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WEB EXCLUSIVE



### CASTE OR BIRADARI? HOW 'PRIVILEGE AND DESCENT' PLAYS OUT AMONG MUSLIMS

In the South Asian experience of religion, caste is often associated with Hinduism. Yet as sociological research on the lived experience of Islam in India has shown, caste is very much intrinsic to South Asia and practised by Muslims as well, albeit the nature of it might differ from that in Hinduism

TECH



### RAJU NARISETTI INTERVIEW

He speaks on Wikipedia's plans for India, the focus on regional languages

ENTERTAINMENT



### EMERGENCY MOVIE REVIEW

A wickedly entertaining social thriller that you need to unearth

# FROM PAGE ONE

## Madras HC

In March 2022, the Law Ministry approved only two: Mala and Sounthar. *The Sunday Express* has learnt that the Centre since has cleared two more names, Babu and Mohan. However, the recommendation of Hameed and Sathyan are said to be pending.

“The Government has some objections with the two names. They have not been sent back officially but they remain pending,” sources said.

The collegium to appoint judges of the High Court consists of the Chief Justice of India, Justices UU Lalit and Justice A M Khanwilkar.

Sources told *The Indian Express* that the state government and consultee judges – judges in the Supreme Court who are from the Madras High Court or have served in that High Court – had cleared the names of Hameed and Sathyan with “good reviews.”

Hameed is a Chennai-based advocate and heads AAV Partners, a law firm. He has pre-

viously been a junior to senior advocate Nalini Chidambaram. Sathyan is a leading criminal lawyer in Chennai. He has a Master's degree in Zoology and studied law from the Madras Law College in 1997. Sources said that even during 2016-2017, Sathyan was considered for elevation.

The Madras HC has a sanctioned strength of 75 judges. Currently, it has 60 judges.

Many in the Bar see this as a repeat of what had transpired in the case of C Emalias, another minority candidate recommended for judgeship.

In 2016, the Madras HC collegium had recommended the name of then Additional Public Prosecutor C. Emalias. A native of Kanyakumari district, Emalias comes from humble beginnings and had established a criminal law practice in Chennai.

The Supreme Court, in 2017, cleared the name along with eight other names. In 2018, the collegium reiterated the recommendation of Emalias along with that of Senthil Kumar Ramamoorthy, who was then Partner at Dua Associates.

In 2019, Ramamoorthy was appointed but Emalias was not. He was later appointed an Additional Advocate General of the state.

### Adani

Mumbai-based Indamer Aviation Pvt Ltd. “The proposed deal with Air Works is in line with the Adani Group's plan to leverage opportunities arising from the growing Indian civil aviation market and the increasing need for MRO services,” another source, aware of the discussions, told *The Indian Express*.

Queries sent to the Adani Group and Air Works Group did not elicit a response.

“Adanis have been keen on supplementing their airports portfolio with MRO for some time now. They have an arrangement with Indamer Aviation but that hasn't really taken off. They have even made some appointments last year to decide on the company's broader MRO strategy,” said a top executive at an airport development company.

In its annual report for 2020-21, Adani Enterprises noted that the outlook for the company is “underpinned by the fact that India is expected to emerge as the third largest aviation market catalysed by the government's decision to popularise the public-private partnership model, graduate India into an MRO hub, flexible use of air space and matured regulatory framework with assured returns”.

# Nothing in 8 years of my govt can cause shame to people: PM Modi

hard to take to saturation levels the schemes aimed at providing basic amenities... We are encouraging state governments to do the same and are helping them in this respect.”

Speaking of upholding the values of Gandhi and Patel, Modi said: “The revered Bapu (Gandhi) wanted an India which empowers every poor, Dalit, deprived, one who is suffering, our brothers and sisters from tribal communities, our mothers and sister; where cleanliness and health is part of way of life; whose economy is powered by indigenous solutions.”

By following the mantra of sabka sath, sabka vikas, sabka viswas aur sabka prayas, Modi said, his government has given a new impetus to the development of the country while keeping the poor in mind. “Pucca houses to three

crore families, 10 crore families freed from the compulsion of defecating in the open, nine crore women saved from the smoke (of conventional stoves), electricity connections to more than 2.5 crore poor families, piped water to six crore households, Rs 5 lakh worth of free medical treatment to 50 crore Indians -- these are not mere statistics,” said the PM.

He went on to speak about his government's works during the Covid-19 pandemic, saying it gave free rations to the poor, provided financial assistance through Jan-Dhan accounts, provided testing and treatment facilities and later free vaccines to all.

The multispeciality K D Parvadiya Hospital, inaugurated by Modi, has been constructed by the charitable Shree Patel Seva Samaj Trust, in

the state to new heights. “Before 2014, there used to be such a government in Delhi that it would not see projects in project files but only Modi. It would lose its composure and stamp files as either cancelled or rejected. They nixed all types of projects, and blocked our mother Narmada. For the Sardar Sarovar dam, we had to sit on a fast.”

He also said that when he took over as the CM of Gujarat in 2001, there were only nine medical colleges and 1,100 MBBS seats in the state, which was up to 30 medical colleges and 8,000 seats now.

Modi said infrastructure in Gujarat is also being upgraded at unprecedented speed and scale. “Today, you go to any corner of Gujarat and you will find small and big factories and industries,” the PM said.

grievances if they believe deductions have been unfair.

According to Palicha, the minimum guarantee is helpful for riders who work at newer warehouses that do not typically see many orders in a day. “Once the stores start doing good orders, we default back to their (delivery riders') regular rate cards,” he said.

Recently, a 19-year-old Zepto delivery staffer died after an unidentified vehicle hit his two-wheeler from the rear in Dwarka in northwest Delhi. Several stakeholders, including lawmakers and police, have repeatedly expressed concerns over traffic violations and safety as riders rush to meet unrealistic delivery deadlines.

Zepto's main rival Blinkit has cut the per-delivery payment to workers from Rs 50 to Rs 25, and introduced an incentive-based payout structure similar to Zomato's. According to the rider-side app that *The Sunday Express* accessed, Blinkit pays an incentive of Rs 100 for delivering 15 orders a day, and Rs 150 for delivering 32 orders a day.

Blinkit workers said their daily earnings are down by nearly 15-20 per cent, and they are now forced to deliver orders as quickly as possible in an attempt to achieve daily targets. “Under the old model, if I did 32 orders a day, I would make Rs 1,600, but under the new model, including the surge pricing during peak hours, I will make about Rs 1,350 for the same amount of work,” said a Blinkit worker who declined to be identified. The company did not respond to a detailed questionnaire sent by *The Sunday Express*.

A cash crunch has forced Blinkit to shut over 50 dark stores and lay off hundreds from its workforce in recent weeks. Zepto, meanwhile, closed a \$200 million funding round earlier this month at a valuation of \$900 million.

Platform firms like Zepto use third-party services to hire delivery workers. One of these providers is Zypp, which onboards riders for Zepto on a flat monthly remuneration of Rs 18,000, and also offers them an electric scooter. However, workers said that if they work even a day less than 28 days in a month, Zypp deducts Rs 3,000 from their monthly remuneration.

Two delivery workers at Blinkit and Zepto told *The Sunday Express* that their immediate supervisors resorted to verbal abuse if riders took more than 10 minutes to deliver an order. Palicha, however, claimed Zepto's attrition rate was the lowest among all hyperlocal delivery services, and 7 per cent lower than its immediate competitor's.

He also said that warehouse managers did not have visibility into individual orders. “If a rider's order is flagged to be suspicious, then a manager is alerted who will have a conversation with the rider,” Palicha said.

During a special enforcement drive against delivery riders violating traffic rules, the Greater Chennai Traffic Police recently registered cases against almost 1,000 delivery executives working for platforms like Swiggy, Zomato, and Dunzo.

“We file cases against delivery workers who engage in traffic violations and intimidate their respective companies about that. On the day we carried out the special enforcement drive... we registered close to 1,000 cases,” Kapil Kumar C Saratkur, Additional Commissioner of Police, Greater Chennai Traffic Police, told *The Sunday Express*.

“To put that number in perspective, we filed a total of around 8,000 cases of traffic violations that day. We believe there are 9,000 such workers in Chennai, and if 1,000 of them are being booked for breaking traffic rules on a single day, that is a huge number,” Saratkur added.


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**E-Procurement Notice (National Competitive Bidding)**  
e-Tenders are invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the following works:  
(i) e-Tender No.: **IRCON/ELECT/5037-5038/NCRTC/LV CABLES/OT/63** Dated: **23.05.2022**  
“Design, Manufacturing & Supply of Low Voltage (1.1KV) Cables for the work of Delhi – Ghaziabad – Meerut RRTS Corridor of NCRTC (Lot-1 Stage-1)”  
**Estimated Cost of the work** **₹ 2.86.39.992/-**  
**Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission for e-tender No. (i)** **06.06.2022 upto 17.00 Hrs.**  
(ii) e-Tender No.: **IRCON/ELECT/5037-5038/NCRTC/25KV CABLES/OT/64** Dated: **27.05.2022**  
“Design, Manufacturing and Supply of 25/52 kV Cable for Delhi – Ghaziabad – Meerut RRTS Corridor of NCRTC (Package 19 - Lot 2 Stage-2)”  
**Estimated Cost of the work** **₹ 5.98.05.000/-**  
**Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission for e-tender No. (ii)** **10.06.2022 upto 17.00 Hrs.**  
For further details, visit website <https://etenders.gov.in/enprocure/app>. Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the website.  
**Chief General Manager/Electrical, C-4 District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017**

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Applications are invited from candidates having Diploma in Engineering for admission to above mentioned Programme in Delhi Technological University. Classes for the same will be held in evening hours from Monday to Saturday (Timing 6 PM - 9 PM)

Programme	Mode of application	Last date for receipt of completed application forms
B.Tech. Programme Under Continuing Education for Working Professionals (For Civil & Electrical Engineering Branches)	Online	04-07-2022 (Monday)

For detailed information to fill online application form, please visit University website at [www.dtu.ac.in](http://www.dtu.ac.in). For any query please mail at [btechcont\\_edu@dtu.ac.in](mailto:btechcont_edu@dtu.ac.in).

Sd/-  
Registrar

**GOVT. OF ODISHA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER  
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KEONJHAR**  
eProcurement Notice for Road Works under Periodical Maintenance  
Identification No. Road Online NCB No. 339  
No. 1014 / Date: 21.05.2022



1. **Name of the work**  
2. **No. of work**  
3. **Estimated Cost**  
4. **Class of Contractor (Eligible)**  
5. **Period of Completion**  
6. **Other details**

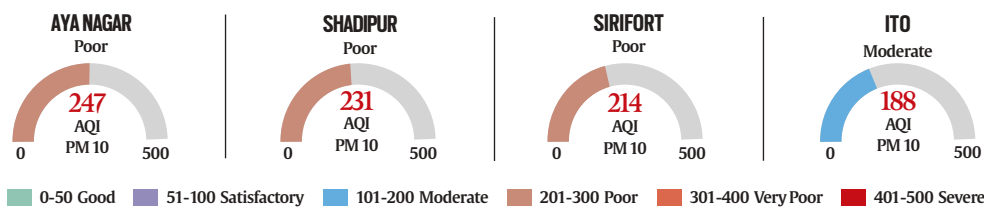
-> Periodical Maintenance (SDBC Work) in the District of Keonjhar.  
-> 10 (Ten) Nos.  
-> As per Annexure in NIT.  
-> As per Annexure in NIT.  
-> As per Annexure in NIT.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O.D.S.E.N.E.R.W. Circle, Keonjhar		
		From To	Clarification	Technical Bid Financial Bid		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	Road Online NCB No. 339	02.06.22 at 11.00 A.M.	03.06.22 up to 5.00 P.M.	04.06.22 up to 5.00 P.M.	05.06.22 up to 5.00 P.M.	06.06.22 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the website: [www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)

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Chief Construction Engineer,  
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**SKYWATCH**  
**FORECAST: May 29**  
 Partly cloudy sky  
**MAX: 41** | **MIN: 27**  
 0.6°C Above normal | 0.2°C Above normal

## IN GHAZIABAD

# After exchange of fire that lasted half an hour, two wanted men shot dead

MALAVIKA PRASAD  
GHAZIABAD, MAY 28

IN TWO separate incidents late Friday night, two wanted criminals were killed during an exchange of gunfire with the Ghaziabad Police, allegedly after they tried to evade arrest.

The accused have been identified as Avneesh alias Billu and Rakesh, residents of Dujana village in Gautam Buddha Nagar. According to police, Billu was the prime accused in a double murder case from three weeks ago in Kavinagar.

Both men carried bounties on their heads, police said—Rs 50,000 for Rakesh and Rs 1,00,000 for Billu.

G Muniraj, the Ghaziabad SSP, said, “We had increased our nightly checks and set up barricades after being tipped off that the accused had been spotted in the area. Late Friday, we were tipped off that Rakesh and his associate had been spotted near Madhuban Bapudham on a blue Bajaj Pulsar bike. The SWAT team of the Crime branch chased the



accused, but he opened fire and escaped.”

“The team informed the control room, and Superintendent of Police City 1st, Nipun Agarwal, along with his team, surrounded the accused, who opened fire. The police team were hit on their bullet-proof jackets and cross firing went on for 30 minutes, during which Rakesh was shot. He was provided first aid and taken to MMG District Hospital, where he was pronounced dead,” Muniraj added.

At Indrapuram, police were tipped off about Billu being spotted on NH-24, going towards

Pusta Road on a Honda Livo bike. “Superintendent of Police, Crime, Deeksha Sharma chased the accused along with her team, and his bike got caught in the fence near Pusta Bridge. The accused opened fire and there was cross firing that lasted 30 minutes, during which a police personnel was also injured. Billu was shot in the crossfire and sent to MMG District Hospital, where he was pronounced dead,” Muniraj said.

The two accused faced cases of murder and extortion, among others. Police said they were members of the Anil Dujana gang, infamous for criminal activities.



Police said the accused were members of the Anil Dujana gang, infamous for criminal activities. *Gajendra Yadav*

ities. While Billu had 27 cases against him, Rakesh had 15.

Rakesh's father Jaypal Singh (70) was at home in Dujana when he was informed of his son's death. “Police arrived in the morning and told me. They asked

us to identify the body and we left for the hospital,” he said, adding that he hadn't seen his son in 12 years. “I had not met him in so long that I have nothing to say.”

At Dujana village, the double encounter was the biggest talking point. “I heard about their death today on WhatsApp,” said Ajay Nagar, owner of a photocopy shop. “Our parents know each other but I had never met or seen Rakesh.”

“We had not seen both of them in years and most of us have forgotten about them,” said another resident.

Police said the bodies would be taken to a mortuary in Hindon for a post-mortem, after which they would be handed over to the families.

डी एन ए फिंगरप्रिंटिंग एवं निदान केंद्र  
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**CENTRE FOR DNA FINGERPRINTING AND DIAGNOSTICS**  
 (An autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India) Inner Ring Road, Uppal, Hyderabad-500039, Telangana, India. Tel: +91-40-2721 6014 / 6091, Fax: +91-40-2721 6006, Website: http://www.cdfd.org.in

## Advt. No. CDFD/EMPC/03/May'22

CDFD, an autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, invites applications from Indian nationals for the following purely temporary vacancies in research projects funded by National/ International agencies at CDFD like DST/DBT/ICMR/CSIR etc. The description of the positions and minimum qualifications for various vacancies are as follows:

- 1) Technical Associate (Experimental)
  - 2) Project Coordinator
  - 3) Computational Laboratory Manager
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  - 5) Project Scientist - III
  - 6) Project Scientist - II
  - 7) Research Associate - I
  - 8) Project Associate - I
  - 9) Project Associate - II
  - 10) Computer Programmer Grade 'A'
  - 11) Laboratory Assistant
  - 12) Project - Junior Research Fellow
  - 13) Project Senior Research Fellow
- Please refer CDFD website [www.cdfd.org.in](http://www.cdfd.org.in) for detailed information regarding projects, position(s), emoluments etc., application format and general conditions. Interested candidates may register their names by applying in the prescribed application form online. Complete the application form online at <http://www.cdfd.org.in>. The last date for receipt of the applications is **20.06.2022** and applications received after **20.06.2022** will be rejected.

## NHAI told to ensure emergency lanes are operational at toll plazas

**Gurgaon:** The Gurgaon deputy commissioner has directed the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to ensure dedicated emergency lanes are made operational at toll plazas in the district, adding that action would be taken against the concessionaire for failing to do so.

In an earlier road safety committee meeting in March 2022, the DC had said that concessionaires operating toll plazas on highways in Gurgaon would provide emergency medical services including ambulances, first aid, emergency life support services and trained staff for safety of citizens and to ensure smooth traffic flow.

Deputy commissioner Nishant Kumar Yadav chaired a meeting of the district road safety committee, and said the district administration will write to the NHAI to construct carriageways in industrial areas on the same specification as highways instead of service lanes. **ENS**

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**Extract of Statement of Consolidated Audited Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022** (₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Audited			
		Quarter ended		Year ended	
		31.03.2022	31.03.2021	31.03.2022	31.03.2021
1.	Total income from operations	410988	229531	1281217	828118
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and /or Extraordinary items)	27723	20119	78519	51365
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax (after exceptional and /or Extraordinary items)	27751	20590	91282	51836
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after exceptional and /or Extraordinary items)	21226	15352	68081	37530
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after Tax)	22394	16130	68166	37727
6.	Paid Up Equity Share Capital	55169	55169	55169	55169
7.	Reserves / Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserves)	329072	278174	329072	278174
8.	Net Worth	384241	333343	384241	333343
9.	Outstanding Debt (Long term)	136123	124727	136123	124727
10.	Long Term Debt Equity ratio	0.35 : 1	0.37 : 1	0.35 : 1	0.37 : 1
11.	Earnings Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each) (₹) *				
	(i) Basic (₹)	3.85	2.78	12.34	6.80
	(ii) Diluted (₹)	3.85	2.78	12.34	6.80
12.	Debt Redemption Reserve	**Refer Note	**Refer Note	**Refer Note	**Refer Note
13.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio *	1.28	1.18	2.99	2.26
14.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	7.39	7.92	8.76	4.83

\* Not annualised in case of quarterly figures  
 \*\* In accordance with Gazette Notification No. GSR 574(E) dated 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs Company is not required to create Debt Redemption Reserve in respect of the above referred debentures as they have been issued on private placement basis.

**Formula used for calculation of Ratios:**  
 a. Debt : equity Ratio = (Long Term Borrowings + Current maturities of Long Term Borrowings) / (Shareholders funds)  
 b. Debt Service Coverage Ratio = (Profit before Finance costs, Depreciation, Exceptional Items and Tax) / (Finance Costs + Current maturities of Long Term Borrowings)  
 c. Interest Service Coverage Ratio = (Profit before Finance costs, Depreciation, Exceptional Items and Tax) / (Finance Costs)

**Key numbers of Standalone Financial Results of the Company are as under:** (₹ in lakh)

Particulars	Quarter ended		Year ended	
	31.03.2022	31.03.2021	31.03.2022	31.03.2021
Total Income	414066	233670	1294862	840779
Profit / (Loss) before tax	27757	20440	91514	51617
Profit / (Loss) after tax	21232	15202	68313	37311
Total Comprehensive Income for the period	22400	15980	68398	37508

**Notes:** 1. The above financial results are drawn in accordance with the accounting policies consistently followed by the Company. The results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. These results have been reviewed by the Statutory Auditors as required under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. 2. The results for the quarter and year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 are in compliance with the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act 2013 read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2016. 3. Board of Directors at their meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 have declared a final dividend of ₹ 2.37 per equity share of ₹ 10/- each, i.e. 23.70% on paid up equity share capital of the Company for the financial year 2021-22 which is subject to approval of Shareholder's of the Company. This is in addition to the interim dividend of ₹ 1.35 per equity share paid by the Company. 4. The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Financial Results for quarter and year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 filed with the BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the standalone and consolidated Financial Results are available on the website of the Company at [www.rcftd.com](http://www.rcftd.com) and also available on the website of Stock Exchanges at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com)

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors  
**RASHTRIYA CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS LIMITED**  
 (S. C. Mudgerikar)  
 Chairman & Managing Director  
 DIN : 03498637

**Dated : 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**  
**Place: Mumbai**

**Chardham & Hemkunt Sahib Yatra**  
 A warm welcome to all the registered pilgrims who have come on the Yatra

**Narendra Modi**  
 Prime Minister

“In view of the ever-increasing number of devotees, I appeal to all of you dear devotees that before starting the Chardham Yatra, kindly check the availability on the portal <https://registrationandtouristcare.uk.gov.in> operated by the tourism department. Get registered to start the Chardham Yatra. Also the devotees should pay special attention to the fact if there are breathing and heart-related problems due to high altitude, cold and lack of oxygen, they must undergo a health check-up before coming to the Yatra. All of you are requested to give your cooperation to the administration to make the Chardham Yatra smooth experience. The Uttarakhand government is committed to your welcome and continued cooperation.”

**Pushkar Singh Dhami**  
 Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

**Important Notice**  
**ChardhamYatra will not be allowed without registration. Start the journey only when you have been registered.**

Registration for ChardhamYatra can be done at <https://registrationandtouristcare.uk.gov.in>.

Leave for the journey only after the health check-up.

It would be appropriate for old and sick persons and persons suffering from Covid in the past not to go on the journey or postpone it for some time.

The ChardhamYatra is till Deepawali. So to avoid the crowd, schedule your journey according to the convenience and availability on the portal.

For any health related information, we will contact on the helpline number 104 and 108 for ambulance.

Information & Public Relations Department, Issued in Public Interest by Uttarakhand | [uttarakhandtourism.gov.in](http://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in)  
 Helpline No. 0135-2559898, 2552627, 3520100, Toll Free No. 1364, Other Estates +91 135 1364, Time-7.00 AM to 9.00 PM



## 4 THE CITY



VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS	23,220
PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL:	74
OXYGEN SUPPORT	20
VENTILATOR SUPPORT	3

DELHI TOTAL CASES	19,05,954
May 27	Cases 445 Recoveries 479 Deaths 0 Tests 21,816
May 28	Cases 442 Recoveries 428 Deaths 0 Tests 21,914
Total	Cases 1,641* Recoveries 18,78,105 Deaths 26,208 Tests 3,84,81,103

\*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA	May 27	May 28
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A
GURGAON	May 27	May 28
Cases	170	164
Deaths	0	0

## BRIEFLY

## Man gets 'threat calls from number with police chief's photo'

**New Delhi:** The Special Cell registered an FIR after an advocate filed a complaint alleging that an unknown person, who used the Delhi Police Commissioner's picture in his Truecaller and WhatsApp number, was threatening to implicate him in a false case, officers said.

## Man assaults neighbour's dog during argument

**Noida:** A man allegedly assaulted his neighbour's pet dog after an argument broke out between them Friday. "The accused was talking to his neighbour when they got into an argument. The neighbour's dog barked at the accused, who assaulted it with a weapon," said Anjani Kumar Singh, SHO Jewar.

## 4 held for robbing senior citizens

**New Delhi:** Four men were arrested for allegedly posing as policemen from the Crime Branch and CBI and stealing valuables from senior citizens on the pretext of checking. Three caps with badges of the UP Police, Bihar Police and Indian Army were also recovered from their possession, said police.

## School claims group barged in during exam

**Gurgaon:** An FIR was registered at Pataudi police station Friday after the principal of a private school alleged that a group allegedly barged into the premises while an exam was going on and abused an official. Police later said investigation found that a minor altercation had broken out between two students outside the school and there was no hindrance to the exam.

## Sharpshooter arrested

**Gurgaon:** Faridabad police Friday said they arrested a sharpshooter of the Kaushal gang, who was accused in at least eight murder cases in Punjab and Haryana, including that of Haryana Congress leader Vikas Chaudhary in June 2019. **ENS**

## 600 small hospitals, nursing homes in Delhi neighbourhoods yet to comply with fire norms

ANONNA DUTT  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

**MINOR FIRES** at Delhi's Safdarjung and Makkar hospitals on Friday morning have sparked renewed concerns on how hundreds of small hospitals and nursing homes in the capital are currently operating without fire safety clearance or formal registration with the nursing home cell.

This is because these facilities — at least 600 small hospitals and nursing homes built in residential areas — cannot comply with existing safety norms for institutional buildings, including the creation of a 6-metre-wide access road for fire tenders, having 2.4-metre-wide corridors,

and 2-metre-wide staircases.

With structural changes like these being impractical for hospitals built on small plots of land, a Delhi government committee under the chairmanship of Health Minister Satyendar Jain had prepared a set of draft fire safety norms for such "mixed use" hospitals.

"There are around 1,100 hospitals and nursing homes in the capital and only about 100 can comply with the existing guidelines. There are a few that do operate only on the ground and first floor and others that do only day-care procedures that do not need the NOC," said an official.

The new norms required the hospitals to have sprinklers and automatic fire alarms, but it did away with norms such as two

staircases of 2 metres in width for these smaller hospitals.

These norms were, however, never notified. "It was pending between Delhi's home department and the L-G office. However, the draft was completely discarded after the Supreme Court asked to carry out strict fire safety audits in hospitals with Covid patients," the government official said. Now, the matter has been taken to court by the Delhi Medical Association.

"In the 2007 Delhi Master Plan, hospitals were allowed to open in residential areas as mixed land use. Hospitals over 15 metres high were considered industrial buildings and needed to comply with the guidelines. However, others were consid-

ered to be for 'other activities' and did not need fire clearance. After the Karol Bagh fire (which killed 17 people in 2019), this height for requirement of fire NOC was reduced to 9 metres," said Dr Prem Aggarwal, director of Sanjeevan hospital and one of the members of the committee that came up with the new set of norms.

This led to a problem with the renewal of registrations of these hospitals and nursing homes. All hospitals and nursing homes in the city, by law, have to be registered with the nursing home cell to operate in Delhi, but a fire NOC is needed to renew the registration.

The hospitals received provisional registrations in March 2020 when inspections were

suspended by the government due to Covid. The registration process began again in September last year.

However, at least 600 similar facilities haven't been able to comply with fire norms and renew their registration. "There are hospitals running without registrations, yes," said Dr Aggarwal.

Dr Ashwini Dalmiya, president of the Delhi Medical Association, said, "There is a problem with registrations. The Delhi government has now started asking for fire NOC for registrations, but these hospitals cannot follow the institutional guidelines for fire safety. There is a need to follow the guidelines for mixed land use and hence we have gone to court over this issue."

## A marble tomb and gravestone sprinkled with petals: Rediscovering Ghalib in the city

SUANSHU KHURANA  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

*'Ai saakinaan-e kuchah-e dildaar dekhnna, tumko kahin jo Ghalib-e-ashuftah sar mile* (O! the people living in the street of my beloved, keep an eye, for you may run into that insane Ghalib somewhere!)

Ghalib Street, the narrow lane that leads to the famed dar-gah of Nizamuddin Auliya, ends at the tomb of Asadullah Baig Khan, better known by his pen name, Ghalib. It is an unassuming monument adjacent to Urs Mahal (assembly hall), a large courtyard where *qawwali* is held on festival days.

It's away from Gali Qasim Jaan in Ballimaran, Chandni Chowk, where the poet wrote and lived for about half a century from 1797 to 1869. The haveli that is currently attributed to Ghalib is where the most-quoted poet in the subcontinent spent the last nine years of his life. Gifted to Ghalib by a *hakeem*, who admired his poetry, this haveli was a wedding hall before the Delhi government acquired it and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) restored it.

As for the Urdu poet's tomb, it is located along the Chausath Khamba (64 pillars), which was originally built by Mirza Aziz Koka, emperor Akbar's foster brother, during Jahangir's reign. It is at the end of a busy lane with vendors selling flowers and *chaadar* for the Nizamuddin shrine, and the aroma of freshly roasted *kebabs* and *sheermal* that wafts into the air from the nearby Ghalib Kabab Corner.

Mirza Ghalib's resting place has a small marble tomb built over the grave by the Aga Khan Foundation and INTACH, and one will often find fresh rose petals on the gravestone.

Watching kids play cricket in front of the verandah of the Lal Mahal, lawyer and historian Saif Mahmood, who has authored the book *Beloved Delhi: A Mughal City And Her Greatest Poets*, says, "If Ghalib was here, he would be playing cricket."

When we enter, the lone



Mirza Ghalib's tomb in Nizamuddin; (left) historian Saif Mahmood. *Praveen Khanna*

that death would bring! It's better to perish at sea... Then there would be no funerals to attend, and no grave would there be!'

Ghalib ki Mazaar, the Delhi government board says at the entry. But it's shut and in front of it are piled discarded food plates. "It should be Ghalib ka Mazaar. Mazaar is a masculine word in Urdu. *Qabr hoti hai, Mazaar hota hai*. So, the basics of Urdu are wrong at Ghalib's mazaar. I had even pointed this out to the Delhi government in many emails, but Ghalib 'Ki' Mazaar remains," says Mahmood. The poet's wife Umrao Begum is buried next to him, as is poet Saghar Nizami (1905-1983).

Ghalib died in 1869. At the time he was writing, Farsi was the language of poetry, not Urdu. "Ghalib wanted to prove to everyone that he was a better Farsi poet than other Persian poets and even Urdu poets. But then he also says, *Jo ye kahe ki rekhta kyunke ho rashk-e-farsi, Gulta-e-Ghalib ek baar padh ke use sun? ki yun* (If anyone asks, 'how can Urdu compete with Farsi', read him Ghalib's verse and say: 'like this')," says Mahmood.

According to the historian, Ghalib's life philosophy can be

found in a tiny book by him — Diwan-e-Ghalib.

"His biographer, *Barrister Bijori*, had once said that India has only had two revealed books — the holy Vedas and Diwan-e-Ghalib. Ghalib isn't just a poet of *hush* (beauty) and *visaal* (lust) or *sharaab* (alcohol) or *kebab*. The kind of humanism you find in him, you will find it in just about four-five poets all over the world. That wry sense of humour, some amazing letters — these are as amazing as his poetic heritage; they are of immense value," says Mahmood, who also believes that if you see Ghalib as a humanist, he is, of the same stature, if not greater, than Khusrav or Nizamuddin.

"*Jo baat ye (Ghalib) keh gaye hain*, I feel it's sometimes far deeper even than Nizamuddin Auliya and Amir Khusrav, who are buried here close by and look how those spaces are conserved," says Mahmood. "People have deep faith when it comes to the Nizamuddin dar-gah. It's a spiritual connect. But that faith does not lie with Ghalib. People have this opinion that someone who drank and gambled, how could he be a philosopher. And even if he is, one needs to stay away from his philosophy," says Mahmood.

In 2016-17, the Maharashtra Police filed an affidavit in the tribunal under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) saying that they had found a Ghalib couplet in the diary of an alleged suspect. "So, according to them, this was seditious. Now Urdu is called a Muslim language by many, so this probably stemmed from there," says Mahmood, who hopes that the courtyard around the tomb can be utilised for a *mushaira* or a literary event around Ghalib. "So much can be done here. One can only hope," says Mahmood, as we walk out.

As we leave, the children are still playing cricket. And in the midst of the sound of an electric iron cutter and the sight of discarded plastic plates, one is left wondering if the poet chose well in adopting Delhi — the place he cherished as his beloved — as home for his burial.



guard posted outside is asleep.

Mahmood has been coming here since his childhood, much before this marble maqbara was built. "The whole space was in a very bad shape. Back in the day,

every year, on Ghalib's death anniversary (February 15), there was an Urs celebrated by Ghalib Academy. But even after the *maqbara* has been built, ornamentation done, and the red sandstone structure altered with plaster, one is pained at the shape the place is in. Even today, there is no one to guide us here. This

place could very well be our Stratford-upon-Avon but look at the hue and cry they make about it in England because it's Shakespeare's home and grave. Far from encouraging tourists, those here will start by not allowing cameras so that no one finds out the terrible shape the place is in. This is how we maintain our cultural heritage," says Mahmood, who recites Ghalib's famous couplet, "*Hue mar ke hum jo ruswa, hue kyun na gark-e-darya; Na kabhi jinaaza uththa, Na kahin mazaar hota* (Oh, the ignominy

## Shameful, says Thakur on stadium being emptied for IAS couple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, MAY 28

UNION MINISTER for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur Saturday referred to *The Indian Express* report on athletes training at the Delhi government-run Thyagraj Stadium being forced to wrap training earlier than usual so that Delhi principal secretary (revenue) Sanjeev Khirwar could walk his dog on the tracks, and called the incident "shameful".

Hours after the report on Thursday, the IAS officer was transferred to Ladakh and his wife Rinku Dugga, also an IAS officer, was transferred to Arunachal Pradesh.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal issued an order for all sporting facilities in the city to remain open till 10 pm.

"In New Delhi, an IAS couple used to empty the sports stadium to walk their dog in the evening. There can be nothing more shameful than that. After news reports came out, the Delhi government did nothing about it. But Union Home Minister Amit Shah took immediate action, and their transfer orders to a remote location were issued. The message was clear — this will not be tolerated," said Thakur.

A senior AAP leader said: "The Delhi government took the only action that was under their jurisdiction and extended the timing of sports facilities. The services department does not

come under the elected government but the Lieutenant Governor, which means that any action against officers can be taken only by the MHA and the L-G. We can't even recommend action officially."

Thakur was in Pune for the naming ceremony and inauguration of the Khashaba Jadhav Sports Complex at Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU). He further said: "It is athletes who win medals for the country, and they were being made to stand outside the stadium while the couple was walking a dog inside. No one should interfere with the training of athletes. There is nothing more shameful. Even here, at the 27-acre sports complex which has been inaugurated and the synthetic track which has been created, your faculty can come to practice sports if they want but please don't wear slippers and come for a walk on the track. Or even the badminton court. Please ensure that only people wearing non-marking shoes are allowed."

In his speech, he said that sports grounds should not be allowed to remain idle and competitions should be organised one after the other. Competitions help athletes to judge their training-level, he added.

The sports complex has facilities to accommodate players from multiple fields, including wrestling, tennis, kabaddi, kho-kho, badminton, swimming, gymnastics, hockey and football.

## Bypoll politics heats up as AAP picks Durgesh to contest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

THE AAM Aadmi Party has accused BJP of "running away" from the upcoming bypolls, alleging that two senior party leaders have refused to contest from the recently vacated Rajinder Nagar seat.

AAP has declared its Political Affairs Committee member Durgesh Pathak as the candidate from the seat, which fell vacant after former MLA Raghav Chadha was elected as the Rajya Sabha MP from Punjab.

AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh claimed BJP state unit president Adesh Gupta and spokesperson Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga had decided to not contest the by-elections.

Referring to a news article about the alleged refusal of the two leaders to contest polls, Singh said, "Everyone recognises these two faces very well — one is BJP Delhi state president Adesh Gupta, and the other is the infamous Tajinder Bagga, both of whom have refused to contest the bypolls from the Rajinder Nagar constituency. They clearly do not have the courage to face Arvind Kejriwal's government or to contest against AAP's competent and honest candidate. Hence, both of them have absconded from the elections out of the fear of an embarrassing defeat."

Bagga, meanwhile, said he had promised the people of Hari Nagar, from where he contested polls in 2020, that he would not abandon them. "I will not run away, like Arvind Kejriwal ran from Varanasi," he said. Kejriwal had contested the 2014 Lok Sabha polls from Varanasi against now PM Narendra Modi.

AAP stated that the BJP should have come forward and faced Pathak in the upcoming elections.

"Ever since the bypolls were announced for the Rajinder Nagar constituency, the very leaders in the BJP, who are leading the 'Pol



Singh hit out at BJP; AAP's Durgesh Pathak

Khol Abhiyaan' against the Aam Aadmi Party government throughout Delhi, have been exposed," Singh added.

The AAP attributed the refusal to file elections to the BJP's fear of Kejriwal's honesty and work-oriented government.

Delhi BJP, meanwhile, said that Kejriwal had abandoned Delhi to contest from Varanasi, Chadha abandoned Rajinder Nagar residents for Punjab, and Pathak was abandoning Karawal Nagar to contest from Rajinder Nagar, which showed that AAP is only interested in politics and power and not the people.

Delhi BJP general secretary Harsh Malhotra said theirs is a democratic party. "Our organisation is like a family and candidates are selected with everybody's consent and consensus. On the other hand, the AAP is a party with dictatorial mindset and runs around a single individual. If it couldn't get a local person to contest, then making an outsider its candidate is like cheating local people there as he wouldn't know problems of the area," he said.

## Experts divided on lakhs of trees along floodplains

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

FERCELY GUARDED from grazing cattle on the Yamuna's floodplains in Northeast Delhi's Garhi Mandu are lakhs of saplings and trees planted there in lieu of those felled for infrastructure projects. Sections of the floodplain near the Signature Bridge are visibly green, even from a distance.

Such dense plantations on the active floodplains are not desirable, said A K Gosain, professor emeritus at IIT-Delhi, who is a member of the expert committee constituted on orders of the NGT to monitor rejuvenation of the river and its floodplains. "This is the active floodplain, which means it gets inundated every year. Anything that you put here is a resistance to the flow. Plantations should be as far from the floodplain as possible," he said.

Repeated flooding also means it is difficult to protect saplings. Several hectares of the floodplains where saplings have been



Compensatory plantation on the floodplains in Northeast Delhi's Garhi Mandu. *Express*

planted is low-lying land that is flooded in the monsoon. The last time the area witnessed major flooding was in 2019, said a forest department staffer in charge of the plantation sites at Garhi Mandu. If the water recedes quickly, there is no damage to trees, he said. But in some parts of

the floodplains, like a patch at Shastri Park, saplings were destroyed by water that remained stagnant for a long while. Around 16,000 saplings will be planted in the area this year, said Aditya Madanpotra, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Division, adding that suitable species like

sheesham, that can withstand flooding, would be planted.

To illustrate, large swathes of a 19-hectare patch used for compensatory afforestation of an NHAI project are densely covered in trees planted in the 2019-20 financial year. But small patches were incongruously empty — the

saplings have been planted, but have not quite made it. "The trees that survived are on higher land," the forest department official said.

In the Central Forest Division, within which much of the floodplain falls, compensatory plantation has been carried out on 245 hectares, with 2,97,789 saplings, as per records.

Additionally, around 357.6 hectares was handed over by DDA to the Forest department for plantation activity from 1975 onwards. Around 1,63,000 saplings were planted here. At Garhi Mandu, a total of 42.1 acres of land is now a 'city forest', where there's a mud track for walks.

In January, at a meeting of the expert committee, Gosain noted, as per the minutes: "Delhi government should be directed that such compensatory activities should be prevented in the floodplain and if required, be only carried out in the outermost area of the floodplain, where floodwater reaches only in 1 in 50 year or so."

However, Shashank Shekhar, professor, Department of

Geology, Delhi University, said, "If it's a native species which is suitable for the river banks, then it's good." The plantations must be done in a scientific manner, with the correct species, and must not be monoculture plantations, he added.

Faiyaz Khudsar, scientist in charge of the Biodiversity Parks Programme and the Yamuna Biodiversity Park, identified species that are suitable for the floodplains — trees like kadamb, sheesham, arjun, semal and jamun for the top storey, and others like amla, bael and doodhi for the middle storey. While the forest department has planted some of these species, it has also used some that are not usually found in such areas. Neem, pilkhan and jungle jalebi, for instance, are not suitable species for the floodplains, Khudsar said.

At a plantation site near the Shastri Park Metro station, out of 3,244 trees planted, 850 were jungle jalebi, 560 were pilkhan trees and more than 180 were neem trees.







ADVERTORIAL

# Jaypee Hospital Is Setting A Benchmark In Delivering Excellence In Healthcare

The Hospital motto is ‘Life First’



**From The Time You Have Taken Over The Helm Of Affairs As The Ceo Of Jaypee Hospital, What Are The Developments That Have Initiated Here In Terms Of Medical Care?**

I joined Jaypee Hospital as the Director of cardiac surgery in 2014 and subsequently in 2016 also assumed the appointment of CEO of Jaypee Healthcare. Jaypee hospitals are located at Palampur, Bulandshahr and Anoop Nagar. I come from an army background, where in addition to my speciality I had the opportunity to serve in various administrative appointments. I personally believe that a clinical background proves to be an advantage as an administrator. I took on the responsibility of CEO with many an advantage on my side as a doctor, surgeon and administrator, besides experience. In every sphere of medical care we have kept pace with the introduction of new technology and our departments and institutes have grown to achieve a status of world class referral centres. We have been able pursue various academic activities and have started PG programs in a number of specialities.

**Could You Share About The Outreach Hospitals Of Jaypee Group?**

The Jaypee Group has done several projects in Himachal Pradesh and our Chairman, Mr. Jaiprakash Gaur has an emotional bond with the state. He realised that a state-of-the-art healthcare centre was lacking in the state and he took the responsibility of building and running Vivekananda Medical Institute at Palampur. Mr Gaur's home town is Bulandshahr which again holds a nostalgic and special place in his heart. The town lacked a comprehensive healthcare facility and Jaypee group has established a multispecialty hospital in the town.

**Do You Have Any Expansion Plans In The Near Future?**

We are constantly upgrading and strengthening the existing facilities that we have. Recently, we have set-up current generation Cath-labs at each of our hospitals at Palampur and Bulandshahr and the numbers of ICU beds have been increased to cater to the increasing workload of these centres. These hospitals already have CT scans and in the near future we will be setting up MRI machines. Nursing college is also awaiting state government's approval to be started from the next session at VMI, Palampur.

**How Do You Envisage The Master Jaypee Hospital In Noida Growing As A Medical Hub?**

The main thrust of this hospital has been on creating it as an academic centre. It is my belief and conviction that any hospital that has teaching facilities and an academic environment also provides better and modern patient care. It encourages the doctors to work in a more academic manner than focus on just the commercial aspect of their profession. Consequently, it is noticed that the casualty is better attended, the patients are better tended to and the conversation is largely professional. Keeping this in mind we have started DNB programmes in different specialities and various Fellowships in this hospital.

**India Is Known To Be A Medical Destination For Not Only Its Expert Doctors, But Also For The Affordable Treatment That It Offers. How Is Jaypee Hospital Leveraging This Aspect?**

It is indeed remarkable that for a hospital that started in 2014, our reputation as a credible hospital providing personalised medical care was quickly established such that at times upto twenty percent of our patients are from foreign countries. We have significant number of international patients following our outreach programmes and collaboration with local hospitals in various SAARC and Central Asian countries. We also conduct OPDs in Iraq and some African countries. Our institute has been training doctors from abroad in various specialities and offering certificate programmes. Medical tourism and academics are the strengths of Jaypee Hospital and also among the main thrust for developing this facility as a Centre of Excellence.

**It Is Said Screening Is The First Step Towards Prevention. What Is Jaypee Doing On This Front?**

We do corporate health check-ups with whom we have tie-ups, and our proactive marketing team has a monthly schedule for regular check-ups, mother and child check-up, organiz-



**Dr (Lt. Gen) Manoj Luthra is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Jaypee Healthcare and has the administrative responsibility of looking after Jaypee Hospital, Noida (U.P.) and other hospitals of the Jaypee group. He is a renowned, practicing cardiac surgeon with over 30 years experience in all aspects of Cardiac Surgery and was previously Dean of Armed Forces Medical College before assuming his present appointment.**

ing health camps etc. Not less than 15-20 such camps are organized every month in the hospital, neighbourhood and outreach which are area specific depending on the medical issues faced by the community residing there. Recently, we started issuing a health card valid for a period of 30 years to our ex-patients, which entitles them for follow-ups and general health check-ups for a discounted fee. The hospital also has a dedicated patient welfare department; a member of the department will meet every patient at the time of admission and share their contact numbers. This provides them direct access to the representative of the welfare department for any help or reports any problem. At the time of discharge a feedback is also taken from the patient for assessing the services offered to them in the hospital. The welfare team also reports to the doctors concerned regarding the response of the patient to the treatment if necessary. Accordingly, it helps in streamlining the managing modalities of treatment of the patients. We also have check-up camps at colleges and schools with those having tie-ups with us. It was temporarily

discontinued due to the Covid pandemic but we intend to re-start them soon.

**During The Covid Pandemic, How Did Jaypee Hospital Cope With The Unprecedented Medical Emergency?**

We divided the hospital into two sections- Covid and non-Covid. The west wing of the hospital was earmarked for Covid and all admissions, tests, ICU etc. was separate from the East wing, which was open for the regular patients. The division of space was done in such a way that the interaction of doctors and staff of both wings can be avoided, except in cases when speciality doctors had to check-on Covid patients having co-morbidities and needed emergency attention. Such doctors adhered to strict protocol. The hospital beds were segregated so that we were able to establish 200 non-ventilated beds plus 100 ICU beds for Covid patients.

**What Are The Gaps In The Medical System That Need To Be Bridged?**

The fundamental issue is about the reach or accessibility of medical care to the masses. Though there is a system in place for healthcare beginning with primary health centres, district hospitals, government hospitals, yet despite the best of intentions they are never enough. These hospitals never have enough medicines and infrastructure is inadequate to provide for a teeming population. So there is a mismatch between how much can be provided and the demand. When it comes to high-end corporate sector hospitals, only people who can afford it are treated in such facilities. The common man cannot afford such expensive treatment and therefore does not get the best, which he has a right to.

**How Are You Ensuring Equitable Healthcare At Jaypee Hospital?**

The credit goes to our Founder Chairman, Jaiprakash Gaur ji, whose vision and mission was to provide an ethical healthcare facility in this region, where the common man can receive the latest advanced treatment at affordable cost. Every patient visiting Jaypee hospital gets equal care irrespective of the economic status and ethnicity. All our healthcare workers are trained to provide personalised and compassionate care. Our patient welfare department regularly takes feedback from every patient to help improve patient care continuously.

**Does Cardiac Problem Occur Due To Fatigue And Wear And Tear Of The Heart From Years Of Uninterrupted Functioning?**

Repetitive functioning of an organ per se does not lead to fatigue. But wear and tear does occur pertaining to the organ's functionality because the entire cellular structure in the body is affected due to the ageing process. There are hormonal changes as well over a period of time, which affect the optimal level of functioning of various organs. Also, one ages because ones thinking changes along with a host of other psychosomatic reasons. Consequently, all body organs will follow that natural process. In addition the condition of the heart gets impacted because of other factors e.g., Atheroma occurs wherein there is a build-up of deposits such as fat, cholesterol and calcium, that adhere to arteries of the heart, all of which leads to the narrowing of arteries, the valves become more fibrous as age progresses that could cause leakage and gradients as a result of which the heart has to put in extra effort to pump blood. Such a pathology eventually impacts heart health.

**When An Individual Is Young Their**

**Body Can Withstand Pressures Of Various Kinds, Then Why Is It That There Are Increasing Cases Of Young Heart Attacks?**

The singular biggest reason for increase in the incidence of heart attacks in young adults is probably the change of habits, termed as lifestyle changes in medical parlance. The common lifestyle habits that are detrimental for the

over-all health of an individual are varied, stress triggered by various circumstances, emotional or otherwise, leading a sedentary lifestyle with lack of exercise and substance abuse like smoking cigarettes and alcohol consumption etc.

Family history too has a role to play where genetic influences make an individual more susceptible to a heart problem. Probably, miss-

ing out on the 10000 steps in a day, the kind of food one consumes which is high in sodium and saturated fats etc is the most important factor. My advice to the people is to walk for a healthy heart.

**Women Too Are Increasingly Becoming Heart Patients At A Younger Age. Could You Share The Reason For It?**

Yes, the situation in women is as grim as heart attacks in young men. The reasons leading to heart problems are similar to those in men and probably the foremost is a changing lifestyle. Women until reaching menopause were naturally protected from a heart problem by the hormone Estrogen. But now with drastic lifestyle changes that have altered hormonal balance has made young women also vulnerable to cardiac issues. This is becoming a significant social issue as the impacts of heart problems have a cascading effect on not only the young patient, but also the family and the socio-economical matrix.

**When You Look Back What Makes You Proud About Your Team?**

I feel proud that we have such excellent doctors who can handle any medical emergency and can speak at any international forum with confidence. And the commitment of the entire staff is commendable. Many who joined the team when the hospital started are still with us and continue to work with the same commitment and dedication. Even during the Covid pandemic not one of them complained or excused themselves from work. In fact, they worked more fiercely to tackle the situation. What more could I ask for!



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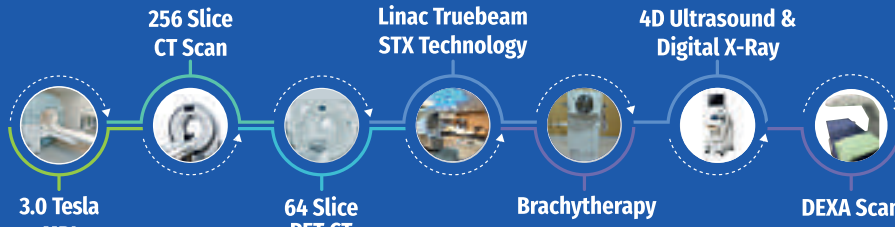
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# Govt & Politics

## Night shift: UP brings new rules for women in factories

**ASAD REHMAN**  
LUCKNOW, MAY 28

IN A move to improve ease of doing business in Uttar Pradesh, the state government has amended rules for women working at factories and introduced a new set of conditions for factories to ensure safety and security of their women employees.

Labour Department Additional Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra on Saturday said that under the new regulations, woman factory workers can work after 7pm and before 6am if they give their consent in writing to the employer. "If there are women who want to work in night shift, they can do so after giving it in writing," Chandra told *The Sunday Express*.

"There are some conditions that have been brought for factories where women work at night. After fulfilling them, the factories will be allowed to make women work at night. Previously, the process for factories to get permission was a lengthy one. We have made it easier," he said. "So far, night shift was not allowed without special permission. Now, we have allowed night shift too. These rules are only applicable on factories."

"The application process for women to work at night will be online. The factories can send an application and state they are fulfilling the conditions. It will be done on the Labour Commissioner portal. And permission will be granted," Chandra said.

Laying down the new conditions for factories, Chandra in an order on Friday said women will not be allowed to work at factories between 7pm to 6am unless they give written consent. Also, no woman worker "shall be terminated from her employment if she refuses to work" in that time slot. The conditions include that women who choose to work between 7 pm and 6 am "shall be provided free transportation from her residence to workplace by employer... and back".

## After 2020 jolt, BJP set to go solo in Haryana civic elections

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 28

THE BJP on Saturday announced that it will go solo in the Haryana civic elections scheduled on June 19. The party is ruling the state in alliance with the Jannayak Janata Party with which it had contested the last civic polls in 2020, but had suffered a jolt.

"The BJP state executive has decided to contest the polls alone. In all municipal corporations, we will contest the election on party symbol," state BJP president Om Prakash Dhankar said.

The decision, announced after a two-day meeting of the state executive in Hisar, comes a day after a Delhi court awarded a four-year jail term to former Haryana CM Om Prakash Chautala in a disproportionate assets (DA) case and ordered to seize four of his properties. Following the court order, the BJP cancelled all its party programmes till further notice.

Chautala's grandson Dushyant Chautala is Deputy CM in the alliance government.

Announcing the cancellation of party programmes Friday, Dushyant's younger brother Digvijay Chautala said, "The sentence awarded to my grandfather... is painful and unfortunate. We hope that a relief shall be granted by High Court... in wake of the punishment. BJP's all political programmes stand cancelled".

While there was no immediate reaction from the BJP over its ally's decision, Dhankar said BJP's election committee will meet in Panchkula on July 1 to take decision on candidates. "Before this, an observer will be sent to every district on May 30 and 31 where they will meet the local party leaders. Then, based on their report, a final decision will be taken in panchkula," Dhankar said. He said the party will contest the polls on party symbol, the district units will take a call on whether to contest the elections to municipal committees on party symbol.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed by BJP state president CR Patil at an event in Gandhinagar on Saturday. Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel and Union Home Minister Amit Shah are also present. *Nirmal Harindran*

## Fertiliser subsidy Bill to cross Rs 2 lakh cr this year, says PM

**AVINASH NAIR**  
GANDHINAGAR, MAY 28

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Saturday said the Central government's subsidy Bill for fertilisers will cross an estimated Rs 2 lakh crore this financial year — 25 per cent more than the fertiliser subsidy of the last financial year.

The Prime Minister virtually inaugurated the "country's first Nano Urea Liquid" plant of IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited) during a "Sahakar Se Samridhi" event — a gathering of all cooperative institutions of Gujarat — at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. The Rs 175-crore IFFCO unit at Kalol has a capacity to produce 1.5 lakh 500 ml bottles of Nano Urea.

During the event, Modi also promised to set up eight new Nano Urea liquid plants that will help reduce India's dependence on imported fertilisers.

"I am feeling a special happiness while inaugurating the country's first Nano Urea plant at Kalol... The half a litre bottle of

Nano Urea will equivalent to one bag (50 kg) of Urea. Just imagine the amount of transportation cost it will save for the farmer. In coming days, eight more such plants will be set up across the country. It will reduce our dependence on imported urea. I hope this innovation will not just remain limited to urea and be replicated to other fertilisers."

"India is second biggest consumer of Urea globally. But in terms of production we are third... We import one-fourth of our requirement for fertilisers. But in case of Potash and Phosphate, we end up importing 100 per cent of our requirement from foreign countries," said Modi while addressing a gathering of members of cooperatives bodies largely from dairy and banking sectors.

The Prime Minister narrated how reduced availability caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict and Covid-19 pandemic had caused the prices of fertilisers shoot northwards in the international market. However, the government did not increase the prices of fertilisers, he said.

### OBC QUOTA FOR PANCHAYAT POLLS

## Chouhan govt misleading people, says Kamal Nath

**IRAM SIDDIQUE**  
BHOPAL, MAY 28

MADHYA PRADESH state Congress president Kamal Nath Saturday accused Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and his ministers of lying and misleading the state by their assurance that the upcoming panchayat elections will have 35% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC). The truth is that OBC reservation is not more than 9-12%, he said.

State minister Bhupendra Singh countered him, saying it was because of efforts by the BJP government and Chief Minister Chouhan that Madhya Pradesh got the go-ahead from Supreme

Court to conduct the panchayat elections with OBC quota.

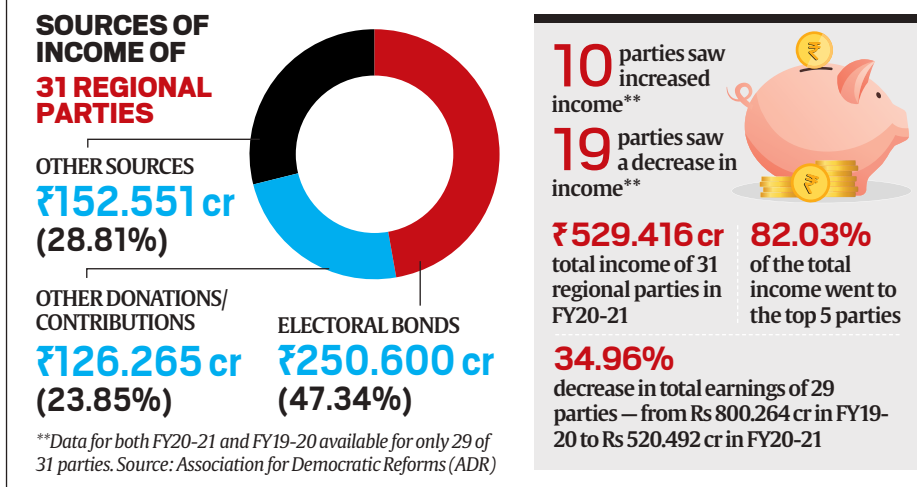
Speaking to reporters at the state Congress office, Kamal Nath gave the OBC quota breakup. He said for zilla panchayat members, 875 posts (or 11.2%) are reserved; for janpad panchayat chairman posts, it is 313 posts (9.5%); for janpad panchayat members, it is 780 posts (11.5%); and for sarpanch posts, it is 2,820 (12.5%).

He said 19 of the 52 districts will have no OBC quota for zilla panchayat members and 28 districts will have not such quota for janpad panchayat chairman posts.

"This shows that the BJP is not only doing injustice but also misleading the members of our OBC communities," Kamal Nath said

### REGIONAL PARTIES: TOP EARNERS (IN Rs CRORE)

FY20-21	FY19-20
DMK 149.950	DMK 64.904
YSR-Cong 107.990	YSR-Cong 92.739
BJD 73.347	BJD 90.350
JDU 65.310	JDU 23.354
TRS 37.658	TRS 130.460
AIADMK 34.076	AIADMK 89.606
AAP 17.600	AAP 49.651
Sena 13.841	Sena 111.403
MNS* 7.531	SAD 16.470
SAD 5.998	*No data available for FY19-20



## AAP picks 2 Padma-awardee Sikhs for RS

**KANCHAN VASDEV**  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 28

STUNG BY criticism over picking non-Punjabis for Rajya Sabha seats in March, the ruling AAP in Punjab Saturday chose two Sikhs, both Padma Shree award winners, as its candidates for the polls to the Upper House of Parliament. The candidates are environment activist Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal and businessman-philanthropist Vikramjit Singh Sahney.

An announcement in this regard was made by Punjab Chief

Minister Bhagwant Mann on his Twitter handle.

"I am happy to announce that AAP is nominating two Padma Shri awardees for the Rajya Sabha. One is environmentalist Padma Shri Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal and second is Padma Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney. My best wishes to both of them," said Mann in a tweet.

The term of two Rajya Sabha members from Punjab, Ambika Soni (Congress) and Balwinder Singh Bhunder (Shiromani Akali Dal), is due to expire on July 4.

Given the overwhelming majority of AAP in the Punjab

House — 97 of the 117 legislators are from the ruling party — its candidates are likely to be elected unopposed.

Sources said that AAP was on the defensive when it had nominated two Delhi-based leaders to Rajya Sabha in March this year. The Opposition had also criticised AAP, alleging that it had sent non-Punjabis to Rajya Sabha from the state. The party also faced criticism for not being able to send a Sikh or a social activist.

Taking a lesson, the AAP has now chosen two Sikh personalities, who are well known for their activism.



CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Cong leader Kamal Nath

after reading out the numbers.

Targeting Chouhan and his ministers, he said, "Such a big lie, such a big betrayal... Shivraj ji should be ashamed. They are boasting that they are giving 30-35 per cent OBC reservation when the truth is it is 9-12 per cent."

The former chief minister said when in power, the Congress gov-

ernment brought in the MP Panchayat Raj Avam Gram Awaraj Adhiniyam 1993. According to Sections 30 and 32 of this legislation, the state government is empowered by the Constitution to grant 25% OBC reservation.

State Housing and Urban Development Minister Bhupendra Singh accused the opposition party of posing legal hurdles for OBC quota. He said both panchayat as well as local body polls were held with OBC reservation, but the Congress went to High Court five times and then to Supreme Court.

"The Congress opposed OBC reservation and it was during this time that Supreme Court nullified OBC reservation in the state. It was because of the BJP government

and efforts of CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who made all preparations, that Madhya Pradesh became the first state to get go-ahead from Supreme Court for OBC reservation for elections," he said, referring to the May 19 order.

"When we talk of OBC reservation in MP, there are several places where OBC reserved seats have increased. There might be some places where it reduced also but the Congress had gotten the reservation ended. Whatever reservation we are getting now, is due to efforts of the CM... The fact that elections are being held with OBC reservation is a big achieve of the state government."

The three-phase panchayat polls will be held from June 25.

## Siddaramaiah questions RSS's claim of representing all Hindus

**JOHNSON TA**  
BENGALURU, MAY 28

TAKING his 'Aryan' taunt at the RSS further, former Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday questioned the Sangh Parivar's claims of representing "all Hindus", while supporting only the BJP politically.

"How is one identified as a Hindu according to the RSS? Is it enough to be born to Hindu parents? Or should one be a member of the BJP?" Siddaramaiah said, in a series of social media messages questioning the definition of Hindus by the RSS and BJP.

He also asked if all castes fit into this Hindu view of the RSS.

"Why has the RSS, which claims that all Hindus are one, reserved all their office-bearer positions for just one caste? How many RSS office-bearers are from Dalit and backward classes?" Siddaramaiah said Saturday.

A day earlier, in the course of a speech to mark the death anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, Siddaramaiah asked whether the RSS had its origins in India and whether it was an Aryan or Dravidian outfit.

"Is the RSS native to India? We have been quiet and do not want to unnecessarily discuss it. Are Aryans from this country? Are they Dravidians? We have to look at their origins," the former CM said.



CM Yogi Adityanath, Speaker Satish Mahana and Dy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya as the UP Assembly goes full digital. *Vishal Srivastav*

Verma preferred to flag the physical copy of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly rules, rather than its digital format.

The younger MLAs — the current Assembly has as many as 100

first-timers — are having an easier time. Like the SP's Ankit Bharti, who at 25 is as young as it gets. The Saidpur MLA, a Bachelor's in Business Administration, smiled that the technology had been a

### AFTER CHANCELLOR PLAN

## Bengal considers ousting Governor as Visitor of private varsities

May replace him with education minister; Opposition slams move

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, MAY 28

DAYS AFTER the West Bengal Cabinet decided to introduce a Bill in the state Assembly to appoint Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee as the chancellor of all state-run universities, the government is now contemplating removing Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar from the post of Visitor in private universities.

Sources in the state education department said the government is considering appointing Education Minister Bratya Basu to the post. According to a senior education department official, "The state Cabinet has in-principal approved the initiative. The proposal will now be placed for clearance in the next Cabinet meeting. The government is, meanwhile, also exploring legal aspects before making a move in this regard."

On Thursday, the state Cabinet had approved a proposal to introduce a Bill to make the Chief Minister the chancellor of all state-run universities. Basu had then told the media that the Bill would be introduced in the next Assembly session.

The move has raised fears that it would set the stage for another confrontation between the TMC-led government and the Governor, who has repeatedly clashed with the government since he assumed charge in 2019.

The chancellor is the titular head of a state university. In almost all states, the Governor serves as ex-officio chancellor, and in this capacity appoints vice-chancellors of state universities and presides over convocation ceremonies, among other responsibilities.

## Abhishek hits out at '1% of judiciary' for ordering CBI probes

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, MAY 28

TMC LEADER Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday lashed out at "1 per cent of the judiciary" for ordering CBI investigation in "every case" in the state.

Abhishek, while addressing a rally in Haldia in Purba Medinipur district, said he countered the "harassment" by central agencies by inducting two BJP MPs into the TMC.

He said, "I am ashamed to say [this]. But there is one per cent in the judiciary who are hand in glove and have a tacit understanding and are ordering CBI investigation in every case. This is just 1 per cent of the judiciary," he said, without elaborating further.

"If anyone thinks that they will take action against me for speaking the truth, I will speak the truth 1,000 times," he added.

The Calcutta High Court has ordered CBI investigations in a number of cases in the past few months, including the recruit-



Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and the TMC govt in Bengal have been at loggerheads

Under the existing rule, the Governor, as Visitor of private universities, can preside over the convocation of the university. The Visitor also has the power to call for any information relating to the affairs of the university.

Opposition parties have, meanwhile, criticised the state government for its latest move.

Dubbing the initiative "unfortunate", senior CPM leader Sujan Chakraborty called it an "attack on the education system". "The state government now wants to continue its extortion bid in private universities as well," he said.

BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh said, "Instead of controlling the universities, the state government should have monitored the progress of these institutions. There should not be an attempt to curb the autonomy of these institutions."

Slamming the Opposition, TMC state general secretary Kunal Ghosh said, "If Prime Minister Narendra Modi can be the Chancellor of Visva-Bharati University, then Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee could also become the Chancellor of state-run universities. The state government has taken a practical decision in the students' interest."



TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee

ment drives by the School Service Commission (SSC).

"The CBI and ED are being misused to threaten us [TMC leaders]. The Enforcement Directorate tried to harass me by calling me to Delhi twice. I decided to give them a befitting reply by inducting two BJP MPs into the party," he claimed.

Opposition leaders criticised Abhishek's remarks.

State Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said, "...In India, everything is governed by the Constitution. The law, the administration and the judiciary have been set up to maintain it. It is disgusting to attack that judiciary."

State BJP spokesperson Shamik Bhattacharya asked, "Will the people of the state accept such irresponsible words [from the TMC]?"

—WITHPTI

## First week good show as UP Assembly makes a nervous screens debut

**MAULSHREE SETH**  
LUCKNOW, MAY 28

AT Rs 6,15,518.97 crore total outlay, the Uttar Pradesh Assembly just saw its biggest budget, as well as fireworks between the ruling BJP and the opposition Samajwadi Party benches. But, behind the scenes, young and old, across parties, bonded over another development in the House: the Assembly going 'paperless'.

Last week, the UP Assembly became only the second in the country to come on board NeVA (National e-Vidhan Application), whereby all Assemblies will come on a single digital platform. The country's largest House took its

first step towards going paperless with last year's Budget, but now, tablets have been installed on the desks of all the 403 MLAs putting questions, answers, archival materials, speeches and other documents at the tip of their fingers.

If not easy, it has been enthusiastic going, after a one-day training session on May 21. On May 24, as Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya got up to read out an answer to a question raised by SP MLA Devendra Pratap, Speaker Satish Mahana reminded him: "The answer is already on the device. Parha hua mana jaye (To be considered read)."

But when he wanted to seek more time for debate on the Budget, senior SP MLA Lalji

great leveller for them when it came to their seniors. "I would not know what was going on earlier, but technology has made me comfortable. There is something now in which I can assist the experienced MLAs."

If younger legislators like him could be seen lending a helping hand, apart from nervous experts from the government's NIC (National Informatics Centre), Speaker Mahana took the lead in conveying technical terms in layman's language. When some struggled with flipping on to the next page on their tablets, Mahana, 61, told them to pinch their fingers "like you do when turning a page in a book". Many MLAs could not hide their delight

at accomplishing the above.

Later, as MLAs raised too many questions together, with experts looking increasingly harried, Mahana told them to take things slowly. "Aap abhi Class 1 mein nahin pahuncha, aur PhD karne chale hain (You haven't cleared Class 1 yet, and want to do a PhD)," he joked at a member's question on how to upload their supplementary questions online.

Rashid Husain, one of the NIC experts, informed that each member could log into their devices using their own ID and password. The ministers have another software on their devices allowing them to directly exchange live notes with their respective secretaries, to pull relevant informa-

tion as and when needed when required in the House.

Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Minister Surya Pratap Shahi's query regarding how to get to the 'My Notes' section on the tablet was vociferously backed by the BSP's sole MLA, Uma Shanker Singh, as requiring immediate response. Shahi was told to go to the part labelled 'Tippiryan'.

The SP's Irfan Solanki, clearly more at ease with the devices, was seen opening the logo of the party on the e-books of each MLA and taking a photo of the same.

In days to come, MLAs can also mark their attendance in the House via the biometric system on the devices, as well as their votes on issues on the floor.



Many in touch, BJP can have 30 MLAs in state: Goa unit chief

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PANAJI, MAY 28

BJP GOA in-charge C T Ravi Saturday said that the saffron party may get the support of 30 MLAs in the 40-member House

in the coastal state. At present, the BJP, which won 20 seats in the assembly election held in February, has the support of 25 MLAs with independents and other party MLAs backing it.

Addressing the party's state executive meeting held in Panaji,



CT Ravi

BJP national general secretary Ravi said, "On behalf of the central BJP, I thank all of you for your hard work that ensured the BJP's victory and

for forming the third successive government in Goa. Your (election) slogan was 'Bavisaant Baavis (22 in 2022)'. With support (from other MLAs) we are 25 in 2022. But don't worry; a lot of people are in contact (with us). Within 2022, we will cross 30.



The party has not given permission. That's why we are 25. If the party grants permission, we will be 30 in 2022."

After the poll results were declared on March 10, two Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) MLAs and three

Independent MLAs supported the BJP in government formation. MGP leader Ramkrishna alias Sudin Dhavalikar was made a minister in CM Pramod Sawant's cabinet. Notably, the MGP had contested the election in a pre-poll alliance with the

Trinamool Congress (TMC).

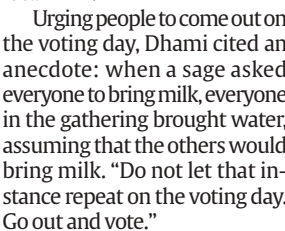
The Congress won 11 seats, the AAP won two, and homegrown parties Goa Forward Party and Revolutionary Goans Party won one seat each. Despite its aggressive campaign, the TMC could not win a single seat in the state.

<div>केनरा बैंक</div> <div>भारत सरकार का उपक्रम</div> <div> <b>Canara Bank</b></div> <div>A Govt. of India Undertaking</div> <div> <b>सिंडिकेट Syndicate</b></div>					Sl. No.	Name / Address Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) / EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt./A/c No./ IFSC Code
<b>Recovery &amp; Legal Section, Circle Office,</b> <b>3rd Floor, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna - 800001</b> <b>Ph. : 0612-2320180, Email : npacopat@canarabank.com</b>										
<b>PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION</b>										
<b>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.</b> 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 <b>"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"</b> on <b>30.06.2022</b> . Details are as under :										
Sl. No.	Name / Add. Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) /EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt./A/c No./ IFSC Code					
1.	<b>KANTI BRANCH</b> Hospital Road, Kanti Nagar Panchayat, Muzaffarpur - 843109 Mob. : 8210998486	<b>(A) Borrower- Sri Bhadaï Devi</b> S/o Late Ram Jeevan Ram, Tiwari Tola, Kanti, Dist. Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843109 <b>(B) Guarantor - Sri Shiv Chandra Bhagat,</b> S/o Sri Ram Sevak Bhagat, Gosai Tola, Kanti, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843109	<b>Rs. 8,19,277.49</b> as on 31.03.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part & parcel of the property consisting in the name of <b>Sri Bhadaï Ram</b> S/o Late Ram Jeevan Ram consisting of Khata No. - 219, Survey No. - 1269, Area - 10 Decimal <b>Boundary - North</b> - Fudeni Devi, W/o Late Shiv Nandan Ram <b>South</b> - Mahendra Ram S/o Late Bechu Ram, <b>East</b> - Vacant land of Sunder Ram, <b>West</b> - Road. <b>Location</b> : Thana No. - 63, Tiwari Tola, Kanti, Dist. Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843109	<b>Rs. 17,30,600/- EMD - 1,73,060/- 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0004189</b>					
2.	<b>SARAIYA GANJ BRANCH</b> Sita Complex, Muzaffarpur - 842001 Mob : 8210998503	<b>Borrower- Smt. Chanda Devi</b> S/o Sri Kaushal Kumar, 107 Chaupar Bharat, Bochaha, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843103 <b>Guarantor - Sri Kaushal Kumar</b> 107 Chaupar Bharat, Bochaha, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843103	<b>Rs. 18,50,643/-</b> as on 31.03.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part & parcel of the property consisting in the name of <b>Smt. Chanda Srivastava alias Chanda Devi</b> W/o Sri Kaushal Kumar, <b>Property - (1)</b> Khata No. - 14, Khesra No. - 657 & 659, Mauza - Chaupar Bharat, Thana No. - 633, Anchal & PS - Bochahan, Dist. - Muzaffarpur in the name of Smt. Chanda Devi, Area - 11 Decimal (Khesra No. - 657) + 02 Decimal (Khesra No. 659) = 13 Decimals.	<b>Rs. 16,79,000 EMD - 1,67,900 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0005741</b>					
<b>Boundary of Khesra No. - 657 - North</b> - Late Bishwanath Pd. <b>South</b> - Road, <b>East</b> - Mahesh Pd. Verma, <b>West</b> - Shyam Nandan Pd. & Mangleshwar Pd. <b>Boundary of Khesra No. - 659, North</b> - Bishwanath Pd. & others. <b>South</b> - Nij Manmokir, <b>East</b> - Jagdish Naraiin Verma & others, <b>West</b> - Nij Manmokir, <b>Property - (2)</b> Khata No. - 92, Khesra No. - 33, 34 Mauza - Karanpur, Thana No. - 642, Anchal & PS - Bochahan, Dist. - Muzaffarpur in the name of Smt. Chanda Devi, Area - 5.25 Decimals <b>Boundary of Khesra No. - 33, 34 - North</b> - Nij Man Mokir, <b>South</b> - Lalbabu Thakur, <b>East</b> - Mahesh Pd. <b>West</b> - Mangleshwar Pd.										
3.	<b>JURAN CHAPRA BRANCH</b> Main Road, Mahesh Babu Chowk, Muzaffarpur - 842003 Mob. : 8210998501	Property in the name of <b>- M/s Sonja Agro Enterprises,</b> Partners - Sri Rajesh Kumar and Sri Santosh Kumar Srivastava, Sunita Complex, Opp. Krishna Cinema, Akharaghat Road, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar - 842001 <b>Guarantor : Smt. Anumeha Kumari,</b> W/o Sri Santosh Kumar Srivastava, Alokpuri, Bahalkhana Road, PS - Ramna, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 842002	<b>Rs. 27,10,985.10</b> as on 31.03.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of <b>Smt. Anumeha Kumari</b> W/o Sri Santosh Kumar Srivastava, Khata No. - 297, Khesra No. - 50 Part, Area - 0-02.45 Decimal (12¼ Dhooir) <b>Boundary - North</b> - Nij Gali, KMP Sinha <b>South</b> - Road, <b>East</b> - Road, <b>West</b> - Shashi Kumar <b>Location</b> : Mohalla - Alokpuri, Bahalkhana Road, PS - Mithanpura, Anchal - Mushahari, Thana No. - 344, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar.	<b>Rs. 41,64,000 Rs. 4,16,400 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0002821</b>					
4.	<b>JURAN CHAPRA BRANCH</b> Main Road, Mahesh Babu Chowk, Muzaffarpur - 842003 Mob. : 8210998501	<b>Borrower : M/s Tejas Nandan Trading Pvt. Ltd.</b> Prop. Deepak Kumar Shahi, Chakmuhabbat, PS. Ahiyapur, District - Muzaffarpur, Bihar - 843117 <b>Guarantor : 1. Smt. Sudha Devi,</b> D/o Ram Chandra Thakur, Chakmuhabbat, Bhikhanpur, PS. Ahiyapur, Minapur, District - Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843117 <b>2. Smt. Mohini Kumari,</b> W/o Deepak Kumar Shahi, Gram Nandana, PO - Lautan, PS. - Minapur Lautan, Dist. - Muzaffarpur - 843117	<b>Rs. 1,16,58,190.10</b> as on 31.03.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of <b>Sri Deepak Kumar Shahi,</b> S/o Late Anil Kumar Shahi, Khata No. - 18, Khesra No. - 89, Area - 5 Decimal = 2200 sqft. <b>Boundary - North</b> - Road, <b>South</b> - Sudha Devi, <b>East</b> - Road, <b>West</b> - Bharat Rai <b>Location</b> - Chakmohabbat, PS - Ahiyapur, Anchal - Mushahari, Thana No. - 670, SRO / SDR0 Muzaffarpur, Dist. - Muzaffarpur, Bihar.	<b>Rs. 92,20,260 Rs. 9,22,026 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0002821</b>					
5.	<b>BARHARIA BRANCH</b> Barharia, Bihar - 841428 Mob. : 8210998470	<b>(A) Property in the name of Shri Madhup Kumar Mishra,</b> S/o Shri Awadh Kishore Mishra, Vill - Bhalua, P.S. - Barharia Distt. - Siwan, Bihar - 841232 <b>(B) Smt. Chanda Mishra,</b> W/o Sri Awadh Kishore Mishra, Vill - Bhalua, P.O. & P.S. - Barharia Dist. - Siwan, Bihar - 841232	<b>Rs. 21,66,587.98</b> as on 31.03.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All That Part and Parcel of the Property consisting in the name of <b>Shri Madhup Kumar Mishra,</b> S/o Shri Awadh Kishore Mishra consiting of Khata No. - 167, Khesra No. - 562, Tauzi No. - 1073, Thana No. - 317, Area : 00-02-00-00 (B - K - D - D), Khata No. - 181, Khesra No. - 561, Tauzi No. - 1073, Thana No. - 317, Area : 00-02-18-00 (B - K - D - D) Khata No. - 181, Khesra No. - 561, Tauzi No. - 1073, Thana No. - 317, Area : 00-03-00-00 (B - K - D - D)	<b>Rs. 26,04,600/- Rs. 2,60,460 10,000/- A/c - 8360295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008360</b>	<b>Boundary of Property - 1 - North</b> - Pich Road, <b>South</b> - Babu Nand Mishra & Others, <b>East</b> - Nagendra Singh & others <b>West</b> - Nij of Vendee Rameshwar Sharma & others <b>Boundary of Property - 2 - North</b> - Pich Rd, <b>South</b> - Babu Nand Mishra, <b>East</b> - Nij of Vendee <b>West</b> - Nij of Vendee Rameshwar Sharma & others <b>Location</b> : Vill - Bhalua, PS & sub Registry Office Barharia, Dist. - Siwan, Bihar				
6.	<b>MUNGER- II BRANCH,</b> 1st Floor, Ashok Astambh Chowk, Sarwam Bazar, Munger, Bihar 811201 Mob. 8102915981	<b>Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) :</b> <b>1. Malti Devi</b> W/o Prakash Poddar, Maksupur, Dhobi Tola, Near Mahabir Asthan, Munger Pin- 811201 <b>2. Mukesh Kumar</b> S/o Sri Nath Sah, Shadipur, In front of Nathuni dealer, behind Bari Durga Asthan, Munger - 811201	<b>Rs. 28,50,253.90</b> as on 18.05.2022 + interest & other Cost thereon till realization	All That Part And Parcel of Landed Property Situated At Mauza - Maksupur, Thana - Kasim Bazar, Munger, Vide Sale Deed No -1627, Date 22.05.2007, Tauzi No. - 414, Jamabandi No. -295/298, Khesra No. - 258 Sheet No-2, Holding No. - 496 (old) 534 (new), Area -1.65 Decimal In The Name of Malti Devi. <b>Bounded : North</b> - Aradhana Sinha, <b>South</b> - Shashikala Devi, <b>East</b> - Govt. Toilet <b>West</b> - 10' Municipal Path	<b>Rs. 18,65,000/- Rs. 1,86,500/- 10,000/- A/c No. 8362295000001 IFSC Code CNRB0008362</b>					
7.	<b>MADHUBANI BRANCH</b> Nariyal Bazar, Madhubani, Bihar Pin-847211 Mob. : 8210998612	<b>M/s Maa Lakhiya Drug Agency</b> <b>1. Sarita Kumari</b> W/o Santosh Kumar, Vill - Nabhat, PS - Pandaul Via - Lohat, Distt. - Madhubani, Bihar-847231 <b>2. Santosh Kumar</b> S/o Sri Satydev Yadav, Vill - Nabhat, PS - Pandaul Via - Lohat, Distt-Madhubani, Bihar - 847231	<b>Rs. 37,62,294.35</b> as on 18.05.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No 6852 Dated 30.07.2012</b> All That Part And Parcel of Land Measuring 2.18 Decimal Khesra No-5461,5462(old)/6 (new) Khata No. - X, Thana No-62, Tauzi No-6424, Situated At Singhiniya Chauk Locality Sangat Mohalla Ward No-23 Post & Dist-Madhubani in the Name of Santosh Kumar S/o Late Satydev Yadav <b>Boundary : North</b> - Niz Vendee & Road, <b>South</b> -Md. Ilyas Darji, <b>East</b> - Ram Chalitra Mishra, <b>West</b> - Road.	<b>Rs. 18,03,000/- Rs. 1,80,300/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362</b>					
8.	<b>JALALGARH BRANCH</b> Anand Bazar, Main Rd, Jalalgarh, Bihar - 854327 Mob. : 8210998599	<b>1. M/s Praveen Khad Beej Bhandar (Borrower)</b> Proprietor- Pankaj Kumar, S/o Ganesh Chaudhary, At Gauri Chowk, Sarsoni, Jalalgarh, District Purnea, Bihar <b>2. Pankaj Kumar</b> S/o Ganesh Chaudhary, At - Gauri Chowk, Sarsoni, Jalalgarh, District - Purnea, Bihar	<b>Rs. 43,42,370.39</b> as on 18.05.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No -13064 Dated 12.09.2011</b> All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 8 Decimal 4 Kari=4 Kattha Covered Under Khata No-88, Survey No-1090,situated At Mohalla / Village - Jalalgarh, Mauja + Thana - Jalalgarh, Thana No-189, Tauji No. - 8/5, Jamabandi No. - 2670, Pargana- Haveli Nabaiyat Kayami, Anchal-Jalalgarh, District - Purnea in The Name of Pankaj Kumar S/o Ganesh Choudhary, <b>Boundary - North</b> - Srimati Champa Devi, <b>South</b> - Nij Seller, <b>East</b> - Nij Rasta, <b>West</b> - Kachchi Gramin Sadak	<b>Rs. 31,00,000/- Rs. 3,10,000/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362</b>					
9.	<b>SAHARSA BRANCH</b> 1st Floor, Janardhan Market, Bangoan Road, Saharsa, Bihar- 852201 Mob. 8210998624	<b>1. M/s Barquat Garments</b> Proprietor - <b>Nafish Haider</b> S/o Md Noor Alam, Ward No-06, Mustafa Nagar, Saharsa - 852201 <b>2. Noor Alam</b> S/o Md Tashlim, Ward No-06, Mustafa Nagar, Saharsa - 852201	<b>Rs. 16,02,767.91</b> as on 18.05.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No: 15124 Dated 16.12.2008</b> All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 4.368 Decimal Covered Under Khata No-662(old)/ 702 (new), Khesra No- 739 (old)/1195 (new), Jamabandi No. - 2739, Situated At Mauza - Kahra Chakle Ratanpura, Nagar Parishad Ward No. - 4/13/6, Tauzi No. - 4968, Thana No.-195, Anchal - Kahra, District - Saharsa, in The Name of Noor Alam S/o Md. Tashlim <b>Boundary : North</b> - Private Soling Road, <b>South</b> - Ishlam And Md Sabbir, <b>East</b> - Niz Mokir, <b>West</b> - SifaitAli	<b>Rs. 19,42,000/- Rs. 1,94,200/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362</b>					
10.	<b>KISHANGANJ BRANCH,</b> 1st Floor Beside Khadim's Churapatti Road, Kishanganj, Bihar-855108 # 8210998608	<b>1. Mohammad Mustak</b> S/o Md. Wakil, Wd No. - 6, Near Pakki Road, Vill - Sarogara, P O - Belwa, Dist - Kishanganj, Bihar. <b>2. Shamina Khatoun</b> W/o Md Mustak, Vill - Sarogara, P O - Belwa, Dist. - Kishanganj, Bihar	<b>Rs. 27,09,502.80</b> as on 18.05.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Deed No. - 2751 Dated - 04.04.2013</b> All That part and parcel of a Land and Building area 04 Decimal 05 Kari Situated at Mauja - Halamala, Thana No. - 01, Khata No. - 576, Khesra No. - 998/9, Tauzi No. - 07 Under Saraogara, Belwa, Dist - Kishanganj Bihar in the name of Shamina Khatoun W/o Md. Mustak. <b>Boundary - North</b> - Jamaluddin, <b>South</b> - Road, <b>East</b> - Basir, <b>West</b> - Md. Mister.	<b>Rs. 15,14,000/- Rs. 1,51,400/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
11.	<b>JAINAGAR BRANCH,</b> Belhwa Chowk, Main Road, Jainagar, Bihar - 847226 Mob. 8210998601	<b>1. M/s Sonu Traders,</b> Prop. Md. Gulzar, Ward No. 16, Belhwa Tola, Jainagar, Dist. Madhubani, Bihar. <b>2. Md. Gulzar</b> S/o Md. Naem Ward No. 16, Belhwa Tola, Jainagar, Dist. - Madubani, Bihar <b>3. Md. Naem,</b> S/o Md. Shaheed, Ward No. 16, Belhwa Tola, Belhi Dakshin, Jainagar, Belhi, Dist. - Madhubani Bihar. <b>4. Md. Saddam,</b> S/o Md. Naem, Ward No. - 16, Belhwa Tola, Jainagar, Dist. - Madhubani, Bihar	<b>Rs. 3,45,775.62</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	Mouza Usrahi Deodha, Thana No. - 14, Tauji No. - 856, Khata No. - 1091, 1096, 218 (new), Khesra No. - 8440, 8441, 8451 (Old), 10346, 10347 (New), Area - 01 Kathha. Anchal Jainagar, Dist. - Madhubani, <b>Boundary - North</b> - Jagdish Pd. Yadav, <b>South</b> - NH 104 Road, <b>East</b> - Laxmi Sah, <b>West</b> - Sunita Devi & Others.	<b>Rs. 15,00,000/- Rs. 1,50,000/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
12.	<b>BASOPATTI BRANCH,</b> Babandei Chowk, Block Road, Basopatti, Bihar - 847225 Mob. 8210998580	<b>1. M/s Utkarsh Spare Parts,</b> Proprietor - Vandita Pandey, Vill - Pihwara, Post Ultra, District, Madhubani, Bihar. <b>2. Vandita Pandey</b> W/o Shankaranand Pandey, Vil - Pihwara, Post - Ultra, District - Madhubani, Bihar	<b>Rs. 15,57,939.48</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No. - 928 Dated - 20.02.2019</b> All That Part and parcel of Land Measuring 21.80 Decimal = 5 Katha, Covered under Khata No. - 166 (Old) 24 (New), Khesra No. - 1298, (Old) 893 (New), Situated at, Mauja Pihwara, Thana No. - 77, Tauji No. - 6247, 6248 & 6249, PS - Saharghat Anchal Madhwapur, Dist. - Madhubani Jamabandi No. - 91 in the Name of Vandita Pandey W/o Shankaranand Pandey <b>Boundary - North</b> - Pokhra, <b>South</b> - PCC Road, <b>East</b> - Devendra Pandey and Vinay Kumar Pandey, <b>West</b> - PCC Road.	<b>Rs. 24,68,000/- Rs. 2,46,800/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
13.	<b>SUPAUL BRANCH,</b> 1st Fir., WN 10, Station Road, Supaul, Bihar-852131 Mob. 8210998631	<b>1. Anil Kumar Singh,</b> S/o Maheshwar Pd Singh, H. No. - 23A, Vill - Vishanpur, Supaul, Bihar. <b>2. Punam Devi,</b> W/o Anil Kumar Singh, H. No. - 23A, Vill. - Vishanpur, Supaul, Bihar.	<b>Rs. 3,84,993.62</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Deed No. - 1025 Dated - 07.03.2009</b> All That Part and Parcel of property measuring 15 Dhur = 3.27 Decimal Covered under Khata No. - 62 (Old) / 457 (New), Khesra No. - 845, 879 (Old) / 348, 362 (New), Thana No. - 215, Village - Bisanpur, PO - Laudh, Mouza - Supaul, Dist. - Supaul, Bihar. <b>Boundary - North</b> - Niz Hissadar, <b>South</b> - Rasta 6ft., <b>East</b> - Hal Chitra Rekha Devi, <b>West</b> - Hal Dazi Devi.	<b>Rs. 22,61,400/- Rs. 2,26,140/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
14.	<b>SUPAUL BRANCH</b> 1st Floor, WN 10, Station Road, Supaul, Bihar - 852131 Mob. 8210998631	<b>1. Janardan Sharma,</b> S/o Surat Lal Sharma, Gangapur, Ward No. - 16, Saraiharh, Supaul, Bihar <b>2. Janita Devi</b> W/o Janardan Sharma, Gangapur, Ward No. 16, Saraiharh, Supaul, Bihar	<b>Rs. 8,80,928.70</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No. - 5795 Dated - 29.07.2013</b> All That Part and Parcel of Land measuring 10 Dhur Covered under Khata No. (O) - 114, (N) - 137, Khesra No. (O) - 1000, (N) - 1136 Situated at Gangapur, P.S - Kisanpur Mauja Supaul Patti Jhakarahi under Nagarparishad, Ward No. - 26, Thana No. - 215, Tauji No. - 548, Registry Office - Supaul, District - Supaul, in the name of Janardan Sharma S/o Surat Lal Sharma <b>Boundary - North</b> - Fauji, <b>South</b> - Nij Hissedar, <b>East</b> - Road, <b>West</b> - Bisoi Jha.	<b>Rs. 13,10,000/- Rs. 1,31,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
15.	<b>DARBHANGA DELHI MORE BRANCH</b> 1st Floor, Umesh Nagar, NH-57, Delhi More, Darbhanga, Bihar - 846005 # 8210998591	<b>1. Mr. Shankar Mahato,</b> S/o Jethan Mahto, At - Chandanpatti Gangwara, Post - Saramoahampur, Darbhanga - 846007 <b>2. Mr. Jagannath Kumar Mahato,</b> S/o Mr. Shankar Mahto, At - Chandanpatti Gangwara, Post - Saramoahampur, Dharbhanga - 846007. <b>3. M/s Krishna Furniture House</b> (Prop. Mr. Jagannath Kumar Mahato), Vill. - Gangwara, PO - Saramoahampur, Darbhanga - 846007	<b>Rs. 17,37,082.88</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No. - 16154 Dated - 05.08.1982</b> All That Part and Parcel of Land measuring 3 Katha 5 Dhur Covered under Khata No. - 31, Khesra No. - 51, Jamabandi No. - 295 Situated at Mauza Gangwara, Pargana - Bharwara, P.S. - Anchal, Sub Registry & Dist. - Darbhanga, Thana No. - 492, in the name of Shankar Mahto S/o Jethan Mahto. <b>Boundary - North</b> - Dist Board Road, <b>South</b> - Sarkari Band, <b>East</b> - Ganga Mandal, <b>West</b> - Moti Lal Thakur & Mahadev Sahu New Purchaser.	<b>Rs. 37,10,000/- Rs. 3,71,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
16.	<b>BITHNAULI KHEMCHAND BRANCH</b> Near Main Chowk Rd, NH - 107, Bithnauli Khemchand, Bihar-854304 # 9448911780	<b>1. M/s Suhana Jhankar Electronics,</b> (Prop. Pappu Kumar Mehta), Champa Nagar, K Nagar, Purnea, Bihar <b>2. Pappu Kumar Mehta</b> S/o Shivanand Mehta, Champanganagar, Kohbara Urf Ram nagar, K Nagar, Purnea, Bihar <b>3. Sulekha Devi</b> W/o Pappu Kumar Mehta, Champanganagar, Kohbara Urf Ram Nagar, K Nagar, Purnea, Bihar	<b>Rs. 31,82,746.24</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No. - 17161 Dated - 26.12.2013</b> All That Part and Parcel of Land measuring 05 Decimal Covered under Khata No. - 123, Survey No. - 5069, Situated at Mohalla / Village - Koshi Project, Mauja - Kohbara, Thana - K Nagar, Thana No. - 02, Tauji No. - 1/1309 in the name of Sri Pappu Kumar Mehta S/o Sri Shivanand Mehta. <b>Boundary - North</b> - 10 Feet Kachchi Rasta, <b>South</b> - Nand Lal Gupta, <b>East</b> - Niz Seller, <b>West</b> - Kachchi Rasta.	<b>Rs. 37,81,000/- Rs. 3,78,100/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
17.	<b>MADHEPURA BRANCH</b> First Floor, Main Road, Madhepura, Bihar - 852113 Mob. 8210998611	<b>1. M/s Anamika &amp; Sons Company,</b> Proprietor - Savita Sinha, Prabhat Nagar Main Road, At Sadhua, Tulshibari District - Madhepura, Bihar <b>2. Savita Sinha</b> W/o Pawan Kumar Sinha, D/o Raj Kumar Sinha, At Sadhua, Tulshibari Belhaghat, District - Madhepura, Bihar <b>3. Pawan Kumar Sinha</b> S/o Prabhat Kumar Sinha, main Road Sadhua, Near Dr. Udit Kumar Raja, Tulsihari, PS - Madhepura, District - Madhepura, Bihar	<b>Rs. 14,71,761.37</b> as on <b>18.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	<b>Sale Deed No. - 8761 Dated - 04.09.2015</b> All That Part and Parcel of the Land Measuring two Kaththa (8.733 Decimal) Covered Under Khata No. - 02 and 328, Old Khesra No. - 5636 and 4681, New Khesra No. - 2117, 2444, 2445, 2118, 2442 and 2443, situated at Mohalla - Sadhua, Mauja - Tulsibari Thana - Madhepura, Thana No. - 61, Tauji No. - 468, Jamabandi No. - 7959, Anchal + Thana - Madhepura, Distt - Madhepura in the Name of Savita Sinha D/o Sri Raj Kumar Sinha <b>Boundary - North</b> - Jhatkan Mandal, <b>South</b> - Khesa New 2148, <b>East</b> - Debu Mandal and Jhatkan Mandal, <b>West</b> - 10 Feet Private Road and Pushpa Devi.	<b>Rs. 34,00,000/- Rs. 3,40,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8362295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008362</b>					
18.	<b>KURTHA BRANCH</b> Vill.-Kurtha PO+PS- Sheosagar, Bihar-821111 Mob. 8210998553	<b>1. M/S Ravish Mini Rice Mill,</b> Prop- Mr. Birendra Kumar Singh, S/o Shri Ramdev Singh, Village-Sakari, PS- Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur, Bihar-821108 <b>2. Mr. Birendra Kumar Singh</b> S/o Shri Ramdev Singh Village-Sakari, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur, Bihar-821108 <b>3. Guarantor / Mortgagee: Smt. Geeta Devi,</b> W/o Sri Vijay Shankar Singh, PO - Auwan, PS-Sheosagar, Dist.-Rohtas-821115	<b>Rs. 33,92,154/-</b> as on <b>21.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	EMT of land and building in the name of <b>1. Smt. Urmila Devi</b> W/o Sri Birendra Kumar Singh Ravish Rice Mill (Land & Building) bearing Plot No-1529, Khata No-220, Thana No-659, Mauza-Sakari, PO+PS-Kudra, District-Kaimur Bihar. Area-0.07 Decimal. <b>Boundary - North</b> - Shyam Narayan Singh, <b>South</b> - Niz, <b>East</b> - Niz, <b>West</b> - Ram Bilash Yadav. <b>Deed No 6302 dated 28.12.2013</b> <b>2. Sri Birendra Kumar Singh,</b> S/o Late Ramdeo Singh & <b>Smt. Urmila Devi,</b> W/o Sri Birendra	<b>Property-1</b> <b>Rs. 37,99,000.00</b> <b>Rs. 3,79,000/-</b>  <b>Property-2,3 &amp; 4</b> <b>Rs. 74,55,000/-</b> <b>Rs. 7,45,500/-</b> <b>Rs. 10,000/-</b> <b>A/c -</b> <b>8359296000001</b> <b>IFSC Code -</b> <b>CNRB0008359</b>					
19.	<b>KURTHA BRANCH,</b> Vill - Kurtha PO+PS- Sheosagar, Bihar-821111 Mob. 8210998553	<b>Borrower-M/s Priya Mini Rice Mill,</b> Prop.- Sri Vijay Shankar Singh, S/o Ramchela Yadav, Vill-Sakari, PO+PS-Kudra, Dist-Kaimur, Bihar-821108 <b>Borrower - Sri Vijay Shankar Singh,</b> S/o Ramchela Yadav, Vill-Sakari, PO+PS-Kudra, Dist-Kaimur, Bihar-821108 <b>Guarantor / Mortgagee :- Smt Geeta Devi,</b> W/o Sri Vijay Shankar Singh, PO-Auwan, PS-Sheosagar, Dist-Rohtas-821115.	<b>Rs. 24,23,669.60</b> as on <b>21.05.2022</b> + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	EMT of land and building in the name of <b>1. Sri Vijay Shankar Singh,</b> S/o Sri Ramchela Yadav, Khata No-270, Plot No-1530, Thana No-659, Mauza-Sakari, Thana-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur. <b>Total Area-3.125 Decimal As per Possession Notice dated 26/10/2021 Boundary :- North</b> - Sheo Bachan Sah, <b>South</b> - Niz & Rest Plot No 1530, <b>East</b> - Rasta <b>West</b> - Rest Plot No 1530 <b>2. Smt Geeta Devi,</b> W/o Sri Vijay Shankar Singh, Khata No-35, Plot No-73, Thana No-87, Halka No-4, Thana-Sheosagar, Mauza-Auwan Dist.- Rohtas-8						

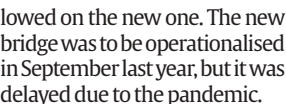


Dhami could  
have won had  
we campaigned  
together: Yogi

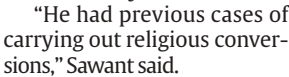
Addressing Saturday's rally along with Dharmi, Adityanath also said that the Char Dham shrines in the hill-state —



"Some of our MLAs have said that there should be a strong law for this (stopping forced religious conversions). We will definitely do that and may bring it in during the next assembly ses-



AS MANY as 70 people were arrested and 82 booked from Kumpat village in Gujarat's Banaskantha district after a mob of 100 men pelted stones on a wedding procession of a man belonging to an OBC community on Friday. Several people including eight policemen were injured. The mob allegedly objected to the groom riding a mare during the procession. According to police, the incident occurred around 4:30 pm when the wedding procession of Vishnusinh Chauhan, started



According to the FIR, registered after a complaint by the father, the youngest of the three sisters, Kamlesh, had told him over the phone on the morning of May 25 that they were being beaten

Activist Kavita Srivastava of the People's Union for Civil Liberties called for a fair investigation. "It is a loss of seven lives because two of the women were full term pregnant and died along with their unborn children. It is an extremely heinous crime and we can only think of the kind of suffering they were subjected to. The deaths are clearly caused by the intense cruelty and harassment by the husbands and in-laws along with dowry demands. There should be a fair probe by a high-ranking official. The case should be transferred from the local police," she said.

In his order, Justice Talapatra said that officers in-charge of police stations "shall be directed to supply a copy of the FIR, free of cost and forthwith... The secretary, Home, Tripura, is further directed to issue such advisory within a period of six weeks from the day the petitioner shall furnish a copy of this order."

The date for commencement of sale of Tender Document is May 27, 2022. The last date for purchase of Tender Document after payment of a tender fee on website of e- auction platform provider is July 11, 2022 on or before 17:00 hours (Indian Standard Time) and the last date for submission of the bid is July 18, 2022 on or before 17:00 hours (Indian Standard Time). The Price of Tender Document is provided in the table below.

Sonrai Phosphoric Block I is being auctioned under second attempt of auction as per clause (b) of sub-rule (11) of rule 9 of Mineral (Auction) Rules 2015 and amendments thereunder.


**List of Mineral Blocks for Auction**

N o.	Name of the Block	Mineral	District	Price of Tender Document* (In Rs.)
<b>Mining Lease</b>				
1.	Sonrai Phosphoric Block II - IV	Phosphoric	Lalitpur	Rs. 5,00,000
<b>Composite Licence</b>				
2.	Sonrai Phosphoric Block I	Phosphoric	Lalitpur	Rs. 2,00,000
3.	Kurcha Block	Glauconite	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
4.	Barwadih Block	Glauconite	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
5.	Bharhni Block	Iron Ore	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
6.	Ginar Block	Iron Ore&Gold	Lalitpur	Rs. 1,00,000
7.	Sonapahari Block	Gold	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
8.	Dharva-Bisaulah Block	Gold	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
9.	Handi East Block	Gold	Sorbhada	Rs. 1,00,000
10.	Barna Block	PGE	Lalitpur	Rs. 1,00,000


*\*The price of Tender Document is exclusive of GST. The Bidders who have purchased the Tender Document for Sonrai Phosphoric Mf. Block II - IV and Sonrai Phosphoric CL Block I in earlier NIT dated 05.01.2022 can avail the Tender Document of that particular mineral block without paying tender fee (Tender Fee exempted)*

**Director  
Geology and Mining  
Government of Uttar Pradesh**

UP-176718, Dt. 28.05.2022, Website : [www.upgovt.nic.in](http://www.upgovt.nic.in)



**पंजाब नैशनल बैंक**  
पंजाब और भारत का



**Punjab National Bank**  
Punjab National Bank Limited, India

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**Circle Office- Ara, 2nd floor, Regal Complex, Near Raman Maidan, Ara, Bhojpur, Bihar,coarasamd@pnb.co.in**  
**(A Govt. of India Undertaking)**  
**CIRCLE SASTRA ARRACH, 1st Floor, Mahuli Kothi, Near Peer Baba More, Arrach- 802301**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPTIE**

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

Lot No.	Name of the Account, Borrower/ Guarantors Name, Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name(mortgagors of property(ies))	A) Dt. Of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFESI ACT 2002 B) Outstanding Amount C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFESI ACT 2002 D) Nature of Possession Symbolic/ Physical/ Constructive	A) Reserve Price B) EMD C) last date of deposit of EMD D) Bid Increase Amount	Date/Time of E-Auction	Details of the Encumbrances known to the secured creditors
1.	<b>M/S DURGA ENTERPRISES</b> through its proprietor SH. Murlidhar Singh S/o Lt. Ayodhya Singh. A/c no. 6008008700000906 & 600800IC00000015 <b>BO: NUAON (600800)</b>	<b>Mortgaged Properties situated at-</b> Land & Building situated at- Deed No -309, Dt- 3.01.2015, Mauza -Sisaura, PS- Ramgarh, Thana No -241, Khata-76, Plot No-1, Area-1 Decimal, <b>Boundary-</b> N- Jay Ram Yadav, S- Gramin Rasta, E- Gramin Sadak, W- Bikreta plot- 1410, <b>Mortgagor-</b> Sh. Murlidhar Singh S/o Lt. Ayodhya Singh, At H No -80, Vill- Sisaura, PO- Taraitha, PO- Taraitha, PS- Ramgarh, Kaimur-821110	A) 25.06.2021 B) <b>Rs.17,19,940.75</b> and interest thereon from 01.04.2021 & Other Bank's Charges. C) 25.03.2022 D) Symbolic	A) 10.14 Lakh B) 1.02 Lakh C) 28/06/2022 D) 10,000/-	<b>29/06/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM</b>	Not Known
2.	<b>M/S KAIMUR KOHINUR RICE MILL PRIVATE LIMITED,</b> Directors-Sh. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Sh. Ganga Prasad Singh & Sh. Brajesh Kumar Singh. Account/s no. 1422008700000767. <b>BO: CHAND (142200)</b>	<b>Mortgaged Properties situated at:-</b> 1. Deed No. 271 Dated 12.01.2011 Land And Building Situated At: Mauza- Jhajahani, Thana- Chand, Dist.- Kaimur (bhabua), Bihar, Thana No.-49, Khata No.- 79, Plot No.- 124, Area-95 Decimal <b>Boundary:</b> N- Niz, S- Niz & Baadhu Pwd Road Sacchida nand Path, E- Chhawar (rasta), W- Girdhar Singh <b>Mortgagor-</b> M/s Kaimur Kohinur Rice Mill Private Limited Through Its <b>Directors:</b> 1. Sh. Rajesh Kumar Singh S/o Gajendra Singh, 2. Sh. Santosh Singh S/o Shyam Narayan Singh, 3. Sh. Ganga Prasad Singh, S/o Vijay Bahadur Singh, 4. Sh. Brajesh Kumar Singh S/o Ganga Prasad Singh	A) 29.06.2021 B) <b>Rs.78,23,513.72</b> and interest thereon from 01.05.2021 & Other Bank's Charges. C) 02.02.2022 D) Symbolic	A) 213.11 Lakh B) 21.31 Lakh C) 28/06/2022 D) 10,000/-	<b>29/06/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM</b>	Not Known
3.	<b>M/S SHIVAM DIGITAL STUDIO AND MOBILE PARTS</b> Proprietor Sh. Vinod Kumar Jaisawal S/o Sh. Motilal Jaisawal. Account/s no. 142200KU00000027 <b>BO: CHAND (142200)</b>	<b>Mortgaged Properties situated at:-</b> Residential Land & Building Registered mortgage deed no. 582 dtd. 14.02.2017, Mauza- Chand, Thana no. 48, PS Chand, Dist. Kaimur, Khata no.20.1. Sale deed no. 10558 dtd. 29.09.2001, Plot no. 555/554, Area- 03 Decimal, <b>Boundary-</b> North- Nathuni Sah, South- Kumar, East- Ki Pandey, West- Sadak, 2. Award and compromise petition vide T.S. no. 624/2014 schedule(D), Plot no. 555, Area- 03 Decimal, <b>Boundary-</b> North- Vinod Kumar, South- Kulwanti Kuer, East- Chhatanki Pandey, West- Sadak, TOTAL AREA- 6 Decimal, <b>Mortgagor-</b> Sh. Vinod Kumar Jaisawal S/o Sh. Motilal Jaisawal.	A) 07.10.2021 B) <b>Rs.26,63,983.38</b> and interest thereon from 01.05.2021 & Other Bank's Charges. C) 02.02.2022 D) Symbolic	A) 54.27 Lakh B) 5.43 Lakh C) 28/06/2022 D) 10,000/-	<b>29/06/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM</b>	Not Known
4.	<b>M/S MAA VAISHNO TRADING COMPANY</b> through its Proprietor Sh. Devmuni Sah S/O- Suryanath Sah. Account/s no. 3007008700005118, 300700CF00000137 & 300700IL00000151 <b>BO: RATWAR (300700)</b>	<b>Mortgaged Properties situated at-</b> Registered Mortgage Deed No.- 962 Dt- 13-02-2019, Mauza-Shivpur, Thana- 529, PS- Bhabhu, Khata no- 33, Tauzi- 99/4, Khesra no- 1082/811, Area- 03 Decimal, <b>Boundary-</b> N- Devmuni Sah, S- Banshi Sah Malah, E- Nij, W- Rasta, Tauzi- 100/4, Khesra no- 1082/811, Area- 03 Decimal, <b>Boundary-</b> N- Koli, S- Lakshmina Kunwar, E- Nij, W- Rasta <b>Mortgagor:-</b> 1.Devmuni sah S/O- Suryanath Sah, 2.Vikas Kumar S/O- Devmuni Sah 3.Lakshmina Kunwar W/O- Suryanath Sah	A) 23.06.2021 B) <b>Rs.26,68,304.83</b> and interest thereon from 01-04-2021 & Other Bank's Charges. C) 02.04.2022 D) Symbolic	A) 11.64 Lakh B) 1.17 Lakh C) 28/06/2022 D) 10,000/-	<b>29/06/2022 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM</b>	Not Known

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1) The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:  
2) The properties are sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"**  
3) The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.  
4) The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website <https://www.mscecommerce.com> on **29.06.2022@ 10:30 AM**  
5) For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer [www.ibapi.in](http://www.ibapi.in), [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in), [www.mscecommerce.com](http://www.mscecommerce.com), <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>

**Date- 28.05.2022**  
**Place - Arrah**

**Authorized Officer**  
**Punjab National Bank**  
**Secured Creditor**



# EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY

### UTTAR PRADESH

#### Attack on police team: Ex-MLA, 18 others freed

**Lucknow:** A court in UP's Unnao on Friday acquitted former Samajwadi Party (SP) MLA Udayraj and 18 others in a 24-year-old case in which they were booked for allegedly rioting and using criminal force to deter a public servant from his duty. The alleged incident occurred when the accused reached Maurawan police station in Unnao to protest the arrest of a person against whom a non-bailable warrant was issued. **ENS**

### NEW DELHI

#### Mining lease: EC gives Soren time to appear

**New Delhi:** Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren is learnt to have been given more time by the Election Commission to appear before it in a case related to a mining lease. Soren was asked to appear before the EC either in person or through his counsel on May 31. But he sought more time and is now learnt to have been asked to appear on June 14, sources aware of the development said. **PTI**

### MAHARASHTRA

#### Savarkar an inspiration for country: Uddhav

**Mumbai:** Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said that freedom fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's "scientific thinking" and "staunch nationalism" continue to be an inspiration for the country. Paying tributes to the Hindutva ideologue on his 139th birth anniversary, Thackeray said that Savarkar was a multi-faceted personality. "He was a litterateur, a powerful orator, a good organiser, who waged a war against the British rule. His scientific thinking and staunch nationalism are an inspiration," the CM said. **ENS**

### NEW DELHI

#### Plane returns after windshield crack observed

**Mumbai:** A SpiceJet Boeing 737 aircraft (SG-385), which was heading to Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, returned to Mumbai on Saturday after a crack was observed on the windshield, according to an official statement. The pilot-in-command decided to return to Mumbai, a spokesperson said. The air traffic controller was apprised and the aircraft landed safely at the Mumbai airport, the spokesperson added. **PTI**



## FOREST FIRE NEAR LOC

A massive fire erupted in Mendhar forest near the LoC in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir, on Saturday. **ANI**

## Meerut: Six BJP workers held for poster stunt outside police station

**AMIT SHARMA**  
MEERUT, MAY 28

MEERUT POLICE arrested six local BJP workers on Saturday, a day after a poster put up by them outside a police station caused a flutter on social media and led to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and opposition leader Akhilesh Yadav exchanging barbs on Twitter.

The poster, which said "BJP karyakartaon ka thane main aana mana hai (BJP workers are not allowed to enter the police station)", also had the name of Sant Saran Singh, the in-charge of Medical Police Station, and made it appear as if he had given the order.

"The act [of putting up the poster] has hurt the image of Meerut Police. We have arrested six persons in this regard," Meerut Senior Superintendent of Police Prabhakar Chaudhary told *The Indian Express*.

According to the Senior Superintendent of Police, the origin of the matter was a property dispute involving a family in



The poster triggered a war of words between CM Yogi Adityanath and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav. *Twitter/Akhilesh Yadav*

which the BJP workers got involved and reached the police station on Friday. "They were trying to put pressure on the in-charge to seek undue favour but when it was denied, they created a scene," said Chaudhary.

Some of the party workers then held the poster outside the police station – to grab attention. As pictures of them with the poster went viral on social media, a tweet from the UP Chief Minister's official handle said, "The police stations and tehsils used to be mortgaged (to ruling

party workers) during the tenure of the previous government. But no BJP worker ever goes to the police station or tehsil for any undue favour."

Later at night, SP leader Akhilesh Yadav tagged a picture of the poster and tweeted, "This has happened for the first time in last six years that ruling party workers have been barred from police station. This really is the much-touted good governance of the BJP government."

Hours later, the police lodged an FIR against the BJP workers.

## 2 militants killed in J&K encounter

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 28

TWO HIZBUL Mujahideen militants were killed in an encounter with security forces in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said.

Acting on specific inputs about the presence of militants in Shitipora area of Bijbehara in the south Kashmir district, security forces launched a cordon and search operation there, a police official said.

He said as the forces were conducting the searches in the area, the militants fired upon them. The forces retaliated, ensuing an encounter in which two militants were killed, the official said.

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said the militants were affiliated with Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) outfit.

"Killed #terrorists identified as Ishfaq Ah Ganie R/O Chakwangund, #Anantnag & Yawar Ayub Dar R/O Dogripora, #Awantipora, affiliated with proscribed #terror outfit HM. The duo were involved in several #terror crimes," the IGP Kashmir said in a tweet.

# Gauri Lankesh trial to start July, hearings to be held every month

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BENGALURU, MAY 28

AS PER the plan drawn up by the court of the Principal City Civil and Sessions Judge in Bengaluru, the trial in the September 2017 murder of journalist Gauri Lankesh will begin from July 4, with hearings to be held every second week of a month.

While the court had summoned the first court witness, Lankesh's younger sister Kavitha Lankesh, on Friday to commence the trial, her statement could not be recorded as some of the accused who are in a Maharashtra jail were not produced in court. The court wanted all the accused to be present in court for the statement to be recorded, saying they could attend via video-conferencing.

A Special Investigation Team of the Karnataka Police has named 17 people belonging to right-wing Hindutva fringe outfits as part of the conspiracy to kill Lankesh, 55, and for the execution of the murder. The editor of Kannada publication Lankesh Patrike, Lankesh was murdered at the doorstep of her home on the night of September 5, 2017, when she returned home for work.

The court, with a new judge presiding, also overruled a demand by defence advocates that the accused, who have pleaded not guilty, be brought physically to court. The court said they could be present via video-conferencing. While 11 of the accused were



Lankesh was killed in Sept 2017

produced via video-conferencing, the six lodged in Arthur Road Jail, Maharashtra, were not.

The sessions court turned down a plea by Special Public Prosecutor S Balan that the trial be started with recording of the statement of Kavitha Lankesh, who was present in court, as she was not required to identify any of the accused. The court held: "The presence of the accused during trial being the basic tenet of any trial, such prayer in the absence of consent by the defence is not sustainable."

The court later said that both sides had agreed for the trial to be held on a continuous basis for a week per month. The first session will be from July 4 to July 8.

Decks were cleared for the trial in the case in October last year following framing of the charges of murder, organised crime, and gun crimes, against 17 members of an extremist right-wing syndicate by the Principal Sessions Court, which is the special court for organised crimes in Bengaluru.

The framing of charges had been delayed for over two years on account of the Covid situation and due to multiple applications filed by the accused.

The arrested men, allegedly

## Maharashtra sees first cases of new Omicron sub-variants

**ANURADHA MASCARENHAS**  
PUNE, MAY 28

MAHARASHTRA HAS reported the first cases of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variant of the Omicron strain of coronavirus, which has been detected in seven persons in Pune. State health authorities have said the patients – four men and three women – are stable and there is no need for hospitalisation.

According to the latest report of the Whole Genomic Sequencing (WGS), BA.4 variant has been found in four patients and BA.5 in three. Of the seven patients, four are above 50 and two in the 20-40 age group, while one is nine years old, state Surveillance Officer Dr Pradeep Awate told *The Indian Express*. Two of the patients have a history of travelling to South Africa and Belgium, while three have travelled to Kerala and Karnataka recently. Two other persons have no travel history.

All patients except the child had received both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine while one has also taken a booster shot. All of them had mild symptoms of Covid-19. No one required hospitalisation and they were treated successfully in home isolation, said Dr Awate.



A video grab of Anusuya Rai, principal of university college, trying to convince students regarding uniform rules.

### MANGALORE UNIVERSITY

## Girls in hijab sent back; CM says focus on studies

**SANATH PRASAD**  
BENGALURU, MAY 28

A DAY after Mangalore University issued an advisory making uniform mandatory, a group of girls wearing hijab reached the campus on Saturday.

In a video recorded early this morning, Anusuya Rai, Principal of university college, Mangaluru, could be seen counselling the girls and trying to convince them regarding the need for attending the classes without the headscarf.

At a meeting of the College Development Council with the V-C, Principal and members of the syndicate of Mangalore University on Friday, it was decided that as per the March 15 ruling of the Karnataka HC, no hijab would be allowed inside classrooms.

Meanwhile, Karnataka CM

Basavaraj Bommai, too, asserted that everyone should abide by the HC and the government's orders.

"There is no need to create hijab controversy (again), the court has given its order, all have to abide by the court and the government's order. Majority of them are following it. The syndicate's resolution is also that court order has to be followed...according to me, studies should be important for students," Bommai said.

The university sent back the girls who had come to the university wearing a hijab on Saturday.

At a press meet, V-C Subrahmanya Yadapadithaya assured that the dress code would not affect Muslim girls' education. "The current development will be considered as a special case for the benefit of students and some one-time measures will be taken," he said. **WITHPTIINPUTS**

### HEAT RISES OVER KERALA RALLY

## PFI in no mood to backtrack on 'anti-RSS drive'

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MAY 28

THE CONTROVERSIAL slogans raised by a minor boy during a massive rally by the People's Front of India (PFI) in Alappuzha last week has brought into spotlight a campaign it has been running for the past six months called 'Save the Republic'. Meant to ensure "Muslims the rights envisaged in the Constitution", among other topics, the campaign has now evolved into a full-blown offensive against the RSS.

The PFI, facing cases over the rally, has disowned only the wording and style of the slogans raised, not the content – with the belief in PFI circles being that "RSS terrorism" needs to be strongly countered. PFI state president CP

Muhammed Basheer told the media: "We are not ready for any compromise. The RSS cannot silence the PFI. Let the RSS denounce its ideology of hate."

He also said that Muslims in the country were "fighting for existence", and that neither the CPM-led LDF nor the Congress-led UDF could put up a strong fight against the RSS. "Our fight is to protect Constitutional values and rights. Recent developments show that the country is in the final stages of being declared a Hindu Rashtra," he said.

After police booked two PFI leaders, including its Alappuzha district president Vandanam Navaz, in connection with the Alappuzha rally, the PFI held protests across many locations in Kerala. On Saturday, police took the boy who raised the contested slogans and his father from their

residence in Kochi. The father told the media his son "had taken part in agitations against the CAA and the slogans were against the threat created by the Sangh Parivar, and not against any community".

Over the past 15 years, the PFI has assumed many roles in the state, such as of a social crusader, moral police, and champion of Muslim and Dalit causes. The emergence of the Sangh Parivar has lately helped it project itself as the only Muslim answer to it. The alternative, the Indian Union Muslim League, still the largest political party of Kerala Muslims, treads a more moderate line being part of mainstream politics and an ally of the Congress.

The PFI's enmity with the RSS goes way back in Kerala, with the body and its earlier version, the National Development Front (NDF), and the Sangh Parivar in-

involved in a series of killings and counter-killings. The NDF, in fact, was launched two years after the Babri Masjid demolition, and the issue has remained central to the PFI. It marks the December 6, 1992, demolition every year, among the only Muslim organisations in Kerala to still do so.

Now, the PFI has taken the lead on the Kashi Vishwanath temple-Gyanvapi mosque row, which has resurfaced following a series of court petitions. It has been telling the Muslim community that its warnings regarding the intentions of the Sangh have come true, and that the Babri demolition was just the start of what was to follow. PFI leaders admit they see the issue getting much resonance among the Muslims.

No Muslim outfit or leader in Kerala has incidentally publicly reacted on the Alappuzha slogans.

Worryingly for Kerala, the rise of the strident PFI is correspondingly fanning Islamophobia among its Christian community, which in numbers and political clout is as strong in the state as the Muslims. Various Christian churches came out with strong statements criticising the slogans raised at the Alappuzha rally.

The gulf between the two communities is now the widest ever in Kerala, more so than even 2010, when a Christian college professor's right palm was chopped off by PFI men on charges of insulting Prophet Mohammad.

While the LDF and UDF weigh their words, mindful of their vote banks, the ground is also getting cleared for the BJP. If the PFI claims to be the only legitimate Muslim voice, the BJP was notably the only vocal "Hindu voice" on the Alappuzha rally.

## Father of boy who raised controversial slogans arrested

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MAY 28

THE POLICE on Saturday arrested the father of the minor boy, who had raised controversial slogans during a Popular Front of India (PFI) rally in Kerala's Alappuzha on May 21.

The police had registered a case after a video of the PFI rally, held as part of its 'Save the Republic' campaign, showed a minor boy raising hate slogans, apparently targeted at non-Muslims. In the last week, the police have arrested 20 other PFI cadres in the case.

After the video went viral and sparked a controversy, the

boy and his family had stayed away from their home in Kochi. On Saturday, the police arrested the boy's father from their house at Palluruthy in Kochi. He will now be handed over to Alappuzha police, which had registered a case under Section 153 A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth etc) of the IPC.

After the police took the father into custody, several PFI sympathisers thronged their house, protesting the police move.

"Nobody taught my son to raise such slogans. He had taken part in many agitations, including protests against CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act),

in the past. He might have heard the slogans in such agitations and learnt them by heart," the boy's father told the media. He said the slogans were not against any religion. "Those (slogans) were against RSS. What is wrong in raising slogans against RSS?" he asked.

A few others who had taken the boy to Alappuzha were also taken into custody.

On Wednesday, police had arrested PFI activist Ansar Najeeb and PFI Alappuzha district president Vandanam Navas in the case, which was registered based on a complaint from advocate Vijayakumar of Bharatiya Abhibashaka Parishad. It was Ansar who had carried the boy on his shoulders.









THE SUNDAY PROFILE

Father, son and ‘holy suits’



In 1993, Hari Shankar Jain, a Lucknow-based advocate, recorded his first big win — getting a court order to open the gates of the Babri Masjid for Hindus to worship there. Since then, Jain, now assisted by his son Vishnu, has been at the centre of a string of petitions that have suddenly been revived in courts — from Gyanvapi to Shahi Idgah, Taj Mahal to Qutub Minar. APURVA VISHWANATH on the Jains

ON MAY 17, Vishnu Shankar Jain, the counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners seeking the right to worship in the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi, told the Supreme Court that the hearing will have to be postponed since his father and fellow lawyer Hari Shankar Jain was unwell. Though a battery of senior lawyers — from Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta, to Ranjit Kumar and CS Vaidyanathan — had appeared against the mosque, none had the full case file. Only Hari Shankar Jain had it. The hearing had to be postponed.

A day earlier, Vishnu Shankar was seen flanked by members of the team that carried out a survey of the Gyanvapi mosque, as ordered by a Varanasi court, announcing to the media that a shivling was allegedly found in the wuzu khana of the mosque.

The father-son advocate duo of Hari Shankar Jain, 68, and Vishnu Shankar Jain, 36, are now at the centre of at least six ongoing cases that involve claims of ancient temple ruins in mosques — from the Teele Wali Masjid in Lucknow to the Bhojshala in Dhar, Taj Mahal in Agra, Qutub Minar in Delhi, the Shahi Idgah in Mathura and the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi. The cases filed by the Jains have triggered a string of similar claims across the country and led to a challenge of certain provisions of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.

In 2021 alone, the Jains filed seven cases on the Gyanvapi mosque issue, including those on behalf of the river Ganga and deities Nandi and Maa Shringar Gauri.

With his flowing beard and a prominent black *tika* on his forehead, father Hari Shankar was a familiar face on television debates on the Ayodhya Ram Janmabhoomi issue until the 2019 Supreme Court verdict in the case. For the senior Jain, it had started with the Ayodhya case in 1993 — it was on his plea that

district judge Krishna Mohan Pandey ordered that the gates of the masjid be opened for Hindus to worship there.

“Hari Shankar was an independent lawyer then. One day, he went to court and told the judge that the deity had gone hungry for the last eight days... The judge allowed us worship and that irreversibly changed the course of the case,” Champat Rai, Vice President of the Vishva Hindu Parishad and General Secretary of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, the temple trust in Ayodhya, told *The Sunday Express*, adding that following the 1993 win, Hari Shankar became “a part of the team”.

Later, when then Uttar Pradesh CM Mulayam Singh Yadav expressed reservations about appointing Judge Pandey to the Allahabad High Court, Jain filed another petition and backed the judge. Jain won the case and Justice Pandey was eventually appointed to the Gwalior bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

Those in the Bar believe that this elevation sent a message to the lower judiciary. “The whole process was as political as it could get. To the lower court judges, the case sent a message that these are the petitioners who will back you,” said a judge of the Allahabad High Court who retired in 2019. Those who have known the senior Hari Shankar talk about his doggedness in going after his opponents.

In 1993, Hari Shankar contested an election from Amethi against Congress president Sonia Gandhi, but lost. He then filed a petition in the Allahabad High Court challenging Gandhi’s election on the grounds that she is an Italian citizen and not Indian. As a back-up,

in case that argument failed, Jain also challenged the “validity of marriage of respondent with Rajiv Gandhi”. And, as Plan C, he challenged the legality of Section 5(1)(c) of the Citizenship Act, 1955, under which Sonia acquired her Indian citizenship through registration. In 2000, however, the Supreme Court dismissed the petitions that “suffered from deficiency in pleadings but is also scandalous.”

Over the last few weeks, the six cases the Jains had been pursuing for over 30 years — from Gyanvapi to Taj Mahal — have been all suddenly revived with judges accepting their pleas and passing preliminary orders.

“Wherever there is such a case, we will fight it,” says Vishnu Shankar, who assists his father in these cases. The father-son duo list out 102 cases filed for their larger cause of “Hindu revolution by legal awareness”. These range from taking on bans on firecrackers to challenging the registration of the Asaduddin Owaisi-led All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin (AIMIM) as a political party,

to challenging the Waqf Act. Even as several of these cases have been dismissed, Vishnu Shankar says the “goal of establishing a Hindu Rashtra will be realised” as people will at least become aware of the issues.

Based in Lucknow, Hari Shankar Jain’s practice began from the Allahabad High Court and has largely revolved around religion. Vishnu Shankar, who graduated from Balaji Law College in Pune, also hopes to follow in his father’s footsteps and represent clients that his “conscience allows”. An Advocate-On-Record, licensed to practice be-

fore the Supreme Court, he recruits regularly from the Chanderprabhu Jain College of Law in Delhi’s Narela.

Vishnu Shankar is also the official spokesperson for the Hindu Front for Justice, the organisation that filed a public interest litigation on May 2 challenging the ASI’s 2003 order, imposing restriction on Hindus to worship at Bhojshala in Madhya Pradesh’s Dhar district. Bhojshala is an ASI-protected 11th Century monument, where the Kamal Maula Mosque is alleged to have been built over a temple of Goddess Vagdevi.

Apart from the Hindu Front for Justice, the Jains are linked to the Hindu Mahasabha, the Goa-based Sanatan Sanstha, Bhagwa Raksha Vahini and Hind Samrajya Party. In 2019, the Sanatan Sanstha felicitated Hari Shankar Jain for being a “Dharmayoddha who is incessantly working for the establishment of the Hindu Rashtra”. The organisation has been linked to the killings of rationalists Narendra Dabholkar, Govind Pansare, MM Kalburgi and Gauri Lankesh in a 9,000-page chargesheet filed by a Special Investigation Team.

“We are often invited to Sanatan Sanstha to speak and I organise some conferences there. They are a dharmic organisation and we will be part of such places anywhere,” Vishnu Shankar Jain told *The Sunday Express*.

In the recent Gyanvapi case, although the SC transferred the case from the senior civil judge in Varanasi to the district judge, arguing that the issue needed a more “seasoned hand”, the order did not record the arguments made by the Muslim side that the civil judge’s orders were biased as they relied entirely on the petitioner’s version and were even passed ex-parte without hearing the mosque.

The Jains, however, see these as small triumphs in their larger fight. “Whether we succeed now or later, this will inspire many others to fight similar battles,” Vishnu Shankar says.



The Howrah wholesale fish market in West Bengal. The state produced nearly 1.7 million tonnes of fish in 2019-20. Hilsa is among the most popular fish sold at the market, with sizes varying from 500 gm to 1,500 gm. The price range is between Rs 850 and Rs 1,700. In 2019-20, Andhra Pradesh was the top fish producer in the country, with a total production of 4.1 million tonnes. Partha Paul/File

NUMBER PLATE  
0.75 million tonnes

The total fish production in India during 1950-51, which increased to 14.16 million tonnes during 2019-20. That year, Andhra Pradesh was the top fish producer in the country, with a total production of 4.1 million tonnes.

0.21 million tonnes

The total inland fish production in the country during 1950-51, which increased to 10.4 million tonnes in 2019-20.

0.53 million tonnes

The total marine fish production in the country during 1950-51, which increased to 3.7 million tonnes in 2019-20.

3.24 kg

As per Household Consumer Expenditure, NSS 68th Round, the per capita consumption of fish in a year in rural areas in India during 2011-12.

3.07 kg

As per the NSS survey, the per capita consumption of fish in a year in urban areas in the country during 2011-12. HARIKISHAN SHARMA

‘I want to run away at the thought of rains’

Every year, as the monsoons keep their date with Mumbai, so do the floods that bring the city to a halt. A diary from Hindmata, one of Mumbai’s chronic flooding spots, as it waits in dread for the rains

SANJANA BHALERAO

THE WALLS are tiled, the refrigerator and washing machine are mounted on a platform, smaller electronic devices wrapped up in plastic bags, and the special clothes stashed up in the loft. Yet, Prema Sannake knows she can never be too prepared. “I feel like running away from this place at the thought of rains,” she says. The monsoons are merely half a month away and the 54-year-old homemaker is anxious.

For all the romance and *chai-pakoda* memories that the rains evoke, Mumbai’s monsoons end up stalling life in the metropolis — flooding streets and train tracks, bringing down trees and leaving office-goers stranded. Almost every year, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), the civic body whose job is to get the city ready for the rains, finds itself scrambling

to clean the drains and desilt the pipelines. This year is unlikely to be any different.

Sannake and husband Dhondiram, who retired from BSNL in 2006, live in a 180-square feet one-room flat at Hindmata junction, a chronic flooding spot in Mumbai’s Dadar area. “Every year for over three decades, I have spent days and nights in knee-deep stagnant water inside our room,” says Sannake.

She says she cannot remember a monsoon when the rains did not disrupt her life. Her two children — both in their late 20s — moved out in 2017 with their families to rented flats in a nearby locality, but that’s not an option for the Sannakes. “This is the house I came to as a bride. This is the only place in the city I know as my house,” says Sannake.

For almost all the years that she has lived here, Sannake has had to struggle with the rains. “Every year, politicians promise there will be no floods, but the problem only keeps



At Dr Ambedkar Road in Hindmata, all shops have built steps to prevent water from entering the premises during monsoon . Amit Chakravarty

getting worse. After the rains, it takes me nearly two days to scoop out the water and get the house back to normal. For four months every year, we sit in the water as it rains and when it stops, we throw out the water, bucket by bucket. I can’t even cook during those days as the kitchen counter is stacked with boxes and other things,” complains Sannake.

The two lofts in the room are a lifesaver. In the days leading up to the rains, Sannake starts moving grains, clothes, the microwave and wooden boxes into the loft. “We mount the refrigerator and washing machines onto a platform. But if the water rises beyond 2

feet, those get submerged. How many times can we get these repaired? I also put away all documents and keep the bottom shelf of the cupboard empty.”

Hindmata is a saucer-shaped, low-lying area in Mumbai’s central district between Dadar TT and Parel. Every year, floodwaters gush into people’s homes and shops, rising to about three to four feet and staying that way for hours at a stretch.

Over the last month, the Sannakes have spent over Rs 1 lakh to flood-proof their ground-floor room. Among the new additions is a granite slab at the threshold to stop the water from gushing in.

The dilapidated three-storey building has both families and small-scale commercial establishments. Out of the 15 rooms on the ground floor, only the Sannakes and three other families have stayed on. Others have either sold the properties over the years or rented them out to small-scale cloth godowns.

Urban experts say it’s not just the saucer-shaped topography that causes the annual flooding in Hindmata, and point to how the BMC is almost never prepared — while old sewer lines lie damaged, new illegal ones crisscross the area.

Old British-era arch drains — designed to carry rainwater from Dadar to Britannia (Reay Road) outfall and finally into the sea — have been reduced to barely 1.13 sqm from their original 2.69 sqm carrying capacity due to silting and encroachments, said a retired civic official.

In 2016, the BMC constructed the Britannia pumping station, claiming that it would make the Hindmata junction free of waterlogging. But the neighbourhood continued to get flooded. The following year, an inquiry into the functioning of the Britannia pumping station recommended the installation of additional drains to carry rainwater, following which, in 2019, Rs 50 crore was spent to lay the lines and augment the capacity of the existing lines.

But Hindmata remained a water-filled saucer during the rains.

Residents of the area are now pinning their hopes on an ambitious project — two new underground water tanks, at Dadar and St Xavier’s Grounds, that are coming up to

temporarily store floodwater, which will be discharged into the sea through drains once the high tide recedes. The tanks, over a km from their building, are connected to Hindmata through a 1,600-mm-diameter stormwater drain line. But it’s already May and the work is far from complete.

One of the main reasons for Hindmata’s flooding is its geography, says the BMC. “The area is shaped like a saucer due to which all rainwater gets accumulated here from surrounding areas like Parel, Lalbaug and Dadar. To solve this problem, capacity of the underground tanks is being increased, so that they can hold more water,” said an official from the SWD (Storm Water Drains) department.

The BMC’s nearest pumping station from Hindmata — Britannia pumping station — is located at Reay Road, about 5 km away. Officials say that the farther away a chronic flooding spot is from a pumping station, the more time it takes for water to recede from the area.

On May 19, Mumbai Suburban Guardian Minister Aaditya Thackeray said after taking the stock of the city’s monsoon preparation, “We have created holding ponds in areas like Gandhi Market, Hindmata, and chronic flooding spots. These can hold water for a few hours and drain it. But still, if extreme weather event like cloud burst takes place, no one can do anything. The fury of nature can be stopped by none.”

But Sannake is running out of patience. “This year, if I have to bucket out water like I do every year, the pumps and tanks are a failure. I don’t want to know if the water receded in an hour or two this year. I don’t want a single drop of water in my room.”



Across  
THE AISLE



PCHIDAMBARAM

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The Centre's policies tend to impose uniformity throughout the country (e.g., NEET, NEP, CUET). There has been a serious erosion of federal principles. The danger is that, in due course, federalism will be junked and India will become a unitary state — a proposal that was unambiguously rejected by the Constituent Assembly

# The Panthers are coming to Nanded

Dality



SURAJYENGDE

Twitter: @Surajyengde

THE DALIT Panthers turns 50. Celebrations have been organised in my hometown in Maharashtra. An international Dalit Panthers-Black Panthers Conference is being hosted in India's hinterland for the first time. The Nanded Ambedkarites have decided to throw a party that would consist of intellectual discussions, speeches, film screenings, exhibitions, performances on traditional Ambedkari music and Dalit rap. In a first, Black Panther icons such as Michael D McCarty and Henry Gaddis have been invited to attend the conference alongside veteran Dalit Panthers' leaders such as J V Pawar.

No other city in India has organised such a conference. This is partly to let the world know that many activities happen in smaller parts of India but they remain unreported and unknown.

Dalit Panthers was started by first generation educated Marathi youth in Mumbai in 1972 but was dissolved five years later due to State pressure, internal ideological conflicts, and to make way for the next generation of thinkers to adopt their version of resistance. The Dalit youth living in Mumbai slums were frustrated with the State and its apathetic machinery. In response to the growing statelessness and insecurity, they blew fire like a dragon putting to flames the mirage of India that was commemorating its silver jubilee.

At the time, Raja Dhale, one of the co-founders of Dalit Panthers, compared the Tricolour to the sari draped around a Dalit woman. A Dalit Buddhist woman was stripped naked in public by the entire village in Maharashtra's Brahmanda. Dhale asked Indians if a Dalit woman's respect was more important or the Tricolour, because the punishment for disrespecting the Tricolour was more severe than that of stripping a Dalit woman.

The Dalit Panthers had an impressive presence in cities and its influence started growing in villages as news of their work spread. The style of the Panthers, known as "Pantheri", was to use language and words as an armament against injustice and violence.

she  
SAID



DEEPIKASINGH

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WHO FINDS love swiping left and right?"; "Isn't love an emotion that has to come to you organically?"; "But don't you, like, get murdered on Tinder?"

With these questions weighing heavily on my mind, I took my first, reluctant steps towards the world of online dating three years ago.

I was not hoping for much. As a plus-sized woman with features that don't fit in the conventionally attractive mould, I was used to being passed over for romantic alliances. And on a platform where the first impression is formed based on something



# Rob Peter more, pay Peter less

LAST WEEK, I had written that 'Centre-states relations have never been so fraught'. In the last few days, there has been another flash point: who is doing more to cut taxes?

On May 21, the Finance Minister announced that the government had decided to reduce the "excise duties" by Rs 8 per litre on petrol and Rs 6 per litre on diesel. The notification was apparently made available very late in the day. All channels on that day and all newspapers the next morning assumed — and reported — that reductions had been made in the excise duties (which are shared with the states). It was wrong; the reductions had been made in the additional excise duties (which are not shared with the states).

	Basic Excise Duty	Additional Excise Duty (Road & Infrastructure Cess)	All Excise Duties
	per litre (shared)	per litre (not shared)	
On May 21			
Petrol	₹1.40	₹13.00	₹27.90
Diesel	1.80	8.00	21.80
After May 21			
Petrol	1.40	5.00	19.90
Diesel	1.80	2.00	15.80

Of the shared tax revenues, the Centre keeps 59 per cent and all the States share the remaining 41 per cent according to the percentages determined by the Finance Commission. All the States together get a pittance from petroleum products: 57.4 paise per litre on petrol and 73.8 paise per litre on diesel! There is neither gain nor loss, of any significance, through Basic Excise Duty.

The real source of revenue is the not shared excise duties. Having raised it by Rs 18+ per litre of petrol and diesel, on May 21, 2022, the Finance Minister re-

duced it by Rs 8 and Rs 6 per litre, respectively! This is what I call Rob Peter More and Pay Peter Less!

## VAT IS MAIN REVENUE

It is obvious that the states get practically nothing from the revenues raised by the Centre from petrol and diesel. Their main source of revenue is VAT on petrol and diesel (the other source being taxes on liquor). It is noteworthy that the states' own resources as a proportion of total revenues is dwindling. Exhorting the states to cut VAT on petrol and diesel is akin to asking the states to beggar themselves: they will go broke and be obliged to borrow more (with the permission of the Central government) or carry a begging bowl to the Centre for more grants-in-aid. The little financial independence the states have will evaporate. Yet, four states have made cuts in the VAT: Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

## NEED TOTAL REVIEW

Neutral observers have argued that the entire gamut of Centre-states' fiscal powers and relations must be comprehensively reviewed. In particular, the working of Articles 246A, 269A and 279A relating to the GST laws must be reviewed. States must have more financial powers to raise own resources. It is a fact that states that are starved of resources do not devolve sufficient funds

to the urban and rural local bodies and the result is the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution are lying in deep freeze. Neither funds nor functions nor functionaries are made available to the municipal and panchayat bodies.

The virtual monopoly of financial powers in the hands of the Central government has led to concentration of other powers in the Central government. The Centre has encroached on the legislative domain of the states (e.g. the farm laws). The Centre has exceeded its taxing powers (e.g., IGST on ocean freight, as pointed out by the Supreme Court). The Centre has often exercised its executive powers to override the executive powers of the state governments (e.g., transfer and 'posting' of the Chief Secretary of West Bengal on the day of his retirement from service in order to punish the officer concerned and overawe the state). The Centre's policies tend to impose uniformity throughout the country (e.g., NEET, NEP, CUET). There has been a serious erosion of federal principles. The danger is that, in due course, federalism will be junked and India will become a unitary state — a proposal that was unambiguously rejected by the Constituent Assembly.

You decide, what do you want? One India with de-humanizing oneness and uniformity across subservient states or a Federal India that is enriched by vibrant, co-operating and competing states?

Fifth  
COLUMN



TAVLEEN SINGH

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# India must choose

ON THE promenade in Davos this year there was heavy Indian presence. Major states set up their own investment offices directly opposite India Lounge. Right next door to India's main office was Russia House, renamed this year as Russia War Crimes House. Inside were photographs and videos of mass graves, devastated cities and the heart-breaking testimonies of people who had suffered brutalities at the hands of Russian soldiers. Almost everyone who attended this year's unusual summer annual meeting of the World Economic Forum visited the Russia War Crimes House to pay homage.

Ukraine dominated the conversations and discussions held at this annual meeting. On the second evening there was a concert for Ukraine that had an audience of more than a thousand people standing up in silence when the Ukrainian national anthem was the first piece played. In all the years that I have been coming to Davos, almost every year since I first came in 1995, I have never attended an annual meeting that was so completely dedicated to a single subject. Putin's ugly war. Klaus Schwab who founded the World Economic Forum 50 years ago said that in all the years that this Forum has existed, this was the most momentous because it marked a turning point. He said, 'History is truly at a turning point. We do not yet know the full extent and the systemic and structural changes which will happen.'

In nearly every session I attended, I heard eminent analysts of international affairs point out that we are now witnessing a change in the world order that we have not seen since World War-2 ended. There was speculation on whether we were seeing the start of a new Cold War or a continuation of the one we believed ended when that wall came down in Berlin and the iron curtain fell. The difference is that the new Cold War will be between the United States and China. Not Russia. So, did India make a mistake by not condemning Vladimir Putin strongly for starting his monstrous war that seems not to play by any of the established rules of conflict?

It is sad for me to admit this, but it seems that way. As someone who always looks out in Davos for where India stands in the story of the world, I was disappointed to find hardly any mention of our dear Bharat Mata. Indian ministers and officials were present in large numbers as were Indian journalists, but it seemed only other Indians noticed their presence. This column has said before that we should have condemned in much stronger words Putin's horrific war crimes of which the first was the unprovoked invasion itself. This week I repeat what I have said in the hope that the mighty mandarins who devise India's foreign policy wake up to the reality that it is time for us to choose a side.

Here are our choices. We can either choose to stand with other democracies and say loudly and clearly that Ukraine is suffering only because it demanded the right to be free and democratic. It was Ukraine's right to choose not to be crushed under the jackboot of a brutal dictator who does not allow his own people democracy and freedom. Or we can choose to continue standing with Russia who in the changed circumstances of the world is the junior partner of our worst enemy. In the new Cold War, the side that China leads represents autocracy and brute force. Is that the side that India should be on?

On the top of Raisina Hill in that building we call South Block sits a small army of officials who have grown up admiring the Soviet Union and thinking of it as our forever friend. I have engaged with some of them on the issue of Ukraine and they have repeated ad nauseum that Russia was only responding to deliberate Western provocation in the form of NATO expanding its borders into what the former Soviet Union believed was its sphere of influence. They always preface this by reminding me that it is they who are the experts on geo-political realities and that I am a mere hack poking my nose into an area where expertise is a prerequisite.

Well, let me say to these 'experts' that at this present time in world history they are pushing India into the arms of a formation that will be led by China who has shown us many times that it will never be our friend. It was probably on the advice of these 'experts' on geo-political realities that our Prime Minister has met China's Communist dictator 18 times, always extending the hand of friendship. The last of these meetings was in Mahabalipuram where Xi Jinping and Narendra Modi were immortalized drinking coconut water together. As picturesque a scene as when China's leader and his wife were photographed on that Gujarati swing. Even as these pictures were being taken, China was planning to send troops into Indian territory.

The mighty mandarins of South Block were wrong then and history will prove them wrong one more time if we choose to stand on the side of autocracy and not on the side of democracy. If this is all that these experts in geo-politics and foreign policy can give us, then it is time to put an end to such 'expertise.'



history  
HEADLINE



SIRFAN HABIB

THERE ARE some iconic words or expressions that become immortal and stay with us forever. *Inquilab* (Revolution) is one of them. It was used for the first time in a slogan *Inquilab Zindabad* (Long Live Revolution) by Maulana Hasrat Mohani in 1921 and soon became a rallying cry of our freedom struggle.

Now, it's at the centre of a Delhi High Court deliberation which sought to know the context in which Umar Khalid, accused in the February 2020 riots in the Capital, used the term *inquilab*, with the judge saying that 'revolution' by itself "isn't always bloodless".

Before going into the popular appeal of the slogan over the past few decades, we need to know a bit more about someone who coined it. Maulana Hasrat Mohani (1875-1951) was born as Syed Fazlul Hasan in a town called Mohan in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh. Hasrat was his pen name (*takhallus*) as a revolutionary Urdu poet, that also became his identity as a political leader. Hasrat Mohani was a labour leader, a scholar, a well-known Urdu poet and also one of the founders of the Communist Party of India in 1925.

Along with Swami Kumaranand — another important name in the Indian Communist movement — Hasrat Mohani was the first person to raise the demand for 'Complete Independence' or 'Poorna Swaraj' for India at the Ahmedabad session of the Indian National Congress in 1921. This session was also attended by Ramprasad Bismil and Ashfaqullah Khan (both played an important role in passing the resolution in the general body of the Indian National Congress). Hasrat Mohani was elected member of the Constituent Assembly after Independence and was also a member of the drafting committee of the Constitution along with Dr B R Ambedkar. His stress on *Inquilab* and the slogan *Inquilab Zindabad* was inspired by his urge to fight against social and economic inequality and of course in his struggle for freedom from colonial oppression.

Before Hasrat Mohani coined this slogan, the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia made revolution symbolic of struggle for oppressed nationalities globally. India did not escape it either.

It was from the mid 1920s onwards that this slogan became a war cry of Bhagat Singh and his Naujawan Bharat Sabha as well as his Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA). Bhagat Singh was committed to *Inquilab* or revolution but it was

# The idealism behind Inquilab Zindabad



Hasrat Mohani (left), a member of the drafting committee of the Constitution, with Dr B R Ambedkar. Wikimedia Commons

not merely a political revolution he aimed at. He wanted a social revolution to break age-old discriminatory practices. This *Inquilab Zindabad* was not merely an emotional war cry for the revolutionaries but had a lofty ideal, which was explained by the HSRA thus: "The Revolution will ring the death knell of capitalism and class distinction and privileges.. It will give birth to a new state — a new social order."

Bhagat Singh and his Naujawan Bharat Sabha regarded communal agenda as central to their political agenda, but unlike common practice, they did not believe either in the appeasement of all religions or in raising such slogans as *Allah o Akbar*, *Sat Sri Akal* and *Har Har Mahadev* to prove their secularism. On the contrary, they raised just two slogans, *Inquilab Zindabad* and *Hindustan Zindabad*, hailing the revolution and the country. All those who revel in the name of Bhagat Singh should care to understand the vision he left behind for us as his intellectual legacy.

This slogan got major traction when Bhagat Singh and B K Dutt dropped bombs in the Delhi Assembly on April 8, 1929, and shouted Long Live Revolution (*Inquilab Zindabad*). It was later in the same year that Ramanand Chatterjee, senior journalist and editor of the *Modern Review of Calcutta*, wrote critically and mockingly about the slogan Long Live Revolution (*Inquilab Zindabad*). Bhagat Singh could not let it pass and responded by explaining its usage. He said, "The sense in which the word revolution (*Inquilab*) is used in that phrase is the

spirit, the longing for a change for the better. People generally get accustomed to the established order and begin to tremble at the very idea of change... Old order should change, always and ever, yielding place to new.. It is in this sense that we raise the shout 'Long Live Revolution' (*Inquilab Zindabad*)."

Bhagat Singh was even more definitive in his statement in the court on June 6, 1929. He said: "Revolution (*Inquilab*) is not a culture of bomb and pistol. Our meaning of revolution is to change the present conditions, which are based on manifest injustice." Bhagat Singh agrees with a quote he cites in his prison diary, which says a radical revolution is not utopian. "What is utopian is the idea of a partial, an exclusively political revolution, which would leave the pillars of the house standing."

The HSRA aimed at such a revolution (*Inquilab*) which would usher in a new era, demolishing the existing socio-economic and political structure of the Indian society. Their revolution was not for anarchy or lawlessness but for social justice.

Thus, we need to comprehend the meaning of *Inquilab* or revolution and the slogan *Inquilab Zindabad* in the context of its history. It will stay relevant till the people continue their struggle against diverse inequalities and oppressions.

The writer is historian and author, and formerly Maulana Azad Chair at the National University of Educational Planning and Administration

# When I swiped right, and other stories

as frivolous as a profile picture, what chance did I have? To my surprise, I found at least five matches within the first few minutes on Bumble. And that was the beginning of what would be a watershed moment in my personal history.

My first date was with A, within 18 hours of us getting to know of each other's existence. He was cuter than his pictures, an amazing listener, and a cuddler par excellence. It was the best first date I have ever had. We met for another one three days later. He said he wanted me to read him poetry. I said I was more of a novel person. We settled on a short story. He rested his head on my lap as I read aloud. It was as romantic as it gets and completely surreal.

My second date was with D; I connected with him through Hinge. "I find you

very attractive," he said. Now these were words I had never heard being spoken for me before. Ever. I made him say, "Deepika, you are attractive" at least a dozen times and he obliged. He was nerdy, endearingly awkward but attentive to a fault, and single-mindedly focused on not doing anything that made me uncomfortable.

And then I met S. Gifted with dry humour, he cracked me up with every sentence. He was six years younger but with an IQ higher than all the guys I had dated before, combined.

Three years, countless matches and more than my fair share of dates later, if you ask what I feel about my online dating experience, I would say grateful. The men I met through the apps certainly turned out to be better people than those I had met

'organically'. I stopped being apologetic about my weight and realised I was attractive in my own unique way.

Now, the pitfalls: How can I meet a stranger just like that? What if he is only a serial killer on the prowl? Well, I did take my precautions. I mean sending pictures and contact details of the guy I am meeting to my friend is not the kind of stuff that one envisions for a first date, right? But we do what we got to do.

And, how do I know that he is "the one" by scrolling through a few pictures and a couple of sentences that pass off for bio? What if he is good looking but not photogenic? What if his bio sucks but he could have bowled me over in person? What, dear lord, if there is no bio?

So, in the end, can I say I am a dating app

convert? Ah, I wouldn't commit. My idea of meeting "the one" still remains old-fashioned — I would give anything to bump into him in an old, dusty bookstore. And then him asking me out for coffee, maybe?

But sadly, and shamefully, I am not going to bookshops anymore. In the same vein, I don't remember the last time a coffee shop took my breath away.

With work friends being the only people I interact with through the week, and girlfriends and platonic guy friends occupying my days off, these dating apps, "inorganic" as they sound, are virtually (pun intended) my only shot at finding "the one". I just hope that he is photogenic, has a sassy bio, and right swipes me back. And that he is, well, not a serial killer on the prowl.





# 13 ECONOMY

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ASCI MEETING WITH E-COMMERCE COS

## Framework on anvil to curb fake reviews on e-commerce sites

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

TO PROTECT consumer interest, the Centre will develop a framework to keep a check on fake reviews on e-commerce websites like Amazon and Flipkart.

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) will prepare the framework after studying the current mechanism being followed by other e-commerce companies and "best practices available globally", the Consumer Affairs Ministry said in a statement on Saturday.

The decision comes after the ministry and the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)

### ISSUES DISCUSSED AT VIRTUAL MEET

**AT FRIDAY'S VIRTUAL MEETING**, the issues discussed included how paid reviews, unverifiable reviews and absence of disclosure in case of incentivised reviews make it challenging for consumers to recognise genuine reviews, as per an official statement



held a virtual meeting on Friday with e-commerce companies, along with other stakeholders,

to discuss the magnitude and roadmap ahead for fake reviews on such websites.

Nidhi Khare, Additional Secretary, and Anupam Mishra, Joint Secretary, in the DoCA also attended the meeting.

According to an official statement, the issues discussed during Friday's meeting included how paid reviews, unverifiable reviews and absence of disclosure in case of incentivised reviews make it challenging for consumers to recognise genuine reviews.

Shopping on e-commerce sites does not allow users an opportunity to physically examine a product which means that consumers rely heavily on product reviews before making a purchase decision.

"Traceability by ensuring the

authenticity of the reviewer and the associated liability of the platform are the two key issues here. Also e-comm players must disclose as to how they choose the 'most relevant reviews' for display in a fair and transparent manner," Rohit Kumar Singh, Secretary, DoCA, said.

E-commerce entities participating in the virtual meeting "agreed that the issue deserves to be monitored closely" and also claimed that they have frameworks in place by which they monitor fake reviews on their sites, the Ministry said.

The companies also showed an interest in participating with the government to come up with the framework, it added.

AUTOMAKER'S ENTRY ON HOLD SINCE 2019 OVER DUTY CUT ISSUE

## Tesla demand to start engine in India: Manufacturing only after nod for sale & services

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

TESLA INC will not set up a manufacturing facility in India until it is allowed to sell and service imported cars in the country first, the company's chief executive officer Elon Musk recently said on Twitter.

The company's entry into India has been on hold since 2019 as it wants lower customs duty on imported electric vehicles (EVs) in the country, a demand the government is yet to accept, instead requiring the automaker to set up a manufacturing base in India.

### EV maker's duty cut demand

Responding to a user's question on Twitter about the company's manufacturing plans in India, Musk on Friday tweeted, "Tesla will not put a manufacturing plant in any location where we are not allowed first to sell & service cars".

Tesla had last year written to the government seeking a reduction in import duties on fully assembled cars.

At present, customs duty ranging from 60 per cent to 100 per cent is levied on cars imported as completely built units (CBUs), depending on the engine size and cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value less or above \$40,000.

### CEO'S RESPONSE TO TWITTER QUESTION

**RESPONDING ON TWITTER** to a user's question about Tesla's plans in India, Musk tweeted, "Tesla will not put a manufacturing plant in any location where we are not allowed first to sell & service cars"



AP file

### Govt wants production first

Earlier this year, Road Transport Minister and Highways Nitin Gadkari had said that if the US-based auto maker was ready to manufacture its EV in India, then there was "no problem", but the company must not sell imported cars in India. "If he wants to manufacture in China and sell in India, then it cannot be a good proposition for India," the union minister had said.

Tesla's giga factory in Shanghai is currently the closest manufacturing facility the company has to India.

Senior government officials had earlier told *The Sunday Express* that Tesla, in its proposal, did not detail any setup for manufacturing the electric vehicles.

The government's primary concern was that Tesla is seek-

### EXPLAINED

**E**xplaining duty cuts and then proposing domestic manufacturing conditional to the sales response in the country.

The tax cut demand hence did not find favour as it was also felt that other firms may seek similar concessions.

"Tesla wants customs duty cuts for imports. They are welcome to come and produce. But his argument is first I want to see how many people in India buy my vehicle. For that, he needs a lower customs duty ... if there's enough turnover, I might come. It's not a poor man's car. They are not producing a small EV equivalent for the middle class. They are producing a super class car. Why should we give a Customs exemption? If you can afford it, please pay the duty and take it," a senior government official had earlier said.

## 'Broad-based growth' fuels M&M Q4 net profit up 48%

**Mumbai:** Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) on Saturday posted a 48 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 2,237 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, riding on broad-based growth registered across all its businesses. In comparison, the automotive major had posted a net profit of Rs 1,513 crore for the same period a year ago.

The net profit excludes an exceptional item of Rs 293.73 crore for the quarter. During the quarter under review, the company said its revenue rose 21 per cent to Rs 25,934 crore from Rs 21,456 crore recorded during the same period a year ago.

"Despite significant challenges due to various factors like Covid-19, commodity prices, semiconductor shortages and the Ukraine conflict, we have delivered strong results at the consolidated level. All of our group companies are well-positioned to capitalise on growth opportunities," Anish Shah, MD & CEO at M&M, said. **FE**

## 'Investments in proptech cos to hit \$1 billion in 2025'

*Investments in property technology (proptech) firms are likely to touch \$1 billion in 2025, almost double the 2020 level, as per a report by industry body CII and property consultant Colliers India*



**Proptech sector is expected to grow significantly over the next few years led by ease of transactions, transparency and advanced technology, the report said**

### DEEP TECHNOLOGY

has huge opportunity in proptech, with investments in the sector set to touch \$1 billion in 2025, said the report 'Real Estate 3.0: Technology-led growth' by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Colliers India

### COVID PROVIDED AN IMPETUS TO TECHNOLOGY IN REAL ESTATE SECTOR TO ENSURE:

- Seamless services for remote working
- Ease in construction
- Focus on health

### ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGIES INCREASED MANIFOLD OVER LAST TWO YEARS, NAMELY:

- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Virtual reality (VR)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

### DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

including AI, VR, IoT and blockchain can play a pivotal role in reshaping real estate business, with technology having

infiltrated every aspect of real estate sector

### SMART BUILDING MATERIALS

with automated air quality systems are increasingly gaining traction, amid a focus on health and wellness

### CHALLENGES IN ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGIES:

- Privacy and data security
- Cost implications for occupiers and developers
- Heavy reliance on power supply

**\$551 million**  
Investment in proptech sector seen in 2020

**REDUCED DEMAND FOR MANUAL LABOUR** could lead to layoffs of employees, along with increased need for specialised labour

**PROPTech IN INDIA** is largely limited to residential marketplaces and a few entities dealing in commercial real estate, while focussing on listing residential and commercial properties

Source: CII & Colliers India/PTI

## 'Coal India to import for first time in years'

SUDARSHAN VARADHAN  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

STATE-RUN COAL India, the world's largest coal miner, will import the fuel for use by utilities, a Power Ministry letter seen by *Reuters* showed on Saturday, as shortages raise concerns about renewed power outages.

It would be the first time since 2015 that Coal India has imported the fuel, highlighting efforts by state and central government officials to stock up to avoid a repeat of April, when India faced its worst power cuts in more than six years.

"Coal India would import



**A coal mine in Birbhum, West Bengal. Power plants have been warned of cuts to the supply of mined coal if they don't build up inventories through imports.** *File*

coal for blending on government-to-government (G2G) basis and supply ... to thermal power plants of state generators

and independent power producers (IPPs)," the Power Ministry said in the letter dated May 28. The letter was sent to all util-

ities, top federal and state energy officials including the Coal Secretary and the Chairman of Coal India.

India is expected to face a wider coal shortage during the third quarter of 2022 due to expectations of higher electricity demand, stoking fears of widespread power outages. The Power Ministry said in the letter the decision was taken after nearly all states suggested that multiple coal import tenders by states would lead to a confusion and sought centralised procurement through Coal India.

India stepped up pressure on utilities to increase imports to blend with local coal in recent

days, warning of cuts to the supply of domestically mined coal if power plants did not build up coal inventories through imports. However, the Power Ministry on Saturday asked states to suspend tenders that are "under process".

"The tenders under process by state generators and IPPs for importing coal for blending may be kept in abeyance to await the price discovery by Coal India through G2G route, so as to procure coal at least possible rates," the ministry said. Coal inventories at power plants have declined by about 13 per cent since April to the lowest pre-summer levels in years. **REUTERS**

INTERVIEW WITH MEMBER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

## 'India an opportunity for Wikipedia, so are languages and reliable info'

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

WITHIN HOURS of the shooting in Texas, the Wikipedia page of the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde saw 765 edits coming from 154 different contributors that was overseen by 103 page watchers ensuring only accurate information was published.

This ability to offer 'reliable information', especially in these critical times, is for Raju Narisetti — a member of the board of trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation — a 'significant opportunity' for Wikipedia in countries like India. The opportunity is also languages.

"Most people don't realise it but over 80 per cent of articles on Wikipedia are not in English. And among the 300 languages, Hindi is ranked at about 55, followed by Tamil and Telugu. On number of articles, Hindi is close to about 150,000 articles, Tamil



**"... over 80 per cent of articles on Wikipedia are not in English. And among the 300 languages, Hindi is ranked at about 55, followed by Tamil and Telugu. On number of articles, Hindi is close to 150,000 articles"**

RAJU NARISETTI

is about 130,000 articles and Telugu is getting to be about 100,000," Narisetti elaborates on why it is a significant opportunity for a non-profit like Wikipedia, which has a 2030 strategic roadmap to help every person on the planet to access free knowledge and information.

Narisetti, who has been associated with *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal* after starting his career as a journalist

in India, says several Indians are not aware of history, arts, politics and science. "So we are particularly targeting younger Indians, you know your typical Gen Z, with a campaign #KnowWithWiki."

And, India is already an important part of Wikipedia in more ways than one. Narisetti says that just in the past month, Indians have visited Wikipedia pages 750 million times. "Also,

while we focus on Indian languages, on Wikipedia, Indians are the second-largest English language contributors ... and that's a pretty amazing number."

In fact, India has a total of 65,000 Wikipedia contributors, which is about 20 per cent of all contributors on the platform.

And Indians have also backed Wikipedia fundraisers wholeheartedly.

"When we last did a fundraising campaign in India, 500,000 Indians contributed," he says, adding that this accounted for about 7 per cent of their global donors. "As a non-profit foundation, we believe that India is an opportunity and in some ways a challenge, because of the languages ... and how do we as a non-profit cut through the clutter?"

Wikipedia has over the years started offering content in about 300 languages, a lot of them from India. *Full report on* [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

### BRIEFLY

#### AGEL project

**New Delhi:** Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) arm Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer One Limited has commissioned a 390 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

#### Inox Wind Q4

**New Delhi:** Inox Wind has reported widening of its consolidated net loss to Rs 255.76 crore for the March quarter, mainly due to lower revenues. The consolidated net loss of the company stood at Rs 105.87 crore in the quarter ended March 31, 2021, it said in a BSE filing.

#### Glenmark Q4

**New Delhi:** Glenmark Pharmaceuticals said its consolidated profit after tax declined 26 per cent to Rs 173 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2022. It had reported a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 234 crore in the January-March period of 2020-21 fiscal. **PTI**



## TOP OF THE WORLD



Michelle Bachelet. AP

## CHINA

## Govt must rethink Uyghur policies: UN rights chief

**Beijing:** The top UN human rights official said on Saturday that she raised concerns with Chinese officials about the impact of the broad application of counterterrorism and de-radicalisation measures on the rights of Uyghurs and other predominantly Muslim groups in China's Xinjiang region. Michelle Bachelet, who visited the northwestern region as part of a six-day trip to China, said, "It provides an opportunity for me to better understand the situation in China, but also for the authorities in China to better understand our concerns and to potentially rethink policies that we believe may impact negatively on human rights," she said in a video news conference before leaving the country. **AP**

## JAPAN

## Red Army founder freed after serving 20-yr sentence

**Tokyo:** Fusako Shigenobu, who co-founded the terrorist group Japanese Red Army, was released from prison on Saturday after serving a 20-year sentence, and apologised for hurting innocent people. "I feel strongly that I have finally come out alive," she said, welcomed by her daughter and a crowd of reporters and supporters in Tokyo. "I have hurt innocent people I did not know by putting our struggles first. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise deeply," she said. Shigenobu was convicted of masterminding the 1974 siege of the French Embassy in the Hague. **AP**

## INDONESIA

## Rescuers search for 26 after boat capsizes

**Makassar:** Indonesian rescue teams were looking for 26 people missing on Saturday after a boat with 43 people on board capsized on off Sulawesi island, the search and rescue agency said. The motorboat that had left Paotere port in Makassar on Thursday was reported missing on Friday when it failed to arrive at its destination. Rescued passengers were picked up by tugboats and taken to Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan and Jenepono, an official said on Saturday. **REUTERS**

## TED CRUZ CALLS FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR GUN PURCHASES

## At NRA gathering, Trump blames 'evil', not guns for Texas shooting

'Restricting access to firearms not the answer to preventing future tragedies'

## AGENCIES

HOUSTON, MAY 28

AFTER AN opening day characterised by big name speakers, bombastic rhetoric and a mass of protesters just across the street from the convention hall doors, attendees at Saturday's session of the National Rifle Association annual meeting are likely to find a more subdued set of events.

Saturday kicked off with NRA leaders addressing members of the organization. Those who attended Friday afternoon's Leadership Forum witnessed probably the most passionate moments of the convention.

The forum consisted of a series of political speakers, including the governor of South Dakota, Kristi Noem; Senator Ted Cruz of Texas; and Mark Robinson, lieutenant governor of North Carolina. The opening evening culminated in a speech by former President Donald J Trump, which began as a discussion of gun rights.

"The existence of evil in our world is not a reason to disarm law-abiding citizens," said former Trump, who was among the Republicans who lined up to speak before the gun rights lobbying group Friday as thousands of protesters angry about gun violence demonstrated outside. The members insisted that further restricting access to firearms was not the answer to preventing future tragedies.

"The existence of evil is one of the best reasons to arm law-abiding citizens," he said Friday. The NRA had said that convention attendees would "reflect on" the shooting at the event and "pray for the victims, recognise our patriotic members and pledge to redouble our commitment to making our schools secure."

Wayne LaPierre, the group's embattled chief executive, opened the programme with remarks bemoaning the "21 beautiful lives ruthlessly and indiscriminately extinguished by a criminal monster." Still, he said "restricting



Former president Donald Trump speaks during the NRA meeting. AP

**EXPLAINED** Can gunmakers be liable for mass shootings?

SINCE 2005, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) has provided near blanket immunity for gunmakers and dealers from liability for crimes committed with their products. However, PLCAA has several provisions that allow a company to be sued, including for claims a company has knowingly violated laws related to the marketing of the product related to the shooting.

the fundamental human rights of law-abiding Americans to defend themselves is not the answer. It never has been."

Texas Sen Ted Cruz, who, like Trump, is considered a potential presidential candidate in 2024, rallied against Democrats' calls for universal background checks for gun purchases and bans of assault-style weapons and instead pointed to broken families, declining church attendance and social media bullying. "Tragedies like the event of this week are a mirror forcing us to ask hard questions," he said. "We must not react to evil and tragedy by abandoning the Constitution or infringing on rights of law-abiding citizens."

## Children called for help from inside classes, police waited

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
UVALDE, MAY 28

FURTIVELY, SPEAKING in a whisper, a fourth-grade girl dialed the police. Around her, in Room 112 at Robb Elementary School, were the motionless bodies of her classmates and scores of spent bullet casings fired by a gunman who had already been inside the school for half an hour.

She whispered to a 911 operator, just after noon, that she was in the classroom with the gunman. She called back again. And again. "Please send the police now," she begged. But they were already there, waiting in a school hallway just outside. And they had been

there for more than an hour.

Police officers held off as they listened to sporadic gunfire from behind the door, ordered by the commander at the scene not to rush the pair of connected classrooms where the gunman had locked himself inside and begun shooting shortly after 11.30 am.

"It was the wrong decision, period," the director of the state police, Steven C. McCraw, said on Friday after reading from the transcripts of children's calls to 911 and from a timeline of the police inaction during nearly 90 minutes of horror at the elementary school in Uvalde, Texas.

After days of shifting explanations and conflicting accounts, the disclosures answered many of the

basic questions about how the massacre had taken place. But they raised the even more painful possibility that had the police done more, not all of those who died would have lost their lives.

Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas, who earlier in the week had said the police "showed amazing courage by running toward gunfire," said on Friday at a news conference in Uvalde that he had been "misled" about the events and the police response, adding that he was "absolutely livid." Abbott told reporters that state lawmakers would review the tragedy and determine what went wrong. "Do we expect laws to come out of this devastating crime? The answer is yes," he said.

## Americans favour changing gun laws

Nearly two-thirds of Americans support moderate or strong regulations of gun ownership, including 53% of Republicans



A family at a memorial site for the victims killed in Uvalde in Texas. AP

**RAISING LEGAL AGE**  
**72%** of people support the idea of raising the legal age to buy a gun from 18 to 21 years old

**ARMING TEACHERS**  
**45%** of Americans backed arming teachers, including 58% of Republicans, while 41% of people did not  
■ Teachers' unions have opposed this idea

## RED-FLAG LAWS

**70%** people surveyed said they support "red flag laws," which allow police to confiscate firearms from people that courts say are dangerous

**79%** people and 78% Republicans say they would support a candidate who supported passing background checks and red flag laws

**19 STATES HAVE SUCH LAWS IN PLACE**

Source: Reuters/Ipsos poll of 940 people conducted online on Wednesday.

## LANKA ON THE BOIL

## Protests demanding Gotabaya's resignation grow, enter 50th day

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, MAY 28

SRI LANKAN police on Saturday fired tear gas and water cannons to disperse anti-government protesters as the ongoing agitation demanding the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa over the worst economic crisis intensified as it entered its 50th day.

Saturday marks the 50th day of the "Go Rajapaksa" protest which has also seen the death of a parliamentarian. The Sri Lankan police have on occasions used force to control the unrest.

News website newsfirst.lk reported that tear gas and water cannons were fired by police to disperse protesters near the World Trade Centre in Fort, Colombo. According to the



Protesters run for cover as police fire tear gas shells near the President's official residence in Colombo on Saturday. AP

Colombo Gazette newspaper, a protest was staged near the residence and office of Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, disrupting traffic along Flower Road.

The protest was staged by "No Deal Gama", it said.

Sharing a video of the protest, the Daily Mirror newspaper tweeted, "50 days of the Galle Face Struggle - People's Representatives and many civil activists march from Kollupitiya Junction to Galle Face."



A building heavily damaged in a Russian bombing in Bakhmut, eastern Ukraine, on Saturday. AP

## Russia takes small cities, looks to widen east battle

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
KRAMATORSK, MAY 28

AS RUSSIA asserted progress in its goal of seizing the entirety of contested eastern Ukraine, President Vladimir Putin tried to shake European resolve Saturday to punish his country with sanctions and to keep supplying weapons that have supported Ukraine's defence.

The Russian Defence Ministry said Lyman, the second small city to fall to Russia this week, had been "completely liberated" by a joint force of Russian soldiers and Kremlin-backed separatists, who have waged war for eight years in the industrial Donbas region bordering Russia.

Ukraine's train system has ferried arms and evacuated citizens through Lyman, a key railway hub in the country's east. Control of it also would give Russia's military another foothold in the region; it has bridges for troops and equipment to cross the Siverskiy Donets river, which has so far impeded the Russian advance into the Donbas.

But Russia's recent progress in Donetsk and Luhansk, the two provinces that make up the Donbas, could further embolden Putin. Since failing to occupy Kyiv, Russia has set out to seize the last parts of the region not controlled by the separatists.

"If Russia did succeed in taking over these areas, it would highly likely be seen by the Kremlin as a substantive politi-

Macron, Scholz urge Putin to release Azovstal fighters

**Paris:** French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz urged Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday to release the 2,500 Ukrainian defenders of the Azovstal steel plant detained by Russian forces, the Elysee palace said. The two European leaders, in a joint call, also urged Putin to accept a direct exchange with Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the palace said. They also insisted on the urgency of lifting the Russian blockade of the port of Odesa to allow Ukrainian grain exports, the palace said. **REUTERS**

cal achievement and be portrayed to the Russian people as justifying the invasion," the British Ministry of Defence said in a Saturday assessment.

Russia has intensified efforts to capture the larger cities of Sievierodonetsk and nearby Lysychansk, which are the last major areas under Ukrainian control in Luhansk province. Zelenskyy called the situation in the east "difficult" but expressed confidence his country would prevail with help from Western weapons and sanctions.

## China signs deal with Samoa as Australia vows Pacific Islands strategy

REUTERS  
SYDNEY, MAY 28

CHINA'S FOREIGN minister signed a deal with Samoa on Saturday to strengthen diplomatic relations, while Australia's new leader said he had a "comprehensive plan" for the Pacific, as Beijing and Canberra continued rival campaigns to woo the region.

China is building on a security pact it recently signed with Solomon Islands, which has alarmed the United States and its allies such as Australia as they fear a stepped-up military presence by Beijing. Australia's new centre-left government has made the Pacific Islands an early diplomatic priority, read more Prime Minister Anthony

Albanese said on Saturday his government's plan includes a defence training school, support for maritime security, a boost in aid and re-engaging the region on climate change. "We will be proactive in the region, we want to engage," he told reporters.

China's Wang Yi, on a tour of the Pacific seeking a 10-nation deal on security and trade, finished a visit to Samoa, where he met PM Fiame Naomi Mataafa and signed documents including an "economic and technical cooperation agreement", Samoa said.

Also Saturday, Fiji's PM Frank Bainimarama said he had a "wonderful meeting" with Australia's Penny Wong, who had visited days after taking office to show the new government's attention to the Pacific Islands.

## #METOO: PATRICK POIVRE D'ARVOR FILES 16 DEFAMATION CASES, WOMEN HIT BACK

## In France, renowned TV journalist faces over 20 rape, assault charges

NORIMITSU ONISHI  
PARIS, MAY 28

FRANCE'S MOST trusted anchorman for decades, he used to draw millions in an evening news programme that some likened to a religious communion. In an earlier time, he embodied an ideal of the French male — at ease with himself, a TV journalist and man of letters, a husband and a father who was also, unabashedly, a great seducer of women.

Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, nicknamed the Sun King of French TV, seemed so confident of his reputation that last month he sued for defamation 16 women

who had accused him of rape, sexual assault and harassment, saying that they were simply "jilted" and "bitter."

Angered, nearly 20 women appeared together this month in a TV studio for Mediapart, France's leading investigative news site, with some recounting rapes or assaults that lasted minutes, carried out with barely a few words.

In what has become perhaps the biggest scandal in France's delayed #MeToo reckoning, their accounts amounted to a devastating rejection of the romantic persona that Poivre d'Arvor so assiduously cultivated with the help of France's gossip pages and its most powerful television net-

work. At 74, he is clinging to that image, denying all accusations and arguing that he is just an inveterate, serial "seducer."

"He was called a Don Juan for years," said Hélène Devynck, 55, a journalist who has accused Poivre d'Arvor of raping her at his home when she worked as one of his assistants in the early 1990s. "There were articles in Paris Match that said he was the paragon of French seduction. Which forces us now to ask, 'What does that mean — French seduction?'"

A court could decide. Nearly all of the most serious accusations against Poivre d'Arvor occurred so long ago that the



Covers of the French magazine Paris Match in June 1995 and April 2022 featuring Patrick Poivre d'Arvor. NYT

statute of limitations has expired. But since he himself has

now sued, the case may provide his accusers the opportunity to

confront him publicly in court in the coming months.

"His ego is destroying him," said Cécile Delarue, 43, a journalist who has accused Poivre d'Arvor of engaging in sexual harassment when she worked with him two decades ago.

Poivre d'Arvor has dismissed the women as having been motivated by "vengeance" because they had not "enjoyed the regard, or even a simple look, of a man they had once admired," in a written complaint that has been cited in the news media and whose contents were authenticated by his lawyer, Philippe Naepels.

The direct confrontation between the anchorman and his

accusers has contributed to a wider debate in France about seduction, courtship and consent that is being played out in mainstream and social media, where nowadays the description of a man as a great seducer can elicit derision, questions and skepticism, not admiration.

At the height of his popularity, between 1987 and 2008, 10 million people — a sixth or more of the French population — watched him daily at 8 p.m. on TF1, France's biggest network. Alexis Lévrier, a media historian at the University of Reims, compared the broadcasts with a Mass, with Poivre d'Arvor assuming "a nearly religious role."

In 2015, just out of journalism school and on her first freelance assignment, De Blasi was asked to go interview Poivre d'Arvor — but with warnings from her own editors and friends in journalism. "Little jokes about not wearing a décolleté, makeup or a skirt," she recalled.

The interview went without incident. But Poivre d'Arvor followed up with persistent calls asking her out to dinner, she said. When she refused, he called her editors to say she was a "bad journalist" who had refused to accept a scoop from him, de Blasi said.

"The gap between this man's image and what I knew was so great," she recalled. **NYT**



# THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE



## POINT OF VIEW

### Music of Change

Why calls for replacing the harmonium in Gurbani *sangeet* lacks an understanding of the instrument's long history of indigenisation



## ARTS etc

### Let's Make Grand Plans

An exhibition on the making of Brasilia, Brazil's modern capital, shows how brave architectural designs can transform a country's image



# NO LONGER AT EASE

Once a centre that fostered creative experiments, the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, is now stymied by bureaucratic lacunae and a growing environment of cultural intolerance

Vandana Kalra

ARTIST VIVAN Sundaram distinctly remembers the excitement that preceded the inaugural art fair at the Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) at the Maharaja Sayajirao University (MSU) in Baroda in 1961. He was pursuing his Bachelor's in painting when the first edition of the fair was held and he recalls how the faculty and students were agog with anticipation. "It brought together students from different departments. We were asked to be as innovative as possible with our works meant for public viewing. It was a lovely learning process," says Sundaram, 79.

Launched at the behest of artists-pedagogues KG Subramanyan and fellow Santiniketan alumnus Sankho Chaudhuri, the legendary fair was aimed at bringing the larger community in contact with art. Designed on the model of the much-feted art *mela* of Santiniketan, it comprised performances and workshops, as well as a fund-raiser drive from the sale of works of faculty and students, which included toys, postcards, utilitarian objects and masks alongside print portfolios, sculptures and paintings. To ensure affordability, the pricing remained modest. "The pendulum of exposure swung between the traditions of past art practices and new ideas, bringing folk art and craft forms to be introduced into the repertoire of learning," says artist Rekha Rodwittiya, 63, who completed her graduation in painting from FFA in 1981.

The radical thought and intellectual dissent that the department once encouraged, however, now appears to be under threat. Earlier this month, the MSU Syndicate unanimously decided to rusticate Kundan Yadav, a student in the sculpture department, for allegedly creating artworks that led to a protest by right-wing groups on campus earlier this month. The works deemed derogatory were in the form of cut-outs of gods and goddesses with newspaper clippings of violent crimes against women, including rape, pasted over them. Teachers and students argued that the works were not meant for public display, since the student was not from the outgoing batch, and were part of a confidential examination process. But that was not sufficient to prevent the vandalism or rustication. The incident

came exactly 15 years after another student, Chandramohan, was suspended from the art school and arrested for depicting Jesus and goddess Durga in an "obscene manner". He is still to receive his degree certificate.

Established in 1950 on the recommendation of the Hansa Mehta Committee report on educational policy for the Bombay Presidency, the curriculum and ethos of the art faculty in Baroda was defined by its first dean Markand Bhatt and stalwarts NS Bendre and Chaudhuri. Born in independent India and with no colonial baggage, there was assimilation of existing techniques and traditional Indian art forms, classical styles, art history and aesthetics. Discussions at FFA spilled over from classrooms to studios and homes of artists. The well-stocked library had the best of art books and international journals. Study tours organised to places such as Ajanta-Ellora, Udaipur and Mahabalipuram saw teachers cook for students and travel with them in second-class compartments. Artist Jyoti Bhatt, a student in the first batch, recalls the unconventional teaching methodologies. "Like professor Bendre and Chaudhuri, Mani da (Subramanyan) also showed us ways of drawing or composing on paper. However, he

**PAINT ME A NEW WORLD**  
(Clockwise from top) Students preparing for the art fair at the Faculty of Fine Arts in 1968; photo-shoot of a play at FFA in 1980; artist Nasreen Mohamedi with her students in 1975

would often make drawings on the floor of the painting department. Some of us copied these drawings later," says Bhatt, 88.

In the convivial atmosphere, the dialogue between teachers and students was not confined to academics. "The faculty was the epicentre and it was one big family," says Bhatt. Son of an educationalist in Bhavnagar, he stayed with Markand for a long time as a student, as he was unable to afford hostel accommodation. Gulammohammed Sheikh arrived in Baroda in 1955 and received the Saurashtra government scholarship of Rs 50 per month. He supplemented the irregular scholarship with income from commissioned portraits, reading poetry on the radio and writing assignments. He was still pursuing his Master's when Bendre invited him to join as a temporary tutor in art history on a salary of Rs 250 a month in 1960. Coming from Bhavnagar, he recalls how Baroda opened up a new world for him. "What the pioneers visualised was an artist who was literate and educated, a new citizen of modern India, because it coincided with the independence of the country. It was a small institution, the teacher-student ratio was 1:10 or 1:15. The studios were huge, they were like warehouses and were open throughout the day and night. For somebody like me, coming from a small town, it was a great experience to learn from teachers who

were working alongside you," says Sheikh, 85.

Attempting to establish a vocabulary that was telling of the times, during the initial years, the department saw artists respond to notions of Cubism and abstraction, depict their surroundings and subsequently turning to the figurative-narrative style. In 1956, on the advice of Bendre, the Baroda artists came together to form the Baroda Group, which included the likes of GR Santosh, Ratan Parimoo, Subramanyan, Shanti Dave, Bendre, Bhatt and Ramesh Pandya. Exhibiting in cities such as Bombay, Ahmedabad and Srinagar, between the mid-1950s and mid-'60s, their works were critically acclaimed. The showcase depicted their common concerns and their distinct artistic choices. In 1969, Bhupen Khakhar and Sheikh launched the journal *Vrishchik*, to express the views of artists, share their work and raise pertinent questions, which included a campaign to reform the Lalit Kala Akademi in the early '70s.

In his paper "Baroda School's Contribution to Contemporary Art's Trends" Parimoo, art historian and former dean at FFA, writes: "Baroda school is collectively what all its active participants have made it at any given time. Baroda has had no rebels, rather everyone is a rebel in his own way. It is in this dialectic manner that all conflicting avant-garde view points function side by side, irreconcilable to each other yet open to their developing possibilities."

With its formidable reputation of fostering talent and harbouring pluralist influences, FFA began to draw the attention of artists from across India. MF Husain gave demonstrations to students in the late '50s; in 1971, Krishen Khanna organised a display of his works. In the '60s and '70s, several members of the Baroda faculty were recipients of prestigious scholarships — if Parimoo studied at The Courtauld Institute of Art in London on a Commonwealth scholarship in 1960, next year Bhatt received an Italian government scholarship to study at the Academi di Belle Arti di Naples and a Fulbright in 1964.

From 1963 to '66, Sheikh studied at the Royal College of Art, London, on a Commonwealth scholarship.

Pursuing his graduation in painting from FFA from 1976 to 1981, artist Veer Munshi remembers the classroom being full of students from across India and the world. "Nasreen (Mohamed) would ask us to sweep the studios and clean the ground before starting work. We did not understand why then, but now I realise how that brought us closer to nature. She encouraged us to draw found objects and we would do hundreds of sketches in a day, visiting numerous sites, including the railway station," says Munshi.

The school has continued to produce artists of stature across generations — from doyens such as Jyotsna and Jyoti Bhatt to Nilima and Gulammohammed Sheikh, Joram Patel, Himmat Shah and Haku Shah to contemporary artists such as LN Tallur, N Pushpamala, Sheela Gowda, Mrinalini Mukherjee, Nikhil Chopra, Prabhakar Pachpute, Abir Karmakar and Shreyas Karle.

Over the years, the art fair, which drew people from across Gujarat and beyond, has become infrequent but the annual MSU final-year students' exhibition does attract crowds. As the prices of Indian art escalated, it has also become a hunting ground for gallerists to spot potential stars of tomorrow and also to anticipate trends. "The environment at Baroda has always encouraged individualistic thinking. Several artists I am working with are from the faculty and I definitely do some studio visits whenever I travel to the city. This year as well, I have signed up two young artists," says Bhavna Kakar, director of Latitude 28 gallery in Delhi, who pursued her Masters in Art History from MSU from 2000-2002.

As the close-knit circle of artists, who call Baroda their home grew, an ecosystem also developed around them. The city may still not boast of numerous art galleries but its equidistant location between the art centres of Delhi and Mumbai ensures opportunities. Several studio collectives have also mushroomed to provide young artists a conducive environment to practise.

While the reputation that its founders built persists, much has also changed. With the market becoming a driver for students, the focus has shifted from learning and experimentation to finding possibilities for monetisation. "When I was studying in Baroda, I realised that it was difficult to segregate various kinds of cultural expressions — we had writers, musicians, traditional folk artists coming to talk to us. This is something that made Baroda special. So when we were teaching, we tried to bring in those approaches. We hoped there would be a chain, but we don't know how it will be in the coming years," says Vasudevan Akkitham, 64, who was a teacher in the department of painting from 1990 to 2020. Pedagogical concerns require attention as the syllabus remains unaltered even if teaching methods may have changed over time.

Bureaucratic norms that require a mandatory doctorate to teach in universities, meanwhile, deters practicing artists from applying for positions. "When it comes to the appointment of teachers, a doctorate cannot be the only criterion for a practical subject. When KG Subramanyan was teaching, he appointed Gyarsilal Varma, a traditional craftsman from Jaipur, to teach us... If teachers come only with a theory-based doctorate degree, they may not be able to do any practical teaching in classrooms," says Akkitham.

"Despite the controversies and unfair propaganda about the institution though," he says, they still receive around 300 applications each for 14 seats in Masters and 25 seats in undergraduate courses for painting.

The very corridors that once saw engaging arguments, now err on the side of caution. The increasing censorship of art in the country has meant an end to freewheeling conversations and creative experiments. The studios now follow timings, and nude studies, once an important part of academics, has been discontinued. After the Chandramohan incident in 2007, a resolution was passed to check and approve all works in the annual display before its opening. "The artist is an interesting chronicler of the ethos of their times... If we interfere with this process through intimidation and vigilantism we will undoubtedly create skewed narratives that reflect and perpetuate only the dominant majoritarian views as history... a climate of fear and oppression has been injected into society where young creative people are wary of articulating their ideas freely," says Rodwittiya. "The damage done in 2007 and again this year is, perhaps, irreparable," says Bhatt.

Probably one of the most telling examples of self-censorship is Sundaram's reluctance to showcase some of the works he made in 1965-66 at his retrospective in Delhi in 2018. He preemptively "creatively covered up" the works. "It was a painting with a certain iconography that I could exhibit freely in '60s, but would be reluctant to show now, given the times," says Sundaram.



COURTESY: JYOTI BHATT ARCHIVE, ASIA ART ARCHIVE





# DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal

Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

## Only Watch and Learn

There’s a lot to learn from animals, be it their sense of focus or agility in hunting prey

SCIENTISTS AND field biologists learn a lot about the behaviour of the animals they are studying — a process that can take decades. (Jane Goodall spent 40 years studying chimpanzees). And yet, for you and me, by just casually watching animals, be they wild or domesticated, there's a lot we can pick up that could prove beneficial to us in our ordinary humdrum lives.

Take, focus for one. How many of us, who have been told to “pay attention” in class, suffer from attention-deficient syndrome? Our thoughts bounce from here to there like marbles in a mixie, and go from one thought to the next in a millisecond. Well, if you have a puppy, hold a ball in your hand and swing it back and forth. Watch the pup's big eyes, especially if he's a Retriever: they will be fixated on the ball, his muscles will be taut and for him, at that moment, nothing else exists. Throw the ball and he's after it in a flash. Watch the intense focus with which carnivores hunt — their eyes are riveted to their quarry, they move with deathly stealth until they are within range and then explode into action. Yes, you may say but their success rate is rarely over 50 per cent, and that's precisely because their prey is equally focused on not getting caught. Their ears and noses twitch, their eyes swivel, and if they sense the slightest threat, a leg goes up, they bark a warning and spring off, sometimes vertically.

Many of them have spotters in place — monkeys in the trees above them — who will grimace and bark the moment they see trouble. In Indian jungles, the peacock provides exemplary security and will give tongue the moment it senses danger.

Pack animals, like wolves and wild dogs, hunt in teams and may not appear fixated on a single victim, but they work to a well-coordinated plan, which usually means they single out the weak or vulnerable, separate it from the herd, tire it out and go in for the kill. Lionesses, hunting in prides, lay ambushes, three or four will drive the victim towards the killer waiting, hidden low below in the grass. But they too are opportunistic and will



CAUGHT IN THE HEADLIGHTS

A fawn poised to flee as it senses danger

change target at the right moment if need be.

From focus to fun now: How many of us have been delighted watching a fawn spring up and down in the grass as if on a pogo stick and then gallop away, dodging deftly between irritated adults?

We've already picked up a lot from watching animals and birds court. We've plagiarised many a folk dance from the crazy courting dances of cranes; we admire the sarus crane for its steadfast fidelity, we know how male birds deck themselves up to the hilt in bells and whistles and rainbow hues to impress the ladies and will sing and dance and build them palatial mansions if necessary. And, importantly, it's usually the ladies that choose their partners.

Of course, rival males fight for their sweethearts (making *National Geographic's* day!), but most have better sense than to engage in actual combat and are satisfied by posturing and snorting and pawing the ground around each other. Also, if a combat does break out there's sometimes a hanger-on watching the proceedings who will quietly escort the bride-to-be away, without suffering a scratch on her behalf!

Fights, sometimes to death, do occur and can be terrifying, not the sort of thing you would like to engage in. Usually, they are over control of harems and territories but again most times physical combat is avoided. Only ants and chimpanzees (and us) have been known to go to “war” and take “prisoners”. Even when physical combat breaks out, there is no premeditated cruelty. Animals do not kill each other by slow, deliberate torture or think up ingenious and devious ways of imparting pain.

Wild dogs bringing down a wildebeest by disemboweling it while it flees might seem exceedingly cruel to us, but the dogs are simply trying to bring down their quarry as quickly as possible. A cheetah mom, who hamstrings a fawn and brings it to her cubs, has no intention of being cruel to the little thing, all she is doing is teaching her young how to hunt and fend for themselves. Spider moms and praying mantises may dine off their lovers during their honeymoon — not because they hate the opposite sex, but because the protein so added ensures healthier babies! There is no malice or vindictiveness involved, though yes, in some of the higher mammals — elephants and some primates for example — the concept of “revenge” may well exist. And all too often, it is humans who trigger it: Elephants don't easily forget the cruelties inflicted upon them by puny two-legged creatures, who must really only watch and learn!



EXPRESS ARCHIVE

# Winds of Change

Despite the recent controversy over its foreign provenance, the harmonium, one of the subcontinent’s favourite instruments, has long been indigenised

Suanshu Khurana

IN THE first half of the 19th century, when French musician Alexandre Debain was working on a reed organ called the harmonium that he would patent in 1840, he could have never imagined the acceptance the musical instrument would find in the Indian subcontinent. Part of the proscenium alongside legendary musicians such as Kumar Gandharva, Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and Kishori Amonkar, a quintessential accompaniment to film music, and accessible equally to the rich and the poor, the harmonium would become a familiar presence in the region, adopted by different communities and faiths. The humble *bajaja* would make its way into temples, *gurdwaras* and *dargahs* and be played alongside *shabads*, Krishna *bhajans* and Sufiana *qalams*. “The harmonium has never felt un-Indian. The acceptance also came from music itself being a universal concept,” says Vinay Mishra, har-



THREE ESSAYS COLLECTIVE

monium exponent and assistant professor at Delhi University.

Earlier this week, Giani Harpreet Singh, a Jathedar of the Akal Takht, asked the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) to work towards ensuring the phasing out of the harmonium from the Golden Temple as it was foreign and a “British” imposition. It drew one back to questions of authenticity, the evolution of the instrument in the subcontinent and how it replaced the tradi-

## LET THE MUSIC PLAY

(Above, from left to right) Mohammed Rafi, O P Nayyar with Asha Bhosle; Yashwantrao Kerkar on the table, Padharinath Kale on the harmonium with vocalist Kesarbai Kerkar

tional Gurbani *sangeet* string instruments such as the saranda, taus, dilruba, esraj and, the most significant one, the rabab.

According to musician, academic and revivalist of traditional Gurbani *sangeet* instruments, Bhai Baldeep Singh, “Rather than taking a unilateral decision, one needed to look at the recommendations of the *vidwaans*. I, too, think the harmonium is not suited for the music, but what is he (Harpreet Singh) inviting back in? The fake sarandas, the hotchpotch dilruba and the taus, an extension of a dilruba these days. One needs time to revive these instruments, a decade or more for people to learn them, find academic integrity and semantic precision.” The Delhi *gurdwaras* have decided to train *ragis* in traditional string instruments in the next six months.

Debain's first harmonium was foot-pumped and became popular in Europe and the US. The British brought it to India some years later, where it found itself in the hands of Dwarkanath Ghose in Kolkata, who owned a musical instruments shop — Dwarkin & Sons

— and TS Ramchandra and Co in Mumbai. Ghose made the instrument portable and economical. Taking a cue from Debain, who also created a harmonium pumped by hands, he manufactured a second kind, apt for the *baithiki* style of music. The drone quality, similar to the tanpura, was incorporated. It was heat-resistant and did not require extensive tuning. After World War II, when the import of harmoniums from Europe stopped, more factories came up in Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar to meet the demand.

The first imprint of the harmonium was in Parsi theatre in the 1880s, followed by Kannada theatre. Later, Marathi *natyasangeet* under Bal Gandharva took the harmonium to greater heights, followed by the instrument alongside sarangi in performances by courtesans, including those of Gauhar Jaan.

According to senior harmonium exponent Sudhir Nayak, the discussion over its authenticity is not new. Its presence has often been criticised by practitioners of Gurbani *sangeet* and classical music for lack of *meend* (glides), *gamak* (accent of a note) and *ghaseet* (a slide from one note to the other). “But they haven't looked at the way the instrument has evolved. It has gone through modifications such as increasing the air space for *meend* and *shruti* structures. Many musicians have worked to bring it as close to Indian music as possible and circumvent its demerits,” says Nayak.

In the days leading up to the Independence, many Indian scholars including Rabindranath Tagore and Ananda Coomaraswamy, among others, debated over the need for India to preserve the chastity of its musical heritage. The British, who considered it a lowly instrument, banned it from All India Radio in 1941. This ban continued till 1971.

However, this was the time the harmonium thrived in films and ghazals. OP Nayyar, who in his initial days in Mumbai taught harmonium to poor children to make ends meet, found success with some iconic harmonium interludes in his songs such as *Leke pehla pehla pyar* (CD, 1956), *Bohot shukriya* (*Ek Musafir Ek Haseena*, 1962) and *Kajra mohobbatwala* (*Kismet*, 1968). Ghazal legends Mehdi Hassan and Begum Akhtar always used the harmonium in concerts. Folk music, too, adapted well. As of today, India remains the world's largest exporter of harmoniums.

Assimilation is at the heart of Gurbani *sangeet*. Baba Mardana, Guru Nanak Dev's long-time companion, disciple and rabab exponent, was born into a Muslim family and helped set up *kirtan* traditions. For centuries, Muslim *rababis* have played alongside the sacred hymns in *gurdwaras*. The syncretic evolution of the Gurbani *sangeet* is also visible in Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of the Sikhs, which includes the writings of both Hindu and Muslim *bhagats* (saints). So it was not unnatural when it integrated the “Western” harmonium with the music.

According to Bhai Jalwinder Singh, a *ragi* at the Golden Temple, while people need to know about the older instruments, one can't just rid Gurbani *sangeet* of the harmonium. “The *sangat* (congregation) prefers the current form of *kirtan* which uses the harmonium. I am a huge admirer of traditional instruments and believe that they should be brought to the fore. But we can take the harmonium along, and play them together. One does not need to be let go off for the other.”

# Resisting Riptides of Victimisation

The insidious social-media messaging is engineering a steady dose of language of misery in the garb of social justice and robbing people of a sense of agency in responding to life’s hardships



## IMAGINE

BY SHELJA SEN

MY GENERATION is constantly being triggered by everything around them. It is as if they are in a permanent state of panic or outrage. When did we become so fragile? These words were by 25-year-old Shazia\*, who was, at the time when I met her, living with cancer, struggling with the effects of chemotherapy and navigating through childhood abuse. As a witness to her journey, I was filled with awe at her ability to endure and the courage to find meaning in what seemed like senseless suffering. Her words have stayed with me as they struck a chord, and I am trying to unpack them in the present landscape of mental health.

I would like to clarify that this is not a “kids these days” story. Neither am I trivialising the intensity of the mental-health struggles. I am attempting to throw light on how these problems have to be critiqued and located in the socio-cultural-political context, which is pushing our children to these precarious precipices.

**Social media shapes our language of distress:** I have been in the field of mental health for more than 30 years. Along with being rather ancient, I also like to see myself as a bit of an anthropologist, always on the lookout for changes in trends in the way distress is expressed culturally, particularly in the way it is verbalised. With curiosity, I have seen the narratives change and morph into disconcerting patterns of distress. However, in the last five years, there has been a tectonic shift in youth mental health, which is nothing like I have witnessed before. The insidious social media messaging is engineering a steady dose of language of misery in the garb of social justice. Shazia shared with me that social media gave language to what she was experiencing, “I was nudged into taking the identity of the traumatised victim and everyone around me as my oppressors.”



GETTY IMAGES

**Culture of victimisation and fragility:** What Shazia called a “triggered generation”, fosters a narrative of youth as passive recipients of an unsafe world. It is a dangerous narrative as it deprives them of their sense of agency and strips them of their own belief in responding to life's hardships. As Shazia put it, “I spent ages after the abuse, buying into this idea that I was fragile and needed protection from everything that would trigger me. Maybe, initially, I did, but then it became a habit, and my threshold of tolerance became so low that I would go into a panic attack if I even heard a loud noise. Everyone around me started to walk on eggshells. It was cancer that really shook me out of my victimhood and I realised that I was done with this and that I wanted to live.”

So, shifting a gear, what will help us stand up to this culture of fragility and victimisation? After countless hours spent in conversations with youths like Shazia, co-researching, reflecting and speculating, some ideas that might help us move forward are:

**Exposing the matrix:** A generation is being brought up in the echo chambers of social media, which indoctrinates hatred rather than love. We are subtly but persuasively made to take sides with, “If you are not with me, then you are against me!” There are multi-trillion

## BREAK THE CHAIN

Many times, we assign intent to people's actions on the basis of the impact it has on us. At every hint of a transgression, there is a knee-jerk outrage, and rather than seeing people as multicoloured and multistoried, we start seeing them in binaries of black and white

companies which use dubious manipulations to encourage the riptides of victimisation with minimal regard to consequences. The worst thing is that we are not even aware of how we are being controlled and manipulated. As the computer scientist and ethicist Tristan Harris put it, “How do you wake up from the matrix when you don't know you are in the matrix?”

**Conviction in our robustness and agency:** Saha\*, a 21-year-old trans non-binary person, would get extremely enraged to the point of threatening to leave home when their parents would misgender them or use their deadname. I was a little confused as I could sense that their parents were their strongest allies but were struggling with the unfamiliarity of the new language. In our conversation, Saha talked about years of discrimination and ridicule experienced in school and neighbourhood. They found solace in a US-based social media trans group, which gave them a sense of belonging but made them turn against their own parents seeing them as “tyrants”. Through our conversations, Saha realised, “I am not a victim as, despite all that I have been through, I have held strong to what I believe in. I am resilient, and it is my parents who have supported me at every step. I have to be patient with them as they are also transitioning – I am just a few

steps ahead of them.”

**Faith that people are more than the worst things they have ever done:** If we continue seeing people in binaries of good/bad, oppressors/victims, then the world can become a very unsafe place to live in. However, if we were to reflect on our lives honestly, we can think of so many instances when we have been victimised and where we have, maybe inadvertently, been oppressive towards others. Many times, as we saw in Saha's story, we assign intent to people's actions on the basis of the impact it has on us — “Your words hurt me, so you are bad.” At every hint of a transgression, there is a knee-jerk outrage, and rather than seeing people as multicoloured and multistoried, we start seeing them in binaries of black and white. Unwittingly, even psychologists and psychiatrists end up taking sides, locating the problem in individuals and therefore solidifying victimisation rather than seeing it as a reflection of problematic social practices.

**Enduring adversity and building solidarity:** I was very curious to know how Shazia managed to step out of “victimhood” and step into her agentic self. She shared that the first thing she did was to minimise her use of social media, “I unfollowed most influencers and only used it to follow the work of some of my favourite artists. It was liberating!” She found peace in teaching small children, which helped her recommit to what she valued most in life — joy in small things, laughter and togetherness. She did admit that there were moments when, what she called “victiminess”, tried to take centre-stage, but it was her tribe of family, colleagues and her love for her work that kept her aligned to her north star.

Conversations with Shazia and Saha reminded me how it is the human chains of solidarity that save people when riptides hit hard in the ocean. As Paulo Freire commented on revolutionary love, “Because love is an act of courage, not of fear, love is a commitment to others... and to the cause of liberation.”

\*Pseudonyms used and stories shared with consent

Shelja Sen is a narrative therapist, writer, co-founder, Children First. In this column, she curates the know-how of the children and the youth she works with. She can be reached at shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com







Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, Amit Jain S/o Mukesh Chand Jain R/o 1472, Fountain Chandni Chowk, Delhi-110006, declare that name of my minor son has been wrongly written as Nirvid Jain in my minor son's Nirved Jain age 14 years in his School Record. The actual name of my minor son is Nirved Jain, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection. 0040615951-1

**I,Vinod** kumari,W/o Kapil Jain,R/o E-4/22, NEAR-LAKE, MODEL-TOWN,Delhi,North West-Delhi,Delhi-110009, Changed my name to Vinod Kumari Jain. 0040616051-3

**I,Vinay** Marwah, S/o Ram Parkash Marwah, R/o H.No.16/11, East Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, declares that Vinay Kumar Marwah and Vinay Marwah are one and the same person i.e. me. 0040615966-1

**I,Vikash** S/o Binaya Kishore Sinha R/o 90/53A, First Floor, Near Akash Hospital, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name to Vikas Sinha. 0040615975-1

**I,RENU** W/O-PRITAM KUMAR R/O 12/534,BATRA COLONY, SONIPAT-131001.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RENU KINRA,FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040615966-5

**I,Satyadev,S/o** Sh.Satyapal Singh Yadav,R/o Pole.No-229,Near-Bus Stand Khera-Dabar,New-Delhi-110017, Declared that My Wife Madhu Yadav,My Army-Record My Wife-D.O.B is Wrongly-Mentioned as 17.01.1982,But Her Correct-& Exact D.O.B is-17.01.1983. 0040616051-4

**I,Sanjay** Kumar alias Sanjay Sainath S/o Dwarika Nath R/o,Flat-No.A-32, IDC Apartment,Plot-8C, Dwarka Sector-11,New Delhi-110075,have changed my-name to Sanjay Sainath. 0040616051-6

**I,SHALINI** AGARWAL,W/O SACHIN AGGARWAL,H.NO-78B,POCKET-A-14, HIMGIRI-APARTMENTS, KALKAJI-EXTN DELHI-110019,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHALINI AGRAWAL. 0040616051-5

**I,RAJENDRA** KUMAR ARORA,R/O-J-1103, SUNRISE GREENS AHINSA-KHAND-1,Indrapuram, GHAZIABAD, U.P-201014,,changed my Minor daughter name KSHIRIJA ARORA TO RUCHITA ARORA. 0040616036-1

**I,Prem Raj,S/o**-Dev Raj R/o-House.No.U-10/7, Street.No.10,DLF Phase-3,Gurgaon, Haryana-122002,have changed the name of my minor-son,from-Kushan to Kushan Popli,for all purposes. 0040615966-10

**I,Preeti** Gupta Legal Guardian of Vardaan Agarwal minor DOB-06/05/2010,have changed his name from Vardan Agarwal to Vardaan Agarwal. 0040615966-3

I,Ompkash S/o Ramdev R/o-H.No.38, Shiv Mandir-Gali, Karkar-Model-1, E. Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010,have changed my name to Om Prakash. 0040616051-7

I,Neelima and Neelima Tayal W/o Anup Gupta R/o A-803 Amarpali Princely Estate-Sec-76, Noida, have changed my name to Neelima Gupta 0040616032-1

**I,Md** Imam Bano,S/o Master Shahab,R/o A-75/F-1,Dilshad Colony,Delhi-110095,have changed my name,from Md Imam Bano to Mohammad Imam Ansari,for all,future purposes. 0040616091-2

**I,Manoj** Kumar,S/o Madan Singh,R/O 2893, Street Pipal wali, Sabzi Mandi, Malka Ganj, Delhi-110007,have changed my name to Manoj Gahlot. 0040615966-2

**I,Manoj** Kumar Mehra S/o - Duli Chand, ADDRESS-B-197 PANDAV NAGAR,Near Shadipur Depot,Delhi-110008,have change my name to Manoj Mehra. 0040616051-2

**I,MOHNISH** WIGGS/O-VINOD WIGG R/O-71 SAINIK VIHAR PITAM PURA DELHI-110043, changed my name to MOHNISH WIGG. 0040615966-4

**I,MOHMMED** AAMIR,S/O KASIM AKHTAR R/o 6862 III-FLOOR BERI WALA BAGH,AZAD MARKET,GALI FATEHPURI, DELHI-110006,HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO MOHAMMED AAMIR FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040615972-2

**I,KETAN** S/O PRITAM KUMAR, H.NO.12/534,BATRA COLONY, SONIPAT-131001.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO KETAN KINRA FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040615966-6

**I,DA** JYOTHI MATHIAS W/O ANTONI PIUS MATHIAS, H.NO.72,SAHRIDAVA-APARTMENT A-4,PASCHIM VIHAR,DELHI-110063. CHANGED MY NAME TO JYOTHI MATHIAS. 0040615966-7

**I,Ajeet** Kumar Aggarwal S/O-Shri Rameshwar Dayal,R/O-B-1/54,1st Floor,Sector-17, Rohini, Delhi-110089,have changed my name to Ajit Aggarwal. 0040615972-3

**I,Dinesh** Jain S/o Shikhar Chand Jain R/o-6,2nd-Floor,Block-D Pocket-14-Rohini Sector-7,Delhi-110085,changed my name to Dinesh Kumar 0040616036-5

**I,Dharmendra** Kumar Yadav S/o Ram Prakash Yadav R/o.B-1077 Upper-Ground Floor,Shastri Nagar,Delhi-52,have changed my name to Dharmendra Yadav. 0040616051-1

**I,DEVANDRA** PRASAD,S/O NARAYEN DUTT BHADULA, R/O C-58/22, FLEX APARTMENT,SECTOR-62, NOIDA, GAUTAMBUDDH-NAGAR, U.P.201301,changed my name to DEVENDER PRASAD BHADULA. 0040615966-9

**I,Arpita** Pramanick W/o Tanmay Pramanick R/O M-1102, Prateek Wistaria, Sector-77, Noida have changed my name from Arpita Pramanick to Arpita Ghatuary for all future purpose 0040615958-1

**I,ANIL** GABA,S/O PREM NATH GABA,R/O 106/4 EXPRESS GARDEN, VAIBHAV KHAND, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD,UTTAR- PRADESH,have changed my name,from ANIL GABA to ANIL KUMAR GABA,for all,future purposes. 0040616036-9

**I,** Tarun S/o,Sh.Parmnanand R/o,Gali-No.3,Adarsh Nagar,Main Jhajjar Road,Bahadurgarh, Haryana-124507 have changed my name to Tarun Parashar S/o,Sh.Parmnanand Parashar for All Purposes. 0040615957-1

**I,SUNIL** THAKUR, S/o CHATUR BIHARI LAL THAKUR, R/o H.No. A-11, XU-3, Greater Noida, Dadri, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201310, inform that SUNIL THAKUR and SUNIL KUMAR THAKUR both are same and one person. 0070787762-1

**I,SARDAR** HUSAIN,S/O ABDUL HAFEZ R/O 9138,GALI ZAMEER WALI,NAWAB GANJ,DELHI-110006,HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO SARDAR HUSSAIN FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040615972-1

**I,SANJAY** KUMAR JAISHORIA, S/O RAM JASORIYA, R/O H NO RZ A47, Palam Colony, Bagdola, South West Delhi, Delhi-110077, have changed my name to SANJAY JASORIYA for all purposes. 0070787687-1

**I,** Richa Alias Shama Bhatia W/o Abhay Sharma R/o Flat No.2101, Mapple Tower, Paramount Symphony, Crossings Republik, Ghaziabad, UP-201016 have changed my name to Richa Bhatia. 0040615964-1

**I,** Poonam Devi, W/o Prakashvir Mavi, R/o-11/37, 3rd Floor, Sector-3, Rajender Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad-201005, have change my name to Poonam Mavi. 0070787765-1

**I,** Pinky W/o,Manoj Kumar R/o A-3, 3rd-Floor, Kewal-Park, Azadpur, Delhi-110033 have changed my name to Pinky Kashyap. 0040616051-8

**I,** Om Wati W/O Ved Singh Dahiya,R/O-SE-28, Singhalpur extn.,Shalimar Bagh,Delhi-110088, have changed my name to OM VATI. 0040615972-4

**I,** Mubina,W/o Babuddin R/o-R-277/3, Sir Syed Road,Joga Bai Extn Jamia Nagar,ND-110025 have changed my name to Mobina,for all purpose 0040616036-4

**I,** Mohd Ubaid S/o Iqbal Ahmed R/o 4999/1, Lal Gali Kucha Rehman, Ballimaran, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Ubaid Ur Rehman for all purposes. 0040615953-1

**I,** Lt Col V. Kapur R/O A3/222-2, T-8, Silver City, Sec-93, Noida hereby declare that my spouse has changed her name from Poonam to Poonam Kapur and DOB is 24/08/1950. 0040615961-1

**I,** Amarjit Kaur Purbey, W/o Manjeet Singh Purbe, D/o Major Singh, R/o 10, Rameshwar Nagar, Model Town 3, North West Delhi, Delhi-110009, has changed my name to Amarjit Kaur Purbe for all future purposes. 0070787722-1

**I,** Dhiraj Kumar, S/o Lekh Singh, R/o Nagla Shadi, Banvara, Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh-215126, that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as Girraj Singh and Murari Lal respectively in my Pan Card IAVPK9131B. The actual name of mine and my Father is Dhiraj Kumar and Lekh Singh respectively. 0070787726-1

**I,Ashool** Handoo S/o Bushan Lal Handoo R/O B3-G-02, Amrapali Titanium, Sector-119,Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301,have changed my minor son name from Aadidev Handoo to Aadidev Ashool Handoo for all future purpose 0040616036-3

**I,** Ankit S/o-Dinesh Tiwari R/o House No-B-231/2, Gali No-11, Bhajanpura,Yamuna Vihar North East Delhi-110053 Have Changed My Name Ankit Tiwari ,For All Purposes. 0050197786-1

**I,**AASTHA JAIN,D/O Kamal Kumar Goyal,R/O RP-52, PITAMPURA, Shalimar Bagh,North West Delhi,Delhi-110088, changed my name to AASTHA GOYAL. 0040616091-1

**I** Kumari Latasha alias Latasha D/o Sh. Rajbir Singh R/o House No.D-2/84, Street No-2, Ekta Enclave, Harijan Basti, Burari, Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Latasha for all purposes. 0040615956-7

**I** Yash Pal S/o Nand Lal R/o 47, Block Gh-9, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087 have changed my name to Yash Pal. 0040616036-2

**I,**Prem Raj,S/O-Dev Raj R/o-House.No.U-10/7, Street No.10,DLF-Phase-3,Gurgaon, Haryana-122002,have changed the name of my minor-son,from-Aryan to Aryan Popli,for all purposes. 0040615966-8

**I** Neetu w/o Shri Balwant Singh, F-3/102-103, upper ground floor, sector-16 Rohini Delhi-110089, Have changed my name to Reet Kaur for all purpose. 0040615814-1

**I**Chunchun Chaudhary S/O, Ram Chander Chaudhary R/O 2137 ground floor Gali No-1 Prem Nagar Patel Nagar New Delhi 110008. State that my 10th class Documents My Name Mentioned Chunchun Kumar & Some Documents is Chunchun Chaudhary. That Chunchun Chaudhary & Chunchun Kumar both name are same person. 0040615946-6

LOST & FOUND

**I,** Amita Kumar, R/o Flat No.C-174, Kendriya Vihar, Sec-51, Noida, have lost my original allotment letter No-A-504/1/8 Dated 29.04.1994 & Possession Letter No-A-506/1/NAC0008 Dated 01.11.1997 of my Flat No.C-174, Kendriya Vihar, Sec-51, Noida on 12.05.2022 in Noida Sector-51 Market. Finder Contact: 9354925306. 0070787766-1

**I,** Damodar Tripathy S/o K.D. Tripathy, B 101 Daffodils CGHS LTD. Plot-36, Dwarika, New Delhi have lost Flat property documents, Share certificate allotment letter, possession letter. Finder plz contact 9437009403. 0040616014-1

**I,** Mahesh Kumar Malhotra lost share certificate of Property No.52, New Deluxe Apartment, Plot.No.11, Sector-9, Rohini Delhi-110085, Finder- 9810073090 0040616036-10

RECRUITMENT

SITUATION VACANT

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

**Requires:** Instructors Electrician on contract basis. Qualifications: NTC/Diploma/Degree in appropriate trade. Application with Bio-Data and recent photograph Principal CRPF ITC RAP 103 Bn. Campus Biharipur, Delhi-110090within 10 days. 0040615802-1

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**FOR USA settled, Born-again Christian unmarried Female originally from Mumbai, 38, 5'-4", PhD in Pharmaceuticals, invites alliance from unmarried educated working professional Male living in USA. Caste, language no bar. Contact with Biodata: skiranfamily@gmail.com / 9757234576.** 0070787246-1

KSHATRIYA

**Suitable Match for Himachali Rajput girl, 5'3", Nov 1991 born, professionally qualified Clinical Psychologist, owns her well established clinic, father govt officer & brother Army officer. Contact 9459200900**

**I,** Ankit S/o-Dinesh Tiwari R/o House No-B-231/2, Gali No-11, Bhajanpura,Yamuna Vihar North East Delhi-110053 Have Changed My Name Ankit Tiwari ,For All Purposes. 0050197786-1

**I,**AASTHA JAIN,D/O Kamal Kumar Goyal,R/O RP-52, PITAMPURA, Shalimar Bagh,North West Delhi,Delhi-110088, changed my name to AASTHA GOYAL. 0040616091-1

**I** Kumari Latasha alias Latasha D/o Sh. Rajbir Singh R/o House No.D-2/84, Street No-2, Ekta Enclave, Harijan Basti, Burari, Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Latasha for all purposes. 0040615956-7

**Prem** Entrance Academy (Youtube) Online Classes JEE Mains Advance (IIT), NEET CBSE (Physics) Ct-9911142466 0050197492-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
To be known to all in general by this notice it is my client The Evangelical Church of India (a religious institution registered under the Societies Act, 1860 bearing Registration No. 449 of 1958-1959 with Registrar of Societies, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow) through its Attorney Sh. Rev. J Edwin John Wesley, S/o late Rev. J. John and C/o ECI Church, C-2/15, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110085.

That the Society has a Church in the property bearing A-28, Rajoun Garden, New Delhi-110027 which is having basement, ground floor, first floor & second floor with roof tiles. The same was purchased by the Society on 26.02.1975 by a regular Sale Deed. The employee of the Society Rev. A. Amos was asked to vacate the Church and to handover the possession to the new pastor and a litigation started a decree for possession was granted in favour of the society and a decree dated 05.05.2007 was passed for execution and objections was filed by the Society ECI Society, New Delhi and alleged to offer bearers including Rev A Amos, Sh. George Moulah and Sh. Markus Mash, however their objections were allowed in Execution Petition bearing No. 1245/8/2015 by the court of Sh. Prashant Kumar, Lt. ADJ, District, Central. The Hazari Courts Delhi vide order and judgment dated 09.02.2022 and society preferred an Execution First Appeal No. 10/2022 against the order and judgment dated 09.02.2022 before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. Vide CMA No. 22993 / 2022 on 13.05.2022 the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi had granted the status quo with regard to the possession & title of property bearing No. A-28, Rajoun Garden, New Delhi.

The public in general is hereby informed on behalf of my client that if anyone of the aforesaid persons or their representatives tries for entering any sale &/or any lease agreement or anything, then my client or I be informed in this regard and one should deal with them at all. If despite knowing this, anyone deals he will be doing on his cost and peril and my client will move to Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

**PRAVEEN SURI** (Advocate)  
Off. B-1594-B, Janakpur, New Delhi-110058

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE IT KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE that clientess Smt. Usha Banerjee (Late Sh. Jagdish Chander Gambhir) has become owner of the property i.e. Western Side 2nd storeyed building of property No. 11051-11055, 11093 & 11094, Doranval, East Park Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 (forming part of Khairat No. 278/V331, Plots No. 43 to 46, Sidapur, Dowlatabad No.2, East Park Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi) by virtue of will dated 16.05.2016 of Sh. Jagdish Chander Gambhir coming into operation after death of the testator on 11.07.2017.

Notwithstanding having any objection/protest in respect of the abovesaid WILL, dated 16.05.2016 of Late Sh. Jagdish Chander Gambhir may submit the same in writing to the undersigned within SEVEN DAYS failing which it shall be deemed that they do not exist any objection from anyone whatsoever.

**RAKESH CHAUDHARY** Advocate  
Ch. No. 275, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of General Public that my clients (1) SHRI KALASH VOHRA S/O LATE H.C. SHRI A-4 WIFE SMT. VANITA VOHRA BOTH R/O A-2107, JANAK PURI, NEW DELHI-110058 have severed all their relations and connections with their son RAHUL VOHRA and daughter-in-law TEENA VOHRA because of their cruel and mis-behaviour and have declared them from their all movable and immovable properties with immediate effect. Any body deals with them will be doing so at his/her own risk, costs and expenses. My Client shall not be liable and responsible for their acts, deeds and things under any circumstances.

**Sd/- DHARAIRAM SINGH MANOHOLIA** Advocate  
E. No. D/1916/1999  
Janakpuri New Delhi-110058

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to Public at Large that Sh. Hardeep Singh Bhatia S/o Lt. Sh. G S Bhatia intends to purchase property bearing 206, Kalyan Vihar, Delhi-110009 from Sh. Sanjay Kumar Gupta S/o Sh. Ram Avtar Gupta and Sh. Yogesh Bhat S/o Sh. Yashiva Mitter Bhatel, the present joint owners of the said property. Any persons including legal heirs, having any claim, rights, title, interests, or objections over the property, shall inform the undersigned in writing with supporting proofs within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any such claim by anyone shall not be considered.

**Nikhil Sharma** (Advocate)  
A-8, Rana Pratap Bagh, Delhi-110007

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to general public that my client, Sh. GURCHARAN SINGH, S/o Sh. VEER SINGH, R/O H.NO. 8-234, SECTOR-16, CHOKI, DELHI-110088 has discovered and severed all his relations with his son namely Sh. JASWANT SINGH and his wife Mrs. SARVENDRA and declared them from the movable and immovable properties/assets due to their misbehaviour, unfamiliar activities, indecent acts, misconduct and going against my clients wishes. Anybody dealing with them in any manner, shall be doing it at their own risk, cost and responsibility and my client shall not be liable for their acts whatsoever.

**Sd/- NITESH KHAIPRA** (Advocate)  
D/18472019 Ch. No.355,  
Lawyers Chamber Block Rohini Court, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that Smt. Raji Rani Verma W/o Sh. Pratap Singh Verma R/O III/5/17, Gopinath Bazar, Delhi Cantt, Near Delhi-110010, owner of lease-hold rights & legal possessor of part of property bearing No. III/5/17, Gopinath Bazar, Delhi Cantt in Survey No. 52/10 has requested Delhi Cantonment Board for recording her name in the House Tax Register in respect to property bearing No. III/5/17, Gopinath Bazar, Delhi Cantt. Part of property is in her exclusive possession, if any person has objection to the recording of her name in respect of the said property, he/she/they may file his/her/their objections) within 30 days of the publication of this notice to the Chief Executive Officer of Delhi Cantonment Board, failing which the matter for recording of the name in the House Tax Register qua the said property shall be considered by the competent authority in accordance with law. For and on behalf of Smt. Raji Rani Verma W/o Sh. Pratap Singh Verma R/O III/5/17, Gopinath Bazar, Delhi Cantt, New Delhi-110010

**Sd/- CHIRANJEEV SAGUNDH** Advocate  
Enr. No. D/4048/2015  
II/4003, SADAR BAZAR DELHI CANTT-10

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned and on behalf of our client GAURAV DHAWAN S/O LATE SH BAL KRISHAN DHAWAN That Late Sh Bal Krishan Dhawan who was R/O 633, Vast Apartment, Sector 13, Rohini, Delhi-110085 was the jointly owning scheduled property with our client Sh. Bal Krishan Dhawan expired on 03/05/2021 accordingly name of our client is being recorded in the DLF Records as the sole person in respect of scheduled property. Any person or persons / company/banks/non banking financial companies or corporations having any objections to such recording are hereby requested to communicate with M/s DLF and the under signed at our address phone no/ email mentioned below within 21 days from the date of publication. Thereafter the name of our client shall be recorded without any reference to this claim, and this shall be considered to have been waived to be in silent.

**SCHEDULED Flat No. : N-172, DLF Capital Park, Phase-III, Moolgarden, Delhi-65**  
**TUSHAR DATTA, ADVOCATE**  
D/3533/2019

**M A X I M'S**  
Advocates & Law Consultants  
A Registered Law Firm  
Established since 2000  
C-4/70A, Keshav Puram, Delhi-35  
0114350270, 99999-91618  
maximcorporate@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Digma Pant, Mr. Chander Shekhar R/o 351, WP-Block Shikhar, Kirti Bhatt acquired Prop. No. WP-42 Northern Side area 7/30 sq. yds, Kharsa No. 351, WP-Block Shikhar, Kirti Bhatt, Delhi vide Reimbursement Deed dt. 01.02.2020 executed by the S/o of Late Asha Kungari Panigrahi after that Mrs. Dharma Pant expired and his 1/3rd share in the said property was divided on 12/05/2022 in favour of Mr. Vinay Pant, Mr. Vinay Pant, Mr. Chander Shekhar, Mrs. Rekha Bhatt and Mr. Shiv Datt Bhatt are the undisputed owner of the above said property. On Any person/ firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, mortgage, etc. shall not be allowed. Any encumbrance however or otherwise is hereby required to be null and void from the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of the said property. Any person who is supporting documents at below mentioned address, shall be deemed to have accepted the notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and treated as waived and not binding on our client.

**Ajay Kumar Giri** (Advocate)  
H.No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar-2, New Delhi 110024

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is hereby given to general public that Manpreet Singh Jaggi, who claimed to be owner and in possession of the Ground floor and Second floor, without roof rights. Built up property bearing no. 21, Block- no known as F-21B, Left side, land area measuring 100 sq. yds., situated in the area of Village Chauchandi, Delhi-1 Colony Enclave, Sant Gadh Estate, New Delhi; by virtue of Partition deed dated 03.10.2018, now Manpreet Singh Jaggi has approached Jaisa Small Finance Bank Ltd. for financial assistance and therefore shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. We give this public notice that if any person having any claim/objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property or any part of the said property in favour of Jaisa Small Finance Bank Ltd. is/are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to undersigned with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any claim, if any, of such persons will be considered to have been waived and/or, abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan against the said property and subsequent creation of Mortgage in respect thereof.

**For Juris NextGen**  
E-56, LGF, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-1, New Delhi-110048

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notified to the public that our client Mr. Munna Lal Saini Son of Late Sh. Ram Suresh R/o 4, Opposite to Smt. Dimple Storey, Vijay Nagar, Delhi-110009, and his family members including his wife and his daughters, have got no connection of whatsoever nature with his son Rajesh Kumar Saini son of Shri Munna Lal Saini R/o 3, Opposite 8/15, Double Storey, Vijay Nagar, Delhi-110009 and his wife Mrs. Renu Saini. Our aforesaid client & his family members have severed all their relations, connections of whatsoever nature with aforesaid Shri Rajesh Kumar Saini and his wife Mrs. Renu Saini, for all purposes, as per their own desire with them shall do so on their own risks and consequences.

**Sd/- R.D. Rats**  
Advocate  
666, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

"Be it known to the Public at large that as per directions of my client Anita Bidhuri Dio Late Shri Dharampal Choudhary Mohalla Tehsildar, Cilia Phase-I, South Delhi-110020 father of my client namely Late Shri Dharampal Singh had booked Urban Enclave No. R001/CY12604 in Project Eysene Noida but unfortunately he died on 4th Nov-2016. So she requested Superchd Limited to transfer all paid amounts in the said property to Hypernova LGF-707 Booked in name of Anita Bidhuri. If anybody has any objection then he/she can contact at Superchd Limited, E-Square, Sector-96, NOIDA, within 15 days of this public Notice.

**Sd/- GAURAJ BHADANA** Advocate  
Chamber No. 121-122, 1st Floor  
Lawyers Chambers Building  
District Court Compound,  
Sector-12 Faridabad (Haryana)

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Kedar Nath Khattar S/o Her Gobind Khattar, R/O A-110, Block-A, Shadapuri, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015, that the Property bearing Municipal No. WZ-199, New No-A-110, measuring 83 Sq. Yds. Situated at Sharda Puri, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015, was registered in the name of Smt. Sheel Rani W/o Shri Satish Kumar R/o A-110, Sharda Puri, New Delhi-110015, who has expired on 17.12.2021, and her husband Satish Kumar also expired on 14.12.2021 after the death of his wife and brother-in-law my client Kedar Nath Khattar being the legal owner of all movable & immovable assets and above mentioned property vide registered WILL, Registration No. 5621, in Adml. Book No-3, Volume No.8,034 on Pages 51-53 Dated 26.03.2013. If any person have any objection or claim regarding the same may contact my client within 15 days, from the date of publication and after that My Client will not be responsible for any type of claim/litigation regarding the said property.

**Abhimanyu Sangwan** (Advocate)  
Ch.No. 121, W-Ving, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Pawan Kumar Tekrial S/o Govind Ram Ji Tekrial and his wife Mrs



# Leclerc puts Ferrari on pole in Monaco

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MONACO, MAY 28

CHARLES LECLERC positioned himself to reclaim the Formula One points lead from reigning champion Max Verstappen by winning the pole for the Monaco Grand Prix.

Leclerc was already atop the leaderboard Saturday when a crash by Sergio Perez stopped the session with about 30 seconds remaining. Leclerc said had Perez not crashed, his final flying lap would have been even better.

"I was about four tenths quicker and it was a really good lap," Leclerc said. "But what happened to Checo happened to me last year, so no frustration."

Perez spun his Red Bull on his own final qualifying lap and was blocking the course, and Carlos Sainz Jr. saw him too late to avoid hitting Perez. Perez said "I could feel the rear tire was not gripping," ad the damage "looks bad from the rear." He expected Red Bull to repair the car in time for Sunday.

Sainz said he saw the yellow flag for Perez, but wasn't aware of where Perez' car was located as he came upon the Red Bull. "I was coming from a blind corner," he said. "It would have been a pretty good save." Despite the contact with Perez, Sainz qualified second as Ferrari locked out the front row for Sunday's race. "I think we are in a great position to score points," Sainz said.

For Leclerc, he must actually finish a race on his home circuit. He won the pole a year ago but was unable to start the race because of damage to his Ferrari. He's never finished an F1 race in Monaco.

"Hopefully we can have a clean race," said Leclerc, who was fastest in all three practice sessions. He noted the forecast called for rain on Sunday but he was decent in wet conditions at Imola. "City tracks are very tricky. In the wet I'm sure Monaco is even tougher," said Leclerc.

## MONACO GP RACE ORDER

1. Charles LeClerc	Ferrari
2. Carlos Sainz Jr.	Ferrari
3. Sergio Perez	Red Bull
4. Max Verstappen	Red Bull
5. Lando Norris	McLaren
6. George Russell	Mercedes
7. Fernando Alonso	Alpine
8. Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes
9. Sebastian Vettel	Aston Martin
10. Esteban Ocon	Alpine

## SPORTLINE

Less than a year ago, the under-confident Vizag girl was worried about clearing one hurdle. After a long and slow rebuilding process, the 22-year-old improved the 100m hurdles national record thrice in less than a month. Now, those on her team say she has the potential to shave more seconds.

# The rebuilding of hurdling star Jyothi

NIHAL KOSHIE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 28

NOT REACTING to the starter's gun fast enough, Jyothi Yarraji, 22, had a bad start to her race at the Cyprus International Meet earlier this month. Being slow off the blocks is the ultimate nightmare for a 100-metre hurdler. Jyothi of old wouldn't have recovered from this early setback and would have missed out on a podium finish.

However, these days she doesn't throw in the towel. Jyothi's new-found mental toughness, improved speed, refined technique and increased flexibility of the hips helped her clock 13.23 seconds to bring down a 20-year-old national mark of 13.38 that was held by Anuradha Biswal.

It was a watershed moment in Jyothi's career. At Cyprus a local athlete, with a huge fan following and a faster personal best time than Jyothi, was tipped to win the race. But that was not to be. By the end of the race the camera crews were following India's newest track star. For coach James Hillier, the hard work to 're-build' Jyothi had paid off.

"When she broke the national record in Cyprus there was a local girl who had a faster PB, and she said things to Jyothi. Jyothi had a bad start because the gun they use in Europe is different. She didn't hear the gun but she kept her focus, powered through and beat the girl. To go and do that shows that she is confident and has belief. Confident athletes are dangerous but belief is the most powerful thing an athlete can have," Hillier, the head coach of the Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High Performance Centre, said.

In days to come, Jyothi would prove that her record-breaking feat in Limassol, Cyprus, wasn't a flash-in-the-pan performance. She would improve her timings at the Loughborough International Athletics Meet (13.11 seconds) and further shave the seconds at the Harry Schulting Games (13.04). In less than three weeks, Jyothi had erased the NR thrice. The good news for Indian athletics doesn't end there, as her coach Hillier says she can run faster. He spoke about the factors that were responsible for the turnaround.

## Mind

About 10 months back, after returning to track post her injury-forced break, Jyothi found it hard to clear even one hurdle. The coach, physio and trainer started 'rebuilding Jyothi' from scratch at the Kalinga Stadium,

**JYOTHI'S** speed has improved by 10 to 12 percent from October to March.

**VAST** difference in flexibility/mobility of her left and right hip has been balanced out

**OVERHEAD** squat has moved up from 20 kilograms to 55 kilograms

**NEW-FOUND** mental toughness means she believes victory is possible in every race



Jyothi Yarraji has the current national record of 13.04s. AFI

Bhubaneswar, in July.

"She had no confidence because she had injury problems, she wouldn't mind me saying that she was scared of hurdling at that time. In our first session, the single hurdle was at the lowest setting. She didn't even want to go over that. So we had to start with one hurdle, do some drills and then go to two hurdles, then three hurdles. It took time. Now she is very confident at the start line in any race. She may not always win and that is okay, but she believes she can win," Hillier said.

## Strength

The pandemic lockdown and injuries had disrupted Jyothi's training. Sitting at home, she was no longer punishing her body. This re-

duced her confidence, fitness, speed and strength levels dipped to 'zero', Jyothi said. Stepping into the gym to start basic weight training was a herculean task. Pep talks were the need of the hour.

"She would come to the gym and she would say 'I am so weak, I can't lift this and they are lifting that'. We was comparing herself to others. But she needed to focus only on herself," Hillier said. One line of advice which Jyothi got was this: "It does not matter if someone else is lifting more in the gym, that is what they are good at, you are good at other things".

When she attempted an overhead squat with a weight-lifting bar of 20 kilograms she failed. "Now she is doing 55 kilograms and then she could not even do 20. Her strength im-

## If it's your Birthday

### Sunday May 29

Focus on your essential mission; to develop personal skills and talents. It will do you no good to jump to conclusions. You may rely on your experience and untapped abilities into play.

### Monday May 30

Something is encouraging you to take a risk. The question is whether this is now appropriate. Run through each and every possible outcome.

### Tuesday May 31

It's time to get things done and practical arrangements should take first place. Rather than starting off on brand new ventures, you'd do best to finish what you've already begun.

### Wednesday June 1

It's a time for making choices, although whether you are truly ready to make important long-term decisions is another matter.

### Thursday June 2

Relations and close companions will support your opinions, just for a change. You might also learn something very beneficial from their criticisms.

### Friday June 3

This is the time to venture forward, signalling your commitment to a new way of doing things. Push ahead and boost your prospects.

### Saturday June 4

You'll have flashes of brilliance surrounded by periods of confusion. What's more, this could set the pattern for the rest of the year.

## SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2375

### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece (4,4)
- Profits? No, just the opposite (6)
- Wading bird (4)
- Flat surface (5)
- Scare away (4)
- Do away with (3,3,2)
- Eat with gusto (4,2)
- Hungarian sheepdog (4)
- Hot and humid (of weather) (5)
- Many millennia (4)
- Button: 2009 F1 World Champion (6)
- Improbable story (4,4)
- Appendix or joins (4)
- Vagrant (5)
- Hang limply (4)
- US junior naval officer (6)
- Well-spoken (8)

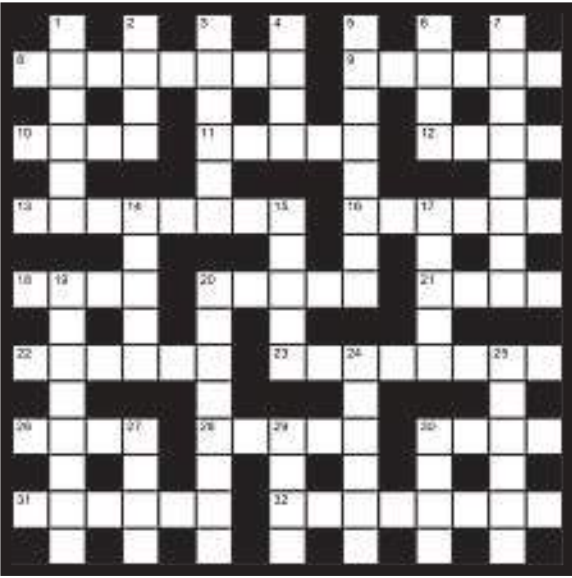
#### DOWN

- Idiosyncrasy (6)
- Servants (4)
- Gave a hint? (6)
- Cheerio! (2-2)
- In smoothly-spoken manner (8)
- Unchanged (2,2)
- Denial (8)
- Lie in \_\_\_\_ : be devastated? (5)
- Content in battle (5)
- Split or fissure (5)
- Everlasting (8)
- Dullness or sameness (8)
- A pettable pet (6)
- Gains knowledge (6)
- Revolve rapidly (4)
- Cuts down (4)
- Vendetta (4)

### CRYPTIC CLUES

#### ACROSS

- Put at risk adopting a measure such as this (8)
- Who tries to keep peace in the world and ruins everything (6)
- In the water there's just some china rubbish (4)
- Man obsessed with his appearance is comic (5)
- A Japanese wine benefit (4)
- They sell things to cyclists, so we hear (8)
- Trendy infantryman in the Royal Navy is a phony starter (4-2)
- Ali had two identical degrees (4)
- Trees cut up short, like this (5)
- That race for the silver boughs? (4)
- Sadly upset about theatre's closure- hugely entertained there? (6)
- Writers in the south use a condition



- of mental indecision (8)
- Intimate clue (4)
- Roman light and gold found in Egyptian town (5)
- Dullness or sameness (8)
- Space traveller in orbit (4)
- Disturbed without being stirred? (6)
- Eliot's hero needs somewhere to sleep when a woman comes round (4,4)
- DOWN
- I am me around the old city but not free to move about ! (6)
- Drip out of the lake ? (4)
- Circle round a damaged glider (6)
- Drawing tailless aircraft (4)
- Not customary to be without responsibilities (4-4)
- International development agency students were initially girls ! (4)
- Where strain causes parting (4,4)
- A book to remember ? (5)
- Gives birth to ill-feeling aboard ship ? (5)
- Top entertainment after midday brought not a single person! (2-3)
- Immediately after everyone (3,5)
- Light after change in diet, with water over twice a day (8)
- Knighted jalousy for some Indian factotum (6)
- 60 percent of crosswords involve

- use of weapons! (6)
- Grasp Kate who may be slipping away ? (4)
- Medical picture including the cross bar? (1-3)
- Gangs require a doctor qualified in surgery (4)

### Solutions to 2374

**QUICK CLUES Across:** 1 Subjected, 6 Skiff, 9 Panoply, 10 Achieve, 11 Orion, 12 Bloomers, 14 Toga, 15 West Bengal, 18 Restricted, 20 Verb, 23 Contains, 24 Rector, 26 Opensse, 27 Bravo, 28 Ramos, 29 Tolerates. **Down:** 1 Supporter, 2 Barring, 3 Empty, 4 Toys, 5 Deadletter, 6 Schmeer, 7 Iceberg, 8 Feels, 13 Descendant, 16 Laborious, 17 Arkansas, 19 Sunbeam, 21 Extract, 22 Repair, 23 Choir, 25 Obol. **CRYPTIC CLUES Across:** 1 Homestead, 6 Obolt, 9 Nitrous, 10 Watteau, 11 Ever so, 12 Bacillus, 14 Toss, 15 Get dressed, 18 Cleaned out, 20 Warm, 23 Chess set, 24 Canaan, 26 Spinout, 27 Cable TV, 28 Dosed, 29 Resentful. **Down:** 1 Hanseatic, 2 Matters, 3 Scouse, 4 Erse, 5 Down-and-out, 6 Outsider, 7 Beetles, 8 Truss, 13 Deadletter, 16 Dimenovel, 17 One's sword, 19 Eyelids, 21 Aware of, 22 Harbin, 23 Cased, 25 Ices.

## BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: None

**NORTH**  
♠ QJ10874  
♥ 42  
♦ K97  
♣ Q3

**SOUTH**  
♠ 92  
♥ AK83  
♦ AJ  
♣ K10762

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT		
Pass	4H	dbl	4S
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the nine of hearts and South won with the ace. Let's assume that West does not have a singleton heart. How should South get ten tricks out of this?

The West Hand: S-A6H-9S-D-Q10542C-J984  
The East hand: S-K53H-QJ1076D-863C-A5

One of the things that South might consider is setting up the club suit. Or, if that play does not appeal, taking a diamond finesse is possible. Do either of these lines feel right?

At some point you are going to need a way to get rid of the diamond loser in dummy. There is a very easy way to do that which has more appeal than either of the two lines mentioned above. Which is?

Win the heart lead and before doing anything else, play three rounds of diamonds, ruffing the third in your hand with the nine of spades. Now you can lead spades and complete the other business of this hand.

Dealer: South Vulnerable: None

**NORTH**  
♠ 4  
♥ ♣ QJ10  
♦ AB642  
♣ JB643

**SOUTH**  
♠ AJ762  
♥ 43  
♦ KQ753  
♣ A

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1S		
Pass	3D	Pass	2D
Pass	3D	Pass	5D
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South plays in 5D and gets the nine of diamonds lead. East following. What should South's plan be?

## JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Alli \_\_\_\_\_ whoever that is. - Bob Dylan (3,2,2,2,2)

DMAEE

EFUCDN

BNIOS

CISUBM

SOLUTION: EDMA, BISON, FEUCN, CUBISM

## SUDOKU 4849

### Difficulty Level 3s

#### Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

### Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4848



## YOUR WEEK AHEAD

### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

As far as the fundamental planetary picture is concerned, there is little change from last month or, come to that, from the month before. Jupiter is still occupying a friendly position and Saturn a suitably challenging one. You are therefore still in the middle of a profound long-term change.

### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Your relationships are coloured by Mars and Venus. The former encourages you to go out and seek partnerships, while the latter makes you attractive to other people. Now that these two planets are in such a mutually supportive aspect you may expect nothing but the best.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

The Sun and the Moon are at that time of the year when they challenge you to do only your best. You may therefore feel that events are slipping out of your control, especially if a partner refuses to take your advice or appears apparently unconcerned about your plans and desires.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You're in a crusading mood, but you're probably bemused by confusing indications: some developments seem to be holding out the prospect of untold success, others are presenting you with obstacles. It's a real case of the carrot and the stick, but you never know which is coming next.

### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Could you be facing a revolution at home? If at all possible, do try to turn events to your advantage by dealing with the root of any conflicts. This may require a rethink of your domestic aspirations, including the questions of where you want to live and who you want to live with.

### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The majority of your planets are stimulating the private sectors of your solar horoscope, suggesting that it will be personal concerns that dominate your thinking. You'll be keen to establish yourself as an individual and will resent anyone who lumps you in as part of a group. Mind you, there is much to be said for financial collaboration.

### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

It's a mixed moment, with much to be said for romantic initiatives. The current period is important for those of you engaged in the property market, perhaps now buying a first home. The signs are that events could move more quickly than expected, but also that there are a number of pitfalls along the way.

### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Mars and Pluto, your planetary rulers, are making emotional as well as practical demands on your time. You will therefore be utterly unprepared to compromise or see anyone else's point of view yet, if so, you must also be prepared for their strong reactions.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

If we're considering your emotions the question is, how can you improve your moods and shape events to your will? You can bring out your intellectual qualities, analysing your own motives, questioning partners' actions and always searching for the real meaning behind apparently innocent situations.

### CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

The mingling of optimistic Martian alignments with magic Venusan and Mercurial patterns continues apace. The result is that all emotional battles should be easily won. Indeed, it will be a foolhardy person who takes you on under the mistaken impression that you will do anything to avoid a fight.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You're being pulled in two directions. The major gulf lies between your ambition and outgoing sociable qualities on the one hand and a profound desire to be left alone in peace and quiet on the other. You may fluctuate between the two or, if you wish, you may put your driving ambition behind some selfless charitable enterprise.

### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

That militant planet Mars is stirring up your emotions. However, please do try and find a positive cause to fight for rather than slugging it out with folks who have done nothing wrong. On the lighter side, a every generous gesture now will repay dividends in the future.



BRIEFLY

SAI seeks report after gymnast cries foul in selection trials

New Delhi: Acting upon a complaint by the country's most decorated gymnast Ashish Kumar on partiality at team selection trials, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has sought a report on the issue from the Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI). The SAI said, if required, it will set up a committee to probe the matter. In a letter written to GFI president Sudhir Mittal, a copy of which was marked to SAI, Kumar said he "faced injustice" at the selection trials held between March 11-22. "Indian Gymnast Ashish Kumar in a complaint to the Gymnastics Federation of India has alleged that he faced partiality at the trials held between March 11 to March 22 for selection of the team for Commonwealth Games."

PTI

Bhagat, Manasi enter Dubai finals

Dubai: Top Indian para shuttlers including Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat and reigning world champion Manasi Joshi battled past their opponents to enter the finals at the 4th Fazza Dubai Para Badminton International here on Saturday. In total, nine Indian para shuttlers have made it to seven finals scheduled to be played on Sunday. In men's singles SL3, Bhagat, who won two gold medals at the recent Bahrain 2022 International, had to come back from a game down each to defeat an untiring Daisuke Fujiwara of Japan, who eventually faltered after 18-all in the third game. Bhagat won 14-21, 21-14, 21-18 after fighting for 1 hour 16 minutes.

PTI

LA Dodgers co-owner to take over Chelsea

London: Chelsea said on Saturday that a final agreement had been struck to sell the Premier League club to a consortium led by Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly and backed by Clearlake Capital. The takeover is expected to be completed on Monday. The consortium, which won the bid to acquire the London side earlier this month, received approval from the Premier League and the British government this week for the sale to go ahead.

REUTERS

Supernovas beat Velocity in final

Pune: Supernovas won the Women's T20 Challenge 2022 with a four-run victory over Velocity in the title clash. This was the Supernovas' third title triumph in the tournament. Supernovas posted a competitive 165 for seven in the allotted 20 overs. Deandra Dottin top-scored with a sparkling 62 off 44 balls, while skipper Harmanpreet Kaur blazed away to a 29-ball 43. Among the Velocity bowlers, Deepti Sharma finished with fine figures of 2/20, while Kate Cross and Simran Bahadur too accounted for two wickets apiece.

**Brief scores: Supernovas: 165/7 in 20 overs (Dottin 62, Kaur 43; Deepti 2/20) bt Velocity: 161/8 in 20 overs (Wolvaardt 65 not out; Alana 3/32, Dottin 2/28, Ecclestone 2/28).**

Asmita availed, Gujarat looks for title now

This IPL has offered a window into Gujarati *asmita* (pride), there has been an unmistakable undercurrent of a collective linguistic, cultural ethos in the fanbase

ABHISHEK PUROHIT  
AHMEDABAD, MAY 28

[AI] *Garavi Gujarat* [victory to proud Gujarat], the DJ exhorted an enthusiastically willing crowd to shout during the Qualifier 2 match of the IPL at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Friday. It is the name of the poem Narmadashankar Dave - considered to be the founder of modern Gujarati literature - wrote in 1873, and it is now the state's anthem. That it should be referred to during an IPL game at all, and one not even involving the newly-minted local team at that, is a small insight into what is often called Gujarati *asmita* (pride). It may not be as assertive as, say, the Tamil or the Bengali identity, but there is an unmistakable undercurrent of a collective linguistic, cultural ethos in India's westernmost state.

When the Ahmedabad franchise was seeking a name for itself, it had to decide between picking between the city it was going to be based in, or the state in which its home city was situated. Market research was commissioned, and ultimately, Gujarat Titans went for a name that would resonate with all Gujaratis, not just Amdavadis. The team will be playing its first game at its home ground in front of more than a hundred thousand people on Sunday night - the grand final against Rajasthan Royals. But having waltzed into the title clash under the leadership of an inspirational Gujarati first-time captain, they have already begun to capture the hearts of local fans, who had been starved of a team to root for during the first 14 long years of the league's existence.

Their team was not even playing on Friday, but you could see numerous fans with Gujarat Titans t-shirts, as if warming up for the big one on Sunday night.

It was an endearing fact not lost on Dr Parag Sheth, a local sports enthusiast who grew up seeing the fallow days when Ahmedabad would get the odd major cricket match amid a general absence of action. "Naturally yaar. We have reached the final and we are supporting Gujarat Titans, simple," Sheth said. "So many players from Gujarat have played in the IPL - the Pandya and Pathan brothers, Jasprit, Axar, Jadeja, Pujara - and it feels so good to finally have an IPL team from the state.

"Ahmedabad was left out all these years but Gujarat Titans have reached the final in their very first season," Sheth said. "It has proven our concern as to why Gujarat or Ahmedabad did not have an IPL team all these years. We would get very few matches earlier but right now it is like a carnival."

You can sense how thirsty the fans are for even a glimpse of players in the colourful league; on Friday evening, a young, uncapped player such as Yashasvi Jaiswal was cheered so loudly as he ran warm-up laps that it felt like Virat Kohli had been sighted.

The 2022 season has been played largely in Mumbai amid pandemic-enforced bio-bubbles but when the league reverts to the usual home-and-away format, Ahmedabad will host at least seven, if not nine, matches in a span of



Narendra Modi Stadium, the world's largest cricket facility, will be rooting for the debutants. (Below) Remakes of Gujarat Titans jerseys outside the stadium ahead of the final. *file/Nirmal Harindran*



a couple of months.

Priyank Panchal, the veteran Gujarat batsman and captain who has been around the India squad for a while now, knows how much it will mean for fans in the city where he has spent all his life.

"People are really excited here," Panchal told The Indian Express. "Fans will get to interact with each other and watch the players. And the size of the stadium will give a lot more people the opportunity to come, watch and get inspired. We talk about true fans, die-hard fans, and it is very important for those fans to get this kind of experience. They make this game all the more enjoyable. That is one part which I think because of this bigger stadium, is going to play a bigger role. And crucially, the kids who will go to watch will come back feeling that we can also play this game, we also have the opportunity now, that it is possible to take up cricket as a profession. Fans are the biggest thing after all."

As it has done in the rest of the country, spreading out from traditional centres such as Mumbai and Delhi, cricket has made its way around Gujarat too. The state, with its three first-class teams, Baroda, Gujarat and Saurashtra, has started to produce more players for the national side. Parthiv Patel, the former India wicketkeeper-batsman, had earlier recalled how he would have to travel to Mumbai for more and better exposure, as there was barely any to be had in Gujarat.

"Growing up, we used to analyse Mumbai cricketers, that we'd try to play like them and

so on," Parthiv had said. "It wasn't that Mumbai was the only centre in the country but it was the closest for us so we would come there a lot and play club cricket so that we would get to learn a lot. The facilities were good there.

"Now you see the facilities have improved all across Gujarat, not just Ahmedabad which has the big stadium, but even in the districts there are proper facilities where you can play first-class matches and conduct NCA (National Cricket Academy) camps. And with the infrastructure coming up, the players are also coming."

Parthiv was convinced an IPL franchise setting up base in Ahmedabad would inject fresh momentum into the local cricket set-up. "There is no doubt that kids will feel inspired when international stars are playing in front of them, maybe even inspired enough to take up the game at the age of 7-10," Parthiv had said. "Even if you can get to watch big players practising, it teaches you so much. Local bowlers who go to bowl in the team nets will pick up things. There are also ample opportunities to interact with high-level coaches."

As far as Sunday night is concerned, there is only one team the world's largest cricket stadium will be rooting for, and the Hardik t-shirts will be out in their numbers. "There is a burning desire to win, being a team from Gujarat, the final is in Gujarat, he wants to take that there," former India head coach Ravi Shastri had said about Hardik Pandya on Star Sports. As the Gujarat Titans slogan goes, *aava de* (bring it on). *Garavi Gujarat* can't wait.

Making Royals cool again

ABHISHEK PUROHIT  
AHMEDABAD, MAY 28

IT MAY not have been the year in which the Indian Premier League title finally landed in Royal Challengers Bangalore's cupboard, despite the call of *ee saala cup namde* going viral. But Rajasthan Royals, forever the butt of jokes about flattering briefly and deceiving un-faillingly, have had a season that has naturally drawn comparisons with their title run in the inaugural IPL in 2008.

Naturally, because there hasn't been anything to compare in the years between 2008 and 2022. There was the briefest of sparks when they actually won the Eliminator in IPL 2013, only to go out in the Qualifier 2 to Mumbai Indians. The norm instead has been of RR having a neat little run of wins, usually early in the season, before predictably running out of steam at the business end. On a couple of occasions, they dragged themselves into the top-four, but were instantly chucked out in the Eliminator. Alternating between massive bets on stars that more often than not don't come good, and 'investing' - an RR favourite buzzword - in unknown local talent, the franchise has done little more than make up the numbers for an overwhelming majority of its existence. This year has been, finally, refreshingly different. Nine wins in 14 league games have meant the crowds have actually participated with gusto, with shouts of 'Rajasthan jeetega' [Rajasthan will win] when the DJ prompts them with the classic 'jeetega bhai jeetega'. The Orange and (joint) Purple Cap holders, Jos Buttler and Yuzvendra Chahal, are both from RR. Buttler began the tournament with three centuries in seven games, and then tapered off in the second half of the season, before coming back with a record-equaling fourth ton in the Qualifier 2 against RCB.

"I had some really honest conversations with some close people around me, (coaches) Kumar Sangakkara and Trevor Penney," Buttler said after Friday's win. "I was feeling a bit of pressure, getting distracted and I was trying to suppress it and it was only until a week ago or so I opened up inside and talking about that made me feel a lot better going into Kolkata and that innings gave me the confidence that helped (against RCB)."

Some credit for creating this kind of an enabling atmosphere, as well as for some smart tactical calls throughout the season, has to go to the skipper Sanju Samson. Even in the Qualifier 2, seeing that Glenn Maxwell was targeting his two veteran spinners, Samson brought back Trent Boult. It is beside the point that Boult dismissed Maxwell with the last ball of his over, but Samson had been receptive enough to deny Maxwell his stronger suit - hitting spin.

Samson's performances in the past have been a window into how RR's seasons have come apart. He leaves people gaping at the timing of his strokes at the start, but then he loses that touch and consistency and it all meanders into another decent season that could have meant something big. But he's led a side full of stalwarts this time and also done reasonably well with the bat.

"Sanju has been exceptional. He started off with quite a tough test last season with a young side and a lot of upheaval because of Covid bubbles, a tournament of two halves but he has really grown into his role," Sangakkara said after the Qualifier 2.

"He is a very soft-spoken, very reserved individual. He is exceptionally skilled with the bat. He has shown a lot of passion and hunger to take on this testing role of captaincy. Wicket-keeping, captaining and being the best batter in your side along with Jos Buttler is not an easy kind of role to fill but he has done it really well this season."

It cannot be compared to what the late Shane Warne achieved with a largely inexperienced bunch in 2008, but no matter what happens in the Sunday final, 2022 will remain the year Samson - and Buttler and Chahal and the rest - made Rajasthan Royals cool again.



India beat Japan 2-1 in first Super 4 league match

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MAY 28

THE INDIAN men's hockey team scored two fantastic field goals to beat Japan 2-1 in its first Super 4 league match and avenge its loss in the pool stage of the Asia Cup here on Saturday. The defending champions, who lost 2-5 against Japan in the pool stage, scored two eye-catching field goals through Manjeet (8th minute) and Pawan Rajbhar (35th) to register a narrow win.

Japan's lone goal came from a penalty corner through Takuma Niwa in the 18th minute. Japan threatened India initially and secured a penalty corner as early as in the opening minute but the Indians thwarted the danger. The Indians grew in confidence and got their footing as the match progressed. It was a moment of brilliance from Manjeet that handed India the lead. He made a brilliant solo run down the left flank after receiving a pass from Pawan Rajbhar and used 3D skills to perfection to beat Takashi Yoshikawa under the Japanese bar.

Maninder Singh earned India a penalty corner in the 13th minute but Nilam Sanjeev Xess' effort was saved by the Japanese de-

fence. As was the case in the first quarter, the Japanese started the second 15 minutes on a promising note and secured a penalty corner in the 18th minute from which Takuma Niwas scored from a rebound after Ken Nagayoshi's initial flick was saved by Indian goalkeeper Karkera.

Pepped up by the goal, Japan continued to put pressure on the Indian defence and earned two more penalty corners, which the Indian defence kept at bay.

Minutes later, Karthi Selvam missed a golden chance as he failed to get past Japanese goalie Yoshikawa from one-one-one situation. Rajbhar restored India's lead five minutes into the second half, slotting home from close range after being set up by Uttam Singh's brilliant stick work.

Five minutes later, India conceded another penalty corner but the Japanese failed to capitalise on the chance. Trailing by a goal, the Japanese mounted relentless pressure on the Indian citadel but the Birendra Lakralled backline stood firm to keep their lead intact. Just three minutes from the final hooter, Japan secured a penalty corner but the Indians defended in numbers to register the win. India will play Malaysia in their next Super 4 stage match on Sunday.

REUTERS/AP  
PARIS, MAY 28

CARLOS ALCARAZ'S meteoric rise continued on Friday when the Spanish prodigy produced yet another awe-inspiring performance to outplay American Sebastian Korda 6-4 6-4 6-2 and reach the last 16 of the French Open for the first time.

Facing the only man to beat him on clay this year, the sixth-seeded teenager, who saved a match point in the second round, showed his full range on a packed court Philippe Chatrier - mixing powerful forehands with gravity-defying drop shots.

The 27th-seeded Korda threw everything at his opponent, only for the ball to come back quicker and with more power and the American faded in the third after a high-octane fight in the first two sets.

Alcaraz, who now has an 18-1 win-loss record on the red dirt this season after winning titles in Barcelona and Madrid, will next face 21st-seeded Russian Karen Khachanov before a potential quarter-final clash against third seed Alexander Zverev.

"It's amazing to play in front of such a great crowd in this atmosphere on a night session," the 19-year-old Alcaraz, who stunned the crowd with some serve and volleying, said. "I'm having fun, I love playing



Carlos Alcaraz now has an 18-1 win-loss record on the red dirt this season. *AP*

tennis on such great courts, I love playing in France. Serve and volley is a weapon that I have so I use it." Should the stars align for Alcaraz, he could eventually take on either world number one and defending champion Novak Djokovic or 13-time Roland Garros winner Rafael Nadal in the last four.

"If I am winning, I just play against one of them. I think I'm ready. It's different to play against them," he said.

"I mean in the Masters 1000 or another tournament it's best-of-three and in Grand Slam it's best-of-five, but I would say I'm ready," Alcaraz got off to a brilliant start and

BOPANNA, MIDDELKOOP SURVIVE 5 MATCH POINTS

*Paris: The never-say-die spirit came to the fore as Rohan Bopanna and Matwe Middelkoop saved five match points to knock out Mate Pavic and Nikola Pietrangeli, the reigning Wimbledon champions, from the Roland Garros. Bopanna's serve was as venomous as it has been throughout his career and his volleys too were as sharp as ever while his Dutch partner showed exemplary calm under pressure in the men's doubles third round. A break of serve early in the third set put them at a disadvantageous position but there was no dearth of spirit or class from Bopanna and Middelkoop, who eventually prevailed 6-7 (5) 7-6 (3) 7-6 (10) in two hours and 32 minutes.*

PTI

had a couple of double break points at 3-1, only for Korda to stave them off with a service winner and an ace.

But the Spaniard was untroubled on his service games and he wrapped up the open-

ing set having lost only six points on serve.

Korda found his range early in the second set and set up two break points but Alcaraz held firm and showed his ability to find the best shot at the best moment - including a sublime lob while on the back foot to go 30-0 up in the fifth game. He won that game with a superb forehand winner down the line.

No stopping Swiatek

Top-ranked Iga Swiatek won her 31st consecutive match and is into the fourth round at Roland Garros for the fourth time in four appearances with a sometimes-shaky 6-3, 7-5 victory over Danka Kovinic.

Swiatek, the 2020 French Open champion, has now collected 48 of the past 49 sets she has played. Her winning streak is the longest in women's tennis since Serena Williams won 34 in a row in 2013.

Swiatek improved her career record at the clay-court Grand Slam tournament to 17-2, a winning percentage of .895.

This one was not entirely smooth sailing for Swiatek against the 95th-ranked Kovinic, however. Swiatek's forehand was a particular trouble spot: That stroke was responsible for 17 of her 23 unforced errors.

The 20-year-old from Poland dropped four straight games to trail 5-4 in the second set before righting herself and claiming the last three to wrap up the win in 90 minutes.