patel Nagar, Gulabi Bagh, Jahangirpuri, parts of the Delhi Cantt area and areas under the New Delhi Municipal Council. It is likely to be affected till the "pond level improves to normal", said a note issued by the DJB.

Meanwhile, the DJB has again requested the Haryana Irrigation Department to supply 150 cusecs of additional water "till the arrival of monsoon, when sufficient raw water is available in Yamuna". The DJB had written to Haryana on May 3 and April 30, with similar requests arising from depleting water levels at Wazirabad. On May 3, the level at the Wazirabad pond was 672.6 ft.

The letter dated May 12 states, "Even flow from the CLC (Carrier Lined Channel) and DSB

(Delhi Sub Branch) is fluctuating. The lifting of 120 cusecs from Wazirabad pond is affected due to low pond level. This will affect water production adversely. Due to peak summer, the water requirement is more." The CLC and DSB bring water from Haryana. Parts of the river have been running dry with the rise in temperature. ADJB official said the rainfall in the Himalayan region last week had helped to some extent.

Dr. Srinivasan Varadarajan
A memorial meeting to celebrate his life will be held at the C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre, New Delhi, on Sunday, May 15, at 10.30 am.
The Varadarajan Family

(31 March 1928 - 11 May 2022)

Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair VACANCY NOTICE

The last date for receipt of applications in ANIIDCO for the post of DGM(T), EE(C), SM(P&A) is extended upto 06/06/2022 (05:00 PM). For details visit: <https://www.andaman.gov.in> Or <https://recruitment.andaman.gov.in>.
General Manager (P&A)

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Applications are invited from **Consultancy Firms of international repute** within 15 days from the date of advertisement to conduct compilation and updation of **Annual Accounts and Fixed Asset Register** of University of Calcutta. For details, please visit our website <http://www.caluniv.ac.in>

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking

Recovery & Legal Section, Circle Office, 3rd Floor, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna-800011
PH: 0612-2320180; Email: npacopat@canarabank.com

PROPERTY FOR E - AUCTION NOTICE

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/hypothecated/Pledged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 15.06.2022. Details are as under:

Sr. No.	Name/Address of the Branch	Name of A/c/ Guarantor/Mortgagor	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Properties	Reserve Price /EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt.
1	Hajipur Branch, Hajipur Mob.: 8210998316	M/s. New Singh Jee Hatchery, Prop.- Sri Ram Niranjan Singh, Industrial Area, Paswan Chowk, Hajipur, District - Vaishali, Bihar-844101, Sri Ram Niranjan Singh S/o. Ram Ishwar Singh, Road No. 7, Rajput Nagar, Hajipur, Vaishali.	₹ 23,86,145.26 as on 09.07.2021 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of property in the name of Sri Ram Niranjan Singh, Tara Singh and Roshan Kumar, Consisting of Sale Deed No. 4163 & 4164, Khata No. 425, Khesra No. 1100, measuring - 37 Dhur, situated at Thana No. 162 under PS-Industrial Area, Rajput Nagar, Hajipur, District - Vaishali, East-Bihar:- North- Bhagirath Singh, South- Anil Prasad Singh, East- Abiraj Devi, West- Deep Narayan Sahkari Grih Nirman Samiti.	₹ 1,05,69,000/- EMD- ₹ 10,56,990/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 695295000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0006959
2	Patna ARM Branch, Patna Mob.: 9162640626	M/s. Manju Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd., At- Karampur, Dharampur, P.O.- Pawapuri, Anchal- Giriyaik, Dist.- Nalanda, Bihar-803115, Director- Sri Sunil Kumar, Sri Anil Kumar & Sri Shushil Kumar, all s/o Late Ram Naresh Singh, Add.- At- Karampur, Dharampur, P.O.- Pawapuri, Anchal- Giriyaik, Dist.- Nalanda, Bihar-803115.	₹ 4,47,36,836.89 as on 30.04.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	1. All that part and parcel of the following properties standing in the name of M/s. Manju Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd., situated At- Karampur, Dharampur, P.O.- Pawapuri, Anchal- Giriyaik, Dist.- Nalanda, Bihar-803115, bearing Deed No. 77 dated 08.01.2013, Thana No. 346, Khata No. 424, Khesra No. 1824, Area- 44.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Kamta Singh, South- Niz, East- Niz, West- Niz, Khata No. 424, Khesra No. 1825, Area- 16.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Niz, South- Rajendra Singh, East- Niz, West- Road, Khata No. 633, Khesra No. 1827, Area- 29.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Niz, South- Niz, East- Niz, West- Road, Khata No. 640, Khesra No. 1828, Area- 20.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Niz, South- Niz, East- Niz, West- Road, Khata No. 639, Khesra No. 1829, Area- 12.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Niz, South- Niz, East- Niz, West- Road, Khata No. 246, Khesra No. 1832, Area- 21.00 Decimal, Boundaries:- North- Ashutosh Singh, South- Niz, East- Rajendra Singh, West- Road, Total Area- 142 Decimal	₹ 4,54,10,000/- EMD- ₹ 45,41,000/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 8361295000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0008361
3	Telpa Chapra Branch, Chapra Mob.: 8210998476	M/s. A-1 Int Udyog, Prop.- Kusheshwar Singh, S/o Wakil Singh, Vill.- Mukrera, P.S.- Reviganj, Dist.- Saran	₹ 47,42,000.00 as on 09.05.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	Owned by Kusheshwar Singh, S/o Wakil Singh situated at Village- Jigna, Anchal- Reviganj, Dist.- Saran, Khata No. 365, Plot No. 04, P.S. No. 225, Area - 1 Bigha 11 Katha, Boundary:- North- Rampriti Tiwari, South- Rampriti Tiwari, East- Ujagir Tiwari, West- Ram Lakhani Tiwari.	₹ 1,14,54,000/- EMD- ₹ 11,45,400/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 8361295000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0008361
4	Bhabhua Branch, Bhabhua Mohana Main Road, Bhabhua Mob.: 8210998532	M/s. Nav Nirman Construction, Prop.- Diwakar Tiwari, Ward No. 19, Tiwari Tola, Bhabhua, Kaimur-21101, Guarantor: 1. Diwakar Tiwari, S/o Sri Ashok Tiwari, Ward No. 19, PS+PO- Bhabhua, Dist.- Kaimur (Bihar)-821101, 2. Sudhakar Tiwari & 3. Kamalakar Tiwari, both S/o Sri Ashok Tiwari, Ward No. 12, PS+PO- Bhabhua, Dist.- Kaimur (Bihar)-821101, 4. Ashok Tiwari, S/o Late Gaurishankar Tiwari, Ward No. 19, PS+PO- Bhabhua, Dist.- Kaimur (Bihar)-821101.	₹ 4,03,718.20 as on 07.05.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	EMT of land and building in the name of Sri Ashok Tiwari, S/o Late Gaurishankar Tiwari, Mauza- Bhabhua, Ward No. 9/19, Khata No. 45, Plot No. 242, Thana No. 491, PS- Bhabhua, District- Kaimur, Total Area - 836.19 sqft., Boundary (At the time of Loan):- North- Gali, South- Farik 2, East- Gali, West- Farik 4, Present Boundary:- North- Gali, South- Nirmal Tiwari, East- Gali, West- Vijay Tiwari.	₹ 10,86,000/- EMD- ₹ 1,08,600/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 8352960000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0008359
5	Arra Branch, Arra Mob.: 8210998301	M/s. Sakaldeep Cold Storage, Director- Sri Rajeshwar Ray, Plot No. A4(P), Biada Industrial Area, Judge Bazar, Main Road, Bihya-802152 Guarantor: 1. Sri Rajeshwar Ray, 2. Sri Bhuneshwar Ray, 3. Sri Vinodhwar Ray, 4. Ramesh Rai, all S/o Late Sakaldeep Ray, 5. Manisha Devi w/o Nand Kishore Ray.	₹ 6,12,00,000.00 as on 05.04.2021 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	EMT of lease deed property consisting of Survey No. 2064 (P) and 2069(P), Khata No. 375, Thana No. 147, Deed No. 8235 Dated 23.07.2014 to extent of 87120 sqft. in the name of M/s. Sakaldeep Cold Storage its Director- Sri Rajeshwar Ray, S/o Late Sakaldeep Ray, Mauza- Bihya, Ward No. 12, Biada Judge Bazar, Bihya, Boundary - North- Plot No. 2064 (P), 2069(P) & Industrial Plot No. A-4(p), South- Plot No. 2064 (P), 2069(P) & Industrial Plot No. A-3, East- Plot No. 2069 (P) & Industrial Road 40'-00", West- Industrial Area Boundary.	₹ 56,00,000/- EMD- ₹ 5,60,000/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 6952950000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0006959
6	Bairgachi Branch, PO- Bathana Bairgachi, Pin-855107 Mob.: 8210998575	Jiyaul Haque, S/o Late Dawood Alee, Vill.- Mahesh Bathana, PO- Pipla, Gachhpara, Dist.- Kishanganj, Bihar, Pin-855107.	₹ 10,05,642.88 as on 05.05.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	Will Reg. Deed No. 6313, Dated 01.09.2009, All that part and parcel of land measuring 0.27 Decimal covered under Khata No. 46, Khesra No. 334, 335, situated at Village- Pipla Gachhpara Mahesh Bathana, Thana No. 33, Tajuji No. 07, Registry office- Kishanganj, District- Kishanganj, in the name of Jiyaul Haque s/o Late Dawood Alee, Boundary:- North- Hafiz Khan, South- Mahboob Alam, East- Road, West- Niz.	₹ 45,29,000/- EMD- ₹ 4,52,900/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 8362295000001 IFSC Code- CNRB0008362
7	Ramdayalu Nagar Branch, Ramdayalu Nagar-842002 Mob.: 8210998502	M/s Arun Enterprises, Prop.- Shri Arun Kumar Jha, S/o Sri Dinesh Chandra Jha, Susta Madhopur, Pandit Chowk, PS- Sadar, Anchal- Mushahar, Uma Nagar, Distt.- Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842004, Guarantor: Sri Dinesh Chandra Jha, S/o Late Kamal Kant Jha, Susta Madhopur, Pandit Chowk, PS- Sadar, Anchal- Mushahar, Uma Nagar, Distt.- Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842004.	₹ 27,67,233.70 as on 30.04.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Sri Dinesh Chandra Jha S/o Late Kamal Kant Jha consisting of Khata No. 52, Khesra No. 682, Area- 3.75 Dec = 1650 sqft., Boundary:- North- Raj Kishore Singh, South- Vendor/Executant, East- Road/to Mahua, West- Vendor/Executant, Location:- Mauza- Susta, P.S- Sadar, Anchal- Mushahar, Thana No. 286, Muzaffarpur, District- Muzaffarpur-842004.	₹ 25,18,000/- EMD- ₹ 2,51,800/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 8622299727434 IFSC Code- CNRB0008622
8	Bhagwanpur -II Branch, NH No. 28, Pawapuri-842001 Mob.: 8102915970	Pramod Kumar, S/o Shashi Bhushan Kumar, Gandhi Nagar, Road No. 04, Koluha Paigambarpur, PS- Ahiyapur, Distt.- Muzaffarpur, Pin-842003 Guarantor: Shri Arjun Prasad Singh, S/o Ram Praveesh Singh, At- Bhikanpura, South Tola, PS- Sadar, Distt.- Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842001.	₹ 13,22,055.75 as on 31.03.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Pramod Kumar, S/o Shashi Bhushan Kumar, Gandhi Nagar, Road No. 04, Koluha Paigambarpur, PS- Ahiyapur, Distt.- Muzaffarpur, Pin-842003, Khata No. 455, Khesra No. 3072, Area- 1.4 Dec (7 Dhur), Boundary:- North- Ram Chandra Rai, South- Kachi Sadak, East- Ram Chandra Singh, West- Punam Pandey, Location:- R.T. No. 482, Vill- Koluha Paigambarpur, Moh.- Gandhi Nagar, R.O. No. 5, Kanti, Thana- Ahiyapur, District- Muzaffarpur-842003.	₹ 21,32,371/- EMD- ₹ 2,13,237/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 7491209272434 IFSC Code- CNRB0007491
9	Raxaul Branch, Raxaul Pin-845305 Mob.: 8210998510	M/s Mani Traders, Prop.- Vikash Kumar Gupta, S/o Late Kailash Sah, Tola Kaurihar, Raxaul, Dist.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305. Guarantor: Smt. Lalita Devi, w/o Late Kailash Prasad, Ward No. 1, Village- Kaurihar, Bada Tola, Raxaul, Distt.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305.	₹ 13,41,283.09 as on 31.03.2022 + Interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Smt. Lalita Devi, w/o Late Kailash Prasad consisting of Khata No. 232, Khesra No. 118, Tazui No. 951, Area- 2.50 Dhur, Boundary:- North- Ganga Bishnu Sah, South- Inar, East- Road, West- Green Kishor Prasad, Location:- Mohalla- Kaurihar Tola, Ward No. 23, Raxaul, Anchal- Raxaul, Dist.- East Champaran.	₹ 25,50,000/- EMD- ₹ 2,55,000/- 10,000/-, A/c. No. 2316209272434 IFSC Code- CNRB0002316

Last Date of EMD 11.06.2022, 4.00 PM. For Detailed Terms and Conditions of the Sale, Please refer to the link provided in www.canarabank.com

Date: 12.05.2022 Place: Patna Authorized Officer Canara Bank

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT (ORDER V, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure) IN THE COURT OF SH. GURVINDER PAL SINGH District Judge (Commercial Court) - 02 Room No. 25, PHC, NDD, New Delhi PATIALA HOUSE COURTS, NEW DELHI

CASE NO. CS (COMM.) 145/2021
Title **CANARA BANK** Versus **DHRUV KUMAR**
To **Dhruv Kumar Prop. of NRB Leather and Accessories S/o Sh. Ram Dulare, R/o Rathore, A-8, Suraksha Vihar, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110059 Also at: Shop No. 58, Craft Bazar, District Centre, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058, E-5, E-Block, Kiran Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059**

WHEREAS above named PLAINTIFF has instituted a suit against you. You are hereby summoned to appear before this court in person or by pleader on 31-05-2022 at 10:00 AM, to answer the same.

The written statement must be filed within thirty days from the date of receipt of the summons. You are to also file affidavit of admission / denial of the documents filed by the plaintiff with written statement.

It is made clear that any unjustified denial of documents and delay in the time line may lead to an order of costs against the concerned party.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on that day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 21st day of April, 2022.

District Judge (Commercial Court) - 02 New Delhi District Patiala House Courts, New Delhi

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

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

In the matter of O.A. No. 480/2020 PUNJAB & SIND BANK

vs Applicant **M/s Libra Cars (Pvt.) Ltd. & Ors.** Defendants

D-2 Mr Harjit Singh (Director of M/s Libra Cars (Pvt) Ltd.) S/o Sh Joginder Singh, R/o 120, Tagore Park, Model Town, Delhi Also at: House No. 433, Sector-35A, Chandigarh

D-3 Mr Manpreet Singh (Director of M/s Libra Cars (Pvt) Ltd.) S/o Sh Harjit Singh, R/o 120, Tagore Park, Model Town, Delhi, Also at: B-2, Bhargava Lane, Boulevard Road, Near Tis Hazari, Delhi-54

D-4 Mr Gurvirkam Singh, (Director Of M/S Libra Cars (Pvt) Ltd.) S/o Sh Harjit Singh R/o 120, Tagore Park, Model Town, Delhi, Also at: B-2, Bhargava Lane, Boulevard Road, Near Tis Hazari, Delhi-54

D-5 Mrs Amarpali Kaur W/o Mr. Fateh Singh, R/o 120, Tagore Park, Model Town, Delhi Also at: House No. 433, Sector-3A, Chandigarh

D-11 M/s Libra Finance Ltd. Through its Authorised Representative / Director having registered office at: B-2, Bhargava Lane, Boulevard Road, Near Tis Hazari, Delhi-54 Also at: Property No. 54, Transport Nagar, Gt Kamal Road, New Sabzi Mandi Azadpur, Delhi-110033, Also at: House No. 433, Sector-35A, Chandigarh - 110022

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal on 07-06-2022 at 10.30 A.M.

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

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

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

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

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/ Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph.No. 23748469

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, TIRUPATI
(An Autonomous Institute under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

RECRUITMENT FOR THE POSITION OF POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW (PDRF)

IISER Tirupati invites online applications for the position of "Post-Doctoral Research Fellow" funded project on "NF-KB signaling in the cancer and immune system" by the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance from Indian nationals having excellent academic record. This project provides excellent opportunity to work in cancer biology and publish good paper. Candidates with experience in confocal microscopy, Protein Purification, molecular cloning and cell culture submit CV to Dr. V. Sivakumar. Email: vallabs@isertirupati.ac.in

For detailed advertisement, please visit www.isertirupati.ac.in and click on the link "Job Opportunities". The last date for submission of online application is **May 31, 2022.**

Advt. no.: RLBCAU/01/2022 Dated 10.05.2022

Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi
Vacancy Notification

Applications from eligible Indian Nationals are invited for recruitment to the following posts.

S. No.	Position	Level	Discipline	No. of vacancies
1.	First Comptroller	14	On Deputation	01- UR
2.	Dean, Horticulture & Forestry	14	Horticulture & Forestry	01- UR

For more details viz. essential qualifications, application form and other instructions, please visit website www.rlbcu.ac.in. The closing date for receipt of application is 9th June, 2022 and 24th June, 2022 for those residing in remote areas as per govt. norms.

Registrar

वर्ल्ड सीमेन्ट लिमिटेड

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि राज्य स्तरीय पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन प्राधिकरण, उत्तर प्रदेश (पर्यावरण निदेशालय, उत्तर प्रदेश) के पत्र संख्या **EC22B009UP145284** दिनांक 11.05.2022 के द्वारा मैसर्स वर्ल्ड सीमेन्ट लिमिटेड, को प्रस्तावित क्लिंकर ग्राइंडिंग यूनिट उत्पादन क्षमता 4.0 मिलियन टन प्रति वर्ष (चरण-1 : 2.0 एमटीपीए और चरण-11 : 2.0 एमटीपीए), डी.जी. सेट 6.5 मेगावाट और रेलवे साइडिंग स्थित ग्राम : सोमना, तहसील : गभाना, जिला : अलीगढ़ (उत्तर प्रदेश) के लिये पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति प्रदान की है। उक्त परियोजना की पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति पत्र की प्रति उत्तर प्रदेश प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मण्डल कार्यालय में जन साधारण के लिये उपलब्ध है एवं पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की वेबसाइट <http://parivesh.nic.in> पर देखी जा सकती है।

दिनांक : 13.05.2022 **महाप्रबंधक (पर्यावरण)**

DEFENCE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
(Deemed to be University U/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956),
Girinagar, Pune - 411 025.

ADMISSION NOTICE Ph.D. M.Tech, M.Sc. in Food Technology & M.Sc. in Material Science JULY, 2022

Defence Institute of Advanced Technology is an autonomous Institution, fully funded by the Department of Defence Research & Development, Ministry of Defence, established with the objective of imparting Post Graduate Education in Engineering and Applied Sciences on thrust area relevant to Defence, Industries, R&D and also to conduct research in the Core areas of Defence Technologies.

DIAT invites applications for the Ph.D. programme under Institutional Scholarship Category, in Engineering and Applied Sciences Departments. Details of Branches / Programmes and other terms and conditions are available at www.diat.ac.in

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Aspiring candidates for Ph.D programme, may apply online for admission from 17/05/2022 to 16/06/2022. Hard copy of the online application along with relevant documents must reach to Joint Registrar (Academics), DIAT (DU) Girinagar, Pune-411025 latest by 17:30 hours on or before 21/06/2022.

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग
हल्द्वार
सिव कोड - 249484

संख्या : 1103/E-SIAG (DR)/2021 दिनांक : 12 मई, 2022

सहायक सू-बैज्ञानिक (बैज्ञानिक शाखा) परीक्षा-2021
(Assistant Geologist (Scientific Branch) Exam-2021)

एम्प्लॉयमेंट सूचना है कि उत्तर

DELHI TOTAL CASES		Total	Vacant
18,98,173		HOSPITAL BEDS 9,578	9,407
		ICU BEDS 2,223	2,172
May 11	970	1,238	1
May 12	1,032	1,306	0
Total	4,928*	18,67,061	26,184
		Tests	3,81,50,973

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA		
	May 11	May 12
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A

GURGAON		
	May 11	May 12
Cases	279	262
Deaths	1	0

MADANPUR KHADAR: STONE PELTING, DETENTIONS MARK TENSE DAY

Anger spills over at yet another demolition drive by MCD, AAP's Amanatullah arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

CLASHES BROKE out between locals and Delhi Police personnel during an anti-encroachment drive by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) in Madanpur Khadar on Thursday. Police said AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan was arrested while 12 residents, including a woman and her minor daughter, were detained.

The drive, conducted amid heavy presence of police and CRPF personnel, started around 11.30 am with bulldozers, trucks and officials arriving at Madanpur Khadar and East of Kailash. At Khadar Colony, officials barricaded the street and started tearing down the walls of a five-storey building as well as other buildings. Officials then sent construction workers and labourers to manually break down the buildings — a total of four under-construction residential buildings were partially demolished.

Over 200 residents gathered at the spot while Khan staged a sit-in protest along with his aides. Police said the protest soon turned violent, with locals allegedly pelting stones. A senior police officer said, "It was an unlawful assembly. We were only trying to control it, but they (lo-



The drive started around 11.30 am; (left) police said the protest by residents soon turned violent.

Tashi Tobgyal & Jignasa Sinha

sent 7-14 days ago.

SDMC Chairman Rajpal Singh claimed, "These people are living on unauthorised land. We still sent them notices two weeks ago for unauthorised construction. AAP has shown their true face. Amanatullah supports people who illegally capture land and build houses. These people (locals) are Rohingyas and Bangladeshis. AAP supports them and obstructed MCD in its duties. The way they fought today... was horrible. It's an unlisted colony and we are only doing what should've been done years ago."

When asked for a copy of the notice, Singh refused to share it. Before Khan, the AAP MLA from Okhla, was detained, he told *The Indian Express*: "I will not tolerate this. I don't mind going to jail. They (police) threatened me. I am now silently protesting... it is my right. I am here for Hindus and Muslims who are losing their homes. I was told about the demolition in the morning. The SDMC is randomly targeting colonies. Their officials sent a notice today. Is this legal?"

the police denied. A few residents and personnel sustained injuries and vehicles were damaged.

The demolition drives have taken a political hue ever since one was conducted in Jahangirpuri, days after communal violence erupted in the area. An outer gate of a mosque was among the structures taken down there, and the matter had reached the Supreme Court, which effectively stopped the MCD action by ordering status quo. While the BJP has sought to link such drives to "illegal Bangladeshi and Rohingya" living in the capital, the AAP alleges it is a bid by the civic bodies to extort money from people. Thursday was the first time residential buildings have been demolished.

While locals and house owners claimed they weren't given any notice about the demolition, MCD officials said notices were

cal) resorted to manhandling personnel... They were hitting us... We had to retaliate. We detained a few persons for attacking police, obstructing government work, and disrupting peace. They will be released soon."

DCP (Southeast) Esha Pandey said Khan and five of his associates were arrested. They have been booked under IPC sections 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 333 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt to deter public servant from his duty), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting, armed with a deadly weapon), 149 (unlawful assembly) and 153 (wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot), said the DCP.

Locals, however, alleged that police tried to push them and lathi-charged them — claims that

'We are losing our homes; why is everyone quiet?'

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

ON THURSDAY morning, businessman Saif Mehboob (28) woke up to news of his five-storey building at Madanpur Khadar being vacated by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) during its anti-encroachment drive. The structure was later partially demolished.

He and his family had put their savings into constructing the residential building last year. On reaching Khadar Colony around noon, he called his father and said: "Sab khatam ho gaya... ab kya karen?"

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, he said, "The building was still being built... We had sold apartments on the first floor. I never received a notice from the MCD. I knew demolition drives were happening, but this is a five-storey building. I received a call from the boys who live as tenants on the first floor. They were told to vacate... they didn't even have time to take their luggage. I took a lot of money to build this. The area is filled with other unauthorised colonies; why my building?"

Saif's friends said Thursday was his birthday and he had planned to celebrate with his family. "I tried to show receipts and permits but wasn't allowed to go near the building. I could only watch it being demolished," said Saif.

While residents said the SDMC did not issue notices, officials maintained they were sent 7-14 days ago.

Another building owner, Soni, rushed to see her two-storey building being demolished, but was stopped by police



Saif Mehboob's five-storey building was partially demolished during the drive on Thursday.

Tashi Tobgyal

at the barricade. She yelled and cried "Ye sab humare saath kyun... ek baar mein ghar tod diya."

Locals protested as the bulldozers demolished four residential buildings. Ruksaar (21), a resident, said, "We think they will demolish our house next. My mother has lived here for over 30 years. Why is everyone quiet? We are losing our homes. Where will we go?"

Following clashes between residents and police personnel, several were detained. Soni, who was also protesting with the locals, was among those picked up. Her minor daughter tried to push the police and cried as they were dragged to a van. "Main sirf beti ke saath toota ghar dekhne aayi... kya galat kar diya?" cried Soni as the police took her away.

BRIEFLY

NHRC seeks report on groundwater contamination near landfills

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission has issued notices to Secretary of the Union Jal Shakti Ministry, Chief Secretary of the Delhi government, and chairman of Central Pollution Control Board, asking for detailed reports on contamination of groundwater near landfills sites and steps taken or proposed to be taken to deal with the problem. The reports are to be submitted in six weeks.

In first offline exam in two years, DU sees 97.5% turnout

New Delhi: Delhi University recorded a 97.5% turnout in its first offline exam in two years held Wednesday. Of the 45,435 who registered for morning session, 44,311 students appeared for the exam. Dean Examinations DSRawat said.

Traffic hit on NH-48 as 2 trucks collide

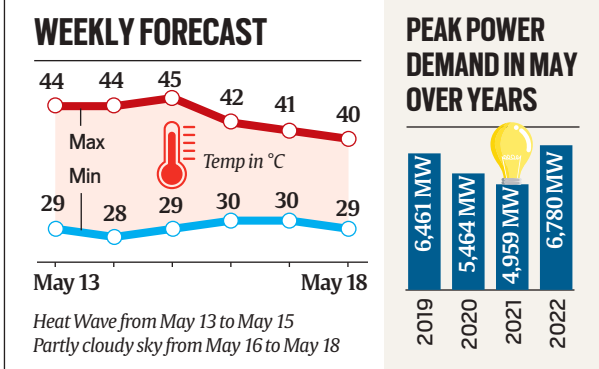
Gurgaon: Traffic was disrupted for several hours Thursday morning on NH-48 near Narsinghpur after two trucks overturned following a collision Wednesday night. **ENS**

Peak power demand hits record high in May; another heatwave this week

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

WITH A heatwave spell set to hit Delhi from May 13 to 15, the maximum temperature could settle at around 44 degrees Celsius on Friday, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast.

Delhi has already recorded three heatwave spells this summer, and the first such spell was recorded in March. While a 'yellow' alert has been issued for Friday and Saturday, an 'orange' alert has been issued for Sunday, when the maximum temperature could increase to around 45 degrees Celsius. A 'yellow' alert indicates the heat is "tolerable for the public, but is a moderate health concern for vulnerable people" including infants, the



elderly and people with chronic diseases. An 'orange' alert is a severe heat alert that warns of "increased likelihood of heat illness symptoms in people exposed to the sun for prolonged periods".

Meanwhile, Delhi's power demand hit a peak of 6,780 MW on Thursday, which, according to

sources, is the season's highest so far, and also the highest ever peak recorded in May. The peak demand had increased in a day — from 6,572 MW on Wednesday. In 2020 and 2021, peak demand had not crossed the 6,000 MW mark in May. In 2019, the highest peak demand for May was 6,461

MW, lower than what was recorded Thursday. On Thursday, a maximum temperature of 42.5 degrees was recorded at Safdarjung weather observatory, three degrees above normal for this time of the year. A heatwave is recorded when maximum temperature is 4.5 to 6.4 degrees above normal, and is 40 degrees Celsius or more. The maximum temperatures at CWG Sports Complex and at Aya Nagar hit 43.5 degrees, while maximum temperature at Najafgarh was at 44.7 degrees. At Mungeshpur, the maximum temperature was as high as 45.4 degrees. A western disturbance is likely to affect western Himalayan region from May 16. Consequently, partly cloudy skies are on forecast for Delhi from May 16 to 18, and maximum temperature could fall to around 40 degrees by May 18.

Govt to launch 'Delhi Film Policy' today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE DELHI government's new film policy, which will give producers subsidies and discounts on hospitality services, will be launched Friday, officials said.

The decision to frame a policy that makes Delhi an attractive location for shooting movies was taken in February this year. The policy also talks about a single window e-clearance for producers, which will be handled by the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation, sources said.

The subsidies will be based on how much of the city is captured in the film and if the crew is hired from Delhi. The maximum subsidy amount will be Rs 3 crore,

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had said in February. Sisodia had said that an annual international film festival, along the lines of the one held in Goa, will also be introduced alongside the Delhi Film Excellence Awards.

"While many films are shot in Delhi, the process for clearances is time-consuming and convoluted. The aim is to make this simpler. This also ties in with the government's employment budget plans. Delhi cannot have any heavy industries by law, and other areas need to be developed to generate employment. The new policy talks of giving subsidies of up to Rs 3 crore to make prospect of shooting in the city more appealing," said an official who did not want to be named. Response to the application will be granted within 15 days, sources said.

2 who posed as ED, CBI officers held in Gurgaon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, MAY 12

A FATHER-SON duo was arrested for allegedly posing as officials of the Enforcement Directorate and Central Bureau of Investigation and demanding Rs 4 crore from a resident in Gurgaon.

The complainant, Yashpal Batra, former senior deputy mayor in MCG, lodged an FIR at New Colony police station, alleging that the accused had filed false complaints against him stating that he had accumulated properties by illegal means.

Police said the accused claimed to be senior officers of the CBI and ED, and allegedly told Batra that they had received complaints against him and demanded Rs 4 crore in return for

withdrawal of the complaints. The accused threatened to implicate the complainant in criminal cases if the money was not paid.

Subhash Boken, spokesperson, Gurgaon police, said: "A team was formed to nab the culprits and the complainant was instructed to take Rs 2 lakh to the accused, Yashpal Arora, who sent one of his associates to collect the cash. When he handed it over to Arora, he and his son Rahul Arora were caught red-handed."

"During questioning, the accused revealed that they allegedly extorted Rs 10 lakh on an earlier occasion from the complainant," added Boken. Police said preliminary probe has found the accused have allegedly extorted money from several people using a similar modus operandi.

Teachers' body asks edu dept to call off summer camp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

REFERRING TO recurring heatwaves in Delhi, teachers' associations have appealed to various authorities that the ongoing camp in government schools during summer vacations be called off. However, education department officials said these are required to address students' learning needs.

Summer vacations in Delhi began on Wednesday, and summer camps are being held in all government schools for classes III to IX from 7.30 am to 11 am. The focus of the camps is on foundational reading and numeracy after the two-year-long gap due to the pandemic, and parents had been asked to submit No Objection Certificates. These are scheduled to continue till June 18 while summer vacations end on June 28. The Government Schools Teachers Association and the Loktantrik Adhyapak Manch wrote to the Directorate of Education to reconsider this.

"Children need to be protected from the unsuitable weather, but here, in the name of catching up, the department wants all of them to commute in sweltering heat and harsh hot winds, and sit and learn in heated up classrooms... many school buildings are not good enough to counter extreme weather...," they have written. On Thursday, Nagar Nigam Shikshak Manch also wrote to Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights requesting its intervention, adding that summer vacations are the right of children.

However, education department officials said, "Timings have been set such that it will get over in the morning to avoid the worst of heat. The idea is to address the learning gap... another interruption will make it difficult..."

In new-age data theft, fraudsters steal thumb prints from land registries

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, MAY 12

FRAUDSTERS ARE stealing data, including thumb prints, from land registries on Haryana's land records website to create duplicate prints on silicon, and committing fraud by withdrawing money from the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of victims. This new modus operandi adopted by conmen has prompted the Faridabad Police to write to Haryana's land records director recommending that the official website and app, where the state's land record documents can be accessed, be audited for loopholes.

Police have also suggested that only the first page of the sale deed be made visible to the public. Nitish Aggarwal, DCP (Headquarters), Faridabad, said, "We have written to the land records department regarding these loopholes to put a stop to these frauds. A similar case had been reported in Palwal earlier. An investigation is ongoing."

Amna Tasneem, director, consolidation of land holdings and land records, Haryana, refused to comment.

In the letter from DCP (Headquarters) on May 10, police said the matter was in reference to a case traced by Faridabad Police related to Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AEPS) fraud, where victim's money was withdrawn by creating their forged biometric thumb impressions.

Police said fraudsters access the website (jamabandi.nic.in) and download registration sale deeds for that day by filling in information like the district, tehsil, random date and captcha code.

"From any registered sale deed, the fraudsters copy thumb

impression on a butter paper and then create duplicate silicon thumb (prints). These silicon thumb impressions and other details are then used to withdraw money from Aadhaar-linked accounts using AEPS-enabled POS machines," the letter read.

It added, "Since many frauds are happening in this manner because of easy availability of thumb impressions and other details of the victim on the sale deed, it is highly recommended that only the first page of sale deed should be made visible for general public. Also, the whole website should be audited once again and other loopholes, where personal data is compromised, should be rectified."

Sources said that earlier this week, Faridabad Police arrested three accused from Purnia in Bihar for allegedly duping a woman of Rs 30,000 using this modus operandi.

Basant Chauhan, SHO, Faridabad cyber crime police station, confirmed that three persons were arrested and were currently on remand. An FIR was registered under IPC sections 419 (cheating by personation) and 420 (cheating) on February 26, 2022.

In the complaint, Pankaj Sharma, a resident of Malerna village, alleged that on February 19 and 20, Rs 30,000 was siphoned off from her account in Sarv Haryana Gramin Bank in three transactions. "I did not get any message or an OTP. On February 15 and earlier on January 5, I had gone to Ballabgarh tehsil for registry for sale of a plot. I had put my signature and my thumb impression on the registry. I suspected that the fraud was related to the registry since I had not put my thumb impression elsewhere...," she said.

The vehicle in which the victims were travelling. **Express**

Five on pilgrimage killed in accident on Yamuna expressway

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

FIVE PEOPLE, including four women, died and two others were injured in an accident on the Yamuna Expressway on Thursday morning.

The victims have been identified as Chandra Kant (59), Swarna Chandra (59), Malab Vishwanath (68), Ranjana Bharat (60) from Maharashtra and Nuwanjan Mujawar (53) from Karnataka. They were part of a pilgrimage group comprising 50 people and were returning from Mathura to Delhi. While the five were travelling in a Mahindra Bolero, the others were in a bus. Police said the incident took place near the 40-km milestone close to the Jewar toll plaza around 5 am.

"We received information that a vehicle rammmed into a dumper truck on the Expressway. Ambulances and police personnel rushed to the spot to rescue the passengers. Five died while two of them are in the hospital. A case of rash driving has been registered against unknown persons... the truck driver is absconding," said a police officer at Jewar police station.

Police said they are ascertaining the sequence of events that led to the collision.

The two injured persons, Narayan Ramchandra (40), who is from the tour team, and Sunita Raju (35), are admitted in the ICU at Kailash Hospital.

Taking note of the incident, the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister's Office tweeted on Thursday: "CM Yogi Adityanath has expressed deep grief over the loss of lives due to collision of two vehicles on Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida. Praying for peace to departed souls, the chief minister has extended his condolences to the bereaved families."

The pilgrims said the trip had begun near Pune last Friday and they were at Mathura for the last two days. The group had planned to visit Red Fort and other tourist spots in the national capital on Thursday and leave around 4 pm for Punjab and then Vaishno Devi.

"It was around 5 am and several of us were sleeping. Our bus suddenly slowed down when we saw a car had rammmed into a truck. Then one of us pointed out that the car was ours. By the time police and ambulance reached, the bodies had been taken out," said Vijaya Hange, one of the travellers.

"No one knew something like this would happen. It was only yesterday we were singing and dancing to devotional songs... It was our first visit to North India...," added Hange.

Police said families of the victims have been informed and bodies will be handed over once they reach.

Last week, seven people were killed in an accident near Mathura on Yamuna Expressway after their car was hit by a vehicle from the rear.



उत्तराखण्ड शासन



यमुनोत्री



गंगोत्री

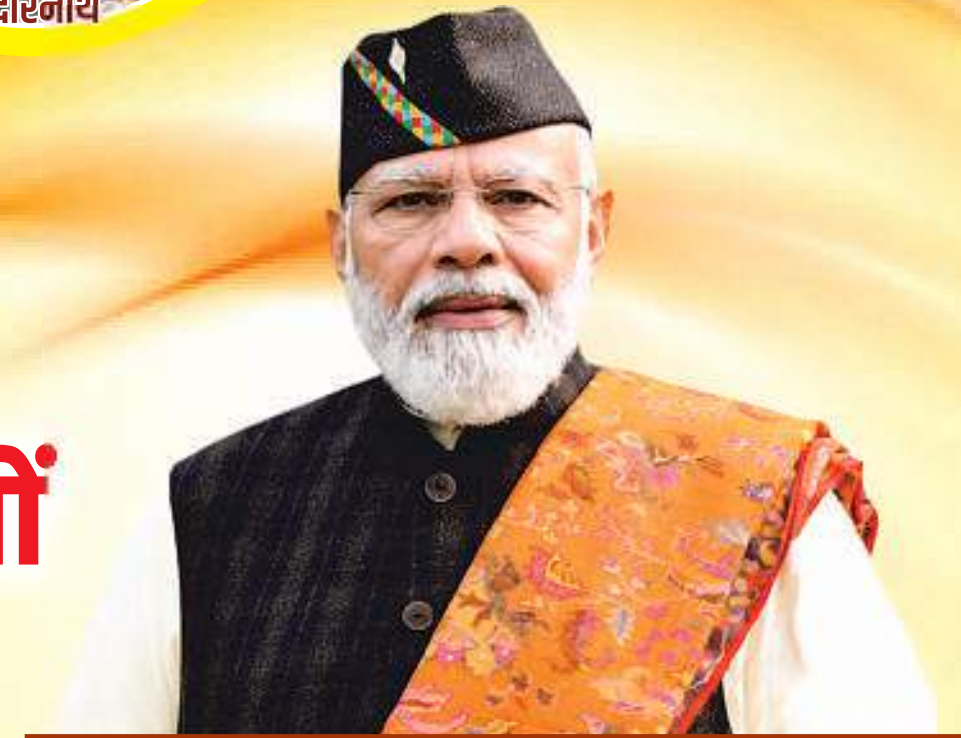


केदारनाथ



बद्रीनाथ

आस्था एवं विश्वास की प्रतीक चारधाम यात्रा में सभी श्रद्धालुओं का हार्दिक स्वागत है



नरेन्द्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री

चारधाम यात्रा-2022 हेतु यात्रियों के लिए परामर्श

चारधाम यात्रा में समस्त तीर्थ स्थल उच्च हिमालयी क्षेत्र में स्थित हैं, जिनकी ऊंचाई समुद्र तल से 2700 मी० से भी अधिक है। उन स्थानों में यात्रीगण अत्यधिक ठण्ड, कम आद्रता अत्यधिक अल्ट्रा वॉयलेट रेडिएशन, कम हवा का दबाव और कम ऑक्सीजन की मात्रा से प्रभावित हो सकते हैं। अतः सभी तीर्थ यात्रियों के सुगम एवं सुरक्षित यात्रा के लिए निम्न परामर्श हैं।

- स्वास्थ्य परीक्षण के उपरांत ही यात्रा के लिए प्रस्थान करें।
- पूर्व से बीमार व्यक्ति अपने चिकित्सक का परामर्श पचाएँ एवं चिकित्सक का संपर्क नम्बर, एवं चिकित्सक द्वारा लिखी गयी दवाइयां अपने साथ रखें।
- अति वृद्ध एवं बीमार व्यक्तियों एवं पूर्व में कोविड से ग्रसित व्यक्तियों के लिए यात्रा पर न जाना या कुछ समय के लिए स्थगित करना उचित होगा।
- तीर्थस्थल पर पहुँचने से पूर्व मार्ग में एक दिन का विश्राम करना उचित होगा।
- गर्म एवं ऊनी वस्त्र साथ में अवश्य रखें।
- हृदय रोग, श्वास रोग, मधुमेह, उच्च रक्तचाप से ग्रस्त रोगी ऊंचाई वाले क्षेत्रों में जाते समय विशेष सावधानी बरतें।

लक्षण जैसे- सिर दर्द होना, चक्कर आना, घबराहट का होना, दिल की धड़कन तेज होना, उल्टी आना, हाथ-पांव व होंठों का नीला पड़ना, थकान होना, सांस फूलना, खाँसी होना

अथवा अन्य लक्षण होने पर तत्काल स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र पहुँचे एवं 104 हेल्पलाइन नम्बर पर सम्पर्क करें।

- धूम्रपान व अन्य मादक पदार्थों के सेवन से परहेज करें।
- सनस्क्रीन एस०पी०एफ० 50 का उपयोग अपनी त्वचा को तेज धूप से बचाने के लिए करें।
- यू०वी० किरणों से अपनी आंखों के बचाव हेतु सन ग्लासेस का उपयोग करें।
- यात्रा के दौरान पानी पीते रहें और भूखे पेट ना रहें।
- लम्बी पैदल यात्रा के दौरान बीच-बीच में विश्राम करें।
- ऊंचाई वाले क्षेत्रों में व्यायाम से बचें।
- किसी भी स्वास्थ्य सम्बन्धी जानकारी हेतु 104 एवं एम्बुलेंस हेतु 108 हेल्पलाइन नम्बर पर सम्पर्क करेंगे।



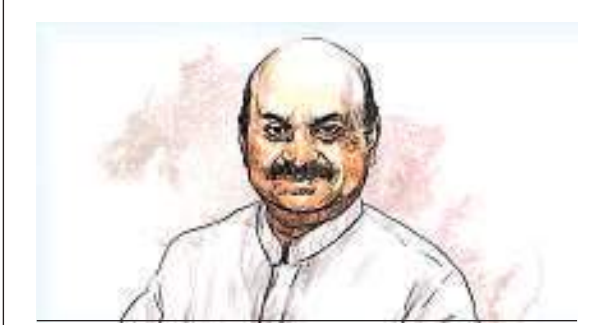
“अक्षय तृतीया के पावन मुहूर्त पर बीते 3 मई को देवभूमि में चारधाम यात्रा का शुभारम्भ हो चुका है। सरकार ने अपनी तरफ से श्रद्धालुओं के लिए समुचित व्यवस्था की है और इसमें आगे भी बढ़ोतरी की जा रही है। श्रद्धालुओं की लगातार बढ़ रही भारी संख्या को देखते हुए मेरी आप सभी आत्मीय श्रद्धालुओं से अपील है कि यात्रा शुरू करने से पहले पर्यटन विभाग द्वारा संचालित <https://registrationandtouristcare.uk.gov.in> पोर्टल पर अपना रजिस्ट्रेशन अनिवार्य रूप से करवाएं। श्रद्धालुगण इस बात का विशेष रूप से ध्यान दें कि बुजुर्गों एवं बच्चों का यात्रा से पहले स्वास्थ्य परीक्षण जरूर करवाएं क्योंकि अधिक ऊंचाई, ठंड और ऑक्सीजन की कमी की वजह से सांस लेने और हृदय संबंधित दिक्कतें उत्पन्न हो जाती हैं जो यात्रा में बाधा बनती हैं। आप सभी से अनुरोध है कि चारधाम यात्रा को सुगम बनाने हेतु प्रशासन को अपना सहयोग अवश्य दें। उत्तराखण्ड सरकार आपके स्वागत एवं सहयोग के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।”

पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

6 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



STRAIGHT TALK

APART FROM his political discussions on expansion of his Cabinet, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had some important programmes during his trip to Delhi. He met ambassadors and trade representatives of 24 countries to discuss investment opportunities in the state. But Bommai, who had promised transparency in administration when he took over as the Chief Minister, was quite blunt to the diplomats. He told them that the state would offer them quality human resource, better business atmosphere and quality infrastructure, but they should not expect sops from the state government to do business in Karnataka. Sources close to the Chief Minister said the diplomats were happy with the candid conversation and that this will be reflected in the upcoming investor meet in the state.

ART ON THE WALLS

THE CORRIDORS of central Delhi's Shastri Bhavan, which houses several Union government ministries, have seen many rounds of renovation work over the years. But the Culture Ministry wing is getting a complete facelift. Artists from many states, including Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Assam, Odisha and Bihar, have been engaged to bring its whitewashed walls to life through traditional style of paintings such as Madhubani, Pattachitra, Phad, Aipan and Kshatriya. The ministry has arranged accommodation for the artists, who have been at work through the week, at a government facility. The ministry has also refurbished the sitting area for guests with new sofas and LED televisions.

POLL READY

WHEN THE BJP faces elections in the states, party president J P Nadda is usually the busiest leader, making frequent visits and attending maximum number of rallies. Now, with his home state Himachal Pradesh going to polls later this year, Nadda's stakes are higher as this is the first time his state will be voting after he became the ruling party's national president. For this, he appears to be leaving no stones unturned to see that the organisation is in good shape and upbeat mood. Last month, Nadda made two visits to the state and he is embarking on another two-day visit during which he would review the party's booth-level preparations in Dharamshala and Kullu. He will have public meetings and discussions with elected leaders of the local bodies as well.



CM Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata on Thursday. Partha Paul

Mamata bats for more dists 'to expedite development works'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, MAY 12

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said that there is the need for having more districts in the state so as to "expedite development works".

Addressing the annual general meeting of the West Bengal Civil Service (WBCS-executive) officers in Kolkata, the CM said, "We want more districts to accelerate developmental works in the state. We need at least 46 districts against the existing 23. When we increase the number of districts, we will

have to deploy more officers. Therefore, we will have to increase the vacancies of WBCS-cadre officers."

The area under the existing districts in the state is vast and therefore they need to be split further, she said, adding that the state needs more manpower and infrastructure for the purpose.

"We will increase the quota of WBCS officers so that they can be deployed in the newly formed districts," she said.

The government has already announced to bifurcate large districts like North and South 24 Parganas and East Midnapore.

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY NEW DELHI, MAY 12

DURING THE 2020 standoff with the Chinese PLA in Eastern Ladakh, use of force by Indian forces was approved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with alacrity, and such actions to safeguard national interest would be taken in future as well, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval has said in a book on the Prime Minister.

"In contravention to all existing border management agreements, inimical forces in the shadow of a pandemic, endeavoured to challenge some of our

major interests, which required a proportionate use of force. That use of force was approved with alacrity at the topmost level. It authorised freedom of action at the lowest tactical level. The leadership and troops showed the will to resist unilateral actions. Thus, during this crisis, while we have reacted in a particular manner, there were other options. Some were exercised and some more will be exercised, if vital and major interests of the country are at stake," Doval has said in the book on Modi's 20 years in power.

The book, *Modi @ 20: Dreams Meet Delivery*, which was released on Wednesday, is an anthology of

Will extend INSACOG network to neighbouring countries: PM

Pitches for coordinated global efforts and reforms in WHO at global Covid summit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 12

WITH GENOMIC surveillance playing a crucial role in tracking new variants of Covid-19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced that India's novel coronavirus genomic sequencing consortium network will be extended to neighbouring countries.

Delivering his address at the second global virtual summit on Covid-19, hosted by US president Joe Biden, the PM announced that the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG), a national multi-agency consortium of genome sequencing laboratories established in December 2020, will soon be extended to the neighbouring countries.

"India has developed low-cost mitigation technologies for testing, treating, and data management. We have offered these ca-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the second Global Covid Virtual Summit in New Delhi. PTI

pabilities to other countries. India's genomic consortium has contributed significantly to the global database on the virus. I am happy to share that we will extend this network to countries in our neighbourhood," he said.

The INSACOG was established

to expand whole genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 virus across India with the aim to understand how the virus spreads and evolves.

In his address, the PM also emphasised that a coordinated global response is required to combat fu-

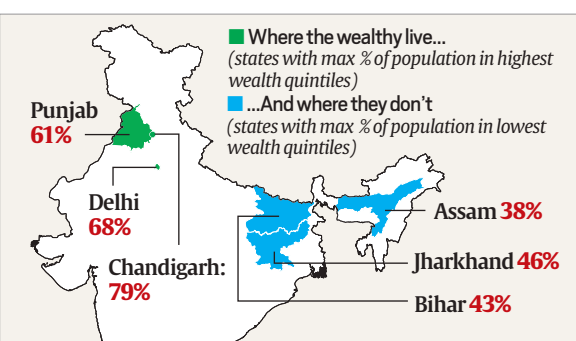
ture health emergencies and that World Health Organization (WHO) must be reformed. "It is clear that a coordinated global response is required to combat future health emergencies. We must build a resilient global supply chain and enable access to vaccines and medicines. WTO rules, particularly, TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) need to be more flexible. WHO must be reformed and strengthened to build a more resilient global health security architecture," he said.

Highlighting that India runs the world's largest vaccination drive, the Prime Minister said there is a need to streamline "WHO's approval process for vaccines and therapeutics to keep the supply chain stable and predictable". He said, "India is ready to play a key role in these efforts."

The PM participated in the summit at the invitation of US President Biden.

WEALTH CHECK

The concentration of wealth in India can be viewed through multiple lenses — geography, caste and even religion. ESHA ROY takes a look at new data from the National Family Health Survey-5 that sheds light on some trends.



URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE

74% of the urban population falls in the two highest wealth quintiles

54% of the rural population falls in the two lowest wealth quintiles

RELIGIOUS BREAK-UP

In the highest wealth quintile

80% of Jains, 59.1% of Sikhs, 19.3% of Muslims, 19.1% of Hindus

THE CASTE CONNECTION

In the two lowest wealth quintiles —

71% of the population in Scheduled Tribe households | 49% of the population in Scheduled Caste households

MEANWHILE, HOW INDIA COMMUTES...

	Bike/scooter	Cycle	Car
Urban	60.6%	43%	13.8%
Rural	44.3%	54.2%	4.4%

...AND COMMUNICATES

	Mobile phones	Landlines
Urban	96.7%	4.6%
Rural	91.5%	1.1%

Stalin writes to PM, CJI on need for regional branches of top court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, MAY 12

STATING THAT composition of the Supreme Court and high courts should reflect the diverse and pluralistic society of India, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Justice of India N V Ramana, urging that Tamil be made the official language of Madras High Court and the HC bench in Madurai.

Discussing several issues regarding functioning of higher judiciary, Stalin wrote that the country is witness to a "declining representation from all sections of the society in higher judiciary, leading to a 'diversity deficit'".

Pointing out that "judicial diversity is fundamental to the quality of judging," Stalin wrote that states must find proportional representation on

Supreme Court bench. "It will then truly reflect the diverse nature of Indian society in its various dimensions," he wrote, and urged Modi and CJI Ramana to take steps to maintain social diversity and social justice in appointment of HC and Supreme Court judges in the Memorandum of Procedure to appoint judges and follow that in letter and spirit. The letter also sought a regional branch of SC, as "all citizens, rich or poor, must have direct access to the Court."

Stating that four HCs — Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar — have Hindi as their official language in addition to English, Stalin urged for appropriate steps to declare Tamil as the official language of Madras HC and its Madurai bench. He stated that problems involved with the translation for non-Tamil judges in HC may be resolved with modern technologies.

Delhi HC seeks Centre's reply on plea against Waqf Act

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Thursday sought Centre's response on a petition challenging the validity of Waqf Act on the ground that it gives priority to Muslim religious properties and makes the "non-Muslim properties" subject to the Waqf Tribunal.

The division bench of acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Navin Chawla issued notice to the Central Waqf Council also, on the petition filed by lawyer Devendra Nath Tripathi and listed the matter for hearing on July 28.

The court on April 20 had issued notice to the Centre on a similar petition filed by BJP leader Ashwani Kumar Upadhyay.

Tripathi, in the petition, argued that religious properties in India are a private affair and the state cannot be permitted to manage them using public money. ENS

Gap reduced between 2nd Covid shot, booster dose for foreign travel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 12

The Union Health Ministry on Thursday relaxed vaccination norms for the third precautionary dose allowing citizens and students travelling abroad take the third booster dose of Covid-19 vaccine as per the travel guidelines of the destination country.

"Indian citizens and students travelling overseas can now take the precaution dose as required by the guidelines of the destination country. This new facility will be available soon on the CoWIN portal," Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said in a tweet.

At present, in India, the third precaution dose of Covid-19 vaccines has been made available to the 18+ population groups at private vaccination centres. However, according to the current guidelines only those adults who have completed 9 months after the administration of the

second dose, would be eligible for precautionary dose.

However, with Thursday's decision, Indians travelling abroad don't need to wait for nine months after the administration of the second dose to access the precautionary dose.

The Union Health Ministry's decision to relax the norms about the precaution dose for overseas travellers is based on recommendations by the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI).

India began administering precaution doses of Covid vaccines to healthcare and frontline workers and those aged 60 and above with comorbidities from January 10 this year. The comorbidity clause was removed in March making all people aged above 60 eligible for the precaution dose of Covid vaccine. On April 10, India began administering precaution doses of Covid-19 vaccines to all aged above 18 years at private vaccination centres.

Rajiv Kumar named new CEC, to assume office on May 15

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE MINISTRY of Law and Justice on Thursday announced that Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar will take over charge as the Chief Election Commissioner from May 15.

Rajiv Kumar will take over charge from CEC Sushil Chandra who is due to retire on May 14. Chandra is the 24th poll panel chief.

"In pursuance of clause (2) of article 324 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner with effect from the 15th May, 2022. My best wishes to Shri Rajiv Kumar," union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said in a tweet.

During a conference organised by the EC on Thursday with the Chief Electoral Officers of all states/UTs in New Delhi, Sushil Chandra congratulated Rajiv Kumar for being appointed as new CEC. "While complimenting the Chief Electoral Officers, he (Chandra) added that these five states' elections (Manipur, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Goa and Punjab) conducted amidst the pandemic were exemplary



Rajiv Kumar

and had no previous examples or references..." the statement said.

Election Commissioner and CEC-designate Rajiv Kumar said that with the mandate provided by the Constitution, the EC has "developed extremely robust internal mechanisms and practices to ensure that elections are conducted in a free, fair, accessible and participative manner..."

"While narrating his experiences of conducting elections for the first time amidst the pandemic in Bihar till the recently held Assembly Elections in the five states, he mentioned that the journey has been full of challenges and learnings..." the EC statement said.

As CEC, Kumar will oversee the President and the Vice President elections due shortly, the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and several assembly polls.

Mufti is instigating youth of J&K to pelt stones: BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, MAY 12

The BJP on Thursday slammed former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti for her statement, wherein she had appealed to Muslims across the country to "let BJP take away the mosques as they [Muslims] can offer namaz at any place and do not need buildings for it".

"She is in fact instigating Kashmiri youth to come on the road and indulge in stone pelting," said senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister of

the erstwhile J&K state, Nirmal Singh. "After having been rejected by the people in Kashmir, she is now trying to communalise the situation in Jammu and the BJP will not tolerate it," he said, adding that her statement falls within the purview of sedition. When asked whether he was demanding registration of a case, he said that it was for the government agencies to see.

He also criticised her statement where she had said that BJP wanted to convert Taj Mahal into a temple, saying that if someone has approached the court seeking opening of closed rooms there, it is his legal and constitutional right.

PM's personal equation with Xi resolved many crises, says NSA Doval

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY NEW DELHI, MAY 12

DURING THE 2020 standoff with the Chinese PLA in Eastern Ladakh, use of force by Indian forces was approved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with alacrity, and such actions to safeguard national interest would be taken in future as well, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval has said in a book on the Prime Minister.

"In contravention to all existing border management agreements, inimical forces in the shadow of a pandemic, endeavoured to challenge some of our

major interests, which required a proportionate use of force. That use of force was approved with alacrity at the topmost level. It authorised freedom of action at the lowest tactical level. The leadership and troops showed the will to resist unilateral actions. Thus, during this crisis, while we have reacted in a particular manner, there were other options. Some were exercised and some more will be exercised, if vital and major interests of the country are at stake," Doval has said in the book on Modi's 20 years in power.

The book, *Modi @ 20: Dreams Meet Delivery*, which was released on Wednesday, is an anthology of

articles written by eminent people, including Cabinet ministers such as Amit Shah and S Jaishankar on Modi's leadership and achievements.

The India-China standoff in Eastern Ladakh, which started in April 2020 and claimed the lives of 20 Indian soldiers in a clash, continues to this day with many friction points in Galwan Valley, Charding Nala and Depsang Plains remaining unresolved.

According to Doval, the PM's efforts to develop personal equations with world leaders, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, has been instrumental in resolving many crises.



NSA Ajit Doval

During the 2017 Doklam stand-off, Doval said, India showed resolve both during the stand-off and in post-conflict negotiations. He narrated an inci-

dent of Modi walking up to Xi to talk about the issue on the sidelines of G-20 summit.

"After all other options had been exhausted, PM Modi personally took it up with President Xi. PM Modi showed statesmanship when he walked up to President Xi on the sidelines of the G-20 meeting in Germany for an informal meeting. I was an eyewitness to this most dramatic interaction between the two leaders, when they agreed to find an immediate solution. Eventually, after a series of negotiations, the deadlock was resolved. It would not have been possible without the Prime Minister's direct action."

In 2017, Indian and Chinese forces were locked in a faceoff that stretched to 73 days after India objected to China building a road on the Doklam plateau close to the India-Bhutan-China tri-junction adjacent to Sikkim.

Even during the September 2014 standoff in Chumar in Ladakh, Doval said, Modi again used the opportunity of Xi's visit to India to resolve the issue.

"During the stand-off, the Prime Minister seized the opportunity of President Xi Jinping's visit to India that month. During an informal tea-a-tete with President Xi in Ahmedabad, he was able to convince him about the need to

ensure the unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops. He did not bank solely on conventional diplomatic or military-to-military engagement. The Indian reaction at a time when the Chinese President was in India, highlighted the Prime Minister's political resolve to stand firm on issues of national importance."

On Pakistan, Doval has written about decision-making during the 2016 Pathankot attack, Uri attack and the 2019 Pulwama attack.

While on the Pathankot attack, Doval has praised the PM's decision-making in preparing to thwart the attack with prior information, on the Uri attack that year,

which was responded with a surgical strike inside PoK by Indian forces, he said, "In the response to Uri 2016, a few aspects stand out."

"One, it was a simultaneous operation by multiple strike teams at four disparate locations... Two, it was a political call by the Prime Minister, which meant that he was taking responsibility, not only for success, but also failure. This exhibited risk-taking at the highest level — a quality shown by very few. Three, it was novel planning, in that it generated chaos, panic and confusion... The then Pakistan Army leadership castigated its ground formations for failing to block even one strike..."



Azam Khan on his way to CBI court in Lucknow. Express

Karnataka govt takes Ordinance route to bring in anti-conversion law

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, MAY 12

His confinement is strangling of justice: Maya on SP's Azam Khan

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, MAY 12

ON THURSDAY, jailed Samajwadi Party MLA Azam Khan got support from an unexpected quarter: BSP chief Mayawati, who said his continued confinement amounted to "strangling of justice" by the BJP government in the state. Her remarks come amidst talk of growing differences between Azam Khan and SP chief Akhlesh Yadav.

While Mayawati and Khan, as leaders of parties that have been bitter rivals for the most part, have had their share of run-ins in the past, ahead of the 2019 polls, when the BSP and SP decided to contest together, the two leaders had praised each other in public.

Mayawati had addressed a rally in favour of Khan in Rampur in 2019 and predicted a "historic win" for him. Azam returned the favour, telling supporters at another meeting that he would "make the Rampur collector clean Mayawati's shoes". However, this mutual admiration lasted only as long as the alliance lasted - for about five months.

On Thursday, while coming out in Khan's support, Mayawati made no mention of the SP, merely referring to him as a "senior MLA".

"The matter of continuous, hateful and terrorising action by the UP Government on its opponents and keeping senior MLA Mohammad Azam Khan in jail for about two and half years is being talked about much... If this is not strangling of justice, then what is?" she said in one of a series of tweets.

THE BJP government in Karnataka has decided to take the Ordinance route to implement an anti-conversion law in the state on account of an anti-conversion Bill - introduced in the state legislature in December 2021 - not being tabled in the state Legislative Council after passage in the Assembly.

A Cabinet meeting of the government headed by CM Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday approved a proposal for issuance of the Karnataka Right to Freedom of Religion Bill 2021 as an Ordinance to facilitate immediate introduction of an anti-conversion law.

"The decision was taken because there is no clarity on when the Legislative Council will meet again. The Ordinance will be in place until a Bill is placed in the Council whenever it meets again," said Law Minister J C Madhuswamy after the Cabinet meeting.

The Karnataka Right to Freedom of Religion Bill 2021 was passed in the Assembly on December 23 last year amid objections from the opposition Congress party. The Bill aims to fulfill two demands of the core support base of the BJP government in the state - prevention of forced religious conversions and unauthorised inter-faith marriages, which right-wing outfits call "love jihad".

The Bill was, however, not tabled in the Legislative Council in the Winter Session last year and two sessions this year on account of the BJP fearing that a combined opposition might stall it. In the 75-member Council, the BJP has 32 members while the opposition Congress and JDS have a combined strength of 41 members.

The BJP is expected to get a

EXPLAINED Opposition argument

WHEN THE anti-conversion Bill was introduced in Assembly last year, Congress leader and former CM Siddaramaiah had said that the Bill was identical to the Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat laws, which encountered legal questions. He argued that there was no need for an anti-conversion Bill since Section 295 (a) of the IPC prevents outraging of religious feelings. Chief Minister Bommai argued that the law was intended to prevent the abuse of vulnerable sections of society and that it was not intended to target any religion.

clear majority in the Council when polls for seven seats are held on June 3 - on account of its majority in the Assembly. According to the Karnataka Right to Freedom of Religion Bill 2021, "No person shall convert or attempt to convert either directly or otherwise any other person from one religion to another by use of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means or by marriage, nor shall any person abet or conspire for conversions."

According to the proposed law, complaints of conversions can be filed by family members of a person who is getting converted, or any other person who is related to the person who is getting converted or even a colleague of the person who is getting converted. A jail term of three to five years, and a fine of Rs 25,000, have been proposed for people violating the law in the case of people from general categories and a jail term of three to 10 years, and a fine of Rs 50,000 for people converting minors, women and persons from SC and ST communities.

In case of marriages, where religious conversions have taken place for the convenience of marriage, the marriage will have legal recognition only if the conversion was brought to the notice of a district magistrate 30 days in advance of conversion and 30 days post conversion.

Ramya, former Congress social media head, emerges guns blazing on Twitter

Bengaluru: "After I quit, she duped the congress of 8 crores & ran away" was planted in the news esp Kannada channels in an attempt to destroy my credibility. I didn't run away. I resigned for personal reasons. I certainly did not dupe the party of 8 crores. My mistake was staying silent." With this tweet on Thursday, former social media head of the Congress and actor Divya Spandana "Ramya", who had disappeared from the

political scene as fast as she had risen, was back in the headlines.

It all started with Spandana's reaction to party state chief D K Shivakumar's statement that state Minister C N Ashwathnarayan had met Congress's MB Patil, "seeking protection" from being questioned on public platforms in the PSI recruitment scam. A day later, she issued a tweet criticising Shivakumar. Spandana said she was trolled and

abused by "congress leaders & volunteers" who were asked by the 'office' to troll her. She described 'office' as the state Congress under the leadership of Shivakumar.

She tweeted: "Humble request to @kcvenugopalmp (K C Venugopal, AICC general secretary) to please clarify with the media about this whenever you're in Karnataka next... so I don't have to live with this abuse and trolling for the rest of my life." ENS

After he backs Pinarayi on CPM bypoll stage, Cong sacks Thomas

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
MAY 12



Attended CPM meet for Thrikkakara bypoll on Thursday

HOURS AFTER senior Congress leader and former union minister K V Thomas addressed a CPI(M) election convention for Thrikkakara by-election on Thursday, praising Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and saying that the Congress's "soft-Hindutva line" would shatter religious harmony in the country, the state Congress leadership sacked him from the party.

Announcing the decision, party's Kerala unit chief K Sudhakaran told reporters that the AICC has given consent for the action against Thomas.

Addressing a CPI(M) election meet at Thrikkakara in Kochi, Thomas on Thursday said he is on the side of development. The five-time MP showered praise on the Chief Minister, who inaugurated the party event - Thrikkakara goes to the bypolls on May 31. Stating that

Vijayan has brought development to Kerala, Thomas said: "I had said within the party (Congress) that we should support K-rail, the semi-high-speed rail corridor. The project should not be opposed (solely) on the ground that it was proposed by Vijayan. I have always stood with development. I have no hesitation in saying I am with Vijayan, the leader of development. It has been proved in recent years that only a powerful leader like Vijayan can go ahead, overcoming all hurdles."

State Congress chief Sudhakaran said Thomas's exit will not affect the party's prospects in Thrikkakara. "We had conducted a survey in the region, which showed Congress will not lose any votes by taking action against him (Thomas)," he said.

Stay together peacefully: SC to hate speech accused

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday had a word of advice for former Uttar Pradesh Shia Waqf Board chief Jitendra Tyagi, alias Wasim Rizvi, arrested in connection with alleged inflammatory speeches at a dharam sansad event in Haridwar last year.

"Stay together peacefully. Enjoy the life," a bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Vikram Nath told senior advocate Sidharth Luthra while taking up his bail plea for hearing.

The bench initially asked the counsel what the 'dharam sansad' was. Luthra, who appeared for Rizvi, said he is an Arya Samaji and does not exactly know what it is. "I have seen videos, people in bhagwa (saffron) clothes got together and gave speeches," he said.

"Spoiling the atmosphere! Stay together peacefully. Enjoy the life," remarked the bench. "Before they

ask to sensitise others, they have to sensitise themselves first. They are not sensitised."

Luthra said his client had already spent many months in custody and is suffering from medical conditions.

The bench noted that the maximum punishment for the offence he was charged with is three-year imprisonment and issued notice to the Uttarakhand government on the plea filed against the order of Uttarakhand HC denying him bail in the case.

"Maximum punishment is three years; he has been in jail since January. For four months he's already been in custody. What further investigation would you like to be made (against) him? It's already complete," the bench said. It fixed May 17 as the next date of hearing.

Rizvi had changed his name to Jitendra Narayan Tyagi after converting to Hinduism.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक ...यह है का प्रतीक!

punjab national bank ...the name you can BANK upon!

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POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s) / date of receipt of the said notice (s). The borrower/s have failed to repay the amount. Notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property/ies described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under section 13 (4) of said Act read with the rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned against each account.

The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon.

Sr. No.	Name of the Account, Account No., Borrower/Guarantors Name, Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged, Owners' Name (mortgagors of property(ies))	Date of Demand Notice 13 (2)	Date of Possession Notice affixed	Amount Outstanding as on date of demand notice
1.	M/S. MAA VASHNI RICE MILL proprietor Sri Rakesh Kumar S/O Shri Paras Nath Gupta. A/C No 2759008700006374 & 275900CF00000260 BO: THAKURHAT (275900)	Land & building situated at: sale deed No. 11694 dated 22.07.1989, Mauza: Pawandi, Thana No.484, Chak Khata: 196, Survey Khata No. 211, Chak Khesra: 222, Survey Khesra: 221, Area: 2 katha (ie. 6.5 decimal). Boundary:- North: Manoj Kumar, South: Binod Kumar, East: Road, West: Nij Mokir Khesra No. 221. Mortgagor: Sh. Rakesh Kumar S/O Sri Paras Nath Gupta	17.06.2021	07.05.2022	Rs. 25,57,987.56 and interest thereon from 01.04.2021
2.	M/S. SHER SHAH AUTO SALES AND SERVICES proprietor Md. Arzoo Khan S/O Late Abdul Khair Khan. A/C No 2759008700007249 BO: THAKURHAT (275900)	Land and Building Situated at: Mauza: Lanjhi(474), Revenue Thana Chenari, Dist: Rohtas, Khata No: 10, Plot No: 699, Area: 6 decimal. Boundary:- North- Nij, South- Nij, East- Siwan Hata, West- Nij. Mortgagor: Most. Mobina Khatoon W/O Late Abdul Khair, VIII Lanjhi, PO/PS Chenari, Dist: Rohtas	25.06.2021	07.05.2022	Rs. 25,23,456.04 and interest thereon from 01.04.2021
3.	M/S MAA LAKHO DEVI MINI RICE MILL, through its proprietor Prop: Shri Anil Kumar Chaurasia S/O-Late Ram Prasad Chaurasia. A/C No 7206008700001160 BO: HATA (720600)	Land and Building Situated at -Sale Deed No.5845 dated 30.07.1980 Mauza-Chainpur ,Thana-No.310, PS+pargana:Chainpur, Dist:Kaimur(Bhabhua),Khata No.179,Plot No.1762/1876,Area-13 Decimal. Boundary:- N- Idris Miya, S- Sadak E- Pir Muhammad Kunjra & Idris Miyan Manmohir, W- Sadak. Mortgagor: Shri Anil Kumar Chaurasia, Shri Sunil Kumar Chaurasia & Shri Sushil Kumar Chaurasia all are S/O-Late Ram Prasad Chaurasia	18.10.2021	09.05.2022	Rs. 10,55,395.14 and interest thereon from 01.04.2021
4.	MR. RAJU PRASAD S/O Late Arjun Thakur. A/C No 720600NC00000019 BO: HATA (720600)	IP Land and Building Situated at: Sale Deed No 2680 dated 15.05.2017 Land and building at Mouza Baradhi, Thana Chainpura, Dist Kaimur, Thana No 275, Khata No 26, Plot No 470, Area 2 Decimal. Boundary:- North- Sani Devi, South- Sri Ram Thakur, East- Gopal Prasad Mehrotra, West- Sri Ram Lal Mehrotra, Mortgagor: Sri Raju Prasad S/O Arjun Thakur	04.11.2019	09.05.2022	Rs. 7,89,685.00 and interest thereon from 30.04.2021.
5.	M/S. OM SAI RAM RICE MILL proprietor Sri Prem Kumar Pandey S/O Shri Maninath Pandey. A/C No 2759008700007407 BO: THAKURHAT (275900)	Mortgaged Land and Building Situated at: sale deed No. 6234 dated 10.08.2015, Mauza: Sir Gobardhanpur, Varanasi (U.P), Azaai No: mi.1063, Khata No:1127, Plot No: 168, Area: 2156 Sq feet, ie. 200.37 Sq mtrs. Boundary:- North: Land Manu and others, South: Ramadhar Pandey, East: Kacha Rasta 20 feet wide, West: Land Ramashankar Dubey, Mortgagor: Smt Renu Pandey W/O Prem Kumar Pandey.	15.06.2021	10.05.2022	Rs. 25,22,891.00 and interest thereon from 01.06.2021
6.	M/S SRI VINAYAK AUTO CHAND proprietor Sh. Rajesh Kumar Srivastava S/O Late Ram Nagina Srivastava A/C No 1422008700002734 BO: CHAND (142200)	Sale Deed No. 5228 Dated 19.08.2015 Land And Building Situated At: Mauza-Kilani Thana No - 189, Thana-Chand, Dist-Kaimur (Bhabhua), Khata No-107, Plot No.50, Area-1.00 Acre. Boundary:- North-Plot No. 48, South-Rest Plot No. 50 Nij, East-Plot No. 54, 47, West-Nahar Mortgagor: Sri Pravech Kumar Srivastava and Sri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava both sons of Late Ram Nagina Srivastava Vill+Po-Kilani, PS-Chand, Dist-Kaimur (Bhabhua) Bihar	06.11.2021	10.05.2022	Rs. 21,79,172.74 and interest thereon.
7.	M/S SIDHI VINAYAK MINI RICE MILL Prop. Sh. Mahendra Kumar Sharma S/O Late Deo Lal Sharma A/C No 1422008700002831, 142200IB000000125 & 142200IC00000014 BO: CHAND (142200)	Sale Deed No. 6682 Dated 22.11.2016 Land And Building Situated At :mauza- Jhajni, Thana No.- 49, Thana-Chand, Anchal- Chand, Zila Nibandhan Karyalay- Bhabua, Dist. Bhabua, Bihar, Khata No.-05, 1. Plot No. 314, Area- 2 3/4 Decimal. Boundary: N- Radheshayam Sah, S- Sadak Bhabua- Dharauli, E- Kreta, W- Bakiye no. 314. 2. PLOT NO. 315, AREA- 2 DECIMAL. BOUNDARY: N- Radheshayam Sah, S- Sadak Bhabua- Dharauli, E- Bakiye no. 315, W- Kreta Mortgagor: 1. Mahendra Kr. Sharma S/O Late Deolal Sharma, 2. Smt. Manju Devi W/O Shri Dhamdeo Sharma both R/O: Vill. Baghaila, PO+PS- Chand, Dist. Kaimur(Bhabua), Bihar, PIN- 821106	06.11.2021	10.05.2022	Rs. 16,48,812.05 and interest thereon from 01.05.2021.

Date: 12/05/2022
Place: Arrah

Authorized Officer
Punjab National Bank
Secured Creditor

Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran Offers e-Auctions of Residential and Commercial Properties in all Zones

On 28th and 29th May 2022

Commercial Properties in Hisar Zone for e-auction dated 28.05.2022			Commercial Properties in Panchkula Zone for e-auction dated 29.05.2022			Residential Properties in Panchkula Zone for e-auction dated 29.05.2022			Residential Properties in Gurugram Zone for e-auction dated 28.05.2022			Commercial Properties in Gurugram Zone for e-auction dated 28.05.2022			Residential Properties in Rohtak Zone for e-auction dated 29.05.2022		
Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots	Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	11AB-PH-3, Hisar	1	1	2, Panchkula	2	1	2, Panchkula	4	1	5, Gurugram	7	1	4, Gurugram	7	1	7, Sonipat	7
2	11AB-PH-4, Hisar	13	2	5, Panchkula	6	2	4, Panchkula	5	2	7-Extn, Gurugram	1	2	5, Gurugram	7	2	23, Sonipat	9
3	13P, Hisar	5	3	6, Panchkula	5	3	26, Panchkula	1	3	9, Gurugram	4	3	9, Gurugram	8	3	9 (Part-A), Jhajjar	1
4	14PKTA, Hisar	15	4	8, Panchkula	3	4	11, Panchkula	1	4	9A, Gurugram	2	4	9A, Gurugram	11	4	9 (Part-B), Jhajjar	1
5	15AP, Hisar	1	5	9, Panchkula	5	5	27, Panchkula	6	5	10, Gurugram	2	5	10, Gurugram	9	5	JH-6, Jhajjar	2
6	16-17, Hisar	19	6	15, Panchkula	5	6	21, Panchkula	10	6	10A, Gurugram	8	6	10A, Gurugram	8	6	9A, Bahadurgarh	5
7	UE-HISCI, Hisar	13	7	20, Panchkula	5	7	30, Panchkula	12	7	15-I, Gurugram	2	7	12A, Gurugram	3	7	9, Bahadurgarh	5
8	UE-HISCI, Hisar	8	8	23, Panchkula	3	8	8, Ambala	5	8	15-II, Gurugram	2	8	15-I, Gurugram	4	8	8, Panipat	4
9	AMKT, Hansi	7	9	25, Panchkula	5	9	26, Ambala	25	9	21, Gurugram	5	9	15-II, Gurugram	1	9	13, Panipat	25
10	13, Bhiwani	3	10	6 MDC, Panchkula	2	10	18, Kaithal	6	10	22, Gurugram	6	10	21, Gurugram	4	10	18, Panipat	1
11	13, CB Bhiwani	16	11	IA-1, Panchkula	2	11	21, Kaithal	2	11	23-23A, Gurugram	2	11	22, Gurugram	3	11	24, Panipat	2
12	26, Bhiwani	6	12	IA-2, Panchkula	4	12	33P, Karnal	23	12	1-PAT, Pataudi	4	12	JAILLAND	5	12	4, Rohtak	1
13	23, Bhiwani	5	13	8, Ambala	6	13	8, Kurukshetra	1	13	38, Gurugram-II	4	13	29, Gurugram-II	8	13	25, Rohtak	54
14	CCENTRE	11	14	10, Ambala	3	14	4, Kurukshetra	5	14	39, Gurugram-II	6	14	31, Gurugram-II	1	14	21-P, Rohtak	11
15	IA1, Sirsa	7	15	1, Ambala	3	15	15, Jagadhari	14	15	40, Gurugram-II	6	15	33, Gurugram-II	7			
16	19P1, Sirsa	15	16	20, Kaithal	6	16	18, Jagadhari	10	16	42, Gurugram-II	7	16	42, Gurugram-II	2			
17	20-2, Sirsa	7	17	25, Kaithal	5	17	45, Gurugram-II	6	17	45, Gurugram-II	6	17	45, Gurugram-II	7			
18	20(PIII), Sirsa	13	18	5, Karnal	2	18	46, Gurugram-II	6	18	46, Gurugram-II	6	18	46, Gurugram-II	5			
19			19	6, Karnal	2	19	47, Gurugram-II	2	19	53, Gurugram-II	8	19	53, Gurugram-II	8			
20			20	9, Karnal	2	20	49, Gurugram-II	4	20	56, Gurugram-II	4	20	56, Gurugram-II	4			
21			21	12, Karnal	4	21	50, Gurugram-II	4	21	62, Gurugram-II	6	21	62, Gurugram-II	6			
22			22	4 Transport Nagar, Karnal	5	22	51, Gurugram-II	2	22	65, Gurugram-II	4	22	65, Gurugram-II	4			
23			23	2, Kurukshetra	3	23	52, Gurugram-II	9	23	3, Rewari	8	23	3, Rewari	8			
24			24	3, Kurukshetra	4	24	54, Faridabad	12	24	57, Gurugram-II	6	24	MTSKOSLI	16			
25			25	4, Kurukshetra	3	25	55, Faridabad	20	25	3, Rewari	1	25	1 (Part-1), Narnaul	9			
26			26	30, Kurukshetra	5	26	4, Rewari	1	26	4A, Dharuhera	4	26	4A, Dharuhera	4			
27			27	18-MI, Jagadhari	5	27	18-DEF, Rewari	6	27	6, Dharuhera	6						
28			28	TDL-C, Jagadhari	5	28	6, Dharuhera	6	28	9A, Mahendergarh	3						
29			29			29	10, Mahendergarh	6	29								
30			30			30											
1	2, Faridabad	6	1	2, Faridabad	3	1	2, Faridabad	30	1	2, Faridabad	3	1	2, Faridabad	3	1	2, Faridabad	3
2	3, Faridabad	30	2	3, Faridabad	49	2	3, Faridabad	56	2	3, Faridabad	56	2	3, Faridabad	56	2	3, Faridabad	56
3	4, Faridabad	49	3	4, Faridabad	56	3	4, Faridabad	58	3	4, Faridabad	58	3	4, Faridabad	58	3	4, Faridabad	58
4	5, Faridabad	56	4	5, Faridabad	58	4	5, Faridabad	58	4	5, Faridabad	58	4	5, Faridabad	58	4	5, Faridabad	58
5	6, Faridabad	58	5	6, Faridabad	58	5	6, Faridabad	58	5	6, Faridabad	58	5	6, Faridabad	58	5	6, Faridabad	58
6	7, Faridabad	58	6	7, Faridabad	58	6	7, Faridabad										

Revised 'scales of accommodation' for Army staff

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 12

NEW ACCOMMODATIONS for Armed Forces personnel will have multilevel parking, renewable energy generation, indoor courts, modular kitchens, pre-paid meters and car garages for 75 per cent of the Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), and half of other ranks, a facility that was only given to officers earlier. These are the main changes approved under the revised Scales of Accommodation-2022 for defence services approved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday. The ministry said in a statement that "this will ensure contemporary specifications in future projects and better standards of living for the personnel of the Armed Forces."

IAF test-fires extended-range BrahMos from Sukhoi-30 fighter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MAY 12

TWO MONTHS after the extended-range BrahMos missile was tested from a naval ship, the missile was air-launched from a Su-30 MKI aircraft on Thursday. In a statement, Air Force said the missile hit its intended target. BrahMos is an indigenously manufactured supersonic cruise missile, jointly developed with Russia. The range of BrahMos was earlier around 290 km, which, with the new version, has reached around 350 km. The Air Force said that it "successfully fired the Extended Range Version of BrahMos Air-Launched missile from Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft", and that the "launch from the aircraft was planned and the missile



A Su-30 MKI fires the BrahMos missile into the Bay of Bengal. PTI

achieved a direct hit on the designated target in Bay of Bengal region." This is the first time that the extended-range version of BrahMos missile was fired from Su-30 MKI aircraft. "With this, IAF has achieved the capability to carry out precision strikes from Su-30MKI aircraft against a land/ sea target over very long ranges," the statement mentioned. "The extended range capability of the missile coupled with the high performance of the Su-30MKI aircraft gives IAF a strategic reach and allows it to dominate future battlefields."

CBI arrests four of its officers for 'extorting' Punjab entrepreneur

SAURABH PRASHAR & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY CHANDIGARH, NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE CENTRAL Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has dismissed and arrested four of its officers after they were caught allegedly trying to extort a sum of Rs 1 crore from a Chandigarh-based entrepreneur by threatening to implicate him in terror charges, officials said Thursday. CBI booked the four sub-inspectors, Sumit Gupta, Pradeep Rana, Ankur Kumar and Akash Ahlawat, for corruption. Sources said Gupta, posted with the Anti-Corruption Branch in Delhi, was already suspended. "...CBI on receipt of the com-

plaint, immediately registered a case, identified its three other officials allegedly involved in the matter and effected their arrests. Taking a serious note of this act on part of these delinquent officials, all four of them were dismissed from service," a CBI spokesperson said. Sources said the Chandigarh Police caught the four people late on Tuesday night after receiving a control room call. Upon realising that they were CBI officials, police handed them over to CBI's Chandigarh branch. All the four were posted in Delhi. The agency has also conducted searches at their premises. "Incriminating documents recovered during searches are being scrutinised," a CBI spokesperson said.

On Tuesday night, the four CBI personnel along with two civilians barged into the office of Abhishek Dogra, who runs an IT firm in Chandigarh, officials said. They told him they had received a notice from Interpol against him for supporting terror activities in India. In his complaint to the CBI, Abhishek Dogra stated: "I was slapped repeatedly by two CBI officers who were in plain clothes. They threatened to implicate me in a case of terrorism. They demanded Rs 1 crore from me, and then forced me into my car and started negotiating with me. There were a total of six people. Four of them introduced themselves as CBI personnel, they told me to arrange Rs 25 lakh through my brother."

Dogra added in the statement: "When we reached near Gate No 3 of police lines, Sector 26, one of the tyres of my car got punctured... I called my business partner Sunny Verma and shared my location with him. Soon, he along with some employees of our company reached the location. A scuffle broke out there. I, along with my partner and colleagues, ran from the spot." A senior police officer told The Indian Express: "The police control room received a call around 2.30 am on Wednesday about a fight between two parties. By the time police reached the spot, one of the parties had left. Four men who were present declined to reveal their identities. After much persuasion, they disclosed that they were from CBI, Delhi."

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION (A Govt. of India Undertaking) 4/1, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016 Warehousing for Everyone. No: CWC CO-CD0PROJ/21/2020-COMM Dated: 13.05.2022 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR RAKE HIRING. The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is a premier, Public-Sector Undertaking is inviting Expression of Interest from desirous parties who are willing to provide BLC / BLB rakes as per RDSO specifications, to CWC on a short-term hiring / lease basis. For Detailed EOI please refer our website www.cwacor.nic.in. Email response on gmpoject@cwacor.nic.in / or Contact Sh. Vikas, SAM(Project), +91-9896103467 GGM (Project/RD), CWC, CO, New Delhi

कार्यालय जोधपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, जोधपुर. निम्नंक: 06/05/2022. ई-बिड सूचना संख्या- जौन विद्युत-प्रथम/01/2022-23. जोधपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, जोधपुर की ओर से विद्युत कार्यों हेतु संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्चोरमेंट प्रक्रिया से विद्युत कार्यों हेतु ऑन लाइन बिड आमंत्रित की गई है। इन कार्यों की अनुमानित लागत, बिड बेजे जाने तथा प्राप्त करने की दिनांक, बिड शर्तें आदि का सम्पूर्ण विवरण वेबसाइट http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.jodhpurjda.org, www.sppp.rail.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है। NIB CODE: JOD2223A0019, Tender ID / UBN No.: JOD2223 WS0B00036, JOD2223 WS0B00037, अधिशासी अभियंता राज.संवाद/सी/1646/2021-22 (जौन विद्युत-1)

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE. SR. NO. 1. NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH: MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE PATAUDI. NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER: CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD FROM RAMPUR ROAD TO HAILYMANDI ROAD, WARD NO. 01, MC PATAUDI. OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME): 10.05.2022 30.05.2022. AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES: 5.96 LACS. WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH: https://etenders.hry.nic.in. NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL: 0124-2672869. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE. SR. NO. 1. NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH: UHBVN PANCHKULA. NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER: 11 KV 45 KN POLYMER DISC INSULATOR, B&S AND T&C TYPE. OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME): 06.05.2022 27.05.2022. AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES: 0.90 CRORE. WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH: www.uhbvn.org.in. NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL: cemm@uhbvn.org.in. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (C) DRO-IX C/O Pr. CE(DR), PROJECT-II JAGRITI SPS, NEAR KARKAR DOOMA CROSSING, SAHADARA DELHI-110092. Email: eecdrxjdb@gmail.com, Ph. 011- 20824111. S. No. 1. Name of Work: Construction of 18 MGD SPS at Mori Gate Drain including 1000mm Dia Rising Main. (Re Invite). Tender Amount: 2022_DJB_222065-1. Tender Fees: Rs. 1500/- Non refundable. Earnest Money: Rs. 68,00,000/- (Rs. 20,00,000/- through RTGS and Rs. 48,00,000/- in the form of Bank Guarantee from any Scheduled bank). Last date & time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution: 26.05.2022 at 2.30 PM. ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 102(2022-23). "STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (WW-II) DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. DELHI FLAT NO.-E1, TYPE-IV, STAFF QTRS. JHANDEWALAN, DELHI-110005. E-mail: eecplantww.djb01@gmail.com/acewwp2@gmail.com. PRESS NIT No.07/(2022-23). S. No. 1. Development of Renny Well including replacement of damage M.S. Platform at V-11 RCC Well Kishan Kunj near Bank Enclave. (Tender ID: 2022_DJB_222041_1). Estimated Cost: 3716751/-, Earnest Money (Fresh): 745000/-, Tender Processing Fee (Fresh): 500/-, Publication date of e-procurement Solution: 11.05.2022, Last date & time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution: 23.05.2022. ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 99 (2022-23). "STOP CORONA; WEAR MASK, FOLLOW PHYSICAL DISTANCING, MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE"

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVERNMENT OF N.C.T. OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (SDW) THROUGH EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SDW) XII 6th FLOOR VARUNLAYA PH-2, KAROL BAGH DELHI-110005. Email id: eesdwxii@gmail.com Contact No 9650291199. PRESS SHORT NIT No. 02 EE (SDW) XII (2022-23). SN Particulars Estimate Cost Earnest Money Rs E-tender ID Last date/time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution. 1. SITO of new sewage submersible pump sets and associated works at EPS Rithala. Item Rate 80000/- 2022_DJB_222156-1 Published on 12/05/22 19.05.2022. NIT along with all term and condition is available on website: https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in. ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 103 (2022-23). "STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

National Dairy Development Board PB No. 40, Anand - 388001, Gujarat. Tel: 02692-260 148/149/160 Fax: 02692-260 159 Website: http://www.nddb.coop, Email: purchase@nddb.coop. INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB). Bids are invited from eligible bidders for the works listed below: Sr. No. Description of works/ Bid Reference Estd. Cost (₹) Incl GST/ Duration Event Start/ Close Date Bid submission / opening date & time. A. Providing housekeeping Services at CALF Premises & Various Lab of NDDB Anand. NDDB:HO:PUR:LCB:13/2022 (ET/13) 60.00 Lakh/ 12 Months 12.05.22/ 25.05.22 25.05.22 15.00 hrs. B. Providing housekeeping Services at NDDB, Anand. NDDB:HO:PUR:LCB:12/2022 (ET/12) 55.00 Lakh/ 12 Months 12.05.22/ 25.05.22 25.05.22 15.00 hrs. C. Providing Security Services at NDDB Noida and OTF Narela, Delhi. NDDB:HO:PUR:LCB:04/2022 (ET/04) 95.00 Lakh/ 12 Months 14.05.22/ 06.06.22 06.06.22 15.00 hrs. D. Providing Gardening Services at NDDB, Anand. NDDB:HO:PUR:LCB:16/2022 (ET/16) 50.00 Lakh/ 12 Months 18.05.22/ 08.06.22 08.06.22 15.30 hrs. For further details pertaining to IFB and for downloading the bid document, please visit these websites: www.nddb.coop and www.mstccommerce.com/procurement/nddb. For any clarification please contact: General Manager (Purchase), NDDB, Anand-388001 NB; ANB:anand@nddb.coop/nddb modification etc. will be posted only on these websites.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, KENDRAPARA. At : Ichhapur, Post : Shree Baladevjeev, Email: eerwsskendrapara@gmail.com. Identification No.RWS/104/2021-2022. Letter No. 3360/ Dated. 02/05/22. 4th Corrigendum. This corrigendum has been made for the NIT-104 invited online vide this office letter No. 1525 / Dated. 04.03.2022 with date for selling, closing, clarification and opening which was on dt. 04.05.2022 (closing date), 21.05.2022 (closing date), 06.05.2022 (clarification date) 23.05.2022 (opening date) as per 3rd corrigendum has been amended and to be read as 17.05.2022, 02.06.2022, 19.05.2022 and 03.06.2022 respectively as follows. SI No Name of Work Estimated Cost (Approx.) Rs. In Lakhs EMD to be deposited online Class of Bidder Cost of Tender Paper Period of completion. 1. Execution of New 70 LPCD RPWS Scheme to Derakeshpur, Mantripada and Nuahat on clubbed up mode under Derabish Block in the District of Kendrapara. (JJM Funds) Rs. 268.27 Nil "B" & "A" Rs. 10000 330 days. 2. Execution of 40 LPCD Retrofitting RPWS Scheme to Raghudeipur of Derabish Block and Gogua of Mahakalapada on clubbed up mode in the District of Kendrapara. (JJM Funds) Rs. 322.02 Nil "A" & "Special" Rs. 10000 360 days. Sd/- (Er. B.K. Nayak) Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Kendrapara OIPR - 25004/11/0028/2223

Tension in Hanumangarh after clash injures VHP man, 7 arrested for attack

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, MAY 12

TENSION GRIPPED parts of Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan after a VHP leader was injured, reportedly in a clash with people from another community, on Wednesday night, officials said on Thursday. Seven people were arrested for the attack "within hours", district collector Nathmal Didel said. Didel said additional police personnel were deployed after the administration learnt that some protesters, purportedly from the majority community and irate at the injury suffered by VHP leader Satveer Saharan, had distributed sticks and engaged in inflammatory

speeches. He said petrol was recovered from some of them. Police conducted a flag march on Thursday morning and a peace committee meeting was held in the evening, Didel said. Saharan, prakash adhyaksh of VHP, is recuperating at hospital and is said to be stable. He suffered injuries on the head, officials said, adding that one person from the other side also received minor injuries. The incident took place in Nohar tehsil on Wednesday night, following which internet services were suspended in Nohar, Bhadra and Rawatsar tehsils of the district, officials said. District collector Didel said by Thursday night the situation was brought under control and internet services were restored in Bhadra and Rawatsar tehsils.

22-yr-old killed over relationship with woman from another community

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE RAJKOT, MAY 12

A 22-YEAR-OLD factory worker who was in a relationship with a woman from another community was allegedly killed by her brother and his friend in Jungleswar area of Rajkot city, police said on Thursday. After learning about the incident, the woman, who turned 18 recently, attempted to kill herself but survived, police said, adding the two accused were arrested on Thursday. Police said the incident took place at 10.30pm on Monday when the girl's brother and his friend took the victim to the bed of the Aji river in Jungleswar area and thrashed him with wooden leg of a charpoy. The accused then dumped him near his residence Jungleswar area, police said. The victim died a day later while undergoing treatment. "The girl's brother and the factory worker were friends. After learning about the relationship, he warned the factory worker against the relationship. On May 9, he caught the phone the factory worker had given to his sister and then planned an attack on him," said Pravin Kumar, DCP (Zone-1) of Rajkot city police. However, the DCP said the murder was not a case of communal violence.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3. No. CE/TB-VI/42/2022/05 CORRIGENDUM. It is for information to all concerned that "APWD registered Class-I (A) Contractors" may be read as "eligible contractors" in the PRESS NOTICE published vide this office no. CE/TB-VI/42/2022/02, Dated: 28-04-2022 for the work, "Construction of Birangana Sati Sadhini State University at Golaghat, Assam" under NIDA on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode III Basis. Note: All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building), Health & Education Janasanyog/C/2386/22 Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

कार्यालय अधिष्ठाता स्व. बिसाहू दाम महंत स्मृति चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय कोरबा (छ.ग.) E-mail-gmckorba@gmail.com, Website-www.gmckorba.in पत्रांक/464/शा.चिकि.महा./स्था./2022 कोरबा, दिनांक : 29/04/2022 चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, कोरबा (छ.ग.) में संविदा भर्ती (चिकित्सा शिक्षक) "Walk in interview"

शासकीय चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, कोरबा (छ.ग.) के पूर्व विज्ञापित के अतिरिक्त विभागों में संविदा भर्ती हेतु प्राध्यापक-प्रवृत्ति एवं स्त्रीरोग विभाग-01, सह-प्राध्यापक-डर्मेटोलॉजी विभाग-01, मनोरोग विभाग-01, निरुत्थना विभाग-01, अस्थि रोग विभाग-01, इमरजेंसी मेडिसीन-01, सहायक प्राध्यापक- जनरल मेडिसीन विभाग-01, जनरल सर्जरी विभाग-01, नेत्ररोग विभाग-01, ई.एन.टी-01, दंतरीय विभाग-01, इमरजेंसी मेडिसीन-01, मनोरोग विभाग-01, अस्थि रोग विभाग-01, सीविस्वर रेसिडेन्ट- मनोरोग विभाग-01, इमरजेंसी मेडिसीन-05 के रिक्त पदों पर छत्तीसगढ़ सिविल सेवा (संविदा नियुक्ति) नियम, 2012 में उल्लिखित नियम/शर्तों के अधीन एवं शैक्षणिक योग्यता एन.एम.सी. मापदण्ड के नियमानुसार संविदा भर्ती किया जाना है, इस हेतु शासकीय चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, कोरबा (छ.ग.) में "वॉक इन इंटरव्यू" कार्यालयीन दिवस पर प्रतिदिन दोपहर 12:30 बजे आयोजित की जायेगी। संविदा भर्ती हेतु आरक्षण रैस्टर का पालन छत्तीसगढ़ शासन के द्वारा जारी नियमानुसार किया जावेगा। "वॉक इन इंटरव्यू" के संदर्भ में विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के वेबसाइट www.gmckorba.in का नियमित अवलोकन करें। हस्ता/- अधिष्ठाता स्व. बिसाहू दाम महंत स्मृति चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, कोरबा (छ.ग.) 91032

कार्यालय कार्यालय अधिष्ठाता, लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड, राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.) Phone- 07744-224035(O) E-mail-eeaj-ph-cg@nic.in ई-प्रोक्चोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

छत्तीसगढ़ के राज्यपाल की ओर से एकीकृत पंजीवन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सखम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र-'ए' में जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत एकल ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजना अंतर्गत जिला राजनांदगांव के विभिन्न विकासखंडों के विभिन्न ग्रामों में UPVC/HDPE पाईप लाइन जोड़ने, उच्चस्तरीय जलमार निर्माण, उच्चस्तरीय जलमार सुचारु कार्य, स्वीच रम, उच्चस्तरीय जलमार के चारो ओर वाइडोईवाइल निर्माण, सबमर्सिबल पंप का प्रदाय एवं स्थापना कार्य, विद्युत विभाग (CSPDCL) से इलेक्ट्रिकल कनेक्शन, इलेक्ट्रोक्लोरोमिटर स्थापना, क्लोरोमिटर रम, चारों एवं शासकीय संस्थानों में कार्यरत नल कनेक्शन प्रदाय आदि एवं अन्य समस्त कार्य, टेंडरिंग, 03 माह का ट्रायल रन, 06 माह तक संचालन संभारण का कार्य (सम्पूर्ण कार्य सामग्री सहित, संलग्न शेड्यूल अनुसार) की मुहबंद निविदाएं दिनांक 10.05.2022 से ऑन लाइन पर आमंत्रित की जाती है। उपरोक्त कार्य के निविदा को सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापित, निविदा दर्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्चोरमेंट वेब पोर्टल https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in से दिनांक 17.05.2022 से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है तथा निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम दिनांक 30.05.2022 (शाम 5:30 बजे) तक है।

क्र. निविदा क्रमांक सिरटम क्रमांक विकासखंड योजना/ग्राम का नाम अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में) 1 22 99377 छुईखवन अनियाटोल (रिस्क एंड कास्ट) 3.00 2 23 99381 छुईखवन ट्टागढ़ (रिस्क एंड कास्ट) 3.29 3 24 99382 खैरागढ़ जगन्नाथपुर, कोपेगगांव, पारसाही, बनबोड (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) 187.03 4 25 99384 छुईखवन मैन्डर, सोताडबरी, ओटबंद (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) 128.29 5 26 99385 चौकी पारोरी, खैरी, मांजीटोल (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) 107.31 स्वा/- कार्यालय अधिष्ठाता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड, राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.) 91065

Government of India (Min. of Railway) Research Designs and Standards Organisation Manak Nagar, Lucknow - 226011. Open E-Tender Notice No. TST/TC/CAI/2022/01. Open E-Tender No. TST/TC/CAI/2022/01 is invited by Director/Testing Lab, Testing Directorate, RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow on behalf of President of India for following works: Description of Work: "Calibration of Sensors from Outside agency" on Open Tender basis available in Testing Directorate, R.D.S.O., Manak Nagar, Lucknow On Open tender basis for five years. Approx. Cost (Rs.) 17,04,215/- EMD Money (Rs.) 34,100/- Cost of Tender Form: NIL. * Manual offers are not allowed against this tender. * The tenderer must have Class-III Digital Signature certificate & must have registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer can participate in e-tendering. * Tender Closing Day & Time: 15.06.2022 up to 15:00 hrs. * Tender Opening Day and Time: 15.06.2022 at 15:30 hrs. * The tender can be viewed at website: https://www.ireps.gov.in. * Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be posted on the website only. Director/Testing Lab/RDSO/Lucknow

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3. No. CE/TB-VI/46/2022/05 CORRIGENDUM. It is for information to all concerned that "APWD registered Class-I (A) Contractors" may be read as "eligible contractors" in the PRESS NOTICE published vide this office no. CE/TB-VI/46/2022/02, Dated: 28-04-2022 for the work, "Construction of Rabindranath Tagore University, Hojai, Assam" under NIDA on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode III Basis. Note: All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building), Health & Education Janasanyog/C/2377/22 Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

J&K PROJECTS CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD. (A J&K U.T. Govt. undertaking) OFFICE OF DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, UNIT-JAMMU NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS e-NIT No: 07 of 2022-23 Dated: 09.05.2022 For and on behalf of Managing Director, Jammu & Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. the Deputy General Manager, JKPCCL Ltd., Unit-Jammu invites e-tenders for:- Sr. No. Name of Work Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs) T/Doc. (Rs. in Lacs) Earnest Money Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs) Time of completion Time & Date of Opening of tender (Technical Bid) Class of Contractor. 1. Balance work for Construction of Institute of Drivers and training Research at Village Ghaink (Block Bhalwal) Jammu. ₹ 549.83 Lacs ₹ 5000/- ₹ 11.00 Lacs 12 Months 12.00 Noon & 10.05.2022 Registered "A" Class Govt. Contractor/CPWD. Note: 1. Qualification criteria, Critical dates for bidding, scope of work, tender document, and all other terms and conditions can be seen and downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in, from 10.05.2022 1200 Hrs to 30.05.2022 upto 1400 Hrs. 2. Any other information regarding above e-tendering process can be had from the Office of Deputy General Manager, JKPCCL Ltd., Unit Jammu or e-tendering Cell, JKPCCL Ltd., Jammu. Sd/- Deputy General Manager JKPCCL Ltd. unit Jammu. No: JKPCCL/J307-311 Dt: 09.05.2022 DIPJ-580

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM. Tender for cycle Scooter stand of Amroha railway station published in newspaper on date 23.4.2022 has been invited on date 17.05.2022. In which the parking area has been wrongly written in the tender uploaded on IREPS 553.86 sq mt. Now the area of the said parking on the site of IREPS should be read as 368.44 sq mt. Therefore, now the tender of Cycle Scooter Stand at Amroha Railway Station will be invited on 27.05.2022. Other terms and conditions will remain the same. 11/20/2022 Serving Customers With A Smile

NATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE Hall No.1, Rajiv Gandhi Handicrafts Bhawan Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001. Phone: 23341273, 23341262. Fax: 23341265. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NDC invites EOI from reputed /experienced agencies for designing and fabrication of pavilion during London Wine Fair in June, 2022. Interested agencies having experience in similar job may submit their EOI. The detailed TOR for the same can be downloaded from www.nationaldesigncentre.org or collect from the above address. The last date for submission of EOI shall be within 7 days from this publication.

9 EXPRESS NETWORK

Chhattisgarh govt chopper crashes, both pilots dead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAIPUR, MAY 12

A HELICOPTER owned by the Chhattisgarh government crashed at Raipur's Swami Vivekanand Airport on Thursday night, killing both the pilots.

A government statement said, the incident occurred around 9.10 pm and technical malfunction appears to be the cause of the crash. The Augusta helicopter crashed at the end of a runway at the airport when it was on a routine training sortie, officials said.

It was carrying Captain Gopal Krishna Panda and Captain A P Shrivastava, both of them died, officials said. "A technical investigation at the behest of DGCA and state government will be undertaken to ascertain the cause of the crash," the statement said.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel expressed deep anguish at the loss of lives and ordered officials to provide immediate relief to the bereaved families.

LIC IPO ISSUE

SC refuses to intervene, to examine way law was passed as money Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday refused to interfere with the Life Insurance Corporation's (LIC) IPO but agreed to examine the amendment made to LIC Act, 1956, by way of Finance Act, 2021, which was introduced as a money Bill.

The court, which was hearing petitions challenging amendments to LIC Act, as well as some appeals against Madras High Court and Bombay High Court's decisions refusing to interfere with the IPO, declined to grant any interim relief on petitions and appeals challenging the IPO.

"No case of grant of interim relief has been made out," a bench presided by Justice D Y Chandrachud said.

"On the aspect of interim relief, the court must be guided by well-settled principle of prima facie case, balance of convenience and irreparable injury," the



Chitra Ramkrishna

NSE SCAM

Court rejects bail pleas of former MD, ex-GOO

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

A DELHI court on Thursday rejected the bail plea of National Stock Exchange's (NSE) former managing director Chitra Ramkrishna and former group operating officer (GOO) Anand Subramanian in a 2018 case of board manipulation.

Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwal refused to grant bail to the two accused after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had opposed their bail, claiming that they were involved in a serious offence affecting the integrity of the financial system.

The agency had told the court that Ramkrishna, by the "gross abuse of her official position", illegally and arbitrarily appointed Subramanian, "who did not have any prior experience".

The lawyers for the accused in the past court hearings have denied the CBI allegations.

Ramkrishna's lawyer, senior advocate Trideep Pais had said: "She resigned from the NSE in 2016. For two years she had no access to the NSE, when the FIR was registered in 2018."

Her lawyers had argued that the scam was stopped because of her and the Income Tax raids had found nothing. Subramanian's lawyer Arshdeep told the court that the scam took place between 2010 and 2014 and that the accused joined in 2013.

HC dismisses petition to 'open 22 sealed doors' in Taj Mahal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, MAY 12

THE LUCKNOW bench of the Allahabad High Court on Thursday dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking direction to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to "open 22 sealed doors" of the Taj Mahal in Agra to resolve the "controversy" around the monument's origins.

A division bench of Justices Subhash Vidyarthi and Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya issued the order while hearing the PIL filed by Rajneesh Singh.

On the petitioner's prayer seeking direction for opening of sealed doors and removal of certain structures to facilitate historical study, the court said, "We may at this juncture itself indicate that any historical research conducted by the academicians will necessarily involve a particular methodology.

Determination of the ques-



Taj Mahal is a major tourist attraction in India. PPT

tion as to which particular methodology of research would yield correct results lies outside the scope of our jurisdiction and powers of judicial review. Such issues should be left to be debated by academicians, scholars and historians. Judges, by experience and training, are not

equipped to pronounce any verdict or researched or which topic of a particular area or discipline needs to be researched are not the issues where this court possesses any judicially manageable standards to adjudicate upon," the bench further said.

The court observed that "on a closure examination of the prayers, we are of the opinion that the petitioner has called upon to adjudicate and give a verdict on a completely non-judicial issue".

"While exercising our jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution... the power of judicial review is circumscribed by certain well-recognised and established legal principles... one of such principles is the doctrine of non-judiciality," it added.

The petition also sought direction from the court for appointing a fact-finding committee to study and publish the "real history" of the Taj Mahal.

The court, in its order, said the petitioner sought commissioning of a study so that the history of Taj Mahal may be explored and the "controversy" around it may be put to rest. "As

to which subject should be studied or researched or which topic of a particular area or discipline needs to be researched are not the issues where this court possesses any judicially manageable standards to adjudicate upon," the bench further said.

The judgement read, "There is yet another issue which needs to be considered for deciding whether the writ petition can be entertained in the form it has been presented. It is a well-recognised principle that a writ of mandamus can be issued only in case of infringement of any right, be it constitutional or statutory or any other. When we enquired from the petitioner's counsel as to from where the right to get a particular study or research conducted on a particular topic or subject emanates, we could not get any satisfactory reply. In the absence of infringement of any legal or constitutional right, we are afraid we are not able to entertain the writ petition."

Devendra Singh Chauhan gets addl charge of UP DGP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, MAY 12

A DAY after IPS officer Mukul Goel was removed from the post of Director-General of Police (DGP), the state government has given additional charge of UP DGP to IPS officer Devendra Singh Chauhan. Chauhan is presently Director-General (DG) of the intelligence department of the state police.

According to a government order, Chauhan will hold additional charge of UP DGP till an appointment to the post is made.

Chauhan, who hails from Mainpuri, is a 1988-Batch IPS officer and has been DG, intelligence department, since February 15, 2020. On Wednesday, the government removed Mukul Goel from the post of UP DGP saying he had been "disregarding government work and not taking interest in departmental duties." He has been posted as DG, Civil Defence.

Devendra Singh Chauhan is among the frontrunners for the top job.

UP makes national anthem compulsory for madrassas in state

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, MAY 12

WITH MORE than 16,000 madrassas in the state reopening after Ramzan holidays, most of them received the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board's order on Thursday, stating that singing the national anthem has been mandatory at all madrassas in the state.

In an order dated May 9, 2022, madrassas have been informed that the decision was arrived at by the Board in its meeting on March 24.

The order would be applicable to all madrassas — government-aided, recognised as well as non-aided. Madrassas were closed for their annual Ramzan holidays from March 30 to May 5 when the Board met and took the decision.

The order in this regard was sent by the registrar of the Board to all district minority welfare officers across the state to communicate it to madrassas under their jurisdictions. As per the di-

rection, district minority welfare officers have been informed that every madrassa is required to ensure that just before the start of classes, along with other "dua" (prayers), singing of the "rashttra gaan" (national anthem) in a uniform tone by all teachers and students is "mandatory" from the upcoming academic session.

There are about 16,513 madrassas in Uttar Pradesh, of which 558 are government-aided madrassas. "The decision was taken since it was seen that in every school and college, along with the usual morning prayers, the national anthem is also sung. Thus, it was decided that when we are providing all modern education required in madrassas, we should start this as well," S N Pandey, Registrar, Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board, told *The Indian Express*.

He said the executive order has been issued now since the madrassas were closed when the Board met and arrived at the decision.

Gen Pande to go to forward areas on his maiden visit to Ladakh as Army Chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

AFTER TAKING over as the Army Chief earlier this month, General Manoj Pande went on his first visit to Ladakh on Thursday. The visit comes even as the more than two-year long standoff between India and China in eastern Ladakh remains unresolved. Pande will visit the forward areas in eastern Ladakh too.

The Army said in a statement that Pande reached Leh on Thursday and "was briefed on the security situation along the borders with special focus on Eastern Ladakh." It said that the "high level of operational readiness being maintained by the forces while maintaining a high tempo of capability development was highlighted."

Along with Pande, Lt Gen



Army Chief General Manoj Pande in Ladakh on Thursday. ANI

Upendra Dwivedi, who took over as the Northern Army Commander in February, and Lt Gen A Sengupta, who took charge of the XIV Corps facing China, in January were also present.

The statement mentioned

that the three military leaders met Lt Governor of Ladakh RK Mathur "followed by a detailed discussion on issues related to Civil-Military cooperation and the role of Indian Army in developmental activities" in the Union Territory.

Man held for raping Russian girl in Goa

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, MAY 12

THE GOA Police has arrested a 28-year-old man for raping a 12-year-old Russian girl at a hotel in North Goa. The man was arrested by the police on May 10 from his native place in Karnataka's Gadag district and produced before a magistrate in Goa. He was sent to five-day police custody, said Inspector Vikram Naik.

According to the complaint lodged by the child's mother, the accused worked as a room attendant in the hotel where the girl was staying with her mother. The alleged incident took place on May 6 when the mother had gone to a grocery store nearby, leaving her daughter behind.

The accused has been booked for rape (IPC), under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, and the Goa Children's Act. The accused had fled after the incident but was nabbed within 24 hours of the complaint being filed, police said.

23 breeds of indigenous cattle saw fall in numbers in 2012-19: Report

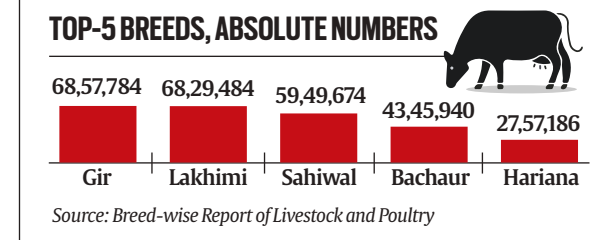
HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

TWENTY-THREE BREEDS of indigenous cattle registered a decline in numbers — ranging from 1.08% to 93.48% — in seven years between 2012 and 2019, according to the latest breed-wise report of livestock and poultry in India.

The report, which is based on 20th Livestock Census conducted during 2018-19, was released by Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Parshottam Rupala on Thursday.

According to the report, the total number of indigenous cattle declined by 6% to 14.21 crore in 2019 from 15.12 crore in 2012. Their share in the total cattle population fell to 73% from 79% during this period.

However, the number of Exotic/Crossbred cattle grew from 3.9 crore in 2012 to 5 crore in 2019. The Census defines "Exotic" cattle as "the animals which have their origin in other countries". According to the 20th



Livestock Census, "Animals which belong to Descript (identified)/Non-descript (non-identified) breeds of indigenous origin are considered as indigenous animals."

The report has divided indigenous cattle population in two groups — 41 recognised breeds and Non-Descript. Of the indigenous cattle population, Non-Descript had the most numbers — 10.02 crore — during 2019, while the combined number of 41 breeds stood at 2.49 crore. However, the comparable data is available for only 37 breeds, of which 23 breeds have seen a decline, while 14 have registered an increase in numbers.

Among five breeds, which

have seen maximum decline in their numbers, are Khariar (-93%), Kherigarh (-75%), Kenkatha (-67%), Motu (56%) and Hariana (56%). The number of Khariar, found mainly in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, has come down from 3,83,824 in 2013 to 25,021 in 2019.

The Hariana breed is found mainly in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar; Motu is found in Odisha; Red Kandhari in Maharashtra; Kenkatha in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh; and Kherigarh in Uttar Pradesh.

Other breeds which have registered a decline are Dangri, Rathi, Deoni, Tharparkar and Kangayam, among others.

ABDUCTED FROM MYSURU HOME IN 2019

Healer was kept in captivity for secret formula, tortured to death: Kerala cops

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
MAY 12

A TRADITIONAL healer from Mysuru in Karnataka, who was abducted in 2019 from his residence and kept in captivity in a house in Kerala's Malappuram district for more than a year to force him to divulge the secret formula of his medicine for piles, was eventually tortured to death, according to Kerala Police.

The police have arrested prime accused Shaibin Asharaf, a 42-year-old from Malappuram district, who runs a hotel busi-

ness and ventures in the Middle-east, and three of his accomplices for the murder of Shaba Sherif, 60.

According to the police, Shaibin and his accomplices abducted Shaba, a small-time healer known for his one-time treatment of piles, from his house in August 2019. He was taken to Shaibin's walled-house at Nilambur in Malappuram, where the healer was chained and shut in a room.

Shaibin wanted to extract the secret of the traditional medicine prepared by Shaba and start its commercial production to make money. As Shaba did not divulge

the secret, Shaibin and his men tortured him to death, chopped his body into pieces, and threw them in a river in packets, the police said.

That was in October 2020, around 14 months after the abduction. By then, the police in Mysuru had shelved the missing person case filed by Shaba's family after investigations to trace him failed to proceed beyond Wayanad district, police sources said.

The breakthrough came only on April 29 this year, when five persons threatened to immolate themselves in front of the state secretariat, claiming that Shaibin

had cheated them and that they had committed crimes at his behest.

Doused in an inflammable liquid, one of them screamed before a crowd of onlookers, including police. "Our lives are under threat. We have been cheated by Shaibin. We had committed crimes, including murder, at the behest of Shaibin. We have evidence." One of them, T Naushad, flashed a pen-drive, claiming that it contained evidence for murder.

Taken to a local police station in Thiruvananthapuram, the five confessed that they were involved in a robbery at Shaibin's house in Nilambur on April 24.

They looted Rs 7 lakh, four expensive mobile phones and three laptops after Shaibin did not pay them for executing crimes on his behalf.

The police in Nilambur then decided to look into the allegations of murder. On examination of the pen drive, the police found videos in which Shaibin and others were seen torturing a person.

Subsequently, the probe moved to Mysuru to verify if the person being tortured was Shaba.

Following confirmation, Shaibin was arrested along with three of his accomplices in the murder — P Shihabudeen, T Naushad and N Nishad. Naushad,

who was among the five who staged the suicide drama, had videographed Shaba's torture, sources said.

Nilambur Deputy Superintendent of Police Sajju K Abraham said after being abducted, Shaba was kept chained in a room at Shaibin's house. "Every day, Shaibin would turn up at the room, forcing the healer to divulge the secret of his medicine. As he refused, Shaba was brutally tortured. They even brought several herbs and other items, which were believed to be ingredients of the medicine. However, Shaba did not disclose the secret, leading to his murder."

Abraham said they were looking for five more suspects in connection with the murder. "We will also search for Shaba's body parts, which were thrown into Chaliyar river in Nilambur," he said.

He said Shaba's ottamooli (one-time medicine) was believed to be effective for piles. "Mysuru region has several such traditional healers engaged in treating piles. Shaibin believed that Shaba's medicine had a fast-healing property and looked effective. Shaibin wanted to get the secret behind the medicine and start its commercial production," he said.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

WHEN PRICES PINCH

With inflation at eight-year high, the RBI has no option but to raise interest rates further

SURPASSING CONSENSUS ESTIMATES by a significant margin, retail inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, rose to an eight-year high of 7.8 per cent in April as per data released by the National Statistical Office. This is now the fourth straight month that inflation has come in above the upper threshold of the central bank's inflation targeting framework. The latest data only affirms the notion that inflationary pressures are far more broad-based and entrenched than what was previously believed. Moreover, these price trends also increase the possibility of inflation breaching the upper threshold of the inflation targeting framework for three consecutive quarters this year as well. This will only serve to reinforce the notion that the central bank has fallen behind the curve when it comes to managing inflation.

The surge in inflation was driven largely by higher food inflation. The consumer food price index rose to 8.38 per cent in April, up from 7.68 per cent the month before, with sharp rises observed in vegetables, cereals, and oils and fats. The data for early May suggests that food prices are likely to remain elevated, though there may be some moderation due to the base effect. However, food inflation is not the only source of concern. Core inflation (which excludes the more volatile food and fuel components) is now around 7 per cent. Most sub-groups, from clothing and footwear to household goods and services to personal care products, recreation and amusement are witnessing elevated inflation, which suggests that producers are passing on higher input costs to consumers. Equally worrying, core inflation is likely to remain elevated as pressure from the services segment builds up with demand for contact-based services rising.

To tackle inflation, the monetary policy committee had held an off-cycle meeting in May, wherein the committee members had voted unanimously to raise the benchmark repo rate by 40 basis points. Alongside, the RBI also raised the cash reserve ratio by 50 basis points to drain liquidity. The off-cycle measures were an indication that the MPC had been underestimating the inflationary pressures in the economy. While the committee is yet to spell out its views on both the extent of policy tightening it is contemplating and over what duration as it looks to tame inflation, and prevent inflationary expectations from getting unanchored, elevated inflation readings will only increase the odds of the MPC aggressively frontloading the interest rate hikes. Considering that at the onset of the pandemic, the MPC had cut the repo rate in two instances by 75 basis points and 40 basis points, the move to raise the rate by 40 basis points now implies that another 75 basis points increase will be needed just to revert to the pre-pandemic level of 5.15 per cent. The terminal rate though is likely to be higher.

DEBATING THE EXCEPTION

Split verdict in high court on marital rape mirrors deep differences. It also opens up a larger conversation

THE DELHI HIGH Court's split verdict in the case challenging the validity of the marital rape exemption in law mirrors the deep public divide on an issue that involves not just the letter of the law but complex social mores. The law carves out an exception for married men, so that they cannot be prosecuted for non-consensual sexual acts with their wives. This exception under Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code that defines rape has increasingly come into question across the world. Several countries — including Britain, which gave this law to its former colonies — have reconsidered an ethos that presumes, or takes for granted, the consent of women within a marriage, in perpetuity. In the case before the Delhi HC, the opinions of the two judges, Justices Rajiv Shakdher and C Hari Shankar, are starkly different and frame fundamental differences on issues including consent. While Justice Shakdher relies on the understanding that the foundation of a modern marriage is equality between spouses, Justice Shankar ignores basic principles of equality, agency and autonomy. His disturbing observation that marriage necessarily involves surrendering certain rights in varying degrees — in this case, the right of a woman to her bodily integrity — needs to be strongly contested.

In defence of the law, both Delhi government and the Centre have argued that marital rape cannot be criminalised unless there is societal consensus on the issue. Arguments for retaining the provision have ranged from protecting the institution of marriage to potential misuse of any change in law. These are concerns that should be debated. There must be a wider and more participatory discussion. At the same time, it is also crucial for the Courts to answer another legal question — whether striking down the exception in marital rape under law would amount to treading on the domain of Parliament. In this context, the central government's stand that the marital rape exception will be reviewed is a welcome step. In the UK, as in South Africa, Australia and Canada, which have removed the exception in marital rape, judicial decisions were followed by changes in legislation.

The split court verdict may not move the needle too far, but it has ignited a much-needed conversation on marital rape, both within and outside courts. Significantly, the Karnataka HC ruling in March allowed a man to face trial for marital rape for the first time. Although courts have, in passing, expressed views on the issue and urged the government to look into it, Justice Shakdher's opinion is the first acknowledgement in a high judicial forum that the exception is at odds with the Constitution.

THE TURTLE'S WAY

Lessons on how to take it easy from a wandering, meandering seafarer

THERE'S MANY A way to navigate the open sea, even sans GPS or a compass. On a clear night, the prow can be steered according to the North Star. During the day, a keen ornithologist can figure out the directions by looking at the right migratory bird. Even the humble and delicious salmon, as they swim back to where they were born, to reproduce, can theoretically provide both sustenance and guidance to a weary traveller. Thankfully, not all the pilgrims of the natural world are such efficient overachievers. Hawksbill turtles know instinctively what annoying Instagram posts about wanderlust have just discovered recently: It's the journey that matters.

How animals like sea turtles know where to go has occupied the attention of naturalists and researchers for centuries. Broadly speaking, there is no definitive answer. Birds likely have something like an internal GPS that guides them, salmon probably imprint on the magnetic coordinates of their home river. The hawksbill turtle, earlier research had suggested, had a cartographic mechanism similar to the latter. But according to researchers who have tracked them on the open ocean, they "almost certainly are using a geomagnetic map, but it's a fairly coarse resolution". To get to a destination that is just 176 km away, they swim for about 1,300 km.

The sea turtles, clearly, know the value of taking the scenic route. They get to both sustenance and romance, without being obsessed by either. With a rudimentary map, and nothing but the shell on their backs, they set out. This makes them pretty useless as navigators, but of great import as an inspiration. Just head in the broad direction of your aims and ambitions, enjoy the ride and you'll probably get where you're going. In the rat race of life, it's best to be neither the hare nor the tortoise. The turtle's the way to go.



JAHANGIR AZIZ

AFTER MONTHS of exhortation by the market and being criticised for falling behind the curve, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) last week raised both policy rates and cut back liquidity in a surprise inter-meeting decision. The forcefulness and urgency of the policy shift have been welcomed by analysts and the market alike and seen as a signal of the RBI's renewed commitment to fighting inflation via aggressive monetary tightening in the coming months.

But is this the right policy path? I am sure that many readers are surprised at the naivety of the question, especially as we appear to have been influenced by the global frenzy of seeing inflation fears everywhere. It is true that a large swathe of the global economy is in the throes of runaway inflation and that in many of these economies tightening monetary and fiscal policies is the right response. But initial conditions matter as do the specific drivers of inflation.

To break down the question, let me ask an even more naïve one: How do higher interest rates slow inflation? There are typically three ways. The first is by lowering inflationary expectations. Suppose one believes that because a central bank has not tightened enough, future inflation will be higher. In that case, the obvious response is to bring forward future consumption and investment to the present, thereby adding to demand and fueling current inflation further. So, in principle, the central bank by credibly committing to bringing down inflation through aggressive current actions can bring down expectations of future inflation. If that happens, then demand would be pushed back, alleviating current inflation. This is a very potent conduit of monetary transmission in developed markets, where there is a wide variety of inflation-hedging instruments, as well as in some emerging markets — Brazil, for instance — where inflation-indexation is widespread. However, there is little empirical evidence that this channel works in India, even weakly.

The second route is via the exchange rate. Higher interest rates attract foreign capital that appreciates the currency, lowering import prices and, in turn, inflation. Again, this is a powerful mechanism in Latin America



D RAJA

THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT used the law of sedition liberally to curb free speech. In the Constituent Assembly, BR Ambedkar passionately argued that liberty, equality and fraternity should become the principles of our democratic lives. Still, the section on sedition was retained after independence even though Jawaharlal Nehru, criticised it in no uncertain terms.

In our country, freedom of speech and expression is enshrined as a guaranteed fundamental right in Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution. However, the existence of this colonial relic, Section 124A of the IPC, has acted as a constraint on the exercise of this right and governments have used sedition to suppress and quell political dissent. Keeping this in mind, I introduced a Private Member's Bill in the Rajya Sabha in 2011 to abolish Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code. My submission generated a debate around this draconian section but it could not be put to vote. When I moved a Private Member's Bill to abolish sedition, the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government was in power. It is important to highlight this fact because my contention was not with this or that party in power but with the presence of arbitrary, unjustified and undemocratic powers in the hands of the government like Section 124A or the dreaded Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Since the BJP led government came to power in 2014, there has been a marked in-

Don't leave it to RBI

Bringing down inflation requires ascertaining its drivers, not relying solely on monetary policy

and Central Europe, where bond flows — that are sensitive to interest rate differential — dominate capital movements and the import content of the consumer basket is large. This is not the case in India and, in any event, for this to work it would require extreme rate hikes in the country, given the anticipated aggressive tightening by the US Fed.

The third, and the most relevant channel for India, is via curbing credit growth. Raising both the cost of borrowing as well as its availability (for example, by increasing the cash reserve ratio) reduces credit growth, lowering demand, GDP growth and, eventually, inflation. This is the credit transmission by which higher interest rates dampen inflation and it works well in India.

The question is how much of today's price increase is credit-driven, such that curbing it would lower inflation? Even a cursory glance at bank balance sheets would suggest that credit growth is just treading water. Having recovered from being negative in mid-2021, real credit growth is running just around 2 per cent (deflated by CPI and even less if a broader measure of inflation, such as the GDP deflator, is used).

Some analysts have pointed to the inflation-monetary policy dynamics of 2010-11 as to why the RBI needs to act aggressively and early this time around. This is when differentiating the specific initial conditions matters. Back then, real GDP growth was clocking over 10 per cent per quarter, nominal credit growth 20-25 per cent, and real credit growth over 10 per cent. Inflation was unambiguously driven by an overheated economy and fueled by runaway credit. At that time, as pointed out repeatedly by some of us, hiking rates aggressively and quickly could potentially have delivered a soft landing of 7-8 per cent real GDP growth by curbing borrowing sharply. In the event, the RBI assessed the drivers of inflation to be originating from the supply side — higher food and commodity prices — and moved at a glacial pace, such that even after 12 rate hikes inflation remained in double digits for much of that period. The overheating festered and external vulnerabilities widened. Faced with a potential US Fed tightening in 2013, India

found itself in a near-crisis situation.

Today things are different. Much of the inflation is driven by global food and commodity prices. While the level of investment has just about recovered to its pre-pandemic level, consumption remains stubbornly below. Despite the languishing private demand, core inflation remains high. But this has been the case for much of the last two years, strongly suggesting that the domestic supply chain disruptions in manufacturing and services, especially at the informal level, haven't been repaired fully. While some of the disruptions have been eased by an ongoing formalisation of the economy, this too is adding to inflationary pressures. The reason why firms locate in the informal sector in the first place is because of lower transaction costs, so when parts of the supply chain shift to the higher-cost formal sector, it shows up as inflation during the transition before increased scale of production and efficiency bring down the cost over time. None of these factors is affected much by higher lending rates. So the burden of taming inflation by tightening monetary policy will fall largely on lower credit. This will inevitably make the required decline in credit growth that much larger. And with that its cost — the attendant fall in GDP growth.

There is clearly a case to remove the extraordinary monetary support provided during the pandemic. Perhaps the RBI should have moved earlier in doing so. However, removing emergency accommodation is one thing and relying solely on culling credit growth — which is barely positive in real terms — to tame inflation is completely different that can cost the economy dearly. The RBI had misread the drivers of inflation badly in 2010-11. Hopefully, it won't repeat that mistake this time. Bringing down today's inflation requires a resolution of geopolitical tensions in Europe, changes to China's zero-Covid policy, much stronger fiscal support from the government, and reforms that help repair the disrupted domestic supply chain. Not just monetary policy.

The writer is Chief Emerging Markets Economist, J.P. Morgan. These are the author's personal views

WHY SEDITION LAW MUST GO

It is used for witch hunts by government against those who question it

crease in the use of sedition charges. The sword of Section 124A has been hanging over the head of politicians, human rights activists and advocacy groups who dared question the government's stand. Branding dissenters as anti-national and slapping them with sedition or UAPA charges has become a fashion.

The data on draconian laws like 124A or UAPA exposes their untenability. According to the National Crime Records Bureau data, a total of 156 cases of sedition were pending in 2017. In that year, only 27 cases could be disposed of at the police level by withdrawing the case or submitting a chargesheet. In courts, out of the 58 cases on trial, only one conviction could be obtained and the pendency rate for the cases of sedition was close to 90 per cent. The number of cases increased in 2020, the year for which the latest NCRB data is available, but with the same results. Of the total 230 cases registered, only 23 were chargesheeted. Pendency in court reached close to 95 per cent for the sedition cases in 2020. The abysmally low rate of conviction and disposal of these cases make it clear that these charges are slapped with very flimsy or no evidence to intimidate or harass those who question the government's fiat. On the baseless pretext of sedition or anti-national activity, the government is keeping political activists, human rights defenders, civil rights workers in prison ad infinitum to create an atmosphere of fear and servility.

The picture is no different for the UAPA.

Cases under it have increased by about 75 per cent between 2017-2020. A total of 4,827 UAPA cases were pending in 2020 — of them, only 398 could be chargesheeted in that year. The pendency rate in court remained 95 per cent, indicating harassment and violation of the right to life and liberty for a great number of people who are suffering because of the diabolical prison conditions in India. Progressive citizens has been constantly asking for the repeal of these laws that endanger our fundamental constitutional values. A consultation paper on sedition circulated by the Law Commission of India on August 30, 2018, found many issues that need addressing around the working of Section 124A.

Most recently, on May 11, the Supreme Court directed the Union government and the states to refrain from using the law of sedition and keep all previous cases under 124A in abeyance till the matter is reconsidered in a comprehensive way. In the context of the evolved reality around us, if we are to improve the democratic foundations of our country, there must not be any space for sedition. Dissent, criticism and differences of opinion are vital for the functioning of any democracy. The witch-hunting of those who question the government of the day reminds us of medieval times and totalitarian rulers. It is time we usher in an era of free speech. For that, the sedition law must go.

The writer is general secretary, CPI



MAY 13, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

FALKLAND BATTLE

TWO ARGENTINE MILITARY planes were shot while attacking a British ship off the disputed Falkland Islands, the Defence Ministry announced. The ministry spokesperson reporting the action said three planes attacked the ship. The third one escaped. He did not identify the ship but said it suffered no casualties or damage. Spokesman Ian McDonald did not make it clear whether the attacking planes were shot down by the warship or whether British aircraft were sent to engage them. He identified the Argentine ships as American built A-4 Skyhawks. Meanwhile, at the UN, Secretary-General Javier Perez De

Cuellar said he hoped to conclude his peace talks by the end of the week.

INDIA-CHINA TALKS

WHILE HOPES CANNOT be pitched too high, the Sino-Indian talks opening on May 13 between Indian and Chinese officials are fairly important considering their outcome will determine the pace at which the two countries can improve their relations. The composition of the delegations suggests that the talks are going to be wide-ranging in scope covering the border issues, bilateral trade, economic matters and cultural exchanges. Neither the Indian officials nor the Chinese

diplomats in town are disclosing the stand they will take on the border issue.

COOL MAY

HEAVY RAIN ACCOMPANIED by storms caught people in Delhi unawares. The maximum temperature fell to 24.8 degrees Celsius. The weatherman described it as the lowest maximum for May so far.

PM'S US VISIT

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi will visit the US in the last week of July for talks with Ronald Reagan.

THE IDEAS PAGE

Kathmandu is not Colombo

Both Nepal and Sri Lanka have been badly hit by the pandemic. But comparisons between the two economies are problematic



SHANKAR P SHARMA

THE RECENT POLITICAL and economic crisis in Sri Lanka has prompted people to compare Nepal's economic environment to that of Sri Lanka. But the nature and extent of problems in the respective economies are different. Though a few indicators look similar for both countries, Nepal's growth rate this fiscal year has significantly improved from earlier projections.

Despite the reinvigorating growth rate after a slowdown in economic activities because of the Covid-19 pandemic, foreign exchange reserves in Nepal require balancing. Among other policy adjustments, Nepal is looking forward to increasing the volume of hydroelectricity exports mainly to India. As India is Nepal's most important economic partner and is expected to remain so in the foreseeable future, India's support to Nepal to reduce such external sector vulnerability and achieve prosperity could be in the best interest of both countries.

Nepal's estimated growth in the current fiscal year ending mid-July is 5.8 per cent. The growth rate was revitalised by rising economic activities after a two-year suffering, primarily caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Nepal's economy has done better than most countries in South Asia this year.

However, Nepal's external sector has moved to the risk zone. The current account deficit rose from about 3.5 per cent of the GDP to 9.5 per cent of the GDP during the same period. Sharply rising trade deficit and less than expected foreign exchange inflow adversely affected the economy. The foreign exchange reserves decreased, and the reserves are sufficient to cover goods and services imports for only six to seven months from about 11 months of reserves a year ago.

Sri Lanka is known as a country whose social indicators are superior to countries with similar income levels. Its policies, initiated mainly to attract investments and promote exports, helped to support economic growth consistently and significantly. Presently, it is going through a problem of its own, especially in the area of external balance. The crisis in Sri Lanka could serve as a lesson for us.

The Sri Lankan economy was left shattered by the terrorist attacks in 2019 and later, the Covid-19 pandemic. Substantial loss in tourism earnings and rapidly rising imports further widened the trade deficit. Remittances that helped to reduce the current account deficit declined by almost 23 per cent in 2021, mainly because of the return and loss of employment of migrant workers. Though export earnings and foreign direct investment have improved, their size and rates of growth are not sufficient to compensate for the cumulative loss in other sectors. In addition to the rising current account deficit which is the result of significantly less foreign exchange inflows, the higher volume of debt that includes a higher proportion of external debt mobilised through commercial borrowings have added to the burden on the foreign exchange re-



C R Sasikumar

serves of the country.

Nepal has also moved to the risky zone. In the fiscal year 2020-21, the current account deficit widened mainly due to a rapid increase in imports and a substantial loss in tourism income. However, remittances, despite pandemics, continued to increase. Even during the crisis, the gross foreign exchange reserves increased marginally in the country. In recent months, Nepal has started feeling the pinch in the balance of payment and foreign exchange reserves. During the eight months of 2021-22 (till mid-February 2022), imports increased by almost 39 per cent. Despite 83 per cent growth in exports, the trade deficit widened.

Remittances reached a record high in the last fiscal year despite the drop in labour migration. However, this year, remittances have started declining albeit slowly, but the 241 per cent increase in the number of Nepali workers taking approval for foreign employment has given some confidence for the future. Tourism income which sharply declined in the last two years is also reviving slowly. Again, compared to Sri Lanka, tourism accounts for a much smaller share in Nepal's economy. It is about 2.2 per cent of Nepal's GDP compared to 4.9 per cent for Sri Lanka.

Nepal also adopted an expansionary policy after the devastating earthquake of 2015 followed by the Covid-19 pandemic and public debt rose to more than 40 per cent of the GDP, including external public debt which is nearly 23 per cent of the GDP. However, Nepal's public debt remains low. Both domestic and external loans for Nepal are small in comparison to the size of the economy. Interest rates and maturity periods are also highly favourable for Nepal. Nepal's decline of foreign exchange cannot be attributed to public debt and its debt-servicing requirements and reflects a different situation from that of Sri Lanka.

Nepal is trying to reduce the external sector vulnerability in the medium and long term by exporting a higher volume of electricity to India and Bangladesh, attracting developers and investors including in the completed and proposed special economic zones and other industrial estates to promote import substitutions and exports, promoting information technology and incentivising agriculture sector to exploit Nepal's comparative advantages. Strong economic partnership between the two countries including higher level of investment from India could help Nepal in our journey of development and prosperity.

Nepal has taken a number of steps to discourage imports and increase foreign exchange earnings. That includes prudent economic policy, the temporary ban on imports or a requirement to keep a 50-100 per cent margin to open letters of credit to import a few luxury and non-essential goods, and increased interest rates. However, import restrictions and restricting foreign exchange in trade and services are not long-term solutions. It will raise inflation, increase unauthorised trade and capital flight, and suppress growth.

Having said that, Nepal is trying to reduce the external sector vulnerability in the medium and long term by exporting a higher volume of electricity to India and Bangladesh, attracting developers and investors including in the completed and proposed special economic zones and other industrial estates to promote import substitutions and exports, promoting information technology and incentivising agriculture sector to exploit Nepal's comparative advantages. A strong economic partnership between the two countries including a higher level of investment from India could help Nepal in our journey of development and prosperity.

For Nepal, it is a blessing to have the world's fastest-growing economy with a massive middle-class population as an immediate neighbour with an open border. Nepal and India have always had the closest of sociocultural, economical, and political ties for ages. More meaningful partnership in the coming days would further deepen our economic partnership and long-standing friendship.

The writer is the Ambassador of Nepal to India and former Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission, Nepal. Views expressed in the article are personal

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Though the Taliban justify the burqa as a matter of tradition, this has only been the case in the most conservative rural areas. For many Afghan women, this is a wholly alien and unwelcome imposition."

— THE GUARDIAN

Message from another Narendra

BJP must remember Vivekananda's words: Each religion must assimilate the spirit of the others and yet preserve its individuality



ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

OVER A CENTURY has passed since September 11, 1893. Yet, the words of the great saint, Swami Vivekananda (Narendra Nath Datta), at the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago, still ring true and remain relevant. He fervently hoped that "the bell that tolled... in honour of this convention may be the death knell of all fanaticism, of all persecutions with the sword or with the pen and of all uncharitable feelings between persons wending their way to the same goal".

He went on to propound a powerful idea of tolerance in a democracy: "But if anyone here hopes that this unity will come by the triumph of any one of the religions and the destruction of the others, to him I say, 'Brother, yours is an impossible hope.' Do I wish that the Christian would become Hindu? God forbid. Do I wish that the Hindu or Buddhist would become Christian? God forbid... The Christian is not to become a Hindu or a Buddhist, nor a Hindu or a Buddhist to become a Christian. But each must assimilate the spirit of the others and yet preserve his individuality and grow according to his own law of growth."

This "spirit of the other" is severely tested today. It is as if the Modi government has turned its eyes away or believes that a state of constant strife, a perpetual whipping up of hate by the self-styled *dharmaraksaks* and sundry men dressed in saffron robes — to call them *sadhus* or *sants* would be doing a grave disservice to the *sant* tradition — can go on even as the development project, "sabka vikas", marches on. It is mistaken.

Bulldozer Babas, Mamas and Chachas are rolling on in various BJP-ruled states, the ostensible reason is the process of law but we know that couched in the corporations' encroachment orders is a message to a community. Appeasement of none and justice for all is the cardinal principle of good governance; dharma teaches us to "speak the truth". But truth has become the first casualty in this attack. In April 2022 itself, within a span of three weeks, nine states witnessed communal violence and tension. Had the apex court not stepped in after the communal violence and bulldozers in Jahangirpuri in Delhi, many more families would have been destroyed. It was a BJP leader's appeal for the bulldozers that set the wheels moving in the municipal corporation. This isn't what our democracy is about. This is taking the law of the land in your own hands.

It is a matter of extreme concern that religious and festival processions, which were connected to peace, harmony, and celebration in society, are now being used to set off violence. WhatsApp forwards of aggressive marches add fuel to the fire. The religious neutrality of the government in several states

is eroding. Protests at Banaras Hindu University over iftar and the violence among students on the JNU campus over the serving of non-vegetarian food in the canteen during Navratri — two of our best universities — show how far we have let the poison spread.

Then there's the cow vigilantism by the self-proclaimed "gau rakshaks" and the self-proclaimed "samaj rakshaks". "Love-jihad" laws have been passed wherein inter-faith couples need official permission and sanction for their love. The gruesome killing of a man in Hyderabad, by the family of his wife, demolishes our image as a modern democracy. New words are coined to stigmatise certain communities. We all know how science was flagrantly violated to coin "corona jihad", rationality is given the go-by to come up with "job jihad", "food jihad", "dress jihad" and so on. A so-called Dharam Sansad held at Haridwar became the chosen platform to deliver hate speeches against Muslims, and violence against the community was openly professed.

Whether it is the issue of hijab, halal, loudspeakers in mosques, or the controversy over namaz in Gurgaon, they all surfaced sequentially and the pattern of their timing isn't mere coincidence. These are manifestations of a larger design, to stoke the feelings of tension and distrust, to make the majority feel that showing the minority their place is the way to feel important, proud and strong. Today, the citizens of the country are recognised as Indian and "Muslim" Indian. I hear it in my constituency when I listen to men, women and even children. Is this what *Maa Bharti* would want for her children?

One common explanation is that the BJP lets all this happen because it rallies its base. But no one in the BJP will admit that; they all say they win votes because of good governance. I must remind my colleagues in the BJP that they need to call their own bluff. The social cost and the corrosive impact that communal tension has on the social fabric is well-known. There are several studies that have found that "lower levels of religious hostilities" are behind high ranks in primary education and health, technical training, technological readiness, innovations and the institutional environment. Religious freedom and harmony contribute to peace and stability and even help lower corruption.

No country has become an economic powerhouse with its society divided, with a section of its population made to feel small. India did not come into existence as Hindu Rashtra, unlike the Islamic Republic of Pakistan or the Jewish state of Israel. We are emerging out of the Covid shadow and need to focus on creating jobs, upgrading health infrastructure and ensuring that our schools work and our children emerge stronger and better. The battle against hate isn't just political. From the policeman on patrol to the teacher in her class, the parent at home to the friend in the park, the IAS officer in her office to the political worker on the field, the message has to be: Respect everyone, if you allow yourself to be used to spread hate, you hurt yourself, your family and your nation. This isn't new, this was the message in Chicago from a man called Narendra in 1893.

The writer is leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha

After ouster, the push back

Former PM Imran Khan's comeback bid can widen schisms in a divided society



SAMINA YASMEEN

IN THE HANDS of a master narrator, carefully crafted narratives, that employ easily understandable and culturally relevant symbols and stories, can mobilise individuals and groups for particular causes. The recently-deposed Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, is trying to establish himself as a master narrator who can mobilise the masses despite his failure to improve the economy and living standards of 220 million Pakistanis. Economic mismanagement, rising inflation, and the concentration of power in the hands of a select few had dissipated support from his erstwhile backers in the military. In response, Khan is crafting a narrative that his party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), can deploy to mobilise the masses.

The narrative focuses on the dichotomy between Pakistan's ideal and current state. The ideal state is presented as one designed along the lines of the first Islamic state established by Prophet Mohammad in Medina in 622 AD. Pakistan's failure to secure a respected status in the international community since the 1960s is contrasted with the progress made by India which became independent at the same time — New Delhi has earned respect for its refusal to compromise on national interest. The heavy criticism levelled against Khan for his visit to Moscow at a time Russia was preparing to invade Ukraine is presented as evidence. US and European envoys criticised and demanded that Pakistan, notably Imran Khan, not side

with Russia. On the other hand, the Indian success story meant that the Narendra Modi government withstood external pressure and asserted its right to purchase oil from Russia at the height of the Ukraine conflict.

Khan portrays corrupt and self-serving Pakistani politicians as obstacles on the path toward true independence. He blames them for pushing Pakistan into a subservient relationship with Western powers. They have pursued conflicting policies, siding with the West to push the Soviets out of Afghanistan in the 1980s and then joining hands with the US to invade and occupy the same country in the War on Terror. The Pakistani media is also incriminated for joining hands with the country's rulers to prevent Pakistan from realising its true potential.

The portrayal of the ruling elite as willing accomplices of the West in exploiting and subjugating the Pakistani people resembles a neo-Marxist analysis of the world system. "Core" states exploit those at the "periphery" in an exploitative yet collaborative relationship with the ruling elite of the peripheral states.

Rival political parties that collaborated to oust Khan's regime through a no-confidence vote are accused of working at the behest of the Western powers, especially the United States. The former PM has alleged that the US Assistant Secretary of State, Donald Lu, had warned of severe consequences for US-Pakistan relations if he stayed in power.

Echoing the Gramscian idea of a counter-hegemonic struggle to create a new historical bloc, Khan has called upon ordinary Pakistanis to become activists in thwarting the collaboration between the corrupt politicians and the US. The newly-appointed prime minister and his coalition partners are labelled an "imported government" lacking legitimacy and requiring a response from those who stand for independence, integrity, and fairness. The Pakistani youth, which comprises 60 per cent of the country's population, is allocated pride of place in this schema: They are urged to think about the future they expect and deserve despite all the machinations of the corrupt politicians and the imported government.

Khan has delivered this narrative in simple language easily understood by the masses in a country with a literacy rate of just 60 per cent. He has portrayed himself as a selfless individual who did not need to be in politics but struggled for more than two decades to secure true independence for Pakistan and international respect for it. Repeated by other members of his cabinet and the PTI, this narrative has proved successful. Overnight, those complaining of economic mismanagement and rising inflation have come out on the streets declaring their support for Khan as the true leader and rejecting the "imported government".

However, this narrative is fraught with danger for Pakistan. It runs the risk of further

weakening the cohesion of a society increasingly divided along ethnic, religious, and sectarian lines, between supporters and opponents of jihad, and between the exceptionally rich and poor masses. The defiance narrative is dividing the country between supporters and opponents of Imran Khan — and by extension the PTI. Equally concerning is the fast-emerging public anger against the military and the judiciary as "collaborators" in ousting Khan as the PM. This anger was apparent in responses to a tweet from DG ISPR about the successful launch of the Shaheen III missile on April 9. Congratulatory messages were interspersed with extremely critical assessments of the military's role and capability to thwart Pakistan's real threats. According to some reports, dissenting voices are also emerging within the military, insisting on Khan's narrative as the guiding principle for Pakistan. If the fate of narratives employed by jihadi groups is any indication, once a message has been delivered to an audience, some among the audience attach their own meanings to the message and the ensuing activism does not necessarily correlate to the intended aims of the master narrator(s). Khan's narrative could also motivate some groups to resort to actions with far-reaching implications for civil-military relations and Pakistan's stability.

The writer is Director of the Centre for the Study of Muslim Societies in University of Western Australia

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SACRED, PRAGMATIC

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Food is a nomad' (IE, May 12). As it says, food knows no borders. A case in point is the food items allowed during Hindu fasting days. Most of these originated in the new world -- for example, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tapioca (derived from cassava) and peanuts. To date, nobody has been able to tell me how these items brought to India by the Portuguese became part of Hindu religious culture in the last five hundred years. That perhaps tells us that our ancestors were more pragmatic than us.

Shakher Puntambekar, via email

WELCOME RETHINK

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A pregnant pause' (IE, May 12). The public-spirited persons opposing the much-maligned and controversial sedition law steadfastly are surprised not as much by what may have prompted the NDA government to inform the Supreme Court to defer the hearing on this law as by its sudden climb-down over its earlier uncompromising stand on it. This turn-around must be based on a well-thought decision taken by the BJP in consultation with its ideological mentor, the RSS. The SC has in its wisdom reciprocated to the Centre's request by agreeing to put the provision in abeyance till the review process is complete. But at the same time, this pregnant pause should not become an endless breather for it to try other op-

tions. Still the party needs cheers for this rectitude, though belated.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A pregnant pause' (IE, May 12). The Supreme Court putting on hold a law that goes back to the 19th century and that free India should have never had is a historic moment. The Centre agreeing to a re-examination of the sedition law provisions and the Supreme Court strongly restraining all authorities from filing cases under IPC Section 124A till the completion of the review, brings cheer to the public in general and the legal fraternity in particular. The sedition law is not the only law that threatens civil liberties and is misused against critics of those in office. UAPA is another law that needs to be revisited.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

SPIRALLING LANKA

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Colombo storm' (IE, May 11). The Colombo crisis provides all the nations of the world with a book titled, "How to not run a country". This plight keeps snowballing and taking undesirable but inevitable twists. The roaring revolt of the masses and the crumbling of the Rajapaksa worsen its already dim situation. With its soaring national debt of \$51 billion and fragile, the near future of the Pearl of the Indian Ocean seems bleak. Even after the financial aid provided by IMF, India and others, one cannot take the guarantee of Sri Lanka's recovery trajectory.

Swati Rishi, Mumbai

AIRCRAFT CATCHES FIRE, LEAVES 36 INJURED
PLANE VEERS OFF RUNWAY IN CHINA

A Chinese passenger jet veered off the runway during takeoff and caught fire on Thursday, sending black smoke billowing into the air and injuring 36 people. The Tibet Airlines flight with 122 people on board was departing from the southwestern city of Chongqing for a flight to Nyingchi in China's Tibet region. Videos shared by state media showed the left side of the aircraft on fire. Other footage showed fire trucks spraying water on the plane.



TOP OF THE WORLD



Australian PM Scott Morrison. AP

AUSTRALIA

Solomons pact no threat to Australia: China

Canberra: A Chinese ambassador says China's engagement with South Pacific island countries poses no threat to Australia, responding to fears that Beijing will establish a military foothold in the Solomon Islands. China's envoy to Australia, Xiao Qian, attempted to reassure his host nation in a newspaper opinion piece published Thursday saying, "The cooperation between China and the South Pacific island countries is conducive to people's well-being on both sides and will by no means threaten Australia's security." PM Scott Morrison said he disagreed with the ambassador that "Chinese government interference is of no consequence." "I think it's of great consequence," Morrison said. AP

MYANMAR

Issuing of tourist visas to resume after 2-yr hiatus

Bangkok: Myanmar announced Thursday it will resume issuing visas for visitors in an effort to help its moribund tourism industry, devastated by the pandemic and violent political unrest. Starting on Sunday, tourist "e-Visas" will be provided online, according to a government notice in the state-run Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper. Visitors need a certificate of vaccination, negative results from a Covid-19 RT-PCR test taken shortly before their flight and a travel insurance policy. They must also take an ATK rapid test after arrival. AP

UK

Police: Over 100 fines issued in 'partygate' probe

London: The number of fines issued over breaches of coronavirus regulations at British government offices, including Prime Minister Boris Johnson's official residence, has expanded to more than 100, London's Metropolitan Police force said Thursday. Downing Street has confirmed that Boris Johnson is not included in the latest wave of fines, which start at around 100 pounds each and get halved to 50 pounds if paid up quickly. AGENCIES

ISRAEL

4,427 settler homes approved: Rights group

Jerusalem: Israel advanced plans for the construction of 4,427 settler homes in the occupied West Bank on Thursday, a rights group said. Hagit Ofra, an expert at the anti-settlement watchdog group Peace Now, said a military planning body approved 4,427 housing units at a meeting on Thursday. "The state of Israel took another stumble toward the abyss and further deepened the occupation," she tweeted. Spokespeople for the Israeli government and the military body in charge of civilian affairs in the West Bank did not respond to requests for comment. AP

Ranil Wickremesinghe returns as Lanka PM

No-trust motion to be discussed in Parliament on May 17

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO, MAY 12

OPPOSITION LEADER and former premier Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn-in as Sri Lanka's 26th prime minister on Thursday to stabilise the country's debt-ridden economy and end the political turmoil, a development welcomed by India, which said it looks forward to working with the new government.

Wickremesinghe was sworn-in as PM by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, days after his predecessor Mahinda Rajapaksa was forced to resign following violent protests over the worst economic crisis in the island nation.

The 73-year-old United National Party (UNP) leader took over as the PM as the country was without a government since Monday when Gotabaya Rajapaksa's elder brother and PM Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned.

"My best wishes to the newly appointed PM of #LKA, @RW_UNP, who stepped up to take on challenging task of steering our country through a turbulent time. I look forward to work-



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, right, with Ranil Wickremesinghe during the oath taking ceremony. AP

ing together with him to make Sri Lanka strong again," President Gotabaya tweeted.

Mahinda was quick to congratulate Wickremesinghe, saying that he wishes him all the best as he navigates "these troubled times."

Members of the ruling Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), a section of the main Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) and several other parties have expressed their support for Wickremesinghe, sources said.

Meanwhile, Sri Lankan Parliament will debate a no-confidence motion against President Gotabaya on May 17, the Speaker's Office confirmed on Thursday. The decision was taken during the party leaders' meeting on Thursday.

Mahinda, 16 others can't travel abroad

Colombo: A Sri Lankan court on Thursday imposed a ban on overseas travel on former prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, his son and MP Namal Rajapaksa and 15 others in view of investigations against them for the deadly attack on peaceful anti-government protesters in Colombo this week. The Fort Magistrate's Court asked them to surrender their passports to the court due to the probes taking place on the attacks on the GotaGoGama and MynaGoGama peaceful protest sites on Monday. PTI

Will consider curbs on power: Gotabaya

Colombo: Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said on Thursday that the abolition of the executive presidency, a move that will curb his powers, will be considered by Parliament. Abolishing the presidential system of governance and replacing it with a system that reinforces constitutional democracy, has been one of the key demands of the Opposition. "Steps will be taken to form a new gov to prevent the country falling into anarchy & to maintain the affairs of the state that have come to a halt," Gotabaya said on Twitter. PTI

UN TO SET UP INQUIRY INTO POSSIBLE WAR CRIMES

Russia vows response as Finland seeks NATO seat without delay

REUTERS & AP
HELSINKI/KHARKIV, MAY 12

FINLAND SAID on Thursday it would apply to join NATO "without delay", with Sweden expected to follow, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine looked set to bring about the very expansion of the Western military alliance that Vladimir Putin aimed to prevent.

The decision by the two Nordic countries to abandon the neutrality they maintained throughout the Cold War would be one of the biggest shifts in European security in decades. Finland's announcement angered Kremlin, which called it a direct threat to Russia and threatened an unspecified response.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said the Finns would be "warmly welcomed" and promised an accession process that would be "smooth and swift". "Finland must apply for NATO membership without delay," President Sauli Niinisto and Prime Minister Sanna Marin said in a joint statement.

Asked whether Finland's accession posed a direct threat to Russia, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said: "Definitely. NATO expansion does not make our continent more stable and secure." "This cannot fail to arouse our regret, and is a reason for corresponding symmetrical responses on our side," Peskov added. Russia's Foreign Ministry



An apartment building damaged by Russian shelling in Bakhmut, Donetsk, on Thursday. AP

What it means for Russia

PUTIN HAS demanded that NATO stop expanding and in his May 9 speech blamed the West for the war. If Finland joins, it would double the length of the alliance's border with Russia, adding a further 1,300 kilometers (830 miles) for Moscow to de-

EXPLAINED

fend. Putin has promised a "military, technical" response if they join. So far, Moscow is doing nothing obvious to dissuade the two. The Kremlin said Thursday that its response could depend on how close NATO infrastructure moves toward Russia's borders.

warned the country would take retaliatory "military-technical" steps and said the move would "inflict a serious damage to the Russian-Finnish relations as well as stability and security in Northern Europe."

The UN Human Rights Council passed a resolution on Thursday to set up an investigation into possible war crimes by Russian troops in Kyiv and beyond, a move that Russia said amounted to political score-settling.

EU plan to help get wheat from Ukraine to world

SAMUEL PETREQUIN
BRUSSELS, MAY 12

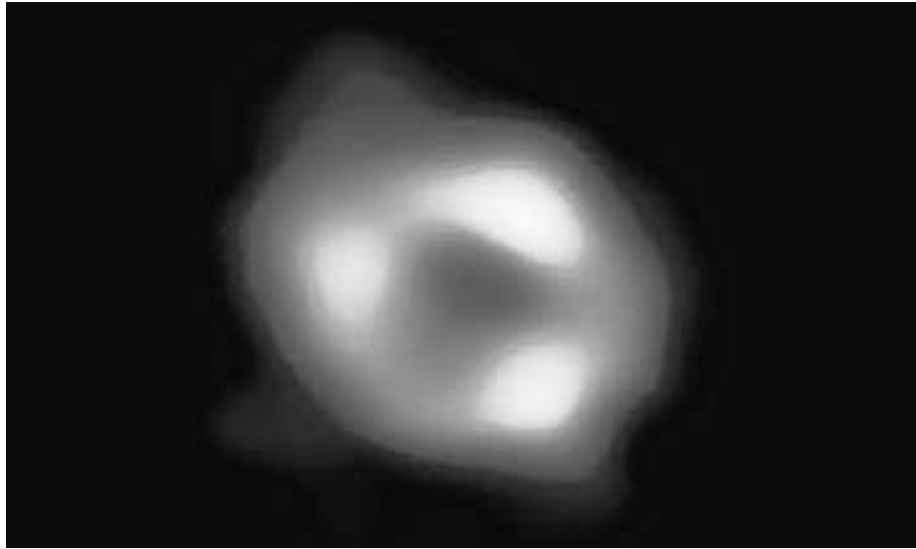
THE EUROPEAN Commission proposed helping Ukraine export its wheat and other grains by rail, road and river to get around a Russian blockade of Black Sea ports, which is preventing those critical supplies from reaching parts of the world at risk of food insecurity.

The EU's executive arm said the plan aims to establish alternative routes and ease congestion between borders that also should facilitate getting humanitarian aid and other goods into the war-torn country.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has provoked disruptions of global food supplies, with both countries two of the world's biggest exporters of wheat, barley and sunflower oil.

"Twenty million tons of grains have to leave Ukraine in less than three months using the EU infrastructure," said Adina Valean, EU commissioner for transport. "This is a gigantesque challenge, so it is essential to coordinate and optimise the logistic chains, put in place new routes, and avoid, as much as possible, the bottlenecks." AP

EVENT HORIZON TELESCOPE CAUGHT SIGHT OF 'UNSEEABLE'



The first direct image of Sagittarius A*, the black hole at the centre of the Milky Way. NYT

Astronomers capture 1st image of Milky Way's huge black hole

SETH BORENSTEIN
WASHINGTON, MAY 12

THE WORLD'S first image of the chaotic supermassive black hole at the center of our own Milky Way galaxy doesn't portray a voracious cosmic destroyer but what astronomers Thursday called a "gentle giant" on a near-starvation diet.

Astronomers believe nearly all galaxies, including our own, have these giant black holes at their center, where light and matter cannot escape, making it extremely hard to get images of them. Light gets bent and twisted around by gravity as it gets sucked into the abyss along with superheated gas and dust.

The colorised image unveiled Thursday is from the international consortium behind the Event Horizon Telescope, a collection of eight synchronised radio telescopes around the world. Previous efforts to capture a good image of the black hole too jumpy.

"It burbled and gurgled as we looked at it," the University of Arizona's Feryal Ozel said.

She described it as a "gentle giant" while announcing the breakthrough along with other astronomers involved in the project. It also confirmed Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity by being precisely the size that Einstein's equations dictate. This one is about the size of the orbit of Mercury around our sun. Black holes gobble up galactic

material but Ozel said this one is "eating very little." It's the equivalent to a person eating a single grain of rice over millions of years, another astronomer said.

"It is the cowardly lion of black holes," said project scientist Geoffrey C. Bower of Taiwan's Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

The Milky Way black hole is called Sagittarius A (asterisk), near the border of Sagittarius and Scorpius constellations. It is 4 million times more massive than our sun. This is not the first black hole image. The same group released the first one in 2019 and it was from a galaxy 53 million light-years away that is 1,500 times bigger than the one in our galaxy. AP

Killing of journalist: Palestinians reject Israel offer for joint probe

THE NEW YORK TIMES
JERUSALEM, MAY 12

THE PALESTINIAN Authority said on Thursday that it had declined a request to give Israeli officials the bullet that killed Abu Akleh, a Palestinian American journalist for Al Jazeera who was killed in the occupied West Bank during an Israeli raid.

Hussein al-Sheikh, the Palestinian official who helps oversee the authority's relation-

ship with the Israeli government, said it would investigate Abu Akleh's death independently, rejecting Israeli calls for a joint inquiry and for the bullet to be assessed in an Israeli laboratory. Al-Sheikh also accused Israeli soldiers of killing Abu Akleh, dismissing Israeli claims that the journalist may have been hit by Palestinian fire.

Palestinian officials say that Israel cannot be trusted to investigate the killing, while Israeli officials say that the Palestinians

are refusing to provide the bullet in order to obscure its origin.

Al-Sheikh's comments came as Palestinians gathered in Ramallah, the authority's administrative hub in the West Bank, for Abu Akleh's funeral procession, which wound through the city toward the headquarters of the authority's president, Mahmud Abbas.

Palestinian officials have conducted an autopsy of Ms. Abu Akleh's body, but had not released its findings by Thursday morning.

KIM ORDERS LOCKDOWN

Amid first Covid outbreak, North Korea fires three ballistic missiles

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL, MAY 12

NORTH KOREA imposed a nationwide lockdown Thursday to control its first acknowledged Covid-19 outbreak after holding for more than two years to a widely doubted claim of a perfect record keeping out the virus that has spread to nearly every place in the world.

The outbreak forced leader Kim Jong Un to wear a mask in public, likely for the first time since the start of the pandemic, but the scale of transmissions inside North Korea wasn't immediately known. A failure to slow infections could have serious consequences because the country has a poor health care system and its 26 million people are believed to be mostly unvaccinated.



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attends a meeting of the Central Committee in Pyongyang on Thursday. AP

Some experts say North Korea, by its rare admission of an outbreak, may be seeking outside aid.

However, hours after North Korea confirmed the outbreak, South Korea's military said it detected the North had fired three suspected ballistic missiles toward the sea. It was its 16th

round of missile launches this year, in brinkmanship aimed at forcing the United States to accept North Korea as a nuclear power and negotiate sanctions relief and other concessions from a position of strength.

The official Korean Central News Agency said tests of virus samples collected Sunday from an unspecified number of people with fevers in the capital, Pyongyang, confirmed they were infected with the omicron variant.

In response, Kim called at a ruling party Politburo meeting for a thorough lockdown of cities and counties and said workplaces should be isolated by units to block the virus from spreading. He urged health workers to step up disinfection efforts at workplaces and homes and mobilise reserve medical supplies.

Nepal local bodies poll today, violation of code of conduct worries EC

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE
KATHMANDU, MAY 12

NEPAL WILL hold elections to the local bodies for the second time after a new constitution was promulgated in September 2015 on Friday.

A little less than 18 million voters will elect around 35,000 office bearers, including mayors and deputy mayors of six metropolitan, 16 sub-metropolitan and 753 'Gaupalikas' (village units) across the country.

The elections are being fought under two groups of political alliance, with Nepali Congress-led five party ruling

coalition, which also has Maoist Party as part of it on one side, and K P Oli's Communist Party of Nepal Unified Marxist Leninist on the other. The pro-monarchy Rashtriya Janata Party and prominent individuals are also in the fray at many places.

The Election Commission has so far asked for clarification from key political leaders and Maoist leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda and Nepali Congress leader and Prime Minister Deuba's wife Arzu Rana. The EC also stated worry over violation of code and conduct.

The outcome of the poll is expected within a week after the day-long voting ends on Friday.

NEPAL'S LHAKPA CLIMBED EVEREST, INDIAN CLIMBER SCALED 2 PEAKS
Two women Sherpas scale new heights

REUTERS & PTI
KATHMANDU, MAY 12

A 48-YEAR-OLD Nepali woman scaled Mount Everest for the 10th time on Thursday, breaking her own record for the most summits of the world's highest mountain by a female climber, her hiking company said.

Lhakpa Sherpa last climbed the 8,848.86-metre (29,031.69-foot) mountain in 2018. A fellow Nepali, Kami Rita Sherpa, holds the men's record of 26 climbs.

"Lhakpa has broken her own record and become the first woman to achieve 10 summits," her brother Mingma Gelu Sherpa, an official of her Seven Summit



Lhakpa Sherpa, 44, living in Connecticut scaled Mount Everest on Thursday. AP File

Club hiking agency, told Reuters.

A Nepali tourism official, Bhisma Kumar Bhattarai, confirmed that she had reached the summit. One of 11 children, Lhakpa was born in the eastern district of Sankhuwasabha, home to the world's fifth highest mountain, Makalu.

Also on Thursday, seven members of an "All Black Expedition" comprising climbers from the United States and Kenya climbed Mount Everest, said Jeevan Ghimire of the Shangri-la-Nepal Trek hiking company.

A 27-year-old Indian woman on Thursday set a record for conquering two mountain peaks in Nepal above 8,000 metres within two weeks. Baljeet Kaur from Himachal Pradesh conquered Mt.

Kanchenjunga (8,586m) on Thursday morning at 4.20 (local time), said Pasang Sherpa, director of Peak Promotion Pvt Ltd. "After successfully scaling the mountain peak she has arrived at Camp III and is now descending towards the base camp," said Sherpa. Earlier, she had climbed Mt. Annapurna I (8,091m) on April 28. This is her second 8,000m plus mountain this season, according to Sherpa.

"Now she is preparing to attempt the world's highest peak, Everest and Lhotse (8,516m) soon," he said. Last week, Priyanka Mohite from Maharashtra became the first Indian woman to have scaled five peaks, all above 8,000 metres.

Pak Parliament denounce J&K delimitation

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, MAY 12

PAKISTAN'S PARLIAMENT on Thursday unanimously passed a resolution denouncing the alleged Indian attempt of demographic changes in Kashmir through a delimitation commission.

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, who moved the resolution, said the alleged Indian move is aimed at artificially altering the electoral strength of the Muslim majority in J&K, state-owned Radio Pakistan reported. The delimitation panel last week notified its final report giving six additional assembly seats to the Jammu region and one to the Kashmir Valley. PTI



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CASE PRIMER



The Gyanvapi Mosque, with the Kashi-Vishwanath Temple in the foreground. Renuka Puri

Court order on Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque site in Varanasi: history and context

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

A VARANASI court on Thursday ordered that the video survey of the Gyanvapi Mosque located next to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple be resumed and a report submitted by May 17. The court had ordered the inspection last month on a petition by five Hindu women seeking round-the-year access to pray at "a shrine behind the western wall of the mosque complex", but the exercise had been halted after allegations of bias were made against the official in charge.

The site is currently opened for Hindu prayers once a year — on the fourth day of the chaitra navratri in April. The petitioners have also sought permission to pray to other "visible and invisible deities within the old temple complex".

The mosque

The Gyanvapi Mosque is believed to have been built in 1669 during the reign of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, who ordered the demolition of the existing Vishweshwar temple and its replacement by a mosque. This is also mentioned in the 1937 book *History of Benares: From the Earliest Times Down to 1937* by AS Altekar, who was head of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture at Banaras Hindu University.

The plinth of the temple was left untouched, and served as the courtyard of the mosque. One of the walls too was spared, and it became the qibla wall, the most ornate and important wall in a mosque that faces Mecca. Material from the destroyed temple was used to build the mosque.

The name of the mosque is said to have derived from an adjoining well, the Gyanvapi, or Well of Knowledge.

An old sculpture of the Nandi bull inside the compound of the present Kashi Vishwanath Temple faces the wall of the mosque instead of the sanctum sanctorum of the temple. It is believed that Nandi is in fact, facing the sanctum sanctorum of the original Vishweshwar temple.

The temple

For more than 100 years after the mosque was built, there was no temple at the site. The present Kashi Vishwanath Temple was built in the 18th century by Rani Ahilyabai Holkar of Indore, immediately to the south of the mosque. Over the decades it emerged as one of the most prominent and revered centres of the Hindu religion.

Many Hindus have long believed that the original lingam of the erstwhile Vishweshwar temple was hidden by the priests inside the Gyanvapi well during Aurangzeb's raid — which has fired the desire to conduct puja and rituals at the sacred place where the mosque now stands.

The claims

From time to time, petitioners have laid claim to the mosque, saying it remains the original sacred place of Hindu worship. The VHP's Ram Temple movement aimed to "liberate", apart from the Ramjanmabhoomi Temple-Babri Masjid site in Ayodhya, the Kashi-Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi mosque site and the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi in Mathura as well.

The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 — which mandates that the nature of all places of worship, except the one in Ayodhya that was then under litigation, shall be maintained as it was on August 15, 1947, and that no encroachment of any such place prior to the date can be challenged in courts — applies to the disputed complex in Varanasi.

In April 2021, Fast Track Court Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ashutosh Tiwari ordered the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India to "get a comprehensive archaeological physical survey" done of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex to "find out as to whether the religious structure standing at present at the disputed site is a superimposition, alteration or addition or there is a structural overlapping of any kind, with or over, any religious structure".

The mosque is not an ASI-protected site, and the ASI has no role in its maintenance or upkeep.

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Rising inflation: cause, effect

Inflation in April is at its highest in the last 8 years, and almost twice the RBI's target. A look at the factors that have kept inflation high since October 2019, and how it impacts consumers and the economy.

UDIT MISRA
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

ON THURSDAY, official data revealed that retail inflation had grown by 7.8% in April. In other words, the general price level Indian consumers faced was almost 8% higher than it was in April last year.

This is not only the highest rate in the last eight years but also almost twice the inflation rate targeted by the Reserve Bank of India. According to law, since October 2016, the RBI is required to maintain retail inflation at a level of 4%; it is, however, given a leeway of two percentage points on either side — that is, in a particular month, inflation can either fall as low as 2% or rise as much as 6%.

Is the April spike because of Ukraine?

While the war in Ukraine and the associated inflation via higher prices of crude oil are a significant contributor, April's high inflation data is neither unexpected nor a one-off spike.

Retail inflation has been high since October 2019 and has, in fact, touched the 4% mark just once since then. In all other months, it has been not only been higher than 4% but regularly breached the 6% mark.

April's inflation is the seventh straight month when inflation rate has gone up. Further, inflation in India has been above 6% since the start of 2022 (before Russia's invasion of Ukraine happened in February) and the eventual pass-through of the higher crude oil prices to domestic consumers (which started happening in late March after elections to five Assemblies were completed).

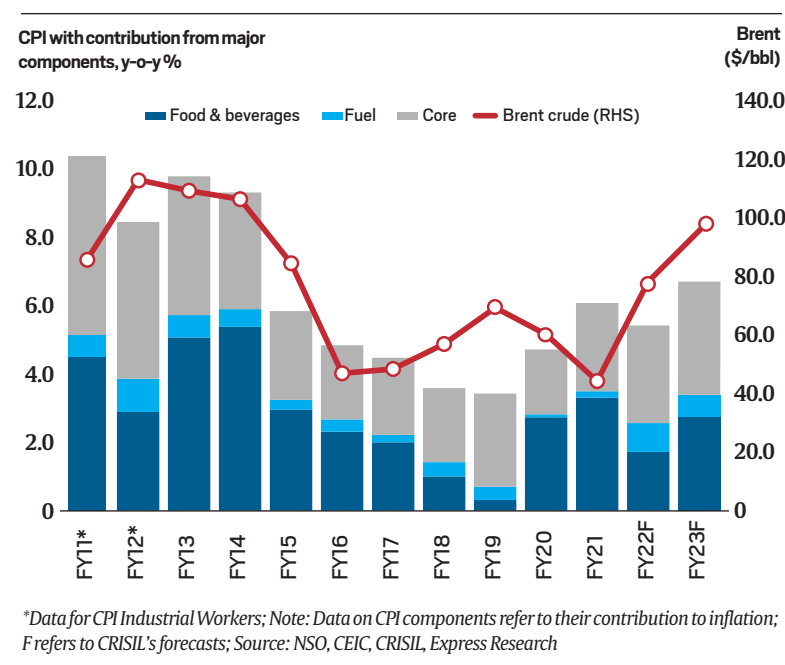
What is worse is that most analysts expect retail inflation to remain outside that comfort zone (6%) for the rest of the year as well.

So, what is driving inflation?

Headline inflation has been above the 4% mark since 2019-20 — the year when the current Narendra Modi government won its second term. Headline inflation is calculated using the Consumer Price Index. This index had different categories with varying weights. There are three main categories:

FOOD ITEMS, which account for 46% of the index;

CRUDE OIL PRICES AND CPI INFLATION



FUEL & LIGHT, with a weight of 7%; **CORE**, all other items, which make up the remaining 47%.

Given the different weights, it is important to understand that a 10% increase in food items will obviously raise the overall inflation far more than a 10% increase in fuel prices.

As the years have rolled by, overall inflation has been driven by more and more factors. In 2019-20, when overall inflation was 4.8%, the main reason was a 6% spike in food prices.

And in 2020-21, when the pandemic hit the economy, food prices rose by an even larger factor (7.3%) and even core inflation rose by 5.5%.

But until then, fuel price inflation was still low — 1.3% in 2019-20 and 2.7% in 2020-21. In 2021-22, the year when the global economy started recovering sharply, even though food price inflation moderated to 4%, fuel prices rose by 11.3% and core inflation went up to 6%.

In the current financial year, it is estimated that all three components will experience an

inflation rate of 6% or more.

What are the effects of high inflation?
In the short term, inflation creates winners and losers, but in the eventual analysis, everyone suffers if it stays persistently high. Some of the likely impacts of inflation:

- It reduces people's purchasing power. Given the actual observed inflation as well as the expected inflation in the current year, the general price level at the end of 2022 would be around 25% higher than it was at the start of 2019. Even in normal times, this would have restricted people's ability to purchase things, but coupled with reduced incomes and job losses, households would struggle even more. The poor are the worst affected because they have little buffer to sustain through long periods of high inflation.
- It reduces overall demand. The eventual fallout of reduced purchasing power is that consumers demand fewer goods and services. Typically, non-essential demands such

- as a vacation get curtailed while households focus on the essentials.
- It harms savers and helps borrowers. High inflation eats away the real interest earned from keeping one's money in the bank or similar savings instruments. Earning a 6% nominal interest from a savings deposit effectively means earning no interest if inflation is at 6%. By the reverse logic, borrowers are better off when inflation rises because they end up paying a lower "real" interest rate.
- It helps the government meet debt obligations. In the short term, the government, which is the single largest borrower in the economy, benefits from high inflation. Inflation also allows the government to meet its fiscal deficit targets. Fiscal deficit limits are expressed as a percentage of the nominal GDP. As the nominal GDP rises because of inflation (without necessarily implying an increase in overall production), the same amount of fiscal deficit (borrowing) become a smaller percentage of the GDP.
- Mixed results for corporate profitability. In the short term, corporates, especially the large and dominant ones, could enjoy higher profitability because they might be in a position to pass on the prices to consumers. But for many companies, especially smaller ones, persistently higher inflation will reduce sales and profitability because of lower demand.
- It worsens the exchange rate. High inflation means the rupee is losing its power and, if the RBI doesn't raise interest rates fast enough, investors will increasingly stay away because of reduced returns. For instance, as of Thursday, the return on a 10-year Government of India bond, which is essentially a risk-free investment, was 7.2%. But with inflation at 7.8%, this implies a negative rate of return.
- It leads to expectations of higher inflation. Persistently high inflation changes the psychology of people. People expect future prices to be higher and demand higher wages. But this, in turn, creates its own spiral of inflation as companies try to price goods and services even higher.
- The way out is for the RBI to raise interest rates in a credible fashion. The difficulty is that raising interest rates at the current juncture, when growth is iffy, could lead to concerns of stagflation.

EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

Inflation, rate cuts, falling markets: what now



SANDEEP SINGH

THE SHARP outflow of foreign portfolio investor (FPI) money from Indian markets amid concerns over global growth, rising inflation and monetary tightening by central banks has accelerated the fall in equity markets.

Anticipating a spike in inflation in April, which came at 7.8%, the Sensex at the Bombay Stock Exchange fell by 1,158 points or 2.1% on Thursday to close at 52,930 — its lowest level since March 7 when it had closed at 52,842. The Sensex has lost 4,045 points, or 7%, over the last seven trading sessions as FPIs withdrew a net of Rs 23,670 crore since the

Reserve Bank of India announced a surprise hike of 40 basis points in repo rates on May 4. Since October, FPIs have pulled out a net of Rs 1,86,089 crore.

In the same period that the Sensex has shed 7%, the Dow Jones Industrial in the United States too has lost 7% since the Federal Reserve hiked interest rates by 50 basis points on May 4. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong has lost 8.2%, the Nikkei in Japan 4%, and Dax in Germany 3.4%.

The concerns

Market sentiments have been negative for now amid apprehensions that the RBI could go for a series of rate hikes to keep inflation under check. The Fed has already hiked rates twice in the last two months, by 25 basis points in March and by 50 basis points last week.

A spike in interest rates will hurt not only consumption in the economy but also the margins of listed entities. If higher costs of raw materials will impact margins, higher

interest rates will raise the cost of funds for companies, hurting their profitability in coming quarters.

As the April CPI inflation hit an eight-year high of 7.8%, the credit ratings agency CRISIL said in its report, "We expect the RBI to raise repo rates by another 75-100 bps in the rest of this fiscal. This move cannot bring down food or fuel inflation, but can help check its generalisation by curbing the second-round effects."

A report by Kotak Institutional equities said that in 2022, from hereon, RBI could raise repo rate by 90-110 basis points. So, growth expectations are likely to moderate in line with the rate hikes, which will closely follow the inflation trajectory.

Where markets are headed

With central banks expecting inflation to remain elevated for some time, they are likely to continue with measures to keep it under check. With no end in sight yet to Russia's war against Ukraine, the geopolitical situation will

continue to hurt global economies and equity markets. Further rate hikes will push FPIs to move out of emerging economies, which will have a bearing on these markets and their currencies. So, with the markets likely to remain under pressure, investors will have to wait and see how the inflation situation pans out over the next few months.

However, even as the markets fall, investors should take the cue from what domestic institutional investors (DIIs) have been doing. In May, while FPIs have pulled out a net of around Rs 25,000 crore from Indian equities, DIIs have invested a net of Rs 23,565 crore. And since October 2021, against a net FPI outflow of Rs 1.86 lakh crore, DIIs have invested 2.24 lakh crore.

So, retail investors can go for long-term value investing as net asset values have fallen and several blue-chip stocks are trading at a significant discount. Investors need to be cautious and go for high-quality companies, and should put in their money only if they can remain invested for 3-5 years.

For 5th-time Lanka PM, political and economic challenge like no other

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

AMONTH ago, in an interview to *The Indian Express*, Ranil Wickremesinghe said he would "stay out" if asked to become Prime Minister of Sri Lanka again, as he did not have the numbers to form a government. Wickremesinghe is the sole member of his United National Party (UNP) in parliament. "I have not been asked (to become Prime Minister) and even if I were, I would stay out. Because what can I do? I'm a party of one, how can you run an administration with one? Parliament means you must have support. And numbers. Only the party with the largest numbers forms [the government]. I haven't got that," he said.

On Thursday, Wickremesinghe was sworn in as Prime Minister, proving that if a week is a long time in politics, a month is an era.

Soon afterward, responding to a question from a British journalist on how he could claim a mandate to run the country with his single parliamentary seat, he shot back: "In 1939, (Winston) Churchill had only four members backing him. How did he become the Prime Minister then? I have

done the same. Know your history."

This is Wickremesinghe's fifth time in the office. Each of his earlier terms was truncated, and on two of those occasions he was dismissed by the President — by Chandrika Kumaratunga in 2004, and by Maithripala Sirisena in 2018. As Prime Minister of an interim government, his fifth term is also likely to be short.

In 2002, Wickremesinghe negotiated a ceasefire agreement with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The war was the biggest challenge to Sri Lanka's existence as a nation then. He did not survive in office long enough to see the ceasefire collapse. But the present economic-political crisis may prove to be his biggest challenge yet.

His appointment has been greeted with relief by those who see him as a safe pair of hands to provide political stability, paving the way for a resolution to the economic crisis. As PM from 2015 to 2018, he negotiated a \$1.5 bn bailout from the IMF to avert a balance of payments crisis. Wickremesinghe, a nephew of the late President J R Jayewardene, who turned Sri Lanka into a free market economy, shares his uncle's

economic views, inspiring confidence among international partners and the old business and political elites of Colombo.

Among the first to congratulate him was the US Ambassador to Sri Lanka Julie Chang. "Looking forward to working with Ranil Wickremesinghe. His appointment as Prime Minister, and the quick formation of an inclusive government, are first steps to addressing the crisis and promoting stability. We encourage meaningful progress at the IMF and long-term solutions that meet the needs of all Sri Lankans," she tweeted.

But even as he gets down to work on the economy, Wickremesinghe will be expected to address the political crisis centred on the popular anger against the Rajapaksa family and the demand that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa must step down — or he risks being seen as a collaborator with a regime that has run out of political capital. "GoGotaGo" could easily become "GoRanilGo".

There was disbelief among the GoGotaGo protesters on Thursday that a leader whose party had failed to win a single seat in the 2020 elections, and who had



Ranil Wickremesinghe at a Buddhist temple in Colombo after he was sworn in as PM on Thursday. Reuters

made it to parliament as a nominated member (every party gets to nominate members on the basis of its vote share — the UNP got to nominate one member with its 2.15%), had been made Prime Minister.

The UNP was wiped out because of the collapse of Wickremesinghe's 2015-18 term in office along with President Sirisena, the deadlock between them contributing to the failure to prevent the Easter terrorist bombings of 2019. Wickremesinghe is also blamed for failing to punish a key member of his government

in a case of financial fraud known as the Central Bank bonds scam.

The fact is Wickremesinghe's support in parliament will come from the discredited Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, the Rajapaksa political vehicle. SLPP members who owe allegiance to Mahinda Rajapaksa, form his cabinet. As if to underline this, within minutes of Wickremesinghe's appointment, Rajapaksa, who resigned as Prime Minister on Monday — and is hiding from angry protesters at the Trincomalee naval base, and has been barred by a court from leaving the country — sent his felicitations. "Congratulations to the newly appointed Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. I wish you all the best as you navigate these troubled times."

As he left the Gangaramaya Temple in Colombo where he had gone to offer prayers soon after being sworn in, Wickremesinghe was swarmed with questions about why he was supporting President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

"You all voted for him, and now you want him to go home. I also don't mind if he goes home, but my work is to see that everyone in the country has enough to eat, that there is no shortage of fuel or power in the country. What do you want?"

Wickremesinghe bounced the question back to the media scrum.

But the question will return on Tuesday, when an opposition no-confidence motion against the President is to be taken up in Parliament. Though there is no provision in the Constitution for such a motion — the President can be removed only by impeachment — the Speaker allowed it to be submitted as a "motion of displeasure".

The Samagi Jana Balawegaya, a party made up mainly of former UNP members who rebelled against Wickremesinghe under the leadership of Sajith Premadasa, is spearheading the no-confidence motion. With 52 members, Premadasa is the leader of the opposition in the House.

Premadasa had refused to take up the Prime Ministership of an interim government until President Rajapaksa committed to stepping down. Premadasa wants the presidency abolished. The Rajapaksa deal with Wickremesinghe may have scuttled his plans.

President Rajapaksa has hinted in an address to the nation that he is ready to roll back some of his presidential powers to give the interim administration a free hand. However, demands for his resignation continue unabated on the streets of Colombo.

PERSONAL

I Pinki Kumari alias Pinki Tiwari D/o Sh. Jitendra Dutt Pandey W/o Sh. Sant Kumar Tiwari R/o Flat No. 339, Kautilya Apartment, Pocket-B, Sector-14, Dwarka, N.S.I.T. Dwarka, South West Delhi, Delhi-110078 have changed my name to Pinki Tiwari for all purposes. 0040613419-7

I Tarun Walia S/o Madan Mohan Alnuhalla R/o-KP-143, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my minor son name Taransh Walia to Taransh Walia. 0040613498-3

I Kartik Aggarwal S/O Bajrang Lal Aggarwal R/O,69, Inder-Enclave Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087, have changed my name to Kartik Aggarwal. 0040613425-5

I ADITI RANADE, daughter of, MAKARAND RANADE, resident of, C-11/76, Moti Bagh-1, South Moti-Bagh, South West-Delhi, Delhi-110021, have changed my name, from ADITI RANADE to ADITI MAKARAND RANADE, vide affidavit, DL3097923265887U, dated.11.May.22. 0040613425-10

I Yogita Shukla, W/o Piyush Daiya, R/o GF-1, Plot No 324, Sector-4, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, UP-201010, have changed my minor Son's name from AGEYVA TO AGEYVA SHUKLA for all future purposes. 0007785043-1

I Meesam Raza S/o Hashmat Ali, R/O D11 First-floor Gali, no.9 wazirabad-Village Delhi-110084, have changed my Name to Misam Raza 0040613423-1

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person Name: Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: about 45 years Height: 5'2", Complexion : Fair, Face : Oval, Built : Thin, Wearing : Sky blue colour T-shirt and Light blue colour trouser has been found dead at Lal Piau Park, Shastrri Nagar, Delhi on 03.05.2022. In this regard a case vide DD No. 75A dated 03.05.2022 has been lodged at Police Station Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this dead found person may kindly inform to the following:- SHO : P.S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi North Distt., Delhi DP/2289/N/2022 Tel. No. 011-23962210, 875057133

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION General public is hereby informed that one male was found dead in the area of P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 102-A, Dated 05.01.2022 has been lodged at P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under: Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown R/o: Unknown, Age: 47 years, Height: 5'7" Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Wearing: Blue Colour Shirt and Lower Brown Colour Fozi Type. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead male please inform the undersigned. S.H.O P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi Ph.: 9873322997, 7065036031

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION General public is hereby informed that this Person Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 30-35 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Normal, Face: Round, ID Mark: Scorpion, Snake Tattoo Mark on His Right Hand, Wearing: Blue Jeans and Dark Green Colour lining T-Shirt, was found Dead at E. Pole KM No. 21/37-39, Upline Near Bijwasan Railway Station due to Train Accident on 10.05.2022 at about 08:51 am. In this regard a DD No. 7-A, U/s 174 Cr.PC dated 10.05.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Delhi Cantt Railway Station, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. The Dead Body has been preserved in DDU Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for 72 hours for identification. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform the following. SHO P.S. Delhi Cantt Railway Station New Delhi Ph. 011-25688505, 8750871309 DP/138/RLY/2022 (UIDB)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. Pc. Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Nagesh Shukla Proprietor/Partner/Authorised Signatory, M/s Akshat Nagesh Industries R/o P-33, Mawai Extn. Industrial Area, Faridabad-121003, Haryana Also at H-233, Sector-12, Pratap Nagar, Siddharth Vihar, Opp. Santosh Medical College, Ghaziabad, U.P. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 515207/16 U/s 138 Nl Act., P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Nagesh Shukla cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Nagesh Shukla has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Nagesh Shukla of case FIR No. 515207/16 U/s 138 Nl Act., P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 14.07.2022. By Order Ms. Kratika Chaturvedi Metropolitan Magistrate Central Room No. 01 Tis Hazari Court, Delhi DP/2278/N/2022-(Court Matter).

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General public is hereby informed that one lady namely Minaxi with her child Bhumi aged 02 years, W/o Prem Singh, R/o H.No. C-3/11, Sultan Puri, Delhi. Age: 30 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, wearing printed Red colour Suit and Shoes in feet have been missing/ kidnapped from the area of P.S. Sultan Puri since 06.02.2022. In this regard a DD No. 63-A dated 07.03.2022 has been registered at P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the lady and her child but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about them please inform to the undersigned. Website: http://cbi.gov.in E-mail: c/cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi, DP/1677/O/2022 Ph.: 011-25472410, 25472166

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General public is hereby informed that one lady namely Reena W/o Sh. Mahavir R/o H.No. 430 near Sardar Farm, Jaunpur Village, New Delhi, has been missing/ kidnapped from the area of P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi since 27.04.2022. In this regard, a case DD.No. 77-A dt. 28.04.2022 has been registered at P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped lady areas under: Age: 23 Years, Height: 4' 10" Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour Suit & black colour sandal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the kidnapped/missing lady then please inform P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi at following Tel No./e-mail: c/cbi.gov.in and Website: http://cbi.nic.in, providing clue about the person. Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- S.H.O. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi Tel No. 011-26659611 DP/179/SD/2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my clients Lal Karon son of Sh. Suresh Chand of Sh. Suresh Chand and Smt. Anita W/o Sh. Lalit Kumar R/o H.No. B-205, Gali No. 3, Sadat Pur Extn, Delhi-110084, has obtained their son Vinay Ahir and his wife Smt. Shalini for their indebted, misbehaviour and quarrelsome nature forever from their all movable and immovable properties. Any one dealing with them in any manner shall not be responsible for any suits, deeds and things done by them. Please note. My clients and their family members are not responsible for the acts, work and deed of the above said Vinay Ahir, his wife Smt. Shalini. NAND KISHOR Ch. No. 487 & 504, C-Block, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

My clients DHARM VIR and his wife KIRISH both R/O HOUSE NO-38 STREET NCI-1 VILLAGE SHERA, Delhi-110094, has severed all relations with their son namely JENDER and his wife BEEN), due to their misbehaviour and obtained & disowned them from all of their properties (movable and immovable) and relations with immediate effect. Anybody dealing with them in any manner will be doing so at his/her their own risk and responsibility. My clients shall not be held responsible for any suits, deeds and things done by them. Please note. Sd/- SUMIT KUMAR RAMA (ADVOCATE) B-52, B.G.S. BLOCK, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054.

My clients DHARM VIR and his wife KIRISH both R/O HOUSE NO-38 STREET NCI-1 VILLAGE SHERA, Delhi-110094, has severed all relations with their son namely JENDER and his wife BEEN), due to their misbehaviour and obtained & disowned them from all of their properties (movable and immovable) and relations with immediate effect. Anybody dealing with them in any manner will be doing so at his/her their own risk and responsibility. My clients shall not be held responsible for any suits, deeds and things done by them. Please note. Sd/- SUMIT KUMAR RAMA (ADVOCATE) B-52, B.G.S. BLOCK, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that my client Shri Anur Kumar Gupta (UID No. 22319198497) S/o Late Sh. Dwajia Nath and his wife Smt. Charita Devi (UID No. 70651362714) R/o Madhupur Basecourt, Banapur, Mangur, Bihar-813002, have severed all of their relations with their son Amit Kumar (UID No. 463589912072) and his wife Smt. Anjali Kumari both presently residing at gali no. 36, Bipin Garden extension, New Delhi due to their bad and uncivilized behaviours. My above said clients have also absconded and disowned his said son and daughter from their moveable and immovable properties. Any person dealing with the said Sh. Anur Kumar will do so on their own risk and responsibility. C.B.SINGH (ADVOCATE) CHAMBER NO.383, SAKETCOURT, NEW DELHI.

Be it known to all that my clients Sh. Ram Phal S/o Sh. Pat Ram and Smt. Kaushalya W/o Ram Phal R/o RZ 587A, Gali No. 17, Gopal Nagar, M.D. Marg, Najafgarh, South West Delhi-110043, have severed all relations with their son barred/d/ disowned their son Mohit Gulia and his wife Aarzo from their all moveable and immovable property(s) due to their misconduct. My clients will not be responsible for their any acts in the future i.e. from the date of publication. PRAVEEN RASTOGI (Advocate)

It is to inform the general public that M/S S. Kumar & Company (Private) Limited having its office at Anand House, Civil Lines-Dwara-455001 Mathura Pradesh has booked goods valued at Rs. 1,00,000/- worth of various items from its client Shri. S. K. Singh (Trade). Price of the goods has been Rs. 1,00,000/- for the destination i.e. Mahasam Trading Company S.I. Road, Pall Mall Road, South Delhi-110026. On 11/05/2022 various dates bill dated no payment has been made to my client against bill of goods and the goods are still lying in warehouse

15 ECONOMY

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹50,797	₹77.50/USD	\$104.05	₹60,158

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

SENSEX: 52,930.31 ▼ 1,158.08 (2.14%) NIFTY: 15,808.00 ▼ 359.10 (2.22%) NIKKEI: 25,748.72 ▲ 464.92 HANG SENG: 19,380.34 ▼ 444.23 FTSE: 7,185.81 ▼ 161.85 DAX: 13,513.31 ▼ 315.33

International market data till 1900 IST

POLICY WATCH FINMIN REPORT

'Low-income strata less impacted by inflation, show consumption trends'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

INCOME RISE

The Finance Ministry said rural income and demand in the current year are set to rise

INFLATION IS expected to be elevated in 2022-23 and mitigating action taken by the government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may reduce its duration, the Finance Ministry said in its monthly economic review for April.

The ministry further said evidence on consumption patterns suggests that "inflation in India has a lesser impact on low-income strata than on high-income groups".

"Evidence on consumption patterns further suggests that inflation in India has a lesser impact on low-income strata than on high-income groups. Further, since aggregate demand is recovering only gradually, the risk of sustained high inflation is low," the report said.

Data released on Thursday showed that retail inflation surged to a 95-month high of 7.97 per cent in April on the back of high fuel, food prices and services. Rural inflation surged to an 8-year high in April, while urban inflation rose to 18-month high.

The Finance Ministry further said that rural income and demand in the current year are set to increase with the rabi marketing season so far seeing wheat procurement benefitting 9.5 lakh farmers in 2022-23. "Rural incomes will be further boosted by agricultural exports as it registers an impressive YoY growth of 19.9 per cent in April, despite facing logistic challenges in the form of high freight rates and container shortages," it said.

Seen over a longer time horizon, inflation in India's economy has not been as much a challenge as is sensed from month-to-month changes, it said, adding that since aggregate demand is recovering only gradually, the risk of sustained high inflation is low.

CPI (Consumer Price Index)-based inflation during FY22 averaged 5.5 per cent, 50 basis points below the upper limit of the RBI Monetary Policy Committee's inflation band, and lower than 6.2 per

cent for FY21, the report said. The central bank had sharply raised its inflation projection for the current fiscal year to 5.7 per cent from the earlier forecast of 4.5 per cent due to geopolitical tensions.

Beginning May, most of the major central banks, including US Federal Reserve and Bank of England, also increased their benchmark rate to rein in soaring inflation.

The cost of restraining inflation—the slowing down of global growth—is manifested in the April update of the World Economic Outlook (WEO) of the International Monetary Fund that projects growth of global output to decline from 6.1 per cent in 2021 to 3.6 per cent in 2022 as well as 2023.

"Among major countries, the WEO projects India to be the fastest growing economy at 8.2 per cent in 2022-23. Lending credence to this projection, ... 2022-23 has begun with a strong growth in economic activity in April as seen in the robust performance of e-way bill generation, ETC toll collection, electricity consumption, PMI manufacturing and PMI services," it said.

"Notwithstanding the presence of inflationary headwinds, the capex driven fiscal path of the Government, as laid down in budget 2022-23, will help the economy post a near 8 per cent growth in real GDP for the current year," the ministry report added.

For forex reserves, it said they were at a comfortable level of \$597.7 billion, providing an import cover of about 11 months for financing investment and consumption in the country. The reserves have been steadily declining under pressure from outflow of foreign portfolio investments responding to monetary tightening by central banks in advanced economies, it said.

HOLDINGS AT 760.42 TONNES; ADDS 16.58 TONNES IN OCT-MAR

As FPI exits hit forex reserves, RBI stepped up gold purchases

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, MAY 12

OVERSEAS HOLDINGS

■ 453.52 metric tonnes of gold are held with Bank of England and Bank of International Settlements

INDIA'S GOLD holdings have gone up to 760.42 tonnes, with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) adding another 16.58 tonnes of the yellow metal to the country's foreign exchange kitty during the six months ended March 2022.

RBI's gold acquisition happened at a time when foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) were exiting India and forex reserves declined by \$44.73 billion from \$642.45 billion in September 2021 to \$597.72 billion on April 29, 2022, as per Reserve Bank data.

While 453.52 metric tonnes of gold are held overseas in safe custody with the Bank of England and the Bank of International Settlements, 295.82 metric tonnes of gold are held domestically. In value terms (USD), the share of gold in the total foreign exchange — or forex — reserves increased from

about 5.88 per cent as at end-September 2021 to about 7.01 per cent as at end-March 2022, says the RBI's Report on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves.

The value of the RBI's holdings has gone up by \$5.162 billion in six months to \$42.55 billion as of March 2022. India's gold holdings have now gone up by 65.11 tonnes from 695.31 tonnes in March 2021 and by 142.18 tonnes in the last two years, making India the ninth-largest holder of gold reserves. While gold no longer plays a direct role in the international monetary system, central banks and governments still hold exten-

sive gold reserves to preserve national wealth and protect against economic instability. Central banks are buying gold at an ever-increasing pace.

Gold is the third largest reserve asset globally, following US dollar and euro-denominated assets. It is also increasingly used as collateral in financial transactions, much like other high-quality, liquid assets like government debt, as per World Gold Council (WGC).

However, a sizeable gold holding is expected to add stability to the forex reserves at a time when capital outflows are putting pressure on India's reserves. Bank of England continues to be the most popular storage location, with 63 per cent of respondents vaulting there, says a WGC survey. This marks a significant increase from last year and may indicate growing importance attached to keeping gold in liquid trading centres.

Domestic storage has also grown to 39 per cent of respondents,

also higher than previous years.

According to the 2021 Central Bank Gold Reserves (CBGR) survey, 21 per cent of central banks intend to increase their gold reserves over the next 12 months. Central banks are also increasingly valuing gold's performance during periods of crisis as this attribute now tops their rationale for holding gold. Gold has long formed an important part of India's currency reserves. Even with a substantial stock of gold reserves, gold's share in total reserves had declined over the past decade due to the vast growth in dollar-denominated assets.

This led the RBI to rebalance its reserves through the purchase of 200 tonnes of gold in late November 2009, taking its stock of gold to 558 tonnes, or 8.5 per cent of total reserves, and making it the eleventh largest official sector holder of gold in the world, WGC said. RBI's gold reserves have gone up further since then.

Tata Group picks Scoot's Wilson as Air India CEO-MD

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, MAY 12



Campbell Wilson via Tata Group

THE TATA Group has appointed Campbell Wilson, the CEO of Singapore Airlines' wholly-owned low-cost subsidiary Scoot, as Air India's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD). The Mumbai-based conglomerate completed its acquisition of the state-owned national carrier in January, and has been searching for a person to lead the airline's turnaround plan.

Wilson is the Tata Group's second attempt at hiring a CEO-MD for Air India, as the previous CEO-designate, former Turkish Airlines chairman Ilker Ayci, declined to take up the position citing "attempts" to paint his appointment "with undesirable colours".

The Air India board approved Wilson's appointment, subject to requisite regulatory approvals, the company said in a statement, adding that the 50-year-old has 26 years of aviation industry experience across both full-service and low-cost airlines. Singapore Airlines said Campbell's last day at Scoot will be June 15, "and he will subsequently join Air India as its new CEO". However, the Tata Group did not disclose the effective date of his appointment.

Earlier, while announcing that it had selected Ayci as Air India's CEO-MD in February, the group had said that the appointment was effective from April 1 this year.

Former Vistara CEO Leslie Thng will replace Wilson at Scoot. Singapore Airlines is Tata Sons' joint venture partner in Vistara, but did not join its Air India bid.

Wilson will join Air India's board of directors, currently comprising Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrababhan, alongside Hindustan Unilever CEO & MD Sanjiv Mehta and former General Insurance Corporation chairperson Alice Vaidyan, who are both independent directors.

Chandrababhan, in a statement, said, "I am delighted to welcome Campbell to Air India. He is an industry veteran having worked in key global markets cutting across multiple functions. Further, Air India would benefit from his added experience of having built an airline brand in Asia. I look forward to working with him

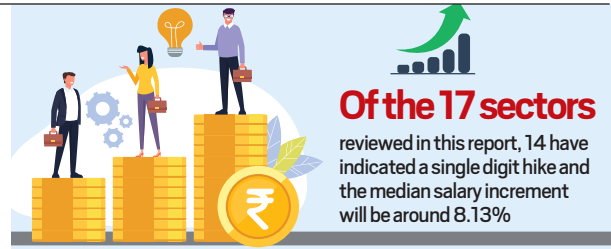
Singapore Airlines CEO Goh Choong Phong said in a statement: "Campbell is one of our most experienced senior executives, who has made many important contributions in key management roles within the SIA Group. While we are sad to lose him, he goes to Air India with our full blessings. We wish Campbell every success in his new and exciting role."

'Median salary hike in 2022 to be around 8.13%

The median salary increment in 2022 may be around 8.13% as India recovered from the after effects of Covid-related disruptions, a TeamLease report said

SURVEY DETAILS: 'The Jobs and Salaries Primer' is an annual report from TeamLease Services that has taken into consideration the salary payouts of more than 2,63,000 candidates across 17 sectors and nine cities

UNLIKE LAST TWO YEARS, most job roles this year across sectors have been considered for a salary hike; however, increments will be moderate, according to the 'Jobs and Salary Primer Report for FY2022 by TeamLease'



FROM A GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE, amongst the cities the top paying (increments of 12% and above) are Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Pune

GROWING INTEREST FROM INDIA INC has been seen towards Hot and Upcoming jobs — cutting-edge, new-age roles that keep businesses ahead of the curve

Source: TeamLease/PTI

Sanjiv Bajaj takes over as CII president

New Delhi: Sanjiv Bajaj, chairman and MD of Bajaj Finserv Limited, has assumed office as the president of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2022-23, the industry body said on Thursday. He takes over from TV Narendran, CEO and MD of Tata Steel Limited.

Hero MotoCorp Ltd Chairman and CEO Pawan Munjal is the CII President-Designate for 2022-23 while TVS supply chain solutions executive vice chairman R Dinesh takes over as vice president. "Sanjiv has been engaged with CII for many years at the State, Regional and National level..." it stated. PTI

Sensex falls 2%, Re at record low

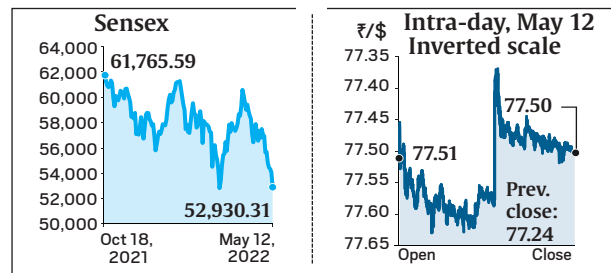
ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MAY 12

DOMESTIC STOCK markets on Thursday plummeted 2.2 per cent as fears over high inflation and the possibility of further hikes in interest rates made investors nervous, leading to selling pressure.

The benchmark Sensex dove 1,158 points to 52,930.31 and the NSE Nifty by 359 points at 15,808.00 as the broad sell-off, led by foreign investors, hit sentiment.

The rupee, meanwhile, fell to a record low for a second time this week, hitting 77.63 against the dollar in intra-day trade. The currency, however, made a partial recovery to settle at 77.50.

With Thursday's fall, the



Sensex has fallen 2,772 points in the last six sessions as global markets were worried about rising inflation numbers and interest rates. Banking, financial, power, utilities and metal stocks led the sell-off.

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) pulled out Rs 5,255 crore on Thursday, taking the total FPI outflows in May to Rs 28,921 crore.

However, domestic institutional investors pumped Rs 4,815 crore into stocks, with net investments in May so far at Rs 23,565 crore.

Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation in April was at 7.79 per cent against 6.95 per cent in March and 4.21 per cent in the year-ago month, official data showed Thursday.

BRIEFLY

Tata Motors Q4

Mumbai: Tata Motors posted a lower consolidated net loss (attributable to shareholders of the company) at ₹1,033 crore for the March quarter against net loss of ₹7,605 crore a year ago and ₹1,516 crore a quarter ago. Meanwhile, as per PTI, Larsen & Toubro saw 10% rise in Q4 consolidated net profit at ₹3,620.6 crore.

IGX gas trading

New Delhi: The India Gas Exchange (IGX) is set to start trading domestic gas on its platform on May 16 after receiving approval from the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board. IGX will enable the trading of gas from blocks with marketing freedom including gas from Reliance's KG D6 block. ENS

PFRDA scheme

New Delhi: The number of subscribers under the two flagship pension schemes of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) increased nearly 23 per cent to over 5.23 crore by April-end 2022.

Navi-Meesho

New Delhi: Sachin Bansal-led Navi Technologies has appointed Vinit Aatrey, founder of Meesho, as independent director on its board. PTI

Post PLI nod: Ford drops plan to make EVs in India

Ford India plant in Sanand, Gujarat. File



Ford India plant in Sanand, Gujarat. File

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, MAY 12

FORD HAS abandoned its plans to manufacture electric vehicles (EVs) from domestic plants in Maraimalai Nagar near Chennai and Sanand in Gujarat. A statement revealing the change in earlier plans in India said the decision was taken after a "careful review".

The US automaker said it had decided to no longer pursue EV manufacturing for exports from any of the Indian plants. "We remain grateful to the Government for approving our proposal under the Production-Linked Incentives and for being supportive while we continued our exploration."

The automobile manufacturer had, in September 2021, announced its decision to stop operations in India.

PAN-Aadhaar for transactions over ₹20 lakh: How will it help I-T dept?

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

THE GOVERNMENT has made quoting of either PAN or Aadhaar mandatory for depositing or withdrawing over Rs 20 lakh or more in a financial year or for opening of a current account.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes said furnishing PAN or biometric Aadhaar will be mandatory for such high-value cash deposit or withdrawal from banks in a financial year or opening of a current account or cash credit account with a bank or post-office.

EXPLAINED
E Tracing cash movement
The mandatory condition of obtaining PAN for deposit and even for withdrawals would help the government in tracing the movement of cash in the financial system.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Xiaomi gets HC nod to access overdraft facilities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, MAY 12

THE KARNATAKA High Court on Thursday allowed Chinese mobile phone manufacturer Xiaomi Technology India Pvt Ltd to seek bank overdrafts to make payments for its operations — excluding a royalty of Rs 5,500 crore to foreign technology suppliers that was frozen by the directorate of enforcement (ED) through an order issued on April 29, 2022.

A single judge bench of the HC issued the order after Xiaomi approached the court Thursday for a clarification of a May 5 order of the court.

Xiaomi argued that a high court order of May 5 had resulted in banks blocking all payments by the company including daily payments for the purchase of ancillary items for manufacturing and other purposes. Advocates for Xiaomi argued that the company should be allowed to access Rs 1,000 crore of funds in its frozen bank accounts for expenditures. The counsel for the ED opposed the move and argued that the company had already moved out Rs 2,500 crore of funds from India as royalty for foreign technology suppliers prior to the April 29 order for a freeze of company accounts. Full report on www.indianexpress.com

No reassessment notices for three years till FY15

New Delhi: The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has asked field offices to not issue reassessment notices for financial years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 to small taxpayers wherein the income escaping from tax is less than Rs 50 lakh. PTI

'Twitter CEO to staff: Hiring on hold, two leaders to leave'

Dallas: Two senior Twitter leaders will depart the company, CEO Parag Agrawal told employees in a memo, seen by Reuters, Thursday. He also said Twitter would pause most hiring. Kayvon Beykpour, who led Twitter's consumer division, and Bruce Falck, who oversaw revenue, both tweeted on Thursday that the departures were not their decisions. Meanwhile, the US Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating Elon Musk's delayed disclosure of his sizable stake in Twitter Inc last month, the Wall Street Journal reported. REUTERS

BITCOIN, ETHER FALL

Volatile stablecoins trigger rout in cryptos

REUTERS
LONDON, MAY 12

THE MELTDOWN in TerraUSD, one of the world's largest stablecoins, sent shockwaves through cryptocurrency markets on Thursday, pushing another major stablecoin Tether below its dollar peg and sending bitcoin to 16-month lows.

Cryptocurrencies have been swept up in a sell-off across higher risk assets. The sell-off has taken the combined market value of all cryptocurrencies to \$1.2 trillion, less than half of where it was last November, based on data from CoinMarketCap.

Bitcoin, the largest cryptocurrency by market cap, hit a low of \$25,401.05 on Thursday, its lowest level since December 28, 2020, before recovering slightly later in the session to trade flat on the day by 1600 GMT.

In the past eight sessions it has lost more than a quarter of its value, or around \$10,700, and is down 37 per cent so far this year, trading far below the peak of \$69,000 it hit in November 2021. Ether, the world's second-largest cryptocurrency, fell to its lowest since June 2021, sinking as low as \$1,700.

STUDY BY BANK OF BARODA 'FY22: 93.7% rise in new manufacturing projects'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MAY 12

NEW PROJECT announcements in the manufacturing sector have improved significantly to Rs 62 lakh crore in FY22, a rise of 93.75 per cent, as against Rs 3.2 lakh crore in FY20, a Bank of Baroda (BoB) study has said.

This was led by improvement in machinery, chemicals and textiles. "Services and the construction sector still seem to be lagging from losses suffered during multiple waves of Covid-19 pandemic, with new project announcements running below their pre-pandemic levels," the study said.

Sonal Badhan, economist, BoB said, "In FY20, new projects announced in the manufacturing sector had fallen to 17.8%, but rose



Machinery, chemicals and textiles led the improvement in investments. File

sharply to 38.3% in FY21 and rose further to 43.5% in FY22. FY22 print is the highest since FY05. This could be the case as the manufacturing sector was less hit by subsequent waves of Covid-19, compared with services sector."

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, Heavy Water Plant (Kota)
e-Tender invitation notice no. — HWP/INST/MTA/2021/CV-A
Online item rate tenders are invited through e-Tendering mode for "Servicing & testing of control valves at HWP(K) during MTA-2022" by General Manager, Heavy Water Plant (Kota), Post: Anushakti-323003, Via - Kota (Rajasthan) for and On behalf of the President of India, from approved, eligible and experienced contractors. Estimated cost of work: Rs. 54.81,154/-Tender document can be viewed/downloaded from 13.05.2022 (10:00 hrs) to 23.05.2022 (16:00 hrs). The last date for online submission of tender is 23.05.2022 (16:00 hrs). The technical bids will be opened on 27.05.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
The detailed NIT and Tender Documents are available on the website <https://tenders.gov.in/tendersapp> for free to view/download. The detailed NIT can be seen at website www.hwb.gov.in For further information please contact Telephone no. 01475-242201/242214, fax-01475-242203 on all working days.
General Manager
For & on behalf of President of India

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF ROAD TRANSPORT
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Ph: 020-67345300
CIRT, Pune invites applications for the post of "Scientist B" (Vacancy 2 Nos.).
For more details, visit our website www.cirtindia.com
Prescribed application form with attested copies of certificates should be forwarded through courier/post to Head Admin Services Division on above address and also the soft copy shall be sent by E-mail to pers@cirtindia.com so as to reach CIRT on or before 1700 hrs. of 06.06.2022. Head-ASD, CIRT, Pune

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/COMPANY	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE (CLOSING DATE)	AMOUNT (APPROX.) IN RS.	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/COMPANY	REGD. OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	UHBVN	CONVERSION OF EXISTING OVERHEAD 11 KV & LT ELECTRICAL LINES TO TRENCHLESS UNDERGROUND 11 KV & LT CABLE SYSTEM & INSTALLATION OF CONTRACT SUB-STATION/SS, RING MAIN UNIT, FEEDER & SERVICE Poles, ARK, CONDUIT, CABLE WITH SCADA ETC. FROM NEHRU CHOWK TO BEHRA GHATI CHOWK AND CIVIL HOSPITAL CHOWK TO MAHATMA GANDHI CHOWK UNDER OF CIRCLE KARNAL ON TURNING BAGGS	CLOSING DATE: 31.05.2022	RS. 154709251.20L	https://tenders.haryana.gov.in	01222673431 gmpok@uhbvn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in or www.tenders.haryana.gov.in

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Electricity

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Website: www.adanielectricity.com
AMIL CIN: U40106GJ2020PLC11877

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date:- 13.05.2022

NIT No.	Brief Works Description	Estimated Cost (INR, Lakhs)	Cost of EMD (INR, Lakhs)	Prebid Meeting Date	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Bid Opening
AMIL/2022-23/01	Development of Transition Station Plot at Village-Mandvi	1315.32	13.2	20.05.2022 11:00 Hrs	30.05.2022 17:00 Hrs	31.05.2022 17:00 Hrs

All Materials & Services will be as per AMIL specifications / BOQ. All Prebid Meeting will be done electronically / telephonically due to Covid19 restrictions.

For details in respect of Service/Material, Qualifying Requirement, Terms & Conditions, Services / Submission of Tender Documents, etc. Please visit our web site :- www.adanielectricity.com -> Tenders -> Open Tenders. The Tender document will be available on above link from 13.05.2022.

Tenderer must submit their bids online / electronic submission. Vendor should keep in touch with website www.adanielectricity.com for any corrigendum / Amendments, no separate information regarding Corrigendum will be published in newspapers.

Date: 13.05.2022

Central Procurement Group

E-AUCTION NOTICE BY HARYANA TOURISM
Haryana Tourism invites Licensing Out Following Shops/sites/activities At Various Tourist Complex Through E-Auction (<http://eaction.gov.in>)
Last Date of Submission of Document 18.05.2022 (Upto 11.00 AM)
Date of E-Auction 19.05.2022 (11.00 Am To 4.00 PM)

SL. No.	Item	Location	Size	Period	Reserve Price	EMD Fee (2% of Reserve Price)
A	HTC TILYOR TOURIST RESORT, ROHTAK					
1	Rice and Pickle Fresh Fruit and Juice Shop	Fast Food, Tilyor Resort, Rohtak	13x10	3 Year	150000	3000
B	HTC Tourist Resort, Oasis Karnal					
	Name of DDO: VJENDER SHARMA					
2	Fresh Fruit, Fresh Juice & Dry Fruits	Oasis Complex	12.9'x11.10'	5 Years	3500000	70000
3	Ice Cream & Ice Cream Shake Shop	Oasis Complex	11.10'x12.10'	5 Years	2000000	40000
4	Punjabi Jutti and Kurti Shop	Oasis Complex	13'x6'	5 Years	530000	10600
5	Readymade Garments	Oasis Complex	12.9'x11.10'	5 Years	900000	18000
6	Popcorn & Sweet Corn Site	Oasis Complex	6.6'x6.3'	5 Years	4000000	80000
7	Pickle Shop	Oasis Complex	13.6'x12.3'	5 Years	1000000	20000
8	Pollution check & Puncture site	Petrol pump	9'x6'	5 Years	700000	14000
C	HTC Parakeet Tourist complex Pipil					
	Name of DDO: VJENDER SHARMAANIL BAJAJ Mobile No. 92153-10047					
9	Fast food	Near Restaurant	45'x55 hall, 13'x33 ctre, 10'x12 kitch	3 Years	10000000	200000
10	Ice cream cold drink shop	Outside Fast Food	10x12	3 Years	9000000	180000
11	Confectionary Shop	Outside Fast Food	10x12	3 Years	7500000	150000
12	Fresh Fruit & Juice Shop	Outside Fast Food	10x12	3 Years	3500000	70000
D	HTC Red Bishop Tourist Complex, Panchkula					
	Name of DDO: NEERAJ GUPTA Mobile No. 94164-60100					
13	Floweriest Shop	Complex	10'x8'	3 Years	1200000	24000
14	Site for puncture of vehicles	Petrol Pump	8'x8'	3 Years	200000	4000
E	HTC Dabchick Tourist Complex, Modal					
	Name of DDO: ANAND Mobile No. 98963-77700					
15	ATM	Near entry Gate Dabchick		3 year	15000	300
16	Site for merry 30 ground small rides for kids	Lawn of Dabchick	as required	3 year	90000	1800
17	Boating & fishing Activity	Dabchick Lake	1/2 Acre	5 year	167000	3340
18	(Fresh Fruit, Fresh Juice, ice cream parlour (one shop)	Near entry Gate Dabchick	10x10	3 year	54000	1080
19	2 No. shops (interconnected) for pastry, Bakery, Gift items, Pocket food	Near entry Gate Dabchick	20x10 feet	3 year	90000	1800
F	HTC SURKHAB TOURIST RESORT SIRSA					
	Name of DDO: BHOOP SINGH, MOBILE NO. 94163-51888					
20	Shop No. 1	Surkhav Chowk, Hisar Road, Sirsa	10'0"x11'9"	3 Years	400000	8000
21	Shop No. 2	Sirsa	10'0"x11'9"	3 Years	400000	8000
22	Shop No. 4	Sirsa	10'0"x11'9"	3 Years	400000	8000
23	Shop No. 6	Sirsa	10'0"x11'9"	3 Years	402000	8040
24	Shop No. 7	Sirsa	10'9"x11'0"	3 Years	420000	8400
G	HTC BADKHAL LAKE					
	Name of DDO: U.S. BHARDWAJ, MOBILE NO. 98102-97997/93115-33921					
25	Pollution Check Centre	Petrol Pump Badkhal Lake	Open Site	3 Years	193600	3872
H	HTC DAMDAMA LAKE, SARAS					
	Name of DDO: RAJESH KUMAR, MOBILE NO. 98117-67651					
26	Adventure Activity along with Child Fun Games, Camel Ride and Horse Ride	Lawn Area	Open Site	3 Years	500000	10000
I	HTC KARNA LAKE, KARNAL					
	Name of DDO: VJENDER SHARMA, MOBILE NO. 94161-18755					
27	Fresh Fruit & Juice Shop	In front of Restaurant	8.5'x11'	3 Years	1999800	39996
28	Rice & Pickle Shop	In front of Restaurant	8.5'x11'	3 Years	665500	13310
29	Karamel Popcorn & Stream Corn Shop	In front of Restaurant	8.5'x11'	3 Years	2476100	49522
30	Leather Goods Shop	In front of Restaurant	17'x22'	3 Years	1700000	34000
J	HTC Jungle Babbler Tourist Resort Dharuhera					
	Name of DDO: HARVINDER SINGH, Mobile No. 94160-40444/90500-40444					
31	Shop No. 1	Bhagat Singh Chowk	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
32	Shop No. 2	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
33	Shop No. 3	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
34	Shop No. 4	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
35	Shop No. 5	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
36	Shop No. 6	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
37	Shop No. 7	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
38	Shop No. 8	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
39	Shop No. 9	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
40	Shop No. 10	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	180000	3600
41	Shop No. 13	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
42	Shop No. 14	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
43	Shop No. 15	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
44	Shop No. 16	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
45	Shop No. 18	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
46	Shop No. 24	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	216000	4320
47	Shop No. 25	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	252000	5040
48	Shop No. 26	-do-	10'x15'	3 Years	252000	5040
49	Parking Site	Near DHR Bus Stand	Open Site	1 Years	3200000	64000
K	HTC Koel Complex Kaithal					
50	Booth No. 2	Complex	12'x15'	3 Years	450000	9000
51	Booth No. 4	Complex	12'x15'	3 Years	450000	9000
52	Shop No. 2	Complex	10'x20'	3 Years	400000	8000
53	Shop No. 5	Complex	10'x20'	3 Years	400000	8000
54	Shop No. 6	Complex	10'x20'	3 Years	400000	8000
L	HTC Anjan Yatrika Tourist Complex					
	Name of DDO: NISHANT, MOBILE NO. 93556-96270/94664-69000					
55	Pollution Check Centre	Complex	Open Site	2 Years	150000	3000
56	Cold Drink Shop	Complex	8'x12'	3 Years	200000	4000
M	TIKKAR TAAL MORNI					
	Name of DDO: BHARAT BHUSHAN, MOBILE NO. 83077-03804					
57	Puncture Shop/Mechanic Shop	Complex	Open Site	1 Years	25000	500
N	HTC YADAVINDRA GARDEN PINJORE					
	Name of DDO: ANIL KUMAR, MOBILE NO. 94666-36541					
58	Aerated Drink (Cold Drinks, Milk Bottle and Mineral Water)	In Front of Main Gate	10'x10'	2 Years	750000	15000
59	Confectionary (Sale of Patties, Bread Cakes, Pan Masala & Pan Parag and Cigarette etc. & other prohibited items are not allowed)	-do-	10'x10'	2 Years	500000	10000
60	Ice Cream (Brands Name like Amul, Verka, Vita, Vadilal, Creambell etc.) alongwith store for storage of Ice-Cream	-do-	10'x10'	2 Years	1000000	20000
61	Fresh Fruit Juice and Teta Pack Juice (Sale of Mango/Maja/Slice/ Cold Drink will not allowed.	-do-	10'x10'	2 Years	600000	12000
62	Handloom and Handicraft	-do-	10'x10'	3 Years	600000	12000
63	Leather Article Shop	-do-	10'x10'	3 Years	8000000	160000
64	Sticker Photo Printing Picture, Poster Post, Picture Chart etc.	-do-	10'x10'	3 Years	250000	5000
65	Rice and Pickle (Non-veg Pickle will not be allowed)	-do-	10'x10'	3 Years	250000	5000
66	Baby Train	-do-	25'x50'	3 Years	1500000	30000
67	Gol Gappa, Chat Papri, Bhel Puri, Alloo Ticky (2 Rehari+1 Ticky Counter)	-do-	12'x22'	2 Years	700000	14000
68	Camel & Horse Riding	-do-	10'x30'	2 Years	1500000	30000
69	Parking	-do-	Open Space	1 Years	3000000	60000
70	South Indian and Chinese	Inside Garden Food Court	12'x12'	3 Years	3000000	60000
71	Kulcha (Readymade only) Channa Bhatura, Alloo Ticky, Samosa, Gol Gappa, Chat Papri, Chat Bhatta and Tulla Kulfi	-do-	12'x12'	3 Years	2000000	40000
72	Caramel Pop, Corn, Steam Corn, Bhehpuri, Burf ka Gola, Sugar Candy and Packaged Drinking Water at Jal Mahal	-do-	12'x12'	3 Years	800000	16000
73	Baby Train (along the Boundary Wall from 4th Terrace)	Inside Garden along the Wall	Open Area	3 Years	500000	10000
74	Kids Play Zone (Mini Baby Battery Cars, Small Swings and Baby Train (Behind Jal Mahal)	Inside Garden (Right side of Jal Mahal)	40'x40'	3 Years	300000	6000

E-Auction Documents along with details of activities are available at the website of HTC i.e. www.haryanaturism.gov.in as well as on NIC portal <http://eaction.gov.in> for online participation, Managing Director, HTC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reasons.
9562/Hry
ISSUED BY MANAGING DIRECTOR

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

LATE MAJ AK DAS

30 June 1962 to 13 May 1993

In everlasting memory of Late Major AK Das, who made the supreme sacrifice for the honour of the Nation in a valiant action against terrorists on 13 May 1993 in J&K. His Memory will continue to inspire all ranks of SHOLAS.

Commanding Officer & All Ranks 16 RAJPUT
A Tribute to Brave Hearts 13th May



CT/GD SUBHASH CHANDRA BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012



CT/GD PRAKASH CH MEENA BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012



CT/GD ASHOK KUMAR BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012



CT/GD JAYANTA DAS BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012



CT/GD KAILASH CH MEENA BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012



CT/GD RANJIT SINGH BIOM KIRANDUL 13-05-2012

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of these brave-heroes. On this day, they laid down their lives at the altar of duty while fighting with the LWE outfits. Their courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to them for their noblest deeds.

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA)

TENDER NOTICE

E-tender is invited for the supply of following item.

1) Supply of 2 Nos. Van mounted HV & LV Testing Set with Control Units,

RE-INVITED E-TENDER

2) 73608

Note :- For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
PRO/AAM(M)/30/2022 GENERAL MANAGER

Office of the Executive Engineer
(Jal Shakti Department) PHE Division Baramulla
Email: kmphebla@gmail.com (FAX) 01952234575 (Tel) 01952234244

CORRIGENDUM EXTENSION NOTICE

Ref:- This office ENIT No. 11 of 04/2022 dated 27.04.2022 issued vide No. PHE/Bla/CC/ 748-58 dated 27.04.2022.

In order to ensure greater participation in respect of the works advertised vide this office above referred ENIT, the online Bid Submission End Date is hereby extended up to 18-05-2022 2:00 P.M and Tender Opening Date shall be 19-05-2022 03:30 P.M.

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti, (PHE) Department
Division Baramulla.

No: PHE/Bla/CC/1209-1219
Date:- 12.05.2022
DIPK-1892

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD
(POWER WING)

(CORRIGENDUM-2 NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER dttd 10.05.2022)

N.I.T.No. 482/PHD/Pong-359 Dated: 23.02.2022

Name of Office: Chief Engineer/System Operation, Planning & Design (Power Plant) Dte., BBMB (PW), Flat No. 75, SLD-C Complex, BBMB, Industrial Area, Phase-I, Chandigarh Tel-Fax: 0172-2637035.

Name of Work: Online Tender for Hiring a consultant for the RMU & LE of all the six units of Pong Power House, BBMB, Talwara from existing 396 MW (6x66MW) to 450 MW (6x75 MW) proposed.

Tender Documents Download Start Date & Time: 23.02.2022 from 1700 hrs.

Tender Document Download End Date & Time: 27.05.2022 upto 1500 hrs.

Start date & time of online bid submission: 23.02.2022 from 1700 hrs.

Last date & time of online bid submission (Part-I & II): 27.05.2022 upto 1500 hrs.

Date & time of online bid opening (Part-I): 30.05.2022 from 1200 hrs. onwards

The Bids are to be submitted online. For qualifying conditions, cost of the specification, detailed NIT and Earnest Money deposit, please visit website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>, <https://www.bbmb.gov.in>

442-PR-SO-9 For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

Govt. of Punjab

Tender Notice No. PAU/SPO/SSS/2022/459 Dated: 11.05.2022

The Department of Store Purchase Organisation, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana invites online e-tender under double bid system i.e. Technical bid & Financial bid for the following:

Sr. No.	Description of material	Last date of Submission of tender
1.	Rate Contract for the purchase of various packing material i.e. B twill gunny bags, Jute Canvas Bags, Cloths Bags, Laminated fabric seed bags, Hessian bags, Non woven Cloth Bags.	06.06.2022 upto 11.00 A.M.

Closing date and time: 06.06.2022 at 11.00 AM

1. For additional details visit website <https://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in> and www.pau.edu.

2. Corrigendum/Addendum/Corrections, if any, will be issued on above websites only.

Sd/-
Admn-cum-Accounts Officer
Store Purchase Organisation
(e-mail: spoaoo@pau.edu)
PAU Ludhiana

14180/Pb

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
ASSAM, GUWAHATI

No. CE

MAKING HOCKEY SAFE AGAIN

Hockey goes in huddle over penalty corners

Sight of wounded players walking off the field not a good advertisement for sport

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, MAY 12

FOR DECADES, penalty corners have showcased thrilling action sequences on a hockey field — from the cannonball-like shots hurled by drag-flickers and “suicide runs” from defenders to block them to the goalkeepers diving and lunging to keep the ball out.

But now, the future of one of hockey’s most integral elements is being reconsidered, at least in its current avatar. The reason? Rising risk of injuries and a diminishing success rate.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has launched a consultation project titled, “Future of the Penalty Corner”, which aims to “balance between safety and the spectacle” of the set-piece.

Although there will be no rule change until after the Paris Olympics in 2024, the FIH has told national federations: “We must consider making changes to the penalty corner rules BEFORE serious or fatal incidents occur and not wait to react until afterward.”

The move, depending on the direction in which this conversation flows, could have a profound impact on the game.

Penalty corners are the go-to method for scoring goals and drag-flickers often are celebrated as heroes of their teams. At the last two Olympics, four out of the top-five goalscorers were penalty-corner specialists.

Jon Wyatt, the former England captain who is now FIH’s sport and development director, insisted the purpose of their project is to “start a debate and raise awareness”.

“Personally, I do think there needs to be a change but that change doesn’t have to be removing certain parts of the game,” Wyatt told *The Indian Express*. “We will still have something called a penalty corner... we have to have some sort of penalty for a foul in the circle but what that looks like is the discussion.”

The safety aspect of penalty corners has become a debate due to drag flicks — when an attacker, in one motion, collects the ball just outside the ‘D’, drags it into the circle and flicks it towards the goal. The flicks, unleashed from a distance of roughly 14m from the goal, can travel up to 150kmph.



At the last two Olympics, four out of the top-five goalscorers were PC specialists.

While goalkeepers wear complete protective gear, the defenders are left vulnerable, especially the first player who rushes straight towards the drag-flicker to block the angle and those standing near the goal post as the last line of defence.

In 2004, while playing a match against Pakistan in New Delhi, former India captain Dilip Tirkey nearly lost vision in his right eye while trying to stop a drag-flick from Pakistani legend Sohail Abbas, arguably the finest exponent of the art.

“I suffered a hairline fracture below my right eye and even today, I experience pain, especially during winters,” Tirkey, who was positioned near the goal post, told this paper.

The defenders are nowadays allowed to wear protective gear — gloves, visors, knee pads, etc — but the FIH said it gives them “an unnatural sense of safety” and puts themselves in dangerous positions to stop the ball from going into the goal.

In late 2020, the members of FIH’s health and safety committee analysed 295 matches that took place in 2015 and 2016. Their research showed that penalty corners were responsible for 13.9 per cent of the overall injuries and included blows to the head.

Wyatt said that at an elite level, where the techniques of attackers and defenders are advanced, the numbers might be low.

“(But) we are responsible for setting rules for all levels of the game. At the grassroots level, the skills aren’t that high. Maybe that means the ball doesn’t travel as fast but are the defenders wearing the best possible protective equipment? Are they trained and able to react as quickly as possible? Are shooters

fully in control of what they do?” Wyatt said.

The sight of players walking wounded on the field, or them just wearing all the protective gear, “gives the image of hockey being a dangerous sport, detracting from parents wanting their children to start playing”, the FIH noted. And even as the safety aspects of the penalty corners were being examined, the conversion rate at the Tokyo Olympics last year further forced them to rethink the rules.

“The amount of protection that is now allowed for defenders to wear means at Tokyo, most teams were sending two runners directly at the flicker, thus blocking half of the goal while the goalkeeper had to just take care of the other half or maybe two-thirds of the goal,” Wyatt said. “That resulted in fewer goals scored from penalty corners.”

From reducing the number of defenders to restricting the height of the drag-flicks to the level of the backboard, the FIH has received a number of suggestions to make the set-piece safer. Wyatt said he hopes to try out new rules in leagues and lower-level tournaments next year before implementing them post-Paris Olympics.

But given how crucial penalty corners are to teams and players, he is aware that any decision the FIH takes will generate more debate. “We are not going to please everybody,” he said. “But we have to put safety at the heart of the decisions we make.”

Tirkey, Viren recall fractures, close calls and Sohail Abbas’s blinding drag-flicks

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, MAY 12

DILIP TIRKEY is scarred for life. Literally. Eighteen years ago, in October 2004 at Delhi’s National Stadium, Tirkey was manning the right goalpost when Pakistan legend Sohail Abbas unleashed his trademark ferocious drag-flick. On the left post was Viren Rasquinha. And they both watched in dread as goalkeeper Adrian D’Souza, in his inimitable style, charged out to block Abbas’ shot.

For Rasquinha and Tirkey, D’Souza’s runs made the sighting the ball that much tougher. “If he wouldn’t be able to stop the ball, it would come through his legs or under his arms. And Sohail had a sling action, so you couldn’t judge where the ball was going,” Rasquinha says.

“In that match against Pakistan, we had planned that Dilip would take the right post down and I’d take the left. Sohail flicked, Adrian rushed out, the ball it deflected slightly off him and deviated from its path.”

Tirkey, not a man of many words, gets in the flow while narrating what happened next. “I wasn’t able to spot the ball. When Adrian rushed out, I just turned a little and before I could even react further, the ball hit my eye. Ekdum sunn hogaya thode second k liye and phir, gir gaya (I went numb for a few seconds and then, fell to the ground). I couldn’t open my right eye.”

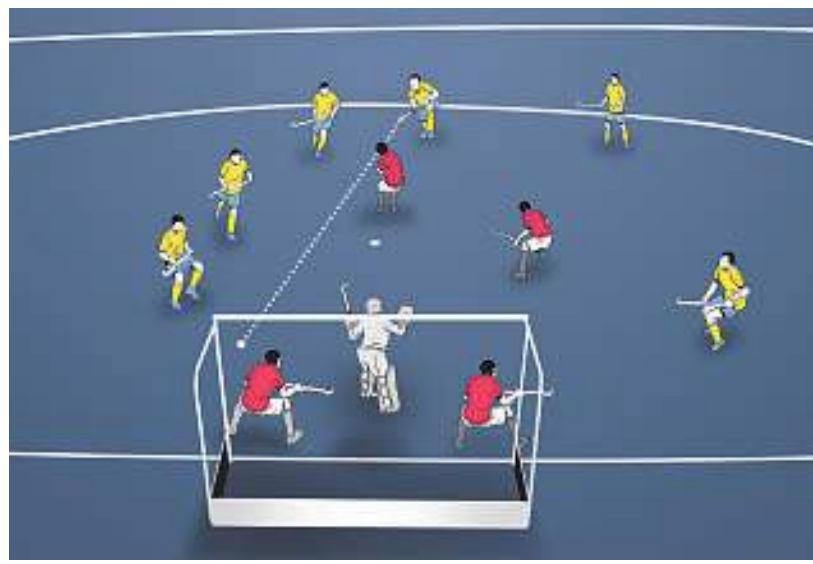
Tirkey suffered a hairline fracture just under his right eye. He says he is trembling even now, while recalling the incident that took place nearly two decades ago. “The mark is still there and it pains even today, especially during winters,” he says.

The potential danger of the hockey ball flying at high speeds following a drag-flick and the future of the penalty corner is up for discussion and review after the FIH launched a consultation project titled: ‘Future of the Penalty Corner’.

The danger during drag-flicks is more pronounced for defenders, especially the first rushers, the player who runs towards the flicker to cut his angle, and the postmen, those guarding the posts, like Rasquinha and Tirkey.

When the two played, the defenders did not wear a lot of protective gear. Like Gavaskar facing the fearsome West Indian pacers with nothing else but only a floppy hat, the defenders back then depended largely on their reflexes, and a little luck.

“I won’t lie, we used to be very scared. Ball zoo-zoo karke jaata hai,” Tirkey says. Rasquinha, who shared that fear, adds: “We



MOST RISKY POSITIONS: The first rushers, the player responsible to run towards the flicker to block his angle, and the postmen, those guarding the posts during a penalty corner. Illustration: Suvajit Dey

stood without any protection at all, except the abdomen guard. Most of us didn’t even wear gum guards so my colossal fear was that the ball would hit me bang on my teeth and I’d lose all of them. It was a genuine fear.”

Over the years, the rules have changed and defenders are given 40 seconds to wear all their protective gear — face masks, gloves, knee pads, and such. It has reduced the severity of injuries in some cases and proponents of drag flicks say the advancements in technology should be used to make penalty corners safer, rather than changing the rules.

“For me, it’s like F1 racing,” says Gonzalo Peillat, whose drag flicks launched Argentina to the top of the podium in the Rio Olympics. Peillat, who now represents Germany in international hockey and is one of the finest contemporary drag-flickers, isn’t pleased with FIH’s move, saying that penalty corners are no less dangerous compared to other situations from open play.

“I don’t think it’s (the PC review) a good idea. In F1, there are less and less injuries because of the technology. We can have the same even in hockey. We use a lot of equipment that protects everything, from the face to the foot. In the last two Olympics, there wasn’t even one injury through penalty corners,” Peillat says.

That doesn’t necessarily mean they are completely safe.

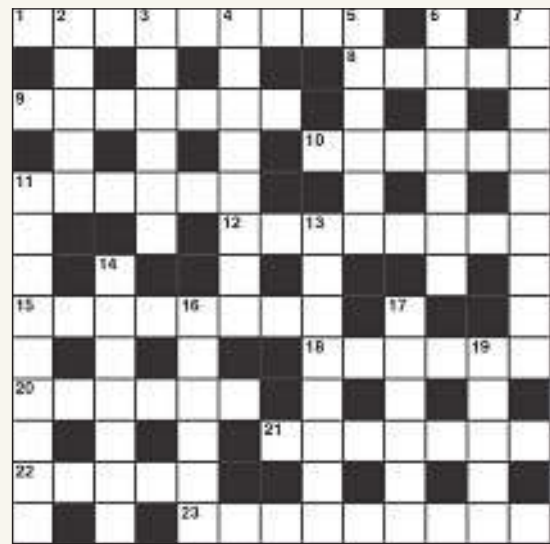
At the Tokyo Olympics, India defender Amit Rohidas, considered to be one of the finest first rushers in the country, suffered bruises on his chest, abdomen, knee and an-

kle in just one match — against Germany in the bronze medal playoff. What Rohidas does is dubbed in hockey as ‘suicide running’ — charging directly towards the flicker, to stop the shot even if it means suffering a blow.

The FIH has argued that the protective gear has given the defenders a false sense of security, which leads to them running straight into the path of the ball without thinking of the consequences. Rasquinha agrees. “The speed at which the ball travels, no face mask will protect you,” he says. Rasquinha’s mind harks back to the early winter encounter against Pakistan in 2004. After the match in Delhi, where Tirkey got injured, the caravan moved to Chandigarh and from there, to Amritsar where Abbas scored his world record 268th goal. Rasquinha remembers the goal not just for the record, but also because it nearly took his head off. “I was guarding the left goal post. And again, Adrian charged out. This time, the ball came from under his armpit. I could not see it until the last second when I noticed that it was headed straight for the middle of my eyes. I just ducked at the last split second and as the ball went over my head, I could feel the breeze...” he says.

The shot was so fast, the former India captain adds, that the ball tore through the net and hit the advertisement boards. “The referee thought it went over the goal and signalled out. But all the Pakistani players and I knew it went into the goal.” Rasquinha pauses momentarily to reflect. Then adds: “I had no face mask, no gum guard... I could have died that day.”

CROSSWORD 4739



- ACROSS**
1 They may cause strikes on their daily rounds (4,5)
8 Course for a singer (5)
9 Parity for example involving Italy (7)
10 Squirm and turn whiter (6)
11 Still a cause of poor reception (6)
12 Having paid he recovers (8)
15 A target’s been set again for the water sports (8)
18 Convert me with this belief (6)
20 Cover for a fighter maybe (6)
21 Dance apace (3-4)
22 Point out a French resort of relative importance (5)
23 A fine commotion over a sandy waste (4,5)
- DOWN**
2 Have a duty even if it might be tough? (5)
3 Pass on the details of a story from Tralee (6)
4 He favours dictation above all his subjects (8)
5 Averts disaster - fast (6)
6 Perhaps to many a branch of medicine (7)
7 It’s for the rest of the cast (5,4)
11 Looking for loose change sir? (9)
13 Clearly not as others are (8)
14 In age so twisted suffering pains (7)
16 Found and copied (6)
17 Domestic service (3,3)
19 It’s very steep so change course (5)

Solutions Crossword 4738: Across: 1 Unleash, 4 Beast, 7 Urns, 8 Stitch up, 10 Los Angeles, 12 Stolen, 13 Adrift, 15 Apocryphal, 18 Property, 19 Sock, 20 Dates, 21 Hearken. Down: 1 Usual, 2 Long shot, 3 Hatred, 4 Better days, 5 Ache, 6 Topcoat, 9 Interprets, 11 Fishhook, 12 Snapped, 14 Scotch, 16 Liken, 17 Bolt.

JUMBLD 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.

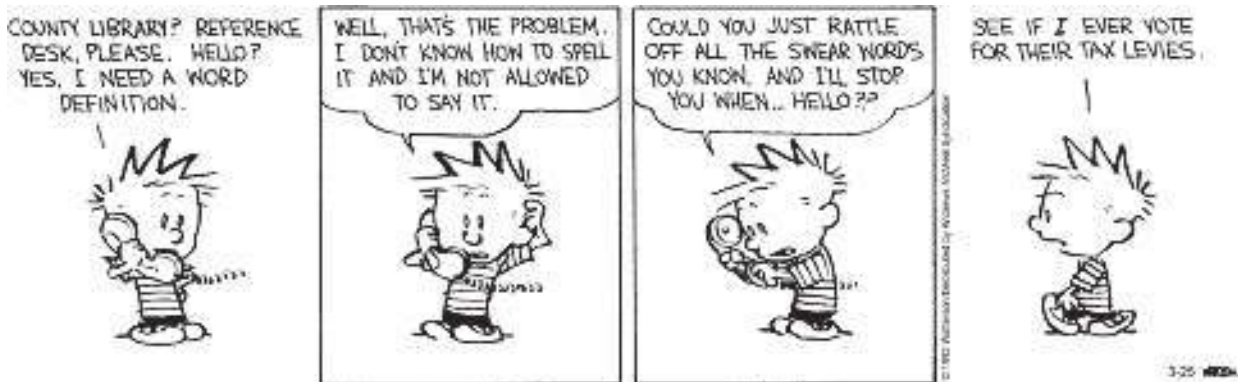
Time does not change us. It just ___ us - Max Frisch (7)

EIPOS BINNDU
BDILN CFINOF

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4833
Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.
Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

9		5	7		4		1	
5				3	4			
	6	1						
8			1		9			
4	9					6	3	
		2	4				8	
					5	3		
			4	2				7
6	3		9	1				4

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4832

8	3	4	1	6	7	9	5	2
9	6	5	4	3	2	1	7	8
1	7	2	5	8	9	4	6	3
2	5	3	7	4	6	8	1	9
4	1	6	9	2	8	5	3	7
7	9	8	3	5	1	6	2	4
5	2	9	8	1	3	7	4	6
6	4	7	2	9	5	3	8	1
3	8	1	6	7	4	2	9	5

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**
There’s a restless air today, and although there’s no need for you to be caught up in what’s going on, colleagues may involve you in their plans to travel or pursue a favourite new pastime. Ambitious Arians are going to be on a roll over the next few days, so make the most of it.
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**
There’s a great deal happening behind the scenes, not all of it to your liking. You’ll throw some light on a confusing situation by drawing other people’s attention to the facts. But there’s no guarantee that they’ll listen, at least not until next week.
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**
The planets are completing a series of harmonious alignments to your sign, and their effect will give a general boost to your energy. Adopt an optimistic attitude to all your affairs and you’ll make the most of the prevailing Sun-Moon angles.
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**
This is a constructive moment. Both Solar and Lunar alignments raise the stress level, so make at least some attempt to see partners’ points of view, otherwise you’ll needlessly offend those who care for you. If you look after other people’s interests, they’ll take more care with yours.
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**
You’ve every reason to look forward to a positive and productive period. Watch out for a minor crisis later in the day, though, perhaps prompted by a careless friend or colleague, and symbolised by the approaching encounter between the Sun and Moon.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**
Now that the weekend is approaching, you may feel like slowing down a little. Yet, even if you haven’t got much on your plate, you’re bound to be caught up in some of your friends’ hectic plans. You may also be in line for a wonderful windfall, and about time, you might say.
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**
The people who will be most helpful to you today and tomorrow are likely to be those you don’t know very well or whom you have met only recently. Your serious attitude to relationships can be rather attractive, but friends who think they know you best could pick up the wrong end of the stick.
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**
Although it would be foolish to imagine that there’ll be no hitches today, you’ll feel immensely satisfied if you focus on developing your creative talents. A sense of your own destiny will boost your confidence and stand you in good stead. Safe to say, this is one of your special times of year.
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**
You could have too much on your plate, but certain discreet moves can only enhance your professional prospects, so do whatever needs to be done. Yet remember that integrity is necessary if you want to retain your colleagues’ respect.
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**
You may be tempted into some sort of rash speculation, but do bear in mind the fact that it’s all too easy to throw away hard-earned money. Be wary of apparently ideal offers and examine all the details with great care. And perhaps you should open up to life’s mystical possibilities as well.
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**
You might be seized by a bout of anxiety regarding your career, or some other worldly ambition, but minor problems will pass quickly. Fortunately, you realise that, in the last resort, nothing will detract from your success. In point of fact, this is a moment for pleasure and self-indulgence.
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**
Sometimes your lack of self-confidence prevents you from making the most of your imaginative ideas, but under today’s illuminating planetary picture you’d be doing yourself an injustice if you kept your thoughts to yourself. You could also be taking responsibility for a new group or social event.

BRIEFLY

Esha-Saurabh win gold in mixed team pistol at World Cup

Suhl: The duo of Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary won the mixed team pistol gold as Indian shooters extended their dominance at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany. India's Palak and Sarabjot Singh settled for the silver medal after losing to Esha and Saurabh 16-12 in the gold medal match. Ramita and Paarth Makhija also won silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team competition, going down 13-17 to the Polish pair of Julia Piotrowska and Wiktor Sajdak but not before making it three medals on the day. In all, India has so far won 10 medals, including four gold. The Indian pistol pairs came through after topping a 38-field qualification round of 60 shots with scores of 578 and 575 respectively. It was Palak and Sarabjot who had the better of Esha and Saurabh in this round but the more experienced pair saw it through when it mattered the most. In the junior men's trap, three shooters — Arya Vansh Pathak, Vivaan Kapoor and Shardul Vihaan — shot respectable scores of 118 (the first two names) and 117 each to finish ninth, 10th and 12th respectively. **PTI**

Dagar wins gold at Deaflympics

Caxias: Indian golfer Diksha Dagar outplayed American Ashlyn Grace in the final to bag gold medal at the Deaflympics, fulfilling her promise of improving upon the silver-winning performance at the 2017 edition. Diksha is now the only golfer with two Deaflympics medals — a silver in Samsun, Turkey in 2017 and gold in 2022, which is actually the 2021 edition of Deaflympics. The 21-year-old who is a professional with victories on the Ladies European Tour, completed a dominant performance with a 5 and 4 win in the final of the match play section of the ladies golf competition. She beat Grace Johnson with four holes to spare. **PTI**

Boxer Anamika enters last-16

New Delhi: Indian boxer Anamika (50kg) showed her prowess and technical superiority to advance to the pre-quarterfinals of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships, beating Romania's Eugenia Anghel by unanimous decision in Istanbul on Thursday. The bout started on an aggressive note as both the boxers relentlessly attacked from the word go but Anamika displayed her sharp footwork and body feints to land clear punches while evading her opponent's counters. The boxer from Rohtak continued her relentless attack in the second round and didn't let her opponent settle down. She dictated the terms throughout the whole bout and comfortably won by 5-0 margin to move to the next round.

Thomas Cup runneth over

Men's team beat Malaysia 3-2 to enter the semifinals, guaranteed of bronze medal

SHIVANI NAIK
MAY 13

THEY DUG so deep individually in their quiet, personal journeys and at other times together noisily on training courts, that in the end, the Indian team found the depth to win its first Thomas Cup medal.

Having a former World No.1, a World Championship silver medallist and in-form player like Kidambi Srikanth play the second singles of the five-match tie, followed by the dependable big-match beast, HS Prannoy lining up for MS3 — that was two assured wins in a tie pointing to India's remarkable depth. An overlap of a bunch of talented singles shuttlers all pulling in the same direction. Then the doubles plodders — Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, they who never stop trying — clinched the crucial point to trigger hope.

The golden generation of male shuttlers — some of whom first took to the international courts a decade ago — elevated Indian badminton into the ultimate realm of shuttle royalty on Thursday, medalling at the prestigious team championships, edging out Malaysia 3-2 in a thrilling quarterfinal tie at Bangkok.

All those years of being relegated to the shadows of India's women shuttlers, quietly sharpening their games, gulping down narrow losses which ended up in fine print of scores and returning to familiar drawing boards castigating them on their bunch of mistakes. The Thomas Cup team finally exhaled. Some may call it roared. Guttural and gutsy, it was the sound of things falling in place. "Malaysia is not sleeping tonight," a gleeful national coach Pullela Gopichand chuckled, about a loss that can be compared to India going out early from a cricket world cup. India will fancy their chances against Denmark in the semifinals to gun for the big medal, where Lakshya Sen who missed out on Thursday gets a chance to propel India forward.

How Malaysia was tricked

Malaysia boast of a rich Thomas Cup history from 70s and 80s, but in recent years and under pressure have tended to wobble. Think all those Lee Chong Wei finals being second-bested by the Chinese. So when they split up their doubles pairing and coach Rexey fielded a scratch pairing of Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin for the first doubles, India sniffed an immediate chance.

The equation was simple. Srikanth and Prannoy, the vily foxes, the Indian seniors pickled in international battles, the outrageously talented pros — were bound to boss over the two youngsters, NG Tze Yong and Leong Jun Hao. The two peaked on the circuit in the 2017 dizzy season scalping big names. But after a sobering four years of struggling with injury and form and confidence crises, had gained the cushioning of self-assurance, where they trusted their games and ability to negotiate court conditions. India could rely on both against youngsters.

Malaysia, mighty curiously, did not field their experienced player Daren Liew and went ahead with the promise of youth. Plus the doubles stunt. Lakshya Sen started India's charge, against his All England scalp, Lee Zii Jia, who had split from the Malaysian

After Lakshya Sen lost and the Shetty-Rankireddy pair won, Srikanth made it 2-1 by beating Tze Yong. (Below) The team. **File**

central system, patched up with the authorities, and returned even more ripped and domineering play of well placed down attacks.

The fear of the coiled Satwik uncoupling any moment, added to the sheer pressure. Malaysian fans, as is their auditory wont, created one right din, but the Indians, veterans of the noise wall well before they turn 25, were game for a nice scrap as they bullied the Malaysians, winning 21-19, 21-15 in 41 minutes of high intensity battle.

With tie scores levelled 1-1, Kidambi Srikanth unveiled one of the most composed showings of his career, a regal 21-11, 21-17 schooling of Ng Tze Yong. Young Yong had his moments, levelling at 14-14 in the second, but it was a Srikanth masterclass all the way, unfurling his strokes and calming nerves. Coming back from 11-15 down young Yong took 4 quick points as Srikanth sprayed errors. But in the rally that followed, the Indian 29 year old, came up with a sublime smash and rushing follow up at the net to soothe the fears. Then came the regal pristine Srikanth smash. India 2-1.

India's second doubles pair of Krishna-Vishnu lost 21-19, 21-15 to Teo-Chia. 2-2.

Backhand beast

Finally, the backhand beast HS Prannoy stepped on court against 20 year old Leong.

The gulf in experience and skill aside, this was still a pressure cooker match. India's men's singles players have a long history (meticulously shredded on Twitter timelines) of previous losses and resultant ungenerous feedback they regularly cop. Not on Thursday.

Prannoy was decisive in his strokeplay. The big backhand smash didn't surface, but he didn't need it to. The backhand pushes at the net poked holes in Leong's game after the Malaysian led early. Once he got a measure of Leong, Prannoy just didn't let go his foot off the pedal taking the opener with fist pumps — his only forehand stroke.

At 4-6, racquets literally clashed at the net like swords. On a couple of line calls — the court had no tech reviews — Prannoy got testy, but never allowed the emotion to get the better of him. He would take the next point with extra gusto. The whiff of experience was literally in the air, evident in the way he allowed shuttles to sail past his nostrils knowing they would land out. So accurate was his judgment.

This was a team high on confidence, smelted with team spirit and fit to the core to last the battles. The last time India made semis was in 1979 — a team of Prakash Padukone / Syed Modi / Leroy D'sa - Suman Mishra, Partho Ganguly playing 3rd singles and Padukone played second doubles. A semis didn't mean a medal then for it was just 8 teams in the fray.

For this generation of Indians though, it's been a long hard road to redemption.

"The best moment has to be the deciding match of Prannoy! He started off slow but when he got the rhythm he just killed it," Chirag Shetty told *Express* later. He admitted he and Satwik were under the pump going into the match. "Well for us it was important and not just for the team cause we didn't play that great against the Chinese Taipei pair. So we really needed this win. And we went out there to give our best shot. And yeah happy with the way we played," he added.

McCullum named England Test coach

REUTERS
LONDON, MAY 12

FORMER New Zealand captain Brendon McCullum has been appointed head coach of England's Test team, the country's cricket board (ECB) said on Thursday. McCullum replaced Chris Silverwood who left the role in February after England were thrashed 4-0 in the Ashes in Australia, with Paul Collingwood stepping in as a caretaker coach.

McCullum, 40, is currently in charge of Indian Premier League Twenty20 side Kolkata Knight Riders but the ECB said he will be in place to start his role when New Zealand visit for a three-Test series starting at Lord's on June 2.

"We are delighted to confirm Brendon as England men's Test head coach. It has been a real privilege to get to know him and understand his views and vision for the game," ECB managing director Rob Key said in a statement.

"He has a recent history of changing cricket culture and environments for the better, and I believe he is the person to do that for England's red-ball cricket. We were incredibly fortunate to have a seriously strong list of quality candidates for the post, with Brendon demonstrating he was our number one choice."

Former South Africa and India head coach Gary Kirsten had been linked with the role and Collingwood was also considered.

McCullum played the last of his 101 Tests at Christchurch in 2016 against Australia, where he hit the fastest ever century in the format (54 balls).

He finished his career with 6,453 runs including 12 hundreds and 31 half-centuries. He will be tasked with working alongside newly-appointed Test captain Ben Stokes to get England out of a slump after the team won only one of their last 17 matches, with Key describing the pairing as a "formidable coach and captain partnership".

"In taking this role on, I am acutely aware of the significant challenges the team faces at present, and I strongly believe in my ability to help the team emerge as a stronger force once we've confronted them head-on," McCullum said.

"Ben Stokes is the perfect character to inspire change around him, and I look forward to working closely with him to build a successful unit around us."

Former England captain Michael Atherton said McCullum is a "very bold and imaginative choice" from managing director Key.

Apart from coaching the Kolkata IPL franchise, McCullum also worked with their sister team, Trinbago Knight Riders, in the T20 Caribbean Premier League.

Atherton said McCullum's limited coaching experience was not a concern.

"His limited coaching experience has come in the IPL... But he did play 100 tests, scored a test match triple hundred and he was very significant in test cricket in his own right," Atherton said. "...As a captain and as a leader, he's got plenty of experience in Test match cricket."

FROM CHAMPIONS TO ALSO RANS

CSK lose battle of laggards, play-off hopes end

SYNOPSIS: In a clash befitting the two bottom-placed teams, CSK crashed out of IPL 2022 after MI shot them out for 97 in a laboured five-wicket win.

A late switch back to Dhoni as captain could not change fortunes. **Sportzpics**

about aborting the pull, and finally settled for a nothing hack to short midwicket. Robin Uthappa was given a torrid Test-match like working-over by Jasprit Bumrah, and even DRS wouldn't have saved him if it was available.

Almost as if trying to outdo the implosion of the first three wickets, the others found various ways of getting out. Ruturaj Gaikwad nicked Sams to the keeper down the leg side, Ambati Rayudu managed to nick Riley Meredith behind off the inside edge from the

IPL TABLE

TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR
GT	12	9	3	18	0.376
LSG	12	8	4	16	0.385
RR	12	7	5	14	0.228
RCB	12	7	5	14	-0.115
DC	12	6	6	12	0.210
SRH	11	5	6	10	-0.031
KKR	12	5	7	10	-0.571
PK	11	5	6	10	-0.231
CSK	12	4	8	8	-0.181
MI	12	3	9	6	-0.613

off-stump line. Even the powerplay was not done yet, and CSK had lost half the side for 29.

Shivam Dube walked in and almost lofted one straight to extra cover, just clearing the fielder, and prompting MS Dhoni to walk up to him. That quietened Dube for a bit, but he soon departed caught-behind trying to slash Meredith over the keeper.

Forlorn Dhoni

Shane Watson, the former CSK all-rounder and current Delhi Capitals assistant coach, had told The Grade Cricketer that he felt sorry for Ravindra Jadeja, who had been given the CSK reins earlier with the overpowering presence of Dhoni always around. As

he stood motionless at the non-striker's end, an arm on his waist, Dhoni himself cut a forlorn figure watching his team crumble.

It was like the regular Dhoni show was playing out in a parallel universe. The standing ovation when he walked out to bat at 17 for 4, the chants of 'Dhoni, Dhoni' when he eased Sams through cover for his first four, his typically calm picking of the gaps, the couple of sixes that sent the crowd wild, even the unsuccessful dash after leaving a bounce to try and retain strike with No 11 at the other end; all of it appeared to be happening inside a cocoon where reality doesn't matter. And the reality was that CSK had been dismissed for 97 in 16 overs, and their campaign was all but formally over.

Shaky MI

The impressive Mukesh Choudhary moved the ball back in consistently into the right-handers and MI were reduced to 33 for 4 in no time. The leg-before of Sams was so plumb it was remarkable Tilak Varma implored a visibly reluctant Sams to review. MI eked out the remaining runs in a mixture of inside and outside edges. It took them almost 15 overs to put an end to the shambles. The 30.5 overs on an utterly forgettable night were the surest evidence that these two teams have earned and deserved the ninth and tenth spot in the table this season.

BRIEF SCORES: Chennai Super Kings: 97 all out in 16 overs (Mahendra Singh Dhoni 36 not out; Daniel Sams 3/16) lost to **Mumbai Indians:** 103/5 in 14.5 overs (Tilak Varma 34 not out; Mukesh Choudhary 3/23).

No DRS at Wankhede after power failure, CSK suffer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, MAY 12

THERE WAS no Decision Review System (DRS) available at the start of the IPL match between Chennai Super Kings and Mumbai Indians until the fourth over due to a power issue at Wankhede Stadium. The toss was delayed by a few minutes as well as one of the floodlight towers couldn't get enough electricity.

"Before the toss there was a short circuit and there was an issue in the system. Because of this, the toss was delayed. One floodlight tower wasn't getting enough power supply. Also, power supply to the broadcast production got affected, after which the officials worked to restore the system," a Mumbai Cricket Association official told *The Indian Express*.

It is understood that there was a fault with the diesel generator that was providing power to the broadcast production set-up.

The broadcasters had to use back-up power supply from the MCA instead, which took some time to become operational.

Meanwhile, CSK lost Devon Conway lbw for a golden duck in the very first over from Daniel Sams. But Conway was unable to review what looked like a tight call at best with the ball angled in and hitting Conway in front of leg stump. In the second over, Robin Uthappa made the review signal as well after being given lbw

It is understood that there was a fault with the diesel generator that was providing power to the broadcast production set-up.

off Jasprit Bumrah, but had to accept the on-field umpires' call and walk off.

Gif-worthy decision

The umpire Ravikant Reddy no doubt has walked into a viral GIF. He was shaping to extend his arms to signal a wide but such was the intensity in the appeal of the wicketkeeper MS Dhoni that he quickly aborted the wide plan, and pulled up his right arm to signal Hrithik Shokeen was out, caught down the leg side.

Of course, Shokeen wasn't amused and went for the DRS which showed that it wasn't a wide alright but it missed the bat comfortably and went off the thigh pad.

We have had a few instances like this in the past. Chris Gaffaney had once raised his finger to rule Cheteshwar Pujara out before at the last minute, preferring to scratch his hatted head. More famously, in 1997, the umpire Raman Sharma had begun to raise his finger to rule Ajay Jadeja caught behind but changed his mind to do a Gaffaney. Or rather Gaffaney did a Sharma. Reddy, merely, succumbed to the MS reputation.