



MIDNIGHT HEARING

## Hours after warrant, Bagga gets Punjab HC relief: No coercive action until May 10

JAGDEEP SINGH DEEP & JAGPREET SINGH SANDHU

MOHALI, CHANDIGARH, MAY 7

HOURS AFTER a Mohali court issued a non-bailable warrant against him, Delhi BJP leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga was granted relief by the Punjab and Haryana High Court, which held an urgent hearing late on Saturday night.

"The HC has granted relief to Bagga, and has ordered no coercive action shall be taken against him till the next hearing on May 10," said Bagga's counsel, Senior Advocate Anil Mehta, who filed the plea seeking a stay on the ar-



Bagga in Delhi late on Friday. Praveen Khanna

rest warrant. Bagga's petition seeking quashing of the FIR against him is listed for May 10. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

CBI RAIDS AAP MLA **PAGE 10**

STATEMENT CALLS IT DISPUTE, NOT 'WAR'

## UNSC dilutes statement on Ukraine, opens window

Council endorses Secy-General's efforts; India calls for easing food aid

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

TEN WEEKS into the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the United Nations Security Council issued its first Presidential statement early Saturday — adopted by consensus, including Russia — which did not mention "war", "conflict" or "invasion". Instead, it referred to the conflict as a "dispute".

This is UNSC's first unanimously adopted statement, and it is significant that it took place under US presidency — it holds the rotational presidency of the UNSC for May — and Russia came on board with the lan-



**EXPLAINED** Getting US, Russia on same page

THE FIRST UNSC statement on the conflict is seen as a starting point for talks. While there will be criticism over the language, it could offer room for diplomacy.

The dress rehearsal for the Victory Day parade in Moscow on Saturday. AP

guage widely perceived to be significantly "watered down." This statement comes as Russian forces renewed their attacks Saturday across Ukraine ahead of Victory Day festivities in Moscow Monday. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

SUNDAY STORY

PAGE 15



Right man at the right place

GENERAL MANOJ PANDEY  
ARMY CHIEF

KEDAR NATH SINGH VS BIHAR

## Centre to SC: Sedition law, 1962 ruling fine, no need for larger bench

ANANTHAKRISHNANG  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE CENTRE Saturday defended the penal law on sedition (Section 124A of the IPC) in the Supreme Court and said that the apex court's 1962 verdict of a Constitution bench upholding its validity was "long standing, settled", had stood the test of time and needed no reference to a larger bench. And that instances of its abuse can't be a justifica-

tion for its reconsideration.

In his written submissions to a three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana on the question whether petitions challenging Section 124A (sedition) should be referred to a five-judge Constitution bench in the light of the 1962 ruling in Kedar Nath Singh vs State of Bihar, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta pointed out that the said ruling "is a Constitution bench judgment and is binding on a **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Women and Foreign Correspondents press clubs get notice to vacate

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND & ANISHADUTTA  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE DIRECTORATE of Estates under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has sent notices to the Foreign Correspondents' Club (FCC) and the Indian Women Press Corps (IWPC) to vacate the bungalows allotted to them as their tenures will soon end.

The notice sent to the FCC on May 4 — with the subject 'Retention of Government accommodation Bungalow No. AB-19, Mathura Road, New Delhi allotted to Foreign Correspondents' Club of South Asia' — conveyed "in principle approval of the Competent Authority for retention" of the bungalow allotted to Foreign Correspondents' Club of South **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

GOVT & POLITICS



LPG PRICES HIKED BY RS 50 PER CYLINDER TO RECORD HIGHS

BJP HITS PRESIDENT, V-P POLL CAMPAIGN TRAIL, 1st STOP NITISH **PAGE 6**

## With security, pilgrims pray at ASI-protected temple ruins in Valley

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN  
CHENNAI, MAY 7

OVER 100 pilgrims held prayers for a few hours Friday morning at the ASI-protected Martand Sun Temple ruins in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Guarded by security personnel provided by the district administration, the pilgrims sat on a stone platform amid the ruins of the ancient temple of Surya, reciting from Hindu scriptures and texts.

The 8th century temple was said to have been destroyed **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## India's oldest track record falls: 5,000m has new champion after 30 years



Avinash Sable after breaking the record. SAI media

NIHAL KOSHIE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

FOR BAHADUR Prasad, who held the country's oldest track record till Saturday morning, the breaking news he received via a WhatsApp message in Varanasi ended a three-decade-long wait.

Amyman Avinash Sable had broken Prasad's 5,000 metres national record, clocking 13 minutes and 25.65 seconds in San Juan Capistrano, USA, finishing 12th in a high-quality field which included two Olympic medallists on Friday. For the former Asian Athletics Championship silver medallist, the race was all about the clock rather than a podium finish.

Sable, 27, from drought-prone Madhva village in Beed, Maharashtra, is well-known for erasing age-old records. The Tokyo Olympian has broken the 3,000-metre steeplechase record seven times. The first time his name entered the record books in this event, he erased **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

THE WORLD



TALIBAN ORDERS WOMEN TO WEAR BURQA IN PUBLIC

LANKA PRESIDENT FACES FLAK OVER EMERGENCY **PAGE 14**

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FROM PAGE ONE

UNSC

India is a non-permanent member of the UNSC. In its statement, it made two important and new formulations: First, it said that "diplomacy will be a lasting casualty".

"India remains on the side of peace and therefore believes that there will be no winning side in this conflict and while those impacted by this conflict will continue to suffer, diplomacy will be a lasting casualty," India's Permanent Representative at the UN T S Tirumurti had said early Friday.

Second, it said that humanitarian aid to Ukraine should not be subject to food export restrictions. Sources said that while the World Food Programme's aid is exempt from taxes, aid by individual countries, including India, is being subjected to taxes. This should not happen, sources said.

Tirumurti said, "Oil prices are skyrocketing and there is shortage of food grains and fertilizers. This has had disproportionate impact on the Global South and developing countries. We acknowledge the efforts made by the Secretary General, particularly the findings of Global Crisis Response Group Task Team. We welcome their recommendation for exempting purchases of food by WFP for humanitarian assistance from food export restrictions with immediate effect. It is important that similar such exemptions are provided to all member states and relevant stakeholders, who are contributing to this global humanitarian effort."

The UNSC's first statement, which was adopted, said the Security Council "expresses deep concern regarding the maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine" and "recalls that all member states have undertaken, under the Charter of the United Nations, the obligation to settle their international disputes by peaceful means."

The four-line statement did not mention the US-led West's description of events in Ukraine — war, invasion, or conflict — nor did it mention "special military operation", as Russia describes it.

Russia, which has veto power in the council, has blocked all past attempts to adopt a presidential

statement or a resolution which requires unanimity.

Sources said that this was the "compromise language" reached after weeks of negotiations. The UNSC also expressed "strong support" for the "efforts" of the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the 10-week "dispute." It called on Guterres to brief members "in due course."

Guterres had recently visited Moscow and Kyiv and had met Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

While he had got a deal for evacuation of civilians from the south-eastern port city of Mariupol which is under siege and the Azovstal steel plant where the last Ukrainian forces are holding out, this diluted UNSC statement is an effort to calm down temperatures and get the warring sides to start talking, sources said.

This is also important for the UN Secretary General since the UN has been seen as marginalised amid the conflict in the heart of Europe.

After the UNSC statement, Guterres said, "Today, for the first time, the Security Council spoke with one voice for peace in Ukraine... As I have often said, the world must come together to silence the guns and uphold the values of the UN Charter."

Norway and Mexico had drafted and moved the statement. The language of the resolution is in sharp contrast to earlier ones passed at the UN. For example, on March 2, the UN General Assembly had voted 141-5 with 35 abstentions in favour of a resolution demanding an immediate Russian cease-fire, withdrawal of all its forces and protection for civilians.

By a similar vote on March 24, it approved a resolution 140-5 with 38 abstentions blaming Russia for the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and urging an immediate cease-fire and protection for millions of civilians and the homes, schools and hospitals critical to their survival.

The General Assembly voted by a smaller margin — 93-24 with 58 abstentions — on April 7 to suspend Russia from the Geneva-based Human Rights Council, the UN's leading rights body, over al-

legations of horrific rights violations by Russian soldiers in Ukraine, which the United States and Ukraine have called tantamount to war crimes.

Bagga

Justice Anoop Chitkara of the Punjab and Haryana High Court held the hearing at his residence late on Saturday night.

"We are not executing the arrest warrant till May 10," said Punjab Advocate General Anmol Rattan Sidhu. "It is on the concession by the state government. We told the court that there was no urgency to arrest him. Hence, we can wait till Tuesday," said Sidhu.

The court in its order said, "Given the statement of the learned advocate general, Punjab, let the present application be listed along with the main case on May 10... and no coercive steps be taken against the petitioner till the next date."

This came a day after an operation to arrest Bagga pitted the Punjab Police against their counterparts in Delhi and Haryana and led to a political slugfest between the BJP and AAP.

Earlier in the day, the Mohali court directed the police to arrest Bagga and produce him before it. "It is necessary in the interest of justice to issue non-bailable warrants for accused Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, who is evading arrest, in order to facilitate the investigation," the court of Judicial Magistrate (1st class) Ravtash Indrajit Singh said, and posted the matter for May 23.

The warrant was issued in connection with a case registered against Bagga in Mohali on April 1, alleging inflammatory posts in the media and on Twitter. This is the same case in which he was arrested from his Delhi residence on Friday morning.

The court was also told that Bagga had been served five notices by the police but had failed to join the investigation.

In its order, the Mohali court said DSP, City-1, Mohali, Sukhnaaz Singh, informed the court that a petition to quash the FIR against Bagga was pending before the High Court for May 10. He told the court there is no stay on Bagga's arrest nor has he filed any anticipatory bail application.

He also informed the court that

a habeas corpus petition filed by the State of Punjab was pending before the High Court for May 10, which is connected with the FIR against Bagga.

Bagga was arrested from his Janakpuri residence in Delhi on Friday morning, but the journey to take him to Punjab was cut short with police in Haryana intercepting the Punjab Police convoy, the Delhi Police filing an FIR against Punjab personnel for abducting Bagga, and eventually managing to bring Bagga back from Kurukshetra to Delhi.

The Punjab Police told the court on Saturday that the investigating team arrested Bagga from his house, and intimidated his father of the arrest. DSP Kuljinder Singh along with the police party went to Janakpuri police station to give necessary intimation, but no DDR (daily diary register) entry was made by the police station, the court was told.

"When police party was bringing accused, so as to be produced before the court at Mohali, the police party was stopped by Kurukshetra police and they took the police party to police station Thanesar Sadar. At about 2:30 pm, Parshant Gautam, IPS, Additional DCP-1, West New Delhi, came along with police force and got the accused released forcibly and illegally," the Punjab Police told the court.

Regarding the happenings at Thanesar Sadar police station on Friday, the Punjab Police told the court that the DDR entry was recorded there.

The Punjab government filed a habeas corpus petition in the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Friday afternoon, challenging the detention of its police officers in Haryana and Delhi. In their status reports, the two states denied any detention.

The April 1 case against Bagga is based on a complaint by Dr Sunny Singh Ahluwalia, AAP Punjab spokesperson and party in-charge of Anandpur Sahib Lok Sabha constituency. The FIR quotes Ahluwalia as saying that comments made by Bagga in the media and on Twitter amounted to "criminal intimidation... to cause violence... imminent hurt to Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP leaders in a pre-designed, well

planned, orchestrated manner". Sections invoked against him include IPC 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

While Punjab Police comes under the newly formed AAP government, Haryana Police is under the BJP government, and Delhi Police under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Centre to SC

three-judge bench". Hearing a clutch of petitions challenging the Constitutional validity of Section 124A, the three-judge bench of CJI Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli had wondered whether it has to refer to a five-judge bench in the light of the 1962 ruling and asked for the views of the Centre and the petitioners on this.

Attorney General K K Venugopal, too, had said there was no need for any reference and that Kedar Nath Singh is good law.

Saying that no reference was needed, Mehta's note Saturday argued that the Kedar Nath Singh verdict already addressed the key Constitutional principles. "The five-judge bench read down Section 124A only to bring it in conformity with Article 14 (equality), 19 (free speech) and 21 (life and liberty)... No reference, therefore, would be necessary nor can the three-judge Bench once again examine the Constitutional validity of the very same provision".

In 1962, the apex court had upheld the validity of the sedition law while attempting to restrict its scope for misuse. It had held that unless accompanied by incitement or a call for violence, criticism of the government cannot be construed as a seditious offence.

The government said that the "ratio in Kedar Nath Singh has been analysed, tested and elaborated subsequently by" the court "in several cases", the latest being Vinod Dua vs Union of India.

In that case, a two-judge bench had quashed the sedition case registered against journalist Vinod Dua in Shimla on the basis of an FIR over comments made on his YouTube show criticising the Central government.

"The bench of three judges cannot reconsider the ratio of a judgment of a Constitution bench without referring the matter to a larger bench," the note said.

And added that even "for a reference to a larger bench... it will be absolutely necessary for the bench of three... judges to record its satisfaction that the ratio in Kedar Nath Singh is so patently wrong that it needs reconsideration by a larger bench. The bench of three Hon'ble Judges cannot itself decide whether Kedar Nath Singh is a good law or not".

"Instances of the abuse of provision would never be a justification to reconsider a binding judgment of the Constitution bench. The remedy would lie in preventing such abuse on a case-to-case

basis rather than doubting a long standing settled law declared by a Constitution bench since about six decades (ago)", the written submission said.

It, however, added that if this argument is not acceptable to the court, then the three judges "may not examine the challenge to Section 124A and may refer it to a larger bench for consideration whether Kedar Nath... needs reconsideration".

Tracing case laws on the topic, Mehta's note said that "where the point of law has been settled by a series of decisions and has been consistently applied over a long period of time, should not be departed from (even by larger Benches or by a superior court) merely on the ground that another view is possible. It is submitted that the court, considering the long-standing view, will have to carefully decide when not to interfere with a settled position of law, and when to interfere in spite of a long-settled position".

The petitioners had argued that the three-judge bench can strike down the provision by giving cogent reasons why it cannot follow the Constitution bench ruling. But the Centre said this is "patently wrong".

"It is only a bench of co-equal strength that can disagree with the judgment of the Constitution Bench while recording cogent reasons as to why the earlier binding Constitution Bench judgment is so patently wrong that it needs to be reconsidered and thereafter refer it to even a larger bench for reconsideration", the government added.

Section 124 A has been at the centre of a controversy amid allegations that it has been weaponised by various governments to settle political scores.

Under this Section, "whoever, by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards, the Government established by law in [India], shall be punished with imprisonment for life, to which fine may be added, or with imprisonment which may extend to three years, to which fine may be added, or with fine."

Press clubs

Asia for a period up to July 31, 2022. "You are, therefore, requested to find a suitable accommodation and arrange to vacate the aforesaid house on or before 31st July, 2022," it states.

The notice sent to the President of the Foreign Correspondents' Club was marked to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. A similar notice has been sent to IWPC about Bungalow No. 5, Windsor Place. Addressed to the IWPC President, it states: "You are... requested to find a suitable accommodation and arrange to vacate the aforesaid house on or

before 31st July, 2022." A senior housing ministry official, requesting anonymity, said: "The tenures of both the clubs have been for nearly over a decade now and their tenures are ending on July 31. We have asked them to vacate and look for other accommodations."

Shobhna Jain, President, IWPC, said, "It's a routine procedural thing. We have been given an extension. The letter says that the government has approved in principle the lease renewal for three months. We are in touch with the authorities. We will request them to make it (the lease renewal) for a longer period. For the past 25 years we have been getting these lease renewals."

The lease was renewed last in 2018 for three years, she said. "The government is giving us renewals and we are quite hopeful that this year too we will get the lease renewed for a longer period," she said.

On the line that talks about finding a suitable accommodation and arranging to vacate the "aforesaid house", Jain said, "That's the standard format, because if lease is being given for three months, it will have to be vacated after three months. That's a routine procedural thing. In the meanwhile, you get the lease renewed for a longer period."

Munish Gupta, President, Foreign Correspondents' Club, said, "We have not received any such letter or information as on date."

Last month, the Directorate of Estates (DoE) undertook an exercise to vacate bungalows allotted to a number of Union ministers during their tenures. It evicted MP Chirag Paswan from a bungalow allotted to his father, late Ram Vilas Paswan; BJP MP Ram Shankar Katheria from 7 Moti Lal Nehru Marg; Union minister P C Sarangi from 10 Pandit Pant Marg; and former Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank from 27, Safdarjung Road.

Valley temple

during the rule of Sikandar Shah Miri between 1389 and 1413. Video clips of the event made the rounds of social media. The contingent carried a saffron flag with Om written on it, as well as a Tricolour. Chanting 'Har Har Mahadev', the pilgrims blew conches.

Armed security personnel walked with them, and could be seen standing around the pilgrims as some sat on a stone platform and recited the Hanuman Chalisa and verses from the Gita, while others sat on the grass and watched the proceedings.

Monuments under ASI protection are not open for prayers by any community unless such prayers were being held at the site at the time it was taken over by the Central archaeological body. A source familiar with the functioning of the ASI said no prayers were allowed at any place of worship that was in ruins when the body took charge of it.

The leader of the contingent, Maharaj Rudranath Anhad Mahakal, who said he heads a religious body in Karauli in Rajasthan called Rashtriya Anhad Mahayog Peeth, said he had emailed the District Commissioner's office about his plan to hold prayers at the Martand temple, but got no response.

"We decided to go ahead with our plan. Instead of just talking about these things, we should act. From the site, when I called the District Commissioner, he said he had no prior intimation of our karyakram. He said it is not a safe area and sent a force for our protection," Rudranath said.

May 6 was chosen as the date as it was Shankaracharya Jayanti, the mahant said, and marked the commemoration of Adi Shankaracharya's visit to Kashmir. He said like the saint-philosopher, the mission of his group was also to free people from the violence in Kashmir by spreading the "gyan" of "Bharatiya sanskriti".

The group, he said, was at the Martand temple from about 8 am to noon.

The Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir was not available for comment and the District Commissioner did not respond to phone calls and text messages.

A source said Kashmir was receiving many tourists this year, and the Martand temple site, which featured in Bollywood films Haider and Aandhi, was a big attraction.

The source said tourists of all faiths flock to the ruins, and to a functioning Shiva temple nearby in Mattan, and it was not unusual for Hindu tourists to sit on stone platforms on the grounds of the temple and offer prayers. He said prayers were not allowed in the inner areas of the ruins.

While the Shiva temple at Mattan is an important stop for Amarnath pilgrims, this is the first

time Martand has seen an organised attempt at holding prayers. Rudranath said the idea behind offering prayers was to "revive Maa Bharat" as Kashmir was her "head and brain".

"There is terrorism and fear over the place. It has attacked Maa Bharat's head and caused a brain haemorrhage. She is in a coma. But she has not lost any of her shakti. This was an attempt to cure her and bring back her shakti," he said.

"We went to purify the place, just like we do a pooja for grihapravesh before we enter a new house," he said.

"If pressure is created, we can all go there and a balance will be created, and there can be peace. Otherwise, our history will disappear and the roots will be lost forever," he said, expressing his disappointment that the "Surya dhvaj" — the flag hoisted by the pilgrims — had been taken off as soon as they left.

Rudranath said officials had tried to turn them away at the entrance itself, but the group stood its ground. "Our prayers were held inside the temple," he said, adding that he would return to hold a "yagna".

Rajeev Sharma, a participant, said the group comprised 101 Brahmins, mostly from UP and Rajasthan.

Steeplechase

Gopal Saini's 37-year-old mark. He holds the national half marathon record too.

Friday's run at The Sound Running meet was exceptional because it was only his second competitive race in 5,000 metres.

"I see him going faster and breaking more records. All these years, I wanted someone to go faster than me. It is not good for athletics in a country if a record stands for 30 years. I want to congratulate Sable and tell him to dream big. I think he is an exceptional athlete," said Prasad, a Railways sports official posted in Varanasi.

The oldest athletics record in India is Shivnath Singh's 1978 mark in the marathon, a road race. Prasad, now 56, had broken Raj Kumar Ahlawat's 10-year-old record when he clocked 13:29.70 in Birmingham in 1992. Like Sable, Prasad was also on a record-breaking spree then. In less than three weeks in the UK, he rewrote three more national records — the 3,000 metres twice and the 1,500 metres.

Sable's growth in athletics has been extraordinary. Till about seven years ago, he was posted as a havildar with the Army in Siachen. From the frigid cold, he was transferred to a small cantonment in the desert town of Lalgarh Jattan, near the Pakistan border in Rajasthan. The boy who walked 12 kilometres, to get to school and back, got his lucky break when he was selected to join a training group for a cross-country race organised by the Army.

From a chance selection to becoming the country's best track athlete with three national records in his name, Sable has made rapid strides. The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) wanted him to run both the 3,000 metres steeplechase and the 5,000 metres at the now-postponed Asian Games in China.

"We wanted to field him in the steeplechase and the 5,000 metres because he was a medal prospect," chief national coach Radhakrishnan Nair said.

Aiming to bag podium finishes, Sable shifted to the high altitude Olympic training centre in Colorado Springs with India's long distance coach Scott Simmons, a former head track coach of the US army.

One of the drawbacks of training in India was the lack of a strong group of runners who Sable could compete against. At the Federation Cup in March, he won his first-ever 5,000 metres race and achieved a meet record.

For someone who was used to dominating the track at home, Friday was a different experience. Tokyo Olympics gold medal winner in the 1,500 metres, Jakob Ingebrigtsen of Norway, won the race with a timing of 13:02.03s. Sable trailed during the race before finding his rhythm and finishing 12th out of 23, ahead of Olympic bronze medalist in the 1,500 metres, Josh Kerr.

Coach Simmons said Sable was not fully prepared for the race. "He was nervous and had second thoughts, because he did not have much time to train and acclimatise to the conditions. But he did well, given the (lack) of preparation. This race was important for him. He defeated the Olympic bronze medalist, which is huge. He will get a lot more confident now," he said.

Prasad is hoping to hear more good news about Sable soon. "I held multiple records at one time and now I have none. It shows Indian athletes are making progress," he said.

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**Note:-** In order to take the maximum challans/notices in the Lok Adalat, it was decided that all compoundable notices till 31.01.2022 available on the Delhi traffic Police portal except Non Compoundable, Cognizance declined notices, Paid notices, Disposed off notices & those Challans which have been transferred to regular court/evening courts notices will be taken up in this Lok Adalat.

Considering Covid-19 protocol and maintain social distancing, only 1,200 challans/Notices in each Bench in all 120 Lok Adalats Benches shall be taken up for disposal, only 1,44,000 challans/Notices shall be disposed off on 14.05.2022, in all above court complexes.

All the notices/challans are to be downloaded by the Violators from Delhi Police Website and there will not be any facility of print out in the court complexes.

To download and take printout of the notices/challans log on to Delhi Police Website <https://delhitrafficpolice.nic.in/notice/lokadalat>

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VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS  
**25,334**



PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: **212**  
OXYGEN SUPPORT **57**  
VENTILATOR SUPPORT **4**

DELHI TOTAL  
CASES  
**18,92,832**

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	9,590	9,387
ICU BEDS	2,239	2,181

Total active cases in Delhi

	May 6	May 7
Cases	160	134
Deaths	0	0

Total active cases in Delhi

## BRIEFLY

### BJP protests outside CM residence

New Delhi: Delhi BJP leaders staged a protest outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence in Civil Lines Saturday, condemning Tajinder Bagga's arrest. State BJP chief Adesh Gupta, who was at the protest, alleged that with Bagga's arrest, it was clear that the AAP national convener had misused the Punjab Police for his personal benefit. "What was Bagga's crime? He just sought Kejriwal's clarification on his remarks on (The Kashmir Files). He was not allowed to wear his turban during the arrest. BJP will not tolerate the insult to the turban," said Gupta.

### Girl found dead, juvenile apprehended

Gurgaon: A juvenile was apprehended for allegedly murdering a minor girl in Gurgaon, police said Saturday. According to police, the incident took place around 9.30 pm on Friday. In the FIR, the girl's father said that after he returned from work around 9 pm, his daughter took Rs 10 from him and went to a nearby shop to buy a fruit drink but didn't return. The father, in the FIR, said, "I went looking for her. I saw that a neighbour was bringing her on his shoulders and she was soaked in blood..." The girl was rushed to a hospital by her family and then referred to another hospital, where she died. Gurgaon Police spokesperson Subash Boken said: "The juvenile was apprehended and all legal formalities are being conducted."

### Man beaten to death

New Delhi: A 20-year-old man was beaten to death allegedly by a group of over 10 people who suspected he was an informer. DCP Shankar Chaudhary said the incident took place on April 23 and they arrested five men and apprehended four juveniles. Police said three persons, including two minors, are yet to be nabbed. **ENS**

## HIGHWAY DRAMA OVER BJP LEADER'S ARREST

# Delhi Police forcibly took Bagga away: Punjab Police in DD entry



Bagga greets his father on his return home on Friday night. Praveen Khanna

**MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

MULTIPLE DAILY diary (DD) entries were filed by the Punjab Police at Sadar Thanesar police station in Haryana's Kurukshetra, in which they have alleged they were forcibly stopped by the Haryana Police around 10.40 am, held hostage for around five hours, before the Delhi Police forcibly took Delhi BJP spokesperson Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga from their custody, it is learnt.

The Haryana Police, on the other hand, mentioned in a DD entry that Delhi Police showed all legal documents and took Bagga's custody after taking consent from the Punjab Police.

Sources said that Janakpuri police station in Delhi, near Bagga's home, first received a PCR call at 9.10 am in which his father, Preetpal Singh Bagga, said that some people from Punjab Police had come and abducted Bagga. "Another PCR call was received at 9.29 am from a police personnel, who said he is posted with the Punjab Police and that he had come with his Deputy SP

to Janakpuri police station to make a DD entry regarding Bagga's arrest," a senior police officer said.

An officer said that after the arrival of Punjab Police at Janakpuri police station, officers from Delhi came to know that another team had already picked up Bagga from his house and they were heading to Mohali. "Information of his arrest was immediately shared with senior officers at Delhi Police headquarters, but initially there was no clarity on the next step, and Punjab Police was already on the way. A message was then conveyed from the top brass to intervene since Bagga's father had also filed a kidnapping complaint, and a message from the control line was flashed at 9.42 am for the Punjab team to be stopped," the officer said.

Sources told *The Indian Express* that the Haryana Police filed a first DD entry at 10.40 am, mentioning that they had stopped the vehicles of Punjab Police at Khanpur Kolian village after receiving a message from the Delhi Police. "In another DD entry filed at 12.40 pm, they mentioned that they took the

team and Bagga to Sadar Thanesar police station, and filed another DD entry at 2.40 pm after a team of the Delhi Police arrived," a source said.

"As per the third DD entry, filed at 3.30 pm, the Haryana Police stated that a team of Delhi Police had arrived and showed legal documents, including a search warrant issued by a Delhi court to SHO Janakpuri, to locate Bagga," the source said.

At 4.24 pm, an Additional DG-rank officer of the Punjab Police arrived at the police station and the Punjab Police filed a DD entry at 5 pm. "They stated that they were stopped by Haryana Police for around two hours without being provided any information. They also stated that they were held hostage, and without their consent, Bagga was taken away forcibly by the Delhi Police," the source said.

Meanwhile, Delhi Police has deployed two personnel outside Bagga's Janakpuri residence. "We have been asked by a Delhi court... and Bagga has expressed apprehensions over his safety and security. We will make necessary security arrangements," said a senior police officer.

## Behind complaint against Bagga, an AAP dentist: 'Could not stand remarks'

**DEEP SINGH**  
MOHALI, MAY 7

DR SUNNY Ahluwalia, who is the complainant against Delhi BJP spokesperson Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, is an AAP activist and a dentist based in Punjab's Mohali. The AAP in-charge of Anandpur Sahib parliamentary constituency, Ahluwalia has held various posts in the party's Punjab unit.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Ahluwalia said he had joined the party in 2016 and has since remained its active member. He said he was the AAP in-charge of Mohali prior to 2021 and has also remained the Punjab AAP's state secretary. He did his post-graduation in dentistry in 2000 after which he had started his practice as a dentist in Mohali. He currently runs his clinic in Mohali's Sector 69, and is a specialist in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Justifying the Punjab cops' bid to arrest Bagga based on his complaint, Ahluwalia said Bagga was "controversial, an attention-seeker" and a "trouble-maker", and that police of the AAP-ruled Punjab were merely doing its "lawful duty". "However, the way Haryana Police waylaid the Punjab Police team at Kurukshetra while they were taking Bagga to Mohali, and then handed over the latter to Delhi Police is very unfortunate," he said.

Rejecting allegations levelled by the BJP, which rules the Centre and Haryana, that the FIR against Bagga was a "political

vendetta", Ahluwalia said he had filed the complaint with the Punjab Police's Cyber Cell after he saw the Delhi BJP leader's "inflammatory tweets" against AAP national convener and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal. An FIR was lodged against Bagga in the case under various IPC sections on April 1.

"What is political in this; Bagga had been booked for the inflammatory posts he had posted, such posts could hurt religious sentiments among communities. You just see his record — he was also behind the planning of the attack on Kejriwal's residence," Ahluwalia alleged. He said people like Bagga should be booked as they are allegedly a "threat to communal harmony".

Ahluwalia said he was inspired by Kejriwal to join politics and the AAP: "He has all along been promising to bring a change from the traditional corruption-ridden system of politics. I was impressed with all the good words Delhi people, be it a cab driver or a common man on the street, would say about him. I also liked the fact that he didn't look or behave like a typical नेता."

Maintaining that his complaint against Bagga was a "spontaneous outpouring" of his anger against him, Ahluwalia said, "No one goaded me to lodge this complaint, least of all my party. But I couldn't suffer Bagga and his remarks any longer. How can he say things like 'hum Kejriwal ko jeene nahi denge (we'll not let Kejriwal live)'?"

### FILES APPLICATION IN HC

## Preserve footage at Delhi, Haryana stations: Punjab cops

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 7

THE PUNJAB Police has filed an application before the Punjab and Haryana High Court seeking directions to preserve CCTV footage from Janakpuri police station in Delhi and Sadar Thanesar police station in Haryana's Kurukshetra.

This comes a day after the Punjab government filed a habeas corpus petition in the HC

challenging the alleged detention of its police officers in Haryana and Delhi while they were undertaking an operation to arrest BJP leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga. In response, both Haryana and Delhi filed affidavits stating that they had not detained any Punjab Police officer.

The matter came up for hearing on Saturday before the bench of Justice Gurbinder Singh Gill, who ordered to list the matter for hearing on May 10. This came af-

ter Additional Solicitor General of India Satya Pal Jain, who is representing the Delhi Police in the matter, sought more time to file a reply. The bench said in the order: "Status report/reply to be filed on or before the next date of hearing."

The Punjab government also sought to implead the Delhi Police Commissioner and Centre as respondents in the case.

The application filed by the Punjab Police Saturday states that footage from both police stations

needs to be preserved, and produced before the court, for a correct decision in the present case.

Apart from the Punjab government's habeas corpus petition, the High Court will on May 10 also hear a petition by Bagga that seeks quashing of the FIR against him.

The April 1 FIR against Bagga is based on a complaint by Dr Sunny Singh Ahluwalia, AAP Punjab spokesperson and party in-charge of Anandpur Sahib

Lok Sabha constituency. The FIR quotes Ahluwalia as saying that comments made by Bagga in the media and on Twitter amounted to "criminal intimidation... to cause violence... imminent hurt to Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP leaders in a pre-designed, well planned, orchestrated manner". Sections invoked against him include IPC 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

## Private university professor suspended over exam question

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

A PROFESSOR at Sharda University in Greater Noida has been suspended in connection with an examination question that appeared in the first-year BA (Hons) Political Science paper. In the paper, on a subject titled Political Ideologies, question 6 from section B read, "Do you find any similarities between Fascism/Nazism and Hindu right-wing (Hindutva)? Elaborate with the argument."

As photos of the paper spread online, college authorities took cognizance of the incident and took action against the faculty.

"While the university has constituted a three-member committee of senior faculty members to look into the possibility of bias in the questions asked from the 1st year BA Political Science (Hons) students, pending this inquiry, the university has suspended the faculty concerned. The university regrets that such an incident has taken place that may have the potential for fomenting social discord," a statement issued by the

university on Friday read.

The authorities further stated that they are "totally averse to any line of thought which distorts the great national identity and the inclusive culture inherent in our national ethos".

On Saturday afternoon, the three-member faculty met following which the decision was taken to send a show-cause notice to the professor. The university further added that the specific question was found prima-facie "objectionable" and that it will be ignored by examiners for the purpose of awarding marks.



## EXAM FEVER

Students step out after appearing for the CBSE board exam. Amit Mehra

### SLIPPED FROM A CLIFF AND FELL, SAYS FATHER

## He studied law but chose to join Army: Kin of Major who died in Uri

**ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

MAJOR RAGHUNATH Ahlawat (34) who died in Uri, Baramulla, on Thursday, was laid to rest at the Brar Square crematorium in Delhi Cantonment on Saturday. He was part of the 3 PARA (Special Forces) unit and had joined the Indian Army in 2012. His family is from Dwarka. He was to soon take up the

Defence Services Technical Staff Course, said his father, Brigadier DS Ahlawat, who retired from the Jat Regiment of the Indian Army. The course is at the Military Institute of Technology, Pune.

"In another 15 days, he would have been out... He had an accidental fall and sustained injuries. There was a very narrow track leading over a cliff and he slipped there. This was close to the Line of Control and he was part of a military operation that was be-

ing carried out there. His mortal remains were brought back to Delhi on Friday by a special Air Force aircraft from Srinagar," Brigadier Ahlawat said.

Raghunath was the fourth generation in the family to be associated with the Army, his father said. He studied at the Army Institute of Law in Mohali before joining the Army. "He had the option of going to the corporate side. He asked me which way do I go? He was an outdoorsy per-



son and went on to join the Army," Ahlawat said.

"Since I was in the Jat regiment, he had the option to join it. But he wanted to join the Special Forces, which is very tough to clear. He cleared probation and was very happy with the group."

Major Raghunath Ahlawat was laid to rest at the Brar Square crematorium in Delhi Cantonment, Saturday.

Raghunath was also an instructor at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh, and was a trained underwater diver, according to an officer who worked closely with him and did not want to be identified. "After being an instructor, he came back to the unit last year. He was terrific and was a team leader. He could have gone on to be a lawyer, but he chose to join the Special Forces," the officer said.

Raghunath is survived by his mother Dhara Ahlawat, and Squadron Leader Vinny Malik, his wife. "He was very good at making friends. We knew all his classmates and unit officers by name, though we have not met most of them till today. In fact, the pilot who brought him back from Srinagar was also a classmate of his at the Army Law Institute. We knew his friends by their nicknames," said Ahlawat, who individually greeted all the

officers who were at the funeral.

"The last time we spoke to him was 3-4 days ago. His mother would pray every day for him and text him the *Ram Naam*. When the message did not get delivered that morning, she got uncomfortable. We got to know of his death at 5 pm that evening," he said.

Raghunath's close friends from the Army Institute of Law were also at the funeral and spoke of him as being a "gem of a person".

## Delhi Police said no hate speech at Hindu Yuva Vahini event, now file FIR

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

WITH THE Supreme Court asking it to have a relook at the affidavit that ruled out any hate speech at an event organised by the Hindu Yuva Vahini in Delhi in December last year, the Delhi Police has now told the top court that it has registered a case after examining a video of the event.

"It is submitted that all links given in the complaint and other material available in public domain were analysed. One video containing audio and video recording of the... programme was found uploaded on YouTube. After further minute verification of the material, FIR No. 0406 dated 04.05.2022 has been registered at police station Okhla Industrial Area, Southeast (Delhi) district for offences under section 153A, 295A, 298 and 34 of the IPC," the Delhi Police said in an additional affidavit filed in court Friday.

The brief affidavit also states that "investigation will be carried out in accordance with law".

Earlier, a petition had sought a probe into the 'dharam sansad' held in Haridwar as well as Delhi, in response to which the Delhi Police filed an initial affidavit ruling out hate speech. Taking up the affidavit on April 22, the Supreme Court asked if any senior police officer had applied their mind to it or had only reproduced the report of the investigation carried out by a sub-inspector of Okhla police station.

"Some superior officer has seen it? Who has verified it? Has there been application of mind as to if this stand can be taken on affidavit before the court?" Justice A M Khanwilkar asked Additional Solicitor General KM Nataraj, who appeared for the Delhi Police. Nataraj responded that "we will have a relook and file a fresh affidavit".

Following this, the bench permitted the Delhi police to file "a better affidavit".

In its initial affidavit, police

said that it had investigated the complaints about the Delhi event and that "no hate was expressed in the events at Delhi against group, community, ethnicity, religion or faith".

Police said it had received three complaints alleging that open calls were made for genocide of Muslims with the object of achieving ethnic cleansing. The complaints also referred to a speech by Suresh Chavhanke, editor of Sudarshan News, and claimed that it contained instances of what can be termed hate speech.

"All the... complaints were consolidated and enquiry was initiated" on them, it said, adding: "After that deep enquiry was conducted, evaluation of video, etc, then the answering respondent did not find any substance in the video as per allegation levelled by the complainants. In the video clip of Delhi incident, there is no utterance against any particular section, community..." the affidavit said.

It added that the police, "after carrying out preliminary enquiry on the aforesaid complaints, and after examining video link and attached video in respect of hate speech delivered at Delhi, found that no such words as mentioned by the complainant in his complaint have been used. There is no use of such words which mean or could be interpreted as 'open calls for genocide of Muslims in order to ethnic cleansing or open call for murder of an entire community' in the speech".

Police further said that "findings of inquiry after visual and audio examination of evidence further disclose that speech did not contain any hate words against a particular community, and persons who gathered were there with the motive to save the ethics of their community" and that "in view thereof, the complaints were closed vide enquiry report dated 13.03.2022".

The court will hear the matter again on May 9.

## Inform us of illegal Bangladeshi, Rohingya settlements: Delhi BJP

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE DELHI BJP Saturday asked residents to alert it about Rohingya and Bangladeshi 'living illegally' in their neighbourhood or any part of the city, so it can initiate 'bulldozer action' against them.

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta alleged that around 5 lakh Rohingyas and Bangladeshis live across the city. "Bulldozer action should be taken wherever these people have captured our lands illegally. No nationalist, *deshbhakt* or any person belonging to any religion will be harmed, but we should not let outsiders live in our country," said Gupta, adding, "*Bulldozer chalana padega to chalayenge*."

"I appeal to all members of the BJP and residents to come forward and inform us about Rohingya and Bangladeshi living near your area. The MCD will take immediate action against these encroached settlements



State BJP head Adesh Gupta said the MCD will take immediate action

and establishments. We will also seek help from the Delhi Police for their intervention and action against them," said Gupta.

He also alleged that Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia recently held a meeting with all MLAs and directed them to provide security, housing, Aadhaar card, water and electricity connection, ration and other facilities to Rohingyas and Bangladeshis in their constituencies for "vested interests".

The Aam Aadmi Party did not respond to calls and messages seeking comment.

**DELHI GOVT NOD TO STAY OPEN TILL 3 AM**

# Battered by pandemic, bars, restaurants hail move to extend hours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

WELCOMING THE Delhi government's decision to allow restaurants and pubs serving liquor to stay open till 3 am, those in the industry said it will help them recover the losses their businesses have faced due to the pandemic. Currently, restaurants can stay open till 12 am and pubs till 1 am.

While a formal order has not been issued as of now, officials said it will likely be out soon. The new timings will come into force once other departments and stakeholders come on board, and an order is issued for operating hours, said officials. The government is also coordinating with agencies concerned, like the Delhi Police, to implement the new timings.

Officials said it will help boost nightlife, create more jobs, and help the industry recover from losses they faced due to the lockdown and restrictions in the wake of the pandemic.

"As part of our policy of 'Ease of Doing Business' and to bring some cultural and nightlife activity in the national capital, which will further enhance employment opportunities, the Delhi government had approved the New Excise Policy in November 2021, allowing the operational timings of restaurants up to 3 am in consonance with the operational timings of NCR cities including Gurgaon and Noida. The final implementation is being coordinated with other agencies including Delhi Police," as per a note by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

Hailing the decision, Zorawar Kalra, the owner of Farzi Café, Massive Restaurants, said, "It will have a positive impact on the entire industry and the economy of the city as all stakeholders will benefit. The government benefits due to added tax and excise collections. The employees benefit due to added shifts requiring additional people. The customers benefit as they get vibrant nightlife and the freedom to dine at whatever time



Currently, restaurants can stay open till 12 am and pubs till 1 am. While a formal order has not been issued as of now, officials said it will likely be out soon. Archive

they choose. And the industry benefits due to the potential of added revenue."

Riyaaz Amlani, CEO of Impresario Handmade Restaurants, which runs enterprises like Social and Smoke House Deli, said the move would not only promote nightlife but also boost tourism. "I think it is a very welcome move and it has been in the pipeline for a while. We thank the Delhi government for pushing this through. This will not just mean immediate benefit of better business to a beleaguered industry, especially after Covid, but it will also give a tremendous leg up to tourism and make Delhi a much more attractive destination for people who want to stay," he said.

"Any city in the world which has fantastic tourism also has an amazing nightlife. The most visited cities in the world — whether it be New York, London, Dubai, Hong Kong — the one thing they all have in common is the nightlife," he added.

Rahul Singh, Founder and CEO of The Beer Café, said the move had been in the offing for some time and the decision to extend timings was necessary given the policies of the neighbouring states. "This is what the Excise Policy which came into effect on November 17, 2021, always had but it had not been implemented..." he said.

"The entire industry has been so battered during Covid. This is the only way to bounce back... A lot of people might say — what about law and order? There's 24x7 at the airports and railway stations, do you see a law-and-order problem there? The more people there are on the streets, the more vibrant it is. Law and order problems happen when there are no people on the streets, not the other way around," said Singh.

The extension of operating hours was mentioned in the new Delhi Excise Policy 2021. The policy also sought to lower the age for drinking from 25 to 21. However, the government and the excise department are yet to take a decision on the matter.

The note by Sisodia further directed the excise department to ensure restaurants don't face any harassment for operating till 3 am. "In the meantime, the Excise Department Delhi, for all practical purposes, to consider the closing time of restaurants as 3 am and no restaurateur will be subject to any harassment on account of operation up to 3 am," it read.

Representatives of the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) had met Sisodia at his office on Thursday and requested to implement the policy and allow restaurants and bars to stay open longer.

# Gurgaon liquor vends welcome policy to operate 24x7, call it 'game changer'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, MAY 7

AIMED TO boost revenue and counter competition from Delhi, liquor vends in urban areas in Gurgaon will have the flexibility to operate for 24 hours after paying an additional licence fee, as per the Haryana government's new excise policy.

The excise policy for 2022-23 passed on Friday states that any urban vend, which intends to operate beyond the stipulated time from 8 am to 12 am, can be allowed on payment of an additional licence fee. Officials said for an extension of four hours beyond the stipulated time, 25% of the vend's annual licence fee will have to be paid, and for an extension of eight hours, a payment of 50% of the same will be required.

Excise officials said the policy had been framed keeping in mind the cut-throat competition in neigh-

bouring states. Anurag Rastogi, ACS, Excise and Taxation Department, Haryana, said, "The demand had been raised by stakeholders. The new policy has been brought to facilitate ease of doing business and promote business activity and nightlife."

Jaiveer, the owner of Godara Wines, said the move will be a 'game changer' for retailers in Gurgaon, who had lost a lot of business to a price war set off by changes in Delhi's excise policy in recent months.

"Since November last year when Delhi's new excise policy came in and several liquor vends in Delhi offered discounts, Haryana's liquor vends have suffered substantial losses. Several retailers had to cut prices to compete with Delhi's vends. With this option of extending hours of sale through the night, a lot of business can come in from neighbouring cities."

Anil Pandey, the manager of

Discovery Wines, said, "The policy has just been announced. In the short run, we can expect a marginal increase in revenue and traffic towards Gurgaon. In the policy, VAT and excise duty have also been slashed, so liquor prices will reduce and revenue will be maximised."

Several retail vend owners said that the move for extending hours of sale at retail outlets in urban areas will also check the sale of spurious liquor in the district.

The excise policy also states that bars and pubs can now operate till 8 am, an extension of two hours from the previous policy. "The licenced bars can remain open up to 2 am in the state on a normal licence. The timings of these bar licences can be further extended up to 8 am on payment of an additional annual fee of Rs 20 lakh per annum," said V K Beniwal, deputy commissioner of excise and taxation, Gurgaon (East).

"Bars and retail vends can now have the flexibility to operate longer

after payment of additional fee," said Beniwal.

Earlier, in Gurgaon, Faridabad and Panchkula, bars were allowed to remain open till 1 am, with a one-hour extension on payment of an additional annual fee of Rs 10 lakh per annum. The timings of these bar licences could be further extended up to 6 am on payment of an additional annual fee of Rs 20 lakh.

Meanwhile, the policy has evoked mixed responses among bar owners.

Arvind Kumar, operating head of Chevron, a fine dining restaurant on Gurgaon-Faridabad road, said, "Overall, the provisions of the new policy are beneficial for the food and beverage industry and hospitality sectors. But, with the Delhi government planning to allow restaurants and pubs to remain open till 3 am, there will be a lot of competition. Only a few luxury clubs and pubs pay for the all-night licence. In a way, the bars will now be open 24 hours."



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# Nurturing mother and child

WE ARE all aware of the famous quote by Rudyard Kipling, "God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." So true and so authentic are these words.

As we all gear up to celebrate mother's day on 8th may this year, I would like to put forth a few thoughts which will enlighten us about the health of mothers prenatally, during pregnancy and postnatally, as well as highlight salient points to make the journey into motherhood safe.

The first time a new born is placed in her mother's arms is a moment of joy — a joy that every new mother should have the right to experience. With the right care, and guidance the experience, journey of being a mom can be a lifetime memory.

The theme for mother's day this year is 'the low status of a woman in her family and how she deserves to be the boss of the house'

In fact an International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo way back in 1994 reiterated that 'The role of women as primary custodians of family health should be recognized and supported'.

Women's health status, like the health status of everyone, depends on a many socioeconomic and environmental factors.

**Maternal health:** Maternal health is an indicator of global health. A healthy mother can take on her educational responsibilities and fully participate in economic and social life.

**Maternal health and safe motherhood:**

A healthy child needs a healthy mother. Prenatal and post-delivery maternal health is important for a mother's physical and intellectual well-being and attributes to her ability to give loving, proper care to her child at birth and thereafter.

Mothers play an essential role in the health and the quality of life of their children, hence it is so



important to focus on maternal health during pregnancy

**What precautions should a lady take prior to planning a baby?**

■ The journey starts even before you plan to conceive! Preconception care helps women prepare for a healthy pregnancy, so as to decrease the risk of birth defects and other problems.

■ If you are planning a pregnancy, you should consult your doctor for all the relevant tests and investigations. This has become even more important now as work pressures and stresses of career fulfilment are increasing resulting in increased age at the time of conception. Your gynaecologist will ask for a few basic tests so that your journey into motherhood is safe and happy. Folic acid supplements should be added atleast 3 months prior to conception.

■ Preconception counselling of women's lives identifies factors like health and nutritional status of women and girls.

**Antenatal care:** It is important for expecting mothers to have regular prenatal visits not only to ensure the health of their unborn child, but their own health as well, both during and after pregnancy.

Prenatal care considers nutritional requirements of pregnant and lactating women, weight gain during pregnancy, mothers' age



*Speaking on Pre-conception, pregnancy and post delivery care*  
**Dr. Bandana Sodhi, MD, DNB Senior Consultant (Obstetrics & Gynaecology) Gyn Laparoscopic Surgeon, Delhi, Ex faculty AFMC, Pune, & Army Hospital (Research & Referral) has emphasised on holistic health care of women adding that awareness is essential for the well being of not only the women concerned but also the family and society as a whole.**

and number of children and interbirth interval, maternal nutritional status, anemia, work and women's health. It guides us to take remedial actions aimed at improving the health of pregnant women.

Any prevailing health risks can be identified and steps taken to prevent any ongoing health problems can be taken well in time to try and avert complications.

From regular check-ups to the labour delivery room, prenatal care augments the health of the mom to be and her baby. **Post natal care:** Pregnancy, and like lactation, generates metabolic changes and increases nutritional needs. A woman's health status and, most of all her nutritional status during pregnancy and delivery, condition her future health and ability to assume her many tasks as well as the development of her child. And once the baby arrives, post-partum care can help everyone stay healthy.

Making motherhood safer is critical to saving newborns. Research shows that a significant number of stillbirths and neonatal deaths could be prevented if all women were adequately nourished and received good quality care during pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period.<sup>3</sup>

**Don't Overlook Your Maternal Health**

The health of women and children is vital to creating a healthy world. I would like to bring to notice of so many women in this world that regular health checks are so vital during pregnancy. World data informs us that every day, approximately 800 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth which are a result of complications during and following pregnancy and childbirth most are preventable or treatable. Other complications may exist before pregnancy but are worsened during pregnancy, especially if not managed as part of the woman's care. The major complications that account for all maternal mortality are:

■ severe bleeding (mostly bleeding after childbirth)

■ infections (usually after childbirth)

■ high blood pressure during pregnancy (pre-eclampsia and eclampsia)

■ complications from delivery

■ unsafe abortion.

Most are occurring in developing countries

**How to prevent maternal morbidity**  
All women need access to high quality care in pregnancy, and during and after childbirth. Maternal health and new born health are closely linked.

All moms to be should therefore understand the importance of regular prenatal and antenatal visits and regular check-ups and delivery under a skilled health care provider.

**Role of family:** The physical, emotional, and financial health of women and mothers in particular linked to the support of the family structure as well especially in our country. Fathers, too, play a key role in the entire journey.

**Role of policy makers:** their role ensures universal health coverage for comprehensive reproductive, maternal, and newborn health care, by providing access to health care services; and improve quality of care and equity.

**Conclusion**

Anna Jarvis successfully organized the first official Mother's Day celebration in May of 1908. We continue this tradition to this day. Motherhood has been never-ending task. It starts from giving them their first morsel to eat, listening to their child's first tantrum, helping them through their first heartbreak, and being there for them whenever they need her. Mother's Day celebrates the most generous and astonishing people who pour sunshine into our days!

In conclusion I would like to say **'A mother's love is the sun for growing, the moon for dreaming, the stars for guiding the way.'**

Wishing all mothers to be and all moms a happy mother's day!

Issued in Public Interest by Dr Bandana Sodhi

# 6 GOVT & POLITICS

LPG cylinder cost up by Rs 50, second time in two months

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE PRICE of LPG was hiked by Rs 50 per cylinder on Saturday in the second such move in as many months amid high international crude oil prices. Oil marketing companies (OMCs) hiked the price of a 14.2-kg LPG cylinder to Rs 999.5 in Delhi, up from Rs 949.5 previously. The OMCs had last hiked the price of LPG by Rs 50 per cylinder on March 22.

The price of LPG is linked with international prices of LPG, which have been rising as a result of supply concerns due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The price of LPG has been rising consistently since November 2020 with the price of a 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi rising by Rs 405 or nearly 70 per cent during the period.

A steady increase in crude oil prices due to a recovery in demand post-Covid related restrictions, slow restoration of crude oil production by oil-exporting countries and the Russia-Ukraine conflict have contributed to the rising LPG prices.

The rise in prices has come at a time when subsidies on cooking gas have been removed for most consumers. In May 2020, the government halted subsidies on LPG cylinders through its direct benefit transfer scheme to all consumers barring customers in remote areas who face high inland freight costs from ports to bottling plants.

Over 70 per cent of Indian households used LPG as their primary cooking fuel and 85 per cent had LPG connections in March 2020, according to study by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).

Households that continue to use traditional fuels such as firewood, charcoal and agriculture residues along with LPG have cited the high cost of LPG as a key reason for continuing the use of these fuels.

## Karnataka: Cong top Udipi leader switches to BJP

KIRAN PARASHAR  
BENGALURU, MAY 7

IN A JOLT to the Congress in Karnataka, one of its former state in Karnataka and former MLA, Pramod Madhwaraj, joined BJP, along with several senior leaders, on Saturday.

Among other senior Congress leaders who joined the ruling party are former MLC Sandesh Nagaraj, former state minister Varthar Prakash, former party MP K B Krishnamurthy, former MLA Manjunath Gowda, former IRS officer Lakshmi Ashwini Gowda, and Congress leader from Mandya Ashok Jayaram.

While Congress will now have to hunt for fresh faces in Udipi, BJP will face the challenge to accommodate the new entrant with the existing MLA and aspiring leaders.

Madhwaraj's decision to join BJP has created a vacuum in Congress's Udipi district leadership. Madhwaraj's father, popularly known as Malpe Madhwaraj, and mother Manorama Madhwaraj were both MLAs.

Among the leaders who have joined BJP, Madhwaraj and two-time Independent MLA Varthar Prakash were said to be in the camp of former Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah. Their exit indicates the divide between Siddaramaiah and state Congress chief D K Shivakumar continues to exist.

According to a source, another party leader from the Siddaramaiah camp is all set to join Aam Aadmi Party.

A party worker who is Siddaramaiah's follower said, "There are only a few Congress leaders in Karnataka who are not said to be in either Shivakumar or Siddaramaiah camp. After Shivakumar took charge of state Congress, followers of Siddaramaiah are being ignored and a new set of leaders backed by Shivakumar are in the forefront."

Madhwaraj, who was a minister in the Siddaramaiah government, did not enjoy good rapport with Shivakumar, sources said.

## BJP hits president, V-P poll campaign trail; among first stops, Nitish Kumar

LIZ MATHEW & SANTOSH SINGH  
NEW DELHI, PATNA, MAY 7

LOOKING to secure as many votes as it can for the presidential and vice-presidential elections, which it is expected to easily win, the BJP has started reaching out to friendly parties. Among the first stops was JD(U) leader and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna, with Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan calling on him Thursday evening.

The hush-hush meeting was significant, as a placatory gesture towards Nitish at a time when there is talk of growing distance between the JD(U) and BJP – encouraged by both sides – as well as talk that the veteran Bihar leader would be phased out of the state into a Central position, including as vice-president of the country.

"Not even the state unit was informed about Pradhan's almost



Dharmendra Pradhan had met Nitish Kumar on Thursday.

two-hour meeting with the CM. We have been told it was part of BJP efforts to meet friendly CMs to ensure their support for the presidential and vice-presidential elections," a source in the Bihar BJP said.

While the NDA is comfortably placed for both the elections, Opposition parties have indicated their intention to put up joint candidates. Nitish has supported presidential candidates fielded by rival parties earlier. In 2012, he had supported the Opposition's Pranab Mukherjee for President, despite being a part of the NDA at



the time. In 2017, when he was in the Grand Alliance with the RJD and Congress, he chose to support the NDA candidate for President, Ram Nath Kovind, instead of Opposition's Meira Kumar.

Sources said the decision to send Pradhan for a one-to-one discussion with Nitish was taken after consultations between Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP chief J P Nadda.

Among others the BJP is reaching out to are the BJD and YSR Congress Party, with sources in the two parties saying they were

inclined to vote with the BJP. "The top leadership is expected to send senior ministers to their CMs in the coming days," a leader said.

MPs in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha vote in the vice-presidential election, which is due in August, and the BJP-led NDA has a clear edge in Parliament.

The electoral college for the presidential election, to be held in July, consists of the 776 MPs of the Lok Sabha (543) and Rajya Sabha (233), as well as MLAs of state Assemblies and the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry. The total votes are counted on the basis of their value, which varies from state to state, with an Uttar Pradesh MLA carrying the highest value followed by Maharashtra and West Bengal.

The recent Assembly elections, in which the BJP put up a spectacular performance in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa, have cemented the BJP's edge in the presidential elections. On Bihar, BJP sources said the

central leadership has been unhappy about the reports emerging from the state. "The national leadership does not want state BJP leaders to create an impression that the BJP is desperate to replace Nitish with another face. The leadership is in no mood for changes till the Lok Sabha elections," a senior party leader said.

He pointed out that Pradhan's visit came soon after hints from Nitish's camp that Union minister Bhupendra Yadav was pitching fellow BJP leader Nityanand Rai as possible Bihar CM. Recently, Rai, the MP from Ujjaypur and Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, hosted lunch and dinner parties over three days for BJP leaders, ministers and journalists.

AJD(U) leader said that the BJP appears to be trying to quash talk that something was cooking. "Pradhan was carrying a message from Delhi for its ally. Probably a message from J P Nadda regarding the vice-president and president elections," the leader said.

## JHARKHAND MINING LEASE ROW

### PIL aims to 'destabilise govt', Soren tells HC

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
RANCHI, MAY 7

STATING THAT his act of obtaining a mining lease "does not entail his disqualification as an MLA", Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren in an affidavit before Jharkhand High Court has stated that the petition has been "caused" to "destabilise the democratically elected government".

This is for the first time that Soren has come on record to explain his stand in the mining lease controversy, in which he has been served a notice by the Election Commission of India (EC).

A petition was filed in February by Shiv Shankar Sharma on granting of stone chips mining lease to Soren in Ranchi last year. The petitioner had moved HC for an "appropriate direction to prosecute the chief minister", stating that Soren had allegedly "misused his office" in getting the mining lease in his own name.

Soren holds the mining and environment portfolio.

Hearing the matter for the first time, a bench of Chief Justice Ravi Ranjan and Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad had, on April 8, said that it was a "serious matter" and had issued a notice to Soren.

## ED RAIDS

### JMM, BJP trade barbs

Ranchi: Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), one of the ruling alliances in Jharkhand, on Saturday released a document showing a purported "clean chit" given to Jharkhand cadre IAS officer Pooja Singhal during former CM Raghubar Das's tenure on same allegations on which the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raids in various places linked to her.

Raids were conducted on Friday at 18 locations in four states, including premises linked to state Mining Secretary Singhal, as part of ED's probe in a case of money laundering involving alleged diversion of MGNREGA funds between 2006 and 2010 in Khunti district.

In an affidavit filed before the court on Friday, Soren said: "... my act of obtaining a mining lease does not entail my disqualification as a member of the Legislative Assembly under any law... The writ petition has been filed out of personal animosity and at the behest of my political rivals with the ulterior motive and malafide intent of maligning me and destabilising the government..."

Soren stated a mere comparison of the allegations in the petition submitted by BJP and the present writ petition would show "both are similar...handiwork of the same person".

Clearing the air around the lease, Soren stated in the affidavit: "The mining lease was granted to me for a period of 10 years on May 17, 2008. I had applied for renewal of this lease in 2018 but the application lapsed. When the DC of the district (Ranchi) invited a fresh application for the said mining lease sometime in 2021, I applied to his office. The lease was granted and I duly prescribed the procedure. Consent to Operate of the subject mining lease was not obtained and on February 4, I had applied for surrender of the subject lease before commencing any extraction."



Sourav Ganguly with TMC leader and state minister Firhad Hakim in Kolkata on Saturday. Express

## Day after Shah dinner, Ganguly says Mamata 'very close' to him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, MAY 7

A DAY after Union Home Minister Amit Shah had dinner at his Kolkata residence, BCCI president Sourav Ganguly on Saturday said that West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is "very close" to him and she was always there whenever he needed any help.

Speaking on the sidelines of the inauguration of a private hospital in the city which was attended by state minister and Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim, the former Team India skipper said,

"Even Bobby da (Hakim) has always responded to me whenever I call him. I don't need to say it again but he is always available for the people. He helps people all the time."

Sourav's wife Dona Ganguly, who was also present on the occasion, said, "It (Mamata's) was a courtesy visit. There was no political discussion. If something happens then people will get to know about it. I don't know whether Sourav will join politics. But if he does, he will definitely work for people. He does a lot of work for the people even now." During his visit to Ganguly's

house, Shah, whose whose son Jay Shah is honorary secretary in the BCCI, was accompanied by BJP leaders Amit Malviya, Swapan Dasgupta, state party president Sukanta Majumdar and Leader of Opposition in Assembly Suvendu Adhikari.

Ganguly has always been liked by political leaders cutting across political parties. He was also close to former West Bengal CM Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee.

Also, before the 2021 state Assembly elections, there were rumours that he may be BJP's chief ministerial face but that did not happen.

## DELIMITATION PANEL FOR J&K

### 2 seats for Kashmiri Migrants, nominations for PoJK displaced

ARUN SHARMA  
JAMMU, MAY 7

IN TWO significant recommendations, the Delimitation Commission has asked the Central government to reserve two seats for Kashmiri Migrants (essentially Pandits) as well as nominate representatives of people displaced from Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and settled in J&K, in the Assembly of the Union Territory.

While there was no official provision for reservation for Kashmiri Pandits in the Assembly

of the erstwhile J&K state, parties would ensure that at least one or two members from the community got elected to the House, including from the Muslim-majority Valley, or nominated them.

In the case of those displaced from PoJK though, that was not the case. Instead, 24 seats meant to represent areas under Pakistani occupation were frozen in the outgoing Assembly.

In the new Assembly, the panel has said, these seats should continue to be set aside, but some representatives of people who moved here from PoJK should be nominated to the House.

Of the two members from the Kashmiri Migrants community to be nominated to the House, the panel has said that at least one should be a woman. They would enjoy powers at par with those of nominated members in the Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory of Puducherry.

The demand for more representation for them in the Assembly has been a long-standing one among the PoJK displaced. Unlike migrant Pandits who can vote for the Assembly constituencies where they are registered from wherever they currently reside, the PoJK displaced vote for

## 30% women in India subjected to physical, sexual violence: NFHS

ESHA ROY  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

NEARLY ONE-THIRD of women in India have experienced physical or sexual violence, finds the National Family Health Survey-5 report. While domestic violence against women has declined from 31.2% to 29.3% in the country, 30% women between the age of 18 and 49 have experienced physical violence since the age of 15 years, while 6% have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, finds the report that was released by Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandviya on Thursday.

Only 14% of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by anyone have brought the issue up.

The NFHS-5 points out that a more granular comparison between NFHS-4 and 5 was not possible since "... the NFHS-4 covered women in the 15-49 age group. NFHS-5 dealt with women in the 18-49 age bracket".

The survey finds that 32% of married women (18-49 years) have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence. The most common type of spousal violence is physical violence (28%), followed by emotional violence and sexual violence.

As opposed to this, only 4% men face domestic violence cases in the country.

Domestic violence against women is highest in Karnataka at 48%, followed by Bihar,

Telangana, Manipur and Tamil Nadu. Lakshadweep has the least domestic violence at 2.1%.

The experience of physical violence is more common among women in rural areas (32%) as compared to their counterparts in urban areas (24%) and a woman's experience of violence declines sharply with increased schooling and wealth – both for the female victim, as well as the male perpetrator.

The survey says, 40% women with no schooling are subject to physical violence compared to 18% who completed their schooling. The experience of physical violence ranges between 39% among women in the lowest wealth quintile and 17% in the highest wealth quintile.

In over 80% cases of physical violence against women, the perpetrator is the husband.

Husbands who have completed 12 or more years of schooling are half as likely (21%) to commit physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence as those with no schooling (43%). "Experience of spousal physical or sexual violence varies greatly with the level of the husband's alcohol consumption. 70% of women whose husbands often get drunk have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence, compared with 23% of those whose husbands do not drink," says the report.

The report finds that women in the 40-49 age bracket experience more violence than those in the 18-19 category.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## THRIKKAKARA BY POLL

### CPI(M) faces flak for announcing nominee on church-linked premises

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
MAY 7

THE INTRODUCTION of a CPI(M) candidate for the by-election at Thrikkakara seat in Kerala in the presence of Catholic priests on the premises of a church-run hospital has snowballed into a controversy for the Left.

On Thursday, the CPI(M) announced its candidate, Dr Jo Joseph, at Lisie Hospital in Kochi, where he works as a cardiologist. While Dr Joseph explained his Left leanings, he was flanked by Catholic priests and senior CPI(M) leaders, including P Rajeev, a minister.

CPI(M) leaders, their candi-

date and Catholic priests in a single frame before the media triggered an uneasy debate that CPI(M) is sending a message that its candidate has the backing of the church.

As involvement of church head Cardinal George Alencherry in fixing the CPI(M) candidate was alleged, the church came out with a clarification: "The bad intention behind the allegation could be understood," said the church media commission in an official release.

Opposition leader V D Satheesan said the CPI(M) has dragged the church to the election controversy. "There was an attempt on the part of CPI(M) to project its candidate as a church nominee," he said.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Just govt grants too limiting, Sanskrit varsities open to offer varied courses

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

FROM HOSPITALITY studies to yoga, two years after Parliament cleared Bills elevating three higher educational institutions teaching Sanskrit to the level of central universities, an exercise has been launched to modernise Sanskrit education by expanding the basket of courses on offer.

Sources involved in the process said most higher educational institutions offering conventional courses on Sanskrit are finding it difficult to sustain themselves purely based on grants received from the government at the level of the Centre and states. The move is also in tune with

the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, which recommends that Sanskrit universities move towards becoming "large multidisciplinary institutions of higher learning".

"The vision is grand but there has been very little progress on that front so far," a source said. The effort to persuade colleges and universities to shed their "compartmentalised approach" was initiated on Saturday, with heads of three central and state universities offering courses on Sanskrit coming together for a three-day consultation in Delhi.

Day One had BJP president J P Nadda and chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council Bibek Debroy in attendance. On Monday, Education



Central Sanskrit University V-C Shrinivasa Varakhedi lights lamp on Saturday in Nadda, Debroy's presence. Amit Mehra

Minister Dharmendra Pradhan will address the conclave. Prof Shrinivasa Varakhedi, vice-chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, Delhi, said: "Sanskrit students need to have many

openings. They need not be limited to *puja-path* and teaching positions. For instance, every prominent hotel needs individuals with multiple skills. A Sanskrit student can double as a

yoga instructor; as someone who can speak to guests about India's traditions, heritage, and local culture."

There are approximately 12,000 students enrolled in various campuses affiliated to Central Sanskrit University, Delhi. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, also in Delhi, has around 3,000 students, while around 2,500 students come under National Sanskrit University, Tirupati.

These universities offer undergraduate (or Shastri) and postgraduate (Aacharya) programmes.

As part of the programmes, English is taught compulsorily, along with a choice of elective from among Political Science, History, Economics, Sociology,

Hindi. "Most Sanskrit universities at the state level do not meet the standards set by UGC in terms of faculty strength or infrastructure to get funding," an official acknowledged, explaining the need for them to turn "self-sufficient".

The UGC's announcement to allow universities to offer dual-degree programmes from the next academic session has also provided a ray of hope to Sanskrit educators.

"At the consultation, we will also discuss how best we can utilise this opportunity to increase the number of students studying Sanskrit. For example, a student pursuing BA Music can pick up a course on saangeet shastra for more depth in academic curriculum," Varakhedi said.

EXPLAINED  
Bigger basket

BESIDES COURSES such as BSc Hospitality Studies, from the next academic year the central Sanskrit universities are likely to launch programmes on event management, holistic health, yoga, naturopathy, public administration, tourism and Sanskrit theatre, among others. Medium of instruction of the proposed courses will be Sanskrit, Hindi and English.



**A Milestone in the History of Karnataka**  
**Launch of**  
**National Level World Bank Assisted "REWARD" Program**  
**Uniform Branding Contest for FPO Products**  
**Inauguration of**  
**Centre of Excellence (CoE) under "REWARD" Program**



**Shri Narendra Modi**  
Hon'ble Prime Minister

**Date: 08-05-2022 | Time: 11.00 am**

**Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Government of Karnataka

**Venue: Dr Babu Rajendra Prasad International Convention Centre, GKVK, Bengaluru-560 065**



**Sri B.C. Patil, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister**  
in an Inaugural Function.

**Launch of National level**  
**World Bank Assisted**  
**"REWARD" Program**

**Sri Giriraj Singh**  
Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development and  
Panchayati Raj, Government of India

**Inauguration of Center of Excellence under**  
**"REWARD" Program &**  
**Launch of 100 Krishi Sanjeevini Vehicles**

**Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

Under World Bank Assisted **REWARD Program**, Land Resource Inventory (LRI) will be carried out to collect data for issuing LRI Cards comprising recommendations of site specific technologies for farmers to use at field level and establishment of Centre of Excellence on Science based **Watershed Management**.

Soil and Water conservation, Dry Land Horticulture, Agro-forestry and fodder development activities will be implemented in rainfed areas. Providing Livelihood means for landless Agri labourers, Strengthening of Farmer producer organisations, Study tour and training for farmers and such other constructive activities will be initiated under **PMKSY WDC-2.0**

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- Chief Minister Raitha Vidyanidhi - Rs. 261.17 crore Scholarship to 7,13,432 Students.
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- Implementation of Micro Irrigation, Farm Mechanization, Crop Insurance, Organic Farming and Secondary Agriculture Directorate.

To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental duty of every Indian



• **Implementation of REWARD Program in 21 Districts at a total cost of Rs. 600 cr.**  
• **PMKSY WDC-2.0 at a cost of Rs. 642.26 cr in 2.75 Lakh Ha of 57 Taluks.**

**Introductory speech**

**Sri B.C.Patil**  
Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka

**Presided by**

**Sri Krishna Byre Gowda**  
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Byatarayanapura Assembly Constituency

**Launch of Uniform Branding Contest for FPO Products**

**Kumari Shobha Karandlaje**  
Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Government of India

**Release of Documentary on "REWARD" Program**

**Sri Arun Kumar Sahoo**  
Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment, Government of Odisha

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**Sri N. Munirathna**  
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**Dr. K.C. Narayana Gowda**  
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**You are Cordially Invited**

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**Shivayogi C. Kalasad, IAS**  
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

In compliance with order passed by Hon'ble NGT on 20.05.2020 in the matter of O.A. No. 46/2018, N Jayasimha Vs Govt of NCT of Delhi, CPCB has framed "Guidelines for Environmental Management of Dairy Farms and Gaushalas". The guidelines framed by CPCB are available at the website of DPCC i.e., [dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in](https://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in)

The Dairy Farms & Gaushalas have been categorized as Orange and Green Category respectively based on the direction given by CPCB under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 on 10.07.2020.

The dairy farms and gaushalas are categorized as below:

S.NO.	ACTIVITY NAME	CONSENT CATEGORY
1.	Gaushala	Green
2.	Dairy Farm ( Upto 14 animals )	Green
3.	Dairy Farm ( 15 or more animals )	Orange

Therefore, all the dairy farms and gaushala owners in Delhi are hereby directed to immediately apply for Consent under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as per relevant category, to DPCC within 15 days from issue of this notice failing which further necessary action under relevant acts shall be initiated.

Member Secretary ( DPCC )

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**POSSESSION NOTICE**

Possession Notice for Immovable Properties of borrower by the Authorised Officer (For Immovable property)

Whereas Punjab National Bank/ the Authorized Officer/s of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice/s on the dates mentioned in the account calling upon the borrower to repay the amount as mentioned in the account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of said notice(s). The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred to him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned in the account. The borrower's/ guarantor's/ mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon.

Name of the Branch	Name of the Account/ Borrower	Name of the Owner of the property	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice Affixed	Amount outstanding as on date of demand notice	
SME Patna	M/s Bihar Spunj Pipes Private Limited Prop.: Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan S/o Shanichar Mahto & Smt. Anjana Devi W/o Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan A/c No.- 3891008700001612, 3891008700001676 & 3891001B00006396	1. Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan & Smt. Anjana Devi	1. Registered Mortgage of land at Mauza-Gauspur Izara, Rev. Thana No.-51, Anchal-Hajipur, PS-Sadar Hajipur, Distt.-Vaishali, Khata No.-538, Khesra No.-2362, Area-62.25 Decimal in the Name of Raj Kumar Chauhan & Anjana Devi, Boudry: North-Bihar Spunj Pvt. Ltd., South-Raj Kumar Chauhan & Others, East-Raj Kumar Chauhan, West-Village Road.	18.06.2021	04.05.2022	Rs. 4,13,18,950.66 (Rs. Four Crore Thirteen Lakh Eighteen Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty and Paise Sixty Six only)	
		2. Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan & Smt. Anjana Devi	2. Registered Mortgage of land at Mauza-Gauspur Izara, Rev. Thana No.-51, Anchal-Hajipur, PS-Sadar Hajipur, Distt.-Vaishali, Khata No.-538, Khesra No.-2362,2359,2360,2361, Area-40 Katha in the Name of Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan & Smt. Anjana Devi, Boudry: North-Raj Kumar Chauhan & Proposed Cold Storage, South-Nij, East-Nij, West-Gramin Sadak.				
		3. Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan	3. Registered Mortgage of land at Mauza-Shahjadpur Anderkila, Rev. Thana No.-177, Survey Ward No.-08, Anchal-Hajipur, PS-Town Hajipur, Distt.-Vaishali, Khata No.-254(N),554(O), Khesra No.-573(N), 716(O), Area-4 Katha 12 Dhoor in the name of Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan. Boudry: North-Public Road, South-Niz Vendor, East-Railway Hata, West-Niz Vendor.				
		4. Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan	4. Registered Mortgage of land at Mauza-Shahjadpur Aderkila, Rev Thana No.-177, Survey Ward No.-8, Anchal-Hajipur, PS-Town Hajipur, Distt.-Vaishali, Khata No.-518, Khesra No.-574, Area-2 Katha 6.5 Dhoor Owned by Sri Raj Kumar Chauhan. Boudry: North-Raj Kumar Chauhan, South-Laxmi Singh & Others, East-Railway, West-Ramchandrar Singh & Kabristan.				
		5. M/s Bihar Spunj Pipes Pvt. Ltd.	5. Simple Mortgage of land Mauza-Gauspur Izra, Revenue Thana No.-51, Anchal/SRO-Hajipur, PS-Sadar Hajipur, Distt/DSR-Vaishali, Khata No.-570, Khesra No.2331, Area-72.50 Decimal (16 Katha 13.25 Dhur), Original Pertaining Name of M/s Bihar Spunj Pipes Pvt. Ltd. Boudry: North-Sarkari Sadak, South-Niz Vender, East-Baleshwar, West-Gramin Sadak.				
SK Puri UBI	1. Sri Yogendra Kumar Singh, S/o Late Raj Kumar Singh, 2. Smt. Sunita Singh, W/o Sri Yogendra Kumar Singh A/c No.- 0599300500998, 0599300501033, 0599300501034, 0599305653339	Late Raj Kumar Singh S/o Late Rameshwar Singh at present the said IP muted in name of Sri Yogendra Kumar Singh, s/o Late Raj Kumar Singh	EM of Land and Building situated at Mouza-Mainpura, Thana-Pataliputra, Sub & Sadar Registry Office and Distt- Patna, Thana no.2, Tauzi no.5123, Khata no.325, Survey Plot no.2190(p), Area-1 Katha Vide Sale Deed no. 9277 dated 26-08-2004 pertaining to Late Raj Kumar Singh S/o Late Rameshwar Singh at present the said IP muted in name of Sri Yogendra Kumar Singh, s/o Late Raj Kumar Singh. Boundary: North-Rasta and Smt. Rajkumari Devi, South-Smt. Manju Devi & Smt. Chandrika Devi, East-Sahayak Rasta, West-Niz.	18.02.2022	07.05.2022	Rs. 40,97,904.00 (Rs. Forty Lakh Ninty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Four only)	

Date : 07.05.2022  
Place : Patna

(Authorised Officer)  
Punjab National Bank

KASHI VISHWANATH-GYANVAPI COMPLEX

# Videographic survey halted over plea seeking court-appointed official's removal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, MAY 7

A DAY after the court-ordered videographic survey of the Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal at the disputed Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex began in Varanasi, the process had to be halted on Saturday after the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee (Gyanvapi) filed an application in a local court seeking the replacement of Advocate Commissioner Ajai Kumar, accusing him of being "biased".

On April 8, Civil Judge (Senior Division), Varanasi, Ravi Kumar Diwakar had appointed Kumar as advocate commissioner to carry out the survey and directed him to "prepare videography of the action" and submit a report. The court's direction came on a petition filed by five Hindu women in August 2021 seeking an order to allow them to worship at the site. Speaking to The Indian Express on Saturday, Advocate Hari Shankar Jain, who is representing the Hindu petitioners, said, "The survey could not be conducted as some people from the Muslim community didn't let

the Advocate Commissioner conduct the survey. At the place where the so-called mosque exists, some Muslims gathered at the entrance and didn't let us enter. So, we had to return." Confirming that an application was filed in the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division), Varanasi, Ravi Kumar Diwakar, requesting the replacement of the Advocate Commissioner by the lawyers representing the mosque, Jain said, "The matter will be heard by the court on Monday and we will raise our objections to the hindrances being created by the Muslim side." An official of the

Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee said, "When our objection is in the court seeking change of Advocate Commissioner, how can the same person head the commission which is conducting the survey," said the official. Advocate Abhay Nath Yadav, who is representing Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, said, "We have filed an application seeking a replacement of the Advocate Commissioner. On Monday, the matter will be heard by the court again where all parties, including the Advocate Commissioner, will present their side."

ONE YEAR AS TAMIL NADU CM

# Stalin announces breakfast scheme for govt school kids

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, MAY 7

TAMIL NADU Chief Minister M K Stalin on Saturday announced five new schemes including a breakfast scheme for all government school children in the state. Speaking in the Assembly, on completion of one year as chief minister, Stalin said his government had fulfilled 60 to 70 per cent of the promises DMK had made in its poll manifesto. He also coined a new word — Dravida Model — for his governance plan.



Tamil Nadu CMM K Stalin in Chennai on Saturday. PTI

Among other announcements he made were a special nutritional scheme for children below the age of six years, based on a public health study by the government on alarming trends of malnourished children in the state; Delhi-model schools of excellence; and

708 urban public health centres at a cost of Rs 180 crore.

"There was a government study that showed that many children who start early were skipping breakfast," Stalin said. "They mostly miss breakfast not only for

the distance they have to travel but also for the misery and difficulties at home. So, we are launching this scheme, for students up to Class 5, in a selected number of schools in corporations, municipalities and rural areas, before implementing it statewide."

Similarly, referring to studies of unhealthy, underweight children in the state, Stalin said the nutritional scheme being announced by his government is to ensure the health of children below the age of six, and to "ensure all children in Tamil Nadu are not malnourished".

The new schools of excellence programme, modelled on a similar project by the Delhi government, will be implemented in all corporations in the state at a cost of Rs 150 crore to modernise the infrastructure and invent a new learning environment for

students. The 708 urban medical centres being set up in 21 corporations and 63 municipalities at Rs 180 crore will function with full staff strength, including doctors, nurses and other health staff, between 8 am and 11 am, and 4 pm and 8 pm.

The government also allocated Rs 1,000 crore to set up a scheme which Stalin said would directly monitor the collection of grievances from all constituencies. "Let it be the people from my constituency, Kolathur, or Opposition leader's Edappadi or O Panneerselvam's Bodi; we will be there to address their grievances," he said. "I am not Kalaighar (his father, late M Karunanidhi). I cannot speak like Kalaighar. I cannot write like him. But I had taken the pledge that I will work hard like him," he added.

**INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & ALLIED SCIENCES (IHBAS)**  
(Hospital based autonomous academic Institute, under Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi dealing with "Brain- Mind Problems & Their Solutions")  
Dilshad Garden, Delhi- 110 095 (India)  
Tel: 22112136, Fax: 2259 9227 E-mail: dirctor@ihbas.org Website: www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in

Advt. No. 6/2022/Estt/IHBAS/4786 Dated: 07/05/2022

**Recruitment Notice**  
Applications are invited from the citizens of India for the following Faculty posts on Regular Basis

S. No.	Name of post	No. of post	Reservation					Pay Matrix Level	Mode of Recruitment
			UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS		
1	Professor (Neuro Chemistry)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
2	Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
3	Professor (Neurosurgery)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
4	Professor (Psychiatry)	01	-	-	-	-	01	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
5	Professor (Neuro-anesthesia)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
6	Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
7	Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-14A Rs. 168900-220400	Regular basis
8	Professor (Human Behaviour Department)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	On Deputation basis
9	Addl. Professor (Neuro Surgery)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
10	Addl. Professor (Psychiatry)	04	02	01	-	01	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
11	Addl. Professor (Neurology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
12	Addl. Professor (Neuro Anesthesia)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
13	Addl. Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
14	Addl. Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 2+ Rs. 148200-211400	Regular basis
15	Associate Professor (Microbiology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
16	Associate Professor (Neuro-psychopharmacology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
17	Associate Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
18	Associate Professor (Psychiatry)	08	03	-	01	04	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
19	Associate Professor (Neurology)	03	02	-	-	01	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
20	Associate Professor (Neuro-anesthesia)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
21	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
22	Associate Professor (Medical Anthropology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
23	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Nursing)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
24	Assistant Professor (Neuro Psychopharmacology)	01	-	-	-	01	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
25	Assistant Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	-	-	-	01	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
26	Assistant Professor (Neuro-Surgery)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
27	Assistant Professor (Psychiatry)	08	-	-	02	05	01	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
28	Assistant Professor (Neurology)	04	02	01	-	01	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
29	Assistant Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	-	-	-	01	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
30	Assistant Professor (Social Work)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
31	Assistant Professor (Psychology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
32	Assistant Professor (Social & Cultural Anthropology)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
33	Assistant Professor (Education)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis

Applications are invited from the citizens of India for the following Faculty posts on Regular Basis under Center of Excellence

S. No.	Name of post	No. of post	Reservation					Pay Matrix Level	Mode of Recruitment
			UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS		
34	Associate Professor (Psychiatry)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
35	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	02	02	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
36	Associate Professor (Clinical Psychology)	02	02	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
37	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Nursing)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-13A 1+ Rs. 138300-209200	Regular basis
38	Assistant Professor (Psychiatry)	01	-	-	-	01	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis
39	Assistant Professor (Psychiatric Nursing)	01	01	-	-	-	-	Level-12 Rs. 101500-167400	Regular basis

**08 post are reserved for PwD candidates.**  
Allowed will be as per rules. For details of eligibility criteria i.e. Qualification, Experience, Age & Application Format please visit our website ([www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in)). Interested and eligible candidates may apply with appropriate format photograph, along with duly attested copies of qualification, Diploma/Degree, experience certificates etc., Demand Draft of Rs. 1000/- (Exempted for SC/ST and PwD candidates) in favour of "Director, IHBAS". Upper age limit is relaxable for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes and PH candidates as per rules. However, SC & OBC certificate issued by the Authority of Delhi Govt., only will be accepted. Institute reserves the right to increase/decrease, fill or not to fill any/all the vacancies.

Age Relaxation of 5 years will be applicable for Government employees as per GOI guidelines.  
The Assessment Promotion Scheme (APS) is applicable at IHBAS. The Revised APS (on the pattern of NIMHANS, Bengaluru) has been approved in Principle. The modalities of implementation of it are being worked out currently.  
Professor, Additional Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor for Non-Medical disciplines will carry same Pay Matrix Level at par with Medical professional except NPA. Allowances will be as per Rules. Category of Posts mentioned at Sl. No. 01 to 05, 09 to 12, 24 to 28, 34 and 38 are 'Medical Discipline', posts mentioned at Sl. No. 06 to 08, 14 to 14, 21 to 23, 29 to 33 and 35 to 36 'Non Medical Discipline' and post mentioned at Sl. No. 37 and 39 are Nursing Discipline.

Those candidates who had applied earlier to the above posts in response Institute's earlier advertisement published in 'Hindustan Times' and 'The Times of India' on dated 09.09.2020 and in employment News on 12-18 September 2020 and published in 'Hindustan Times' on 29.03.2022 and in Employment News on 2-8 April 2022 and their application were forwarded and received through proper channel at IHBAS (complete in all respects) need not apply again.

The application duly filled-in along with necessary documents must reach to the Office of Director, IHBAS on or before 23.05.2022. The applicant who is in service of Central Govt./State Govt./ Public Sector Undertaking/ Autonomous Body shall have to submit his/her NOC at the time of interview. A certificate from the employer is also required to be submitted that in case of his/ her selection his department will be relieved him/her to join IHBAS.

(For complete details please visit our website [www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in))  
Sd/-  
(Prof. (Dr.) Rajinder K. Dhamija)  
Director

DIP/Shabdarth/ 0078/2223

MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE TREATABLE

CHAR DHAM 'VERIFICATION' DRIVE

# We have to remove them from here, and we will, say police

AVANEESH MISHRA  
DEHRADUN, MAY 7

THEY KNEW a verification drive was coming but little had prepared Sapera Basti of 500-odd people in Dehradun for Wednesday morning, when a team descended from local Prem Nagar police station with a reserved force, two buses, two SUVs and motorcycles, blocking their main exit.

Within minutes, around half-a-dozen youngsters had been caught and taken away.

It was a fortnight into the verification drive that started on April 21, ahead of Char Dham Yatra. Following demands raised by some sadhus that the entry of "non-Hindus" should be banned in Char Dham area to "preserve dharma and culture of the Himalayan region", CM Pushkar Singh Dhami announced that people coming to the state for the Yatra would have to undergo "proper verification" so that those who may pose a threat to peace did not enter.

According to DGP Ashok Kumar, they are doing a detailed verification of those coming for the Yatra, and identifying any elements which may "disturb the peace", including labourers, street hawkers and tenants.

The Char Dham Yatra began on May 3, with the opening of the portals of Gangotri and Yamunotri temples. The portals of Badrinath Temple will open on Monday.

Until last week, Uttarakhand Police claimed to have finished verification of over 67,000 people across the state, finding at least 2,526 to be "suspicious". As per the Police Act, they were issued a challan. At least 10 people have been taken into custody.

Sapera Basti once housed traditional snake charmers, who have moved to doing odd jobs since the ban on keeping serpents. Many of them in this illegally developed settlement are now beggars; police say a large number also trade in marijuana.

"These people have settled here from different states and have nothing here. The land they have built huts on is government land. We keep getting information that some are involved in crimes



A police team inspects a shanty at Sapera Basti in Dehradun.

like chain-snatching and vehicle thefts," says Manoj Nainwal, SO of Prem Nagar police station, as he supervises Wednesday's drive, adding: "This is why we have to remove them from here. And we will remove them."

He catches a man originally from Nagpur, and puts him in a police vehicle, ignoring his pleas that he makes a living removing ear wax. Another who claims to be a local is also picked up as he does not have any ID on him.

Police also check the shanties for "suspicious items", and find a plantation of cannabis. Some motorcycles are seized after their owners cannot provide documents for them. Some are frisked for drugs. Many are picked up as they "appear suspicious" and taken to the police station.

Several settled in the Basti from other states are asked to go back. Those who claim to be Dehradun residents are asked to vacate the government land; officials also threaten to use bulldozers to clear the huts if they are not gone by the next day.

The SO says they will take the "suspicious elements" to the police station for verification. "The persons taken into custody... we will check their documents and call police stations in their hometowns to check if they have a criminal history. If not, we will let them go. The vehicles we have seized will also be given to their owners when they provide us the papers."

DGP Kumar says the drive is only to verify "outsiders", and

brushes away questions on threats made by officials during the verification. Police can only take action when a "criminal element" is identified, and some people may be "adding some things on their own", he says.

"Police only have the right to ask someone to leave a place if the suspect is a foreign national. No person can be asked to leave any state as long as the person is an Indian national and has documents to prove the same. If the person is living in an illegal basti, police do not have the right to ask for eviction. Only the administration and the government can do that... The police officials have been briefed," he said.

On the briefing, Sub-Inspector P S Negi, who is part of Wednesday's drive, says: "We were informed that we have to raid the area and do physical verification of people. Our duty is to check their identity proofs, see if they have any drugs, and check their vehicles and papers." Negi says they were told to videograph the entire process.

Wednesday's drive lasts two hours, and as police leave, there is silence in the basti. A meeting is called by residents to discuss their next course of action. The priority is to get those detained released.

Congress state president Karan Mahara said while similar drives were held under previous governments as well, the motivation of the current one had raised suspicions. **FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)**

PM reviews NEP implementation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

TAKING STOCK of the progress of implementation of the National Education Policy, (NEP) 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday underlined the need for a combination of online and offline learning in schools to avoid "overexposure of technology" among children.

At a review meeting, attended by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and top officials from CBSE, NCERT and UGC among others, Modi also instructed that databases maintained by anganwadi centres be integrated with records maintained by schools to ensure a smooth flow of children from pre-primary classes to Class I.

"Modi observed that a hybrid system of online and offline learning should be developed to avoid overexposure of technology of school-going children," according to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

UTTARAKHAND BY POLL

# Congress fields Nirmala Gahtori against Dhami

AVANEESH MISHRA  
DEHRADUN, MAY 7

SENIOR CONGRESS leader Nirmala Gahtori will be the party candidate against Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who is seeking to get elected to the Assembly from Champawat seat.

Gahtori was picked after the Congress candidate for the last five elections — ever since the formation of Uttarakhand — and two-time winner, Hemesh Kharkwal, declined what is likely to be a losing battle. The BJP has got off the blocks for the race proclaiming that the Congress has given it a "walkover".

Gahtori, 60, knows she has a tough battle ahead, with the BJP set to pull out all stops to ensure that Dhumi, who returned as Uttarakhand CM but couldn't retain his own seat Khatia in the recent elections, wins handsomely. Voting for the Champawat bypoll will take place on May 31, with the results on June 3.

DEROGATORY REMARKS ON NURSES

# Malayalam Mission removes Qatar coordinator

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MAY 7

MALAYALAM MISSION, a Kerala government initiative to promote Malayalam globally, has removed its Qatar regional coordinator over derogatory remarks against nurses who emigrate to Gulf countries for jobs.

Durgada Sisupalan's removal came after his comments during the Ananthapuram Hindu Maha Sannam in Thiruvananthapuram last week.

At the event, Sisupalan spoke of a "high" incidence of religious conversions in the Gulf, going on to say: "We are helpless there... Jamaat-e-Islami men are in the Gulf with big business establishments. Under the guise of recruiting nurses... we have come to know that they (nurses) are being taken for meeting the sex-

ual needs of terrorists," said Sisupalan, whose father late J Sisupalan was a prominent leader of the Hindu nationalist Kerala Hindu Aikya Vedi.

Malayalam Mission director Murukan Kattakkada said Sisupalan was stripped of his post as he hurt the self-respect of those Kerala women who go abroad to look for work. "Such comments should not have come from a person entrusted with the task of imparting language and its cultural values," Kattakkada said, adding Sisupalan was removed as the Mission has to "respect the concerns and the complaints of parents of (nursing) students."

Sisupalan has alleged "certain CPI(M) and Congress workers" in Qatar are behind his removal. "...Anti-national forces are behind my removal... I want a detailed probe by the government," he posted on Facebook.

# Two judges appointed to SC; apex court set to regain full strength of 34

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE CENTRE on Saturday notified the appointment of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, who is currently Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, and Justice Jamsheer Burjor Pardiwala, judge of the Gujarat High Court, as judges of the Supreme Court.

The Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana had recommended their names for appointment on May 5. The other members of the Collegium are Justices U U Lalit, A M Khanwilkar, D Y Chandrachud and L. Nageswara Rao. The Supreme Court currently has a strength of 32 judges against the sanctioned strength of 34.

help retain the 34-judge strength, but two other vacancies will arise soon with Justice Vineet Saran set to retire on May 10 and Justice Nageswara Rao on June 7.

Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia hails from Madanpur, a remote village located in Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand. He had his early education in Dehradun and Allahabad and is an alumnus of Sainik School, Lucknow. He did his graduation and law from the University of Allahabad.

Justice Pardiwala was born in Mumbai and studied at St Joseph Convent School in his hometown Valsad (South Gujarat). He graduated from the J P Arts College, Valsad, and secured the law degree from the K M Mulji Law College, Valsad in 1988. He is the fourth generation legal professional.

### 3 held for cow slaughter, over 19 kg beef seized

**Seoni:** The police have arrested three persons for their alleged involvement in cow slaughter and seized over 19 kg beef from their possession in Madhya Pradesh's Seoni district, police said on Saturday.

The accused were caught from the forest of Mahuapani Hathi Ghat, where they were distributing the meat among themselves after killing a calf on Friday night, Seoni ASP S K Maravi said. Four other accused managed to flee from the spot and a search is underway to nab them, he said.

During interrogation, the accused said they were distributing the beef after slaughtering a calf, which was brought by one of the accused. The police recovered 19.70 kg beef, besides weapons such as axes used for the slaughter, he said. **PTI**

# Handed over Seoni tribals to cops: Bajrang Dal



BJP leaders with tribal groups. Anand Mohan J

**ANAND MOHAN J**  
SEONI (MP), MAY 7

FOR THE past two days, Bajrang Dal leaders in Seoni district in Madhya Pradesh have been in damage control mode. They have issued an apology over the death of two tribal men over cow slaughter allegations, and released a video purportedly showing both had been handed over to police. They also claim to be working in coordination with police, a fact acknowledged by the force.

Of the 13 men arrested for the death of the tribals, families of six told *The Sunday Express* they had Bajrang Dal links. The video released by the Bajrang Dal shows policemen at the spot along with its men armed with sticks, surrounding the tribals Sampatall Vatti and Dhansai Inwati. Says Devender Sain, Zila Sahyogak of

the Bajrang Dal's Seoni unit: "The men who are accused of being members of our unit handed over the two men to police. We coordinate with police on every cow protection raid. Those two men should not have died. We are sorry about that."

Senior officers of Seoni district admit they rely on tip-offs from various vigilante outfits, including Bajrang Dal men, to check cattle smuggling in the region.

Every year around 120 cases of cattle smuggling are reported in the district. The Kurai Police Station, where the lynching case is being investigated, sees 30-40 cases per year, police said. SP Kumar Prateek, posted in

the local road and transport authority offices to keep tabs on vehicles, he says, adding: "The transport authorities can't make out if cattle are being transported. Our karyakartas rely on cues like the sound of a cow's hooves thumping the vehicle, or their smell. The vehicle number and its destination state are noted and provided to police."

VHP Seoni chief Akhilesh Chauhan says their cow protection unit members are deployed at multiple exit points to the district, covering a 60-km stretch. They don't have any ID or certificates, Chauhan adds. "They along with their neighbours go out on operations. They note down vehicle registration numbers if there is suspicion of cattle smuggling. The input is given to the local SP and town inspectors."

The members are deployed at

the local road and transport authority offices to keep tabs on vehicles, he says, adding: "The transport authorities can't make out if cattle are being transported. Our karyakartas rely on cues like the sound of a cow's hooves thumping the vehicle, or their smell. The vehicle number and its destination state are noted and provided to police."

The members are deployed at

### Building gutted after man torches scooter, 7 dead

**Indore:** A devastating fire, allegedly caused by a 27-year-old man, in a residential building in Vijay Nagar locality of Indore city early Saturday morning killed seven persons and injured nine others, police said.

Shubham aka Sanjay Dixit, who is absconding, allegedly torched the scooter of a woman who had rejected his marriage offer, police said late at night. The fire spread upward from the building's parking area, they said, adding that a case of murder had been registered against Dixit.

"Initially it appeared that a short circuit caused the fire. But after scanning CCTV footage of the houses near the gutted building, we found that a man ignited the blaze by setting fire to a vehicle in the building's parking area. The flames spread and engulfed the three-storey building," Indore



CHARRED REMAINS: The blaze spread to the building from parking lot: police. PTI

Police Commissioner Harinarayan Chari Mishra said. The accused hails from Jhansi and had vacated a rented flat in the building six months ago. He wanted to marry a woman who lived in the same building but she was going to marry another person, and Dixit began to nurse a grudge against her, the commissioner said. **PTI**

# The eyes have it: Fauda star charms Delhi, scouts Bollywood

**SHUBHAJIT ROY & RINKU GHOSH**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

EYES, THEY say, are the most important asset of an actor.

And Tsahi Halevi, the 47-year-old Israeli actor from Fauda, the chortbustler Israeli web series on Netflix, has a gaze so intense that people who swarm around him vouch for this.

At a reception in New Delhi on Israel's 74th Independence Day, attended among others by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Halevi had the crowd rooting for him, waiting for him to break into song.

The actor, who is also a songwriter and a singer, sang "We will have a good time" in Hebrew and then, dedicating a song to the friendship between the people of Israel and India, chose the popu-

lar Kishore Kumar song "Tere jaisa yaar kahan" from the Amitabh Bachchan-starrer Yaarana to mark 30 years of India-Israel diplomatic ties. "I am a songwriter, musician, but I got into acting with Bethlehem (a 2013 drama film)," Halevi told *The Sunday Express*. And there has been no looking back. In Fauda, which means chaos, he plays the role of a member of the elite counter-terrorism special operations unit of the Israel Defence Forces, Mista'arvim, led by Doron Kavillim played by lead actor Lior Raz.

Halevi, with his intense gaze, figures in an interesting sub-plot as he gets involved with Doron's wife, Gali. With a half-smile, he has an explanation for that too: "When you can't get the best guy, you get the guy who messes with his wife." Fauda, which many Indians got addicted to during the Covid lockdown, depicts the two-



Tsahi Halevi, Israeli actor

sided story of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and explores the moral dilemma of the human condition, the relativity of what is right and wrong. In fact, Halevi's character seems humane in the series, one that has won him Indian fans on social media.

"The Indian fanbase is amazing and big. On my social media handles, they are asking me how they can meet me and I am find-

ing ways to meet some of them despite my tight schedule. I answer their queries as much as possible. As actors, the audience feedback is important for us and you can do that in real time on social media." Sporting his characteristic salt-and-pepper beard, the actor said he had handled guns as part of his military service, so that came in handy while playing the role he had. Others had to undergo basic training to act in the show.

Fauda, which has run into three seasons, is now likely to release its next one. He says he does not know the plot for the next season. Considering that fresh violence had broken out between the Israelis and Palestinians during the making of Fauda, did events on the ground change his perspective on the conflict?

"My perspective has never changed. I have maintained the same values from my childhood. I

believe that when shells and missiles fall, it doesn't matter if you are Muslim or Jew. Human lives are lost. In fact, everybody could relate to Fauda because it touched upon the human aspect of the conflict. Every viewer has felt the characters and their lives," he said.

Mahatma Gandhi is his ideal and has shaped his compassionate and optimistic worldview. "Every day I am inspired by his thinking that we should pursue our actions based on how they would influence somebody far away. He used non-violence as an effective tool to get his message across." As a diplomat's son, he travelled to many countries till the age of 18 and that experience made him absorptive and open to multi-cultural influences. He shares his experience of growing up in Egypt four years after that nation signed a peace deal with Israel. "Beyond education, I got a

lesson in humanity first hand. I was baby-sitting my sister in Cairo. She started crying and I couldn't calm her down. So, I went down to the janitor of the building who was sitting around the fire with his wife. She pacified my sister and watched over her for two hours till our parents returned. You see that and realise what the human connect is."

Halevi, who has also acted in the thriller Hostages, said he was surprised by the popularity of his shows in India, and has been mobbed by people in Delhi for selfies. Told that Hostages was remade in Hindi, he said, "May be there is scope for an Indian version of Fauda... This is my first time in India and I am here only for two days now, but I am really excited to be here... I had always wanted to come here."

FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

### HC acquits man who got death for double murder

**OMKAR GOKHALE**  
MUMBAI, MAY 6

OBSERVING INCONSISTENCIES in the evidence produced by the police, the Bombay High Court on Friday acquitted a man who was sentenced to death by the Palghar sessions court in a 2015 double murder case. Guddu Krish Yadav had allegedly poured acid on his colleague and wife, killing them both.

Rejecting the death confirmation plea filed by the state government against Yadav, the HC observed that the trial was conducted in the "most casual manner" and the prosecution had "suppressed and fabricated vital evidence (dying declarations of victims)". On November 5, 2015, Yadav allegedly stole his colleague's phone, resulting in the colleague complaining to their employer. The two worked at a chemicals and acid trading company in Boisar. The police alleged that the employer pulled up Yadav and asked him to return the phone, leading Yadav to allegedly seek revenge. In the wee hours of November 6, 2015, Yadav allegedly went to the company's quarters - where his colleague stayed with his wife - with a bucket of concentrated sulphuric acid and poured it on them while they were asleep. The husband died four hours later and the wife the next day.

**BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI**  
4th Floor, Seven Star Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-11001  
Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993.  
In the matter of  
O.A. No. 489/2021  
**CANARA BANK** Applicant  
Versus  
**M/S OM BROTHERS AND ORS** Defendants  
D-1 **M/S OM BROTHERS**  
2045/2, Gali No. 6, Chuna Mandi, Paharganj, New Delhi-110055  
Also at:  
2082/5, Gali No. 6, Chuna Mandi, Paharganj, New Delhi-110055  
D-2 **SHRI CHANDER PRAKASH PABREJA**  
S/o Shri Dev Raj Pabreja  
R/o G-303 Sai Baba Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085  
D-3 **SMT. ANU PABREJA**  
W/o Chander Prakash Pabreja  
R/o G-303 Sai Baba Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085  
D-4 **SHRI SACHIN CHAWLA**  
S/o Shri Subhash Chawla  
Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085  
D-5 **SMT NEETU PABREJA**  
W/o Shri Sushil Kumar  
R/o 32, Sharda Niketan, Patparguna, Delhi-110034  
D-6 **SMT RUCHIKA PABREJA**  
W/o Shri Om Prakash  
R/o 32, Sharda Niketan, Patparguna, Delhi-110034  
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way, therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal on 07.06.2022 at 10.30 A.M.  
Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.  
Due to ongoing Pandemic Situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:  
(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Civico Webex" application/Software;  
(ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing case to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date of Official Portal i.e. "Net-Savvy" under the public Notice Head.  
(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at: Ph. No. 011-23748469. Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date: 5th day of May, 2022.  
By Order of the Tribunal  
Sd/-  
Assistant Registrar  
DRT-III, Delhi

## Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran

### Offers e-Auction of

# Schools, Creche, Nursing Home and Clinic Sites in all Zones

**On 21th May, 2022**

School Sites in All Zones						Clinic Sites and Nursing Home Sites in All Zones								
Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	Category	Area in Sq.Mtr	No. of Plots		Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	Category	Area in Sq.Mtr	No. of Plots				
1	1, Ambala	Nursery School (near Tube Well)	1321.89	1	21	56, Gurugram II	Nursery School	870	1	1	18, Kaithal	Clinic Site No.7	300	1
2	8, Ambala	Nursery-cum Primary School Near Dispensary	4532.00	1	22	19, Rewari	Nursery School - 1 (Near Plot No-431P) (Corner Site)	1436.00	1	2	19-I & II, Kaithal	Nursing Home (Near Plot No.1214P)	588	1
3	10, Ambala	Creche Near Plot No-1377	610.50	1	23	55, Faridabad	Primary School Site (Near Plot no. 1223)	3960.00	1	3	19-I & II, Kaithal	Clinic Site (Near Plot No.1241)	210	1
4	4, Karnal	Nursery School Site (in front of plot no.227p & 228)	1080.00	1	24	56A, Faridabad	Primary School Site (Near Plot no. 230)	3279.08	1	4	19-I & II, Kaithal	Clinic Site (Near Plot No.383F)	300	1
5	3, Kurukshetra	Nursery School Site opp. Plot no. 128 P	671.80	1	25	62, Faridabad	Nursery School Site (Near Plot No. 2764)	1000.00	1	5	20, Kaithal	Clinic Site No.1 (Near Plot No.609P & 606)	390.10	1
6	4, Kurukshetra	Nursery School Site opp. Plot no. 1127	892.00	1	26	65, Faridabad	Nursery School Site (Near Plot No. 2718P)	803.28	1	6	20, Kaithal	Clinic Site No.2 (Near Plot No.609P & 603P)	390.10	1
7	8, Kurukshetra	Nursery School Site opp. Plot no. 354	6676.00	1	27	2P, Palwal	Nursery School Site (Near Plot No. 1990)	704.00	1	7	5, Kurukshetra	Clinic Site (Opp. Plot No.1393)	255.50	1
8	4, Rohtak	Nursery School Site No. II In front of H.No. 290P	1050.00	1						8	5, Kurukshetra	Clinic Site (Opp. Plot No.977)	353.62	1
9	13, Bahadurgarh	Nursery School (Corner Site) Adjoining Plot No. 360GP and 319	2016.00	1						9	30, Kurukshetra	Clinic Site (Opp. Plot No.10)	411.00	1
10	7, Jind	Creche-cum-Nursery School Site	2160.00	1						10	18, Jagadhri	Clinic Site (Near Plot No.325P)	500.00	1
11	11 Extn., Jind	Nursery School Site	1392.00	1						11	18, Jagadhri	Diagnostic Centre (Near Office Bay)	407.50	1
12	9, Gurugram - I	Nursery School Adjoining plot no. 716 & 717	774.00	1						12	7, Panipat	Nursing Home Site No.1, Nursing Home Site No.2	214.06	2
13	9A, Gurugram - I	Nursery School Near plot no. 114P to 116	828.00	1						13	7, Panipat	Clinic Site No.1, Clinic Site No.2	214.06	2
14	9A, Gurugram - I	Nursery school Nursery school site Adjoining plot no. 170 & 171	1012.00	1						14	1 (Part-1), Narnaul	Clinic Site No.3	209.00	1
15	10A, Gurugram - I	Nursery School Adjoining plot no. 1013 & 1036	792.00	1						15	1 (Part-1), Narnaul	Clinic Site No.4 (Corner site)	209.00	1
16	42, Gurugram-II	Primary School in front of Plot No. 70 P	3441.16	1						16	6, Dharuhera	Nursing Home Site No.1	587.50	1
17	42, Gurugram-II	Nursery School adjoining R.B. Site	1292.76	1						17	6, Dharuhera	Nursing Home Site No.2 (Corner site)	587.50	1
18	47, Gurugram - II	Nursery School Near Plot No. 306P	2145.44	1						18	19, Rewari	Nursing Home Site (Near Plot No.374P) (Corner Site)	467.30	1
19	52, Gurugram - II	Primary School Near Plot No.430	3766.35	1						19	19, Rewari	Clinic Site (Near Plot No.383)	566.55	1
20	52, Gurugram - II	Nursery School Near Plot No. 31P	2805.19	1						20	18 Def. Rewari	Clinic Site (Near Plot No.955P) (Corner Site)	256.69	1
										21	3, Rohtak	Nursing Home Site No.II	473.85	1
										22	3, Rohtak	Clinic Site No.3, Clinic Site No.4	210.00	2
										23	4, Rohtak	Nursing Home Site (Infront of Plot No.63, 64)	563.50	1
										24	5, Rohtak	Clinic Site No.III, Clinic Site No.IV	250.00	2

**Registration will close one day before the scheduled date of e-Auction, at 5 pm.**

**e-Auction Portal <https://hsvphry.org.in> e-Auction will start at 10:00 AM**

**\* The competent authority can withdraw any site from e-auction without any notice.**

**Helpline Number: 8360516607 (9 AM to 5 PM), 1800-180-3030 (8AM TO 8 PM)**

**EMD is calculated on base price, the first round of bidding will start from base price.**

**For any queries email us at [auctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com](mailto:auctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com)**

**Reserve Price are fixed by HSPV above base price and same will not be disclosed.**

**Chief Administrator**  
**Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran**  
G-3, HSPV Complex, Sector 6, Patparguna, 110034, Haryana  
hsvphry.org.in | 1800-180-3030 | Hsvphry

The detailed information of the sites and terms & conditions of e-auction will be available on <https://hsvphry.org.in>.

LOAN FRAUD

CBI conducts searches against Punjab AAP MLA

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

THE CBI on Saturday searched premises associated with AAP MLA from Punjab, Jaswant Singh, in connection with a case of loan fraud amounting to Rs 40.92 crore and allegedly involving a company in which Singh is a director.

This comes a day after Punjab Police arrested BJP leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, leading to a clash between Punjab Police and Delhi Police, which filed an FIR against the personnel of the former.

"The Central Bureau of Investigation is today conducting searches at three locations, including at Malerkotla (Punjab), at the premises of accused including private firms, Directors/Guarantors in an ongoing investigation of a bank fraud case. Cash of Rs 16.57 lakh (approx), around 88 foreign currency notes, some property documents, several bank accounts and other incriminating documents were found and recovered during searches," the CBI said in a statement.

According to CBI, it registered a case of bank loan fraud against Tara Corporation Ltd (later renamed Malaudh Agro Ltd), in which Singh is a director, based on a complaint from Bank of India, Ludhiana branch. The company is based in Gaunspura, in Malerkotla tehsil of Punjab. Along with Singh and the company, CBI has booked

Balwant Singh, Kulwant Singh and Tejinder Singh, all directors in the company, in the case.

The agency has also booked a related entity, Tara Health Foods, and its directors.

CBI sources said all directors of the company were found to be residing in the same house and were related. During searches, CBI also found 94 cheques bearing signatures of different people, along with as many Aadhaar cards, it was informed.

A CBI officer said: "Jaswant, Balwant and Kulwant are brothers; Tejinder is Kulwant's son. They all live in the same house. They are also directors in Tara Foods, which is a guarantor for the loan taken by Tara Corporation."

According to CBI, Tara Corporation was engaged in trading of DOC rice bran, DOC mustard cake, cottonseed cake, maize, bajra and other foodgrain.

"The borrower firm was sanctioned loans at four intervals from 2011-2014 by the Bank," the agency stated. "It was alleged that the firm through its directors had concealed hypothecated stock and diverted book debts with mala fide and dishonest intention so that the same were not made available to the creditor Bank for inspection and for effecting recovery as secured creditor."

The CBI alleges that this caused a loss of Rs 40.92 crore to the bank.

JOURNALIST'S HOUSE LOCKED; NOIDA COPS SAY PROCESS FOLLOWED

Accused slipped away as UP cops made us wait: Rajasthan Police

DEEP MUKHERJEE  
JAIPUR, MAY 7

A RAJASTHAN Police team went to Noida to arrest TV journalist Aman Chopra, but returned without success as his house was found to be locked. This happened after the Rajasthan High Court on Saturday stayed Chopra's arrest in two FIRs registered against him in Bundi and Alwar districts. However, the court did not stay his arrest in a third FIR registered in Dungarpur district, in which a local court had issued arrest warrant against the journalist.

Rajasthan Police said that their team went to the house of Chopra in Noida on Saturday but he was not there. The cops also said that the Uttar Pradesh Police

didn't cooperate with them.

"This was the second time that our team went to arrest Chopra. Much like the previous instance, a Sub-Inspector of the UP Police took our team to a police station and made the team to wait on the pretext of details of the case. Our Additional SP had already briefed them on the case against Chopra who faces arrest warrant from a Dungarpur court," said Dungarpur SP Sudhir Joshi. "Our team was made to wait at the Noida police station and the accused had slipped away by then. When the team reached Chopra's house, it was found locked..." he added.

Three FIRs were registered against Chopra last month after he anchored a TV show following demolition of a temple in Rajasthan. The first FIR was registered at Bichwada in Dungarpur on April 23, the second at Bundi the same day, and the third in Alwar on April 24.

"Chopra, in his TV show, had shown false and fictitious details. He implied in the show that the recent demolition of a temple in Alwar was done by the Rajasthan government as an act of revenge in response to the demolition drive in Jahangirpuri in Delhi..." said Dilpdan Charan, SHO, Dungarpur Kotwali police station, who is investigating the case.

Bisrakh (Noida) SHO Umesh Bahadur Singh said, "Due process was carried out. The team came and we let them carry out the visit and subsequent checking. A notice was also served at the house. We facilitated the entire process."



A car that was involved in the accident on the Yamuna Expressway on Saturday. Gajendra Yadav

7 of family killed in mishap on Yamuna Expressway

AMIL BHATNAGAR  
MATHURA, MAY 7

SEVEN MEMBERS of a Noida-based family were killed and two injured when the car they were travelling in rammed another vehicle on Yamuna Expressway in Mathura on Saturday early morning. The family was returning after attending a wedding in Haridoi. "Seven people died and two were injured in the collision on

Yamuna Expressway near Mathura. A couple, their two sons, two daughters-in-law and a grandson were killed. A child and a man are hospitalised," an official from Mathura Police said.

The incident took place near Milestone 68 in the Naujheel area of Mathura on Saturday morning.

Police said the family's car apparently crashed into the rear of a truck around 4.45 am. It collided at a high speed, police said.

istered at Bichwada in Dungarpur on April 23, the second at Bundi the same day, and the third in Alwar on April 24.

"Chopra, in his TV show, had shown false and fictitious details. He implied in the show that the recent demolition of a temple in Alwar was done by the Rajasthan government as an act of revenge in response to the demolition drive in Jahangirpuri in Delhi..." said Dilpdan Charan, SHO, Dungarpur Kotwali police station, who is investigating the case.

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Policeman shot dead by militants in Srinagar

Srinagar: A police constable was shot dead by militants in Srinagar here on Saturday, police said.

"Around 8.40 am, terrorists fired at and critically injured Jammu and Kashmir Police constable Ghulam Hassan near Ali Jan Road in Zoonimara area of the city," a police official said.

The injured constable was taken to SKIMS hospital at Soura here, where he succumbed in the evening, the official said. The constable was unarmed at the time of the attack and was riding a motorcycle, the official added.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha condemned the attack and assured his family that "those behind the despicable act will not go unpunished". "I strongly condemn the heinous terror attack on JKPC Ghulam Hassan Dar in Srinagar. I assure his family and people that those behind this despicable act will not go unpunished. The entire Civil & Security establishment stands shoulder to shoulder with the family of brave martyr," the LG said on Twitter.

Almost all defence orders will now go to domestic industry: Army Vice-Chief

KRISHN KAUSHIK  
UDHAMPUR, MAY 7

THE ACCEPTANCE of Necessity (AoN) in future for almost all weapons and equipment will be given to the Indian industry, Vice-Chief of Army Lt Gen BS Raju said this while inaugurating the North Tech Symposium in Udhampur on Saturday. "Future wars need to be fought with indigenous equipment," he said.

An AoN is accorded by the Defence Ministry for a particular weapon system or equipment at the beginning of the procurement process.

Over 150 Indian companies participated in the symposium, showcasing the technologies they have on offer to the Indian armed forces.

Addressing participants, Raju said, "Hereafter, the Acceptance of Necessity will only be given to indigenous defence manufacturers. We will come more than half a distance to meet your aspirations. We will give you all the facilities that are required, whether it is equipment, testing facilities, and, most importantly, our time."

Make-in-India push

THE MOVE is part of the government push to encourage the country's nascent defence industry and to wean off dependence on foreign weapons, as India is one of the top importers in the world in this segment. Indian Army has entered

into contracts worth Rs 40,000 crore with the Indian industry in the last two years. Army's immediate requirement is equipment of surveillance, especially drones, and mountaineering gear and clothing for high-altitude.

Raju told the industry members that the Army will "not ask you the moon" and the Preliminary Service Quality Requirements (PSQRs), the requirements that an equipment or weapon needs to meet, "that we are going to give are going to be reasonable so that you are able to produce". He said if the industry can meet 80 per cent of "our aspirations, then we will go ahead and issue orders".

He later told journalists the Army is working on making the PSQRs simpler. The strict PSQRs have been a cause of lament by many industry members.

Speaking about the technology the Army is looking for, Raju said, "We need drones of all kinds that are able to do persistent surveillance, carry payload, carry ammunition to the place of choice, secure communication, medical equipment, troops on ground need good habitat and so on."

Speaking to a few journalists, Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi later said there are two immediate requirements that the Army is looking for. "The immediate requirements are what we were exporting from outside. And where we feel that the enemy has a technology which we need to counter. These are the two major criteria," he said.

MUMBAI

Men from two mosques booked for sounding azaan before 6 am

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

THE BANDRA police and Santacruz police in Mumbai have registered separate FIRs against two men working in two mosques for allegedly sounding the morning azaan on loudspeakers before 6 am, which is a violation of Supreme Court directives that ban noise pollution between 10 pm and 6 am.

The first case relates to Noorani Masjid at Bazaar Road in Bandra (West). On May 5, a constable from Bandra police, who is the complainant in the case, was on bandobast duty when he allegedly heard the morning azaan prayers being played on a loudspeaker at 5.15 am.

The constable has alleged that when he spoke with Zakir Khan (45), a member of the

mosque's trustee committee, Khan admitted he was informed by the Bandra police in advance about the scheduled loud-speaker timings.

Anwar Shah (28), who gave the call for azaan, was booked on May 5 under sections of Indian Penal Code and the Maharashtra Police Act for flouting Supreme Court guidelines and Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) rules, 2000.

The second case relates to Linking Road Kabristan Masjid in Santacruz (West). A sub-inspector from Santacruz police, who is the complainant in the case, has alleged that he was on duty when he heard azaan being played on the mosque's loudspeaker at 5.35 am on May 6.

The police said the mosque's president, Arif Siddiqui, had submitted an application with the Santacruz police station on April

30 seeking permission to use loudspeakers. On May 2, permission was given to the mosque to use loudspeakers only between 6 am and 10 pm.

On May 6, an FIR was registered against the imam, Shoab Shaikh (30), who played the Azaan on the loudspeaker. He has been booked under sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC and sections 131 (penalty), 33(1) (power to make rules or regulation of traffic and for presentation of order in public place, etc) and 33(1)(r)(iii) (using of loudspeaker in or near any public place) of the Maharashtra Police Act.

When contacted, Noorani Masjid authorities said they would respond but no response was received till the time of going to press.

**SCRAP FOR SALE (E-AUCTION)**  
E-Auction forms are invited from intending buyers for disposal, strictly on "As is Where is" basis, on lot basis of around 22 MT damaged/fire effected plant material MS/SS of Oil Extraction Plant- laxes extra. Salvage belonging to M/s S.P. Solvent Private Limited (Unit-II), Kashipur Road, Udhampur Singh Nagar-263150. Material can be inspected at M/s S.P. Solvent Private Limited (Unit-II) Kashipur Road, Udhampur Singh Nagar-263150. (U.K.) site between 11.05.2022 to 23.05.2022 after taking prior appointment from Mr. Ashish Rastogi (GM) - 09897427073. E-Auction date/time-24.05.2022 between 03:00 PM to 04:30 PM. Interested buyers/bidders have to deposit an EMD (D.D.) of Rs. 2 Lacs in favour of "S.P. Solvent Private Limited" payable at Udhampur Singh Nagar to participate in the e-auction. One or all bidders/offers can be cancelled without assigning any reason. E-Auction forms can be obtained from the Auctioneers Salvor Settlers Pvt. Ltd., 101 & 108, 1st Floor, Gupta Tower, Azadpur Commercial Complex, Near Akash Cinema, New Delhi-110033. Contact Mr. Jitender Thakur : 8744013000, 9654772277

**B.S. CHAWLA & Co.**  
(SURVEYORS & VALUERS) Delhi/Allahabad  
Mob. 09415218645, 09810108428  
e-mail : bschawla.ce@gmail.com

NOTICE BOARD

CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY EVENTS, HONOURS



ROLLED OUT - INDIANOIL

IndianOil rolled out brand new M15 Petrol (15% blend of Methanol with Petrol) at M/s Assam Agencies in Tinsukia today. The pilot rollout of M15 was done by Rameswar Teji, MoS for P&NG and Labour & Employment.



UTSAV- REC

REC organized a 'Biji Utsav' in the states of Manipur, Odisha & Chattisgarh. Leisang Village of Manipur was one of the villages where the event was held since it was the last village to be connected to the grid under the DDUGJY Scheme.



MoU - OIL INDIA

Oil India signed an MoU with Digboi Forest Division, Assam Forest Department for a project on Carbon Sequestration & Restoration of Degraded Forest Land in Upper Dihing Reserved Forest (west block).



FAIR EXCLUDED - IPTO

The premier FOOD AND HOSPITALITY FAIR of the India Trade Promotion Organisation (IPTO), the 36th AAHAR-The International Food & Hospitality Fair concluded successfully.



DECLARATION - EIL

EIL has declared 2035 as the year to achieve Net Zero aiming towards fulfilling our PM's vision to be Net Zero by 2070. As a responsible corporate citizen, EIL had already constituted a team in July 2021 to assess the carbon emissions.



CAMP- NHPC

NHPC organized a Covid vaccination camp for 15 yrs & above & booster dose for adults at Corporate Office at Faridabad in association with DRG Hospital, Faridabad. A total of 160 employees/ex-employees & family members received the vaccination.

WAPCOS, as a part of its CSR Activities, provided Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting Structures in 40 Govt. Schools spread across 9 Districts of Haryana & a Rain Water Storage Tank at Humayun Tomb, a World Heritage Site at Delhi. The Rain Water Harvesting facility shall improve quality of water, raise the ground water level in the area, save around 8 million liters of water, every year. Several other CSR activities in Health & Nutrition & Education Sectors are also being carried out by the Company. WAPCOS contributed a sum of Rs.2.00 Cr towards PM CARES Fund from its annual CSR Budget for 21-22.

ADYPU Ajeenkya D Y Patil University recently had an array of events that filled up its grounds with the youth of the college. Along with the ending of Hashtech- an 8-day fest that concentrated on technology & its advancement among students, the university also held an Alumni meet that gathered pass-outs of the university with the faculty over dinner & chats. The ADYPU Sunburn campus was kicked off by opening artists who pumped the crowd before the main artist, namely, Ola Rassa and Olly Esse thrilled the crowd with their performances. It was a successful, nostalgic, & energy-filled comeback for the students of ADYPU.

GSL Commodore Bharat Bhushan Nagpal, NM, Indian Navy (Retd), CMD, Goa Shipyard Limited has superannuated on 30 Apr 22 & has relinquished charge as CMD of one of the premier Defence Shipyards of India. Commodore Nagpal joined GSL in 2016 as Director (CP & BD) following a distinguished career of 32 yrs as a Naval Architect Officer with the Indian Navy. He took charge as CMD on 1 Dec 18 and has since spearheaded the Yard ensuring sustained growth and expansion.

IREDA reported historic all-time high annual PAT of Rs 634 Crs & PBT of Rs 834 Crs in the FY 2021-22 in midst of second & third waves of Covid Pandemic during the year, registering a massive growth of 82.88% & 46.41%, respectively over FY 2020-21. The Loan Book of IREDA, a NBFC under MNRE, GoI, has grown from Rs 27,854 as on 31st March 2021 to Rs 33,931 Crs as on 31st March 2022 (registering a growth of 21.82%). The company registered highest-ever loan sanction of Rs 23,921 Crs (growth of 117.44% to the previous yr sanction of Rs 11,001 Crs).

DFCCIL A Goods train carrying coal running towards Kalanaur in Haryana has derailed at DFC New Ekdl station of Eastern DFC. This incident happened at 11.10 AM on 30.04.2022. The station is located about 30 km east of Etawah in UP. The UP line going towards Delhi is obstructed while the DN line going towards Kanpur is clear. 15 wagons have derailed & concerned DFC officials have rushed to the site. Work for the restoration of the UP line has started. Accident relief trains from Kanpur & Agra are being pressed into service.

NTPC GE Power Services Limited (NGSL), a 50:50 JV between NTPC and GE Power India Limited has signed a Memorandum of Engagement (MoE) with The Lake Region Economic Bloc (LREB), Kenya & Procorp Energetch Private Limited (PEPL) to work towards development of Ground Mounted & Floating Solar PV projects in The Lake region of Kenya. The MoE also envisages extending support for adoption of affordable housing, efficient lighting, development of mini-grid solutions & capacity building of Kenyan power sector professionals.

BIS After successful implementation of Mandatory Hallmarking by Bureau of Indian Standards in 256 districts of the country, wherein more than 3 lakh gold articles are being hallmarked with HUID every day, it has been notified by the government to implement the second phase of mandatory hallmarking vide Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2022, dated 04 April 2022. The second phase of the mandatory hallmarking will cover additional three caratages of gold jewellery/artefacts viz.20,23 and 24 carats as mentioned in the Indian Standard IS 1417 & 32 new districts under the mandatory hallmarking regime wherein an AHC has been setup post implementation of the first phase of the mandatory hallmarking order.

TRIFED "Beekeeping activity has been recognized as one of the important activities by Government of India for its promotion and development to achieve "Sweet Revolution" in the endeavour of enhancing the income of bee farmers and honey gatherers.

ASSOCHAM Confidence amongst India's small businesses remains high with an overwhelming majority of the SME executives expecting improvement in the second quarter of 2022 on most of the parameters including sales, capacity utilisation & hiring, according to the ASSOCHAM-Dun & Bradstreet (SBCI). The index, which measures the level of optimism of small & medium businesses stood at 87 in Q2 2022. As is clear from the latest IMF World Economic Outlook, the Indian economy is projected to be the fastest growing amongst the leading economies of the world.

**SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF A.P. LIMITED**  
Corporate office: H.No.19-13-65/A, Srinivasapuram, Tiruchanur Road, Tirupathi-517503  
Tender Notice (e-procurement)  
Bids through www.aeprocurement.gov.in are invited from the eligible bidders for the following works under DC works:

S.No.	Name of the work	SIP No.	Download start date
1	Replacement of existing LT Overhead Power Distribution Network with Underground Power Cable Network & providing CSS on turnkey basis in Pulivendula Division, Operation Circle, Kadapa under DC works.	SIP No.01/2022-23	The tender will be made available from 23:00 Hrs on 10.05.2022 onwards in the website: www.aeprocurement.gov.in

Contact No: 83329 99180 & 83329 99985 CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER/PROJECTS

Date of NIT: 27.04.2022  
**GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY**  
Email: biddingcell@rajasthan.gov.in  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**  
In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, its subsequent amendments and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time notified thereunder, the Government of Rajasthan has notified the following mineral block for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease for iron ore and hereby invites bids in digital format only from eligible bidders through electronic auction.  
The details of mineral block and last date of submission of bid is as summarized below:-

S No	Block	Lease	Start Date of Sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of Sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Bid Due date and time
1.	Iron ore block n/v Nyorana- Dhandela Tehsil Neem ka Thana District Sikar (Block lapsed under 10A(2)(B))	Mining Lease	27.04.2022	12.05.2022 upto 2400 Hrs (IST)	1-06-2022 upto 1300 Hrs (IST)

The block is being put up for first attempt of auction. The interested and eligible bidders, upon registration on MSTC website -<http://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mcl/index.jsp>- will obtain login ID and Password. After successful registration, the eligible bidder can purchase the Tender Document online on payment of the tender fee of Rs. 2,00,000/- + GST and can participate in the e-auction process. The GST at the rate of 18% is applicable on the purchase of tender document. The GST applicable is to be submitted by the prospective bidder itself and the copy of receipt is to be attached with the technical bid. The prospective bidder shall be solely responsible for remitting the GST as per applicable law and statutory liability in this regard will be responsibility of prospective bidder and no liability whatsoever shall be borne by the DMGR/MSTC. Detailed terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participation in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document and the Mineral Block Summary is available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Ltd. -<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mcl/index.jsp>, and Department of Mines & Geology -[www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in)- for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process are available on the website of -<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mcl/index.jsp>- Any revision, clarifications, addendum, corrigendum, time extensions, etc. to the above tender documents will be hosted on websites -<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mcl/index.jsp>- and -[www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in)- only and no separate notifications shall be issued in the press. The auction process of this block shall remain subjected to the decision of Honorable High Court in S.B. Civil writ petition 11462/2021.

Sd/-  
Director  
Department of Mines & Geology  
Rajasthan, Udaipur

DIP/IC/6270/2022

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**CORRIGENDUM**  
Corrigendum-1 to Tender No.: Dy.CE(C)/ST/EPC/01 Subject: Change of E-bid closing & Opening dates. E-Bid New Closing date: 26.05.2022 at 15.00 hrs. Old E-bid closing date was 21.05.2022 E-Bid New Opening date: 01.06.2022 at 11.00 hrs. Old E-bid opening date was 26.05.2022 Please visit our website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details.  
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE FOR S & T WORK IN CONNECTION WITH ROB & RUB**  
Srl. No. (1) E-Tender No: 106-ST-TENDER-2022. Date : 29.04.2022  
Name of Work : 'S & T work in connection with ROB & RUB at railway crossing gate at Km No. 817713 on BSP-KTE Railw line (Near Gourela) LC No. BK-37.'  
Tender Value : ₹ 32,02,188/- (Rupees Thirty-Two Lakhs Two Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Eight Only). EMD : ₹ 64,100/- (Rupees Sixty-Four Thousand One Hundred Only).  
Submission of Tender : Up to 15:00 hrs. on 25.05.2022.  
The complete information of above e-tender notice is available over website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above tender.  
Divl. Sig. & Tele. Engineer/CIC  
CPR/10/27 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur.  
[@seccrail](https://www.facebook.com/SouthEastCentralRailway)

**HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
Ph.01908-224598,Fax:224584, e-mail:se-jog-hp@nic.in  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
The Superintending Engineer, JNR Circle HP, PWD, Joginder Nagar on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T, Railways/other state/Central government agencies for the works as detailed in table.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in lac)	Starting date for downloading bid	Earnest Money (in lac)	Deadline for submission of bid
1	Balance work for the construction of Nashadaha to Balidhar road km. 0/0 to 9/0 (L-087) under regular PMGSY Batch-II, Complete stage for the year 2017-18 (SH- P/L Metalling and tarring, cross-drainage works, RoFD, retaining walls, breast wall, V-shape drain, essential parapets and providing road sign board, km. stone and 200 mt. stone and routine maintenance of five year in km. 0/0 to 9/0) Package No. HP-08-455	Rs.1,23,46,899/-	17-05-2022	Rs.2.47	30-05-2022

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in).  
Superintending Engineer,  
JNR Circle HP PWD, Joginder Nagar,  
e-mail ID: se-jog-hp@nic.in  
M.No.01908-224598 Fax No.01908-224584  
On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

# Classifieds

## PERSONAL

**I,KIRTI D/O KARAN SINGH R/O, C-11 NEW ASHOK-NAGAR, DELHI-110096,** have changed my name to KIRTI SINGH, for all future purpose. 0040612888-1

**I,Indu Kumari D/o Nitya Kanta Bordoloi R/o-Flat no.17 Neelkanth Apartment Gadaiapur, New Delhi-110030** changed my name to Indu Kumari Bordoloi. 0040612829-1

**I,Hitherto Known As Rabina,D/o-Raja Ram Mahto,R/o-RZ-34,Street. Number-7, Part-2,Deep-Endave,Vikas-Nagar,Uttam-Nagar,West-Delhi-110059,** have changed my name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sukhmeena. 0040612873-9

**I,Hira Lal S/o Suresh Chand R/O H.No.2073,Basti Pipal Wali, Sadar-Bazar, Saket Julahan, Delhi-110006,** have changed my name to Heera Lal. 0040612850-8

**I,Harpreet Kaur,W/o-Indeerjeet Singh Suri,R/o-32,Second-Floor,Bhogal Lane,Jangpura Bhogal,New Delhi-110014,** have changed my name,from Harpreet Kaur,to Harpreet Kaur Suri,for all purposes. 0040612873-2

**I,Harish Chander S/o-Bhola Ram R/O-H.No.119, 3rd Floor, Block-G, Pocket-21, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-85,** have changed my name to Harish Chand for all purposes. 0040612828-1

**I,Chander Kanta W/o Sanjiv Sharma R/o B1,Vishwakarma Apartments, Vasundhara-Enclave,Delhi-110096,** have changed my name to Chander Kanta Sharma. 0040612850-7

**I,Barkha D/o Pradeep Tiwari,R/O H.No.12B, Gali.No.2-F-Block, Molarband Extn. Badarpur, Delhi-110044,** have changed my name to Barkha Tiwari. 0040612850-9

**I,AmIt Saxena R/O-SB-48 Shastri Nagar Ghaziabad** have changed my minor son's name from Lakshaya to Vihaan Saxena for all purposes. 0040612749-2

**I,AmIt Prabha Singh,S/o Ram Chander R/O Plot-970,Flat-F3, Sadbhavana-Marg, Shalimar Garden, Extension-1, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad,** have changed my name to Amarjeet. 0040612850-3

**I,AMITARANI GHOSH,MOTHER OF,NIRMAL KUMAR GHOSH,R/O S/MQ-376/B-3,CAMERO-COMPLEX SUBROTO-PARK NEW-DELHI-110010,** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM AMITARANI GHOSH TO AMITA GHOSH,VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED-07/05/2022,BEFORE NCT-DELHI. 0040612873-8

**I,SYED KHALID AZEEM,S/O,SYED PARVEZ AZEEM,ADD-3121, GALI WAKIL WALI-KUCHA PANDIT-CENTRAL DELHI-110006,** changed my name to SYED KHALID AZEEM,For all,future Purposes. 0040612873-5

**I,Arvind Kumar S/o Late Sh. Mangaraj Ram R/O H.No.166, Near Veterinary Hospital, Burari, Delhi-110084** have changed my name to Arvind Gaur for all purposes. 0040612818-7

**I,Bhanav Kharbanda S/o Mr. Shashi Kharbanda R/O S-1/19A, DLF Phase-3, Gurgaon-122010** have changed my name to Bhanav Kharbanda for all purposes. 0040612818-5

**I,Jitender Kumar S/o Late Sh. Jaimal Singh R/o 6573, Pradhan Chowk, Nabikarim, Pahar Ganj, Central Delhi, Delhi-110055** have changed the name of my minor son from Yatharth alias Yatharth Kataria to Yatharth Kataria for all purposes. 0040612818-8

**I,Manish Gupta S/o Mr. Vinod Gupta R/O 48, Banarsi Dass Estate, Timarpur, Delhi-110054** have changed the name of my minor son from Maadhav Gupta to Madhav Gupta for all purposes. 0040612818-6

**I,Mohit Naman S/O PC Bhartiya R/O Shipra Krishna Vista Indrapuram Ghaziabad** declare that my son's name written as Yashvasi Krishna and Yashvasi Naman both are same person and his correct name is Yashvasi Naman for all future purposes. 0050196535-1

**I,known as Dharmender Kumar S/O Shri Ram Darash residing at 37, JJ CAMP, Giri Nagar, Kalkaji, South Delhi, Delhi-110019** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Dharmender Kumar Verma. vide affidavit dated 5/5/22, Delhi. 0050196521-1

**I,AJITESH,W/O PARAMJIT SINGH,R/O A49A, Bhagwati Garden Extn., Uttam Nagar, D.K. Mohan Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110059,** have changed my name to AJITESH DHADWAL for all purposes. 00707844381-1

**I,Ajay Kumar S/o Doharam Pal Singh, R/O D-6, Pocket-A, INA Colony, Delhi-110023,** have changed my minor Son's name from Kaaynas Singh, aged 12 years to Kiyaan Singh forever. 0070784429-1

**I,GUDAN DEVI,mother of, Akash Kumar Singh, presently, residing at,Vili- Liladharpur, PO-Parasiya,PS-Brahampur, Distt-Buxar,Bihar-802111,** have changed my name,from GUDAN DEVI to GEETA DEVI,Vide-Affidavit dated-05-MAY-2022. 0040612878-6

**I,Manish Kumar s/o-Sharad Chandra,R/O 87,Deluxe-Apartments-B-5,Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096,** have changed my name to Manish Kumar Srivastava permanently. 0040612850-5

**I,hereto known as Syed Khadim Raza Zaidi,S/O Syed Mehdi Raza Zaidi,resident of,G-301,Vivekanand-Apartments, Plot No.2,Sector-5,Dwarka, New-Delhi-110075,** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JAVED RAZA. 0040612888-3

**I,Sruti Niranjan Agarwal W/o Rajat Jain R/O PU-101 Pitampura Delhi-110034** have changed my name to Sruti Jain. 0040612878-2

**I,Simran Deep Kaur Kohli W/o Vareesh Singh,R/O-250, Govind-Khand, Vishwakarma Nagar,Jhimilil Delhi-110095,** Have Changed My Name To Simran Deep Kaur. 0040612850-2

**I,Rakesh Jain S/o Radha Kishan Jain R/O BK-55 Shalimar Bagh West Delhi-110088,** changed my name to Rakesh Kumar Jain. 0040612878-1

**I,Puneet Kaur Gandhi,W/O Late Sarabjeet Singh Gandhi,R/O C-52,Sector-41,Noida, UP,** have changed the name of my son from Aayan to Ayaanveer Singh Gandhi. 0040612854-2

**I,Priyanka Singh,D/o Haldhar Prasad Singh,W/o Haritabh, R/O-21,A-Block, Paprawat-Road,Roshan-Vihar Phase-2, Najafgarh,South West-Delhi-110043,** have changed my name to Priyanka Sharma. 0040612854-1

**I,POOJA ERIC WILSON,W/O MOHIT MASSEY,HOUSE.No.76, TOWER-3,PALM OLYMPIA, PLOT.No. GH.02,SECTOR-16C, GREATER NOIDA WEST, GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR, U.P. 201306,** changed my name to POOJA WILSON MASSEY. 0040612873-1

**I,Nishant Nagpal,S/O Sh.Satish Nagpal,R/O Flat.No.6350, Sector r-C, Pocket-6 & 7,Vasant-kunj, New-Delhi-110070,** That I, have changed the name of my minor daughter aged about-12-years, from DEVANSHI to DEVANSHI NAGPAL,for all,future purposes. 0040612850-10

**I,Nipun Verma S/o Baldev Kumar Verma R/O H.No.274-A, Second Floor, Gali No.26,Arjun Nagar,Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi-110029,** changed my name to Rahul Verma. 0040612850-4

**I,NIKITA MALIK,W/O Vikramjeet Singh Malik,R/O C-501, Mahindra-Apartment, VikasPuri,New-Delhi-110018,** inform that in my passport my father's name is incorrectly-mentioned AJEET KUMAR JAKHAR,while his correct-name is AJEET JAKHAR. 0040612888-4

**I,Kirpal Singh,S/O Sh.TeJ Pal Singh,R/O 55-D,Pocket-B,SFS Flats Mayur-Vihar Phase-III,Delhi-110096,** have Changed my Minor Daughter name, from Akriti Gautam to Akriti Singh, for all future purposes. 0040612888-2

**I,Manoj Goel,S/o-Brij Mohan Goel residing-RZ-18B, B-Block,Road No.6,Raghu Nagar, Pankha Road, Delhi-110045,** have changed my name to Manoj Goyal,for all purposes. 0040612873-3

**I,Manjit Kaur,W/o-Gurdeep Singh residing-H.No.410E/5, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, Delhi,** have changed my name to Manjeet Kaur for all purposes. 0040612873-4

**I,Kuldeep Kumar,S/o Uday Chand R/O H.No.3372/1, Christian Colony, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005,**inform that in school records(Ramjas school,pusa road )Father's name has mentioned as Kuldeep Ratharia,my daughter name as nitika ratharia and mother name as Kamlesh Ratharia,instead of Kuldeep Kumar,nitika ratharia,y and meera. 0040612878-3

**I,Kavita Rani W/O Pankaj Singh R/O Permanent,R/O H.No.-265, Rajpur Khampur-2, Uttar Pradesh-250611, Presently R/O B-208, Gali No.9, 2nd Floor, Joharipur Extn.,Delhi-110094** declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Kavita Singh in my minor Son Abhinav Singh aged 14 years in her School Records. Correct name is Kavita Rani. 0040612873-6

**I,Meenu W/o Vijay Kumar,R/O H.N-J-A1, Beri Wala Bagh Hari Nagar Mayla Puri S/O South West Delhi,Delhi-110064** declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Meenaxi in my minor daughter Suhani aged 14 years in her School Records. The actual name of mine is Meenu. 0040612873-7

**I,Kirpal Singh S/O Sh. Tej Pal Singh R/O 55-D, Pocket-B, SFS Flats Mayur Vihar Phase-III, Delhi-110096** have Changed my Minor son name from Pulkit Gautam to Pulkit Singh for all future purposes. 0040612888-5

**I,POONAM DEVI,mother of,Satyam Kumar Singh, presently, residing at,H.No. 52 P.O.Sinha,PS,Krishnagarh Saraiya , Distt. Bhojpur,Bihar-802316,** have changed my name,from POONAM DEVI to PUNAM DEVI,Vide-Affidavit dated-05-MAY-2022. 0040612878-7

**I,Shamir Khan wife of Mr. Khalil Khan R/O J&K-64, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092** am the owner of BUILDUP UPPER GROUND FLOOR OF PROPERTY BEARING NO J&K 72-A, AREA M&SURING 62.52 SQS, J&K BLOCK, LAXMI NAGAR, DELHI-110092. The Original Sale Deed executed by Sh. Suresnder Dutt in Favor of Mr. Manoj Kumar duly registered as per document No. 525, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 21 on pages 102 to 103 in the office of S.T. Vili-Delhi in respect of the above mentioned property. I have lodged the information Report No. 04.05.2022 vide No. 368973/2022. The said property is absolutely free from any encumbrances whatsoever. If any person has any claim or interest over the said property, she/he is requested to forward their claims along with the relevant documents to me within 7 days of this public notice, if no claim is received, it shall be presumed after 7 days that it is free from all encumbrances. 0040612878-7

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**I,Anureet kaur athwal@ Anureet W/O Sh. Jeevan singh athwal R/O B-15, New police line, Kingsway camp, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009,** have changed my name and I hereinafter shall be known as Anureet kaur athwal. 0040612822-1

**I,Geetika Sunjea W/O Akshay Chanaana R/O J-20, Ground Floor, Rajouri Garden, Delhi-110027** have changed my name GEETIKA CHANANA permanently. 0040612821-1

**I,Prakash Chandra, S/O Mohan Chandra, Residence DI-608, Spring Meadows, Techzone-4, Greater Noida West, Gautambudhnagar, have changed my name Prakash Chandra Pathak to Prakash Chandra for all future purpose. 0070784443-1**

**I,Somia D/O Gladwin Newton R/O WZ-24, Keshopur Village,Vikasपुरi, Delhi-110018.** Have Changed my Name to Somia Newton. 0040612850-1

**I,Viveak Ballyan, S/o Harveer Singh, R/O Behind Police Station, Bhopa, Jansath, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh-251308,** have changed my minor Son's name from Areen Choudhuri, aged 13 years to Aaryan Singh forever. 0070784433-1

**I,Mona Sedwal Srivastava,w/o Manish Kumar Srivastava,R/O 87, Deluxe Apartments, B-5,Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096,** have changed my name to Mona Sedwal, permanently. 0040612850-6

**I,Sevanti Devi is mother of No 15191964F Rank NK (GD) Parivesh, residing at Village Lalpur Post office and Tehsil Chakia, Distt. Chandauli (U.P) Pin-232103. Unit Strn HQ Gulmarg J&K. I have changed my name from HEERAVATI DEVI TO SEVANTI DEVI vide Notary public affidavit at Tangmarg (J&K) dated 30 April 2022 0020438701**

**I,Moni Sedwal Srivastava,w/o Manish Kumar Srivastava,R/O 87, Deluxe Apartments, B-5,Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096,** have changed my name to Mona Sedwal, permanently. 0040612850-6

**I,Sevanti Devi is mother of No 15191964F Rank NK (GD) Parivesh, residing at Village Lalpur Post office and Tehsil Chakia, Distt. Chandauli (U.P) Pin-232103. Unit Strn HQ Gulmarg J&K. I have changed my name from HEERAVATI DEVI TO SEVANTI DEVI vide Notary public affidavit at Tangmarg (J&K) dated 30 April 2022 0020438701**

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**GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**  
Chandkheda, Ahmedabad-382424, Gujarat.  
Phone: 079-3335731 / 76  
**Ph.D. ADMISSION 2022-23**  
Admission to Doctor of Philosophy Programme in various branches of Engineering, Pharmacy, Management, Humanity-English, Sciences (Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics), Computer Science, Biotechnology & Architecture for the Academic Year 2022-23  
Online Applications are invited for admission to Ph.D. Programme in the above mentioned disciplines for Academic Year 2022-23 through the link <https://www.gtu.ac.in>. Interested candidates may visit the website: <https://www.gtu.ac.in/PhD.aspx> for further details. The last date for Online application process is 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2022. Candidates who

**OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION KORBA**  
**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

Main Portal: <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

NIT No.-432/Const/2022 KORBA Dated:-29/04/2021

SN	System Tender No.	Name of Work/Description of work	Probable Amount of Contract
1.	98397 (1st Call)	Repairing and renovation work. Dismantling work and Construction of new room at Govt. Schools in Korba Nagar Nigam area	Rs. 503.45 Lakhs

The details can be viewed directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> from 23.05.2022 at 3.30 Hours (IST) onwards.

sd/-  
Commissioner  
Municipal Corporation  
Korba  
39589

**AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY, JODHPUR**  
JODHPUR 342304, Rajasthan, India  
Telephone: 0291 2570710 (0) Website: [www.ajodhpur.ac.in](http://www.ajodhpur.ac.in) E-mail: [recruitmentajodhpur@gmail.com](mailto:recruitmentajodhpur@gmail.com)

**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**  
Date: 30.04.2022

Applications on the prescribed forms are invited for direct recruitment of Various Non Teaching Posts in the Agriculture University, Jodhpur. The advertisement and all details including application form, Link of Fee Payment, Syllabus & Examination Scheme, general conditions and instructions etc. can be seen and downloaded from the website [www.ajodhpur.ac.in](http://www.ajodhpur.ac.in) of Agriculture University, Jodhpur. The application form along with all necessary documents and requisite fee Receipt should reach the office of the Registrar, Agriculture University, Jodhpur- 342304, Rajasthan on or before 15th June, 2022 upto 5.00 PM.

REGISTRAR  
Raj.Samwadi/C1512/2022-23

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**OPEN TENDER BATCH No. 118/22** Date: 05.05.2022  
**E-Tender Notice for supply of materials - "Participation in through" web portal of IREPS - [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) offers are invited for supply of the following materials:**  
The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Published on/Time	Closing on
1	03210119A	Motor for traction motor cooling	30 Nos.	29.04.22/ 12:41:08	30.05.2022
2	03223806	Fire detection unit for 3 phase locomotives	62 Nos.	29.04.22/ 15:08:43	30.05.2022
3	03220129	Metalized carbon strips	123 Nos.	05.05.22/ 10:35:16	30.05.2022

Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee, and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above portal.

PR/0194/HQ/Store/T/122-23/48 **SMM-cum Secy. To PCMM**

**OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED, JAIPUR REGION-I, JAIPUR**  
Jyoti Nagar, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur-302005  
Phone: 0141-2740170 (o) e-mail: [ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in)

No.: F/ACEPHED/Ar. Dausa/ NIT-18/2022-23/1649-69 Date: 2.5.2022  
(e-NIT NO. 18 to 23/2022-23)

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan NIT No. 18 to 23/2022-23 online tender is hereby invited from eligible bidders for "Conversion of Existing P&T Water Supply Schemes into Piped Rural Water Supply Schemes including 1 year Defect Liability period under JMI under jurisdiction of PHED, Division Dausa" as per criteria mentioned in the detailed NIT/tender document available on website: <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>. Tenders are to be submitted online in electronic format on website <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> as per prescribed schedule.

NIT No.	Particular	Estt. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	UBN No.
18/2022-23	P&T WSS into Piped RWSS Nirhama Sub Dn. Lalot	357.81	PHE2223WSOB01621
19/2022-23	P&T WSS into Piped RWSS Indawa Sub Dn. Lalot	235.38	PHE2223WSOB01622
20/2022-23	P&T WSS into Piped RWSS Mahariya-Dausada Sub Dn. Lalot	309.18	PHE2223WSOB01623
21/2022-23	RWSS Piplya Chhanpura-Prashidpura-Guda Kintara-Bhudiya Bhulpura Sub Dn. Dausa Rural	379.07	PHE2223WSOB01625
22/2022-23	RWSS Rajwas-Moostai-Jagasahaypura Sub Dn. Dausa Rural	362.54	PHE2223WSOB01626
23/2022-23	RWSS Sanwasa- Thunidirajpura Sub Dn. Lalot	451.68	PHE2223WSOB01627

sd/-  
(Arun Srivastava)  
Addl. Chief Engineer  
PHED, Jaipur Region-I, Jaipur

DIPR/C/632/2022

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**SCHEDULE OF E-AUCTION NOTICE (SCRAP SALE)**

Month	Division	Date	Mobile
June 2022	Pl. Deen Dayal Upadhyay	06.06.2022 (Monday) & 27.06.2022 (Monday)	9794848770
	Dhanpur	07.06.2022 (Tuesday) & 28.06.2022 (Tuesday)	9771426770
	Dhanpur	01.06.2022 (Wednesday) & 29.06.2022 (Wednesday)	9771449770
	Samastipur	02.06.2022 (Thursday) & 30.06.2022 (Thursday)	9771428770
	Sonepur	03.06.2022 (Friday) & 24.06.2022 (Friday)	9771429770
July 2022	Pl. Deen Dayal Upadhyay	04.07.2022 (Monday) & 25.07.2022 (Monday)	9794848770
	Dhanpur	05.07.2022 (Tuesday) & 26.07.2022 (Tuesday)	9771426770
	Dhanpur	13.07.2022 (Wednesday) & 27.07.2022 (Wednesday)	9771449770
	Samastipur	07.07.2022 (Thursday) & 28.07.2022 (Thursday)	9771428770
	Sonepur	08.07.2022 (Friday) & 29.07.2022 (Friday)	9771429770

(a) Bidders are advised to inspect the scrap lot before submission of bid. They are allowed to inspect the lot, on an authority from the concerned officer of Railway Administration, at the site of lot mentioned in the auction catalogue on any working day (except Sunday). (b) The complete details of materials and terms and conditions will be as per Auction Catalogue, which shall be available with the respective auction conducting authority of East Central Railway or from our website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) prior to the date of auction.  
PR/0195/HQ/Store/R/22-23/88 Principal Chief Material Manager

**Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency**  
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati Raj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastaradhara Road, Dehradun  
Ref. No.: 282/11-02(xix)-2/ITCO/URRDA/22 Dated: 07.05.2022

**PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-02/2022-23**

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Pithoragarh for 02 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 22.33 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractor registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent.

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 10.05.2022.  
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works), either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 24.05.2022 01:00 PM. For further details please log on to [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in)

Chief Engineer,  
URRDA, Dehradun.

\*Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

**Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency**  
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati Raj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastaradhara Road, Dehradun  
Ref. No.: 282/11-02(xix)-2/ITCO/URRDA/22 Dated: 07.05.2022

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**12**

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**

Tender No : SE/PHC/MPM/13/2022-23. JMM Mambad Phase2 - Package 1B, Construction and commissioning of 8MLD WTP, 24LL OHSR and allied works. EMD : Rs. 200000. Tender fee : Rs. 10000. Last Date for submitting Tender : 30-05-2022 03:00 pm. Phone : 04832974871. Website : [www.kwa.kerala.gov.in](http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in), [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in).  
Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Malappuram

KWA-JB-GL-6-164-2022-23

**UJVN Limited**  
H.O. : "UJ.V.N.L.", Maharani Bagh, CMS Road, Dehradun-248004  
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No. : 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025864, Website: [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

R.O. No. 197 e-Tender Notice Dt. 07.05.2022  
Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-Maintenance), Yamuna Bhawan, Yamuna Colony, Dehradun, invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :  
Tender No. 01/EE(CM)/DDN/2022-23  
Name of work/supply/services etc. : Providing Manpower services for a period of one year on an outsource basis for the office of the Executive Engineer (CM), UJVN Ltd., Yamuna Bhawan, Dehradun.  
Estimated cost : Rs. 12,92,970.00 (Exclusive of GST).  
Date of availability of bid document on website: From 17.00 hrs. of 07.05.2022.  
Last date for submission of bids on website: Upto 17.00 hrs. of 28.05.2022.  
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal '<http://uktenders.gov.in>'. Executive Engineer (Civil-Maintenance) "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, Gwalior Municipal Corporation**

No.-117/21/3/PIU Cell/ (NIT) Date: 05-05-2022  
जलसंचयन संशोधन 156, दिनांक 05-05-2022  
Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Gwalior Invites online for the following work:

S. No.	E-Tender No.	Tender Name	Probable Amount of Contract (Rs.) (Incl GST)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Date
01	2022_UAD_188440_2	RFP Selection of Agency for Supply, Erection, Commissioning and Testing of Construction & Demolition Waste Processing & Recycling Plant of 50 TPD capacity at Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Gwalior (M.P.) Under National Clean Air Program.	209.00 Lacs	1,04,000/-	15,000/-	05/05/2022, 5:30 Pm to 18/05/2022, 5:30 Pm

Full detail of the above tenders can be seen on [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) Amendments to NIT, if any shall be published on website only.  
Executive Engineer (PIU)  
Gwalior Municipal Corporation

**कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड, दत्तेवाडा (ई-मेल: [eedan-phe-cg@nic.in](mailto:eedan-phe-cg@nic.in))**

// ई-प्रोक्च्योरमेंट निस्सीकरण सूचना //

एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र 'ए' प्रतिशत दर पर निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी थी। उक्त निविदा में एकल निविदाकार तथा कोई भी ठेकेदार नहीं आने के कारण निविदा निस्सीर किया जा रहा है जो निम्नानुसार है:-

निविदा क्रमांक	विषयक	ड्राग/विभाजन	प्रस्तावित/निविदा प्रिसेज	अनुमानित लागत (लाख रु.)
146/25.02.2022	93683	जबेली/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	120.92
147/25.02.2022	93686	कांयल/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	120.43
148/25.02.2022	93687	छोटेकांयल/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	60.30
149/25.02.2022	93688	दिव्याल/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	59.36
150/25.02.2022	93956	मिनाली/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	109.23
151/25.02.2022	93937	जहातराव/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	120.79
152/25.02.2022	93938	रुकमाना/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	120.48
153/25.02.2022	93939	कोरकोटी/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	65.81
154/25.02.2022	93940	महाकांयल/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	57.95
156/25.02.2022	93941	कुण्ड/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	116.60
156/25.02.2022	93942	केदरनाथ/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	44.99
157/25.02.2022	93943	मिनाकांयल/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	70.84
156/25.02.2022	93944	चन्देवा/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	53.96
156/25.02.2022	93945	पुनरावई/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	57.61
154/08.03.2022	94775	कुण्ड/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	104.85
175/08.03.2022	94776	पुनरावई/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	80.92
177/08.03.2022	94780	कुण्ड/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	75.02
176/08.03.2022	94781	कुण्ड/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	63.18
179/08.03.2022	94782	चौकनाथ/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	94.73
180/08.03.2022	94783	पुनरावई/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	77.88
181/08.03.2022	94784	महाकांयल/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	77.62
182/08.03.2022	94785	गहरी/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	55.05
183/08.03.2022	94786	पुनरावई/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	37.12
185/10.03.2022	95424	मिनाकांयल/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	12.36
186/10.03.2022	95046	नेलागाँव/गीदम	सिगल प्रिसेज	48.36
187/10.03.2022	95047	पेरा/कुआकोण्डा	सिगल प्रिसेज	48.94
190/10.03.2022	95150	कुण्ड/दत्तेवाडा	सिगल प्रिसेज	47.13
191/10.03.2022	95151	मुसल/दत्तेवाडा	सिगल प्रिसेज	94.86
192/12.03.2022	95203	नवाडी/बटकेवाला	सिगल प्रिसेज	110.57
193/12.03.2022	95204	छोटेकांयल/दत्तेवाडा	सिगल प्रिसेज	16.54
214/29.03.2022	96177	कुण्ड/दत्तेवाडा	सिगल प्रिसेज	90.76
215/29.03.2022	96180	मैदापल-2/दत्तेवाडा	सिगल प्रिसेज	103.65

हस्ता/-  
कार्यपालन अभियंता  
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खंड दत्तेवाडा  
90935

उपरोक्त पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना, अनुमति कार्यालयी संस्थाओं/फर्मों से इस कार्यालय के नियन्त्रणीय विभिन्न पारेषण खण्डों के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्य/क्रय हेतु ई-निविदा ETC/MU/T-23/2022-23-1 विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, शामली के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी0 लालूखेडी-बघरा लाईन पर स्थापित पोर्सिलेन डिस्क इन्सुलेटर को पोलिमर इन्सुलेटर से बदलने का कार्य। 0.195 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 2,000/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 3-ई-निविदा ETC/MU/T-23/2022-23-2 विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, शामली के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी0 लालूखेडी-बघरा लाईन पर स्थापित पोर्सिलेन डिस्क इन्सुलेटर को पोलिमर इन्सुलेटर से बदलने का कार्य। रु0 1.87 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 4- ETC/MU/T-24/2022-23 :- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, शामली के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न प्राथमिक उपकेन्द्रों पर अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 5- ETC/MU/T-25/2022-23 :- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, शामली के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न प्राथमिक उपकेन्द्रों पर अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 6- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 7- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 8- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 9- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 10- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 11- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 12- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 13- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 14- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 15- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 16- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 17- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 18- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 19- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 20- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 21- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 22- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 23- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 24- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 25- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 26- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 27- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 28- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 29- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 30- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 31- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 32- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 33- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 34- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 35- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 36- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 37- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 38- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 39- अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लिंग का कार्य। रु0 1.12 लाख। दिनांक 07.06.2022, (तकनीकी भाग पार्ट-1 खोलने हेतु) रु0 1,200/-, रु0 590/- (कर सहित)। 40- अग्

# 13 ECONOMY

## FM SITHARAMAN ON RBI RATE HIKE

# 'Timing a surprise to many ... but people thought should've been done anyway'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said the timing of the Reserve Bank decision to hike policy rates on May 4 "came as a surprise" to many but people thought it "should have been done anyway".

"It came as a surprise because it's between the two MPCs (Monetary Policy Committee meetings). But the US Fed had been saying it all the while," Sitharaman said in her first reaction to the RBI rate hike.

"And then in the last MPC meeting, I think the RBI sort of gave indication that it's time for them to also act," she said.

"It's the timing which came as a surprise to many, but the act itself people thought should have been done anyway... to what extent could have varied," Sitharaman said at the ET Awards function. The RBI hiked the Repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.40 per cent and the cash reserve ratio by 50 bps to tame inflation.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with NSDL MD & CEO Padmaja Chunduru, Sebi Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch, and Chief Post Master General, Maharashtra Circle, Veena Ramakrishna Srinivas at the release of the corporate 'My Stamp' and 'Special cover' on the occasion of NSDL's Silver Jubilee Celebration. Express

"In a way it was a synchronised action. Australia did it and the US was going to do it and that night the US really did take the first measure," she said. US Fed hiked the policy rate by 50 bps on the same day. "So, I see a greater understanding among central banks nowadays. And obviously, when they meet at the World Bank

meeting in Washington, there's a lot exchanged as well," she said.

"But the understanding of how to handle recovery from pandemic is not therefore unique or typical for India, it's a global issue. And even as we handled that recovery, inflation, which was really festering... and festering at some unbelievable highs, let us say in the US

and the UK, not so much in India," the FM said.

"Still, the challenge of recovery versus inflation seems to be following a particular template which is across the globe," she said.

Earlier, addressing a function to celebrate 25 years of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL), Sitharaman flagged anonymity as an "inherent risk" in blockchain technology and called for taking precaution in future with a rise in the use of this technology.

However, Sitharaman said using the distributed ledger technology (DLT), which is also called as blockchain, is absolutely imperative and the government also supports the use of the same.

"Unless we are able to guard ourselves against that anonymous element which can itself pose an inherent risk, we probably will be exposing ourselves much more than ever we would have imagined," she said. The minister's remarks come ahead of the launch of the budgetary announcement of central bank digital currency (CBDC) which is based on the blockchain technology.

FM launched 'Market ka Eklavya', an online investor awareness programme for students in Hindi and other regional languages. The programme aims to introduce the basics of the securities market to students. "NSDL's great work especially in the last 2 years has brought a lot of dynamism to the institution. It has been acquiring global best practices and has been ahead of the curve. Through 'Market ka Eklavya', you will be able to reach out to many who are in need of financial literacy," Sitharaman said.

Sebi Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch, who was present on the occasion, unveiled NSDL's blockchain platform for debenture covenant monitoring.

Buch said the depository is working to adopt new technologies and building critical market infrastructure for the security and covenant monitoring of bond issuances. "Going forward, today will also be remembered as an important day as we are taking the first step in terms of use of distributed ledger technology in the market," she said.

## DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY

# 'India working well on phasing out coal, need to focus on existing schemes'

INDIA'S EFFORTS to boost renewable energy capacity were practically making it possible to reduce the use of coal, FRANCESCO LA CAMERA, Director General of the International Renewable Energy Agency, tells KARUNJIT SINGH. He added the country should look to strengthen existing renewable energy programs to speed up its transition. Edited excerpts:

**At COP26, there seemed to be an emerging view about phasing out coal. Have you had discussions on this with the government?**

I think that, if for a moment, we put aside this discussion, what we have seen is that the Indian government is putting the policies that will make it possible to leave coal. This cannot be done by just closing the plant. This has to be done through appropriate policies and, I think, the main element is to decarbonise the heavy sector. So, on this, we have noticed and appreciated the building of this hydrogen mission, which can be very important to decarbonise the heavy sector. Last year, India has been able to add another 13 gigawatts of renewable energy. We have seen that it is the fourth country in the world, when we consider installing capacity of renewables. And we have seen out there that they are raising the ambition for (renewable energy capacity) from 450 to 500 gigawatts by 2030. So, there are many things that show that India is moving in that direction... India is a complex reality, it is a continent. So it's very difficult to act and we see that the government is acting at its best to make things move in the right direction.

**What are your thoughts on the need for concessional finance to boost renewable energy capacity in developing countries?**

I think that the system is able to get the money they need. Then there is naturally the complexity of moving faster. But we don't see financial issues as a barrier for energy transition of India. They have been able to put in place a legal en-



Francesco La Camera  
Credit: IRENA

vironment that is favourable for investment to come. Just see how active foreign companies are to try to get the new market of hydrogen in India. So, we are quite optimistic in the capacity of the country to attract the financial resources needed. Naturally, there is also an important role for the public and then the financial concessional loans programme. We have also illustrated our initiative on the climate investment platform on the energy transition accelerator financing, which may facilitate money to come and be effective in the country. But, again, if you ask me the general thinking on this, I think India has no problem attracting financial resources it needs because it's a very important market.

**How much of a barrier is the variability of renewable energy in the energy transition?**

Sure, so the variability of the energy or the renewables in the old energy system may be a problem because the grids are not flexible or not interconnected. This is the concern. We have to also be very clear that in the old energy system, with the grid as they are

now renewables, 35%, 40% or 45% may be in the system without creating problems. When we want to go further - higher than this threshold - it's important that the grid is adapted to ensure the flexibility and the connectivity needed. And, where the role of the hydropower, batteries, hydrogen - because hydrogen could also be used as seasonal storage. All these elements have to be put together and work together to make the system function harmoniously. So, naturally, the variability is there, but is not a characteristic that may hamper the development of renewables if we adapt the actual grids and system. I also want to make clear that it is not only an added cost because of the energy transition. Because the demand is growing and the grid needs to be renewed and enlarged anyway. So, in just the case to make this happen in a way that the system could be enhanced to become more modern, to allow for more other energy to come into the system.

**What are policy recommendations for India for the energy transition?**

More than focussing on one or two areas, I say they have to strengthen what they're doing. Because, in my opinion, they are doing well. Naturally, again, everyone has to do more. But they are working on the grid. They understood how relevant hydrogen could be. They will come with a hydrogen mission, with a map that may allow them to have more hydrogen. So, they are working to decarbonise the heavy sector. They are working to export green hydrogen. They are also focussing on bio refineries because bioenergy will be one of the other elements and would be relevant in the new energy system... So all these elements are all together there. So they have to go currently to strengthen the line of work that they are following. It is at least our assessment coming from the work we are doing, our analysis on India.

FULL INTERVIEW ON  
www.indianexpress.com

## ONLINE WATCH VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORK

# VPN cos, Cert-In tiff over customer data: Key issues

AASHISHARYAN  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

VIRTUAL PRIVATE Network (VPN) service providers are up in arms against a new directive of The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team or Cert-In, a wing of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, which has mandated that these companies must maintain all customer data for a period of up to five years. VPN service providers have said that the new directives would mean total loss of privacy for their users, which is one of the most important unique selling point of such services.

**What is VPN and how do these networks function?**

Any and all devices connected to the internet are a part of a large network of computers, servers and other devices spread across the world. To identify each device connected to the internet, service providers globally assign an unique address to each such device called the internet protocol address or IP address. It is this IP address that helps websites, law enforcement agencies and even companies track down individual users and their accurate location.

**Why is privacy so important for VPN service providers**

**VPN providers have said that the new directives would mean total loss of privacy for users**

and users?

The main reason why privacy or anonymity is important for both VPN service providers as well as users is to avoid being tracked, mostly by websites and cybercriminals. Since VPN masks the identity of the device from everyone, it also prevents government and law enforcement agencies from accurately identifying the device or its location.

**What details does Cert In want VPN service providers to provide and why?**

As per the directive dated April 26, Cert In has asked VPN service providers to maintain for a period of five years or longer details such as the validated names of the customers hiring those services, the period for which they hired the service, the IP address allotted to these users, the email address, the IP address and the time stamp used at the time of registration of the customer.

Full report on  
www.indianexpress.com

# Banks hike rates: EMIs set to get costlier, lenders' spread likely to get thinner

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

THREE DAYS after the Reserve Bank India's (RBI's) decision to hike repo rate by 40 basis points, mortgage firm HDFC Ltd on Saturday hiked its Retail Prime Lending Rate (RPLR) by 30 basis points. Canara Bank and Punjab National Bank (PNB) also joined other banks in hiking Repo-Linked Lending Rates (RLLR) by 40 basis points.

The rise in RLLR will lead to an increase in equated monthly instalments (EMIs) on home, vehicle and other personal and corporate loans. The increase in EMI, along with possible subsequent rate hikes and the expected inflation (including food inflation), could visibly damage the cash flows of borrowers, rating agencies said. According to India Ratings, the rising deposit rates would limit the spread benefit for lenders, especially for those with a higher proportion of liabilities at the shorter end, wherein the effect of this rate hike would be immediate and larger. The longer tenor loans, viz. home loans and loans against property (LAP) are likely to witness a sharper increase in EMIs, it said.

ICI Bank, Central Bank of India and Bank of India raised RLLRs two days ago. Other banks are set to follow suit as cost of funds is bound to rise following the sudden RBI move.

HDFC said the hike will come into effect from May 9. HDFC's new rate for loans (for a credit score of 750-plus) will be 7 per cent. For loans up to Rs 30 lakh, the new rate will be 7.1 per cent and 7.05 per cent for women borrowers. Its new rate for loans between Rs 30-75 lakh will be 7.35 per cent

## CASH FLOW IMPACT

■ The increase in EMI along with possible subsequent rate hikes and the expected inflation (including food inflation) could visibly damage the cashflows of the borrower, rating agencies said

(7.3 per cent for women)

HDFC had recently increased its benchmark lending rate by 5 basis points, leading to an increase in EMIs for existing customers.

PNB said the RLLR has been hiked from 6.5 per cent to 6.9 per cent with effect from June 1, 2022 for existing customers. It also increased the savings deposit rates for various tenors. For term deposits of less than Rs 2 crore, it has raised the interest rates to up to 5.1-5.15 per cent.

For single term deposits of Rs 2 crore and up to Rs 10 crore, customers will get interest rates in the range of 3.5-4.05 per cent per annum.

Canara Bank has increased RLLR by 40 basis points from 6.9 per cent to 7.3 per cent. It has changed its Marginal Cost of Fund Based Lending Rate (MCLR) on loans across all tenors with effect from May 7, 2022. One-year MCLR is now 7.35 per cent, it said.

ICI Bank raised its external benchmark-linked lending rate by 40 basis points to 8.1 per cent on Thursday. Bank of Baroda has hiked RLLR by 40 basis points to 6.9 per cent. Bank of India and Central Bank of India also raised RLLR by 40 basis points to 7.25 per cent. Several banks, including

Bandhan Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Jana Small Finance Bank, Bank of Baroda, and ICICI Bank, also announced deposit rate hikes across multiple tenor baskets for retail customers.

For banks, about half of retail loans were home loans (they also amount to 15 per cent of the total non-food bank credit) at end-FY22.

Banks, which are offering repo-linked lending rate, will have to hike interest rates by 40 basis points. As per an October 2019 circular from the RBI, banks linked their retail loans to external benchmark lending rates (EBLR). As a result, most banks have adopted the repo rate as their benchmark. As banks borrow money from the RBI at the repo rate, any change in it affects the lending rate of banks.

The share of RLLR loans in total advances was 39.2 per cent in December 2021, according to the RBI. MCLR-linked loans had the largest share (53.1 per cent) of the loan portfolio of banks as of December 2021.

According to India Ratings, to cushion the impact on the cash flow, lenders are likely to become more flexible with respect to tenor extensions. The share of term deposits in the less-than-one-year bucket increased to 76 per cent from about 73 per cent during FY19-FY21. Of this, about 40 per cent of the term deposits were for a tenor of less than three months. While the transmission of the rate hikes might neither be proportionate nor immediate, there is high possibility for deposit repricing, especially since some banks' incremental loan to deposit ratio was more than 100 per cent in 9MFY22, implying that the competition for deposits could intensify.

# Central banks ramp up inflation fight



RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

## UNITED STATES

50-bp hike in rates by the Federal Reserve, the biggest jump in 22 years

Fed said it was ready to deliver more half-point hikes and plans next month to start reducing its \$9 trillion stash of assets accumulated during the coronavirus pandemic to help bring inflation under control

**JAPAN:**  
The holdout dove

Ultra-low rates to be kept by vowing to buy unlimited amounts of bonds to defend a bond yield target. That sent the yen to two-decade lows against the dollar

## BRITAIN

1% The BoE hiked rates to their highest since 2009 to tame inflation

Policy makers also hardened their language on the need for more tightening in the coming months, so much so that two of the nine BoE rate setters called the guidance too strong

## EURO ZONE

The dovish European Central Bank has become more hawkish given record-high inflation at 7.5 per cent

Rates may need to rise as soon as July, ECB board member Isabel Schnabel said this week. A precursor to any rate hike must be the end of bond purchases, and this could come at the end of June, she added

Source: Reuters

## BRIEFLY

### Toyota, EV parts

New Delhi: Toyota group firms, including Toyota Kirloskar Motor, on Saturday said they will invest about Rs 4,800 crore in Karnataka for local production of powertrain parts and other components of electric vehicles. TKM along with Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts (TKAP) will put in Rs 4,100 crore while a related company, Toyota Industries Engine India, will pitch in with another Rs 700 crore.

### Vehicles scrapping

New Delhi: Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said his aim is to develop at least one automobile scrapping facility within 150 kilometres from each city centre. PTI

## WEEK ENDED APRIL 29

# Forex reserves plunge \$44.73 bn in 8 months

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

EIGHT MONTHS after hitting a record high of \$642.45 billion in September 2021, India's foreign exchange reserves have now fallen below the \$600 billion mark amid capital outflows and strengthening dollar.

## The decline

Foreign exchange reserves declined by \$2.69 billion to \$597.72 billion during the week ended April 29. With this fall, forex reserves have declined \$44.73 billion from \$642.45 billion recorded on September 3, 2021, according to the RBI data. The decline was on account of a fall in foreign currency

assets (FCAs), a major component of the overall reserves. The foreign currency assets also include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the reserves.

## Reasons

A major reason for the decline in forex reserves is capital outflows by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) who pulled out \$21.43 billion since September 2021 as the US Federal Reserve started the monetary policy tightening and interest rate hikes. The biggest fall was in March when FPIs pulled out \$6.56 billion. The demand for dollars also remained high as the Russia-Ukraine war led to a spike in oil and commodity prices apart from depreciation of other currencies. The val-

**FALL IN WEEK ENDED APR 29**  
**\$2.69 bn**

■ Foreign exchange reserves declined by \$2.69 billion to \$597.72 billion during the week ended April 29

uation loss, reflecting the appreciation of the US dollar against major currencies and decline in gold prices have also played a part in the decline in foreign exchange reserves. Movements in the FCA occur mainly on account of purchase and sale of foreign exchange by the RBI, income arising out of the deployment of the foreign exchange reserves, external aid receipts of

the Central Government and changes on account of revaluation of the assets.

## Forex kept outside

The foreign currency assets comprise multi-currency assets that are held in multi-asset portfolios as per the existing norms, which conform to the best international practices followed in this regard, the RBI says. As of September 2021, \$383.74 billion was invested in foreign securities, \$147.86 billion was deposited with other central banks and the BIS and the balance \$42.00 billion comprised deposits with commercial banks overseas. RBI's gold holdings were 743.84 tonnes. The value of gold holdings has gone up nearly \$4 billion to \$41.60 billion

as on April 29, 2022.

## Rupee impact

On Friday, the rupee slumped 57 paise touched a low of 76.96 - just below the all-time low of 76.97 - to close at 76.92 against the US dollar weighed down by a strong American currency overseas and firm crude oil prices. If the rupee slides further, the RBI will be forced to intervene in the forex market by selling dollars from its forex kitty, putting pressure on the total forex reserves. However, a senior RBI official has indicated that it doesn't want the reserves to fall below the \$600 billion level. If the RBI gives preference to sustain the forex reserves level, there could be some rupee depreciation in the horizon, analysts said.

# LIC IPO: NII quota fully subscribed

New Delhi: Shares reserved for non-institutional investors, including high networth individuals, in the LIC's public offer were subscribed fully on the fourth day on Saturday, taking the overall subscription of the issue to 1.66 times.

A total of 3,21,59,055 bids were received for 2,96,48,427 shares reserved for NIIs, reflecting a subscription of 1.08 times, according to the data posted on stock exchanges at 7 pm. However, the Qualified Institutional Buyer (QIB) category received a poor response as just 0.67 per cent of the shares earmarked received the bids on the fourth day of the IPO.

The overall LIC issue was subscribed 1.66 times. Against 16,20,78,067 shares on offer,

26,83,18,335 bids were received. Retail individual investors bid for 10.06 crore shares as against 6.9 crore shares set aside for this segment, translating into an over-subscription of 1.46 times.

Of the total, the policyholders' portion was subscribed 4.67 times, while that for employees was subscribed 3.54 times.

The initial public offering (IPO) will close on May 9.

LIC has fixed the price band at Rs 902-949 per equity share for the issue. The offer includes a reservation for eligible employees and policyholders. The retail investors and eligible employees will get a discount of Rs 45 per equity share, while policyholders will get a discount of Rs 60 per share. PTI

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Macron is sworn-in for a 2nd term as French President. Reuters

## FRANCE

## Macron vows new approach during 2nd term inauguration

FRANCE'S EMMANUEL MACRON was sworn in for his second term as President on Saturday, promising to lead the country with a "new method" as his political rivals kicked off campaigning for next month's legislative elections. In a country where presidents rarely get re-elected, Macron won 58.5% of the votes in the second round against the far-right's Marine Le Pen. In a short speech, he spoke of the need to innovate at a time of unprecedented challenges for the world and for France, and said his second term would be "new" and not merely a continuation of his first five years in office. **REUTERS**

## PAKISTAN

## 8 arrested over suspected religious killing

PAKISTANI POLICE say they arrested eight men of the Ahmadi sect of Islam on Saturday who had opened fire on a group of Sunni Muslims the night prior, killing one and wounding another. Senior officer Faisal Mukhtar said the Ahmadi shot at the Sunnis while they were chanting religious poems in the village of Bahuman, near Lahore in the eastern province of Punjab. One minor suspect was still missing. The killing was a rare case of violence by Ahmadis, who have long held a grievance against the majority Sunnis, who consider them heretics. **AP**

## THE KOREAS

## South: North test-fired missile from submarine

NORTH KOREA flight-tested a ballistic missile that was likely fired from a submarine on Saturday, South Korea's military said, continuing a provocative streak in weapons demonstrations that may culminate with a nuclear test in the coming weeks or months. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the launch occurred from waters near the eastern port city of Sinpo, where North Korea has a major shipyard building submarines. It said the short-range missile flew 600 km. **AP**

# Afghan Taliban order women to cover up head-to-toe in public

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
KABUL, MAY 7

AFGHANISTAN'S TALIBAN rulers on Saturday ordered all Afghan women to wear head-to-toe clothing in public — a sharp, hard-line pivot that confirmed the worst fears of rights activists and was bound to further complicate Taliban dealings with an already distrustful international community.

The decree, which calls for women to only show their eyes and recommends they wear the head-to-toe burqa, evoked similar restrictions on women during the Taliban's previous rule between 1996 and 2001.

"We want our sisters to live with dignity and safety," said Khalid Hanafi, acting minister for the Taliban's vice and virtue



The decree calls for women to only show their eyes and recommends they wear the head-to-toe burqa. AP file

## ministry.

The Taliban previously decided against reopening schools to girls above grade 6, reneging on an earlier promise and opting to appease their hard-line base at the expense of further alienating the international community.

That decision disrupted efforts by the Taliban to win recognition from potential international donors at a time when the country is mired in a worsening humanitarian crisis.

"For all dignified Afghan women wearing Hijab is neces-

sary and the best Hijab is chadori (the head-to-toe burqa) which is part of our tradition and is respectful," said Shir Mohammad, an official from the vice and virtue ministry in a statement.

"Those women who are not too old or young must cover their face, except the eyes," he said.

The decree added that if women had no important work outside it is better for them to stay at home. "Islamic principles and Islamic ideology are more important to us than anything else," Hanafi said.

Senior Afghanistan researcher Heather Barr of Human Rights Watch urged the international community to put coordinated pressure on the Taliban. "(It is) far past time for a serious and strategic response to the Taliban's escalating assault on women's rights," she wrote on Twitter.

# Lanka govt defends move as Opp, envoys criticise it over emergency declaration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, MAY 7

THE SRI Lankan government on Saturday defended imposing a state of emergency, saying it was required to tackle the unprecedented economic crisis plaguing the country, even as President Gotabaya Rajapaksa faced flak from the Opposition and foreign envoys for his decision which gives security forces power to crack down on peaceful protests.

In a special Cabinet meeting on Friday, the embattled President declared the state of emergency with effect from Friday midnight. This is the second emergency declared in just over a month.

The announcement came as



Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

student activists kept the Parliament under siege since Thursday night.

In a statement on Saturday, the Government Information Department said, "Sri Lanka is currently facing the worst economic crisis and political instability ever after Independence due to manifold reasons both short and long-term. The com-

mon perception is that several reforms in the sectors of political, economic and social fabric should be carried out in-depth to escape from this grave situation."

"Political stability and peace in society are two major conditions that are demanded in building confidence and strength to make such programs a success," the statement said.

Sri Lanka is currently in the throes of unprecedented economic turmoil since its independence from Britain in 1948. Despite mounting pressure, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his elder brother and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa have refused to quit office.

The state of emergency gives the police and the security forces sweeping power to arbitrarily ar-

rest and detain people.

The country's human rights body, the main lawyers' body, the Opposition and even some foreign diplomats criticised the government for its move.

The Canadian High Commissioner in Colombo David McKinnon tweeted, "Over the past weeks, the demonstrations across Sri Lanka have overwhelmingly involved citizens enjoying their right to peaceful freedom of expression, and are a credit to the country's democracy. It's hard to understand why it is necessary, then, to declare a state of emergency."

US Ambassador Julie Chung said she was "concerned by another state of emergency. The voices of peaceful citizens need to be heard".

## Iran says EU envoy to visit as bloc seeks to save nuclear deal

REUTERS  
DUBAI, MAY 7

THE EUROPEAN Union's Iran nuclear talks coordinator Enrique Mora is to visit Tehran on Tuesday, the semi-official agency Nour News reported on Saturday, as the bloc said it was seeking to break a deadlock and save the 2015 accord.

Talks to revive Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers have been on hold since March, chiefly over Tehran's insistence that Washington remove the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), its elite security force, from the US Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) list.

"This trip could be seen as a new step in constructive consultations on the few but important issues that have remained in the Vienna talks," Nour News said on Twitter.

Separately, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell told the *Financial Times* he was seeking a "middle way" to end the impasse. Borrell is considering a scenario whereby the designation is lifted on the IRGC, but kept in place on other parts of the organisation, which has several arms and a sprawling business empire.

# Ukraine braces for attacks, evacuates more from steel mill

Ukrainian forces push Russians back from Kharkiv city

ELENA BECATOROS & JON GAMBRELL  
ZAPORIZHZHIA (UKRAINE), MAY 7

RUSSIAN FORCES fired cruise missiles at the southern Ukrainian city of Odesa on Saturday and bombarded a steel mill in Mariupol housing Ukrainian civilians and fighters, hoping to complete their conquest of the port city in time for Victory Day celebrations. Ukraine announced that all women, children and elderly had been evacuated from the steel plant, a key Russian war objective that has long been under siege.

In a sign of the unexpectedly effective defence that has sustained the fighting into its 11th week, Ukraine's military flattened Russian positions on a Black Sea island that was captured in the war's first days and has become a symbol of Ukrainian resistance.

Western military analysts said a Ukrainian counteroffensive also was advancing around the nation's second-largest city, Kharkiv, even as it remained a key target of Russian shelling. The Ukrainian army said it retook control of five villages and part of a sixth near hotly contested Kharkiv.

As Russia's Monday holiday commemorating Nazi Germany's defeat in World War II approached, cities across Ukraine prepared for an expected increase in Russian attacks. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy urged residents to be ready for another state of emergency. The voices of peaceful citizens need to be heard".

The most intense battles in recent days have befallen eastern Ukraine, where the two sides are entrenched in a fierce race to capture or reclaim territory. Moscow's offensive in eastern Ukraine has focused on claiming the industrial Donbas region, where Russia-backed separatists have been fighting since 2014 and occupy some areas.

Moscow's also has sought to sweep across southern Ukraine to both cut off the country from the sea and to connect its territory

## SHELLING DESTROYS MUSEUM DEDICATED TO FAMOUS UKRAINIAN PHILOSOPHER



The statue of philosopher Hryhoriy Skovoroda being removed after a Russian strike hit a museum. Reuters

RUSSIAN SHELLING hit a museum dedicated to the philosopher and poet Hryhoriy Skovoroda in the Ukrainian village of Skovorodivka, causing a fire that destroyed the building, Kharkiv regional governor Oleh Sinegubov said Saturday.

The overnight shelling hit the roof of the Hryhoriy Skovoroda Literary Memorial Museum, injuring a 35-year-old custodian, but the most valu-

able items had been moved earlier to a safer place, Sinegubov said in a post on social media.

"The premises were practically all destroyed," he said. Skovoroda, a famous 18th century philosopher and poet of Ukraine Cossack origin, spent the last years of his life on an estate of the local landowners in the village of Ivanovka, which was later renamed in his honour — Skovorodivka. **REUTERS**

## JILL BIDEN MEETS UKRAINIAN REFUGEE MOTHERS AND TEACHERS IN ROMANIA

SITTING IN a classroom in the Romanian capital of Bucharest, US First Lady Jill Biden met a group of Ukrainian refugee mothers and educators on Saturday, praising the women for their strength and resilience.

Svitlana Salamatova and Anna Sushko, both founders of NGOs focused on women's issues and education, fled Kyiv soon after Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24.

Another of the women, Anastasiia Konovalova, left her home in Odesa with her toddler son. Svitlana Gollyak and her 8-year-old daughter hid in a basement in the bomb-shelled city of Kharkiv before



Jill Biden and Romanian First Lady Carmen Johannis visit a school in Bucharest, Romania. Reuters

heading westwards and on to neighbouring Romania.

"I think mothers will do anything for their children," Jill Biden told the Ukrainian women. "I think you're amazingly strong and resilient." **REUTERS**

# Blast at luxury hotel in Havana kills 26; search on for survivors

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ  
HAVANA, MAY 7

RELATIVES OF the missing in Cuba's capital desperately searched Saturday for victims of an explosion at one of Havana's most luxurious hotels that killed at least 26 people. They checked the morgue, hospitals and if unsuccessful, they returned to the partially collapsed Hotel Saratoga, where rescuers used dogs to hunt for survivors.

A natural gas leak was the apparent cause of Friday's blast at the 96-room hotel. The 19th-century structure in the Old Havana area did not have any guests at the time because it was undergoing renovations ahead of a planned Tuesday reopening after being closed.

Havana city officials raised the death toll to 26 on Saturday, according to the official Cubadebate news site. The dead included four children and a pregnant woman. Spain's President Pedro Sánchez said via Twitter that a Spanish tourist was among the dead and that another Spaniard was seriously injured. Cuban authorities had not provided details on the tourist's death.

Search and rescue teams worked through the night and



Rescue operation underway at the site of a deadly explosion that destroyed Hotel Saratoga in Havana, Cuba, on Friday. AP

into Saturday, using ladders to descend through the rubble and twisted metal into the hotel's basement as heavy machinery gingerly moved away piles of the building's facade to allow access. Above, chunks of drywall dangled from wires, desks sat seemingly undisturbed inches from the void where the front of the building cleaved away.

At least one survivor was found early Saturday in the shattered ruins, and rescuers using search dogs clambered over huge chunks of concrete looking for more. Relatives of

missing people remained at the site while others gathered at hospitals where the injured were being treated.

The emblematic hotel had a stunning view of Cuba's centre, including the domed Capitol building about 100 metres away. The Capitol suffered broken glass and damaged masonry from the explosion.

In the past, Hotel Saratoga has been used by visiting VIPs and political figures, including high-ranking US government delegations. Beyoncé and Jay-Z stayed there in 2013. **AP**

# Ancient Roman bust sold in Texas for \$34.99

MICHAEL LEVENSON  
MAY 7

LAURA YOUNG was browsing through a Goodwill store in Austin, Texas, in 2018 when she found a bust for sale. It was resting on the floor, under a table, and had a yellow price tag slapped on its cheek: \$34.99. She bought it.

Turns out, it was not just another heavy stone curio suitable for plunking in the garden. It was an actual Roman bust from the late first century BCE or early first century AD, which had been part of a Bavarian king's art collection from the 19th century until it was looted during World War II.

How it got to Texas remains a mystery. But the most likely path suggests it was taken by a



The bust, from the late 1st century BCE or early 1st century AD, still had a price sticker on its right cheek — \$34.99 — as its new owner drove it home from a store in Texas. Laura Young via NYT

US soldier after the Bavarian king's villa in Germany was

bombed by Allied forces.

This week, it went on display at the San Antonio Museum of Art, next to signage acknowledging Young's role in its improbable, 2,000-year journey from ancient Rome to the Goodwill Boutique on Far West Boulevard.

Next year, it will be returned to the Bavarian government. She had named it "Dennis Reynolds," after a character from the comedy series *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*. Like the vain and narcissistic character, the 52-pound marble bust was "a very difficult, cold, aloof, emotionless man that caused some problems for me," Young said.

When Young, a dealer of antique and vintage goods, first spotted the bust, she knew it was probably valuable.

She did a Google image search for "Roman bust" and realised, "They look a lot like my guy."

After taking the bust home, strapped in a seat belt in the front seat of her car, she contacted two auction houses, Bonhams and Sotheby's, both of which confirmed that her hunch was right: The bust was from ancient Rome. Young was on vacation, celebrating her 40th birthday, when she got the email from Bonhams. She wanted to return home immediately. "He was at my house, alone," she said.

At some point before 1833, the bust had been acquired by Ludwig I, a Bavarian king, who displayed it in the courtyard of the Pompejanum, his replica of a Roman villa in Pompeii, in the Bavarian town of Aschaffenburg,

according to Young's attorney, Leila Amineddoleh. The Pompejanum was heavily damaged by Allied bombing in 1944 and 1945, and many of its objects disappeared, Amineddoleh said.

The looting of art by the Nazis has gained widespread attention. But because the bust ended up in Texas, it is likely that a US service member either stole it or traded for it, Amineddoleh said.

That meant Young was not the rightful owner because Germany had never sold the piece, Amineddoleh said.

The bust is believed to portray either a son of Pompey the Great, who was defeated in battle by Julius Caesar, or Nero Claudius Drusus Germanicus, a Roman commander whose forces once occupied German territory. **NYT**



Election staff count votes in Belfast on Friday. AP

# Sinn Fein set for historic election win in Northern Ireland

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BELFAST, MAY 7

IRISH NATIONALIST party Sinn Fein was widely expected to become the largest group in the Northern Ireland Assembly for the first time, giving it the right to the post of first minister in Belfast, as vote-counting in this week's election resumed Saturday.

A Sinn Fein win would be a milestone for a party long linked to the Irish Republican Army, a paramilitary group that used bombs, bullets and other forms of violence to try to take Northern Ireland out of UK rule during decades of unrest — in which the British Army and Royal Ulster Constabulary, as well as Protestant Loyalist paramilitaries, were also strongly involved.

A victory would bring Sinn Fein's ultimate goal of a united Ireland a step closer. But the party has kept unification out of the spotlight during a campaign that has been dominated by more immediate concerns, namely the skyrocketing cost of living.

With about 51 of 90 seats counted so far, results showed

## EXPLAINED May have significant consequences

AN IRISH nationalist party's rise to the top in Northern Ireland, which is a part of the UK, is a historic event that could have significant consequences. While Sinn Fein has been in favour of the unification of Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland, the party has not made it a major issue this election. However, opponents of unification, known as unionists, have refused to say if they will cooperate with a government led by Sinn Fein, raising the fear of a breakdown of Northern Ireland's Assembly. Some have also expressed the fear that there could be a return of pre-1998 sectarian violence.

that Sinn Fein has 18 seats, while the Democratic Unionist Party, which has been the largest in the Northern Ireland Assembly for two decades, have 14.

## Egypt: 11 troops killed in militant attack in Sinai

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
CAIRO, MAY 7

EGYPT'S MILITARY said at least 11 troops, including an officer, were killed in a militant attack in the northern part of the Sinai Peninsula.

The military said the militants attacked a water pumping station Saturday east of the Suez Canal.

The statement said security forces clashed with the attacking militants. It says at least five other troops were wounded in the attack.

No group claimed responsibility for Saturday's ambush, one of the deadliest attacks against Egyptian security forces in recent years. Last week, militants blew up a natural gas pipeline in the Sinai town of Bir al-Abd, causing a fire but no casualties.

## Fires in Siberia kill 8, high winds hamper rescue

AT LEAST eight people died in Siberia on Saturday as fires ripped through hundreds of buildings in several villages, with high winds hampering efforts to extinguish the blazes.

In the Krasnoyarsk region, about 3,000 km east of Moscow, fires killed five people in 16 settlements across the Kazachinskoe and Sharypovskiy districts, the local branch of Russia's Investigative Committee said in a statement, leading it to launch criminal proceedings for causing death by negligence.

The local health ministry said 17 people had been hurt, with 11 of them taken to hospital, the TASS news agency reported. **REUTERS**

KRISHN KAUSHIK &amp; MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA

**A**ROUND EIGHT years ago, when he was Brigadier, Manoj Pande was posted in the headquarters of the Eastern Command as the Brigadier General Staff (Operations), one of the most important positions there. His immediate boss was the late General Bipin Rawat, who was the Major General General Staff. Rawat's boss at that time was General Dalbir Suhag, as the Eastern Army Commander.

All three would go on to become Army Chief. While Suhag took over as the 26th Army Chief in July 2014, Rawat became the 27th Army Chief in December 2016 and the country's first Chief of Defence Staff in January 2020, while General Pande took over this month as the 29th Army Chief.

The 28th Chief of the Army, General M M Naravane, was also posted in the Eastern Command in Assam Rifles at that time.

There was one thing though that put General Pande, 60, apart from the rest. He is the country's first Army Chief to have risen to the top from the Corps of Engineers.

Those aware of their military history tell you how the legendary US Army Chief of the early 1930s and Second World War, Douglas MacArthur, once finished top of his class at Corps of Engineers. General Pande similarly stood first in the Young Officers' Course of the Corps of Engineers, and has now broken a glass ceiling in the Indian Army to rise to the top. The Army so far has had Chiefs only from the Infantry, Armoured Corps or the Artillery.

Lt Gen (retd) Sanjay Kulkarni, who served as boss to both Generals Rawat and Pande as Chief of Staff of Eastern Army Command, says he saw Pande "at close quarters" as a Brigadier, and remembers him as one of the brightest officers at the command.

As the Brigadier General Staff, one of Pande's most important tasks was to brief the command's leadership about all operational aspects every morning. Kulkarni recalls: "His retentive memory was good. He wouldn't just point a finger on the map without knowing where it was... Most us would be groping... He is extremely conscientious, very hard working, and puts things across in a very rational way. No emotional outbursts. Takes it very easy, and comes to a very logical conclusion."

There was another thing about General Pande that struck Kulkarni. "He wasn't a chap who would lie to cover up an incident. He would be honest that this is what has happened, this is where we are, and that is how it is. It was up to us seniors to go about it."

From seniors to juniors to batchmates, others too vouch for Pande's attention to detail and his keenness to know things, while also talking about his sincerity, humility, and soft-spoken, mild nature. In that, many say, he is closer to his immediate predecessor Naravane, than say the late Rawat, who was flamboyant and often found himself in a rough patch over his remarks.

General Pande's batchmate from the

## THE SUNDAY PROFILE

## Right man at the right place

General Manoj Pande has broken a glass ceiling by becoming the first Army Chief from Corps of Engineers. But, whether it's his qualifications, career, postings or diligence, the General has been on a march



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

National Defence Academy (NDA), Major Gen (retd) Ajay Seth says: "He is a quiet person, doesn't talk much. But he talks sense when he speaks. He is not a showman."

Seth says they really got to know each other well a few years after the NDA, and recalls the time the two of them prepared for

their first promotion exam in the late 1980s. "Our centre was Yol in Himachal Pradesh... My Commanding Officer had not granted me leave, but I had managed some time and made notes. I asked him about his preparations. He said, 'I have not prepared at all, Ajay. You have to help me.'"

Eventually they worked out a system where Seth would share his notes with Pande in the night, and Pande would return them for the latter to prepare early morning. "Both of us cleared all the papers in the first attempt," Seth says, adding that the friendship endured. "I always tell him that you

## THE ROAD TO TOP

- Brigade Major at a Brigade in 27 Division in Eastern Command
- Commanded Engineering Regiment in Pallanwala, part of 10 Division near Akhnoor
- Commanded an Engineer Brigade as part of the Strike Corps, Western Theatre
- Commanded an Infantry Brigade along the LoC
- Brigade General Staff (Operations), Eastern Command
- As Major General, Commanded 8 Division in Western Ladakh
- Additional Director General (ADGMO-B) in the Military Operations Directorate at Army Headquarters
- As Lt Gen, Commander of 4 Corps in Eastern Command
- Chief of Staff at Headquarters, Southern Command
- Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (Tri-services)
- General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Command
- Vice-Chief of Army Staff

cleared that exam because of my notes. But with just that amount of study, he cleared it in one attempt!"

Colleagues profess equal "awe" over General Pande's stint at Staff College, Camberley, England. Officers with at least nine years of service can sit for the entrance exam of the Defence Services Staff College in Wellington, Tamil Nadu, with those among the top getting the option to study abroad. That was how Pande got to Camberley, one of the most prestigious institutes for military studies in the world.

Lt Gen Raj Shukla, Pande's batchmate who recently retired as the head of Army Training Command, says going to Camberley is a "unique benchmark in any soldier's life". Pandey is that rare officer, he says, "under-promises but overdelivers".

Another NDA batchmate of General Pande, from the infantry, says the Camberley admission showed that "bhai, bande mein dumm hai (the man is solid)". In their batch, about 20 cadets joined the Corps of Engineers. Pande was allotted the Bombay Engineer Group better known as Bombay Sappers. "The environment has changed... Now, more and more people are (joining). People have realised that if you are good, then which regiment you have gone to or which arm you belong to, does not stop... Pandey has been through the rut. He has commanded an infantry brigade, a corps on the Chinese border... If you are good, you are good," says the NDA batchmate.

Born in Nagpur, Maharashtra, Pande did his schooling from the city. His father was an academic, while his mother worked in the All India Radio. Of his two younger brothers, one retired as Colonel from the Army while the other is settled abroad. His only son is in the Indian Air Force.

Upon completion of his Corps of Engineers course, he was allotted 110 Engineer Regiment, which was to come to Pune for the next two to three years. Many officers would have been thrilled at getting to stay at a pleasant military station. However, a young Manoj Pande was not happy and requested his seniors for posting in a regiment which was deployed in the field, where he could hone his skills as a soldier and officer. He hence got posted to 267 Engineer Regiment.

Similarly, Seth points out, after becoming a Brigadier, Pande had the choice to opt for the general cadre or remain in his corps. Pande opted for the general cadre, putting him in the run with other officers. "His capability, his qualities, everything stood out and got him to this rank and appointment."

Officers expect his technical expertise to be good for the Army as it tries to modernise, especially amidst tensions with China. Pande has had important stints in the Southern Command, as the Chief of Staff and as Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Tri-services Command, as well as spent years as a senior military officer along the northern borders with China, including heading 4 Corps and the Eastern Command.

He also commanded a regiment in Pallanwala, which falls under the volatile Akhnoor Sector in Jammu, along the Line of Control between India and Pakistan, during Operation Parakram in the early 2000s. He was Colonel Q of a Mountain Division deployed in Kargil, where his General Officer Commanding was another future Army Chief, General Dalbir Singh. He has also commanded an Infantry Brigade deployed on the LoC, and as Major General, commanded the same Mountain Division in Kargil where he had served under General Dalbir Singh.

Kulkarni says that in the Eastern Command, he was part of almost all hosting parties for visiting Chinese delegations. "He knows exactly what the Chinese are looking at, how they communicate, and how we need to communicate with them."

Kulkarni says General Pande's knowledge in infrastructure building as well as technology at a time when cyber warfare, artificial intelligence etc have become important weapons is good for the Army. "He knows how much time it takes to construct roads and infra in places that are difficult to access... He probably understands the tech part a shade better than what others would," Kulkarni says.

The Lt General also points out that with General Pande, the Army would have continuity in the way of thinking at the top. Having come from the same command, the recent Army Chiefs have been familiar with each other's working styles. "It was a team that gelled well, understood each other well."

As the new Army Chief, he adds, Pande "is the right man at the right place, and placed very well".

## This is the way we go to school

Come May 10, Assam tea gardens will finally have high schools. Down forests, past elephants, bench by bench, teacher by teacher, children of workers can finally hope to finish schooling, have a life outside

## TORA AGARWALA

TWO YEARS ago in September, 14-year-old Sonali Gogoi boarded one of the crowded shuttle buses from the Namsang Tea Estate, where her mother Jondoi Tanti works as a plucker, to Joypur town in eastern Assam's Dibrugarh district. It was the first time that Gogoi had stepped out of the lush tea gardens — to "go to Class 9".

Until then, Gogoi and her friends had attended the local primary school, just a few steps from the labour "lines" — the crowded residential quarters for tea garden labourers — she grew up in.

For four months, Gogoi rented a room for Rs 400 in Joypur, attending the high school there, leaving her mother and her younger sister at the tea garden. But then, her mother fell ill, money ran out and a dejected Gogoi returned home, dropping out of school, just before her final exams. "I thought I would not be able to study again," recalls Gogoi, who wants to be a nurse when she grows up.

Two years later, Gogoi stands in front of the newly constructed 'Model Tea Garden School' in Namsang, with classes from 6 to 12, one of the 97 to be inaugurated later this month as part of Assam government's initiative to "combat dropout rates and facilitate the completion of school education" in the tea garden areas of Assam.

"Now I can take care of my mother," says Gogoi, holding a brand new textbook in hand. "And go to school."

The proposal to set up 200 tea garden schools was introduced in the 2017-2018 state budget by then finance minister and now Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. The state government has plans to build 119 of these schools, of which 97 will start this session. The remaining 22 are in different

stages of construction and will be made functional from the next academic session. In November 2020, foundation stones for 119 model schools were laid at a cost of Rs 142.50 crore.

Assam's tea garden workers are mostly Adivasis from the Chota Nagpur plateau region who were brought to the state by the British as indentured labourers in the 19th Century. Politically considered a crucial vote bank and referred to as the 'Tea Tribes', they have for generations lived marginalised, isolated lives in the gardens.

Literacy and education, too, have long suffered in these areas. According to the Plantation Labour Act of 1951, the responsibility of providing lower primary education (classes 1-5) to children between 6 and 12 years of age lies with the managements of the tea gardens.

But with bigger problems of labour and wages to deal with, for the managements, education of their workers was rarely a priority. Poor infrastructure and lack of facilities have meant high levels of dropouts and low literacy rates among the tea garden youth. In 2015, the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPDR) had, in a report, said that at least 80 per cent of tea gardens in Assam were flouting the Right To Education Act, and illegally employing children in the gardens.

"After lower primary schools, there are no facilities available in the garden areas for higher education. Some Middle English schools (ME schools with classes from 6-8) came up but there were no high schools," Ranaj Pegu, Assam's Minister of Education and Welfare of Plain Tribe & Backward Classes told The Sunday Express. "Our government studied the problem and decided to improve education standards wherever possible."



The newly constructed 'Model Tea Garden School' in Namsang has classes from 6 to 12. Tora Agarwala



Admissions to the 97 schools have begun and teachers from government schools have been hired as the administration prepares itself for the new academic session starting May 10.

Pegu said the government hopes the new schools will "reduce the burden" on tea garden workers. "In the absence of high schools,

children of garden workers would have to travel far. Some parents could not afford to send their children and so, many dropped out," he said.

Like Gogoi. "I never wanted to leave school," she says. But away from home at 14, life became even more difficult. Her father, a carpenter from a nearby village, had succumbed in 2015 to cancer, adding to the family's growing financial burden.

"My mother would send wood, vegetables and some rice once a month from what we had at home," says Gogoi, now 16.

Gogoi's friend Rajonti Jal dropped out of school in Class 8 itself. "My parents did not have money to send me to Joypur," she says. Over the last two years, the 16-year-old has often gone to see if the "big school" was actually being built. From May 10, Jal will be among the 216 children to officially be a student at the Namsang Model School. She will join Class 9.

It is a busy Monday at the school. Students of classes 6 and 9 have brought cardboard pieces to sit on — the desks and benches are yet to be set up — to attend 'bridge classes' that will ease them into the new academic session.

"We have heard that new baideos (elder sister in Assamese) and sirs are coming... I hope they teach us English," says Jomi Orang,

a Class 7 student. Another student, Vivek Goala, from Class 9, asks one of the teachers, "You will be able to make the journey right?"

His anxieties are not unfounded. Located close to the Joypur Reserve Forest, the approach to Namsang is through the dense rainforests of Dehing Patkai National Park, where commuters are known to be often waylaid by herds of wild elephants.

Dipika Choudhury, Inspector of Schools, Dibrugarh, says that among the 13 model schools set up in the district, Namsang was the "most challenging" because of its "unique location".

The school's new principal, Debajit Ghosh, has his work cut out. "When I came here in March, there was nothing but the building. There was no water, no electricity," he says.

Over the last two months, the government has installed solar panels, and a pump and purifier to draw drinking water from the nearby river. "We are also planning to make a reservoir for rain water harvesting and a kitchen garden that can take care of supplies for midday meals," says Ghosh, adding that transporting anything to the school is a task. "We are yet to get the benches and desks because twice the truck driver bringing the furniture arrived in the evening and was too scared to drive

through the forests," says Ghosh.

School inspector Choudhury says she is trying to "motivate" the teachers, and has requested the government to build residential quarters for the faculty.

These days, Ghosh brings his seven colleagues from Dibrugarh and surrounding towns in his car to school. "Understandably, one of our teachers, who is a mother to a 20-month-old baby, has applied for a transfer. The trek is not easy," he says.

About 100 km away is Sapon Tea Estate, also in Dibrugarh district, where another model school is being set up. Nikhil Gonju, who teaches at the lower primary school, says they have "waited three decades" for a high school. Over the last month, he has been going from house to house in the labour lines, explaining to the workers why they should get their children admitted to the new school.

"Education has always taken a backseat in our community. The lack of infrastructure and staff, the isolation that comes with being a tea garden worker... Many parents do not see the point of education. This has resulted in a lack of confidence and we barely interact with other communities," says Gonju, adding that most children who drop out end up working in the tea garden as pluckers or in the factories.

While the tea tribes are largely appreciative of the new schools, experts say implementation of the project is as important as getting the infrastructure off the ground. "The schools are a welcome step but proper implementation is also needed. In tea garden areas, pre-primary and primary education need urgent focus. The existing schools should be made better because dropouts happen at that stage too," says Kamal Tanti, poet and activist from the community.

Bondita Acharya, Director, Purva Bharati Educational Trust, an NGO that works on education and livelihood in rural Assam, including in tea garden areas, pointed out that the pandemic-induced learning loss has affected tea garden children far more than those from other communities. "The schools have been set up, but a lot of work is needed to bring children to the level of the current syllabus," she says.

The gap is something Gogoi worries about too. "My mother is happy about the new school, but I tell her I have not attended classes in two years and I'm behind in studies," she says. But Jondoi is certain her daughter will catch up. "I have always told my daughters not to suffer the life of a tea plucker. Study well, be a doctor or an engineer."

Across THE AISLE



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There is a deliberate and determined attempt to strike at the very foundations of the Indian State. There is a stealthy attempt to deprive the people of their liberty and inalienable rights by chipping at the margins

I BELIEVE I was born free. That I was born in a Westminster-like democracy or a Soviet-style state or an absolute dictatorship or a noisy, quarrelling country is a matter on which I had no control.

I believe I was born with certain inalienable rights. Among them are the right to my body, the right to move freely, the right to exercise my power of speech and writing, the right to form associations with my fellow human beings and the right to work to provide for myself and my family.

The 'State' is no more than the collective name to citizens who choose to organise themselves and constitute a 'State'. When the citizens give unto themselves a charter, that becomes the Constitution of the State. The State cannot assert any right or power or duty beyond what is written in the Constitution. A citizen who does not accept the Constitution may leave the country and become the citizen of another country — if that country will accept her.

PERFECTLY SENSIBLE ARRANGEMENT

Ordinarily, the State and the citizens should be able to co-exist in this perfectly sensible arrangement. The rub lies in the following: the meaning of what is written in the Constitution becomes, sometimes, the bone of contention and, therefore, interpretation. The right to interpret the Constitution is asserted by the judiciary ("sole repository of judicial power") but

# Citizen vs State vs Liberty

that is contested by the legislature ("sole repository of law-making power"). The judges are invariably appointed, but the power of appointment, usually, rests with the government.

In this arrangement, there will be occasions when a conflict may arise between the written word and its meaning. There will be occasions when the legislature and the judiciary may disagree. It is the resolution of such disagreements that distinguishes a mature, civilized country from others.

Such an occasion arose in the United States in 1973. The judges stood by the people and upheld the right of women to privacy, and agency, on the question of abortion (*Roe vs Wade*). Such a moment arose in India in 1976. The judges stood by the government-of-the-day and let down the fundamental rights of the people including the right to life (*A.D.M. Jabalpur vs S.S.Shukla*).

SAVE OR BURY THE CONSTITUTION

In *Roe vs Wade*, the question was whether a State had the power to make a law restricting the right of the mother to abort the fetus. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a right of personal privacy does exist under the Constitution and the right is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy. However, balancing the woman's right against the

State's interest, the Court ruled that the rights were different up to the end of the first trimester, during the period from the end of the first trimester up to viability of the foetus outside the womb, and during the period from viability to birth.

*Roe vs Wade* divided Americans like no other judgement before — until Mr Donald Trump came along and divided Americans more on other issues. There is a likelihood of more division and bitterness if *Roe vs Wade* is reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court. A leaked first draft of the judgment of a majority of the Court in a pending case proposed that *Roe vs Wade* be overruled. According to the leaked document, the decision in *Roe vs Wade* was "egregiously wrong" and "its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences". If *Roe vs Wade* were actually overruled, it would have profound consequences for birth control and same-sex marriage. That is the power the Court wields to enlarge or restrict liberty.

A NATION WAITS

There are several cases pending in the Supreme Court of India touching upon liberty. Among them are:

■ **the demonetization case:** can the State demonetise 86 per cent of the currency, without notice, depriving millions of people of food and medicines for several days?

■ **the electoral bond case:** can the

State make a law that provides for anonymous and unlimited donations to political parties by corporates (including loss-making companies) and ingeniously connects crony capitalism, corruption and contributions to the ruling party?

■ **the Lockdown:** can the State impose a total lockdown without notice to the people and render millions without a home, food, water, medicine, money and means of travel to their permanent places of residence?

■ **Repeal of Article 370 of the Constitution:** can the State dismember a state that had joined the Union under an Instrument of Accession into two sub-state units without obtaining the consent of the people or of the legislature of the state?

■ **Sedition:** can the State slap charges of sedition under Section 124A of the IPC on any one who opposes or mocks the State's actions?

■ **Encounters & Bulldozers:** can the State employ methods like encounters and demolitions to quell dissent or protests by the people?

There is a deliberate and determined attempt to strike at the very foundations of the Indian State. There is a stealthy attempt to deprive the people of their liberty and inalienable rights by chipping at the margins. In the World Press Freedom Index 2022, India has slipped to 150 among 180 countries. Vigilant citizens have knocked on the doors of the Supreme Court, the self-described *sentinel on the qui vive*.

Liberty is waiting for a saviour.

Fifth COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH  
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## Sycophants are dangerous

IT SHOULD have been a good week for our Prime Minister. He has just returned from what appears to have been a very successful trip to Europe. Other than meeting important leaders he would have been happily reminded of old times when he met members of the diaspora in Berlin and Copenhagen and they chanted 'Modi, Modi, Modi'. The Prime Minister was in his element when Indian musicians in full costume appeared seemingly out of nowhere giving him a chance, as usual, to try his hand at playing a large drum. Reporters who travelled to Europe to cover his tour were adulatory in their reports of his successes. One Hindi news channel reported that it was Modi's 'stature' that would soon end the war in Ukraine. The Danish Prime Minister seemed to back this up by urging him publicly to 'speak to Putin'. Modi could not have asked for more.

Within hours of returning to the motherland, though, some uglier realities began to surface. First, came news that the Asia-Pacific Director of Reporters Without Borders (RSF) had in a Congressional briefing presented a report called 'India's Crackdown on Free Speech'. "Nobody wants to see India become a very strong dictatorship like China..." said Daniel Bastard (but the situation is becoming more or less the same in some aspects." The report he presented to the US Congress talked of routine violence against journalists, mentioning Kashmir in particular, and it said that the Indian media was being forced into self-censorship.

Then came alarming news from the World Health Organization that the Government of India had concealed Covid deaths to such an extent that the real figure was probably 10 times the official count. The same officials who let us down so badly at exactly this time last year were trotted out to declare that the WHO was maligning India and using a methodology that was unreliable. They said that India had a very strong register of births and deaths and that this indicated that the official figure of 4.81 lakh deaths at the end of 2021 was accurate.

Now let's examine if the charges being made against Modi are true or malicious propaganda. This newspaper has done a thorough analysis of the WHO's charges and concluded that although there may have been some undercounting, the actual figure is nowhere near the WHO's estimate of 47.4 lakh deaths. What we need to ask is why India's official figures are being questioned at all, and the answer, in my humble opinion, is that too many lies were told by too many officials at the height of that deadly Delta wave that swept through India last summer.

When bodies were seen floating in the Ganga, we were told that this was normal because some Hindus believed in giving their loved ones a *jal samadhi*. When the banks of our most sacred river began to be covered in thousands of shallow graves, the official explanation was that there were Hindu communities who believed in burial. When people started dying from the unavailability of oxygen and hospital beds, the official explanation was that this was an exaggeration. When queues formed outside cremation grounds, we were told that there were some 'vulture journalists' who had no business to be reporting from cremation grounds.

Not many did. The media has been whipped into such subservience. The courage that we once showed in reporting government corruption and failures began to die before Modi won his second term, and has died some more in the past four years. Reporting on politics and governance has become difficult. Journalists who continue to show defiance are routinely punished by the Government of India's investigative agencies. And in any case, there are no more than a handful. There are private news channels today that sound so much like government mouthpieces that if poor, shabby old Doordarshan were closed for good, it would not be missed.

The problem with forcing officials and journalists to become servile sycophants is that the government begins to believe its own propaganda. So, when international organisations or newspapers report on failures and flaws, the response of the highest officials in Modi's government is to talk of an 'international conspiracy' against India. This is crazy talk. As the Prime Minister would have discovered on his tour of Europe, the West is very keen for India to succeed so that it can act as a buffer against the emerging new world order led by China.

If there is an 'international conspiracy', it is to make India somehow overcome her failures of governance and economic policy to emerge as a real challenge to China. When India has done well, she has been applauded by the same western newspapers which our officials charge with being anti-India. It is because the Modi government's media policy has been essentially to muzzle the domestic media that there has been bad press abroad. It is because we lied about the extent of the horror we experienced during last summer's deadly Covid wave that there has been such a serious loss of credibility.

Sycophants have a place in autocracies where for a while they thrive by singing praises to the Dear Leader, but even there, they end up weakening him eventually instead of helping him become a better autocrat. In democratic countries, the damage that sycophantic officials and servile journalists do is incalculable. Until it is too late.

inside TRACK

COOMI KAPOOR



PK'S CULTURE SHOCK

AFTER THE breakdown of negotiations with the Congress, Prashant Kishor decided that his next experiment will be "direct contact" with people rather than his working for political parties. He selected his home state of Bihar, which looks like fertile territory, what with Nitish Kumar and the BJP warring and Tejaswini Yadav still to find his feet. Kishor's hopes of indirectly controlling the Congress, the only all-India alternative to the BJP, were shattered after his recent interaction with Congress leaders. Despite warnings that the Congress is a quagmire, Kishor was willing to take a leap of faith because Priyanka Gandhi Vadra backed to the hilt his plan for revamping the party. But he discovered that the popular perception that the Gandhi family works as a single unit was incorrect. Priyanka does not have the power to call the shots on her own and Rahul's advisers ensured that Kishor's position in the party would be ambiguous. Reality hit home during the negotiations over the lack of constitutional authority of the proposed Empowered Action Group with Kishor as a member. Kishor discovered midway through the talks that Rahul had already left India for a scuba diving trip followed by a visit to Nepal for a wedding. Priyanka had flown off to Los Angeles. Kishor was informed that any formal position for him in the party could be decided only around September when a 'new' party president could be chosen.

NITISH MOVES OUT

Nitish Kumar moving out of the CM's residence at 1, Anne Marg, to his old house at 7, Circular Road, has reinforced the buzz that he may soon step down as Chief Minister. The excuse that the house is being renovated does not explain why 17 cows were also shifted, since the cow shed was not to be touched. Nitish has made his unhappiness with the BJP evident ever since its members started demanding that a BJP leader be installed as CM. Their argument is that the BJP won 74 Assembly seats in 2020 compared to the JD(U)'s 43, even though both parties contested about the same number of seats. Hints have been thrown that Nitish could move to Delhi as a Central minister or be considered as a candidate for vice-president. But Nitish, a seasoned veteran at floor crossing, knows better than to take the BJP's blandishments at face value. He has rubbished Yogi

Adityanath's ban on loudspeakers on mosques, mended fences with old rival Tejaswini Yadav and criticised any move for a Uniform Civil Code. He is aware that his trump card is that without his 40-plus MLAs no government can be formed in Bihar.

BJP'S 4 R TEAM

The BJP has a team of four feisty people, all with names beginning with R, to take on the Shiv Sena. Rane (Narayan), Rana (Navneet), Ranaut (Kangana) and Raj (Thackeray). The BJP's aim is to win Mumbai's Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation elections later this year, which would cripple the MVA government. The BJP's strength is the support of north Indians and Gujaratis. The Shiv Sena relies on the Marathi *manoos*. Raj Thackeray's rally in Aurangabad had the full backing of the BJP, which hopes that Raj's shrill Hindutva campaign and call for a ban on mosque loudspeakers will eat into the traditional Sena vote. The mild-mannered Uddhav has become the darling of a section of liberals while alienating his party's hardcore supporters. To restore the Sena's Hindutva credentials, Aditya Thackeray is planning a pilgrimage to Ayodhya and Uddhav wants to honour Bal Thackeray's wish to rename Aurangabad as Sambhajinagar, but the Congress is resisting. The Congress also wants to contest municipal elections independently.

CONSENSUS BUILDING

The BJP does not require non-NDA parties to win the forthcoming presidential and vice-presidential elections, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi would like to give an appearance of consensus by seeking the support of neutral parties. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has been deputed to speak to Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik, Rajya Sabha MP G V L Narasimha Rao is to approach Telangana CMK Chandrashekar Rao and NTR's daughter D Purandeswari is to talk to Andhra CM Jagan Reddy.

WHAT HO, JEEVES

PG Wodehouse was in the news when prison authorities refused to allow activist Gautam Navlakha a book by the humorist on the grounds that it was "a security risk". Ironically, former Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha Shumsher Sherif believes that he secured the highest marks in his UPSC interview in 1977 because he cited Wodehouse as one of his favourites. His interviewer, renowned administrator Badruddin Tyabji, roared with laughter and was even more tickled by the answer to the question as to what he liked best about Wodehouse books. Sherif explained that after reading them, it was impossible to construct the story by yourself.



NASEERUDDIN SHAH

MANALAL-SHARIF, the Saudi human rights activist who was jailed for defying the ban on women driving in her country, said with hope, "the rain begins with a single drop". However in our country, that first single drop was of acid rain, and it fell when Narendra Modi was elevated to Chief Minister of Gujarat as reward for being the charioteer of L.K Advani's hate-fuelled 'rath yatra', which opened the floodgates of the othering of the Muslim community.

A stroke of genius designed to alienate Muslim men and women from each other was not just the banning but the criminalization of triple talaq — mark however the irony inherent when Modi talks only of his concern for Muslim women, never the men... The hypocrisy is quite staggering when one considers how quickly these "be-hem betayan" became traitors instigated by a "foreign hand" in the Shaheen Bagh demonstrations. His attempts, later, to tar the protesting farmers as "andolanjeevis" and parasites didn't work quite so well.

Millions of Modi's apologists of course will argue that the PM is not personally responsible for every ill-deed and cannot be expected to comment on everything, including the barbaric instigations spewed forth almost every day by Hindutva clerics. That open calls for a genocide of Muslims elicited no response (forget condemnation) at all is proof, if proof were needed, that the rot begins at the top. The constant invocation of Aurangzeb and Mahmud Ghaznavi has only one goal — to exacerbate imaginary wounds among the right-wing Hindu populace in our country. Even Tipu Sultan who resisted the British with all his might is not safe from vilification. And of course the Taj Mahal and Qutb Minar were "Hindu temples" converted into Muslim memorials.

Faiz Ahmed Faiz's *nazm* "Hum dekhenge..." was written during the rule of Zia-ul-Haq; he penned "Aaj bazaar mein..." during his imprisonment by the Ayub Khan government — neither despot bothering with even putting up a pretence of democracy. The removal of his verses from school textbooks indicates the chilling fact that protest of any kind is no longer permissible. Is someone afraid that these poems will resonate with the imprisoned intellectuals, activists and teachers in our country? Or is it just that Faiz is Pakistani? The removal of "Hum ke thehre ajnabi..." is baffling as it was written to heal, not rub salt in, wounds when Faiz visited the newly created

## Who is afraid of Faiz Ahmad Faiz?



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Bangladesh. I really wonder if the worthies on the education board who forbade these poems have actually even read or understood them.

The ball of course was set rolling (with not a little instigation, one assumes) by a faculty member of IIT Kanpur who was offended by the line "Sab taj uchhale jayenge, sab buth ukhaade jayenge", as tending to glorify Ghaznavi! Does someone with such tunnel vision and limited understanding of imagery deserve to be teaching at an IIT or anywhere at all? The supreme irony is that "Hum dekhenge..." was considered anti-Muslim by right-wingers in Pakistan at that time!

With an unspeakable sense of trepidation one awaits the day when Faiz's, or any Urdu, poetry and literature will be banned in totality in our country, considering the anxiety in some quarters to declare Urdu a foreign, or Muslim, language and the speed with which attempts to erase all traces of India's Muslim past are under way, while our Pradhan Sevak addresses the nation from ramparts of Red Fort, which of course was built by "Hindu kings" and for which the marauding Mughals "falsely" claim credit!

At the same time the Prime Minister of a country that actually looted us is warmly received and hugged and is Modi's "khaas dost", just as Donald Trump was at one time, not to mention Nawaz Sharif.

As it is, Boris Johnson is hanging on to the PM-ship of his country with a single

strand of his disheveled hair, and Trump is edging closer to incarceration. One is excusably concerned about the future of the next world leader whom Modi will walk around hand-in-hand with. Could it be Vladimir Putin?

With not one contestant on a quiz show sometime ago being able to name the writer of "Saare jahan se achha Hindustan hamara" (Rabindranath Tagore? Munshi Premchand?) or who coined the slogan "Inquilab zindabad"; with the Hindification of Persian city names; the dissemination of literature like "Vedic scientists of ancient India"; the claim that we had flying machines centuries before the Wright brothers; that it was IVF that resulted in the birth of a hundred Kauravas; that the God Ganesh's elephant head was placed on him by plastic surgery, it does seem inevitable that future history books will be indistinguishable from mythology and render us the laughing stock of the world.

There will presumably be 600 years in our country's history which just didn't happen or in which untold miseries were heaped upon the Hindu populace of India by Muslim invaders whose only preoccupation it seems was to convert temples into mosques.

Truly "Khoon ke dhabbe dhulenge kitni barsaatonke baad?"

The writer is an actor, director and occasional writer

life & WORK

PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI



RECENTLY A video of Rahul Gandhi at a club, attending a friend's wedding in Nepal, went viral. The video became an occasion to sit in judgement on whether he is a serious politician. What is the role of a "serious" politician and does the politician in question fit the bill — I leave that part to people and party workers to decide. However, one segment of the reactions to the video clearly translates into this rather unreal expectation from politicians — that they can't take time off to step out for lunch, dinners, social gatherings or to be seen amongst friends and family beyond work. It's this notion that I choose to address.

## Why can't politicians have fun? Seriously

Politicians are censured and reprimanded for stepping out of some imaginary *Lakshman Rekha* that draws the line on how they can dress, talk and eat in public. When I joined politics, I was advised by well-wishers to not share my personal life — details of my family and friends or holiday pictures on social media. I chose to disagree. I would be a hypocrite to hide an aspect of my life just to adhere to some expected standard of how society perceives its leaders. However, the few times that I have shared bits and pieces of my personal life, I have received repulsive comments on social media platforms, where the bots get unleashed. Hence, it is no wonder that many politicians choose to keep their lives private. Unfortunately, it is the era of mobile phones and surreptitious video recording that make

it almost look like a crime to be seen to be letting your hair down.

In many countries it is considered normal for the head of State to take time off. As the profile and demography of politicians gets younger in a young nation, we need to embrace the idea of a changed way of political life. Wouldn't it be nicer to have politicians share some moments of their private lives, those spent amongst their friends and family? Why should they look and behave like uptight killjoys, 24x7? It is the reality of today that the youth don't connect with politicians. It is so because they can't relate to someone who is always politically right. The definition of a 'serious' politician needs to be challenged and changed.

In the same vein, it should be normal to have politicians across political divides to

enjoy some moments together. I recall an incident during an education summit in Doha in which Alka Lamba (Congress), Nupur Sharma (BJP) and I (Shiv Sena) took part, along with many others. After the summit, we went on a city tour and clicked a selfie together. In all sincerity, we posted it on our social media platforms. Little did we realise that it would go viral for months, with many commenting about how we were holidaying at some unknown destination instead of working for the people. While I found it very amusing, I ended up defending myself to many.

I believe it is time to stop putting politicians on a pedestal and tie them to the ideas of 'tyaag and balidaan'. More importantly, political opposition should be based on issues; reducing the narrative to commenting

on personal lives is the lowest form of opposition. We politicians are as human as anyone else. Stepping out for a breather is something every profession and organisation encourages as long as it doesn't come in the way of work. Ever since the pandemic happened, there has been a constant emphasis on mental health and fitness, and creating awareness about work-life balance. As a society, we need to normalise politicians having a personal life without being critical, unless it involves behaviour that is banned by law. Wouldn't people prefer to see those in political lives as one of their own, facing similar challenges, similar time constraints, similar work-related stress?

Shiv Sena leader Priyanka Chaturvedi is a Rajya Sabha MP



## POINT OF VIEW

## The Lines Are Drawn

An exhibition of cartoons honours the unintended archivist and offers glimpses into India as a newly independent nation



Shubhra Gupta

**M**OVIES FROM the south are gold at the box office. "Bollywood has forgotten how to make movies." These two statements have been tossed out so frequently during the last six months, that even hardened sceptics have suspended disbelief.

Just what is going on?

Most industry experts say that only two Bollywood films made their top 2021 list: Rohit Shetty's cop caper *Sooryavanshi* and Kabir Khan's sports saga *83*; the rest were all from the south, and topping the list was *Pushpa: The Rise*, the story of an underdog who smites the ungodly hip and thigh, and emerges victorious. Right now, almost half way through 2022, the biggest films are SS Rajamouli's rousing period-adventure-epic *RRR* and Prashanth Neel's unstoppable *K.G.F: Chapter 2 (KGF2)*, in which Yash towers over the vast Kolar Gold Fields and a phalanx of foes, which includes an Indian prime minister, no less.

Figures are being bandied about like candy floss. Five hundred crores, thousand crores, more! While no one really has a handle on the exact figures, there's no doubt that *KGF2* has surged ahead of *RRR*, making it the second-biggest hit in Indian cinema (the first is still Rajamouli's *Baahubali 2: The Conclusion*). Remember the never-heard-of-before 100-crore mark, breached by movies like Aamir Khan's *Ghajini* (2008) and Salman Khan's *Bodyguard* (2011), and the multiple hundred crores made by *3 Idiots* (2009) and *PK* (2014), directed by Rajkumar Hirani, both headlined by Aamir? Feels like peanuts today.

But long-time observers also know that figures can be both inflationary and deceptive. The number of tickets sold, on the other hand, is a much more tangible metric. Take a look at these numbers shared by BookMyShow — 6 million plus for *Pushpa*, 13.5 million for *RRR*, and 15 million and counting for *KGF2*. The average contribution to the total tickets sold pegs the Hindi versions at 43 per cent and Telugu at 34 per cent.

The films that tanked, during the same period, have some of the biggest names of Hindi cinema — Amitabh Bachchan's slum-upliftment drama *Jhunjhun*; John Abraham's anti-terror actioner *Attack*; Akshay Kumar's what-in-heaven's-name-was-that *Bachchan Pandey*; and Shahid Kapoor's sporting drama *Jersey* — and have all been sub-par, business wise.

Kamal Gianchandani, CEO, PVR Pictures, unpacks this current phenomenon, in which it would appear that these films from the south (*Pushpa* and *RRR* in Telugu and *KGF2* in Kannada) have succeeded in diminishing the might of Bollywood. "There's no doubt that these three films are massively successful," he says. "But Bollywood's *Gangubai Kathiawadi* and Hollywood's *Batman* can also be counted as very profitable. So yes, while certain movies haven't performed as per expectations, the good news is that people are back in theatres. And the pent-up demand right now is for 'event movies', as audiences have been starved of the big screen experience for two pandemic years."

But the enthusiasts yelling hosannahs for the current southern bonanza forget that "event films" are not confined to regions or countries. There are huge expectations from Aamir and his majorly-delayed *Laal Singh Chaddha*, the Karan Johar-produced, Ayan Mukerji-directed *Brahmastra*, as well as from James Cameron's *Avatar 2*. Films from the south are the flavour of the season, but it takes no time for content-saturated viewers to change their minds. Today it is exotic, tomorrow back to the familiar.

"The good thing about the success of these



## BOX-OFFICE BATTLES

Is the success of recent films from the south teaching Bollywood a lesson or two in positioning and storytelling?



## PICKING UP CUES

(Clockwise from top) Stills from *RRR*; *Thalavai*; *Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui*; *Pushpa: The Rise*; *Gangubai Kathiawadi*; *K.G.F: Chapter 2*

films is that doors have opened all over the country. But it's also important to remember that of all the films made in the south, only two or three will work across India. It cannot be a *bhed-chaal* (herd mentality)," says Bhumika Tewari, head of revenue, Zee Studios, which has distributed films like Ajith's cop caper *Valimai* (2022) and Kangana Ranaut's Jayalalitha biopic *Thalavai* (2021). "Literally, everyone knew *KGF 2* and *RRR* were on their way, and they delivered handsomely after so many years of anticipation. The success of the films also has to do with smart positioning and marketing. The rustic, grassroots feel of these films connected with audiences everywhere. Films with a universal story will travel, which is why the reverse is also happening; dubbed versions of Anubhav Sinha's *Article 15* (2019), Raj Mehta's *Good Newwz* (2019) and Anurag Singh's *Kesari* (2019) (three very different films in tone and tenor) have done well in the

south," she says.

What's common among these "south films", which have done exceedingly well in their Hindi dub/English subtitles versions, are great production values, lavish scale, larger-than-life heroes (and villains), and a fallback on familiar tropes like good vs evil, lone guy vs the system, and popular mythological figures. But it's not all for the good. With their bristling machismo and regressive flexing, these films offer scant space for significant female characters. Leading ladies inserted strictly to bring up the rear is a straight dive back into the dark ages. A *Pushpa* offers money in exchange for a kiss from a simpering miss; a Rocky kidnaps a woman for his "entertainment". What is that, if not deeply, unapologetically toxic? And has their mammoth success made us blind to these disturbing elements? Make money, will ignore toxicity? If you take away the regional specificities,

and the *desi-fied* nods to *Game of Thrones* (2011-19) and *Mad Max Fury* (2015), these are the kind of films that Bollywood used to make in the '70s and '80s, with their long-suffering mothers, dutiful sons, risible romances, and dubious dialogues. Hindi cinema abandoned, more or less, such films around the '90s, and by the turn of the millennium, it had become an industry trying for new, while holding on to the old for safety's sake, just the way risk-averse mainstream film industries do the world over. What got left out in this churn was the low-grade masala flick, which kept circulating in the hinterland areas of Hindi-speaking north India, but with zero-production values. Which is why Aamir and Salman had to reach down south to create blockbuster Hindi remakes of *Ghajini* (2008) and *Bodyguard* (2011) (made originally in Tamil, both blockbusters) to reel back the audience feeling left out by the city-slicker rom-coms and high-



## BOOKS

- Review of K Raju edited *The Dalit Truth: The Battles for Realizing Ambedkar's Vision*
- Review of Abhay K's *Monsoon: A Poem of Love and Longing*
- Review of Stephen Alter's *Birdwatching*



concept social dramas that Bollywood had begun toying with. But, and this is the thing, the audience tired of the south masala just as it had of north masala, spiked with double entendres, numbing violence and heroes romancing leading ladies half their age.

Clearly, given the success of these "new" 2021-22 iterations, the craving for well-grounded masala hasn't gone anywhere, and the Hindi-speaking audience, at one time so reluctant to embrace anything that came from the dark-skinned south, is obligingly filling theatres. It was Rajinikanth who began breaking these racist barriers with *Enthiran* (2010) and *2.0* (2018), drawing cheering crowds even in their non-dubbed, non-subtitled versions. But it is equally clear that if Bollywood were to begin making these movies again, it would be laughed out of court. It has taken decades to acknowledge the widespread problem of ugly, casual sexism, even though the default, especially in coarse comedies has dollops of it, both in dialogue and characterisation. But now and then, there is pushback in the shape of such movies as Abhishek Kapoor's *Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui* (2021) and Harshvardhan Kulkarni's *Badhaai Do* (2022), which strike the gong for same-sex love and diversity. They may be exceptions rather than the rule, but at least they exist. We will willingly watch Allu Arjun's character go all misogynistic, as long as we have Ayushmann Khurrana's character make up for it.

Also, and this is crucial, the skill of the filmmaker in making us believe is paramount. When Sanjay Leela Bhansali invites us into the gorgeously stylised universe of the pretty prostitute and her playthings, we gladly submit. When Rajamouli magics up a frame with scores of scampering animals and humans choreographed at a scale we haven't witnessed before, we revel in it. These filmmakers have conviction in their creation, and, by extension, their audience. Not every filmmaker has it, and it is also why not every film works. That most bizarre romance *Radhe Shyam* (2022), starring Prabhas, was a dud not just in the north, but also in its home state, Andhra Pradesh.

Is this a wake-up call for Bollywood? Of course it is. The smugness of an industry which coasted on the pan-India appeal of its movies starring smouldering angry young men, its musical romances and glitzy actioners, has been shattered. But it's only the megabudget tent poles, inflated by the enormous star fees and even bigger egos, which are crashing and burning.

What has gained tremendous traction, especially during the pandemic, are the original movies and web series being produced by streaming platforms such as Netflix, Amazon, and Disney-Hotstar, which have broken free of starchy shackles and are busy focussing on strong plots, and attracting real acting talent. "*Baahubali* proved that we could make a film with pan-Indian appeal in the south," says Shobu Yarlagadda, producer of both editions of *Baahubali*. "And *RRR* has proved that larger-than-life movies, the way Rajamouli makes them, will get people back into theatres."

So, will a film be forced to go bigger and bigger in order to sustain footfalls? "No," he says, "that is a trap. A Hollywood film can come along which is even bigger. Not everything is about size. We are now at the stage when right at the scripting stage, we can decide whether the film is fit for a theatrical release, or it will go straight to OTT, whether it will work within the state it is being made in, or it will work equally in its dubbed and subtitled versions across India and the globe. Smaller, softer movies work best on streaming platforms; for the big screen experience, you need a spectacle. But either way, big film or small, what works across the board is attitude, vision and conviction."

And that's true whether it is Bhansali or Rajamouli, Hindi or Telugu, north or south.

## DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal

Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

### Wild Relatives

Which great ape defines you, since the difference is only one per cent?

WHEN CHARLES Darwin finally announced to the world that our nearest living relatives were the great apes, civilised society was outraged and roundly pilloried him. I dare say, when the great apes heard about this, they must have been equally appalled. But the evidence that there's a nearly 99 per cent genetic match between us and them (like those outrageous CBSE scores) is overwhelming: A few genetic tweaks and, hal-lelujah, hello gorilla!

If I were to choose between the chimpanzee, gorilla and orangutan, which great ape would I prefer to be? Actually, all three of them were fortunate, they had fairy godmothers who looked after them for decades (Dian Fossey for gorillas, Jane Goodall for chimps and Birute Galdikas for orangutans), who popularised their cause and ensured their survival. So, which one for me?

First, the largest and most powerful: the gorilla. Gorillas invariably remind me of American footballers, except they have more sense than to simply lower their heads and charge headlong into each other. But then, the pack leading silverback is usually a magnificent animal, with a 56+++ inch chest, and that thunderous brow guarding his gentle brown eyes. He moves his bulk with grave dignity, is usually laid-back and relaxed, making his ladies feel likewise and will even tickle his children under the chin to make them chortle helplessly. He may extend this affection and protection even towards our own young — as the controversy over Harambe the famous Cincinnati Zoo silverback showed: the debate still rages whether Harambe was going to help the little boy who'd fallen into his enclosure or harm him. He was shot anyway.

He can be roused to great rage. When he, his ladies or children are threatened, it's a terrifying spectacle. As he heaves to his feet, he beats thunder on his chest and charges, flattening all the foliage in his way. In most cases, the charge is bluff, and carried through just enough to see the challenger turn tail and flee (if you're the "challenger", they say, don't run, just bow your head and pretend to eat leaves, signalling submission). But when combat ensues, the results can be bloody; his canines are like daggers and a thump from his fist will make your head explode. But mostly all he really wants is to be allowed to eat in peace (he's vegan), keep an eye on his family and, occasionally, play with his children, and take his family to the best dining outlets in the jungle. A lifestyle worth considering.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

I SEE YOU

Chimpanzees can be hyper and Machiavellian

Next are the chimpanzee: Frankly, I find them just too hyper and almost Machiavellian. There's a conman's shrewdness in their eyes as they appraise you, as if figuring out how best to take the mickey out of you. They seem to be a bit too much like the lumpen elements in every political party: always in a power struggle, ever primed to explode into extreme violence, showing off status by rushing wildly through the forest tearing at the foliage, or beating it up with sticks; throwing stones and hooting and screaming hysterically. Even groups enjoying a little peace and quiet are liable to explode into incandescent hysteria, hooting, panting and running riot, ruining one's afternoon siesta without notice. They're capable of serious violence, too: gangs patrol their territories and if they find an interloper, they will go screaming up the trees in pursuit and rip the trespasser to shreds — male, female or child.

Then how about their "opposite" species — the bonobos? Bonobos separated from regular chimps millions of years ago and took on a hippie lifestyle. Instead of war, they made love — virtually everywhere and in front of everyone, no holds barred. Can you imagine the repercussions of such behaviour in this day and age, where holding hands while gazing at the sunset is considered a lynch-worthy offense? Besides, social media would freak out with censorious comments about your "orgies" and so on. So, for me, chimps are a definite no!

Now to the orangutans: those "old men of the forest" that live in Indonesia. I like them! There's that shining humorous mischief in their eyes, their lazy-daisy way of moving arm over arm as they ascend the trees — never seeming to be in a hurry. They will appraise you with shrewdness and imitate you — chuckling softly to themselves — as they go about the task. You cannot imagine orangutans throwing temper tantrums like gorillas or chimps, even the big, bearded granddaddies would rather intimidate merely by their appearance than get into something as undignified as physical combat. They seem quietly confident in the power of their arms. Of course, redheads are notorious for their short fuses, but orangutans seem to be the exception to the rule. There's an element of yogic gentleness about them — all they seem to want is to be left in peace so they can munch their leaves and fruit to their heart's content.

Of course, there is a covert reason why I have a soft spot for orangutans. One of my first girlfriends in Delhi was an orangutan called Pinky, who waddled up to me with her keeper, slung her arms around my legs and embraced me. No girl has ever done that! Need I say more?

# The Lines are Drawn

From unbiased political satires to a dig at scientific temper, a late self-taught cartoonist's biting and unselfconscious works are on display at a Delhi exhibition

Aakash Joshi

WE LIVE in an age of manufactured confessions. In writing, this has meant the explosion of the first-person singular — most pieces are permeated by the perspective of the "I". For the young and the "connected", this self-obsession is exemplified by the selfie. Every passing thought, every opinion, and every trauma seems so often to have meaning only in its performance, in the degree to which it can elicit either plaudits or abuse.

Even without this context, "The Wry Eye", an exhibition of a selection of cartoons by the late Inder Bhan Madan being exhibited by the Foundation for Contemporary Indian Art (FICA) at Lado Sarai in Delhi till May 31, tells fascinating stories. Madan, born in 1909, worked for the Department of Post and Telegraph for much of his professional life. He served as a communication officer during the 1962 Sino-Indian War, and as a senior civil servant, saw early India's modernity-in-the-making. But Madan is unlike the colonial diarists that preceded him, or the self-reflecting (and often self-serving) work of those who reminisce about their days in government. Or, even from the more noble desire of most artists, who at their best, need to give expression to an impulse or a thought and once having put it to paper, canvas or any other medium, need it to be seen.

Madan died in 2007, aged 98. For the last decade, his daughters Chandra and Shobha Madan have helped sort through his work and put this exhibition together, which has been designed and curated by Shambhavi Gairola at FICA.

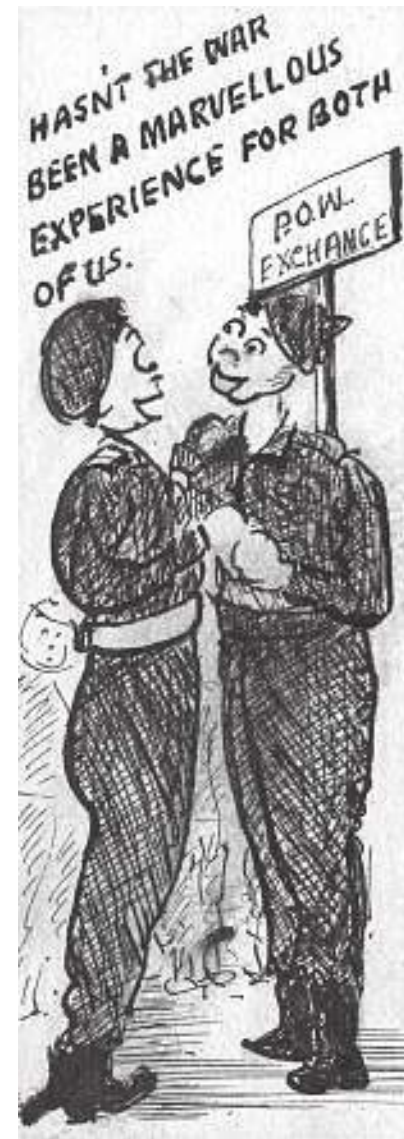
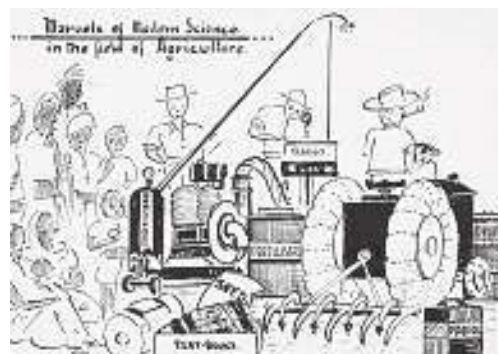
For 50 years, from the 1950s to the early 2000s, Madan drew a cartoon or image almost every day. He hardly ever dated or signed his work — he never meant for it to be seen. But in his work, he covers the events that the ancients said (according to British-American author Christopher Hitchens) every person must experience for a complete life — love, poverty and war. The exhibition at FICA provides only a glimpse of his vast archive. But the curation manages to bring out the depth of his engagement with a variety of issues.

Madan's cartoons from the time he served as a communications officer during the China war are refreshing. Had he been commenting on more recent conflicts, in the current political milieu, one would have understood why he never published them. He brings out the absurdity, *a la Catch-22*, of the conflict: at times, soldiers appear like ants on a hill — the bird's-eye view of the powers that be — and at others, all too human and similar, no matter their nationality. In one cartoon, for example, two prisoners of war from either side talk about "their wonderful experience".

Madan's keenest observations, though, are of the state, bureaucracy and how it makes "policy" for the poor. The politician and bureaucrat are the butts of his most cut-



IMAGES COURTESY: FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART



ting observations. Is this an act, perhaps, unwitting of self-criticism? It is interesting to see him subtly take on the hypocrisies of scientific temper and mechanised agriculture, especially at a time when so many of us view Nehruvian India with rose-tinted glasses. But, democracy was a work-in-progress even when Madan drew the pompous government scientist leading the charge of mechanised agriculture, as the farmer looks on, hapless, with his cows and bullocks in tow.

In frame after frame, he points out the vast distance between those who make policy for "the people" and the people themselves, whose burdens don't seem to abate. This is not to say that his political satire is from the standpoint of a socialist, anti-statist, or environmentalist. It is, in a sense, truly unbiased — every hypocrisy, including those of student protestors, is targeted.

As time went on, Madan moved away from strictly political and economic themes to more reflective ones. The black-and-white political cartoons gradually become coloured panels and, eventually, portraits that explore the nature of marriage, children and the sad questions we all ask ourselves

### POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

(Top) The late artist Inder Bhan Madan; some of his works on show

as life goes on. He comments, for example, on how society saw women: "They must work, never play". A portrait of a woman is captioned, "does she still love me?"

It is impossible to say, over a decade after his death, whether Inder Bhan Madan was articulating his own pain with his later drawings. He never intended any of his work for public consumption. The glimpse into his art — the drawings, and writing — show a remarkable degree of skill. They indicate also that he was a connoisseur of the political cartoon, and a great practitioner of the form that is polemical, journalistic and satirical all in one. He is stark when he needs to be, and has an economy with the brush and pen that is rare.

There have been, and still are, thousands of Indians who write diaries, who have insights that will be unseen. What makes

Madan's work so captivating is that he processed his day, for over 50 years, through an engagement with the political while remaining impersonal. His cartoons provide a deep insight into India's first few decades as an independent nation, but tell us little about the man. He is, in a sense, an unintentional archivist.

Madan stopped drawing after his wife, Kamala, died in 2003. She was the one who had preserved his work, almost daily, for decades.

No, Madan did not make this vast body of work to be seen. More importantly, he did not need it to be. Perhaps, that is why in the age of self-promotion and commodification, of political agendas that make commentary (and even satire) seem like job applications, his work stands out for its simple beauty and unself-conscious honesty.

From 1950s to early 2000s, Madan drew a cartoon/image almost every day. He hardly ever dated or signed his work — he never meant for it to be seen

## Aunt, Nobody Like You

Hers was a life unfettered, with neither any obligation to another nor pausing to be questioned by the self or others

### SLICE OF LIFE



Suvir Saran

Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

THIS PAST week dealt my family and me another blow, but with it came rich lessons in life and living. I lost my Asha Bua, a lifelong resident of Bombay (now Mumbai), to old age, in Bengaluru. Almost 90, she possessed energy and enthusiasm that couldn't be matched by a nine-year-old in the best of times. Her spirited way of living and loving, nurturing and caring, discovering and sharing will be missed deeply, and her passing leaves a gaping hole in my heart that I will need to learn to live with, make peace with, and reflect upon, when out of sorts and not being generous to myself and others.

The eldest granddaughter of Dadi's fam-



SUVIR SARAN

### BEING THERE

True to her artistic nature, she was the elder presence, who came free of questions or queries, and was just happy connecting and creating

It was at Asha Bua's home that I furthered my desire to work with my hands. By my mother's side, I had learnt to stitch, cross-stitch, embroider, knit, crochet, paint, sculpt, chop, prep, lay the table and play host. With Asha Bua, I learnt to put these to work. Watching my mom work diligently to fulfill whatever desires Dadi and us children had while putting her own on hold taught me at a young age about selflessness and patience. In her, and through her actions, I observed firsthand what it means to respect the self and the other. Watching my aunt, who was living in another phase of life, I saw an unfettered life unfurl in front of my eyes. A life without obligations to another and one that needn't pause to be questioned by self, let alone by someone else. She had passed the phase of elders steering the wheel of the car she was now both driving and riding in. Still a teenager, I had the good fortune of observing two very different sides of the human story.

There were days in Bombay when I knew Bua was hosting a party, so I would come early to help her prep and return later for the party. I'd leave late, after helping her restore her home to its impeccable calm and order. We would chat, I would burst into song and poetry, and she'd tell me the raga I just sang. She would compliment me for knowing poetry that her mother and grandmother might never have read themselves. When she learnt I'd tried my hand at a certain craft or skill, she'd promise to show me the ropes

when we met again, which was often the very next day. I knew Bua wouldn't judge me for being interested in the crafts and hobbies usually associated with women. She never judged. I felt safe around her; I felt respected and treasured. She didn't question my manliness because of my interest in embroidery; she took it at face value.

In her 80s, rife with bodily pain and weakness that would break most others, Asha Bua would make annual trips to New York City to visit her daughter, Gauri *didi*, and her family. These trips would bless our farm with her visits, and her stay would bring alive those moments of tenderness that she and I used to share in Bombay, but with a slight reversal in flow. Now, I was the one doing the work and heavy-lifting, and she was indulging me with encouragement, support, inspiration, a helping hand, a fun conversation taking me down memory lane, and blessings that were showered 24x7. At the farm, I saw pride and joy in her eyes, smiles of awe and boundless love and heartfelt glee. She'd aged a couple of decades and yet had become younger and more unencumbered, even freer in her generosity of self and in sharing.

Just two weeks ago, in a period where she found little energy to speak at all, Asha Bua indulged me with a 16-plus-minute phone conversation. It was one of the last meaningful conversations she had. Her swan song, if you will. I knew she was labouring to keep up, but she also didn't want to stop talking. She could have gone on, but I felt her fatigue. That was our connection. Feeling that I was draining her of her precious energy, I ended the conversation long before I wanted to.

Asha Bua has passed away in her human form, but she is alive in my veins, in our shared DNA. Even more poignant and lucid for me are the many memories she left for all whose lives she touched and enriched with her graceful presence and welcoming lifestyle. When I was lost to myself and life, when things were even slightly boring or challenging, I would call her, and in seconds, I would find myself joking and laughing, feeling connected and inspired. She told me once that we shared a bond that certainly had connections to another past and one that would find more connections in the future. And so, she is a loss that I will now fill with the inspiration she showered my life with. Asha Bua shall always be by my side when I need to be awakened to becoming one and whole with life.

# Things to Leave Behind

A new collection of essays on anti-caste themes intertwines erudite scholarship with practice

Chandramohan S

**T**HIS BOOK of essays edited by K Raju is an eclectic mix of erudite scholarship sprung from a theorist's insight on anti-caste themes with its mix of vicissitudes and conformism. Reminiscent of the writings by BR Ambedkar, each of these essays helped me embrace the "emotional in the intellectual", to borrow a phrase I had subsumed from a thought-provoking piece in the Round Table India — an anti-caste platform owned and run by Ambedkarites. This book has arrived after about two decades of Dalit activism on social media, where platforms which are uncensored (due to the absence of a centralised editor) helped nurture a radical anti-caste vision that gathered momentum. This book of essays could be one of its outcomes. It is a welcome addition to the national discourse spearheaded by Ambedkarite Dalits in the Rohith Vemula era. The icing on the cake is that this book is dedicated to two stellar poets from the Dalit community who are still unsung heroes — Gurrām Joshua (1895-1971) and Boyi Bhimanna (1911-2005).

At the outset, there are three aspects to this book that enthral the Ambedkarite in me. Firstly, these essays are thorough engagements with anti-caste themes, varying from electoral and judicial reforms to more hip vistas like the advent of Ambedkarite cinema and emergence of anti-caste politics in the Indian diaspora in the West — all conceived in the English language for a discerning reader. These are not essays where the agency of the author is severely curtailed due to the intervention of a translator who may not have harnessed a political vision aligned with Ambedkarite ideals.

Secondly, the choice of authors commissioned to contribute to the anthology is an interesting mix of various dimensions of difference — old school, as I understand it (such as Sukdheo Thorat and Rajasekhar Vundru) and new school (such as Jignesh Mevani and Suraj Yengde). The inclusion of millennial voices like Pa Ranjith is, indeed, a whiff of fresh air. While only a handful are from academia, others come from the heat and dust of election rallies, gaudy oratory and tireless shooting schedules, or hustling in bureaucracy. This makes for an interesting spectrum of Dalit



EXPRESS ARCHIVE

activism/engagement with anti-caste missions in the 21st century. The other enriching aspect is the vision towards diverse streams of economic emancipation for Dalit *bahujans*. On one end, we have a consciousness of thought represented by Mevani, who calls for a judicious mix of Marxism and Ambedkarism and, for whom, coinages such as "Dalit capitalism" may not be so palatable. On the other end, there is an essay with a clarion call for entrepreneurship revolution among Dalit *bahujans* by Priyank Kharge and Neeraj Shetye. This is, indeed, a quest to understand the truth of the new India with all its diversity and inequity, albeit in the post-truth era.

This book reached me for a prospective review when Mevani was languishing in prison on charges of (false) cases. He was granted bail later and the police were reprimanded by the honourable court in Assam for misuse of state machinery. As expected, his essay weaves a narrative that intertwines class and caste aspects of the wider struggle that he urges all of us to em-

## OUT CASTE

A file photo of Babasaheb Ambedkar's statue being renovated ahead of his birth anniversary on April 14 in Mumbai

bark upon. There have not been many essays like the kind Suraj Yengde writes, which connect anti-caste struggles to other struggles elsewhere across the globe and give us a vision that may transcend any geography.

Yengde's essay spells out a blue-print for international activism that can be spearheaded by anti-caste crusaders from the ramparts of their NRI status. Students who graduate from higher-education institutions in India and elsewhere, and who may later become globetrotters, can use this particular essay as their manifesto. His current position as a senior fellow at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, is definitely a shattering of the glass ceiling and a beacon of light for Dalit activists of his generation.

This might be the first-ever full length essay by RS Praveen, a former civil servant from Telangana after he quit government service to work towards his vision of an egalitarian society. The essay by Pa Ranjith bares the flip side of his much touted success story in Tamil cinema. I have followed these younger cohorts of mine on social media with great interest.

This book is the brainchild of K Raju, former civil servant and now a politician with the main Opposition party of the day. The book comes like a ray of hope as it inextricably intertwines erudition and scholarship with practice — be it in electoral politics, cin-

ema, academia or poetry, making it a crucible where perspectives from theory and hands-on-practice enrich each other.

Another fascinating aspect of this book and the well-researched introduction by K Raju is that certain salient features of the accomplishments of the Congress Party towards Ambedkarite ideals are documented. These can be much valued ammunition in the arsenal of an Ambedkarite when battling Sanghis/Internet Hindus.

The few shortcomings of this books that crossed my mind is that though Sudha Pai is one of the authors, there is a conspicuous absence of an essay from an anti-caste feminist perspective. The editor could have solicited at least one essay from an Ambedkarite feminist woman (note the X) or a queer-anti caste scholar and obliterated the vacuum emanating from the absence of an intersectional queer or feminist scholar voicing her strand of emancipatory vision. The Northeast of our country has also been missed in this otherwise commendable quest for the "truth of our nation". Perhaps, this is a lacuna in the ideals propounded by mainstream politicians of India.

Chandramohan S is an Indian English Dalit poet based in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. He was a fellow of the IWP at the University of Iowa

## An Ode to Nature

Poet-diplomat Abhay K's new book traverses the Indian Ocean islands, taking in their culture and beauty, before making landfall in India

Jonaki Ray

**I**N A land plagued by extreme heat and soaring temperatures, the onset of monsoon is equal parts magical and transformative. Once the monsoon does arrive, the change in the landscape and of spirits have been an inspiration for centuries in music and poetry. The songs associated with monsoon come within the family, Raag Malhar, that literally means *mala* (dirt) being *hari* (removed). Consider the following lines of the Raag Mian Ki Malhar (attributed to Tansen, the court musician of the 16th century Mughal emperor Akbar):

*Saavana ghana garajey ghooma ghooma/ barasata s(h)jettala jala jhooma jhooma/ Hamsa chakora chahoo(n) disa doley/ caataka keera kokila boley/ naachata vara ati karata kikola/ mora morani jhooma jhooma.* Roughly translated, it heralds the arrival of heavy clouds in the month of *shravana*; and how that makes birds of every shade, including the mythical ones, dance in abandon.

In the world of poetry, we see monsoon being personified in the magnificent Sanskrit classic, *Meghaduta* by Kalidasa (c. 4th-5th century CE). The romantic poem is a narration of the sights seen by a monsoon cloud as it carries a message from a *yaksha* exiled in the hot plains to his lover in the Himalayan outpost, Alakapuri.

Poet-diplomat Abhay K carries forward this tradition by describing the sights seen by the clouds as the monsoon gathers in Madagascar, turns towards the Indian subcontinent, and then goes back again. This journey is narrated through one hundred stanzas, with each stanza of four lines in free verse, a remarkable feat in itself.

The poem, which is currently India's ambassador to Madagascar, mentions in the Introduction about reading *Meghaduta* in March 2020 and translating it alongside *Ritusamihara*, Kalidasa's other classic, into English. He was then inspired to write this modern version of a message being carried to a beloved. Only, in this case, the setting changes — from Madagascar to Srinagar, and back to Madagascar again.

Along the way, the poem weaves in the folklore, cultural traditions, and local flora and fauna of the Indian Ocean islands of Madagascar, Re'union, Mauritius, Seychelles, Mayotte, Comoros, Zanzibar, Socotra, and the Indian subcontinent. It also highlights common traditions that have followed a parallel track of trade and migration, much like the monsoon winds for centuries. For instance, consider the description of the influence of the large diaspora from Gujarat in Madagascar as well as the vivid description of the natural landscape: "Traveller's palms stretching their arms in prayer/ Baobabs meditating like ascetics turned upside down/ Giraffe-necked red weevils necking their mates/ fragrant Champa flowers — galaxies on the earth/ colourful Mahafaly tombs dotting the countryside/ erotic Sakalava sculptures arousing longings in mind/ innumerable sculpted rock-temples at Isalo/ each one a homage to Lord Pashupatinath".

The description of the fast-disappearing species and the interweaving of the past and the present in terms of local festivals, architecture and flavours makes this poem an important addition to the field of eco-poetry as well. Thus, we have in Mauritius, "Black River Gorges resembling an enchantress/ and the seven coloured princess Chamarel/ will captivate your heart, frolic with the pink pigeon/ before they vanish forever from the earth..." while Udaipur, India, has an almost-wistful image: "Udaipur, the City of Lakes, will be mirthful again/ the Monsoon Palace named after you, built/ on a hilltop overlooking the lake Fateh Sagar/ will sparkle like a gem, drunk on your potion".

Finally, the two parts of the monsoon — from the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea — converge near Delhi and move to the land of the beloved — Srinagar: "when you see her, surprise her with all/ you have seen, heard, tasted, felt, smelled/ and absorbed on the way from Madagascar/ to Srinagar before giving her my message".

By the end of the poem, one realises that it is a message of love indeed, but not just to monsoon, but to the wonders of the world and to our planet.

Jonaki Ray is a poet, writer, and editor based in New Delhi. Her poetry collection, *Firefly Memories*, is forthcoming later this year



THE DALIT TRUTH (RETHINKING INDIA SERIES): THE BATTLES FOR REALIZING AMBEDKAR'S VISION EDITED BY K RAJU Vintage Books 256 pages ₹699

## SHELF LIFE

### For the Sake of Transparency

THE RTI Act, implemented on October 12, 2005, is very simple to use. One can file an application on a plain paper, writing the details of the information required. With few exemptions under section 8(1), it is mandated that "the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person" and that "Notwithstanding anything in the Official Secrets Act, 1923 nor any of the exemptions permissible in accordance with sub-section (1), a public authority may allow access to information, if public interest in disclosure outweighs the harm to the protected interests."

Yet, over time, information officers have learnt how not to disclose information. And while the first appellate authorities — superior officials of those infor-

mation officers — mostly endorse the stand taken by information officers, the second appellate authorities, Information Commissions, have often not been helpful to RTI users. This defeats the purpose of the simple-to-use RTI Act, and users need to be more equipped with the legal knowledge.

ML Sharma, who was denied the position of the directorship of the Central Bureau of Investigation during the UPA government's tenure, was appointed an information commissioner (IC) at the Central Information Commission in 2008. He has come up with the book which contains relevant legal knowledge and explains the 156 landmark decisions of the CIC, 374 judgments of various high courts and 29 judgments of the Supreme Court. However, this book is not a mere compi-



RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND JURISPRUDENCE BY ML SHARMA Vitasta 892 pages ₹1,995

lation of those decisions. It is annotated with Sharma's knowledgeable comments, which makes it all the more useful. Sharma has also narrated a history of struggle for the RTI Act in India and the advocacy for transparency law across the globe.

Over his nearly four-decade career in the IPS, Sharma, as he writes, became "deeply aware of how bureaucracy had succeeded in controlling and using information as a source of its power" but realised, as an IC, that the "litigants are handicapped in prosecuting their cases." Sharma and many of his previous IC and CICs, prompted by such awareness and despite all obvious limitations, ordered disclosure of information that created much-required reforms in the government.

In a chapter "A critique of the Law and Practice", he starts with the quote of PM Narendra Modi that "our government is committed to providing a transparent and accountable administration" but it contradicts with Sharma's observation when he writes, "Suo motto disclosures are hap-

azard, unindexed, inadequate, and half-hearted, thereby burdening the entire RTI regime." This was supposed to be done by each public authority within 120 days of the implementation of the RTI Act. Lack of this disclosure is a reason for several unnecessary applications being filed. He attaches the order of the full bench of the CIC dated June 3, 2013, declaring political parties as public authorities but with the sad note that "It is disturbing that the decision has not been implemented by any political parties so far."

More than the RTI users, this book should be read by the present commissioners at the CIC and by state government officials like those of UP, who disregard the deadline for replying to RTI queries — if they respond at all. It might be a revelation to them to learn about the revolution RTI had created before them. Though somewhat voluminous and costly, the book has arrived at an appropriate time when a revolutionary legislation is rapidly losing its sheen.

SHYAMLAL YADAV

## Vultures on Land

Stephen Alter's latest is a historical detective novel set in 1962, featuring an American ornithologist on an intriguing trail of international espionage across India

Madhulika Liddle

AS ANY true blue James Bond buff will tell you, 007's character was named after an ornithologist. The real James Bond (1900-1989) was an American, and an authority on the birds of the Caribbean; his definitive book, *Birds of the West Indies* (1936), was much loved by Ian Fleming, an avid birdwatcher and a resident of Jamaica. Fleming adopted Bond's name for his suave spy because he thought it the perfect example of an ordinary name: a name for a man who could disappear into a crowd, so to say.

James Bond, the real one, did not like the Bond books and did not read them; but one might wonder what might have been had he tried to go the way of his fictional namesake. Would an ornithologist have made a good spy? Would the qualities of a good ornithologist — patience, powers of observation, an analytical mind, the ability to blend into the background — also serve to make for a good spy?

This is the question Stephen Alter sets out to tackle in his spy thriller *Birdwatching: A Novel*. American Guy Fletcher, the hero of this fast-paced story, stumbles across a corpse while observing Asian king vultures

in Delhi and finds himself catapulted from a relatively quiet existence as a Fulbright scholar studying migratory birds, to being in the midst of intrigue and international espionage. From the American embassy in Delhi, where Fletcher finds himself interrogated as a party is hosted by JK Galbraith for the visiting Jacqueline Kennedy, Fletcher travels to Kashmir on a duck shoot. From there, now recruited by the CIA, Fletcher is put through a rigorous training course, and sent off on a clandestine mission to Kalimpong — his cover being that of an ornithologist studying the pheasants of the North-East. But Fletcher must find information on something quite different...

...which brings him into contact with the beautiful Kesang, a leading light of Kalimpong society; and Captain Imtiaz Afridi,



BIRDWATCHING — A NOVEL BY STEPHEN ALTER Aleph Book Company 353 pages ₹799

Elisa-Maria, European wife of Kazi Lhendup Dorjee, the first chief minister of Sikkim. There is the Chogyal of Sikkim, and his American fiancée, Hope Cooke. And there are fictitious characters every bit as interesting,

if not more, than their real life counterparts: alcoholics, traitors, heroes, everyday people. Fletcher himself, an American citizen who has spent several years of his childhood in India, makes for a relatable, likeable protagonist. His occasional self-doubt, his worrying, his wondering over the secrets and the machinations around him, and the way he manages to surmount all of these, make Fletcher an inspiring hero.

As anybody now knows, 1962 was to prove an important year in the history, not just of India, but of several other nations as well. China was flexing its muscles; India, teetering between non-alignment and a definite tilt towards the Soviet Union, was trying, at the same time, to maintain good relations with the US. The Americans, fresh from the Bay of Pigs fiasco (1961), were raring to restate themselves on the world stage. Closer home, Tibetan refugees were streaming across the border into India, bringing with them their belongings, their treasures, their way of life.

All of these, the intrigue and the political machinations at the upper levels and the ad-

ventures they result in for people like Fletcher, are part of the absorbing narration of *Birdwatching*.

And then there are the birds. Each of the 39 chapters in *Birdwatching* is named after a bird, and begins with a brief description of the species in question. From common birds like blue rock pigeons and red-vented bulbuls to rarely sighted ones like the Sikkim bay-owl, they are all here, and each species plays some part, even if it consists only of a brief, barely-noted sighting, in the chapter that carries its name. Plus — the icing on the cake — there is a memorable human encounter related to birds.

*Birdwatching* is a taut, gripping story, but the birds really take it to another level. For anybody who is even slightly interested in (especially Indian) avifauna, this one's a must-read, even just for that: for the obvious love of birds that comes through so loud and clear.

Madhulika Liddle is an author based in the NCR. Apart from historical fiction and short stories, she also writes on food, cinema and travel



## BRIEFLY

## Chelsea to be sold for \$5.2 billion

London: Chelsea Football Club has confirmed that terms have been agreed with a consortium led by Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly and backed by Clearlake Capital over the acquisition of the English Premier League soccer team. The Stamford Bridge-based outfit announced the 4.25 billion pound (\$5.2 billion) deal for the reigning European champions in a statement issued in the early hours of Saturday, subject to receiving the required approvals. "Chelsea Football Club can confirm that terms have been agreed for a new ownership group, led by Todd Boehly, Clearlake Capital, Mark Walter and Hansjoerg Wyss, to acquire the club," the statement said. **REUTERS**

## Diamond League meet in China cancelled

Beijing: A Diamond League athletics meet to be held this year in China has been moved to Poland and another cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreaks in the country, organisers said, after the high-profile Asian Games in Hangzhou were postponed. The meets in Shanghai on July 30 and Shenzhen on Aug. 6 were changed because of "travel restrictions and strict quarantine requirements currently in place for entry into China", the organisers said in a statement on Friday. The Shenzhen event will be moved to Chorzow, Poland, it said, while there will be no replacement for the Shanghai meeting. On Friday, the World University Games, slated for next month in the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu, were also postponed, while the Asian Youth Games in Shantou were cancelled, with Tashkent to host the next edition in 2025. **REUTERS**

## Nieva quits as high performance director

New Delhi: Santiago Nieva has stepped down from his role as Indian boxing team's High Performance Director. Nieva, who took charge of the national team in 2017, played a vital role in taking Indian boxing to greater heights. "Indian boxing has benefited immensely with Santiago's presence. He has played an instrumental role in crafting the growth of Indian boxing in the last five years and we thank him for all the efforts and hard work. On behalf of the Indian federation, I personally wish him the best for all the future endeavours," said BFI president Ajay Singh. Nieva's five-year stint with the Indian national team includes some of the exceptional achievements such as highest-ever participation at the Tokyo Olympics and historic two medals in the 2019 Men's World Championships. He will now be the head coach of the Australian national boxing team. "Good bye is always difficult but that's how life works. I have had an amazing five years working along with the Boxi **ENS**



to greater heights. "Indian boxing has benefited immensely with Santiago's presence. He has played an instrumental role in crafting the growth of Indian boxing in the last five years and we thank him for all the efforts and hard work. On behalf of the Indian federation, I personally wish him the best for all the future endeavours," said BFI president Ajay Singh. Nieva's five-year stint with the Indian national team includes some of the exceptional achievements such as highest-ever participation at the Tokyo Olympics and historic two medals in the 2019 Men's World Championships. He will now be the head coach of the Australian national boxing team. "Good bye is always difficult but that's how life works. I have had an amazing five years working along with the Boxi **ENS**

## Jaiswal grabs second chance

Benched for nearly a month, RR's young batting star hits form with 68 off 41 in high-scoring chase against Punjab Kings

**SYNOPSIS:** Yashasvi Jaiswal provided the base and Shimron Hetmyer the finish as Rajasthan Royals hunted down 190 to defeat Punjab Kings by six wickets

**ABHISHEK PUROHIT**  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

PLAYING HIS first match after a month, Yashasvi Jaiswal set up Rajasthan Royals' chase of 190 with 68 off 41 at the top of the order. Devdutt Padikkal's struggle kept Punjab Kings in the hunt, but Shimron Hetmyer's late blows brought in a six-wicket win and took RR to 14 points.

## Jaiswal nails comeback

Jaiswal had been dropped after scores of 20, 1 and 4, and had spent more than a month on the bench before his comeback last afternoon. How much this innings meant was clear from his celebration for his fifty - even as the RR dugout stood up to applaud, Jaiswal held his bat in his left hand and slowly pumped it with determination, and then proceeded to do an elaborate, slow-motion fist-pump with his right hand. The celebration seemed to be self-congratulatory; he was barely looking at his dugout.

For someone who is still only 20 and hasn't quite cracked the T20 game yet - as a strike-rate of 127 suggests - Jaiswal played a pretty intelligent knock and maintained a steep scoring pace. Six of his 11 boundaries came against the medium pace and wayward lines of Sandeep Sharma, and three of the remaining five were taken off the equally friendly pace of Rishi Dhawan.

The longer and shorter square boundaries, depending on which pitch on the square is used, can make a massive tactical difference in T20, and that variation in sizes is particularly evident at larger outfields such as DY Patil Stadium. But the difference at Wankhede in the square boundaries would have been about 20 feet at most on Saturday. It is already a lightning quick outfield, and if the ball is struck well, the longer side remains only relatively so. But it seemingly continues to occupy plenty of cells on analyst spreadsheets by default, and consequently, in team strategies.

Still, Sandeep began wide outside off towards the longer side and Jaiswal made sure he collected a few easy runs. Sandeep over-compensated then, and Jaiswal flicked a gorgeous pick-up off his pads for six. Thereafter, Jaiswal would go straight over the bowler or through extra cover for the boundaries; there was a superb inside-out loft over extra cover from the line of leg stump off Rahul Chahar that comfortably cleared the longer boundary. He premeditated a few sweeps that didn't really come off, but also got a couple of lap shots away.

It helped that Jos Buttler had taken apart Kagiso Rabada in his 30 off 16, and given RR the buffer to absorb a prolonged crawl from Devdutt Padikkal that kept PK in the match despite Jaiswal's efforts. Padikkal made 31 off 32 at No.4 and mis-hit a full toss to extra cover to finally exit the stage at the end of the 19th over.

Shimron Hetmyer had taken over from Jaiswal after the latter's fall to Arshdeep Singh in the 15th, and ensured RR did not mess up a match they had practically sealed, like Gujarat Titans had against Mumbai Indians on Friday.

Mayank Agarwal had kept five overs of Arshdeep Singh and Rabada for the death, but when Arshdeep came back, RR needed just 50 from six overs. Jaiswal had done well to attack the middle overs from Rishi Dhawan, Sandeep and Chahar, none of which carried the same threat or accuracy.



Rajasthan Royals' batter Yashasvi Jaiswal played some unorthodox shots en route his 68 off 41 balls against Punjab Kings.

Sportspics for IPL

## IPL TABLE

TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR
LSG	11	8	3	16	0.703
GT	11	8	3	16	0.120
RR	11	7	4	14	0.326
RCB	11	6	5	12	-0.444
DC	10	5	5	10	0.641
SRH	10	5	5	10	0.325
PBKS	11	5	6	10	-0.231
KKR	11	4	7	8	-0.304
CSK	10	3	7	6	-0.431
MI	10	2	8	4	-0.725

## Baird clicks finally

The ball didn't come on as well in the first innings as it did during the chase, but Jonny Bairstow set PK on their way to a substantial score. Into his eighth innings in this IPL, Bairstow had faced 90 deliveries without hitting a single six, when he swung Trent Boult over the deep-square leg rope. With the ball holding a bit, Bairstow was bound to get under-edges with his all-hands style, but when he got it off the middle, it flew. Even Buttler clears the front leg more for his bat-swings than Bairstow does; the latter makes up with incredible hand-speed. Like when he hardly moved to a Kuldeep Sen length delivery but opened the face late and forced it so hard into the ground it bounced over point and went for four.

Yuzvendra Chahal intervened with three strikes, including Bairstow, whom he forced to hit straight to long-on with one of his flighted deliveries slanted full into the pads. It seemed Chahal's strikes would slow down the PK innings, but Jitesh Sharma, sent ahead of Livingstone, struck 38 from 18 to set what appeared to be a daunting target of 190.

**Brief scores: Rajasthan Royals 190 for 4 (Jaiswal 68, Hetmyer 31\*, Padikkal 31, Arshdeep 2-29) beat Punjab Kings 189 for 5 (Bairstow 56, Jitesh 38\*, Chahal 3-28) by six wickets**

## Lucknow take Giant stride, top table

**SYNOPSIS:** Five balls changed Lucknow Super Giants's innings before their bowlers ripped through the top-half of Kolkata Knight Riders to canter to top of the points table.

**SRIRAM VEERA**  
MUMBAI, MAY 7

UNTIL THE Hulk aka Marcus Stoinis decided to plunder Shivam Mavi in the 19th over, Lucknow's innings was in threat of falling for a par total on a sluggish pitch. They were 142 for 4 in the 18th over but it took just five balls to change it. On a pitch that was holding up, where previous evidence from Andre Russell, who wasn't given his full quota of four overs despite a good spell, was clear that you can mix up the pace but have to hit the pitch to make the ball hold, Mavi strangely chose to float his balls fuller. Bad mistake.

Stoinis likes to shuffle to the off, and tee off on the side and he walloped three sixes and though he got out, Jason Holder smashed two more as 30 runs came that over. They would end up with 176 and KKR would fall way short.

With Stoinis, it's the big shoulders, the broad chest, the chiselled jawline that we first see. Stoinis looks imposing just before he gets into stance. But then he almost shrivels up as if he doesn't want to show off his physique. He sort of doubles up, curls up in his stance and squeezes into as tiny a space as his big body would allow. One can sense why he does it; as everything that happens after the bowler releases the ball is a recoiling reaction from him, a release of pent-up energy. Stoinis springs out and explodes as if that stance allows him to conserve all his energy which he then dissipates in an explosive recoil.

With Mavi, he didn't have to conjure up hits; all he had to do was to wait for Mavi to float it full, and boy did he smash them.



Marcus Stoinis hit a quick-fire 28 off 14 balls that included 3 sixes and a four.

## Shreyas's bouncer problem

It's known to everyone now how Iyer gets into awkward positions against the short pacy ones and to no one's surprise Dushmantha Chameera hurled a snorter at his face. Iyer swatted at it so weakly that it just about popped up for a dolly of a catch to square-leg fielder. The broadcasters soon played a series of videos titled 'Bouncers at the body', where Iyer was seen getting into all sorts of tangles. Awkward shuffles, nervy sways, iffy positions; the bouncer is an age-old problem for him, and has come to haunt him repeatedly in this season as every team now goes short at him. He needs help and needs to course-correct, else things can get away quickly from him at this stage.

## Russell does a Russell

After keeping out a torrid over from the impressive left-arm seamer Mohsin Khan, who had already bowled a maiden-wicket first over when he removed Baba Indrajeeth in the last ball, Russell broke free against Jason Holder. Pulls, fiery cuts, slogs flowed as suddenly runs burst through. He also freed his arms against

## End of the road for MI

On Saturday, Mumbai Indians became the first team in this year's IPL to be knocked out of the playoffs race, after Rajasthan Royals beat Punjab Kings by six wickets. MI are at the foot of the table with just two wins from 10 games and the maximum they can get to is 12 points. They can't match or go past Gujarat Titans, Lucknow Super Giants and Royals - the teams that are holding the top three positions in the table. Royal Challengers Bangalore are already on 12 points with three games to go and their net run-rate, -0.444, is far superior to MI's -0.725. Delhi Capitals, at fifth and four games remaining, have a +0.641 net run-rate.

the googly bowler Ravi Bishnoi. On air, Piyush Chawla shared an interesting story that said much about the prowess of Russell. "In the nets, I never bowl straight at him," Chawla would say as he was worried about the murderous swing that can launch the ball straight back at him. "So, I would either bowl it well outside off or very full outside his leg."

Today, it seemed Lucknow's bowlers went with the same philosophy, offering him width and length, and he kept crashing them. Until Avesh Khan managed to produce a decent bouncer that Russell top edged to third man where Holder took a good low lunging catch running forward. Russell had taken the score from 24 for 5 to 85 for 6 but with his exit, the writing was on the wall.

**Brief scores: Lucknow Super Giants 176 for 7 (de Kock 50, Hooda 41, Russell 2-22) beat Kolkata Knight Riders 101 (Russell 45, Avesh 3-19, Holder 3-31) by 75 runs**

## Teen star Alcaraz continues legend-killing spree

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
MADRID, MAY 7

RAFAEL NADAL one day. Novak Djokovic the other. The list of victims of Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz keeps growing.

And so does the hype over tennis' newest sensation. After defeating his idol Nadal in the quarterfinals on Friday, the 19-year-old Alcaraz rallied to beat top-ranked Djokovic 6-7 (5), 7-5, 7-6 (5) after more than 3 1/2 hours on Saturday to reach the Madrid Open final.

Alcaraz converted on his third match point to clinch the victory in front of a raucous home crowd on the Caja Magica center court. A win on Sunday will give Alcaraz his fourth title this season, the most of any player. He will face defending champion Alexander Zverev or Stefanos Tsitsipas, who met in the late semifinal on Saturday.

Alcaraz, the youngest player in the top 10 since Nadal in 2005, has won this year in Miami, Rio de Janeiro and Barcelona.

He beat Nadal for the first time on Friday, and triumphed against Djokovic in their first match. Djokovic remains without a title this season as he continues to try to regain his best form going into his title defense at the French Open in nine days.

Rafael Nadal wasn't losing any sleep after his loss to Carlos Alcaraz in the quarterfinals



Carlos Alcaraz beat top-ranked Novak Djokovic 6-7 (5), 7-5, 7-6 (5) in a gruelling 3 1/2 hour contest on Saturday to reach the Madrid Open final. **Reuters**

at the Madrid Open.

His focus hasn't changed. It's still all about getting ready for the French Open in a few weeks. "I accept this loss naturally and with tranquility," Nadal said after Friday's three-set defeat.

"I know the path I have to stay on so I can arrive (in Paris) with real options in two-and-a-half weeks' time. That's what I'm working on right now." Nadal came to Madrid with-

out being able to prepare properly because of a six-week injury layoff. He said ideally he should have skipped the tournament but in the end was happy with how it turned out. "I have done what I could," he said. "I have had better days, worse days. But it has not been a disaster in any case. I have competed with the correct attitude. I have played two, two-and-a-half hours, nearly three, I think three matches, this is a positive outcome." The 35-

**I don't think so (no limit to what he can achieve). I have the resources for my goal to be the best in the world."**

**CARLOS ALCARAZ**

AFTER BEATING NADAL AND DJOKOVIC

year-old Nadal was trying to win his sixth Madrid Open title. He opened with a straight-set win over Miomir Kecmanovic then needed to save four match points to get past David Goffin in three sets in his second match. He was overpowered in the quarterfinals by the 19-year-old Alcaraz, one of the hottest players on tour this year and considered by many in Spain as Nadal's successor.

"I was out there with the correct attitude and analyzing every single morning what I had to do to generate options for myself and to improve," Nadal said.

"It's clear to me what I need to improve. Now is the moment to work and to be confident that things will evolve in the right way." The 21-time Grand Slam champion said he has fully healed from the rib stress fracture that kept him from playing in Miami, Monte Carlo and Barcelona. The fourth-ranked Spaniard was off to a great this season start before getting injured, having won three titles, including the Australian Open in January.

## Hamilton gets two-race exemption from jewellery rule

**REUTERS**  
MIAMI, MAY 7

SEVEN-TIMES world champion Lewis Hamilton will race in Sunday's inaugural Miami Grand Prix after Formula One swerved a showdown with the Mercedes driver over their ban on piercings and jewellery.

Race director Niels Wittich had issued a reminder to all teams and officials that wearing body piercings and metal neck chains was prohibited during competition for safety reasons and could be checked.

Hamilton, the sport's most successful driver and biggest name in America, has said he cannot remove some of his piercings and had suggested on Friday that he could face a ban from racing. "If they stop me (racing) then so be it. We've got a spare driver," he said. "There's lots to do in the city anyway so I'll be good either way."

But Hamilton's team did produce the documentation to the FIA saying they were in compliance with the rule and a source told Reuters that the driver would not wear any jewellery and had been given a two-race exemption for his body piercing.

The Briton must have the piercing removed before the Monaco Grand Prix on May

29, the source added.

Hamilton had given no indication that he was in the mood for a compromise when he attended the pre-race press conference wearing rings on every finger, three large watches (set to different time zones), a bangle, strings of thick necklaces and studs in both ears.

A further nose piercing was hidden by his face mask. "I couldn't get any more jewellery on today," he said, adding that he felt the clampdown was almost a backward step at a time when the sport and governing FIA should be focused on its latest big breakthrough in America.

"This is such a small thing," he said. "It seems unnecessary for us to get into this spat." Asked what the solution might be to an apparent impasse, Hamilton indicated there was only so much he could do.

"I can't remove at least two of them," he said. "One I can't really explain where it is."

"But what I can say is it's platinum that I have, so it's non-magnetic, it's never been a safety issue in the past. I've had in 16 years so many MRI scans and not had to take out the platinum." Wittich had explained in his note that the wearing of jewellery underneath the mandatory flameproof clothing could reduce heat transmission protection and increase the risk of burn injuries.

SPORTLINE

With scores of 6, 201\*, 109, 12, 203 and 125\* while playing for Sussex, Pujara has underlined his status as the most-prolific active first-class cricketer. With no like-for-like replacements, the decision to keep India's No.3 out would be tough.

# Why Pujara's runs carry weight

SANDEEP DWIVEDI  
NEW DELHI, MAY 7

IN CONTRAST to the din and dazle of IPL, Cheteshwar Pujara, these days, is in Sussex wearing whites, entertaining the English county faithful, parked on grassy banks on their garden chairs with their pets for company.

In those idyllic surroundings, he has scored a couple of double tons and two hundreds in his first four games. On Day 3 of his fourth outing against Middlesex, he was 125 from 149 balls. Besides his runs, Pujara's stint on the county circuit has also got headlines because of his team mate and rival from Pakistan. His 100 runs partnership with Mohammad Rizwan against Durham in the last game and his six during Shaheen Afridi's incisive first spell on Saturday became social media fodder.

Notwithstanding that audacious upper-cut six and strike rate of 83, Pujara continued to underline his association with the timeless art of batting that keeps getting eviction notices from cricket venues across the world. His latest run-sprees bumped his first-class double hundred count to 15, giving him entry into the Top 10 of a list that has Bradman at the top.

Pujara's consistency in reaching 200-plus scores is only second to Bradman's. His double hundreds, at an average, show up after 25 first-class innings. Cricket's undisputed GOAT, The Don, needed around 9 innings.

Among the active cricketers, Pujara is head and shoulders above his contemporaries. On the most first-class 200 list, Virat is second with 7, with Rohit Sharma (5) and Kane Williamson (5) further down the order.

However, the most storied shake-up of this double hundred



Cheteshwar Pujara, a long-time India No.3, is a dying breed of batsmen who know the art of biding time at the crease.

list is Pujara's leap over Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji, Ranji to the world. It's a charming tale featuring the pioneer who gave Indian batting a template and the last of the kind holding on to those century-old batting principles.

India's cricketing royalty have been a big draw at Sussex. Ranji was followed by Tiger Pataudi, both larger than life cricketers placing India on cricket's world map.

Continuing the India-Sussex tradition, Pujara is getting his name on English honour boards

and also triggering Ranji references.

Their proximity on the list - Rajkot-born Pujara 9th, Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar 10th - mirrors their geographical closeness. Born more than a century apart, the two, one royalty and the other working class, had cricket thrust upon them.

Like all princes in the days of Raj, Ranji went to the school established for the young royals - Rajkot's Rajkumar College. It was an institute that imparted English

**However, the most storied shake-up of this double hundred list is Pujara's leap over Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji, Ranji to the world.**

education and cricket lessons. British coaches were shipped in to teach the heirs of princely states the nuance of the game, the right conduct on the field and dressing room decorum.

In India for a long haul, the colonists were using the game to replace the native culture with the British way of life. Their liaisoning with the locals would be smooth and profitable if they spoke a common language and similar sensibilities. Cricket was a tool of assimilation.

Ranji, at least on the pitch, proved to be a rebel. Like the Englishmen, he didn't offer a straight bat to the ball aimed at him. As Neville Cardus wrote, as only he can: "The honest length ball was not met by the honest straight bat, but there was a flick of the wrist, and lo! the straight ball was charmed away to the leg boundary. And nobody quite saw or understood how it all happened."

Early in his life Pujara too got a cricket bat in his hand, and that would be his guiding light and walking stick for life.

Unlike Ranji, the son of a Railway employee Pujara wasn't privileged.

Despite being born in the same city where Ranji got his schooling, Pujara couldn't even dream of going to the Raj Kumar college.

None of Pujara's schools - Sadguru Bal Mandir, Lal Bahadur Shastri Primary School, Virani High School, Ramesh Bhai

Chhaya Boys School - could come close to Raj Kumar College's grandeur. Only one had a rudimentary play field. The one where Pujara spent his final academic years, was bang in the middle of a busy market, not far from the Fire Brigade building and one stinky naala.

As if there was something in the air that remained suspended since the days of the Raj, Pujara, like Ranji, would develop a trait to work the straight ball on the pads to the leg side.

Despite his IPL misadventure, Pujara's batting remained pristine. His 15 double hundreds point to an important aspect of his batting. He is no Sehwag. He can't race to a 200 in no time. Pujara needs to pace his innings, see through deadly spells and break the resolve of the opposition team.

He knows the art of survival, he can bide his time, be the predator with an unblinking focus on his prey's one moment of weakness or tiredness. Only those who can treat dropped catches, play-and-miss blips as minor mishaps and move on, can climb to Mt 200, 15 times. And the life lessons learnt during those walkathons that programme a batsman to go on a run-binge after getting dropped from the national team.

So when the selectors sit to weigh Pujara's county runs, it wouldn't be a decision about a seasoned cricketer in the final hour of his career. It would be a call on a time-tested batting approach that has survived since the Ranji days. As the 200 run-getters list shows, Pujara is the last of a breed.

There wouldn't be a like-for-like replacement for him. By turning the Pujara page, the selectors will end a chapter and close a cricket book forever.

They need to be careful and very sure.

# Man United humbled by Brighton

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BRIGHTON, MAY 7

MANCHESTER UNITED must want this season to end now.

Make that five straight away losses for United in the English Premier League after a chastening 4-0 thrashing by Brighton on Saturday. With just one game left this season - at Crystal Palace in two weeks - United has little to play for in a fifth straight season without a trophy.

If Erik ten Hag needed a reminder of the mess he is inheriting when the current Ajax coach takes over at Old Trafford in the offseason, it was this embarrassing performance at Amex Stadium. Moises Caicedo and

Marc Cucurella scored their first goals in English soccer - Cucurella was reduced to tears after slamming home his shot in the 49th - before strikes by Pascal Gross and Leandro Trossard by the hour mark.

In United's previous four away games in the league, it lost at Arsenal 3-1, at Liverpool 4-0, at Everton 1-0 and at Manchester City 4-1. United is in sixth place, five points behind fourth-placed Arsenal, and cannot finish in the Champions League qualification spots.

## Burnley in trouble

Burnley's relegation woes deepened after losing to Aston Villa 3-1 for the team's first defeat under interim manager Mike

Jackson. Steven Gerrard's Villa did both Everton and Leeds a big favor by ripping Burnley apart. Emi Buendia made the most of only his second start since February with a goal and an assist. Danny Ings scored against his old team for a fourth goal in four matches against Burnley, and Ollie Watkins applied the killer blow. Substitute Maxwell Cornet thumped home a stoppage-time consolation goal for Burnley but the damage was already done, perhaps doubly so with key defender James Tarkowski hobbling off in the second half.

Defeat means Burnley could end the weekend back in the bottom three if Leeds and Everton pick up points from tough fixtures away.

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank		INDIAN BANK		
ALLAHABAD		Zonal Office, Budh Marg, Patna		
<b>POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY)</b>				
Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) and 13(12) read with Rules 8 & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the dates noted against each Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sec 13(4) of the said Act read with Rules 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each Account.				
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Indian Bank for the amounts and interests thereon mentioned against each account herein below:				
The attention of borrowers detailed hereunder is invited to the provision of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.				
Sr. No.	Name of the Branch	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor (owner of the property)	Description of the charged/ Mortgaged property (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of)	Date of Demand Notice Date of possession Notice Amount outstanding as on the date of demand Notice
1.	Kankarbagh Branch	Shri Mukesh Kumar, Smt. Sugani Devi, Shri Prabhakar Kumar, Shri Dilip Kumar & Shri Rajeev Kumar	All Part and parcel of Land & Building wide Sale Deed No-22764 dated 27.11.2009 in the name of Smt. Sugani Devi W/o Late Mohan Singh situated at Mauza- Khemni chak, Thana- Phulwari sharif, Bad thana- Gaurichak, present thana- Ramkrishna nagar, Sub & Sadar registry office and District- Patna, Tauzi No-370, Thana No-112, Khata No-74 and Survey kheshra Plot No-10 (part), Kanhaiy nagar, Hira path, East of Shiv Nagar, Patna-800027, Area-900 sqft (2.0664 Decimal). <b>Boundary (As per Deed) North:</b> 10 feet wide Road in which 5 feet Road has been left by Samiti & 5 feet Road has been left by the front Digar Kharidar. <b>South:</b> Hal Kharidar Digar, <b>East:</b> Hal Kharidar Digar. <b>West:</b> Imroja Kharidar Smt. Shanti Devi	09.12.2021 04.05.2022 Rs.2511943.00 (Rs. Twenty Five Lakhs Eleven thousand Nine hundred forty three only) as on 09-12-2021 with interest, cost & charges till the date of realization.
2.	Hajipur Main Branch	Smt. Ranju Kumari & Shri Punit Kumar (A/c- 50312697471)	All Part and parcel of Land & Building situated at Aditya Shankar Apartment having Flat No-306, 3rd floor, Area-900 sqft (Build up area), Mauza- Nakhsh Chowk, P.S- Town thana, P.S No-177 developed by M/S Aditya No8903 dated 17-12-2015 in Book No-01, Volume No-156 page no-561 to 580 in CD No-24/year 2015 registered with District Registry Office Hajipur in the name of Smt Ranju Kumari. <b>Boundary of Flat No-306 (As per Sale Deed No8903 dated 17-12-2015) North:</b> Flat No-304 & Boundary of the Plot, <b>South:</b> Flat No-305, <b>East:</b> Flat No-304 & corridor, <b>West:</b> Boundary of the Plot & land Owner niz	10.12.2021 07.05.2022 Rs.2994355.03 (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs ninety four thousand three hundred fifty five and three paise only) as on 10-12-2021 with interest, cost & charges till the date of realization.
Unique construction Pvt Ltd on Khata No-481,518 & 55, Khesra No-22,25,27,29 and a part of 33 wide Sale Deed No-8903 dated 17.12.2015 in Book No-01, Volume No-156 page no-561 to 580 in CD No-24/year 2015 registered with District Registry Office Hajipur in the name of Smt Ranju Kumari. <b>Boundary of Flat No-306 (As per Sale Deed No8903 dated 17-12-2015) North:</b> Flat No-304 & Boundary of the Plot, <b>South:</b> Flat No-305, <b>East:</b> Flat No-304 & corridor, <b>West:</b> Boundary of the Plot & land Owner niz				(Authorized Officer) Indian Bank
Date : 07.05.2022 Place : Patna				

ADVERTORIAL

# HAPPY Mother's Day

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Wishes You

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Me Mee products are certified by BIS ( Bureau of Indian Standards) and EN ( European Standards). All paints used are safe, lead free and the edges of all products are soft and rounded, keeping the child's safety in mind.



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