



TOP RANK STATE

India's Youngest State is fast becoming India's Best State.

It takes a revolutionary leader to turn a young state into the next big powerhouse. Under the Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri. K. Chandrasekhar Rao, Telangana has evolved into one of India's best in almost every aspect. From being the only state to give 24X7 quality power to all sectors, path breaking schemes like Rythu Bandhu and Dalit Bandhu, to transforming Hyderabad into one of the most sought global investment destinations, Telangana has been making huge strides into the future. Be it welfare schemes, irrigation, loan waiver to farmers, or strong and fast paced development across industries, healthcare and safety, Telangana has ensured that each and every section of the society grows, along with the state.





Opportunities for youth, to better administration, progress in every sphere

TELANGANA, AN EMERGING ECONOMIC GIANT

Telangana is leading India's growth story by example. Over the past 8 years, the GDP of the state has grown from Rs.5,05,849 crores to Rs.11,54,860 crores, with a phenomenal annual per capita income growth rate of 11.7% - the highest in South India. The state grows only when every sector grows. The per capita income in the state has grown equally from Rs.1,24,104 to Rs.2,78,833. This is one of India's finest examples of growth.



SURGING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Telangana has become the investment destination of choice for industries across all sectors. With a significant momentum already in place with IT development, the Government has passed the TS-iPass and gave impetus to ease of doing business, which ensures time-bound single window approvals.

17,921 industries have received approvals and lakhs of crores of investment has flowed in over the past few years. IT exports from Telangana have powered ahead to a mammoth Rs.1,83,569 crores. This surging growth has created jobs for 24,27,077 people across the state.

Thanks to 24-hour power supply, industrial production has increased multifold creating more employment and more growth.

GREATER HYDERABAD GREATNESS IN THE MAKING



Hyderabad is fast transforming into the city of the future.

Under the SRDP Scheme, 15 flyovers, 5 underpasses, 6 ROB's/RUB's and a cable bridge have taken shape. 22 out of a planned 39 link roads to reach Outer Ring Road fast, have been completed. The iconic Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge is a testimony to the strides Hyderabad is making. The Metro Rail project is into its 3rd phase and moving fast, connecting the city even better every day.

GROWING SPIRITUALLY AS WELL

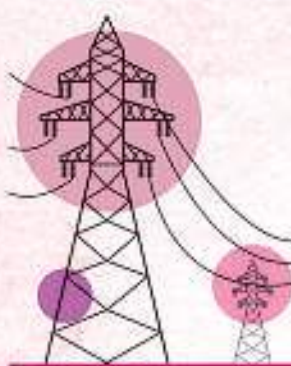


The Telangana Government has put a huge emphasis on the development and re-development of spiritual centers across the state.

The Yadadri temple is a prime example. Constructed on 1000 acres, the temple has captivating sculptures and art. The Yemulawada temple is next being developed as a major spiritual center.

MAKING TELANGANA 100% FLUORIDE FREE - MISSION BHAGIRATHA

Telangana is the only state in India supplying clean, safe drinking water to every household across the state. Mission Bhagiratha has a pipeline length exceeding 2,00,000 km. Today, Telangana has made history by being a completely fluoride-free state.



TELANGANA STATE, THE "POWER HOUSE"

Telangana today provides 24x7 uninterrupted power to all the 234 sectors across the state. The installed power capacity now stands at 17,234 MW, with 4,517 MW coming from Solar Power. The electricity usage in Telangana is the highest in the country. With new and massive projects coming up fast, Telangana is set to be a state with excess power.



IRRIGATION THAT CHANGED THE FORTUNES OF A STATE

Telangana is the only state in the country with zero water cess on water supplied to farms from various projects.

The Kaleshwaram Project is the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project, and it was completed in record time, to help make 1 crore acres arable. Further, the remarkable Mission Kakatiya revived and rejuvenated 46,531 lakes, irrigating 15 lakh acres and significantly improving the water table in the state.

MAKING GREEN TELANGANA: HARITHA HAARAM

Haritha Haaram is the world's third largest effort to increase green cover. With a target of 33% forest cover across the state, Telangana has made huge strides towards the objective. With 243 crore saplings planted at a cost of Rs.8,816 crores, 12.63 lakh acres have been reforested and 109 urban forests have been created. Telangana's green cover has now increased by 7.7%.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Hyderabad is one of the safest cities in India. Needless to say, it is fast becoming one of the best international investment destinations.

The Police force has been completely modernized, with the latest technology and vehicles, a 20 storeyed command and control center, 9.21 lakh CCTV cameras and more. Further, Telangana's SHE Teams have taken Women Safety to the next level.

REVOLUTIONARY REFORMS IN ADMINISTRATION

33 new districts have been formed. Revenue Divisions have been increased from 42 to 74. Revenue Mandals increased from 459 to 594. Municipalities have been increased from 52 to 129. Corporations have been increased from 6 to 13. Police Commissionerates have been increased from 2 to 9. Gram Panchayats have been increased from 8,695 to 12,769.

All of these initiatives, together, go a long way in bringing the Government closer to people.



From farmers to pensioners, development for all

MAKING TELANGANA FARMERS THE REAL HEROES



FREE POWER: Telangana is the only state in India to provide free, quality power 24 hours a day, to the agriculture sector.

FREE IRRIGATION: It is also the only state to provide zero cess on water through various projects. Further, all unpaid water dues have been waived.

RYTHU BIMA: The farmers have been given a life insurance coverage of Rs.5 lakh. Already 80,861 families received relief from the scheme till date.

LOAN WAIVER: 41.46 lakh farmers have been given a loan waiver of Rs.22,000 crores.

The results of these efforts are astounding. Food grain production has grown by 8 times, and Telangana is today the leading cotton producer in the country.



FARMERS' GREATEST FRIEND, RYTHU BANDHU

Telangana is the only state in the country to offer a sum of Rs.10,000 per acre, per annum, to every farmer across the state as input subsidy. 63 lakh farmers have received a total of Rs.50,448 crores directly to their accounts till date.



A REVOLUTION TO UPLIFT DALITS: DALIT BANDHU

In a benchmark for the country, Telangana Government has instituted the Dalit Bandhu scheme for the upliftment and growth of the Dalit community.

Under this scheme, a grant of Rs.10 lakhs will be given to every Dalit family, irrespective of the status of their bank account. They can use this to create livelihoods, and build a future.

Further, Telangana instituted a reservation of 10% for all Government licenses – fertilizer, medical, liquor shop – for Dalits.

Over 40,000 Dalit families benefitted just last year, with 1,75,000 more to be touched by the scheme this year.



AASARA PENSION

This unique scheme provides pension to the underprivileged. The elderly, widows, single women, weavers, toddy tappers, disabled, HIV victims, beedi workers and people suffering from Elephantiasis, all benefit with pensions ranging from Rs.2016 to Rs.3016 per month.

RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



Telangana has seen unbelievable development at both the Urban and Rural levels unheard of in India, with Palle Pragathi and Pattana Pragathi.

With impetus to basic infrastructure, significant budget allocation, and creation of new posts of 9,355 Village Secretaries, and Additional District Collectors in every district, Rural and Urban Development has gathered great momentum. Every village now has a tractor, trolley, water tanker, nursery and dump yard.

Of the 20 ranks in "Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana", Telangana villages have secured 19 ranks. This is a testimony to the progress made by the rural development program.

TELANGANA, CHAMPION IN EDUCATION

Telangana has the greatest number of residential schools in the country at 973. Each of these imparts quality education of a global standard to over 5 lakh students, securing our tomorrow firmly.

Mana Ooru Mana Badi: Under this scheme, all schools have been upgraded to English medium, and a sum of Rs.7,289 crores have been allocated for infrastructure improvement.

EVERY COMMUNITY FINDS A FUTURE

Sheepherders: 7.3 lakh sheep have been distributed to shepherds across the state, at a cost of Rs.11,000 crores.

Fishermen: 10.17 lakh fishermen were given fish worth Rs.305 crores to start their farms. As a result, over the past 8 years, the fish estate grew to Rs.25,782 crores, immensely increasing their revenues.

Textile Workers and Weavers: The Kakatiya Textile Park, Apparel Park in Warangal, and Weaving Park in Siricilla were started to provide employment and livelihood to weavers and textile workers. Loan waivers upto Rs.1 lakh, insurance cover of Rs.5 lakhs and 50% subsidy on thread and chemicals have also been provided to the community.

Toddy Workers: Toddy shops were reopened, unpaid taxes were waived, protection was provided for accident and accidental death to this community to uplift them. Further, the Goud community got 15% reservation on liquor licenses, helping them secure their futures.

BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL



For the first time in India, **Kanti Velugu**, a unique eye check-up program, tested 1.5 crore people and provided glasses to 41 lakh people, free of cost. Further, over 13 lakh mothers who gave births in Government hospitals were given **KCR Kits**. The kits included Rs.13,000 for a baby girl and Rs.12,000 for a baby boy, along with 16 other essentials useful for the baby.

2-BEDROOM HOUSING PROGRAMME

Telangana is the only state to give a free 2BHK home to below the poverty line citizens. 2,91,000 houses have been approved till date, with more on the way. Those with land will be sanctioned Rs.3,00,00 in phases to build their own 2BHK homes.

KALYANA LAKSHMI SHAADI MUBARAK

Under the scheme, the state gives Rs.1,00,116 to poor girls for their wedding expenses. 11,44,000 girls have benefitted under this scheme.



TELANGANA IS ONE BIG HAPPY COMMUNITY

When all the diverse communities benefit together, the state itself benefits. In Telangana everyone finds reasons for happiness. The Government officially celebrates Bonalu, Bathukamma, Ramzan and Christmas, promoting communal harmony. 250 units of power free for dhobi ghats, laundry shops and Nayi Brahmin saloons. Rs.5000 monthly remuneration for 10,000 Imams and Mouzams. Free clothes distribution on Bathukamma, Ramzan and Christmas.



NOTICE BOARD

EDUCATION

CELEBRATIONS, EVENTS



COURSE-INDIAN SOCIETY OF INT'L LAW

It is today beyond doubt that international law plays a prominent role in the global order. The Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi through its activities is steering the debate among young Indian scholars in the field of international law. Its 20th Summer Course on International Law from 6-17 June 2022 is intending to update the knowledge of Public and Private International Law with specific references to current issues including Ukraine and Russia Conflict. Eminent experts in the field of international law including judges, academicians and Ministry officials are delivering lectures. The participation is received from all over India includes academicians, professionals as well as students pursuing or have completed law, political sciences or international relations. Registration can be done at <https://www.isil-aca.org/>.



FAREWELL-DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL

DAV Public School Sreshtha Vihar recently organized the Farewell Assembly for Class XII Session 2021-2022. The programme began with a special assembly which reverberated with the sounds of vedic mantras, gayatri mantra and shanti path infusing sanctity, purity and serenity in the air. This was followed by the Blessing Ceremony. While addressing the students, Principal Suhasini Kushinder Nath emphasized the need to be sincere, diligent and perseverant to be successful in whatever they do in this new phase of their journey of life. She further added that the school has done its best to develop them holistically and provided them with the necessary tools skills and values that will enable them to stand in good stead in every situation.



AWARD-AMITY UNIVERSITY

Nitya Soni, a student of B.Sc (H) Physics Final year, Amity Institute of Applied Sciences, Shubahnit Sudhakar, M.Tech, Artificial Intelligence, 1st Year - Amity School of Engineering & Technology, under the mentorship of S. Kumar from Amity Innovation Design Center, have won "Toycathon 2022", an inter-ministerial initiative organized by Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell with the support from AICTE, for their project N-BRAILLE, a learning device for the visually-impaired. N-BRAILLE is a cost-effective device capable of providing education to visually impaired people who are willing to learn & the team had been working on their idea for the last 1 yr along with Amity Innovation & Design Centre. Out of lakhs of ideas, 17,770 ideas were shortlisted in the first round & only 7 ideas were awarded per nodal centre at Grand Finale of Toycathon Physical edition, N-BRAILLE being one of them.

APPOINTMENT-GGSIPU

The Vice Chancellor of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Padma Shri Prof. (Dr) Mahesh Verma has been appointed as the new Chairman of coveted Medical University College of Medical Sciences of Delhi University. Dr Verma is also Professor Emeritus, Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, New Delhi. He is the President of International Association of Dental Research (India) & Vice Chairman of World Dental Federation, Geneva, Switzerland and also Vice Chairman of Science Committee representing India. He is also recipient of prestigious Dr B. C. Roy Award in the field of dentistry. Reacting on the new assignment Dr Verma said, we will try to elevate this college at new heights in the field of medical education.



CONVOCATION-FORE SCHOOL OF MGT.

FORE School of Management (FSM), New Delhi, held the XXV Convocation recently. The event was graced by Suresh Narayanan, CMD at Nestlé India Limited, New Delhi. Dr. Jitendra Das, Director welcomed the Chief Guest and advised the passing out students that "Never be afraid of making mistakes in life. Mistakes are part of human nature. Learn from your mistakes, don't repeat them, and move on. Life is full of challenges, obstacles, and surprises. But with hard work and a positive attitude, one can achieve success". He wished all the post-graduating students success and encouraged them to bring more laurels to FORE, their Alma Mater. Presenting the activity report, Dr. Das highlighted the milestones that FORE School achieved for the year 2021-22. Dr. Jitendra Das also informed about four new verticals of FORE Society.

IMS GHAZIABAD Dr. Urvashi Makkar, Director, IMS Ghaziabad was invited as Expert Speaker in the premier Indo-Global Entrepreneurship Conclave 2022 on the theme "Accelerating Business Growth in the Post Covid Scenario" recently. Sharing her views, Dr. Urvashi traced the changing entrepreneurial landscape in the country from yester-years to the current times. She highlighted that the crucial aspect of entrepreneurship must not be discussed in silos. She drew the attention of the attentive audience to the numerous initiatives undertaken at IMS Ghaziabad for fostering entrepreneurial mindset in the budding professionals.

CPJ College of Higher Studies & School of Law, Narela shall be organizing the Annual Convocation Ceremony on 12th June, 2022. General Secy of CPJ College Dr. Abhishek Jain and DG Yugank Chaturvedi released a joint statement and said - this would really be a moment of Honour for all, especially for the Pass out Students of BBA (Gen.) / BBA (CAM) / BCA / B.Com. (Hons) and B.A.LLB / BALLB who will be awarded with their hard earned Graduation Degrees by the distinguished guests. Prof. (Dr) Mahesh Verma, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University and Prof. (Dr) Amita Dev, VC, IGDTUW shall be the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(E-Mail:- serwbrp2004@yahoo.com, Tel/Fax:- 0680-2404287)

E-Mail / E-despatch

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. Online Tender /15-2022-23/BPR

Identification No	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakhs)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 15-2022-23/BPR	Bridge Works (BSY)	02 Nos	From Rs. 639.04 lakhs to Rs. 839.89 Lakhs	"Special" & "Super" Class as applicable	18 (Eighteen) & 24 (Twenty Four) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Berhampur

Availability of tender online for bidding

From	To
04.06.2022 at 10.00 A.M.	18.06.2022 upto 3.00 P.M.

(i) No EMD is required as per O.M.No. 8484 Dt. 05.04.2022 of Finance Department, Govt of Odisha. But Bid Security declaration should be furnished by the bidders as mentioned in the DTCN.
(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.
Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website:- www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
R.W. Circle, Berhampur
OIPR-25071/11/0023/2223



M.P. POWER GENERATING COMPANY LTD
(Govt. of M.P. Undertaking)
O/o E.D. (O&M:Gen.) Block No. 6 Shakti Bhavan Rampur
Jabalpur Pin : 482008

No. 07-03/OSG/44

Dated : 26-05-2022

Notice for Tender

Tender for engagement of Retired/Ex NTPC personnel for chemical wing related works of thermal power plants.

MPPGCL intends to engage 07 numbers of experts on contract Basis, having adequate work experience in NTPC's thermal power plant chemistry works.

MPPGCL invites physical applications for engagement from Retired/ Ex NTPC professionals. The details regarding pre-qualification, scope of work and mode of application can be downloaded through website <https://www.mppgcl.mp.gov.in/> free of cost. Last Date of receipt of application : 25-06-2022

Sd/-
E.D. (O&M;Gen)
MPPGCL Jabalpur

Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 50 Yrs. (About), **Height:** 5'5", **Sex:** Male, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Long **Wearing:** Light Black Colour T-Shirt and Pant without any Footwear **Place of Recovery:** Found on 26.05.2022 at Kailash Nagar Bus Stand in a Sick Condition & sent to the SDN Hospital through CAT Ambulance where during treatment he died on 29.05.2022.

In this regard DD No. 10A, Dated: 29.05.2022 has been lodged at Police Station, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

SHO

P.S. Gandhi Nagar, Delhi

DP/857/SHD/2022

Ph.: 011-7065036024, 8595895116

DELHI JAL BOARD
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (SDW) NW THROUGH Executive Engineer (SDW) -VI
6th FLOOR, VARUNALAYA, PH-II, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005
Email: eesdw06@gmail.com

PRESS NIT. NO. 05 (2022-23)/EE (SDW) VI

S. No	Name of Work	Estimate Cost	E/Money	Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/ time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Procurement of Mustard oil for the staff under the division EE(SDW)VI.	3102528/-	61000/-	500/-	GEM/2022/B/2219560 Dt.30.05.2022	10.06.2022 at 3:00 P.M.

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<https://gem.gov.in>)
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Sd/- (J.C. Garg)
Adv. No. J.S.V. 156(2022-23) EE(SDW)VI

Stop Corona: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing and Maintain Hygiene

JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Online bids are invited by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Chauhan Distt. Mandi (H.P.)-175032 on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system for the under mentioned work from the qualified and experienced contractors/firms.

1. Name of work:- Providing Flood Protection works and channelization on river Beas near area of Lad Bharol & Langna in Tehsil Lad Bharol in District Mandi H.P (SH:- Construction of Wire crated embankment with apron/Gabion wall from PD 523 to 784- 261 Rmt. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 1,99,77,388/- Only Earnest Money :- Rs. 2,32,274/- Only Time Limit :- One year
Cost of tender document :- Rs. 1500/-

2. Name of work:- Providing Flood Protection works and channelization on river Beas near area of Lad Bharol & Langna in Tehsil Lad Bharol in District Mandi H.P (SH:- Construction of Wire crated embankment with apron/Gabion wall from PD 0 to 523- 523 Rmt. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 4,00,31,398/- Only Earnest Money :- Rs. 4,32,813/- Only Time Limit :- One year
Cost of tender document :- Rs. 2500/-

Schedule of tendering:-

1. Bid Submission start date	30.05.2022 05.00 PM
2. Bid Submission end date	13.06.2022 05.00 PM
3. Opening of Cover-I	15.06.2022 at 11.30AM
4. Opening of Financial bid	Date and place to be notified separately.

Conditions:-
Tender documents, Terms and conditions and other instruction can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://hptenders.gov.in>.
Executive Engineer,
JS Division, Chauhan

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल
(उद्यान शाखा)

निविदा आमंत्रण

निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिये आनलाईन निविदा प्रतिशत दर पर निविदा 'प्रपत्र-अ' एवं 'ब' में केन्द्रीयकृत प्रणाली के अंतर्गत लोक निर्माण विभाग में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत फर्म/ठेकेदारों से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं अन्य शर्तें <http://mptenders.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती हैं।

आनलाईन निविदा क्र.	विवरण	अनुमानित लागत	धरोहर राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य की अवधि
2022_UAD-208705_1	DEVELOPMENT OF GREENSPACE AND GARDEN, AREA AT LAKE FRONT NEAR GULAB-UDYAN, BAIRAGARH	रुपये 18685048/-	रुपये 93425/-	रुपये 12500/-	5 वर्ष

नोट:-

- सर्वतः निविदा मान्य नहीं होगी।
- धरोहर राशि केवल आनलाईन ही मान्य होगी।
- सफल निविदाकार को ठेके की राशि के 3 प्रतिशत के बराबर परफार्मेन्स सिक्क्यूरिटी जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।

Sd/-
कार्यपालन यंत्री (उद्यान)
नगर निगम, भोपाल
नि.क्र. 280/022/023

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, Shimla, Division No. I, HPPWD, Shimla-3, H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from appropriate class of HPPWD/HP Jal Shakti Vibhag, the contractors registered with any other State/Central Govt. Departments/Corporations/PSUs and Principal manufacturer of pothole repair machine and having executed similar work. The eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost	Starting date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money	Deadline for submission of Bid	Time Allowed	Pre-bid meeting date of Bid
1	Repair of pot holes /patch work with auto mechanized machine using Cold mix Spray technology on various roads under HPPWD 4th Circle Shimla (Shimla Division No-I, Thoeg and Shimla Division No-III).	202702337	07-06-2022	4054100/-	21-06-2022	730 days	15-06-2022 in the office of Chief Engineer (S2) HPPWD Shimla NirmanBhawan Shimla.

The bidders are advised to note other details of tender such as scope of services, eligibility criteria and additional condition of contract from the department website www.hptender.gov.in
The executive Engineer reserves the right to accept/reject any tender/application or all tenders without assigning any reason.
1409/HP

verka
Phulo Phalo. Pura Khao Piyo.

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD. SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13

Section-A Notice Inviting Tender www.verka.coop

e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Sr. No	Name of the Work	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tenders	Last Date & Time for Submission of e-tenders	Date & Time for opening of e-tenders
1	Annual Rate Contract for loading/unloading of packing material & other store materials etc.	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Ludhiana Dairy Ph. 0161-5203300, 5203301, 5203328	500/-	30,000/-	03.06.2022	16.06.2022 upto 12.00 PM	Technical bid 17.06.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 21.06.2022 at 2:30 PM
2	Job Contract for shifting and packing of powder into 25 kg bags, 1/2 kg and 1 kg SMP and WMP packets, packing of Ghee (All Variants), packing and Shifting of White Butterbox, packing of Dahi (All Variants) and shifting to incubation room/cold store	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	200,000/-	04.06.2022 from 10:00 AM	20.06.2022 up to 01.00 PM	Technical bid 21.06.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 24.06.2022 at 11:00 AM
3	Rice Husk	1000 MT	Verka Bathinda Dairy Ph No. (0164-2214825,2212825)	500/-	100,000/-	04.06.2022 from 11:30 AM	18.06.2022 up to 5.00 PM	20.06.2022 at 11:30 AM
4	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Diesel Generator. Capacity 750 KVA.	01	Verka Gurdaspur Dairy Ph No. 01874-220156	500/-	200,000/-	03.06.2022 from 05:00 PM	20.06.2022 up to 03.00 PM	Technical bid 21.06.2022 at 03:00 PM Financial bid 24.06.2022 at 03:00 PM
5	Pest Control Services	-do-	-do-	200/-	20,000/-	08.06.2022 from 05:00 PM	27.06.2022 up to 04.00 PM	Technical bid 29.06.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 05.07.2022 at 12:00 PM
6	Engaging of Coursework Agency for providing Security Staff/Guards	Rate Contract	Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Khanna Ph No. 01629-521450,51,52	1000/-	100,000/-	04.06.2022 from 01:00 PM	15.06.2022 up to 1.00 PM	15.06.2022 at 02:30 PM
7	Engaging of Coursework Agency for providing of Unskilled/Skilled/Highly skilled & other Man Power	Rate Contract	-do-	1000/-	100,000/-	04.06.2022 from 01:00 PM	10.06.2022 up to 1.00 PM	10.06.2022 at 02:30 PM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970254 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in. Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Section-B
Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performa for the purchase of following items:-

Sr. No	Name of Work / Item	Qty.	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Application form receiving date	Last date for Applying
1	Notice inviting expression on interest to run 07 Verka Milk Booths in different locations in Chandigarh, Mohali, Khanna and in 04 hospitals for the sale of Verka milk and milk products and for promotion of Verka brand value.	-	Verka Mohali Dairy Ph No. (0172-2271784, 2271020, 2271021)	-	-	10.06.2022 to 27.06.2022	07.07.2022

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5 PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website (www.verka.coop). **TENDERS WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED.** The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Incharge (Purchase)

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) - U40109RJ2000SGC016483
Office of the Superintending Engineer (MM&C) MM&C Wing
Regd. Office : New Power House, Industrial Area, Jodhpur-342003, Ph. 0291-2742223, Fax : 0291-2746539

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

E-procurement Short Term Tenders is invited for Repair & Testing of Damaged Three Phase Distribution Transformers of rating 10 KVA to 630 KVA under TN-1817 (UBNJVVWSRC00190).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.jdvnl.com and also at <http://sppp.raajasthan.gov.in>

Superintending Engineer (MM&C)
For Electricity Complaints Toll free No. 1800 180 6045

UJVNL LTD.
HO "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808 Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

Letter No. 277 Tender Notice Dated : 31.05.2022
Office of the Executive Engineer (Maint.), Chibro Power Station, Dakpathar (Dehradun), invites sealed tenders from interested parties.

Tender No: (1) CH(Maint.) - 06/2022-23 Hiring of vehicle (Bolero or equivalent) for DGM, HGC, Dakpathar(2) CH(Maint.)-07/2022-23 Annual Maintenance contract for the works of transport & Central Store, Chibro Power Station

Estimated cost: (1) ₹ 4,02,372/- (2) ₹ 11,73,343/- (GST extra)
Date of availability of bid on website: 03.06.2022, 11:00 hrs
Last date for submission of tender: 25.06.2022 up to 13:00 hrs
For further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website www.ujvnl.com (Executive Engineer, Maint., Chibro)

"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office:- PSPCL Head Office, The Mall, Patiala
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813; Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 9646118754)

Tender Enquiry No. 286/ASHP/DDR Dated: 30.05.2022
Dy. CE/ Hydel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-Tender for carrying out studies for Renovation, Modernization & Upgrading (RMU) & Life Extension (LE) work of 4x33.5 MW Hydro Generating Machines of Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project. Preparation of DPR including measurement of input energy parameters (head, discharge etc). Scope of work, Technical Specifications & Tender Document.

For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 03.06.2022 onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> C204/22 14651/PB

ANDHRA PRADESH MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
APMSIDC, Plot No.9, Survey No. 49, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District-522503

Tender Notice No.141/APMSIDC/2022-23, Dated:31.05.2022
APMSIDC invites tenders through e-procurement platform (<https://tender.approcurement.gov.in>)

Drugs Wing: T.No.141/ APMSIDC/ Medicine Wing/2022-23- Procurement and supply of medicines for teaching hospitals of DME and district hospitals of APVVP under de-centralized budget from the medical agencies/ chain pharmacy.

Tender Notice No.3/APMSIDC/2022-23, Dated:31.05.2022
Equipment Wing: 1) Procure and supply of Equipment and other items to various Govt. Hospitals in A.P. under different schemes of NHM Funds 2) Selection of service provider for providing referral transports for pregnant women for 4 ANC and 1 PNC in A.P. under PPP Mode 3) Procure and supply of medical equipment and other items to APVVP Hospitals under NABARD Scheme. 4) Identification of vendor for printing and distribution of Dr. YSR Aarogyasri Health Card to the Beneficiaries in Andhra Pradesh 5) Procure and supply of Medical equipment to DME Hospitals in A.P.

For complete details, please visit Website: <http://tender.approcurement.gov.in> from 02.06.2022.

APMSIDC will reverse the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reasons.
Ro No: 1107PP/CL/ADVT/II/2021-22 Sd/- for MANAGING DIRECTOR



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY @3.0
3 June, 2022 | Lucknow

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- Metro Rail Service in 10 Cities (Operational in 5 Cities, under construction/proposed in 5 Cities)
- 4 Expressways Operational, 4 under construction
- 5 International Airports (3 operational, 2 upcoming)
- Sufficient electricity, uninterrupted supply



PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Sunny, S/o Kamaljeet, R/o:** H. No. 1123, 2nd Floor, Poothkalan, New, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 809/215 U/s 420/468/471/34 IPC Act** registered at P.S. Burari, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Sunny** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sunny** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sunny** accused of **FIR No. 809/215 U/s 420/468/471/34 IPC Act** P.S. Burari, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **04.07.2022**.

By Order
Sh. Mayank Aggarwal,
Metropolitan Magistrate -09,
Central, Room No. 286,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/2358/N/2022



ADMISSIONS OPEN

M.S: Master in Packaging Technology
(Affiliated by Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, JNTU, Hyderabad)
Eligible Criteria: Full-Time Graduate Degree in Engineering & Technology or Four-year Science Graduate.

M.Sc: Master in Packaging Technology
(Affiliated by Guru Gobind Indraprastha University, Delhi)
Eligible Criteria: Full-Time Graduate Degree in Science, Engineering & Technology with Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics and main subject or one of the second subjects in the three-year degree.
(Candidate should visit Guru Gobind Indraprastha University website (www.ipu.ac.in) for more information)

PGDP: Post Graduate Diploma in Packaging
(Mumbai and Kolkata only)
Eligible Criteria: Full-Time Graduate Degree in Science, Engineering & Technology with Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics and main subject or one of the second subjects in the three-year degree

CPE: Certified Packaging Engineers
(Chennai & Online Mode only)
Eligible Criteria: Full-Time Graduate Degree in Engineering & Technology.

For details please contact:
+91 22 69192242-5 for PGDP - Mumbai
+91 33-2367 0763 / 6016 for PGDP - Kolkata
+91 8826614743 for M.Sc - Delhi
+91 40 23814321 for M.S - Hyderabad
+91 044 24960730 for CPE - Chennai
Note: Candidates can visit the IIP website (www.iip-in.com) and submit the application form through online and offline modes for PGDP, M.S., and CPE
onlinepgdp@iip-in.com for PGDP at Mumbai & Kolkata
onlinems@iip-in.com for M.S at Hyderabad
onlinecpe@iip-in.com for CPE at Delhi
www.iip-in.com for PGDP, M.S & CPE
www.ipu.ac.in for M.Sc

FORM G (RE-ISSUE) INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(Under Regulation 35A (1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of Corporate Debtor	GPI Textiles Limited
2. Date of incorporation of Corporate Debtor	29.09.2000
3. Authority under which Corporate Debtor is Incorporated / Registered	Registrar of Companies-Himachal Pradesh
4. Corporate Identity Number / Limited liability Identification Number of Corporate Debtor	U17117HP2000PLC026391
5. Address of the Registered Office & Principal Office (if any) of Corporate Debtor	Registered Office: Bharat Garh Road, Nalagarh, District Solan, HP-174101 Communication Address: Bharat Garh Road, Nalagarh, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh-174101 Works At: Bharat Garh Road, Nalagarh, District Solan, HP-174101
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of Corporate Debtor	08.07.2018 (Appointment of IRP on 12.07.2018)
7. Date of invitation of expression of interest	02.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 22.12.2018) (Original Date: 15.09.2018)
8. Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 29(2)(i) of the Code is available at:	Detail can be sought by emailing at: jk.grover27@gmail.com
9. Manner of obtaining request for resolution plan, evaluation matrix, information memorandum and further information	As per section 29A and other provisions of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code 2016 Available on the website of IIBBI (http://ibbi.gov.in/web/portal/legal_framework.php)
10. Last date for receipt of expression of interest	17.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 02.01.2019) (Original Date: 05.10.2018)
11. Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	19.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 07.01.2019) (Original Date: 15.10.2018)
12. Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	24.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 10.01.2019) (Original Date: 20.10.2018)
13. Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	26.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 12.01.2019) (Original Date: 30.10.2018)
14. Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	19.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 07.01.2019) (Original Date: 20.10.2018)
15. Manner of submitting resolution plans to resolution professional	Information memorandum, request for resolution plan and evaluation matrix will be shared by the resolution professional to shortlisted prospective resolution applicant meeting the eligibility criteria as set out by the Committee of Creditors after receiving a confidentiality undertaking as per section 29(2) of the IBC 2016, via e-mail
16. Last date for submission of resolution plans	15.07.2022 (2nd Publication: 28.01.2019) (Original Date: 30.11.2018)
17. Manner of submitting resolution plans to resolution professional	Through speed post registered post or by hand in sealed cover addressed to: Jalesh Kumar Grover, Ducturus Resolution Professionals Pvt. Ltd., SCO 818, 1st Floor, Above YES Bank, NAC, Manimajra, Chandigarh-160101 (also send copy on email to: jk.grover27@gmail.com , ip.gpi@textiles@ducturus.com)
18. Estimated date for submission of resolution plan to the Adjudicating Authority for approval	13.08.2022 (2nd Publication: 25.03.2019) (Original Date: 30.12.2018)
19. Name and registration number of the resolution professional	Jalesh Kumar Grover Regn No: IBBIPA-011/P-P002002017-18/10390
20. Name, Address and e-mail of the resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Jalesh Kumar Grover SCO 818, 1st Floor, Above YES Bank, NAC, Manimajra, Chandigarh-160101 Email: jk.grover27@gmail.com Regn No: IBBIPA-011/P-P002002017-18/10390
21. Address and email to be used for correspondence with the resolution professional	Jalesh Kumar Grover, SCO 818, 1st Floor, Above YES Bank, NAC, Manimajra, Chandigarh-160101 Email: ip.gpi@textiles@ducturus.com
22. Further Details are available at or with	Jalesh Kumar Grover, (Resolution Professional) Mobile: +9195010-81808 Email: jk.grover27@gmail.com
23. Date of publication of Form G	02.06.2022 (2nd Publication: 02.01.2019) (Original Date: 05.10.2018)

NOTE - FORM G in the matter of GPI TEXTILES LIMITED is being published again as approved by the CDC vide order of NCLT dated 24.05.2022
Sd/-
Jalesh Kumar Grover
Resolution Professional in the matter of GPI Textiles Limited
Regn No IBBIPA-011/P-P002002017-18/10390
SCO 818, 1st Floor, Above YES Bank, NAC, Manimajra, Chandigarh-160101
Mobile: +91-95010-81808

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HSIADC e-Auction schedule for allotment of Industrial Plots in Pace City Gurugram (under General Category)

HSIADC had opened the registration for participation in e-Auction for allotment of industrial plots in Pace City Gurugram with closing date as 19.05.2022. The schedule of e-Auction for the same is as under :

Auction Name/Plot Size Category*	Auction ID	Date of E-auction	No. of plots on offer
Pace City, Sector-37, Gurugram-250 sqm	604	04.06.2022	1
Pace City, Sector-37, Gurugram-450 sqm	603	04.06.2022	4
Pace City, Sector-37, Gurugram-1000 sqm	602	04.06.2022	1
Pace City, Sector-37, Gurugram-2100 sqm	601	04.06.2022	2

(i) The Round-1 of each e-Auction shall start at 7.00 AM on the scheduled date (ii) The standard closing time of Round-1 of each e-Auction shall be 11.00 AM on the scheduled date. All subsequent rounds shall be of 30 minutes duration, subject to extension as below (iii) There will be unlimited extensions. The auction time of the round(s) will get extended by 10 minutes in case of receipt of any bid in the last 5 minutes (iv) In case the e-auction does not conclude till 9.00 PM, the e-auction will pause at 9.00 PM (the round in progress at 9.00 PM shall continue even after 9.00 PM till its closing) and fresh round shall re-start at 7.00 AM the next day (v) The minimum bid increment has been kept at Rs.200/- psm in all categories (vi) The H-1 payment shall be scheduled after acceptance of bids by the competent authority, payable within 7 days (168 hours) of scheduling (vii) The number of plots indicated above are tentative and HSIADC shall reserve to itself the right to withdraw any site/category from auction or add any site for auction at any stage without assigning any reason (viii) The HSIADC shall reserve to itself the right to accept any bid/category or reject any bid/category, even the highest bid at any stage, without assigning any reason.

RESERVE PRICE AND BID PRICE ON THE E-AUCTION PORTAL WOULD BE INDICATED ON PER SQUARE METER BASIS
All registered bidders may please note the above for participation in e-Auction on scheduled date and please note that no separate notice shall be sent in this regard. The details of plots an offer can be seen on the e-Auction portal hsiadc.bids.in and www.hsiadc.org.in
For further details, including process of e-Auction, please refer to the e-Auction brochure available on e-Auction portal hsiadc.bids.in.

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Deve. Corp. Ltd. A State Government Undertaking
Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 0172-2590481-83, Fax: 2590474, Website: hsiadc.org.in, E-mail: contacts@hsiadc.org.in, CIN: U29199HR19575GDC034545

PUBLIC NOTICE
Open Advanced Technologies LLP, A-59, 6th Floor, Raina Towers Sector-136, Gurgaon, Haryana, India - 122001.
M/s OPEN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES LLP is pleased to inform that the proposed IIT/ITES building to be developed at Plot No. 47 and 48, Block-A, Sector-136, Noida - 201304, Gurgaon Haryana, India has been accorded with Environmental Clearance from State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Uttar Pradesh vide EC Identification No. EC2160380/P136696 dated 25/03/2022. The copy of the Environmental Clearance letter is available with the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Directorate of Environment, U.P., Vandeet Khand-1, Gantoli Nagar, Lucknow - 226010 and online at http://164.105.213.216/E-Sign/Esign/EC/SEHAA_192312_670929_SIA_UP_MS_234105_2021.pdf

VACANCY OF HEADMASTER / HEADMISTRESS AT AIR FORCE SCHOOL PRAHLADPUR (PRE-PRIMARY)
Name of Post: Headmaster / Headmistress
No. of vacancy: 01
Educational Qualification: Graduate Degree with aggregate 50% marks
Professional Qualification: Bachelor of Education Degree or NTT or its equivalent from a college/institute recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/SCERT
Experience: Teaching experience of at least two years or experience of at least one year as Principal/HT of any Air Force School.
Age: Should be in the age group of 25 to 50 years as on 01 July 22.
Desirable Qualification: Knowledge of computer applications, especially MS Office
Competent with POC/CO Act, CBSE/NCERT rules
Ability to read write and communicate in Hindi
Working Knowledge of child psychology
CTET/STET qualified candidates
Note: Applications along with detailed resume of candidate consisting of qualification, self attested passport size photograph, guardian's name, address for communication, contact number, CTC of all testimonials addressed to Executive Director AF School Prahladpur 27 ED Air Force Station Prahladpur Palam New Delhi -10 are to reach by 15 Jun 22. Applications received after due date will not be accepted. For any query contact: 9911477738 / 8826889490.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India
1st Floor, Chanakya Place, R-Block, Patna-800001 (Tel. 2220640-643, Fax: 0612-2223178)
APPENDIX - IV, Rule 8(1)

Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **BANK OF INDIA** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed in the table hereunder written calling upon the below mentioned borrowers to repay the amount shown in the respective notices mentioned against their names in the table, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers/guarantors mentioned below having failed to repay the amount shown in the respective notices issued u/s 13(2) within the stipulated time, notice is hereby given to the aforementioned borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property/ies (Secured Assets) described in the table given below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the date(s) mentioned against the respective property.

The aforesaid borrowers/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies mentioned in the table hereunder written and any dealings with the said property/ies will be subject to the charge of the **BANK OF INDIA** for the amount shown in the respective column of the table and interest thereon.

Name of Borrower	Branch, ii. Date & Amount as per Notice u/s 13(2)	Details of property	Date of Possession of Assets
M/s. Shivang Automobiles Pvt. Ltd. and It's Director- Mrs. Sangeeta Srivastava W/o. Late Ajit Kumar (Guarantor cum Mortgagor)	(i) Jamal Road Branch, (ii) Demand Notice Date: 24.08.2021, ₹ 6,91,09,457.48 + Interest from 22.03.2021.	Description of the Immovable Property with the Account No. 441530110000039 and 441565810000039, All that piece and parcel of Equitable Mortgage Property in the name of Smt. Sangeeta Srivastava, W/o. Late Ajit Kumar Situated at Mauza- Mirchak Kothia, Deed No. 10739 Date 28.03.2012, Survey Khesra No. 02, 03, 04 & 08, Khata No. 12, 06, 08, & 2, Thana No. 36, Tausi No. 178, P.S.- Didarganj, Dist-Patna, Area-15.21 Katha (47.5 Decimal as per present measurement and sarkari amin report total area of land lies in plot no. 02) being, Bounded- North- Sanjay Kumar and others, South- Nijikreta, East- Plot No. 8, West- Road.	31.05.2022

* With further interest at applicable rate till repayment.

Date: 01.06.2022
Place: Patna
Authorized Officer
Bank of India

हरियाणा सरकार
आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव

पराक्रम और शौर्य की प्रतिमूर्ति महाराणा प्रताप जी की जयंती पर शत-शत नमन

2 जून, 2022

“वीरता और पराक्रम के पर्याय महाराणा प्रताप जी को उनकी जयंती पर सादर नमन। उनके साहस और संघर्ष की गाथा देशवासियों को सदा प्रेरित करती रहेगी।”
- नरेन्द्र मोदी

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Litigants turn to 80-year-old court ruling to press claims in Gyanvapi case

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

AT THE heart of the courtroom debate over the Gyanvapi matter, the hearing of which will resume in the Varanasi District Court on July 4, is a 1942 ruling of the Allahabad High Court that dealt with the ownership of the mosque and the land surrounding it.

Both parties in the suit rely on the ruling in Din Mohammad and Others versus Secretary of State to support their claims.

The plea by five Hindu women seeking the right to worship Maa Shringar Gauri on the outer wall of the Gyanvapi mosque complex claims that

EXPLAINED
Case of Din Mohd, 1942

DIN MOHAMMAD & Ors vs Secretary of State is one of many submissions being made in the Varanasi court which has to decide on maintainability of the suit.

EXPRESS NETWORK



MAHARASHTRA: COVID CASES CROSS 1,000 MARK FOR 1ST TIME SINCE FEB
PAGE 15

MONEY LAUNDERING INVESTIGATION

National Herald case: Appear on June 8, ED tells Sonia and Rahul

Charges hollow, not scared: Cong; documents don't lie: BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

WEEKS AFTER the Enforcement Directorate (ED) questioned Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Pawan Bansal in connection with its National Herald money laundering probe, the central agency has summoned the party's president Sonia Gandhi and Lok Sabha MP Rahul



Sonia Gandhi at a party event in New Delhi on Wednesday. Tashi Tobgyal

Gandhi to appear before it on June 8 in connection with the case filed six months ago.

The summons drew furious reactions from the Congress, which described the case as "weird" since "no money was involved" and said that the charges were "more hollow than a pack of cards". "We will face them. We are not a bit scared or overawed or intimidated by such cheap

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



FAREWELL TO KK

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee with family members of KK in Kolkata on Wednesday. The 53-year-old singer died on Tuesday night after performing at a concert.

Partha Paul
REPORT, PAGE 15

Breaking with Centre, Bihar BJP backs Nitish on caste census

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JUNE 1

BREAKING RANKS with the party on the issue of caste census, the Bihar unit of the BJP Wednesday joined all political parties of the state to unanimously decide in favour of a state caste census.

After an all-party meeting, Chief Minister and JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar said since the Centre has made it clear that a nationwide caste census cannot be done, the state has decided to conduct its own caste census.

"All nine parties unanimously decided to go ahead with the caste census. We will soon get it approved by the (state) Cabinet and allocate funds for the purpose. We will

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Amid unabated Punjab farm suicides, 4 girls of a family brace for a grim future

RAAKHI JAGGA
KOTLIKALAN (MANSA), JUNE 1

ON MAY 10, Mewa Singh's family, including his wife and four daughters, carried out their usual evening routine before turning in on the verandah of their two-room house in Kotlikalan village



Mewa Singh's wife with her elder daughters. Gurmeet Singh

in Punjab's Mansa district.

Mewa, a 47-year-old Dalit landless farmer, had been looking depressed for the past few days, but his family had got used to it over the years. Two days back, he had gathered the scraps strewn around the dingy cowshed, including iron grilles and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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<p>8 AIR</p> <p>ISHITA RATHI (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES)</p>	<p>9 AIR</p> <p>PREETAM KUMAR (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES)</p>	<p>18 AIR</p> <p>रवि कुमार सिंहाण (GS टेस्ट सीरीज 2018 & 19, PDP टेस्ट सीरीज 2019, GS बुक टेस्ट सीरीज 2021)</p>	<p>22 AIR</p> <p>सुनील कुमार घनवंता (कॉमिक्स परीक्षा सॉल्यूशंस 2019, GS टेस्ट सीरीज 2018, निबंध टेस्ट सीरीज 2018)</p>	<p>1 AIR</p> <p>SHUBHAM KUMAR (FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM) (CSE 2020)</p>

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DELHI: 22 JUNE, 1 PM | 8 JUNE, 9 AM
10 MAY, 1 PM

LUCKNOW: 25th June | CHANDIGARH: 21st June | JAIPUR: 22nd June
HYDERABAD: 13th June | AHMEDABAD: 21st April | PUNE: 20th June

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2023

► प्रारंभिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निबंध के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज

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LIFESTYLE

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FROM PAGE ONE

Sonia and Rahul

order was the result of a petition filed by BJP MP Subramanian Swamy in 2013.

Swamy's complaint had alleged cheating and misappropriation of funds on part of the Gandhis in acquiring the newspaper. Swami had alleged that the Gandhis acquired properties owned by National Herald by buying the newspaper's erstwhile publishers, AJL, through an organisation called Young India in which they have 86 per cent stake. Sonia and Rahul were granted bail in the case by the trial court on December 19, 2015.

In Swamy's complaint before the trial court, Sonia, Rahul and others have been accused of misappropriating funds by paying Rs 50 lakh for Young India (YI) to obtain the right to recover Rs 90.25 crore that AJL owed to the Congress.

It was alleged that YI, which was incorporated in November

2010 with a capital of Rs 50 lakh, had acquired almost all the shareholding of AJL, which was running National Herald. The I-T department had claimed that the shares owned by Rahul in YI would lead him to have an income of Rs 154 crore and not about Rs 68 lakh, as was assessed earlier. It has already issued a demand notice for Rs 249.15 crore to YI for the assessment year 2011-12.

Earlier, ED had initiated a money laundering probe against AJL in 2018 in connection with a plot allotted to it in Haryana's Panchkula by then chief minister and Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda. The ED had attached the plot, accusing the company of having acquired it "fraudulently". Hooda is an accused in the money laundering case registered by the agency in the matter.

The Congress said on Wednesday that the summons for Sonia and Rahul were received "just a few days ago" and Sonia will "100 per cent" appear before the ED. "If Rahul Gandhi is here, he will also go. Otherwise we will seek some time," Singhvi said.

Singhvi said that AJL had come under financial stress over the decades after which the Congress stepped in and over a period of time gave around Rs 90 crore as financial support.

"So AJL became an indebted company, a company with debt. AJL did what every company in India does...it converted its debt into equity. So this debt of Rs 90 crore was assigned to a new company. It is called Young India so that the books of AJL become debt-free," he said.

"Young India, in turn, which received the debt, was a newly created company under a special provision of the Companies Act - Section 25 -- which has very two vital conditions. It has to be a not-for-profit company by definition, by statute and by law, and no dividend can be given to its shareholders or directors. So you cannot take a penny," he said.

"The third important facet is that AJL continues to hold all the properties it was holding earlier. It continues to be the owner of National Herald and its printer and publisher. The only change is that Young India is holding the shareholding of AJL. Young India cannot use money in any form which it gets because it can neither pay dividend nor accumulate profit by which it can give out the money," he added.

Alleging that the case was filed with mala fide intent, Singhvi said: "This is why better minds, objective minds, non-malevolent, non-mala fide minds closed this case in file but as mala fide as this government is, they sack the head of ED at that time, they get a new opinion and they try to reopen in respect of which seven years later today they are summoning the Congress president Sonia Gandhi and former Congress president

Rahul Gandhi." Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram tweeted: "Money-laundering without money is like alleging purse snatching without a purse. It is like alleging that you were found unauthorised swimming in a pool that had no water. You can think of more examples (each one more absurd than the other)."

Hitting back at the Congress, BJP chief Nadra said: "Have you ever seen a thief accepting his crimes? There are criminals who get punished and serve their sentences of 20-20 years and yet say that they had been wrongfully framed. When someone is under scrutiny of law, if he is innocent, he should get the bail and charges will be dropped. Why are they not doing it?"

Incidentally, the ED case has been filed without any "predicate offence" (criminal case) being registered by any other agency. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, the ED is not authorised to register a case of money laundering until another agency or state police has registered an FIR.

"In this case, the Enforcement Case Information Report has been registered based on the court order following Subramanian Swamy's complaint. The ED is authorised to register a case if there is a court order specifying that a crime has been committed," an ED official said.

"The 1942 ruling had noted: 'The learned Civil Judge has gone into the history of this mosque and has come to the conclusion that it was built on the site of a Hindu temple which was demolished by Emperor Aurangzeb in the seventeenth century. I do not think that it is necessary to go into the question of the origin of the mosque. It is sufficient to go back to the year 1809 when there was a serious riot between Hindus and Muslims in that part of Benares where the mosque is situated.'"

Lawyers from the Muslim side argue that individual statements of witnesses cannot be relied upon now since the Court had held conclusively that the land on which the mosque exists is Waqf property.

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Gyanvapi case

statements of witnesses in 1937 "prove" that Hindu idols were worshipped in the disputed premises.

The Muslim side - the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid which manages the mosque has challenged the maintainability of the suit filed by the women -- argues that the Court had declared that the land on which the mosque is built is Waqf property.

"In para 16, the Hon'ble Court has held that the property in suit was not a Waqf property," states the civil suit Rakhi Singh v State of Uttar Pradesh.

This reference is to the Din Mohammad and Others versus Secretary of State. It was an appeal by three "Hanafi or Sunni Muslims" against a 1937 ruling of the Varanasi District Court seeking a declaration from the Court that apart from the mosque itself, the area around the mosque is also property of the Waqf.

The ruling by Sir James Joseph Whittelesa Allsop and Kamalakanta Verma held against the Muslims.

While the Hindu side quotes the ruling to support a historical claim that questions the ownership of the Gyanvapi mosque, the ruling suggests otherwise.

The Allahabad HC agreed with the civil judge that the mosque itself is Waqf property, but said the area around the

mosque where the namazis (the faithful) would "spill over" during prayers on the last Friday of Ramzan could not be claimed as Waqf property.

The then Muslim side also made a second claim that "Muslims had acquired a customary easement over the land" -- a paved pathway outside the mosque and its plinth (raised platform on which the mosque is built). However, the Court disagreed with this, too, holding that the claim was fairly recent -- made since 1929 -- to be considered a customary right.

In the present civil suit, the petitioners have listed nine statements that witnesses in the 1937 civil suit "have proved" that "the images of Goddess Maa Shringar Gauri, Lord Ganesh, Lord Hanuman and visible and invisible deities and also performance of daily Puja at the same very place." They also argue that these statements "were not challenged from the Muslim side."

But in its ruling then, the High Court had held that "some of the witnesses are perhaps of some respectability but, on the other hand, they are undoubtedly interested, and they give no definite evidence."

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Punjab Dalit

an old plough, and sold them all for Rs 28,000, which he gave to some of his lenders.

When Rajvir Kaur, 17, woke up early morning, she did not find her father on his cot. She had to take a bus to Patiala to get her higher secondary certificate from Punjabi University. As she was leaving the house, she saw her father hanging from the ceiling. Mewa had joined the statistics of farm suicides in Punjab.

The Mansa deputy commissioner, Jaspreet Singh, said he had received 12 compensation applications from farm suicide families in the district since March 1 this year.

Punjab's largest farm union, Bharatiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan), pegged the number of suicides of farmers and farm labourers in the state at 55 since April 1.

The Indian Express visited the homes of a few suicide victims and found behind their deaths a mix of common factors such as runaway debt, especially from the informal sector, successive crop failures, high land rentals and rising farm input costs.

The Bhagwant Mann-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government, which took the reins two-and-a-half months ago, has promised to tackle farmers' distress through a variety of measures -- including the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for moong daal, which is aimed at encouraging them to reap another harvest between wheat and paddy.

Mewa's widow Manpreet Kaur, a MGNREGA worker, says the situation leading to her husband's death by suicide had been building up for a long time. "My husband used to take 7-8 acres of land on an annual lease to do farming to support our family. Over the years, he had amassed a debt of about Rs 7 lakh, taken from landlords, arhtiyas (farm commission agents), and had no way to pay it back."

The local Malwa region is known for high land rentals. "Our land is very fertile, and of late the land rentals have gone up to Rs 70,000 an acre," says BKU (Ugrahan) senior vice president Shingara Singh Mann.

Kotlikalan sarpach Balkaran Singh says, "The costs of farm inputs like diesel, DAP and pesticides have also gone up. While diesel price increased by more than Rs 30 a litre in two years, the cost of pesticides and DAP went up by 12%-20% in the last two years. This puts a farmer in a bind. One crop failure, and he falls in the debt trap."

In Mewa's case, it was two successive crop failures, one of cotton ravaged by bollworm and then wheat, which was hit by premature heat.

A Kotlikalan resident, Malkiat Singh, says Mewa had borrowed about Rs 2.10 lakh from a big farmer and another Rs 2.69 lakh from his landlord. "He also had to pay the harvester and thresher rents. Two days before he died, he sold off his scraps to pay a few people."

Sitting in a room of her small, unfinished house, Rajvir says, "I will never forget that sight," referring to the moment when she saw her father hanging from the ceiling. Her mother and sisters burst into tears.

Mewa was a non-literate and Manpreet is a class 4 dropout, but they made efforts for their daughters' education -- Harmandeep, 19, is in BCA final year; Rajvir is in BSc first year; Pinki is in class 10, and Shagun, 7, is in class 3.

"We want to study further but there is no earning hand left in our house now," says Rajvir. Harmandeep wonders if she can earn while undergoing training for a job, saying "I have heard that some coding training is being

given in Sangrur, where girls are getting a stipend of Rs 5,000 per month".

Mansa Sadar police station SHO Beant Kaur says, "We are aware of Mewa's suicide, we conducted an inquiry under Section 174 of CrPc, the matter of compensation lies with the administration."

The deputy commissioner says the administration would process the compensation for Mewa's family soon.

The Punjab government has a policy of giving relief to suicide victims, which was last amended in July 2015, under which the families of farmers and farm labourers who take their own lives are given Rs 3 lakh as compensation. In addition, the agriculture department is supposed to work with affected families for a year and help in raising their income.

Most farm unions also demand jobs for such family members on compassionate grounds and few have also been given jobs, although there is no mention of jobs in the policy.

As per the data of the Punjab agriculture department, the total number of farmers in the state are 10.93 lakh, of which about 1.54 lakh have land-holding up to 2.5 acres while 2.07 lakh have land-holding between 2.5 and 5 acres.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Dr Sukhpal Singh, principal economist (agriculture marketing), Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), said, "Punjab government had got a survey done which was conducted by Punjabi University, Patiala, PAU, Ludhiana, and Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. According to that data, there were a total of 16,606 farmer and farm labourers' suicides during 2000-2018. After that no survey was conducted by the Punjab government, but according to the field reports of agriculture officers, around 900-1,000 farmers and farm labourers commit suicide per year even now, it hasn't declined."

The Bihar BJP was also part of the state's all-party delegation that met the Prime Minister last year to press for the caste census. It had sent minister Janak Ram to represent the party.

The state BJP does not want Nitish Kumar and his JD(U) to take political advantage from this issue. Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi has been backing the caste census idea regularly through social media posts and articles. The BJP, he maintains, has always supported the idea within and outside the Assembly.

Caste census

duly advertise the process and set a completion deadline," he said.

All Bihar parties including the BJP, he said, met the Prime Minister last year with a request to conduct a nationwide caste census.

"Now that the Centre has made it clear that a nationwide caste census cannot be done, we have decided to go ahead with the state census. There is complete unanimity on this," he said.

From the BJP, state party president Sanjay Jaiswal and Deputy Chief Minister Tarkishore Prasad attended the meeting. The RJD was represented by Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav and Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Kumar Jha. AIMIM Bihar chief Akhtarul Iman too was present.

Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, who had met the Chief Minister last

month to discuss the issue, said: "We have long been demanding a caste census. A nationwide census would have been ideal. But we are satisfied that Bihar is conducting its own caste census."

The JD (U), under pressure from the BJP, which is the larger coalition partner in the state, has been trying to highlight the "contradiction" between the BJP's state and Central units on the issue of caste census.

A few months ago, Nityanand Rai, a senior BJP leader from Bihar and Minister of State for Home Affairs, told Parliament that the caste census could not be carried out.

The Centre has been pointing to what it calls the "problematic and erroneous" 2011 caste census. It maintains it is "impractical" to conduct such a census.

BJP national spokesperson Guru Prakash Paswan has said the caste census alone cannot ensure social justice, and that the party has taken several steps to realise its goal of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. He said the BJP has set up a national panel on the OBCs and has ensured induction of 27 OBC ministers into the Modi government.

But the Bihar BJP does not want to create any impression that it is out to stall the caste census. It has been supporting this proposal from the very beginning. It was party to a resolution on the issue that Nitish Kumar brought before the Bihar House a few years ago and ensured its passage.

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Asked about the "contradictions" between the state and Central BJP over the caste census, Jaiswal told The Indian Express recently, "Nothing happens in the BJP without the Centre's will. They have seen how problematic the 2011 caste census was."

The Bihar BJP believes Nitish Kumar is trying to keep it in check by pushing the caste census idea. With the lines of social justice getting blurred among parties, especially with the Centre introducing a quota for the economically weaker section (EWS), the Bihar BJP has been trying to blunt the edge of the JD(U) thinks it possesses.

The JD(U), on its part, believes that differences in the BJP at the state and Central levels over the caste census strengthens a narrative that is likely to "expose the BJP's idea of social justice".

Karnataka Cong spokesperson Kalappa resigns

Bengaluru: Congress spokesperson and Supreme Court Advocate Brijesh Kalappa Wednesday resigned from the party saying he felt no passion in working for it anymore. He is likely to join the Aam Aadmi Party soon, reported PTI, citing sources close to him.

He announced he is ending his association with the party, which began in 1997, in a Facebook post on Tuesday night. "I have been finding myself lacking in passion, while my own performance has been listless and perfunctory. It is under these circumstances that I am left with little option but to resign from the primary membership of the INC and to end an association that began in 1997," he said.

Third FIR against BJP's Nupur Sharma over Prophet remarks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PUNE, JUNE 1

ANOTHER CASE has been filed against BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma for her alleged comments against the Prophet during a recent news debate on the Gyanvapi issue. The latest First Information Report (FIR) in the case was registered late on Tuesday at Kondhwa police station based on a complaint filed by a former corporator of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

Kondhwa police registered the FIR against Sharma under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 153A (Promoting enmity between different groups), 153B (Imputations, assertions preju-

Mizoram NGOs push to replace chief secretary

Guwahati: The NGO Coordination Committee, a conglomerate of five influential civil society groups in Mizoram, has reiterated its demand to replace chief secretary Renu Sharma with a Mizo-speaking IAS officer citing a "language barrier" in administration.

On Tuesday, the committee had called for a protest in front of the chief secretary's office in Aizawl. However, it was called off as Sharma was out of town.

The Central Young Mizo Association, which heads the committee, said that it had resorted to protest because multiple requests to the Centre demanding a change had fallen on deaf ears.

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On the occasion of SHAHEEDI DIWAS of Capt PV Vikram, SM of 141 Field Regiment (KARGIL) on 02 Jun 2022, the Commanding Officer, all ranks, their families and the Buzurgs of the Regiment pay homage to the martyr who made the supreme sacrifice for the Nation during op VJAY. His valour & heroism continues to inspire all of us. On this day, we pledge to take the name of the regiment to even greater heights and glory in the times to come.

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SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL

Smriti takes aim at CM over Jain's arrest, he calls his minister a *desh bhakt*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE BJP Tuesday accused the AAP convener and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of "shielding" his minister Satyendar Jain, who has been remanded to ED custody in connection with a money laundering case.

"Kejriwal ji yesterday said corruption is tantamount to *desh ki gaddari*. Does he know he is patronising those who have deceived the treasury and the people? Should he be declared a *desh ka gaddar*? How long will he receive his support?" Union Minister and senior BJP leader Smriti Irani said at a press conference at the BJP office Tuesday.

Kejriwal and AAP have backed Jain, calling the allegations against him bogus and politically motivated.

On Tuesday, Kejriwal said, "I have always maintained that Satyendar Jain is a staunchly honest *desh bhakt*, and that he has been framed in a false and baseless case. The ED can continue to investigate as much as it wants. I am sure that he will emerge spotless out of this fabricated case. The



Smriti Irani threw a flurry of questions at CM Kejriwal

CBI and IT Department have already conducted their investigation and found him clean on all accounts. In fact, Jain is a man that our nation should be proud of. He gave the gift of mohalla clinic model to the nation, which people are praising not just throughout India, but the world. The UN Secretary-General, former Sweden Minister, and many international dignitaries have visited mohalla clinics... I believe he deserves a Padma Vibhushan."

Irani, meanwhile, threw a series of questions at Kejriwal and AAP, and asked if it was true that the "Principal Commissioner of Income Tax had stated that Jain himself was the rightful owner of Rs 16.39 crore black money?" The BJP leader also alleged that the

Division Bench of Delhi High Court in one of its orders in 2019 had confirmed that Jain "had committed money laundering".

"My first question is to Kejriwal ji: can he clarify whether Jain has given Rs 16.39 crore to four shell companies through his family, through 56 shell companies, with the help of hawala operators from 2010-16?" she asked.

The BJP leader said these shell companies were Indo Metallic Impex Private Limited, Akinchan Developers Private Limited, Prayas Info Solution Private Limited and Mangalyatan Projects Private Limited.

"Kejriwal ji, should such a person continue to be a minister in your government?" she asked.

AAP MP Sanjay Singh, meanwhile, called Jain's arrest a diversionary tactic. "This has only been done to divert the attention of the public from the incidents in Kashmir. I want to know why the ED has been sleeping over this case for eight years, and why is it that suddenly before the elections in Himachal Pradesh, it has become active and worked so hard to arrest the AAP Himachal Pradesh in-charge Satyendar Jain on a false allegation?" he said.

Man arrested for abducting woman

Gurgaon: A 30-year-old man was arrested for allegedly abducting a college student at gunpoint in Gurgaon. The woman told police that he had been stalking her, and once inside the car, assaulted her before letting her go. ENS

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Atishi says new L-G interfering in DJB

New Delhi: AAP leader and MLA Atishi hit out at new L-G V K Saxena and alleged that he was infringing on the elected government's rights to govern.

"The new L-G called a meeting with Delhi Jal Board officials Monday and gave certain directions and orders. Since he has been appointed recently and may not know Delhi and its governance structure well, I want to inform him that under the Constitutional position of Delhi, L-G has been given three areas — land, law and order and police. This has been made clear in the Supreme Court's Constitutional Bench judgment as well," she said.

Atishi said the recent amendments to the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, which led to its reunification, could be interpreted to mean that the MCD also comes under the L-G's control, but areas such as power, health, water and education remain under the elected government. ENS

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KMP Rest Stop

e-Auction of Wayside Amenities site along KMP Expressway
(On Lease Hold Basis)

Tentative e-Auction Date: 11.07.2022

Site Location: 95.300 km on Manesar to Palwal Section (LHS)

Reserve Price: 10 crore

Area: 6.3 acres

Permissible Activities

- Hotel / Motel
- Restaurant / Food Court
- Petrol Pump / Fuel Station
- Resort

Registration/Bid Security Payment
Start Date & Time: 08.06.2022 (09:00 hrs.)

Pre-bid Meeting Date, Time & Venue
21.06.2022 at 12:00 noon in HSIIDC office, Industrial Estate, near NIFTEM Chowk, Kundli (Sonapat)

Registration/Bid Security Payment
End Date & Time: 06.07.2022 (23:59 hrs.)

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Deve. Corp. Ltd. A State Government Undertaking.
Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 0172-2590481-83, Fax: 2590474, Website: hsiidc.org.in,
E-mail: contactus@hsiidc.org.in, CIN: U29199HR1967SGC034545

8 Years Seva, Sushasan, Garib Kalyan

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARATH

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

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

Karnataka makes major strides in Women Empowerment.

"Women empowerment is crucial to India's growth. We see them as nation builders."
- Narendra Modi

Centre's total contribution to Karnataka (2014-22)
Rs. 1,29,776.74 crore
Excluding Devolution, GST Compensation, Finance Commission Grants, etc.

Centrally Assisted Schemes

- ICDS: **Rs. 3,081.34 crore**
- Supplementary Nutrition Programme: **Rs.3,604.50 crore. Beneficiaries: 49 lakh**
- PM Matru Vandana Yojana: **Rs. 465.27 crore. Beneficiaries: 16.22 lakh**
- Women beneficiaries in Karnataka under PM Jan Dhan Yojana: 16.18 lakh**
- Swachh Bharat (Rural & Urban): **Rs.4,156.42 crore. Beneficiaries: 49.54 lakh**
- Implementation of Central Govt. approved Women Shakti Kendra Yojana, Empowerment of rural women through skill development, employment, digital literacy, health and nutrition
- Establishing District-level Women Kendras in 28 districts of the state, with an objective of creating awareness about the various State and Central Govt. schemes
- Centre's grants to the above programs: **Rs. 5,81,37,794**



VACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS
21,216



PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: **81**
OXYGEN SUPPORT **21**
VENTILATOR SUPPORT **2**

DELHI TOTAL
CASES
19,07,264

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	9,595	9,513
ICU BEDS	2,222	2,196

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
May 31	373	255	1	8,768
June 1	368	404	0	21,147
Total	1,567*	18,79,487	26,210	3,85,47,867

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA		May 31	June 1
Cases	N/A	N/A	34
Deaths	N/A	N/A	0

GURGAON		May 31	June 1
Cases	110	145	
Deaths	0	0	

BRIEFLY

IGI Airport gets RFID tags for check-in bags



New Delhi: In a first in India, the IGI Airport in Delhi has introduced radio-frequency identification (RFID) enabled baggage tags which will give passengers real-time information about the location of their luggage. The RFID technology will be personalised and help arriving passengers keep track and not lose their check-in luggage. According to Delhi International Airport Limited, the bag tags will be called "Bag Trax". They have been launched for select frequent flyers at Terminal 3 of the airport as part of a pilot project and will soon be provided at all terminals. Passengers can buy it in the departures sections. "Bag Trax will not only help the domestic and international arrival passengers but also those in transit to track their checked-in baggage," said DIAL in a statement.

3 die in septic tank in Nuh

Gurgaon: Three members of a family, including an 8-year-old boy, died in a septic tank in Nuh district. SHO of Bichor police station said the septic tank was covered with a concrete stone. "As the boy stepped on the tank while playing, the stone cover broke and he fell. Hearing his cries, his father and uncle went into the tank one by one to rescue him," said the SHO. "It is suspected that they died of suffocation," said the SHO.

Rs 12.5 cr costs on pvt company to go to new smog tower: HC

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Wednesday imposed a cost of Rs 12.5 crore on a private company for concealing that they had been banned by the Ministry of Defence for one year and by the Food Corporation of India for five years while bidding for a RITES Ltd tender for engagement of a freight forwarder for transportation of passenger coaches to Mozambique. The amount has been ordered to be used for installation of a smog tower in the national capital.

Two die after soil caves in

Gurgaon: Two labourers were killed after soil caved in at an under-construction plot in Gurgaon's sector 56 on Wednesday. Police said the incident took place around 4 pm when six labourers were working at the site. **ENS**

Kidney racket that targeted the homeless busted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

A KIDNEY transplantation racket has been busted in South Delhi with the arrest of 10 people, including two doctors, who allegedly targeted homeless people and illegally sold their kidneys. The accused have been arrested from different parts of Delhi, Sonapat and Rishikesh.

Police said the gang conducted at least 12-14 kidney transplants over the last six months. On May 26, a team at Hauz Khas police station re-

ceived inputs that 3-4 men were targeting the homeless near AIIMS hospital. A police informer led the team to a man who was being taken to a lab for a medical check-up. Police found one of the victims, Pintu Yadav, during the raid.

"Yadav told us that he was being taken by Sarvjeet Jailwal (37) for treatment of abdomen pain, but the man was forcing him to give his kidney. Yadav fought with him and left," said an officer from the investigating team led by SHO Shivani Singh. A case under sections of cheating and Transplantation of

Human Organs Act has been registered.

Police said Yadav led them to Jailwal, who was found with another victim, Raghu Sharma. The gang had already taken Sharma's kidney. Jailwal was questioned and raids were conducted in Paschim Vihar, where police found another accused, Shailesh Patel (23), with three more victims.

DCP (South) Benita Mary Jaiker said, "We found that Patel had conducted medical tests on the men and was going to take their kidneys. Their lives were saved in time. Patel used to iden-

tify 'soft targets' such as the homeless."

Patel and Sarvjeet were arrested and they told police that they were tasked to bring donors to their associate Vikas (24) and a doctor, who would pay them Rs 30,000-Rs 40,000 for each. The men would first be medically examined and their kidneys were then sold to patients for a much higher price, said police. Their associate, Md Latif, a field boy at a lab, was also arrested. He used to take donors and recipients to diagnostic centres for testing before operation, police said.

"They disclosed names of testing centres and hospitals where kidneys used to be transplanted. Their other associates, Vipin and Vikas, used to pay the donor after the illegal transplants," said the DCP. After raids, Vikas and Ranjit Gupta (43) were arrested. Vikas would provide accommodation to donors in Paschim Vihar while Gupta would help send them and the recipients to Gohana for the medical procedure.

The interrogation led investigators to Gohana, in Haryana's Sonapat district, where the accused had opened their clinic.

Police arrested Dr Sonu Rohilla (37) and Dr Sourabh Mittal (37) on the spot. Dr Rohilla, the owner of the clinic, allegedly performed illegal operations along with other doctors and technicians from prominent hospitals, police said. Dr Mittal is an anesthesiologist who has worked in a reputed hospital and would help with operations.

Three operation theatre technicians who worked with Dr Mittal - Kuldeep Ray (47), Om Prakash Sharma (48) and Manoj Tiwari (36) - were also arrested. Police believe Ray is the alleged mastermind and had convinced

the others. He partnered with Dr Rohilla to work at his clinic in Gohana.

"Ray worked as a technician at a reputed hospital and was also operating on patients in Gohana. He used to contact victims and recipients on Facebook, and had formed several groups," said the DCP.

Police said the accused have likely transplanted more than 20 kidneys. The victim would be paid Rs 1-3 lakh while the recipient would pay the accused Rs 10-25 lakh. The victims were from Assam, Bengal, Kerala, Delhi, etc, police said.

Zepto employee's death: Court says police planted eyewitness and broken piece of car bumper

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

OBSERVING THAT police planted a witness along with pieces of evidence to solve the hit-and-run accident that left a 19-year-old Zepto delivery staffer dead in Dwarka, a court has said that "sadtistic pleasure is derived by men in uniform from converting a bailable offence into a non-bailable offence as per their whims, fancies and pleasure".

On May 16, the victim, Karan Raju, was on his bike when a car hit him at Dwarka Sector 10 and fled from the spot.

DCP (Dwarka) Shankar Choudhary had said, "It was a blind case. There were no eyewitnesses or CCTVs near the spot. The only clue was a broken part of the bumper of the offending vehicle. We visited all spare part dealers and workshops in Southwest Delhi. The accused, Sudhakar Yadav, a resident of Dwarka Sector-18, was traced and arrested. His Tata Nexon car was seized. Yadav was booked under IPC sections 279 (rash driving) and 304-A causing death by negligence. Section 304 (punishment for culpable homicide not amounting to murder) will be added based on any possible legal merit."

In his order, Additional Sessions Judge Lokesh Kumar Sharma said, "The SHO of Dwarka (South) police station was asked to explain under what circumstances he had advised the investigation officer to invoke IPC section 304 (part II). In his reply, he informed that he took charge as the SHO of the police station concerned on May 18, when the FIR was registered at 11.50 pm. It has also been stated that though the accident took place on May 16, the victim died on May 18, before registration of this case itself."

Section 304 (part II) is invoked when police believe the accused had knowledge that death may be caused by his act, as opposed to 304 (A) which is death by negligence.

ASJ Sharma stated, "It is surprising to note, as to when the factum of death of injured was already within the knowledge of the IO concerned, then why did he not register the FIR under proper sections initially. It has been stated further by the SHO that on May 19, after a day of registration of the FIR, an eyewitness met with police, who disclosed that the offending vehicle was a Tata Nexon and its driver was heavily intoxicated while committing the accident. In the intensity of the collision, the bumper was damaged and was recovered from the spot. Linking



Karan Raju was killed in a hit-and-run on May 16

the broken piece of the bumper, they traced and arrested the accused and impounded the offending vehicle."

"Due to this conduct of the accused, who concealed his vehicle and was under the influence of liquor, IPC section 304 (part-II) was advised by him (SHO) to be added in this case. A perusal of the FIR reveals that when the IO arrived at the spot, he had seen only the Scooty ZYPP electric, which was lying at the roadside after the accident. It has nowhere been mentioned by the IO in the FIR that he saw or seized any broken piece of the bumper of any vehicle whatsoever," ASJ Sharma said in his order on May 30.

ASJ Sharma further said, "This fact itself is sufficient to hold that police later on planted an eyewitness along with a broken piece of a bumper of some vehicle, on the basis of which they claimed to have solved this case. No evidence is available on record regarding the accused under the influence of alcohol at the time of the commission of the alleged offence."

"It simply shows that sadistic pleasure is derived by men in uniform from converting otherwise a bailable offence into a non-bailable offence, as per their whims, fancies and pleasure. However, while misusing the legal provisions to suit their convenience, they don't even hesitate to play with the liberty of an individual citizen which otherwise is guaranteed to him by the Constitution of India, and most shockingly if this is happening in the capital of this nation, only God knows what will be the fate of a citizen's liberty in other parts of the country," he said.

"I am also constrained to observe here that incidents of this nature, atrocities at the hands of police and torture of innocent people in utter violation of the principle of natural justice as well as provisions of IPC and CrPC, have gone steep high since the appointment of the current DCP of Dwarka district. Recently, the CMM took cognizance after police abducted a person from his house, who was later shown as captured after an encounter."

"Not only this but also a co-ordinate bench of this court, while dealing with a bail application, was constrained to observe that exploitation of innocent people under the garb of fake encounters was now rampant in the area as five different people were shot by officials at the same part of their body in different incidents. This atrocious and illegal attitude and conduct on the part of police officials shows that either the DCP concerned is not competent enough or lacks the capacity of administrative supervision and control over the district and to lead the police officials for implementation of the criminal law in its correct perspective, or he is actively involved in encouraging the police officials to indulge in such kind of illegal activities to the utter prejudice of the fundamental rights of the people of this nation," he said.

offence, that by doing the said act, he is likely to cause death but without any intention to cause death. Hence, these two sections are step-sisters which cannot be invoked together as has been done in this case to deprive the applicant of his precious liberty guaranteed under the Constitution," he said in his order.

The court has sent the copy of the order to Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana for their perusal and to initiate necessary action against the erring police official(s).

The ASJ also noted: "I am further constrained to observe here that incidents of this nature, atrocities at the hands of police and torture of innocent people in utter violation of the principle of natural justice as well as provisions of IPC and CrPC, have gone steep high since the appointment of the current DCP of Dwarka district. Recently, the CMM took cognizance after police abducted a person from his house, who was later shown as captured after an encounter."

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Stephen's admission: HC issues notice to college, DU and UGC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE DELHI High Court Wednesday issued a notice to Delhi University and St Stephen's College on a public interest litigation challenging the latter's decision to continue with interviews for admission to its general seats. The petition sought a direction to make St Stephen's College admit students on its 'unreserved seats' of undergraduate courses only on the basis of marks received by them in the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) exam, as mandated by DU.

The division bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Sachin Datta also issued notice to the University Grants Commission, and granted the respondents four weeks to respond. It listed the matter for the hearing on July 6. St Stephen's College and DU have been at loggerheads over the minority institution's refusal to do away with interviews for admissions to its general seats. The college last month announced that it would give 85% weightage to the CUET score and 15% to the interview.

A DU law student, Konika Poddar, has challenged the college's decision. Senior advocate Arun Bhardwaj represented the petitioner. The PIL, filed through advocate Akash Vajpai, states that it is being filed "on behalf of the hundreds of students who want to take admission in unreserved seats" of St Stephen's but do not want to appear for interview as it "is against the admission policy" of DU, and also against the mandate of its Academic and Executive Council.

"In the past, students used to be under huge stress to secure more than 95% marks in Class XII board examination so as to get admission in the university of their choice. With the introduction of CUET, stress on them for securing very high marks in the one and only board examination stands reduced," argues the petitioner. It further contends that DU rules are binding on "St Stephen's College also, irrespective of its minority character", and that a minority institution cannot "disregard merit or merit-based selection of students".

"The National Education Policy has clearly elucidated that entrance to higher education should be through common entrance test at the national level so that there is a uniform standard of benchmarking of candidates," reads the petition.



A photo of Kirori Mal College music society in 1988. KK is in the last row, wearing sunglasses

KK's Delhi University roots before he found fame

UDBHAV SETH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

IN THE '80s, music was not a strong suit in Delhi University's bouquet of extra-curricular activities. Only a few colleges had a fledgling music society. The aspiring singers and musicians at Kirori Mal College (KMC), singer KK's alma mater, wanted to start one of their own and take their music outside the confines of the college.

Sumangala Damodaran, a third-year economics student at KMC, was one such enthusiast. In 1985, along with her friends and a physics faculty member, Sumitra Mohanty Chakrabarti, she founded the college's music society - MUSOC. A year later, they began auditioning students for the society under the Extra-Curricular Activity (ECA) quota that enables accomplished students from different artistic fields to take admission in Delhi University. Krishnakumar Kunnath - KK's pre-Bollywood name - was one such student.

"A diminutive young man wearing dark glasses came in and we were completely blown away by the power and feeling in his voice," says Damodaran, now a professor of economics at Ambedkar University. "It was obvious that he would top the list for ECA admissions, but it was also his personality that was arresting."

KK did top the ECA list. He was inducted into the college society, taking admission under the commerce course. Everybody instantly liked him. From Damodaran ("We became really good friends and sang so many duets together") to Professor Chakrabarti, who recently retired from KMC ("He was a very dear student, often rode back home with me") to his college bandmates, all are shaken by the singer's death after a performance in Kolkata last night.

The popular playback singer who lent his voice to hits like 'Tadap Tadap' from Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam (1999) and 'Aankhon Mein Teri' from Om Shanti Om (2007) was regarded as one of the most respected singers in the Hindi music industry. But in the beginning, he was only interested in western music.

"He used to tell me, 'Ma'am, I only listen to western music,'" says Chakrabarti. "I told him to perform Hindi music too. Years later he thanked me for that."

A drummer and singer for KMC's then-band, Horizon, KK dove into the college circuit and won prizes at multiple competitions. Gautam Chikermane, Horizon's keyboardist and now vice-president of Observer Research Foundation, a policy research institute, recalls that he



A photo provided by music producer Julius Packiam of when he, KK (in black T-shirt) and others represented India in the World Youth Festival in Pyongyang, North Korea in 1989.

used to take a DTC bus every morning and reach KMC at 8.15 am for band practices in the green room. There, all six members, including KK, would practise daily to conquer the western music scene in the university.

"Once, we were performing Walk of Life by Dire Straits at Maulana Azad Medical College, and I messed up the piano intro. I started it at a very slow tempo. KK kept looking over at me from the drums and hinting to speed up, but it's not that easy," chuckles Chikermane. "He put his own life into every song and made it his own. He tackled diverse moods with each song he sang."

"When we went to perform at IIT Kanpur, he happened to get a sore throat and got really discouraged," says Sandeep Madan, Horizon's bassist. "But we convinced him to nurse it and when we finally performed, it was 4 am. It was like nothing had gone wrong. He was amazing."

But music was not his only love. A girl that he had known since eighth grade, Jyoti, was his other obsession - they dated through school and college and eventually married. According to Horizon's singer and frontman, Julius Packiam, now a renowned music producer in Mumbai, KK split all his time between music and Jyoti.

"After one point, every day, he was either with me in the studio recording jingles, or out with Jyoti," says Packiam, with a laugh.

"That's all he did."

After finishing college, KK was very serious about marrying Jyoti, says Tom Joseph, Horizon's guitarist and KK's schoolmate at Mount St Mary's School, Delhi Cantonment. The couple's parents were unsure about KK's aspirations in music and advised him to get a more stable job. So he approached Joseph, who used to work in a company selling electronic typewriters - those became the next six (financially stable) months of his life.

"Then he married Jyoti, went to Bombay, and, of course, got his big break," says Joseph, "but he re-

mained a very close and dear friend. I remember a very filmi reunion in Pune when I spotted him in a car with his family, called out, and he stopped the car and came and met me. It was quite crazy. He came over for dinner that night."

"When we were invited to our college annual meet in 2004, KK called me and the other guys and said that he wanted us to play with him at the event," says Madan. "He could've played with any musician he wanted, but he said, 'No, I want to play with you guys.'"

"KK was loyal, humble, and a tremendous musician," says Packiam. "He never even touched cigarettes or beer or even cold drinks, because he wanted to preserve his throat. He stuck to warm water. I don't know how to process his death."

He often returned to KMC and remembered his MUSOC days fondly. Chakrabarti says that he kept in touch with the society and used to visit her in the staff room whenever he came to the college. She recalls the night when he was performing at the college's fest in 2013 and she had to get up from the front row mid-song and leave the venue - it was getting late and she had to drive home all the way to Gurgaon. "I found out the next day that he noticed me leaving. Apparently, he said to someone, 'Why did Sumitra ma'am leave? Kya main itna bura gaad raha tha (Was I singing that badly)?" she says.

Chikermane recounts that one night, when the days of typewriter sales and hotel gigs where nobody cared about his voice were long behind KK, he came to visit him in Mumbai. They walked for a long time on Marine Drive and reminisced about their lives, failures and successes, and how divergent their paths had become now. "He turned to me and said, 'You know, I came here and stood exactly here on this spot and looked at these lights and wondered if Bombay would give me space'," says Chikermane. "It did - Bombay became Mumbai and our KK became India's KK."

Khan approaches HC to remove 'bad character' tag

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

DELHI HIGH Court Wednesday asked Delhi Police to respond to AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan's petition against the 'history sheet' it opened against him in March, and the tag of 'bad character' by the police. Khan has also sought legal action against senior police officers for allegedly acting in a "mala fide and perverse manner".

Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain, while issuing the notice, directed police to file a status report, and

listed the matter for hearing on July 28. However, the court declined to stay the Delhi Police's decision to open 'history sheet' in the interim, saying the matter requires serious consideration first.

SHO Jamia Nagar had on March 28 prepared a dossier recommending opening of 'history sheet' against Khan, and declaring him a 'bad character'. Advocate M Sufian Siddiqui, representing Khan, argued that he has not been convicted in a single case, and DCP while according approval, was required to record reasons and not act in a mechanical manner.

Buying property to get costlier

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

BUYING PROPERTY in the capital is set to become costlier as the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has decided to increase the transfer duty by 1 per cent on properties priced above Rs 25 lakh.

A senior official said once the hike comes into effect, the transfer duty will be 4 per cent for men and 3 per cent for women buyers. The transfer duty, calculated on the basis of registered sale value of property in addition to stamp duty, is being increased with an aim to improve the finan-

cial health of the civic body, which has been hit particularly hard by the pandemic. The move has been in the pipeline for long.

This is also the first major decision taken by the civic body after the unification of the north, east and south municipal corporations last month.

The decision was taken in a meeting on Tuesday. A proposal was moved in this regard, and passed by the special officer of the MCD, who has been entrusted to run the civic body till the new House is elected. The move will increase revenue and bolster the MCD's coffers, which will be used for overcoming financial chal-

lenges and providing best services to the people, officials said.

Properties are divided into eight categories in the capital - A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H - depending on their location, and Delhi government collects stamp duty on sale and purchase of properties.

Upscale colonies fall in categories A and B, such as Golf Links, Vasant Vihar, Sunder Nagar and Jor Bagh. Middle income group neighbourhoods fall in the C and D categories, and include Lajpat Nagar, Alaknanda, Bhogal and Amar Colony. Localities such as Geeta Colony, Anand Parbat and Sheikh Sarai fall in the E, F, G, H categories.

11 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



SPECIAL SCREENING

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah and Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, among others, turned up for the special screening of Akshay Kumar-starrer Samrat Prithviraj at PVR, Chanakyapuri, on Wednesday evening. The movie is based on the life and exploits of 12th Century Rajput king who had once defeated Muhammad Ghori before being captured and executed by the latter. With Shah being there, several top officers also showed up at the special screening.

TRACK RECORD

FORMER RURAL Development Secretary Amarjeet Sinha on Wednesday praised NHAI Chairperson Alka Upadhyaya, citing her track record and the difference she has made to the roads in rural areas. Delivering the 53rd ICSSR Foundation Day Lecture, Sinha said, "Alka Upadhyaya was the Joint Secretary, looking after PMGSY, whom we brought from Madhya Pradesh...she has done six years of PMGSY in Madhya Pradesh and four-and-a-half years in the Ministry of Rural Development. Now, she has been brought as NHAI Chairman...I am sure, it will improve further."

BIRTHDAY BASH

AS MOST of the Union ministers visited different places across the country to launch the Modi government's fortnight-long eighth anniversary celebrations on Tuesday, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar was in Andhra Pradesh and it was his birthday. He was in Rajahmundry to attend the Garib Kalyan Sammelan where party workers came to know about the Minister's birthday. The enthusiastic workers brought four cakes, while a farmer brought bananas from his farm for the minister. An overwhelmed Chandrasekhar told them that he usually celebrates his birthday quietly with his wife, daughter and son, and this year's will be etched in his memory as a special one. The party workers also brought him 'prasad' from the Tirupati Balaji temple.

Jharkhand HC reserves order on maintainability of PIL against CM Soren

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, JUNE 1

THE HIGH Court of Jharkhand on Wednesday reserved its order on the point of maintainability of the PIL seeking a probe against Chief Minister Hemant Soren on transactions of some shell companies purportedly operated by his family members.

A division bench of Chief Justice Ravi Ranjan and Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad concluded the hearing of the PIL, filed by Shiv Shankar Sharma, and will deliver the order on June 3.

The HC, in compliance with the Supreme Court directive of May 24, will decide if the PIL is maintainable before entering into merits of the petition.

Stating that the HC may "throw out the petitioner" in the PIL related to the shell companies case in view of shortcomings, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta on Wednesday submitted that the court should keep the "petition" intact, as the cause espoused "needs to be examined".

The court was hearing the issue of "maintainability" of the

case, necessitated by the Supreme Court's order.

Mehta's submission came after Kapil Sibal, who appeared for the state government, and Mukul Rohatgi, representing Chief Minister Hemant Soren, both raised the issue of petitioner Shiv Shankar Sharma's credentials and questioned the source of his information that "only" talked about "suspicion" of money laundering.

Mehta said: "...If the petitioner is supposed to be thrown out, throw him out. I am not supporting him. (But) the cause which has been espoused needs to be examined... Now it is not just his version... ED as an agency has also gathered details."

He told the court, "Assuming that the HC PIL rules are not complied with either is full or partly... (but) will it take the jurisdiction away from the lordships when shocking facts are pointed out. Your lordships will not examine it'sy-bitsy."

Mehta also submitted that there is a "connection" between IAS officer Pooja Singh and grant of various mining leases in Jharkhand.

Union Cabinet eases criteria for Chhattisgarh tribals to join CRPF

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE UNION Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday relaxed eligibility criteria for tribal youths from three Maoist-affected districts of Chhattisgarh to join the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Wednesday said the Cabinet approved its proposal "to relax requisite minimum educational qualification from Class 10 to Class 8 for the recruitment of 400 candidates as Constable (General Duty) in the CRPF from three districts of South Chhattisgarh, namely Bijapur, Dantewada and Sukma".

Notably, in 2016-17, the CRPF

had raised one Bastariya Battalion where youths were primarily recruited from the Bijapur, Dantewada, Narayanpur and Sukma districts of the Bastar region of the state. The government had then relaxed many requirements of specific physical features for recruitment to help locals join the force. The move was aimed at having people with local knowledge of language, culture, topography and demography in the force so as to strengthen its intelligence collection and operations.

However, it could not yield optimum results as not many native youths could fulfil the minimum educational qualification eligibility criteria, which was Class 10, a statement from the MHA said.

Yogi launches second phase of Ram temple construction: '500-yr struggle taking shape'

LALMANI VERMA
LUCKNOW, JUNE 1

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday performed the shila puja of the garba griha (sanctum sanctorum) of the under-construction Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Addressing a gathering of Hindu saints, priests and devotees on the occasion,

Adityanath said the Ram temple will be "rashtra mandir" or the national temple of "New India" which will bind the nation in one thread under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" campaign.

"The 500-year-long struggle appears to be materialising and taking a concrete shape. What else could be the moment of pride for every Indian... The in-



Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath performs 'shila puja' at the Ram temple's sanctum sanctorum. Express

vaders had tried to destroy the dream of India and attacked our faith with malicious intent. But in the end, India emerged victorious... The victory has been achieved through the path of dharma, truth and justice," Adityanath said, adding the

mantras of "satyameva jayate" and "dhamorakshati rakshitah" have proved their importance.

"The struggle of saints and efforts of great men like (late VHP leader) Ashok Singhal, lakhs of workers associated with Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh

and "vichar parivar" (ideological family), is taking shape... Devotees coming to Ayodhya is feeling overwhelmed and blessed by seeing the grand Ram temple being built," the CM said, adding the construction work will gain further pace.

Last month, Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, constituted to oversee the construction and the management of the Ram temple, said that the temple will be opened to the public by early 2024 - months ahead of the next Lok Sabha elections. Prime Minister Modi had laid the foundation stone of the Ram temple in August 2020.

Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, who was also present at the event, said the first phase of the Ram temple construction has been completed and the second phase has begun.

Denial of nod to Media One is based on sensitive intel: Centre to SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE CENTRE Wednesday informed the Supreme Court that denial of security clearance to Malayalam news channel 'Media One' is based on intelligence inputs, which are "sensitive" and "secret in nature".

It said that as a matter of policy and in the interest of security of the State and its establishments, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) does not disclose the reasons for denial.

The affidavit was filed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in response to the appeal by the news channel against Kerala High Court order dismissing its plea challenging the denial of security clearance and telecast ban ordered by the Union government.

"It is submitted that MHA has informed that the denial of security clearance is based on intelligence inputs, which are sensitive and secret in nature. Therefore, as a matter of policy and in the interest of security of the state and its establishments, the MHA does not disclose the reasons for denial," the government affidavit stated.

The Centre, however, said that all relevant files were produced by MHA before the High Court and also before the top court on March 15, and in the event this court directs to produce the files again, MHA will produce the same before this court in a sealed cover.

"It is further submitted that the MHA under Section 124 of Indian Evidence Act seeks privilege over its secret files and prays to this court that the contents of the files may not be disclosed to the petitioners, as such a disclosure may have far reaching and unimaginable consequences in so far as national security is concerned," it said.

The Centre said that the renewal of permission for a television channel is not a matter of right for a company and such permission is granted only upon fulfilment of certain eligibility conditions.

CROSS-VOTING FEARS AHEAD OF RAJYA SABHA POLLS

Cong summons Haryana MLAs to Delhi, may send them to resort

VARINDER BHATIA
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 1

THE CONGRESS leadership has summoned its 31 MLAs in Haryana, including top leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda, for a meeting in New Delhi Thursday amid apprehensions of cross-voting in the June 10 Rajya Sabha polling.

This comes after the son of expelled leader and former Union minister Venod Sharma - media baron Kartikeya Sharma - filed his nomination papers as an independent candidate for Rajya Sabha from Haryana. Sharma is backed by the BJP's 10 MLAs in Haryana and is likely to

gain support of BJP as well as several Independent MLAs.

The Congress candidate is Ajay Maken.

The party leadership will first hold a meeting of all the MLAs and will likely send them to a resort in Chhattisgarh capital Raipur.

Haryana party affairs in-charge Vivek Bansal told *The Indian Express*: "Yes, the party high command has asked all MLAs to reach Delhi on Thursday. Meeting of all the MLAs shall be held at 15, RG road, Delhi. Rahuji is not there in Delhi, but it is not yet clear if Congress president Sonia Gandhi or somebody else will chair the meeting."

He admitted that the party has summoned all the MLAs to New Delhi to prevent possibilities of cross-voting in Rajya Sabha polling. He added that there "is also a possibility that all the MLAs shall be sent out of Haryana and kept together at a hotel/resort".

"Further course of action shall be decided, after the meeting at New Delhi," Bansal said.

Sources said Congress Adampur MLA Kuldeep Bishnoi - who has been skipping party events after not being considered in the revamped Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee - would not be part of Thursday's meeting and may not join the other legislators at the resort.

Eight new HC judges appointed, six shifted

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

FOUR YEARS after his name was recommended by the Supreme Court collegium, advocate Wasim Sadiq Nargal was on Wednesday appointed as an additional judge of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court.

The recommendation of Nargal was made by the Supreme Court collegium in 2018 and was one of the oldest pending with the government. The appointment on Wednesday came after the collegium reiterated the recommendation in 2021.

According to notifications issued by the Law Ministry, seven judicial officers from Bihar were elevated as judges of the Patna High Court.

Four additional judges of the Kerala High Court were also elevated as judges.

The ministry also notified transfers of six judges from the High Courts in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tripura, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Manipur, and Madhya Pradesh.



SELFIE WITH PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with boxing world champion Nikhat Zareen in New Delhi on Wednesday. Zareen's teammates Manisha Moun and Parveen Hooda, who won bronze medals at the World Boxing Championships in other weight categories, also met the PM. PTI

In UP, 2 prestige battles and an irate Azam await SP

Azamgarh and Rampur Lok Sabha by-elections on June 23, BJP looks for a way into SP bastions

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, JUNE 1

MONTHS AFTER the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, the focus has shifted to the Lok Sabha by-polls that will be held in Azamgarh and Rampur on June 23.

Both seats are considered bastions of the Samajwadi Party (SP). One was held by party president Akhilesh Yadav and the other by veteran leader Azam Khan. But reported differences between the two leaders, whose election to the state Assembly necessitated the by-elections, may have implications for the outcome of the battle in Rampur.

Rampur is crucial to the political future of Azam Khan, who was released from Sitapur jail



Akhilesh visits Azam Khan at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in New Delhi on Wednesday. Their conversation revolved around the LS bypolls, sources said. PTI

last month after more than two years. Since his release, the veteran SP leader has indicated that he is not happy with Akhilesh. Even while in prison, he did not meet with an SP delegation and an aide hit out at the SP chief for ignoring "Muslim issues".

On Wednesday, Akhilesh met him at the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in New Delhi. Party leaders said the meeting lasted well over two hours and the two discussed the bypolls as well as the forthcoming Rajya Sabha polls.

The conjecture in political circles before Azam's release was that the differences between him and Akhilesh emerged over the seat. While Azam reportedly wanted someone from the family to replace him, the SP chief had apparently proposed that it

BLAMES BJP FOR POLL DEFEATS

AIADMK takes on ally BJP, says Centre's policies against Tamils

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, JUNE 1

FIVE YEARS since it entered into an electoral alliance with the BJP, the under-the-surface anti-saffron party sentiments within the AIADMK, mainly driven by the "anti-Tamil" policies of the Central government, are finally out in the open.

AIADMK organisational secretary C Ponnaiyan on Tuesday accused the BJP-led Central government of stealing state's revenue, besides blaming the party for the poll defeats, losing minority community support, and "anti-Tamil" policies, especially those concerning the students.

There were disagreements among the AIADMK leaders over the alliance with the BJP from the start, but none, including Ponnaiyan, ever criticised the saffron party publicly.

After Ponnaiyan's remarks at a workshop organised for the party office-bearers, he told *The Indian Express* that the alliance with the BJP was an "electoral understanding" to take on the DMK. "We have an ideology that is different from BJP's... even as we are in alliance, we disagree with them on many things; we are against Hindi... we don't endorse their language policy. Narendra Modi government's support to Rajapaksas was wrong; India should have been supporting Sri Lankan Tamils instead," said Ponnaiyan.

"We also oppose the NEET. In a state like Tamil Nadu where CBSE schools are not very common, our students fail to clear the NEET that is largely based on the CBSE syllabi. Ever since the NEET system was introduced, admissions to our medical colleges are largely from North India, which go against the interests of the students of Tamil Nadu," he said.

The veteran leader said the Central government was steal-

EXPLAINED Political compulsion

THE OUTBURST against the BJP comes against the backdrop of a growing perception in Tamil Nadu that the BJP is performing the role of the main Opposition party, while the AIADMK is not putting up a spirited fight to take on the ruling DMK. Also, the feedback from the party cadres was against the alliance, especially after the Hindi language row. Political observers feel that the AIADMK wants to go to the 2024 general elections with a clean image.

ing the state's revenue in the name of the GST in violation of the fundamental norms of the federalism. "We hate this highly centralised style of governance. We will not compromise on these issues," he said.

Ponnaiyan's sudden outburst against the BJP, reportedly with the blessings of Edappadi K Palaniswami, has triggered debates on the chances of AIADMK snapping ties with the saffron party ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Ponnaiyan said it was 100 per cent true that the alliance with the BJP did alienate the minority community voters of the party. "That was the reason for minorities voting against us in the recent elections," he said. Will they continue the alliance? He said they will decide at the right time.

BJP state president K Annamalai said: "There is nothing wrong in a political leader's wish to make his party No. 1 on their home turf. At the same time, these criticisms and remarks about BJP are indicating that the party is gaining significant ground in the state."

STOCKHOLM DIALOGUE

Developed world should take lead in transition towards net zero: India

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

DEVELOPED COUNTRIES must take lead in the global transition towards net zero and low carbon industry transition, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said on Wednesday.

Addressing the Industry Transition Dialogue hosted by India and Sweden in Stockholm, Yadav said, "The developing world needs not just an industrial transition, but rather an industrial renaissance - a flowering of industries and sectors that will together create jobs, prosperity and

a clean environment. The transition trajectory will vary for different countries based on their national circumstances."

"The developed countries with their historical experiences must take lead in the global transition towards net-zero and low carbon industry transition. The green premium associated with zero or low carbon technologies must be compensated to trigger demand at a required scale in appropriate ways," Yadav said.

The event, organised as a part of an India-Sweden initiative - Leadership for Industry Transition - was also addressed by Sweden's Minister for Climate and Environment Annika Strandhäll.

should go to someone outside the Khan family.

An SP leader Wednesday said that the meeting will be helpful in silencing the talk a growing rift between the two leaders. "Azam is an important and one of the seniormost party leaders who has great influence. He is important to us and will be by our side in the future too," said an SP leader.

A confidante of Azam said that the SP leader is in the hospital for multiple health issues. "He has hypertension and some other health issues. He has undergone a surgery too for some other issue. But he is fine and will be discharged soon," he added.

In Azamgarh, meanwhile, the SP's dominance is illustrated by Akhilesh's 60 per cent vote share when he won the constituency

in 2019 by defeating his nearest rival Dinesh Lal Yadav "Nirahua" of the BJP. The Bhojpuri singer could manage to poll 35.1 per cent of the votes.

A senior SP leader said both the seats were equally crucial to the party and that candidates would be chosen after elaborate discussions. "The party knows the importance of the seats and hence we are working on the strategy to win them both," he said.

For the BJP, the by-polls provide an opportunity to further cement its dominance in the state and will look to its 2014 performances in the two seats - it put in a strong fight in Azamgarh and won Rampur - for encouragement. A BJP leader said the ruling party would not let the by-elections be an "easy fight" and would "fight for every vote".



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

WRIT IN KULGAM

As targeted killings cast shadow, political outreach is needed in Kashmir — involving people's representatives across parties

YET ANOTHER TARGETED killing in Kashmir, this time a woman teacher in a Kulgam school, is a grim reminder of the security challenge in the Valley. From her hometown Samba in Jammu, Rajni Bala and her husband, who is also a teacher, had been posted to different schools in Kulgam some years ago through a government employment scheme. She is the third teacher and the third woman to be killed in this manner since last October 2021. In May alone, the lives of five people were snuffed out, including a Kashmiri Muslim woman who was a local TV artiste. While Kashmiri Muslim civilians have always been a target, in recent months, there has been a clear attempt to terrorise Kashmiri Pandits and the wider Hindu and Sikh communities in J&K, as well as migrant workers. The apparent objective is to send a message to these minorities in the erstwhile state that they are not welcome in the Valley. A parallel and deeply disturbing plan also seems to be at work, one that plays into the sharpening communal faultlines in other parts of the country, and aims to reinforce them, as former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has pointed out in the aftermath of Rajni Bala's killing.

Every act of violence, each civilian death is more evidence that the police's claim of having brought normalcy in Kashmir is not close to the reality. Adding to the concern is the increase in the number of "foreign" or Pakistani terrorists in the Valley. Last month, a senior Army officer sought to frame this as a marker of the trend of decreasing recruitment of locals into militancy. But the Army, which has the primary responsibility to prevent infiltration, may want to look at a more sobering picture, especially as the infiltration has taken place during a carefully maintained ceasefire with Pakistan on the Line of Control. By now it should be clear that tourist inflows into the Valley are no indication of its security situation, nor a complete or credible measure of the popular alienation on the ground.

By all accounts, the J&K administration has not been able to provide reassurance to the families of the victims or a sense of security to those who fear they may be targeted next. It is time the Centre recognises that this task must involve Kashmir's mainstream political leadership — mainly, the National Conference and the People's Democratic Party. They have a role to play in the political outreach to both the majority and minority communities in the Valley. They must take the initiative and the government must make room for them in a project of political communication to the people that is much-needed at this time.

SHAPING UP

Government revenues were buoyant last year, will likely remain so this year, providing fiscal headroom

DATA RELEASED BY the Controller General of Accounts on Tuesday indicated that government finances fared better than expected in the just ended financial year (2021-22). Sharp increases were observed in both tax as well as non-tax revenues as compared to the revised budget estimates presented a few months ago. Further, with total government spending last year being only marginally higher than what was pegged in the revised estimates, the fiscal deficit for 2021-22 has moderated further, coming in at 6.7 per cent of the GDP, lower than the 6.9 per cent projected in the revised estimates.

At the aggregate level, the Centre's gross tax collections stood at Rs 27.08 lakh crore in 2021-22, almost Rs 2 lakh crore higher than the revised estimates, which were themselves higher than the earlier budget estimates. The healthier than expected tax revenue was driven by robust direct and indirect tax collections. Direct tax collections stood at Rs 13.85 lakh crore, around Rs 1.35 lakh crore higher than the revised estimates (with both corporate and income tax collections growing at a heartening pace), while indirect tax collections were higher by around Rs 57,000 crore. A similar increase was also observed in non-tax revenues driven, in part, by higher dividends from PSUs. The latest data also indicates that the central government has considerable fiscal headroom in the coming financial year. The Union budget for 2022-23 had pegged the Centre's gross tax revenues at Rs 27.57 lakh crore — this is now only 1.8 per cent higher than its gross tax revenues in 2021-22. Considering that the recent Economic Survey had pegged the economy to grow at 8-8.5 per cent in 2022-23 — even though this forecast was made before the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and growth is now expected to be lower — as nominal growth is likely to remain high, actual tax collections may well come in significantly higher than budgeted targets.

At the same time, there are several headwinds. On the revenue side, the recent cuts in excise duties, and the lower than expected transfer from the central bank are likely to act as a drag on receipts. On the expenditure side, spending on food, fertiliser and LPG subsidies will weigh heavily on the exchequer. And though the higher than expected revenues, aided by higher than previously anticipated nominal GDP growth, will help offset some of this, the pressure on the fisc is likely to remain.

SINGING WITH KK

His was the voice that sang of the love, longing and angst of a generation of music lovers

IN AN INTERVIEW, well after he had made a name in playback singing, KK would recall being sent to music classes as a child and hating them. It seemed to him that, with their emphasis on the dos and don'ts, they imposed "boundaries" on music. The singer, who died at 53 after a concert in Kolkata on Tuesday, had grown up with music of all kinds playing in his home in Delhi. He had developed an ear and, after his decision to forgo formal training, it was that nurtured ability, as well as his innate talent, that helped him gain a foothold in the recording studios of multiple film industries.

KK, born Krishnakumar Kunnath, came to prominence at a time when the Indipop wave which, in the '90s, had changed how music was made and performed in India, had begun to recede. Two tracks from his 1999 debut album, "Yaaron" and "Pal", became hits, in large part because they articulated a sense of loss and longing that had instant resonance with a generation of listeners on the threshold of adulthood. His big Bollywood breakthrough, the song "Tadap Tadap" from *Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam*, had a similar effect, becoming part of the soundtrack of many a real-life story of unrequited love and heartbreak. That these songs risked becoming clichés is, in fact, a testament to their appeal.

As a performer, KK transformed his early disdain for "boundaries" into the chameleon-like ability to assume different personas and tap into the emotional core of any song. In doing so, he helped a society, arguably lacking in articulateness in matters of the heart, find words and melodies with which to do so. His songs became an important part of the emotional trajectory of a generation of music lovers who, he once admitted, did not always recognise him when he performed in concerts. But they always, without missing a beat, sang along to his song.

A modest recovery

Many sectors still seem to be constrained by a weakness in demand and will require continued policy support



SAUGATA BHATTACHARYA

AT 8.7 PER cent, the National Statistical Office's latest estimate for GDP growth in 2021-22, while marginally lower than the 8.95 per cent projected in late February, is quite good given the headwinds the economy faced. The slower growth in 2021-22 was due to a downward revision of the estimates in the first two quarters of the year. However, these numbers need to be interpreted carefully, given the base effects of a 6.6 per cent contraction in 2020-21. The quarterly growth numbers in the first three quarters of 2021-22 are a mirror image of the contraction in the first two quarters of 2020-21, followed by a recovery in the third and fourth quarters. Inflation-adjusted GDP in absolute terms in the fourth quarter of 2021-22 was 107 per cent of the pre-pandemic level (2019-20) and 91 per cent in the first quarter.

At a broad sectoral level, agriculture grew at 3 per cent in 2021-22, industry at 9.8 per cent, and services at 8.8 per cent. The two sectors that contributed noticeably towards the fourth-quarter growth moderation were manufacturing (which contracted by 0.2 per cent) and construction (which grew at 2 per cent). Even factoring in the base effects of high growth rates in the corresponding quarter of 2020-21, the weakness is visible. The almost flat manufacturing growth is a bit puzzling, given the 22 per cent growth of merchandise exports in the quarter, and perhaps points to weakness in domestic demand.

A likely explanation is the weakness in informal sector output, which is proxied by the index of industrial production, which grew by 1.2 per cent in the quarter. Equally concerning is the weakness in the construction segment, particularly real estate, where many projects have reportedly been delayed due to rising input costs.

On the other hand, some of the services segments showed relatively strong growth. The most striking is public administration and other services — this segment grew almost 8 per cent and contributed around a fourth of the aggregate 4.1 per cent growth in the value-added. This includes the universe of micro and small local services in education, health, recreation, etc, suggesting a strong re-

covery in contact services post the opening up of economic activity.

The demand side of GDP, however, indicates some inconsistencies. Government consumption expenditure grew by 4.8 per cent and matches the public administration segment. Private consumption, however, decelerated, with the fourth quarter growth dropping sharply to 1.8 per cent from 7 per cent in the third quarter — this is at odds with the MSME recovery. Fixed capital investment, on the other hand, remained stable, if not robust, growing at 5 per cent, up from 2 per cent in the previous quarter. This was probably dominated by a massive 76 per cent rise in the Centre's capital expenditure (and to a smaller extent by states' capex spending). This is puzzling given the weakness in the construction sector. One possible explanation is that perhaps private sector capex had moderated sharply.

So why has the growth narrative become so important now? In the aftermath of an economic shock as large as the pandemic, quarter-on-quarter GDP estimates are important indicators of the momentum of economic activity and will be critical inputs for policymakers. But the growth path for 2022-23 has become muddled by a host of economic, commercial, financial and now geo-economic events, which are likely to persist.

In the near term, leading indicators of economic activity suggest that momentum in April and May, although having moderated compared to March, has remained surprisingly strong, even in the aftermath of the economic shocks emanating from the Ukraine crisis.

Our forecast for GDP growth is 7.1 per cent (very similar to the RBI's earlier forecast of 7.2 per cent). But the risks are now clearly tilted towards slower growth. First, input costs for manufacturers remain very high, and have not been fully passed on to the end consumers. Diminishing commercial viability has forced many companies to scale down, or even shut, operations — the MSME segment has reportedly been the most affected.

Second, these supply shocks, accelerating with the onset of Covid and then sharply aggravated by the energy and commodity dis-

ruptions from Ukraine and the economic sanctions imposed on Russia, have fed into prices across the world. Inflation in most of the developed countries is at multi-decade highs (aided by large fiscal stimulus packages in some countries). Most of the large global central banks have already started aggressively tightening monetary policy. These actions have increased financial market volatility, which has had spillover effects on emerging economies, including India. Consequently, India's external environment is likely to be less benign than before.

Even before this tightening, global growth and trade had already been forecasted to start slowing in 2022. Merchandise exports from India has been one of the main engines of growth through late 2020-21 and in 2021-22, and this is likely to moderate. In addition, RBI has shifted its priority from promoting durable and sustained growth to taming inflation, by hiking the policy repo rate and starting to drain the surplus funds injected during the pandemic. Lending rates have already increased for many borrowers, particularly MSMEs and home loans, and steep increases in borrowing costs might exert some stress on the repayment ability of weaker borrowers.

In nominal terms, GDP growth in 2021-22 was almost 20 per cent (versus 8.7 per cent real growth), driven by high WPI and CPI inflation. This large divergence might further widen the gap in the distribution of discretionary incomes and consumption among household income classes. While this will moderate over the next couple of years with inflation cooling, this has implications for the redistributive actions of economic, particularly fiscal, policy.

To conclude, while economic activity is recovering at a modest pace, many sectors and segments still seem to be constrained by a weakness in demand and will require continued policy support. A coordinated policy response — fiscal, monetary, trade, industry — will be required for balancing the multiple macroeconomic policy objectives.

The writer is executive vice-president and chief economist, Axis Bank. Views are personal

A LESSON IN FOOD SECURITY

Sri Lankan crisis should prod India to become self-sufficient in edible oils



R G CHANDRAMOGAN

SRI LANKA, A country with a 21.5 million population (less than Tamil Nadu's 80 million and Kerala's 34 million), imported dairy products valued at \$333.8 million in 2020 and \$317.7 million in 2021. The island nation's imports of whole milk powder (WMP) alone were 89,000 tonnes and 72,000 tonnes in these two years. The powder imported in 2020 would have "produced" almost 2.1 million litres per day (MLPD) equivalent to milk. This is as against the 1.3 MLPD that Sri Lanka produces from its own cows and buffaloes. It translates into an import dependence of over 60 per cent — for a country having very little foreign exchange today to import anything, leave alone milk powder.

At the other end, we have Saudi Arabia, home to over 35 million inhabitants (including immigrants) and also the world's largest vertically integrated dairy company. Almarai Company has six dairy farms in the desert kingdom that together house some 1,07,000 Holstein Friesian cows producing more than 3.5 MLPD of milk. The animals are sourced from the US and Europe. The entire feed (about 1.5 million tonnes per year of corn, soyabean meal, cottonseed oilcake and other ingredients) and also forage given to them are procured from abroad. The company has even purchased thousands of acres of land in California, Argentina and Romania to grow alfalfa hay, which is then shipped back for feeding the cattle.

Why is Saudi Arabia taking such pains to produce its own milk from cows, kept in

sheds with overhead misters for spraying water droplets and fans to protect them from 50 degrees Celsius desert temperatures?

The answer is food security. The Saudis — other Persian Gulf countries have also copied the Almarai model — are prepared to pay any price when it comes to ensuring the availability of basic food like milk. This, despite not having the land, water or climate required for green fodder cultivation — unlike Sri Lanka that has all the natural resources to become a dairy superpower. There is a Tamil saying: "Kaile vennai, anaal neyyukku alayaran (the person with butter in his hand is searching for ghee)". Sri Lanka allowed the butter to slip through its fingers.

There are lessons here for India, which is hugely import-dependent in edible oils, just as Sri Lanka has been in dairy. India annually imports 13.5-14.5 million tonnes of vegetable oils, again roughly 60 per cent of its total consumption. Till recently, this didn't seem to matter. Low international prices meant that the import bill, though high, fell from \$9.85 billion in 2012-13 to \$9.67 billion in 2019-20. Indian consumers paid more or less the same for imported palm, soyabean and sunflower oil in 2019 as they did in 2012.

But the story has changed in the last couple of years, with retail prices of most oils doubling or more. The value of India's vegetable oil imports surged to a record \$19 billion in 2021-22. It has brought to light the perils of over-dependence on imports of essential food commodities.

As a country with a population many times that of Sri Lanka and Saudi Arabia, India needs to have a strategy of self-reliance in basic foods. Only two years ago, India was under pressure to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership free trade agreement (FTA) and open up its dairy products market to unfettered imports.

In November 2020, when the deal was signed, international skim milk powder and anhydrous butter-fat prices were at \$2,700-2,800 and \$4,000-4,200 per tonne, respectively. But the government decided to opt-out of the agreement, perhaps realising the damage that a previous FTA with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) had done to India's edible oil sector.

Today, when powder and fat prices are at over \$4,100 and \$6,000 per tonne — they have even crossed \$4,600-7,100 levels — the wisdom of that decision has been borne out. Indian consumers haven't experienced much inflation in milk products. If India had become a dairy products importer, like in edible oils, the prices wouldn't have stopped at \$10,000 per tonne. The entire global dairy trade is less than a quarter of India's annual milk production. The world cannot supply us even if it wants to.

In milk, and in most foods, only we can feed ourselves.

The writer is chairman of the Chennai-based Hatsun Agro Product Ltd

JUNE 2, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDO-PAK TALKS

INDIA AND PAKISTAN have agreed to resume their quest for durable peace on the Subcontinent. This is the outcome of the talks Nawaz Singh, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, had with the Pakistan government in Islamabad during the last two days during which he delivered a letter from the Indian prime minister to President Ziaul Haq. After the 90-minute meeting Singh had with the Pakistan Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs S Shahawaz, the two governments issued a joint statement stressing their desire to resume the dialogue. The joint statement, the text of which was also made

available in New Delhi, says India-Pakistan discussions would be resumed on the basis of the understanding reached between the two foreign ministers in New Delhi in February.

CONSENSUS DEMAND

LEADERS OF NINE opposition parties in Parliament made a formal move to arrive at a consensus on the choice of the next President by writing to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, asking her to immediately convene a meeting for the purpose. In their letter the leaders pointed out that N Sanjeeva Reddy had been unanimously elected President in

1977 and this tradition had been kept up in 1979 as well when M Hidayatullah was chosen as vice-President.

FALKLANDS WAR

BRITISH TROOPS WERE reported to be within sight of Port Stanley, the capital of the Falklands, fighting at Mount Kent, less than 20 km away. Military sources said they were ready for the final assault of Port Stanley which would be supported by helicopters and artillery. British naval vessels and Harrier combat aircraft continued to soften up the Argentine positions in preparation for an attack by ground forces.



13 THE IDEAS PAGE

Why did you shoot my teacher?

A tribute to Rajni Bala, who taught at Government High School, Gopalpora, in J&K's Kulgam district, and was killed by suspected militants on Tuesday



AMEETA MULLA WATTAL

Because I had a teacher I loved to learn, I discovered I could do much more than I thought I could. I realised it was alright when some things were harder than others. Because I had a teacher, I found that challenges could be fun. I realised that some of the hardest things I did made me feel the proudest. Because I had a teacher, I knew how good it felt when someone was happy to see me. I knew I could always ask for help. Because I had a teacher, I felt I had a friend on my side. I saw that some of the most important things were said without words. Because I had a teacher, I had whole new worlds to explore. I discovered that what I imagined, could become real. I felt I could do anything. Because I had a teacher, I learnt to believe in me'. (Kobi Yamada, 'Because I had a teacher')

WHY DID YOU shoot my teacher?

My teacher taught me that we depend on each other for survival. She said that every person is meant to live both for and thanks to others. Her words refracted like light through a prism, revealing all the different ways in which we found ourselves in relationship with the world.

Has the time come for me to rethink what we mean when we say we belong to a particular religion or state? I thought peace and ethics meant appreciation of beauty, striving for truth, pursuit of justice and recognising that some things are good and some are bad, because I had a teacher.

I think they shot me because I was a teacher. My road was not a path, not even a village cart road, my road was the razor's edge. I evaluated objectively but related to each one of you with my heart. I encouraged but did not favour. I supported but did not create dependency.

I quietened your rages, dried your tears, lifted your fallen spirits, assuaged hurt egos, encouraged bravery. I tried to be human but I was expected to be more than human, because I was a teacher.

I also had an aged parent, a daughter of intellectual promise and cultural sensitivity to be educated. I tried not to look helpless, forlorn, vulnerable and precarious for you all looked up to me, because sometimes you felt the same way. It was not easy for me for I was human too, was I not?

I had dependences to support, illness, anxieties, despair, grief, likes, dislikes, prejudices, for I was human. I felt hunger, thirst, pain, and rapture like any other living being in creation.

"Society, traditions, customs expected me to check but not to dominate, to influence but not indoctrinate, shape but not stultify.

I was never in a position of power but always in a position of deep responsibility. I had views but I was never opinionated. I had affinities but was never partisan"



C R Sasikumar

(Gopal Gandhi).

Did you ever think that I did not always need to give but that sometimes I needed to receive?

I was expected to adhere to my ideals but no one saw my reality. I tried to attempt what was difficult, reach a sense of articulateness. Teach a love of language but not become insular. I meant to inculcate a love of community, a love of region but not become parochial, a love of country but not become jingoistic. I tried to teach patriotism which did not end up hating neighbours, instill a pride in swadeshi but not allow it to degenerate into cultural ghettoism.

My life was not easy because I was a teacher.

The killings in Kashmir have drawn in homes, schools and communities, which have become a melting pot of emotions, desires, attitudes, religious intolerance, caste and community feelings, creating an atmosphere of discord. A child's mind is a garden that contains seeds of understanding, forgiveness and love along with seeds of ignorance, fear and hatred that will make him violent or peaceful, understanding or intolerant, depending upon which seeds are watered.

A thinking school can create a learning environment filled with compassion and communication. If teachers in schools are threatened, how will children learn to cope with anxiety, aggression, fear, express tenderness, trust and love.

In order to build a world where children are empowered, it is important to create a close and supportive relationship between the community and school. We can only

If teachers in schools are threatened, how will children learn to cope with anxiety, aggression and fear, express tenderness, trust and love. In order to build a world where children are empowered, it is important to create a close and supportive relationship between the community and school. We can only give our children who we are and what we possess.

give our children who we are and what we possess.

When will society come together to ensure that peace is not a set of dogmas that have to be taught? It is an entire approach to life, nature and oneself. Demonsing the other on issues of identity, religion, class, caste will never help in inculcating in children a sense of sensitivity, social justice and peaceful linkages with the other.

I am not with you today, but always remember that education is about living life as a human being, about relations and relationships, about living together in a common understanding.

You need to imagine yourselves as broadcasters, tall beacons of ideas, pulsing out messages everywhere. All of you, stating, clarifying, discussing, debating, collaborating, filling space with thoughts that you care about.

If you do that, new fields will develop and with them, their wondrous capacities to bring energy, light and understanding into form. If you create a field of vision which is not coherent and sincere, you will encounter other fields of intolerance, hatred and dissonance.

It is important to remember that space is never empty. If you don't fill it with harmony, joy, and caring, say one thing but do another, you will create discord in the very space in which you belong.

Remember these words "because I was your teacher".

The writer is Chairperson and Executive Director, Education, Innovations and Training, DLF Foundation Schools and Scholarship Programmes

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"If he now believes protests should remain nonviolent and non-confrontational, it is Mr (Imran) Khan's responsibility to strongly denounce and discourage the carrying of firearms by his supporters,"

—DAWN, PAKISTAN

The scars of instant justice

SC panel's censure in Hyderabad encounter case is a wake-up call. Police should accept that their job is to bring accused to justice, not dispense it



YASHOVARDHAN AZAD

THE BRITISH COLONISERS were known to impart instant justice to leaders of various uprisings against their oppression. The capture and killing of Alluri Seetarama Raju, the hero of the Rampa Rebellion, in 1924 was one such instance. British forces arrested Raju, who had organised the tribals of the Eastern Ghats against the Madras Forest Act 1882, and shot him.

Police encounters did not stop after independence. Charges of fake encounters have coloured police action against dacoits in the 1950s, the battles against terrorism in Punjab, insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast, and Maoism. Some days ago, a Supreme Court-appointed committee recommended the prosecution of 10 police officers under IPC 302 for staging a false encounter near Hyderabad on December 6, 2019.

According to the Union Ministry of Home, there have been 655 instances of police encounter deaths between January 1, 2017, and January 31, 2022. Chhattisgarh reported 191 incidents, the highest in the country, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 117. Thirteen other states reported encounter killings suggesting that the malady is prevalent across the country.

In the Hyderabad incident, Disha was gang-raped and brutally murdered by four persons on November 27, 2019. There was widespread media coverage of the incident and public outrage, which spurred the police to act fast. They announced the arrest of the four accused a day later and on December 6 morning, an alleged encounter took place in which all four accused were killed. The city responded positively to the incident and the policemen were felicitated. Political parties also praised the rendering of "swift justice". Some feeble voices of dissent were drowned in the revelry.

Incidents of instant justice represent the dark underbelly of our criminal justice system. They should jolt the conscience of our judges, lawyers, politicians, bureaucrats and policemen. For years, mafia overlords used to escape the clutches of law and, when apprehended, slip past the justice system with no one willing to depose against them. Some even became legislators and used their vaunted status to ringfence against prosecution. Political parties patronised them. They, in turn, delivered instant justice on their turf. When public anger rose or state institutions were hurt, encounters followed. Vikas Dubey, a gangster from UP, ran his fief in contempt of law but the moment he attacked the police his end came.

Can staged encounters be justified in any circumstances? No. Then what explains such acts? After every sensational crime, the media blitz and public anger against the system put inordinate pressure on the police. Shrill calls for speedy arrest lead to hasty and often reckless responses. Only patient and

cool-headed officers can maintain their composure in the face of a sustained campaign against police inaction. If the arrest is delayed for genuine reasons, say for collecting evidence, it may even lead to a serious law and order situation. In such situations, the macho, tough types, known as the encounter specialists or the "big guns", step in. The public loves them, politicians patronise them, and criminals are petrified of them. Their ride in the hierarchy is smooth, having gained proximity to the powers that be.

Is the public inured to hard justice? Yes. Because justice delayed is justice denied. People's faith in the judicial system is broken. The common perception is that the courts never seem to decide. A report by the Public Health Foundation of India states that between 2001 and 2018, rape-related crimes rose by 70 per cent. But only 10 per cent of the cases completed trial by 2018, with acquittals in 73 per cent of such cases.

Despite the speedy arrest and a special court in the December 16, 2012 gang rape and murder case, it took six years for a judgment to be delivered. Forty-six million cases clog our courts; 30 million are criminal cases in the district courts alone. According to Justice (retired) Madan Lokur, the situation is hopeless and beyond repair. How many times have plea bargaining or the Probation of Offenders Act been used to reduce pendency? The SC committee in the Disha case has hauled up the executive and judicial magistrates too for attending to their tasks in a perfunctory manner. Undertrials rot in jails when a majority of them can easily be out on bail having already served half the sentence for their crimes, without being convicted. If this does not dehumanise society, what does?

Several useful recommendations have been made by the SC committee in the Disha case. These include, inter alia, video recording of all investigative processes, use of body-worn cameras and dash cameras, mandatory collection of CCTV footage during investigations, and audio-video recording of statements of witnesses. Implementing these in all cases may not be practical as it would entail huge costs and man-hours. Even CCTV cameras have not been installed in all police stations. But certainly, a start can be made with heinous cases. Perhaps, the most critical need for every police station is access to a forensics team to take charge of the crime scene and collect foreign evidence scientifically. Digital evidence leaves a firm imprint and solid evidence.

The Disha case is another wake-up call. Instant justice and public acclaim give a temporary high but scar the image of the police and the State. As a critical pillar of the criminal justice system with the widest public interface, it is incumbent upon the police chiefs to stay on course. They should firmly caution their men that their job is to bring the accused to justice not to dispense justice.

The writer served as Special Director, Intelligence Bureau, Secretary Security, Government of India, and Central Information Commissioner. He is presently Chairman, Deepstrat, a New Delhi-based Think Tank and Strategic Consultancy



RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

Digital India, eight years on

Some of the country's most difficult problems are now being solved

RECENTLY, PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi made a telling observation about his idea of India: "... every Indian must have a smartphone in his hand and every field must be covered by a drone". This was a reaffirmation of his commitment that ordinary Indians must be empowered with technology. Digital India is a transformative programme to deliver that objective. He was equally clear that digital technology must be low-cost, developmental, inclusive, and substantially home-grown and it should bridge the digital divide and usher in digital inclusion.

After eight years of digital governance, there is concrete evidence to showcase this digital transformation. India today is home to more than 75 crore smartphones, 133 crore Aadhaar cards, more than 80 crore internet users, has 4G and is now accelerating towards 5G. Above all, it has among the lowest data tariffs in the world. India's march is the result of PM Modi's vision, which he shared at the launch of Digital India on July 1, 2015. He had said: "In this digital age, we have an opportunity to transform the lives of people in ways that were hard to imagine just a couple of decades ago. I see technology as a means to empowerment and as a tool that bridges the distance between hope and opportunity."

Digital India solved some of the most difficult problems the country had been facing for decades. Ensuring delivery of government schemes to its beneficiaries without leakage or misuse remained a herculean task. The Jan-

Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) trinity has ensured that the poorest receive every penny of their entitled benefits. Financial benefits worth nearly Rs 23 lakh crore have been transferred using DBT technology in the last eight years. This has led to savings of Rs 2.22 lakh crore of public money.

The digital ecosystem was also useful in tackling the challenge of the pandemic. From bulk messages to people in quarantine areas giving useful information and using digital technology for vaccination to digital education for students when schools were closed, there have been shining examples of empowerment, inclusion and opportunity.

Leveraging the power of drones and GIS technologies, SVAMITVA Yojana is providing digital land records to the rightful owners. This will not only reduce disputes but also facilitate monetisation of land for availing bank loans and enable scientific village level planning. Nearly 2.14 crore land parcels have been digitised so far.

The inclusive character of Digital India not only makes it a unique initiative but also reflects our core philosophy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas". Providing access to high-speed internet to the farthest hamlet, ensuring access to assisted digital services for those who cannot use digital technologies and providing digital literacy have been key to making digital growth inclusive. To provide high-speed broadband to all the villages, optical fibre has been laid in 1.83 lakh gram pan-

chayats under Bharat Net. There were only 80,000 Common Service Centers (CSCs) in 2014, which is an entity under the Ministry of Electronics and IT headed by Secretary IT, for providing assisted delivery of digital services to common citizens offering only a few services. Today, there are nearly four lakh CSCs. These CSCs are offering banking, insurance, state and central government services, passport and PAN card services, digital literacy, rural eCommerce services and pre-litigation advice etc.

India has emerged as the fastest-growing ecosystem for fintech innovations. India's digital payments revolution is being appreciated globally. This was made possible due to innovative digital payment products like UPI and Aadhaar-Enabled Payment Systems (AEPS). When banks and ATMs were shut during Covid-19, AEPS-based micro-ATM at CSCs and post offices provided doorstep delivery of cash.

India has more than 61,400 startups as of March 2022, making it the third-largest startup ecosystem after the US and China. With nearly 14,000 startups getting recognized during 2021-22, 555 districts of India had at least one new startup as per the Economic Survey 2022. It is very refreshing to note that many of these startups are coming from mofussil towns or rural areas. Nearly 44 startups achieved unicorn status in 2021 and in the first four months of 2022, 14 startups have become unicorns.

India is rapidly becoming atmanirbhar in

electronics manufacturing. The value of electronics manufacturing in India has touched \$75 billion in 2020-21 from \$29 billion in 2014. There were only two mobile phone manufacturing units in 2014. With initiatives like Modified Special Incentive Scheme (MSIS), Electronics Manufacturing Cluster, National Policy on Electronics 2019, Electronics Development Fund, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) and Scheme for Promotion of Electronics Components and Semiconductors (SPECS), India is moving towards self-reliance in the field of electronics manufacturing. Today, there are more than 250 mobile phones, components and accessories manufacturing units. Indian companies have developed their own 4G and 5G technologies. The Modi government's commitment to making India self-reliant in semiconductor chip manufacturing has also attracted many big investors.

The story of India's digital transformation is a story of the visionary leadership of PM Modi and his commitment to bringing about inclusive growth and transformation using technology. Digital India's motto - "Power to Empower" - is truly living up to its goals and expectations. In the last eight years, the success of Digital India only confirms that it has a robust future in India's development.

The writer is an MP and former Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Communications, Law and Justice

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'How to fill the big black hole' (IE, June 1). It is the job of a democracy to enable and ensure freedom of speech for its citizens. Political parties today only pander to meet their own partisan ends and political literacy runs dangerously low in the voter base. Our parties need to be trailblazers in ensuring an open society. Therefore, the election commission must find ways to ensure that every party has an internal democratic electoral process in place, followed diligently and with transparency.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

APEX JUDGEMENT

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A dispiriting law' (IE, June 1). The word "sedition", under Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code, is a colonial imposition which was deployed to jail and silence freedom fighters and dissenters at the time of its conception. After six decades of the 1962 judgement of Kedarnath Singh v State Of Bihar, the Supreme Court has now taken up deliberation on the constitutionality of this section. We can only hope that the apex court decides to rule in favour of democracy.

R.S.Jena, Ghaziabad

CALL FOR PEACE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'I am

Bhanwarlal' (IE, May 31). The killing of Bhanwarlal stands as another example in a long list of lynchings that have been enabled by the vitriol peddled on our screens, during evening tea chats and in election rallies. An NDTV report recorded a 500% increase in hate speech since 2014. These hate crimes are propelled forward by an overall increase in targeted and communally coloured hate speech. Preachers of this hate have rarely seen any repercussions, especially when affiliated with political parties. Kapil Mishra's speech in northeast Delhi on the eve of the violence unleashed on Muslims in the area stands testament to this immunity. If we want any relief from these daily reports of communal violence and lynchings, decisive punitive action must be the next step.

Shreya Thomas, via email

PUBLIC'S TRIAL

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The Reality Show' (IE, 1 June 2022). The eyeballs glued to the Depp-Heard trial spoke to the celebrity culture. Everyone is waiting to see if their favourite star is the victim or the criminal. Many who accuse the stars of feeding off the spotlight find it innocuous, if not justified, to pry. The trolling of Amber Heard is a shame. It is a reminder of the power of perception and how celebrity and fanfare affects it.

M Yusuf Ghazali, Patna



Vijay Babu in Kochi on Wednesday. ANI

Actor-producer accused of rape arrives in Kerala from Dubai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 1

MALAYALAM ACTOR-PRODUCER Vijay Babu, who has been booked in a rape case, returned to Kerala on Wednesday from Dubai, a day after the Kerala High Court granted him interim protection from arrest. After reaching Kochi, Babu turned up before Kochi city police, which is probing into the case.

Babu, who has been accused of raping a woman actor, had fled the country fearing arrest after the Kochi city police registered a case against him. He faces another case for revealing the identity of the woman actor on social media.

"I have faith in the judicial system. I will prove my innocence in court. I will cooperate with the probe. I thank all those who stood with me during this hour of crisis," Babu told the media at Cochin International Airport on Wednesday morning.

On Tuesday, while hearing Babu's anticipatory bail plea, the Kerala High Court had granted him interim protection from arrest till June 2.

Over the last month, the Kerala police have been exerting pressure on Babu to appear before them. Last week, the external affairs ministry had cancelled his passport at the behest of the Kerala Police, which had issued an ultimatum to the actor. When the police said they would issue a red-corn notice against him, Babu allegedly moved to a country that did not share an extradition treaty with India.

On April 27, the Kochi city police had registered a case against Babu on charges of sexually assaulting a woman actor.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI DEATHS

Witness alleges attempt on life; cops file FIR, seek forensic help

MANISH SAHU
LUCKNOW, JUNE 1

A KEY witness in the Lakhimpur Kheri killing case has alleged that there was an attempt on his life on Tuesday evening when two unidentified men opened fire at his car while he was returning home in Gola area of the district.

Dilbag Singh, who is Lakhimpur district president of Bharatiya Kisan Union (TKait), escaped unhurt. He is a key witness in the October 3 killing of five persons in which Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra's son, Ashish Mishra, is the prime accused.

"After dropping my two

friends — Jitendra and Vipin — at Badehad village,

I was returning home when around 9.30 pm, two men came on a motorcycle from behind. They opened fire at my car and one of the tyres got burst. The car stopped and the assailants came close to the car and tried to open the gate. When they failed to open the door, they again fired two shots. They then ran away," Singh told *The Indian Express*.

A police officer involved in the probe said they were questioning Singh's two friends — Jitendra and Vipin — who were with the BKU leader before the alleged attack took place.

Based on Singh's complaint, police registered an FIR against

unidentified persons for attempt to murder. No arrests have been made so far. "We are examining all aspects of the case," superintendent of police (Lakhimpur Kheri) Sanjiv Suman said.

Police are also taking technical help in their probe and collecting CCTV footage in the area. A forensic team from Lucknow has been called for inspection and ballistic examination.

A police officer involved in the probe said they were questioning Singh's two friends — Jitendra and Vipin — who were with the BKU leader before the alleged attack took place.

Meanwhile, police have suspended the gunner assigned to Singh.



I&B Minister Anurag Thakur after the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday. Prem Nath Pandey

Procurement by cooperatives now allowed via Govt e-Marketplace

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE GOVERNMENT on Wednesday announced to expand the mandate of Government e-Marketplace (GeM) by allowing procurement by cooperatives.

At present, the registration of cooperatives as buyers was not covered within the existing GeM mandate.

"The move will help over 8.54 lakh registered cooperatives, like Amul and IFFCO, and their 27 crore members, as they would get products at competitive rates from the portal. These cooperatives will be benefited from this decision," Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur told reporters.

As per the existing mandate, goods and services registered on the GeM portal are not available for use by private sector buyers, while suppliers (sellers) can be from across all segments — government or private.

An official statement said the validated list of cooperatives to be onboarded on GeM — for the pilot as well as subsequent scale-up basis — will be decided by the Ministry of Cooperation in consultation with GeM special purpose vehicle (SPV).

This will help in ensuring that the technical capacity and logistics requirements of the GeM system are taken into account while deciding the pace of onboarding of cooperatives as buyers on GeM, it added.

The GeM was launched on August 9, 2016, by the commerce ministry to create an open and transparent procurement platform for government buyers.

Give 10% for critical thinking in college papers: NAAC panel

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

AN EXPERT panel under the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has proposed that college-level examination papers be redesigned so that at least 10 per cent marks are given based on evaluation of "higher-order cognition" among students to encourage development of critical thinking.

The proposal is part of a white paper, published on Wednesday, on revising the assessment and accreditation process of higher educational institutions in the country. It is co-authored by the chairman of NAAC executive committee Bhushan Patwardhan and former Indian Institute of Science Education and Research professor KP Mohanan.

According to the paper, which has been reviewed and endorsed by the NAAC Academic Advisory Committee and the Executive Committee, the weightage to such questions may be scaled up in phases to 20 per cent and 40 per cent in the future if the roll out is successful.

The development of higher-order cognition among students is a key National Education Policy, 2020 proposal. "NAAC recommends the plan of action

to improve the quality of the design of examination questions, initially for the Bachelor's programs in a few subjects, and subsequently to be expanded to cover all Bachelor's programs," states the paper.

The experts have defined higher-order literacy as the ability to process and communicate academic knowledge through spoken and written forms of language and higher-order numeracy as the thinking that goes into making sense of numerically coded information.

Patwardhan, who was appointed as the chairman of NAAC EC in February, told *The Indian Express*. "As many as 80 per cent of stakeholders of the NAAC suggested the need for reforms. NAAC was set up three decades ago and since then the education ecosystem has changed significantly. And accordingly assessment and accreditation should also be changed."

Importantly, the committee has advised against the provisional accreditation system for colleges (PAC) announced earlier this year by the NAAC and the University Grants Commission.

The PAC allows newer institutions — those with one academic year or more — to apply for provisional approval for a period of two years. So far, colleges and

universities needed to be at least six years old in order to apply.

"The PAC proposal implies a lowering of standards so that a greater number of colleges can gain Provisional Accreditation. Instead, it would be wiser on the part of NAAC to help the colleges improve the quality of education they provide, such that they can be successful in meeting the standards that NAAC accreditation calls for," states the paper.

In the paper, the NAAC has proposed that the accreditation process should also involve checking, through a national test, if students of a particular institution have achieved the required level of general education and higher-order cognition. It suggests that NAAC reduce its dependence on self-assessment of institutions while grading them, and focus more on evaluating the learning outcomes.

The NAAC panel has also recommended gradings for not just institutions as a whole, as is the norm currently, but also for individual programmes offered by them. For instance, an higher educational institute focusing on health sciences may be accredited based on its overall performance, and in addition, specific courses such as MBBS, MD, MTEch offered by it can be separately graded.



Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and his Bangladesh counterpart Mohammad Nurul Islam Sujan flag off the Mitali Express via video conferencing, in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

India, Bangladesh flag off new cross-border passenger train

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THREE DAYS after restarting two cross-border trains stopped amid pandemic, India and Bangladesh jointly flagged off a new passenger train — Mitali Express — on Wednesday.

The new bi-weekly Mitali Express will connect New Jalpaiguri in North Bengal with Dhaka in Bangladesh through Haldibari in India and then Chilahati in Northern Bangladesh.

The train will travel the 513 km distance in about 9-10 hours twice a week from India and back.

The Mitali Express, which was virtually inaugurated by the prime ministers of the two countries on March 27 last year, was flagged off virtually by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and his Bangladeshi counterpart Mohammad Nurul Islam Sujan from New Delhi. "Mitali Express will be yet another milestone in strengthening the bond between the two neighbouring countries," Vaishnaw said.

The Mitali Express will depart from New Jalpaiguri at 11.45 am on Sunday and Wednesday, arriving at the Dhaka Cantonment station at 10.30 pm on the same days. From Dhaka Cantonment it will depart on return journey at 9.50 pm on Monday and Thursday and arrive in New Jalpaiguri at 7.15 am on Tuesday and Friday. There will be three classes — AC First (Cabin) Sleeper, AC First (Cabin) seat and AC Chair car, and the fare will be \$44, \$33 and \$22 respectively, the Railways ministry said.

COURT RESTRICTS CONSTRUCTION ON VIZAG HILL TILL HC TAKES CALL SC sets aside NGT order, says tribunals subordinate to HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

TAKING NOTE of apprehensions of irreversible damage to Rushikonda hills in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam due to excavations for a tourism project, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed that the construction be restricted to the area where a now-demolished resort stood and the flat areas until the state High Court, where the dispute is pending, takes a fresh call.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Hima Kohli said although development activities are nec-

essary for economic development, it is equally necessary to safeguard the environment.

The court set aside the May 6 order of the principal bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which had halted all further constructions at the project site.

The bench pointed out that the matter was also pending before the HC, in which case, it said, the HC's orders would prevail over those passed by the Tribunal. The court also expressed its displeasure over NGT entertaining the matter when HC was already seized of it. "In so far as Tribunals are concerned,

they would be subordinate to the High Court in so far as territorial jurisdiction is concerned," the top court said. The court said it is of the "considered view that it was not appropriate on part of NGT to have continued with proceedings before it, specifically when it was pointed to it that HC was already seized of the matter and had passed order".

The top court said "conflicting orders passed by NGT and High Court could lead to an anomalous situation".

"In such a situation, it is orders passed by the Constitutional courts which would prevail over orders passed by Tribunals," the bench pointed out.

Aligarh college prof sent on leave over offering namaz in open

AMIL BHATNAGAR
ALIGARH, JUNE 1

A PROFESSOR posted at an Aligarh college was sent on leave for offering namaz in an open space on the educational institute's campus.

Officials said a video emerged on social media a few days ago in which Prof SR Khalid is seen offering prayers in a garden at Shri Varshney College.

Soon after the video went viral, right-wing organisations, including BJP Yuva Morcha, lodged protest against the professor and the college. The video was brought to the notice of the college authorities and an inquiry committee was set up.

Varshney College principal

AK Gupta said, "I was on leave at the time of the incident. Once I came back, the professor told me that he was in a hurry and had backache and therefore offered namaz in a park. A probe has been ordered to look into the facts of the matter. Necessary action will be taken according to the panel's findings."

The panel, set up on Sunday, is due to submit its report this week, said officials.

"A meeting of the probe committee will be held and the further course of action will be decided then," said Gupta.

The professor is learnt to have tendered an apology and promised to not offer namaz in the open in future.

The college authorities said that the "campus should not be a place for religious activities and in the interest of students it should be limited to academics".

In a letter, the BJP Yuva Morcha and ABVP said, "It has come to our notice namaz was being offered on the campus for a long time. This is a conspiracy against the UP government and it can breed divisive sentiments among the students. If harmony in the area is disturbed, the professor will be responsible for it. We request legal action against him."

In March this year, some Muslim students of the same college had alleged that they were not allowed to enter the campus while wearing hijab or headscarf. The allegations came shortly after the hijab row in Karnataka. The college administration, in response to the allegations, maintained that a dress code has been prescribed for all students.

Special court allows Waze to become approver in CBI's corruption case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JUNE 1

DISMISSED MUMBAI Police officer Sachin Waze's plea to become an approver in a corruption case registered by the CBI was allowed by a special court on Wednesday.

Waze will no longer be an accused in the case and will be considered a prosecution witness for the CBI, whose testimony can be used against his co-accused, including former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.

"Your application for grant of pardon (is) awarded to you but subject to certain conditions," Special Judge D P Shingade told Waze, who was produced before the court via videoconferencing from Taloja jail where he is lodged since his arrest last March in connection with the Antilia terror scare case.

The court read out to Waze the conditions of grant of pardon, including that he shall make full and true disclosure of the circumstances related to the alleged offence, disclose facts he has submitted before a magistrate in a statement under Section 164 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) and truthfully answer questions put to him by the special public prosecutor at the time of his deposition.

Waze told the court that he accepts the conditions. The CBI had last week given its nod to Waze's plea — filed through his lawyer Rounak Naik — under Section 306 of the CrPC for grant of pardon.

On Wednesday, lawyer Prashant Pawar, representing the other accused in the case, sought to be heard on Waze's pardon plea but the court said that there is no provision in law for the other accused to be



Sachin Waze will no longer be an accused in the case and will be considered a prosecution witness for CBI

heard on such a plea.

The order comes a day prior to CBI's deadline to file its chargesheet in the corruption case. Waze, Deshmukh and two of the former minister's staffers were arrested in April on allegations that bribes were taken by Waze from restaurant and bar owners on Deshmukh's instructions. They also face another probe by the ED on alleged money laundering of this bribe amount.

Waze had made a similar request before the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which has filed a money laundering case against him, Deshmukh and others. In February, he had written to the ED's assistant director and investigating officer, seeking to make a voluntary disclosure and that he be considered for pardon. No steps have been taken so far by the ED regarding the letter.

Waze continues to face charges as accused in the ED case as well as a case filed by the NIA, which has alleged that he planted explosives in a vehicle and parked it near Antilia, the Mumbai residence of businessman Mukesh Ambani, in February. Waze also faces charges of murder in the case for allegedly conspiring to kill Thane resident Mansukh Hiran, who was linked to the vehicle.

उ० प्र० पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, ई-निविदा सूचना, निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु कार्य / आपूर्ति हेतु ई-निविदाये दो भागों में (जी०एस०टी०) में पंजीकृत, प्रतिष्ठित एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों / फर्मों से ऑनलाइन ई-निविदा पोर्टल वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त ई-निविदा को स्वीकार/ निरस्त करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी को बिना कोई कारण बताये सुरक्षित रहेगा। अन्य नियम / शर्तें विभाग के फार्म ए/बी के अनुसार होंगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में देखा जा सकता है। निर्धारित तिथि के विस्तार तथा शुद्धि पत्र से संबंधित सूचना यदि कोई होगी तो केवल वेबसाइट पर डाली जाएगी। अतः स्वयं को अपडेट रखने के लिए उपरोक्त वेबसाइट को नियमित देखते रहना चाहिए। अल्पकालीन ई-निविदाएँ खुलने का दिनांक- 16.06.2022 1- अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या-24 / ई०टी०सी०एम० / 2022 2023, विद्युत 400 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र खण्ड-मुरादाबाद के अर्न्तगत 400 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र मुरादाबाद पर वृक्षारोपण का कार्य धरोहर राशि रू० 500/- निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रू० 295/ 2- अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या-25 / ई०टी०सी०एम० /

2022-2023, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मुरादाबाद के अर्न्तगत विभिन्न 220 के०वी० एवं 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्रों पर वृक्षारोपण का कार्य धरोहर राशि रू० 1000 /- निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रू० 295/ 3 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या- 26 / ई०टी०सी०एम० / 2022-2023, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-रामपुर के अर्न्तगत विभिन्न 765 के०वी० 220 के०वी० एवं 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्रों पर वृक्षारोपण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू० 1000/- निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रू० 295/ 4- अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या-27 / ई०टी०सी०एम० / 2022-2023, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-सम्भल के अर्न्तगत विभिन्न 220 के०वी० एवं 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्रों पर वृक्षारोपण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू०, 1500/- निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रू० 590/ 5- अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या- 28 / ई०टी०सी०एम० / 2022/2023 विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड प्रथम मुरादाबाद के अर्न्तगत विभिन्न 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्रों पर वृक्षारोपण का कार्य धरोहर राशि रू०, 1000/- निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रू० 295/, हस्ता/-अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल-प्रथम, मुरादाबाद। राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें, पत्रांक- 1800 - वि०प०म०मु०/निविदा / 2022-23, दिनांक : 01/06/2022

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Surinder Singh Dahiya, President
Tika Ram Education Society Sonapat

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE No. 05/2022 Dated 27/05/2022
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items:
Tender Closing Time: 14:00 Hrs.
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2 38221398 Stack Adjuster Complete type IRSA 600 275 Nos. 07-06-2022
3 33221076 Speed Sensor for FTRRL 290 Nos. 20-06-2022
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6 30221100 Axle Box Housing Finished 1800 Nos. 20-06-2022
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S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

उ०प्र० पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड ई-निविदा सूचना निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु कार्य / आपूर्ति हेतु ई-निविदाये दो भागों में (जी०एस०टी०) में पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ऑनलाइन ई-निविदा पोर्टल वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त ई-निविदा को स्वीकार/निरस्त करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी को बिना कोई कारण बताये सुरक्षित रहेगा। अन्य नियम/शर्तें विभाग के फार्म ए/बी के अनुसार होंगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखा जा सकता है। निर्धारित तिथि के विस्तार तथा शुद्धि पत्र से संबंधित सूचना यदि कोई होगी तो केवल वेबसाइट पर डाली जाएगी। अतः स्वयं को अपडेट रखने के लिए उपरोक्त वेबसाइट को नियमित देखते रहना चाहिए। ई-निविदा संख्या-02/2022-2023 विद्युत 400 के०वी० उप संस्थान मुरादाबाद पर स्थापित इवेंट लॉगर सिस्टम में ट्रांसफार्मर और लाइन बे नये सिग्नल के इन्टिग्रेशन एवं टेस्टिंग से सम्बन्धित कार्य धरोहर राशि रू० 2000। निविदा शुल्क रू.500.00+18% जी०एस०टी० मात्र। खुलने की तिथि 28-06-2022। अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत 400 के०वी० उप संस्थान खण्ड उ०प्र० पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि०, राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें, पत्रांक- 249 - वि०४००के०वी०उ०प्र०खण्ड (मु०)टी० दिनांक : 01/06/2022

BRIEFLY

BIHAR
Brothers of
ex-BJP MLA
killed in Patna

Patna: In suspected revenge killing, two brothers of former BJP MLA from Arwal, Chitrangan Singh, were killed on Tuesday. Patna police suspected involvement of erstwhile Pandav Sena members are prime suspect in the murder. Police said the incident took place when Shambhu Sharan (32), and Gautam Singh (28) were returning home. Some motorcycle-bound assailants overtook and shot them from close range. Patna SSP Manavjit Singh Dhillon said, "An FIR has been lodged against seven people, who belong to rival gang of Nima village led by Sanjay Singh". **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA
EOW books
BJP's Kamboj
for bank fraud

Mumbai: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Mumbai Police has registered a case of fraud against BJP leader Mohit Kamboj and two others following a complaint by the manager of Indian Overseas Bank. Police said Kamboj, Nissidh Venture Pvt Ltd, where Kamboj is the managing director, Siddhant Bagla, Jitendra Kapoor, public servants, bank officials and others caused a loss of Rs 52.89 crore to the Indian Overseas Bank. **ENS**

ANDHRA PRADESH
BJP national
executive meet
on July 2-3

New Delhi: The BJP is set to hold its national executive for two days starting July 2 in Hyderabad, sources in the party said on Wednesday. It is the key decision-making body of the BJP, which comprises leaders from across the country. All top leaders, including PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president JP Nadra will attend the meeting. **PTI**

MAHARASHTRA
Father Stan
Swamy to be
honoured

Pune: Father Stan Swamy, a Jesuit priest and tribal rights activist from Jharkhand, who was arrested in Bhima Koregaon case and died in July 2021, will get a "special, posthumous homage" at the Martin Ennals Award in Geneva on June 2. The award is regarded as the Nobel Prize for human rights defenders. The winners include Daouda Diallo from Burkina Faso, Pham Doan Trang from Vietnam and Abdul-Hadi Al-Khawaja of Bahrain. **ENS**

MOOSEWALA MURDER

Punjab Police to question jailed gangster Bishnoi, SIT reconstituted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 1

THE PUNJAB Police on Wednesday said it will question jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi after bringing him to the state in connection with the murder of singer-turned-politician Sidhu Moosewala.

According to the police, Bishnoi's gang was behind the killing. At present, Bishnoi is in custody of the Delhi Police's Special Cell in a case under the Arms Act and other sections related to assault on a public servant.

Earlier on Tuesday, Bishnoi had filed a plea before the Delhi High Court, claiming apprehension of a fake encounter by the Punjab Police. On Wednesday, however, he withdrew the plea. His counsel submitted before Justice Swarana Kant Sharma that he wished to withdraw the



Lawrence Bishnoi and Sidhu Moosewala

petition and wanted to file it before the Punjab and Haryana HC.

Meanwhile, to expedite the investigation, the office of Punjab DGP Viresh Kumar Bhawra on Wednesday reconstituted a six-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe Moosewala's murder case. The SIT would be headed by Punjab Armed Police Inspector General Jaskaran Singh as chairperson and would work under the overall supervision of Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anti-Gangsters Task Force (AGTF) Promod Ban.

An official of Punjab AGTF chief said that an inmate each from Ferozepur and Bathinda jails were brought on production warrant by Mansa police in connection with the murder. The official said that Manpreet Singh Manna, who is alleged to have killed another gangster Kulbeer Singh Naruana and his accomplice Chamkaur Singh last year, was brought on production from Ferozepur Jail and another gangster Siraj Mintu who was allegedly involved in the killing of a right wing activist in Amritsar was brought on production warrant from Bathinda jail.

SSP Toora said they have got important leads and are working on it. On whether Mansa police will bring Bishnoi on remand, the SSP said, "Definitely. We have information that the Delhi Police has taken the remand of Bishnoi. After that we will make him join the probe."

'Singer may have sensed danger'

Amritsar: Sidhu Moosewala knew that he was being followed by at least two cars — and had probably sensed some sort of danger — but was not sure till end whether fans or potential assailants were in the vehicles tailing him, the two other occupants in his car, who were injured in the attack, have told police, sources said on Wednesday.

According to a source, the singer's family had earlier been alerted by security agencies about possible threat to him. He kept a loaded weapon with him and was alert when he thought he was being followed, the source said. On Sunday, the source said, he realised he had only three bullets — he also did not expect there would be six attackers, carrying sophisticated weapons. "Moosewala fired in return but in vain." **ENS**

BJP loves to
weaponise pain
of Kashmiri
Pandits: PDPBASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, JUNE 1

THE PEOPLES Democratic Party (PDP) has accused BJP, its former ally, of "weaponising the pain" of Kashmiri Pandits.

Referring to the killing of revenue department official Rahul Bhat in central Kashmir's Budgam district last month and subsequent protests it triggered, PDP said in an article in its monthly newsletter, 'Speak Up', on Tuesday: "...although they love to weaponise the pain of Kashmiri Pandits when it comes to BJP's own agenda, Kashmiri Pandits get teargassed by the police for protesting the killing of Rahul Bhat. Our party president, Mehbooba Mufti, was present under house arrest when she tried to visit the Pandits... Fringe elements have replaced the mainstream that has been criminalised for its belief in the Constitution." The article — "The Saffron Trojan Horse" — called nationalism espoused by BJP as a "Trojan Horse" and said that Kashmiris will "not embrace what they (BJP) force upon us".

Responding to the allegations, BJP's Kashmir media in-charge Manzoor Ahmad Bhat said, "When in government, BJP is nationalist for them and when out of power we are not good for them..."

As teacher is cremated, UT
admin faces protests, angerARUN SHARMA
SAMBHA, SRINAGAR, JUNE 1

A DAY after militants gunned down a school teacher in Kashmir, people in Jammu's Samba district blocked the Pathankot-Jammu national highway, demanding that employees from the division be moved out of the Valley.

Residents and school teachers who came from the Valley raised slogans against the BJP and Union Territory administration amid the hour-long blockade in a district considered a bastion of the party.

"This is a big failure of the government in protecting minorities in Kashmir," said one teacher.

The protesters later lifted the dhama to join the funeral procession for the teacher, Rajni Bala, who was shot dead on Tuesday morning at her school in Kulgam district. She hailed from Samba.

The protesters said that people from Jammu who have been posted in Kashmir — as part of an inter-district appointment scheme under the Scheduled Caste quota — will not return to the Valley until the government is able to ensure their safety.

The Union Territory's administration is already facing pressure from Kashmiri Pandit employees working in Kashmir over the issue of their security, especially after militants killed revenue department employee Rahul Bhat inside



Family members at the funeral of school teacher Rajni Bala, in Samba on Wednesday. ANI

Chadoora tehsil office in Budgam district last month. A number of them have already put in leave applications.

BJP leaders including J&K state chief Ravinder Raina, Lok Sabha member Poonch constituency Jugal Kishore Sharma and former minister Chander Parkash Ganga were greeted with angry slogans as they visited the house of Rajni Bala's in-laws.

"For how long we will continue to get killed there (Kashmir)," asked another, demanding that employees from Jammu be shifted out of the Valley. A similar demand was made before Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar and Additional Director General

of Police Mukesh Singh who also visited the family.

Curbs in parts of
Srinagar amid protests

The J&K Police on Wednesday barricaded the roads around Indira Nagar and Sonawar areas of Srinagar as the Kashmiri Pandit employees protesting against targeted killings by militants warned the administration of "mass migration".

The UT administration set up a "dedicated cell" to redress employees' grievances, officials said. The cell, officials said, would be headed by Additional Secretary (Administration).

WITH INPUTS FROM
ENS SRINAGAR

Shah calls meet to review security situation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

AMID THE spate of civilian killings in the Kashmir Valley, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has called a high-level meeting on June 3 to review the security situation in the Union Territory. Apart from top security officials, J&K LG Manoj Sinha will also attend the meeting.

Only two weeks ago, Shah had held a meeting to review the arrangements for Amamath Yatra



Union Home Minister Amit Shah

and the overall security situation in Jammu and Kashmir. This year, Kashmir Valley has witnessed at least 16 targeted killings, including of police officials, teachers and sarpanches.

The episodes of targeted killings spiked after February

2021, when the son of the proprietor of Krishna Dhaba in Srinagar was shot at inside his restaurant. He succumbed to the gunshot injuries at a hospital two days later.

On October 5, 2021, prominent chemist M L Bindroo was shot dead in his shop, followed by killings of school principal Supinder Kour and teacher Deepak Chand in Sangam.

Last year, 182 militants and at least 35 civilians were killed in the Valley. In at least three cases, labourers from outside J&K were shot at and injured.

Har Ghar Dastak
2.0 begins to
propel Covid-19
vaccinationEXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE HAR Ghar Dastak campaign 2.0 commenced across the country on Wednesday to ensure complete Covid-19 vaccination of all eligible beneficiaries, with special focus on inoculation of those in the 12-14 age group and precaution dose for those above 60. The two-month long door-to-door campaign will run between June 1 and July 31.

The first Har Ghar Dastak campaign was conducted in November last year. So far, 193.6 crore doses have been administered across the country. Nearly 96.3% of those above 15 years of age have received at least one dose and 86.3% have got both the doses of the vaccine. The states have been asked to come up with micro-plans to widen the coverage.

Vaccination has also been slow among children between 12 and 14 for whom the Biological E's Corbevax was cleared in March.

An official from Delhi said, "Initially, there was some hesitation among parents because it was a new vaccine. By the time they became comfortable, the schools had re-opened and vaccination centres on the premises had to be closed... There was also the problem of timing. School children got free at 1 or 2 pm, which is the closing time for dispensaries... All these factors led to slower vaccination among the 12 to 14 years old."

Chhattisgarh: Cong
dist unit joins tribals
against mining projectGARGI VERMA
RAIPUR, JUNE 1

THE CHHATTISGARH Congress's Surguja district unit has joined local residents against its own party's government over the felling of trees in the Hasdeo Aranya forest for mining projects.

An extension of Parsa East Kente Basan (PEKB) coal block and an adjacent coal block in Parsa are to be mined for the Rajasthan government by Adani Enterprises Ltd.

The state forest department started felling trees in the forest on Tuesday. Although the exercise had to stop due to protests by tribal people — they have been holding a vigil in the area for weeks now — nearly 100 trees were cut. The tribal residents of Hasdeo Aranya have

Covid cases cross
1,000 mark in
Maharashtra first
time since FebRUPSA CHAKRABORTY
MUMBAI, JUNE 1

FOR THE first time since February, Maharashtra recorded over 1,000 daily Covid-19 cases on Wednesday. Of the 1,081 infections reported across the state, Mumbai alone recorded 68 per cent of the cases after 739 people tested positive, including 10 in the Dharavi slums.

On Tuesday, Maharashtra had reported 711 cases with Mumbai alone recording 506 infections. Wednesday's figures pushed up active Covid-19 cases to 4,032 in the state. Of them, 2,970 are from Mumbai.

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal on Wednesday asked civic officials to step up vigil, conduct tests on a war-footing and keep the staff of jumbo field hospitals on alert.

There has been nearly three-fold rise in active cases in Maharashtra in the last one month. Health officials anticipate that the spike in cases may continue for the next one or two weeks, especially in cities like Mumbai, Pune and Thane, due to higher mobility for economic compulsions.

Officials attributed several reasons behind the sudden spike in the last one week. Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Additional Chief Secretary Dr Pradeep Vyas said that people are intermingling more and violating Covid-19 guidelines.

"Laxity in following Covid-appropriate behaviour is a contributing reason. Also, it has been observed that people are taking fever and cough symptoms lightly and are not getting tested... Further, variants BA4 and BA5 (of Omicron) are probably causing a rise in cases," he added.

In April, the state government had removed all Covid-19 restrictions in the state. It has been observed that most of the patients who have recently been admitted to hospitals are above 60 years of age and suffer from at least two comorbidities.

Till May 31, 16,36,320 people above the age of 60 years have taken the third vaccine against Covid-19 in Maharashtra.

Dr Pradip Awate, the state surveillance officer, said that many of the elderly people haven't taken the booster dose, which might have weakened their immunity.

Taking note of the gradual rise of cases in Mumbai, Chahal advised more tests and surveillance.

ED attaches PFI
bank accounts
in PMLA caseEXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE ED has provisionally attached around Rs 68.6 lakh lying in different bank accounts belonging to Popular Front of India (PFI), in connection with a money laundering case. The attached assets include 23 bank accounts of PFI having a collective balance of over Rs 59 lakh, and 10 of its frontal organisation Rehab India Foundation (RIF) with a balance of Rs 9.5 lakh.

"Investigation revealed that more than Rs 60 crore were deposited to the accounts of PFI, including more than Rs 30 crore in cash since 2009. Similarly, around Rs 58 crore were deposited in the accounts of RIF since 2010," the ED said in a statement. The PFI on Wednesday said it is reviewing the development and will issue a statement tomorrow (Thursday).

Shivakumar tried to hide illegal cash: ED

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

KARNATAKA CONGRESS leader D K Shivakumar "generated a huge amount of illegal cash" and conspired with his associates to hide the tainted cash, the ED has told a special CBI court.

Special Judge Vikas Dhull took cognizance of the ED chargesheet filed against five accused under Section 3 of PMLA, noting that "all accused persons knowingly assisted pursuant to criminal con-

spiracy in the concealment of proceeds of crime" by projecting it as their lawful business income.

In its chargesheet, ED has alleged that Shivakumar, who held the rank of a Cabinet minister, had "generated a huge amount of illegal and unaccounted cash". The agency claimed that the Congress leader entered into a criminal conspiracy with other co-accused to "hide the tainted cash and evade payment of tax and the said tainted cash was transported from Bangalore to Delhi."

The Income Tax Department

had conducted a search and seizure operation on August 2, 2017 at a house owned by Shivakumar and his associates and claimed to have recovered more than Rs 8.5 crore.

Since a case under Section 120-B (Punishment of criminal conspiracy) was a scheduled offence, ED eventually registered an ECIR, which is akin to a police FIR, in this case.

The ED had arrested Shivakumar on September 3, 2019, in the case. Delhi High Court granted him bail in October 2019.

Singer KK's death: Preliminary
autopsy rules out foul playSANTANU CHOWDHURY &
KHUSHI SINGH
KOLKATA, JUNE 1

AFTER POST-MORTEM examination was conducted on singer KK at the state-run SSKM Hospital, the preliminary autopsy report has ruled out foul play in the death, police sources said on Wednesday. "The exact cause of death will be ascertained after receiving the autopsy report," an officer said.

The preliminary findings of the report also mentioned that the well-known Bollywood singer Krishnakumar Kunnath, popularly known as KK, who died hours after a live concert here on Tuesday, indicated that he died due to cardiac arrest, a senior police officer said on Wednesday. KK was declared dead



A gun-salute for KK in Kolkata on Wednesday. Partha Paul

on arrival by doctors at a hospital.

"The initial report suggested that the singer died because of myocardial infarction. There was no foul play behind his death. Clinical examination also found that the singer was having prolonged cardiac issues," the officer said, adding,

the final report would be available after 72 hours.

Later in the day, KK's mortal remains were taken to Rabindra Sadan where the late singer was accorded a gun salute in the presence of this family, CM Mamata Banerjee and her Cabinet ministers.

Off controversies, KK let his songs speak for him

SUANSHU KHURANA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

Hum rahe ya na rahe kal, kal yaad aayenge ye pal...

In 1999, when this gentle ditty, composed by Leslie Lewis, hit the music channels and music stores, it seemed impossible to box the voice into a strict category. It was not a typical playback-singing voice tailor-made for the hero. This one had the singer peeking inside the composition and expressing it for the listeners.

Debut album by Delhi-based singer named KK, this piece, in an album named 'Pal', was sung gently, in tune, but without the frills and flourishes of a trained vocalist. One heard 'Pyar ke pal', harmonised it with life, and let it stay there for every farewell that followed — of friends, family, unrequited love, and sometimes of

one's favourite artiste.

'Pal' also came with eight other songs but 'Pyar ke pal', 'Yaaron dosti' and 'Aap ki dua' proved KK's brilliance — not just musically, but their innocence and evocative nature had a generation growing up in the 1990s humming gently.

These songs, and so many others in multiple languages, by singer Krishnakumar Kunnath, better known as KK, who died of a cardiac arrest in Kolkata on Tuesday night, often stopped time. His death, at 53, after a college concert, had him at his best. And he sang 'Pyar ke pal' for one last time — it was like life coming full circle.

He is survived by wife Jyothi and two children.

KK grew up in a Malayali family in Delhi; both his parents were fond of music. His grandmother taught music and KK, who studied in Delhi's Kirorimal College

KRISHNAKUMAR
KUNNATH
1968-2021

and was part of the college music society, grew up listening to a wide array of songs — Mohammad Rafi, Kishore Kumar, songs by R D Burman, besides those by Billy Joel and Sting.

He didn't enjoy music lessons as a child and never trained in any form. He wanted to study medi-

cine. A keen ear and power to remember exactly what he heard helped KK chart a path in the world of advertising first. Be it the *Desh ki dhadkan* jingle for Hero Honda, or those for Nerolac and Colgate, his versatile yet unique voice adjusted in these moulds. Music composer Pritam Chakraborty said: "Both of us began with ad jingles... KK was the first singer I signed up. After that, there had been no film where he didn't sing for me..."

While his first film break came with an AR Rahman song in a film titled *Duniya Dihalwan Ki* in 1996, what made KK a household name was *Tadap tadap ke in* Sanjay Leela Bhansali's *Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam* (1999). While KK climbed scales to lift his voice, he followed it with the fun-filled *Koi kahe, kehta rahe* with Shaan in *Dil Chahta Hai* (2001), the evocative *Awarapan* in *Jism* (2003), and the

soulful *Tu aashiqui hai in Jhankaar Beats* (2003). So interesting was his voice that it could sing the street-style 'Tune maari entry...' with as much aplomb as the profound 'Tu hi meri shab hai' in 'Gangster: A Love Story'.

A private person who mostly stayed away from advertising himself, as is the norm in film industry, he mostly stayed out of the public eye and controversies. Instead, his songs spoke for him, and they were mostly paced out.

On stage, he was a live wire — even in Kolkata on Tuesday night, he belted out a long list of his pieces.

For people who listened to him, as deeply as he sang, KK's voice will remain etched as a salute for the soul.

That was KK, overwhelming and yet never, ever overpowering.

WITH INPUTS FROM
RINKU GHOSH

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, Naveen Kumar Gola, S/o- Babu Ram residing at 209/1 G.F., Gali No.10, Bholanath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly-written as Neevan and Babu Lal in my DL.No.P07062002246285. The actual-name of mine and my father are Naveen Kumar Gola and Babu Ram, respectively which may be amended accordingly.

0040616939-10

It is for general information that I, Monika Bansal, D/o- Bhusan Lal, W/o- Madan Lal Bansal, residing at 460/B-2, Mahavir Block, Bholanath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Premlata in my Birth Certificate Prem Lata Gupta in my Educational-Documents Monika alias Premlata in S.A/C The Vaish Cooperative Bank Daryaganj-N.Delhi. The actual-name of mine is Monika Bansal, which may be amended accordingly

0040616939-9

It is for general information I, Mohammed Usman, S/o- Late Shri. Mohammed Shamim R/o- Qrt. No-861, 3rd Floor, Sector-5, Pushp Vihar, MB.Road, New Delhi-110017, inform that in my govt. service book and others Official documents the name spelling of mine and my father's has been wrongly-written as MOHD.USMAN, S/o MOHD.SHAMIM. The actual name spelling of mine & father's is MOHAMMED USMAN S/o-MOHAMMED SHAMIM.

0040616932-5

I, Khazan Singh Gautam S/o, Chunnil Lal, Address: FF-3 plot.no.476 sec-13, Vasundhara Ghaziabad-201012, have changed my name to khazan singh.

0040616939-4

I, Yatin Ahuja S/o Anil Ahuja R/o 789/27 Gandhi Nagar Phatak, Haryana-124001 changed my name to Yatin.

0040616939-2

I, Yatin Ahuja S/o Anil Ahuja R/o 789/27 Gandhi Nagar Phatak, Haryana-124001 changed my name to Yatin.

0040616939-2

I, Vijay Kumar Yadav, S/o-Ramsubhag Yadav, R/o-Mohalla-Quagpur, Near, ARV-Inte-College, Maghar, Sant Kabir Nagar, UP-271273, have changed my name, from Vijay Kumar Ramsubhag Yadav, Yadav Vijay Kumar, to Vijay Kumar Yadav, for all future, purposes.

0040616941-10

I, VIJAY KUMAR BHUTANI S/o. SHANTI SAWROOP R/O. Flat No.836, Milano Tower, Mahagun Moderne, Sector 78, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar-201304 Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to VIJAY KUMAR BHUTANI.

0040616935-10

I, Tahira W/o-Mohammad Aakil Khan, H.No.C-11-35, Raju Park Near-Sainik Farm Khanpur, New Delhi-110062, have changed my Name to Tahira Khan, for all Purposes.

0040616932-3

I, Sweta Negi D/o Dinesh Negi R/o P-10, LIC Jivan Sarita-Colony, Dilshad-Garden, Shahdara, Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Sweta Negi.

0040616941-6

I, Surinder Singh, S/O GURCHARAN SINGH, R/O, H.No.25, Sector-37, Ashoka Enclave-1, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, Have Changed My Name To Surrender Singh For All Future Purposes.

0040616941-2

I, Sunil Shukla S/o Uday Bhan Shukla R/o 515, Pocket-1, Paschim Puri, Delhi-63, have informed that name of my wife has been wrongly-written as kalpana in the School-record and birth-certificate of my minor son Raj Shukla aged 16 years. The actual name of my wife is Shivrani.

0040616932-6

I, Sunil Wadhwa S/O, Inder Jeet Wadhwa R/O, 10/63, West-Punjabi Bagh, Delhi-110026, have changed my name to Sunil Kumar Wadhwa.

0040616932-2

I, Shilpa, D/O-Shri Sahdev Dahiya, R/O-96, Akash Kunj, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Shilpa Dahiya.

0040616935-6

I, Shivani W/O-Somya Kant, R/O, Flat.no 801, Tower-B2, PWO- Apartment, Sector-43, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009, informs that Shiva Mittal is my name before marriage & now my name is Shivani and both are same person.

0040616942-1

I, Shilpa Agarwal, D/o Ghanshyam, R/o 170, 2nd-Floor, Near-Yashroop Hospital, Sector-9, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Shilpa Agarwal.

0040616939-6

I, Shakil Hussain S/o, Mohammad Muzdeen R/O-C-72,72 camp, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Mohammad Shakil, for all purposes.

0040616935-8

I, Sanjay Arora, S/o- Chuni Lal Arora, R/o, A-26, Axis-Bank, Geeta-Colony, Krishna Nagar-Extension, Delhi-110051, declare that Sanjay Arora and Sanjeev Arora are names of one and the same person.

0040616941-5

I, Ritu Girdhar/ Ritu Dhall, W/o-Sohit Kanwar residing-K-1/9, 3rd Floor, Chittaranj Park, Delhi, have changed my name to Ritu Kanwar, for all purposes.

0040616941-9

I, Rajneesh Kumar, S/o Savran Singh, R/O-RZ-31B/230, Gali No-2, J-Block, Dayal Park, West Gurgaon, New Delhi-110046, hereby declare, that I have changed my name, from Rajneesh Kumar Rana, to Rajneesh Kumar.

0040616941-8

I, Rajaisa W/O, Mohammad Shakil, R/O, C-72, TC camp, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Rajaysha, for all purposes.

0040616935-7

I, PRITI HAYNES D/O LATE YUDHA PRATAP JUNG BAHADUR RANA, R/O-1223, KINGSLEY CIR NE, DEKALB ATLANTA, GA 30324-3224 U.S.A. state that my name mentioned in Shri Ram Fibres Limited (SRF Ltd.) shares & debentures as PRITI RANA under Folio No. SF 39553 is my maiden name, while my true and correct name is PRITI HAYNES.

0040616936-6

I, Nima Devi W/o, No. JC539563Y HONYCAP, DALI PS Singh Bisht R/O, E-39, E-Block, Vishwash Park, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59, have changed my name to Neema Bisht vide affidavit dt.01.06.2022, before Delhi

0040616939-3

I, Neha Bachher/ Neha Kaur Bachher D/O, Anil Bhatia, R/O, H.No. B2/239, Block-B2, 2nd-Floor Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Neha Bhatia.

0040616932-1

I, MOHAMMED NADEEM S/O MEHTABUDDIN, R/O 1088 KISHAN GANJTELI WARA AZAD MARKET DELHI-110006, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHAMMAD NADIM.

0040616939-7

I, Jatin Arora, S/O-Ashok Kumar Arora, R/O-House no-8299, Plot no-1, Block no.62, East Park Road, Karol Bagh, Central Delhi-110005, have changed the name of my minor son Ruhaan aged 05 years and he shall hereafter be known as Rishabh Arora.

0040616936-1

I, Jasmeet Singh Alagh S/o Jagmohan Singh, R/O H-1/6 Vikaspuri Delhi have changed my name to Jasmeet Singh.

0040616941-3

I, Ishrat Urvasi Rana, W/O Mr. Aloke Mookerjee R/o Flat No.202, Block-A1, Zion Square, Duler Mapusa, Goa-403507, do hereby inform that that my name mentioned in Shri Ram Fibres Limited (SRF Ltd.) shares & debentures as Ishrat Rana under Folio No. SF 39553 is incorrect, while my true and correct name is Ishrat Urvasi Rana.

0040616936-5

I, Indra Jatinder Singh, W/o Brigadier Jatinder Singh, R/O C-52, Defence Colony, South, Delhi-110024, have changed my name, from Indra Jatinder Singh to Indra Kaur, for all future purposes.

0040616941-7

I, Gurdev Kaur Alagh W/o Jasmeet Singh R/O H-1/6 Vikaspuri Delhi have changed my name to Gurdev Kaur.

0040616941-4

I, GUPHRAN, S/O OSAPH ALL, ADDY-TAJ COLONY, MADARSA ROAD, MASURI, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD UTTAR PRADESH PIN-201302, changed my name to GUPFRAN, permanently.

0040616935-2

I, Eshita Verma, D/O Niren Verma, R/O H.No.2/44, Sector-5, Rajinder-Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, 201005 to have changed my name to shिता Verma, for all purposes.

0040616932-4

I, Dolly Sharma, W/O-Shri Ashok Kumar, R/O-E-1/74, Second Floor, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, inform that my name has been changed from Dolly to Dolly Sharma in the educational certificate of my son, Aditya Sharma.

0040616936-2

I, Dinesh kumar vij S/o Tilak Raj vij R/o A-35, first floor, Kaushambi Ghaziab U.P., have my name change to Dinesh kumar for all purpose.

0040616913-1

I, Dinesh Kumar S/O Gulshan Kharbanda R/O M-19, Gali No-4, New Mahavir Nagar, Tilak Nagar, New-Delhi-110018 Have Changed my Name to Dinesh Kharbanda.

0070788380-1

I, Nimit Jain S/o Satpal Jain R/O B-88-A, Jain Nagar, Karala, Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Naveet Jain

0070788366-1

I, Chetna Kumari D/O Sandeep Kumar, R/o 61, Mubarikpur, Tumbaheri, Jhajjar, Haryana-124109. Declare that Name of My Mother has been wrongly written as Soniya Devi in my 10th Class Certificate No-055487. The actual name of My Mother is Santosh Devi, which may be amended accordingly.

0070788291-1

I, Chetan Singh Bhandari S/o-Eitveer Singh, R/O-A-201, Kh.No.632, Phase-5, Aya-Nagar, South-Delhi-110047, have changed my name to Chetan Singh.

0040616939-5

I, Ashok Kumar, S/O-Late Shri Lal Ram Sharma, R/O-E-1/74, Second Floor, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, inform that my name has been changed from Ashok to Ashok Kumar in the educational certificate of my son, Aditya Sharma.

0040616936-3

I, Aditya P.J.B. Rana, S/O Late Yudh Pratap Jung Bahadur Rana, R/O-D-404, Anand Lok Society, Mayur Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110091 Do hereby inform that that my name mentioned in Shri Ram Fibres Limited (SRF Ltd.) shares & debentures certificates as Aditya Rana under Folio No. SF 39553 is incorrect, while my true and correct name is Aditya P.J.B. Rana.

0040616936-4

I, Uddeshya S/o Sunil Kumar R/O- Pocket B-4, 146-147, Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name from Uddeshya to Uddeshya Sharma for all future purposes.

0040616849-1

I, Swati Suri W/O Saurabh Chadha R/O F-85 Kirti Nagar Delhi have changed my name to Swati Chadha.

0040616941-1

I, Sweta Tiwari D/o Shiv Shankar Tiwari R/O A-115, Sector-70, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name to Shweta Tiwari.

0070788381-1

I, Sunita Kasna, W/O Late Ashok Kishora, D/O Dhanpal Singh, R/O House No-404 Sharfuddinpur Javli, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201102 has changed my name to Sunita for all future purposes.

0070788322-1

I, Sanjeev Rohila, aged 47 years, S/o Ram Avtar Singh & Maya Devi R/o Top Floor, 11/22/2 Unit-2, Khirki Extension, New Delhi-110017, India, have changed my son's name from SIDDHANT to SIDDHANT ROHILA for all future purposes. His Date of Birth is : 22.07.2007.

0040616880-1

I, Sandeep S/O Jagdish Kumar R/O B-105, Khasra, No-11/12, 11-19 Raveej Nagar, Begumpur, Delhi-86 have changed my name to Sandeep Thakral for all future purposes.

0070788373-1

I, Ravi Kant Chawla, son of Ramji Das Chawla residing at 203 First Floor, Surya Niketan, Delhi-110092 declares that Ravi Kant Chawla and Ravi Chawla both are one and same person vide affidavit no IN-DL40485530005826J dated 1-June-2022.

0040616847-3

I, Rajat S/O Harish Kumar, R/O N-174, Gali NO-9, Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-110018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rajat Rehria.

0070788293-1

I, RADHIKA KAPOOR MITRA D/O MADAN LAL KAPOOR, Ex. W/O MICHAEL MITRA, R/O Block-18, Flat No- 308, Heritage City, M G Road, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002, declare that I got divorce from my husband, vide Court Decree No. IDA No. 09/21, dated 31/08/2021 further I have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RADHIKA KAPOOR.

0070788284-2

I, Naresh Modi alias Naresh Kumar Modi S/O Juna ram Gupta, R/O H No-88, Pocket-A-8, Ground Floor Kalkaji Extn, New Delhi, Ai, Delhi- 110019, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Naresh Kumar Gupta.

0070788299-1

I, Molly A.K. W/o Mr. Kamal Kishore, R/O A-7C, DDA Flats, A-Block, Vishal Kunj, New Delhi-110027 has changed my name from Molly A.K. to Anjali Kishore for all future purposes.

0040616935-5

I, KANIKA ANAND wife of GUNJAN KAPOOR residing at 4A/15, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI-110018 has changed my minor Son's name from RIAN ANAND to RIAN KAPOOR for all future purpose.

0040616847-2

I, KANIKA ANAND wife of GUNJAN KAPOOR residing at 4A/15, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI-110018 has changed my name to KANIKA KAPOOR for all future purpose.

0040616847-1

I, Harsh Mohan S/O Kanhaiya Lal Balooni R/O 1615, Sector-37, Noida, UP, have changed my name to Harsh Mohan Balooni for all future purposes.

0040616844-1

I, Dev Kumar Diwaker S/o Ramvir R/o-608, Chour Sadatpur, sec-22, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name to Dev Kumar.

0070788380-1

I, Nimit Jain S/o Satpal Jain R/O B-88-A, Jain Nagar, Karala, Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Naveet Jain

0070788366-1

I, Chetna Kumari D/O Sandeep Kumar, R/o 61, Mubarikpur, Tumbaheri, Jhajjar, Haryana-124109. Declare that Name of My Mother has been wrongly written as Soniya Devi in my 10th Class Certificate No-055487. The actual name of My Mother is Santosh Devi, which may be amended accordingly.

0070788291-1

I, Divya Gour, W/o Shri Himanshu Bhardwaj, R/O Flat No. A-49, Welcome Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 do hereby solemnly inform that Divya Gour and Divya Bhardwaj both are one and same person.

0040616941-1

I, Ved Parkash Bhardwaj, S/o Late Shri Jawahar Lal Sharma, R/O Flat No. A-49, Welcome Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 do hereby solemnly inform that in my son's documents my name is mentioned as Ved Prakash Bhardwaj instead of Ved Parkash Bhardwaj. Ved Parkash Bhardwaj and Ved Prakash Bhardwaj both are one and same person.

0040616941-2

I, Brijesh Narayan Singh S/O Purushottam Singh, R/O 1817, Block D, Omaxe City, Morthal Khasra(91), Sonapat, Haryana-131039 have changed the name of my minor daughter Tanvi Brijesh Singh aged about 13 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Ojassvini Singh

0070788296-1

I, Bipin Kumar S/O Surendra Singh, R/O H. NO-50, Agrra Road, Saray Dayaneth, Etawah, Uttar Pradesh- 206001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Abhay Rajput.

0070788298-1

I, Asha D/O Mahendra Singh R/O B-140, Sector-22, Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar, have changed my name to Asha Singh for all future purpose.

0070788367-1

I, Abhishek Kumar S/o Shri Kishore Chander Surma R/o Flat.No-J-1439, Gaur Sportswood Apartment, Sector-79, Noida, GautamBuddh Nagar, U.P.-201301, have changed my name to Abhishek Kumar Surma for all future purposes.

0070788372-1

I, ANIL KUMAR SHARMA S/O Naresh Chandra Sharma R/O P-104, Gali No-6, Shankar Nagar Extension, Delhi-110051 have changed my name to ANIL KUMAR for all future purposes.

0040616516-1

I, Sudesh Kumar S/O Sh. Banwari Lal R/O F-47, Ground Floor, DESU Colony, Tripolia, Rana Pratap Bagh, North Delhi, Delhi-110007 have changed the name of my minor son from Bhavya to Bhavyansh Rohlan for all purposes.

0040616800-2

I, Sudesh Kumar S/O Sh. Banwari Lal R/O F-47, Ground Floor, DESU Colony, Tripolia, Rana Pratap Bagh, North Delhi, Delhi-110007 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Mananya Arya to Mananya Rohlan for all purposes.

0040616800-1

I, Raju S/o Late Sh. Deewhan Chand R/O H.No.A-94, Gali No.3, Karan Vihar Part-3, Near Mangal Bazar Road, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Nithari, North West Delhi, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to Raju Garg for all purposes.

0040616800-4

I, Priyanka Kaushik w/o Sitanshu Sharma r/o D-12 Green Park, Delhi-110016 have changed my name to Priyanka Sharma.

0040616850-1

I, Nitender Yadav S/o Sh. Khajan Singh Yadav R/O Plot No.3, Street No.C-2.1, Sector-82-A, Vaidia India Next, Gurgaon, Haryana-122004 have changed the name of my minor son from Vivaan Rao to Veer Rao for all purposes.

0040616800-3

I, Kshangoor S/o Shri Sammaideen R/O C-3/701, Gali No.12,22, pista, circular Road, Sonia Vihar, karwal nagar, North east delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Chhangoor, use for all purpose in future.

0040616803-1

I, Sukhvir Singh, S/O Bhikari Singh, R/O A-15, Gali No-1, Harit-Vihar Burari, New Delhi-110084, Have Changed My Name To Sukhviri Purposes.

0040616935-5

I, SHAMEEN, D/O, ARIF ALI KHAN ADD-157, FIRST-FLOOR, POCKET-2, JASOLA-VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110025, Changed my name to SHAMEEN ARIF, for all, future Purposes.

0040616939-8

I, RUBI W/O, BINOD KUMAR, ADD-A.BLOCK, GALI, NO-6, H.No- 294, PART-5 SONIA-VIHAR, NORTH-EAST DELHI-110094, changed my name to KUMARI RUBI, permanently.

0040616935-1

I, Jai kumar Tanwar, S/O Buddha Ram R/O House. No-50, Kahia-Mohalla Fateh-Pur Beri, Delhi-110074, Have Changed My Name To Jai Kumar, For All, Future Purposes.

0040616935-4

I, Prabhakar Reddy, S/O Chandra Reddy, R/O, U-322, Second-Floor, Chirag-Delhi, Malviya-Nagar, New-Delhi-110017, Have Changed My Name To Prabhakar Reddy Pagilla, For All, Future Purposes.

0040616935-3

I, Divya Gour, W/o Shri Himanshu Bhardwaj, R/O Flat No. A-49, Welcome Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 do hereby solemnly inform that Divya Gour and Divya Bhardwaj both are one and same person.

0040616941-1

I, Ved Parkash Bhardwaj, S/o Late Shri Jawahar Lal Sharma, R/O Flat No. A-49, Welcome Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 do hereby solemnly inform that in my son's documents my name is mentioned as Ved Prakash Bhardwaj instead of Ved Parkash Bhardwaj. Ved Parkash Bhardwaj and Ved Prakash Bhardwaj both are one and same person.

004061694



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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

EVERYDAY ECONOMY

WHAT ARE UNICORN STARTUPS, WHOSE GROWTH PM HAS HIGHLIGHTED?

SAURABH KAPOOR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Sunday praised India's startup ecosystem as he highlighted that the country has reached a landmark figure of 100 unicorns with a valuation of more than \$300 billion.

WHAT IT MEANS: Unicorns are privately held, venture-capital backed startups that have reached a value of \$1 billion. The valuation of unicorns is not expressly linked to their current financial performance, but largely based on their growth potential as perceived by investors and venture capitalists who have taken part in various funding rounds.

American venture capitalist Aileen Lee is credited with coining the term in 2013. It was used to emphasise the rarity of the emergence of such startups. In an article written for Techcrunch, "Welcome To The Unicorn Club: Learning from Billion-Dollar Startups", Lee looked at US-based tech companies started since January 2003, to understand — "How likely is it for a startup to achieve a billion-dollar valuation?" She wrote: "We found 39 companies belong to what we call the 'Unicorn Club' (by our definition, US-based software companies started since 2003 and valued at over \$1 billion by public or private market investors). That's about .07 percent of venture-backed consumer and enterprise software startups."

NO LONGER RARE: From the time the term was first used, it has become more

common for startups to bag the unicorn tag, but the \$1 billion valuation still gets industry attention, and is considered an impressive achievement. According to PitchBook, a financial data and software company, a convergence of private and market funding is allowing more unicorns to emerge, faster.

UNICORNS IN INDIA: During his recent 'Mann Ki Baat' radio address, PM Modi said a record 44 unicorns were established in India last year during the pandemic. "Not only that, 14 more unicorns were formed in three-four months this year. This means that even in this phase of the global pandemic, our startups have been creating wealth and value," he said.

According to Invest India, the government's National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency, "The year 2021, 2020, and 2019 saw the birth of the maximum number of Indian unicorns with 44, 11, and 7 unicorns coming each year, respectively." It adds that between 2015 and 2021, the country's startup ecosystem has seen a nine-time increase in the number of investors, and a seven-time increase in the total funding of startups.

"We are gradually transitioning from the age of unicorns to the age of decacorns. A decacorn is a company that has attained a valuation of more than USD10 billion. As of May 2022, 47 companies world over have achieved the decacorn status. India has four startups namely, Flipkart, BYJU's, Nykaa and Swiggy, added in the decacorn cohort," Invest India says on its website.

Why Neptune and Uranus appear in different colours

NEPTUNE AND Uranus have much in common — they have similar masses, sizes, and atmospheric compositions — yet their appearances are in different shades of blue. At visible wavelengths, Neptune is a rich, deep azure hue, while Uranus is a distinctly pale shade of cyan. Astronomers now have an explanation for why the two planets are different colours.

One reason why this difference had not been explained so far was the absence of similar data for comparison. Previous studies of the spectrum of each planet concentrated on individual wavelength regions. In the new comparison, researchers have developed a single atmospheric model that matches observations of both planets from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, as well as the Gemini North telescope and the NASA Infrared Telescope Facility. The model shows that the haze around Uranus is thicker than that around Neptune, the researchers have reported in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets*.

Uranus's stagnant, sluggish atmosphere and makes it appear a lighter tone than Neptune. If there was no haze in the atmospheres of Neptune and Uranus, both would appear almost equally blue as a result of blue light being scattered in their atmospheres, a release on the ESA Hubble website explained.



Hubble images of Uranus (left, October 25, 2021) and Neptune (September 7, 2021). NASA, ESA, A Simon, M H Wong, OPAL team

scribes three aerosol layers in the atmospheres of Neptune and Uranus. The key layer that affects the colours is the middle layer, which is a layer of haze particles that is thicker on Uranus than on Neptune. The team suggests that, on both planets, methane ice condenses onto the particles in this layer, pulling the particles deeper into the atmosphere. Because Neptune has a more active, turbulent atmosphere than Uranus does, the team believes Neptune's atmosphere is more efficient at churning up methane particles into the haze layer. This removes more of the haze and keeps Neptune's haze layer thinner than it is on Uranus, with the result that the blue colour of Neptune looks stronger.



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

The case for six airbags

Manufacturers say the govt plan will make cars more expensive, and will require the re-engineering of vehicles. But experts say the cost argument may not be accurate — and in any case, lives are priceless.

ANIL SASI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

MARUTI SUZUKI, India's top carmaker, wants the government to review a proposal to make six airbags mandatory in passenger vehicles, citing its impact on the price-sensitive entry-level car segment, which has been facing a slide in sales over the last four years, and where the Japanese car major has a significant market presence.

The reiteration of this demand by Maruti Suzuki Chairman RCBhargava comes days after the country's second largest carmaker Hyundai Motor decided to pull the plug on its new Santro in the wake of declining sales and the new safety norms that are likely to come into effect later this year. The changes required to reconfigure the hatchback with six airbags was seen as an unviable proposition.

What are the new safety norms?

On January 14 this year, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari tweeted: "In order to enhance the safety of the occupants in motor vehicles carrying up to 8 passengers, I have now approved a Draft GSR Notification to make a minimum of 6 Airbags compulsory."

No timelines were mentioned then, but Gadkari had in August last year urged all automakers in India to offer at least six airbags as standard equipment on all variants of all models. Dual airbags (driver and passenger) became mandatory on all vehicles this January. A driver airbag has been compulsory for all passenger vehicles since July 1, 2019.

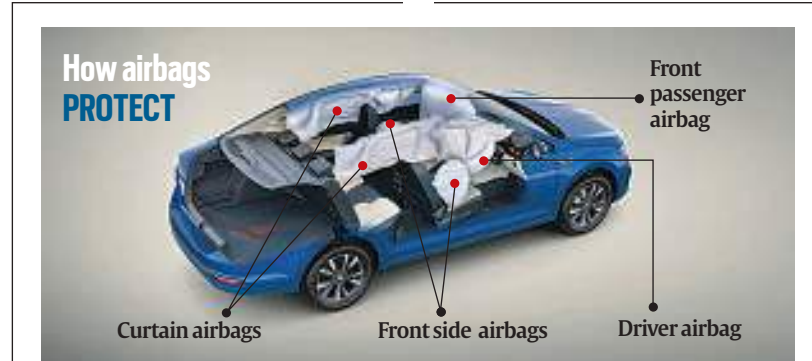
What type of vehicles are covered by the proposed mandate on six airbags?

Additional airbags are proposed in the 'M1' category of vehicles, with the aim of minimising the impact of "frontal and lateral collisions" to the occupants of both the front and rear compartments. As per the proposal, two side or side torso airbags, and two side curtain or tube airbags covering all outboard passengers, will be made mandatory.

And what is an 'M1' vehicle?

Under the government's homologation rules, vehicles are bucketed into broad categories. 'Category M' covers motor vehicles with at least four wheels, used for carrying passengers. Sub-category 'M1' defines "a motor vehicle used for the carriage of passengers, comprising not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat".

This category effectively subsumes the bulk of the passenger vehicles on India's roads — from entry-level hatchbacks such as the Suzuki Alto or Hyundai Santro to multi-utility vehicles such as the Toyota Innova or Kia Carnival. These vehicles are employed mostly for private use, alongside some commercial use by fleet operators.



Source: Skoda Auto



WITHOUT AIRBAG

In case of a collision, the body can slam into the hard metal, glass, or plastic of the vehicle directly. The force of the impact is usually concentrated over a small area of the body, and can cause serious injuries.



WITH AIRBAG

An airbag softens the impact of a collision by keeping an occupant from coming into contact with the steering wheel, dashboard, front glass etc., and by distributing the impact over a larger area of the body.

What exactly is homologation?

Homologation is the process of certifying that a particular vehicle is roadworthy, and matches certain specified criteria laid down by the government for all vehicles that are built or imported into the country. Tests are done to ensure the vehicle matches the requirements of the Indian market in terms of emissions, and safety and roadworthiness, as laid down by the Central Motor Vehicle Rules.

But why do vehicles need more airbags?

Airbags soften the impact of collisions by keeping occupants from coming into contact with the steering wheel, dashboard, front glass, and other parts of the automobile. Airbags are literally a question of life and death: the US government agency National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimated that from 1987 to 2017, just frontal airbags saved 50,457 lives in that country.

India's record on road security is among the poorest in the world, and Indian cars are famously behind the curve when it comes to offering safety features. This is especially glaring when comparisons are made with models offered by manufacturers in other global markets, including those made by carmakers operating in India.

Companies that sell the same car model in global markets choose to cut down on some key security features when they launch in India's price-sensitive market.

What could be the challenges in implementing the proposed mandate?

Pricing will be a key challenge: more airbags as standard equipment will inevitably drive up the cost of vehicles, including those on the budget end of the market.

A frontal airbag in an entry-level car typically costs between Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000, and side and curtain airbags could cost more than double that. Most carmakers in India that offer six airbags only do so in top-end models, and in variants that cost upward of Rs 10 lakh.

Manufacturers have also flagged that a number of entry-level models are specifically designed for markets such as India, and that installing additional airbags will involve considerable re-engineering, including making modifications to the body shell and the inside compartment. This was seen as a deterrent in the Santro's case.

Then there is the timing. India's auto industry is currently transitioning to stricter BS6 emission norms, and implementing the new Corporate Average Fuel Economy or CAFE norms, both of which have cost implications.

So what is the car manufacturers' argument here?

Manufacturers argue that consumers get what they pay for, and very few buyers in the budget category want to shell out more for a safer car.

When Maruti Suzuki drew up the prefer-

ences of Indian car buyers — tabulated over time from enquiries made at the point of purchase — it found safety features such as ABS (anti-lock brake system) and airbags came in at eighth position, far behind bells and whistles such as air conditioning, power windows, and central locking.

Executives at the company say that driver-seat airbags were offered in the top variant of the Wagon-R, but the model had to be withdrawn due to the lack of interest among consumers.

And what is the counter-argument?

Safety experts say that safety features such as twin airbags, ABS and rear wipers would only add up to Rs 25,000 to the cost of the car. It is only because they are not mandatory that manufacturers provide these features only in top-end versions of cars, and bundle them with other features, thereby making the vehicle costlier by about Rs 1.20 lakh or more.

In effect, this deprives Indian car buyers of variants that have these essential safety features.

What are the rules on airbags elsewhere in the world?

In the United States, front airbags are required by law in all cars. But most carmakers offer between six and 10 airbags, depending on the model, primarily to score higher in crash test results from agencies like the NHTSA and the private nonprofit Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). No vehicle without head-protecting side airbags has ever earned a top rating in the IIHS's side crash test.

The US government amended its Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 208 (FMVSS 208) back in 1984 to require cars produced after April 1, 1989 to be equipped with a passive restraint for the driver, with an airbag or a seat belt meeting the requirements of the standard.

Airbag introduction was stimulated by the NHTSA, and was subsequently made mandatory for passenger vehicles and light trucks in 1997.

In 1998, FMVSS 208 was amended to require dual front airbags and, subsequently, second-generation airbags were mandated.

Some countries outside North America adhere to internationalised European ECE vehicle and equipment regulations instead of US standards. ECE airbags are generally smaller and inflate less forcefully than the airbags that are offered in the US, because the ECE specifications are based on belted crash test dummies.

Almost every new car sold in Europe is equipped with front and side airbags. In the EU and in the United Kingdom, there is no direct legal requirement for new cars to feature airbags. But again, most variants are equipped with at least 4-6 airbags, primarily to comply with crash test norms, and to score higher on the safety count.

THIS WORD MEANS: LIQUID NANO UREA

How this fertiliser differs from conventional urea

AVINASH NAIR
AHMEDABAD, JUNE 1

LAST WEEK, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the country's first liquid nano urea plant in Kalol, Gujarat. This patented product is expected to substitute imported urea and produce better results in farms.

COST EFFECTIVE: The liquid nano urea produced by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) comes in a half-litre bottle priced at Rs 240, without any subsidy at present. In contrast, a farmer pays around Rs 300 for a 50-kg bag of heavily subsidised urea. The government's fertiliser subsidy payout this financial year will be Rs 2 lakh crore.

According to IFFCO, a bottle of nano urea can effectively replace at least one bag of conventional urea. "The international market price of a bag of urea is between Rs 3,500 and Rs 4,000, and significant quantities are imported," said Alok Jaiswal, senior manager (process), and operations head of IFFCO's liquid nano urea plant. The product has been developed at IFFCO's Nano Biotechnology Research Centre (NBRC) in Kalol, Gujarat.

HOW IT WORKS: Urea artificially provides nitrogen to plants. Liquid nano urea, which contains 4% nitrogen by volume, comes in the form of a nanoparticle.

The efficiency of liquid nano urea can be 85-90%, compared to 25% for conventional urea. Conventional urea is often applied incor-

rectly, and the nitrogen in it is vaporised or lost as gas. A lot of nitrogen is also washed away during irrigation. Liquid nano urea is sprayed directly on the leaves and gets absorbed by the plant. IFFCO advises that 2-4 ml of nano urea should be mixed a litre of water and sprayed on crop leaves at active growth stages.

Liquid nano urea has a shelf life of a year, and farmers need not worry about "caking" when it comes in contact with moisture. IFFCO says the product has been tested on more than 90 crops across 11,000 locations in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendras of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR-KVKs), research institutes, state agriculture universities, and progressive farmers.

Apart from reducing the country's subsidy

bill, it is aimed at reducing the unbalanced and indiscriminate use of conventional urea, increase crop productivity, and reduce soil, water, and air pollution.

FUTURE OF PRODUCTION: IFFCO commissioned the Kalol liquid nano urea plant, the country's first, in August 2021. Over 3.6 crore bottles of this urea have been produced, of which 2.5 crore have been sold.

IFFCO is setting up additional facilities for production of nano fertilisers in Aonla, Phulpur, Bengaluru, Paradeep, Kandla, Deogarh and Guwahati, besides expanding the Kalol plant, for the production of nano urea, nano DAP and nano micronutrients. These units will have a production capacity of 2 lakh bottles per day.

How a heart attack happens, who is vulnerable, and how to reduce risk

SOHINI GHOSH
AHMEDABAD, JUNE 1

IMMEDIATELY BEFORE his death in Kolkata on Tuesday evening, singer KK, 53, had performed on stage, and seemed in good health, although he did complain of uneasiness. He appears to have suffered a heart attack — what is known in medical terms as myocardial infarction (MI) — that triggered cardiac arrest (when the heart stops pumping blood and normal breathing stops).

What happens during an MI?

MI, commonly known as a heart attack, is caused by a reduction or stoppage of blood flow to a portion of the heart muscles (myocardium) in the middle layer of the heart wall. These muscles are responsible for keeping the heart pumping blood.

When the coronary artery is obstructed, the supply of oxygen-rich blood to the heart

muscles is cut off. Prolonged deprivation of oxygen-rich blood can result in cell death or damage to the heart muscles.

"When we are born, our arteries are smooth and elastic, resulting in very good blood flow. Over time, cholesterol is deposited on the inside of arteries... The major triggers are age, chronic health conditions, and comorbidities like diabetes, cholesterol, high blood pressure, tobacco use, stress, a sedentary lifestyle, and genetics," said interventional cardiologist Dr Sameer Dani, CEO of Ahmedabad's Apollo CVHF Heart Institute.

"Due to continuous cholesterol deposition on the arterial walls, a crack appears in the inner lining of the heart muscle, causing the blood to clot. The moment this obstructs the artery, a heart attack occurs. So, although the causative process is gradual, the heart attack itself happens suddenly," he said.

A heart attack manifests itself through some discomfort, such as chest pain, which

PREVENTIVE CHECKLIST



Singer KK's death appears to have followed a heart attack... PTI

can spread to the neck, jaw, shoulder, or arm.

To what extent does family history make one vulnerable to a heart attack?

Dr Dani said the risk of a heart attack in

5 THINGS TO FOLLOW

- Ensure regular exercise, eat fruits and vegetables
- Get a full cardiac check-up done annually
- Periodically monitor your blood sugar, cholesterol, blood pressure etc, and keep them in check
- Eliminate stress
- Go for cardiac imaging if you are in high-risk group

with a balanced diet. Yet, such an individual will always face a higher risk of a heart attack than an individual with no risk factor and no family history.

Dr Dani recommends that individuals with a family history of heart attacks must start early with periodic health check-ups, say from the age of 20-25, and with taking care of other risk factors.

Are all heart attacks MI?

All heart attacks are basically MI, Dr Dani said, but there are some subsets. One is sudden cardiac death or sudden cardiac arrest.

"Sudden cardiac arrest happens 80-90% of the time due to a heart attack, but in about 15-20% of the cases, it happens without a heart attack or stoppage of heart function. This explains the death of some athletes. This happens because the heart suddenly becomes irregular in pumping blood — either because the heart muscles have become thick and need more blood

supply, or because there is electrical instability in some parts of the heart muscles," Dr Dani said.

Why do some people survive heart attacks and some don't?

A person can suffer a "silent" heart attack, which goes undetected at the time it happens as there is no manifestation of usual symptoms and is only detected in the form of unusual heart activity reported in an ECGs. "This happens when the arteries are narrowing very slowly and more commonly seen in diabetics, but it can happen to anybody," Dr Dani said.

That chances of survival after a heart attack depend on a couple of factors. "One, if there is very large heart muscle damage, which is dependent on which artery is blocked, the chances of death are high. Second is, if you have an active lifestyle, you are more likely to survive a heart attack," Dr Dani said.



JAMAICA LEGISLATOR TO PARLIAMENT

'NAME BOB MARLEY A NATIONAL HERO'

Jamaican legislator is asking the country's Parliament to name reggae legend Bob Marley a national hero. The proposal by lawmaker Lisa Hanna would make the iconic singer a national hero, a title already held by seven Jamaicans, including Black nationalist leader Marcus Garvey and nation's first PM Alexander Bustamante.

TOP OF THE WORLD



Tesla CEO Elon Musk

Musk memo to Tesla staff: Return to office or leave company

TESLA INC Chief Executive Elon Musk has asked employees to return to office or leave the company, according to a memo sent to staff that has been circulating on social media. "Anyone who wishes to do remote work must be in the office for a minimum (and I mean minimum) of 40 hours per week or depart Tesla," the memo said. Reuters could not verify the authenticity of the memo. Tesla did not respond to a request for comment. Musk could not be reached for comment. In response to the memo that was tweeted from an unverified account, the billionaire, said, "They should pretend to work somewhere else." REUTERS

PALESTINE

Israeli troops kill woman in West Bank

Hebron: A knife-wielding Palestinian woman threatened an Israeli soldier in the occupied West Bank and was shot dead on Wednesday, the Army said, an account that was disputed by Palestinian officials. In a statement, the Israeli Army said "an assailant armed with a knife advanced toward an IDF (Israel Defence Force) soldier who was conducting routine security activity" near Al Aroub village. "The soldiers responded with live fire," it said. A hospital in the nearby Palestinian city of Hebron confirmed woman's death. REUTERS

AUSTRALIA

PM appoints record 13 women cabinet ministers

Canberra: Australia's new government sworn in Wednesday includes a record 13 women, including the first woman Muslim to serve in the role and the second Indigenous person named Indigenous Affairs minister. The ceremony conducted by Governor-General David Hurley in Canberra, came 11 days after new PM Anthony Albanese led the center-left Labour Party to an election victory. "Proud to lead an inclusive government that is as diverse as Australia itself," Albanese tweeted. "Welcome to all these new Labour members." AP

GERMANY PROMISES MISSILE DEFENCE SYSTEM, RADAR EQUIPMENT

US to send precision rockets to Ukraine

Moscow says Washington pouring fuel on the fire

AGENCIES
KYIV, JUNE 1

RUSSIAN FORCES on Wednesday pressed closer to the centre of an industrial city in a drive to grab a swathe of eastern Ukraine, while the United States said it would supply advanced rockets to Kyiv to help force Moscow to negotiate an end to the war.

President Joe Biden announced the supply of precision rocket systems and munitions that could strike at long-range Russian targets, part of a \$700 million weapons package expected to be unveiled on Wednesday. Germany also announced that it will supply Ukraine with modern anti-aircraft missiles and radar systems. "We have moved quickly to send Ukraine a significant amount of weaponry and ammunition so it can fight on the battle-



A building damaged by an overnight missile strike in Sloviansk, Ukraine, on Wednesday. AP

field and be in the strongest possible position at the negotiating table," Biden wrote in an opinion piece in the *New York Times*.

A senior Biden administration official said the new supplies, which come on top of billions of dollars worth of equipment such as drones and anti-aircraft missiles, included the M142 High Mobility Artillery

Rocket System (HIMARS), which Kyiv has said is "crucial" to counter Russian missile attacks

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz told lawmakers that the surface-to-air IRIS-T SLM missiles it will send are the most modern air defence system the country has. They can operate at longer ranges than the Cold War-era anti-aircraft vehicles it has

previously provided.

The Kremlin spokesman, meanwhile, told reporters Wednesday that the US is "pouring fuel on the fire." "We believe that the US is purposefully and diligently adding fuel to the fire," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters, adding that such supplies would not encourage Ukraine's leadership to

EXPLAINED What is HIMARS

UKRAINE WILL receive High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS, which is mounted on a truck and can carry a container with six rockets. The system can launch a medium-range rocket, which is the current plan, but is also capable of firing a longer-range missile, the Army Tactical Missile System, which has a range of about 300 km and is not part of the plan.

Kremlin: Talks with Zelenskyy possible, but negotiations stalled

REUTERS
JUNE 1

RUSSIA SAID on Wednesday that it did not rule out a meeting between President Vladimir Putin and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy, but that any such talks needed to be prepared in advance.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters in a call that work on a peace document with Ukraine had stopped a long time ago and had not restarted.

Peskov said that people in the Russian-occupied Ukrainian regions of Kherson, Zaporizhzhia and Donbas must decide their own futures and the Kremlin did not doubt they would make the "best decision". Ukraine has previously said that annexation of the regions by Russia would end peace talks between the two sides.

Johnson forced to explain actions in fresh partygate row

ADITI KHANNA
LONDON, JUNE 1

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson has been forced to explain, by his independent ethics adviser, why he believed that the partygate fine slapped on him by the police did not breach the country's Ministerial Code.



Boris Johnson

Lord Christopher Geidt, who reports directly to the Prime Minister in an advisory capacity, said in an annual report on ministerial interests released on Tuesday that a "legitimate question" has arisen as to the fixed penalty notice issued by the Metropolitan Police over a Covid lockdown-breaching birthday party at Downing Street in June 2020.

The report notes that Johnson must set out his "case in public". "I did not consider that the circumstances in which I received a fixed-penalty notice were contrary to the regulations," Johnson said in a letter of explanation to Geidt, which has been made public.

"I have accepted the outcome and paid it in compliance with legal requirements. Paying a fixed-penalty notice is not a criminal conviction," he said. PTI

FBI chief says blocked planned cyberattack on kids' hospital

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON, JUNE 1

THE FBI THWARTED a planned cyberattack on a children's hospital in Boston that was to have been carried out by hackers sponsored by the Iranian government, FBI Director Christopher Wray said Wednesday.

Wray told a Boston College cybersecurity conference that his agents learned of the planned digital attack from an unspecified intelligence partner and got Boston Children's Hospital the information it needed last summer to block what would have been "one of the most despicable cyberattacks I've seen."

"And quick actions by everyone involved protected both the network and the sick kids who depended on it," Wray said. The FBI chief recounted that anecdote in a broader speech about ongoing cyber threats from Russia, China and Iran and the need for partnerships between the US and the private sector.

He said the bureau and Boston Children's Hospital had worked closely together after a hacker attacked the hospital's computer network in 2014. Martin Gotesfeld launched a cyberattack at the hospital to protest the care of a teenager at the center of a high-profile custody battle and later was sentenced to 10 years in prison. The attack against the hospital and a treatment home cost the facilities thousands of dollars and disrupted operations for days.

Cosby faces sexual abuse charges again as civil trial opens

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SANTA MONICA, JUNE 1

BILL COSBY will again be facing sexual abuse allegations Wednesday as attorneys give opening statements in a civil trial that's one of the last remaining legal claims against the comedian.

Lawyers for 64-year-old Judy Huth will outline the evidence they plan to present that Cosby forced her to perform a sex act at the Playboy Mansion in 1975 when she was 16 years old. The case will hinge on the testimony of Huth, bolstered by photos and other archival exhibits to place the incident in time.

Cosby's attorneys, who say no sexual abuse happened, are likely to emphasize that the burden of proving the nearly 50-year-old case lies entirely with the plaintiffs. They have acknowledged that Cosby took Huth to the Playboy Mansion, as a photo from the visit shows, but say they believe she was not a minor when it happened.

The trial is one of the last cases Cosby, 85, faces after a



Bill Cosby. AP

Pennsylvania appeals court threw out his criminal sexual assault conviction and freed him from prison 11 months ago. Several other lawsuits alleging sexual misconduct were settled by his insurer against his will.

Cosby will not testify after the judge ruled that he could assert his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination. And he has no plans to leave his Pennsylvania home to attend the trial, which is taking place at a small courthouse in Santa Monica. Cosby's representatives say glaucoma has left him blind and made travel too difficult.

Earthquake in China's Sichuan kills 4, injures 14

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, CHENGDU, JUNE 1

FOUR PEOPLE were killed and 14 others injured after a powerful earthquake of 6.1-magnitude jolted the city of Ya'an in southwest China's Sichuan province on Wednesday afternoon, according to the city's earthquake relief headquarters.

The quake rattled Lushan County of Ya'an in Sichuan at 5:00 pm local time, according to the China Earthquake Networks

Centre (CENC). The epicentre, with a depth of 17 km, was monitored at 30.4 degrees north latitude and 102.9 degrees east longitude, the CENC said. Sichuan province suffered China's deadliest 7.9-magnitude earthquake in 2008 in which 90,000 people were killed

Wednesday's earthquake was followed by another 4.5-magnitude jolt in Baoxing County, also under the city of Ya'an. Four people were killed and 14 others injured in the quake, the state-run People's Daily reported. PTI



People stand in line to buy domestic gas tanks in Colombo on Wednesday. Reuters

Agri minister seeks India's help to fight food shortage

Colombo: Sri Lankan agricultural minister Mahinda Amaraweera on Wednesday met Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay and sought India's help for food security and environmental protection in the island nation, as it faces the worst economic crisis in its post-independence history.

Last month, India assured Sri Lanka to supply 65,000 metric tonnes of urea to avoid any disruption to the current Yala cultivation season in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lankan Agriculture Minister Amaraweera met Indian High Commissioner Baglay and they had discussed the importance of bilateral co-operation for food security and environmental protection, a statement from the High Commission said. PTI

Lanka seeking \$3 bn under IMF Extended Fund Facility: Report

REUTERS
COLOMBO, LONDON, JUNE 1

SRI LANKA is in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to borrow at least \$3 billion via the lender's extended fund facility (EFF), sources familiar with the matter told Reuters.

The island state's government expects another round of technical talks with the IMF in early June and hopes to reach to a staff-level agreement by month-end, two of the sources said.

A spokesperson for the IMF didn't immediately reply to a request for comment. Spokespeople for Sri Lanka's finance ministry and central bank didn't respond to a request for comment.

An EFF programme, which would be the 17th IMF plan for the nation, requires countries to make structural economic re-

MAHINDA ALLY NAMED SUSPECT IN MAY 9 VIOLENCE

Colombo: A former Sri Lankan minister and a key ally of former prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, Johnston Fernando, was on Wednesday named a suspect in the attack on anti-government protesters last month. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa appointed a Commission of Inquiry to probe the violence in the country.

Meanwhile, the country's top human rights body has decided to delay summoning former PM and ask him to appear before it after obtaining statements from police and prison personnel in connection with the deadly attack on peaceful anti-government protesters last month, according to a media report on Wednesday. PTI

forms "to correct deep-rooted weaknesses," according to the IMF's website. These programmes normally last three years with a grace period of 4-1/2 years to start paying back the loan, once the plan is approved. A \$3 billion deal would represent almost four times the

country's quota with the IMF. The IMF said last week it was in talks with Sri Lanka for a "comprehensive" reform package, but didn't specify what type of programme was being negotiated. PM Ranil Wickremesinghe plans to present an interim budget within weeks.

BESIDES INDIA, PORT AN INTEREST FOR SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING JAPAN AND U.S.

Lanka plans to develop Trincomalee port as industrial hub, stirs global interest

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
CHENNAI, JUNE 1

SRI LANKA'S announcement that it plans to develop Trincomalee as an "industrial harbour" and will soon float tenders for this could see the economically beleaguered nation put up a couple of thousand hectares of land on lease to set up industries in a special economic zone and the associated development of the strategically located port, stirring up geopolitical interest in that part of the Indian Ocean.

"We are actually planning to go for an Expression of Interest (Eoi) to develop Trincomalee Port

as an industrial port. That means we will be asking not only from one party, but whoever the industrialists are who want to come and utilise the port premises. We have large land, some 2,400 hectares, that surrounds the port of Trincomalee," Prasantha Jayamanna, chairman of Sri Lanka Ports Authority said on Tuesday.

Jayamanna was speaking to representatives of shipping companies and port workers' unions to allay concerns about the slowing down of loading and offloading operations at Colombo Port — a major regional transshipment hub — due to a foreign exchange shortage that has resulted in fuel scarcity and affected supply chains.

The proposal to develop an

industrial harbour in Trincomalee is a long-standing plan to monetise land that belongs to the Sri Lanka Port Authority, by getting foreign and local investment for a special economic zone, an industrial park, or an energy hub.

This would also entail the development of the port for non-containerised cargo traffic, such as cement, coal or other industrial raw material.

"We are planning to call for EoIs soon. We had planned to do this in April, but delayed it till the situation [improved], because we expect a lot of local industries to also come and invest in the port," Jayamanna said. Jayamanna had made simi-



The waters off Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. NYT file

lar remarks in January this year. It is unclear when SLPA will act on its intentions. India, which has already made a substantial

investment in Trincomalee, is likely to be interested in the proposal both as a commercial project and as a strategic investment,

a source in Sri Lanka said. Earlier this year, Lanka Indian Oil Company, a subsidiary of Indian Oil Company, and Ceylon Petroleum Corporation signed an agreement to develop a massive oil storage tank farm built during British rule at Trincomalee. The oil storage facility is located at the harbour and has its own jetty. The two entities have formed a special purpose joint venture called Trinco Petroleum Terminals Ltd for the development of 85 tanks — all in decrepit condition.

Trincomalee already has several dedicated port terminals — apart from the Lanka IOC facility, it has the Tokyo Cement facility, and grain facility for a flour factory, and a tea terminal. There is also a jetty for bulk cargo such as coal, gypsum and cement.

Besides India, the development of Trincomalee port has been of interest to several countries, including Japan and the US. It offered not just one of Asia's finest natural harbours, but was also seen as a way to balance China's influence in the country, and dominate the maritime trade routes in the region through its involvement in Colombo port for container traffic and Hambantota port for cargo. Japan commissioned 2020 ADB study on the development of Trincomalee port.

There have been questions if Sri Lanka needed more than one

port, especially, as Hambantota, which was developed with Chinese financial assistance as a cargo port has not taken off and its operations have remained below projections. However, the ADB study concluded that Trincomalee harbour, located on Sri Lanka's eastern seaboard, with its key benefits of "natural deep water, shelter, unique tourist places and ample land for industrial and logistics in the proximity of the port" was ideally placed to service the projected growth of maritime cargo trade in the region, especially with regard to development of ports in Bangladesh and Myanmar and on India's eastern sea board.

SECTOR WATCH
AVIATIONStreamlining ops:
AI offers VRS,
3K staff eligiblePRANAV MUKUL
& MIHIR MISHRA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

An Air India aircraft at Chandigarh airport. File

IN AN attempt to bring in efficiency in its functioning, Tata Group-owned Air India has announced a voluntary retirement scheme (VRS) for permanent employees, who have completed 55 years of age or 20 years of continuous service with the airline. This move will help the airline let go about 3,000 employees.

Additionally, for some cabin crew, clerical and unskilled staff, the VRS eligibility age has been relaxed from 55 years to 40 years. "An ex-gratia amount will also be provided to the aforementioned employees, who apply for Voluntary Retirement from 1st June 2022 to 31st July 2022 as a one-time benefit," according to an order signed by Air India chief human resources officer Suresh Dutt Tripathi dated June 1. However, there is no such provision for pilots, and as airlines expand, there is growing need for pilots. On Monday, Air India said it has invited applications from its employees up to age of 40 having current Airbus A320 endorsement for the post of senior trainee co-pilots.

"Further to above, employees who apply for Voluntary Retirement between 1st June and 30th June 2022, will also receive an additional incentive over and above the Ex-Gratia amount," the order said.

The order added that the VRS has been offered to permanent employees of Air India as per the "existing applicable service regulations/standing orders of Air India". As per the disinvestment conditions, the Tata Group cannot layoff Air India employees for a period of one year from the date of trans-

action close, and can offer VRS in the second year. Air India has 12,085 employees — 8,084 permanent and 4,001 contractual. In addition, its low-cost arm, Air India Express has 1,434. As of October, government had said about 5,000 permanent employees were expected to retire over 5 years.

The airline, under government control, had been trying to offer VRS since over a decade, but with marginal-to-no success. In 2011, when its annual wage bill was roughly Rs 3,600 crore, a Group of Ministers led by the late Pranab Mukherjee had asked to offer an attractive VRS, which would be in part funded by the government. Though the plan never saw the light of day, it had aimed at taking off at least 4,000 staff off company rolls, with cost of up to Rs 400 crore.

In 2009, when the airline tried to cut its staff wage bill, it had to face a week-long strike from its pilots, ground staff and other workers. The 2011 plan was finally approved in July 2012, as part of which all permanent staff who had till then served for 15 years or had attained 40 years of age were to be given the VRS option. However, it was shelved by the government in January 2014, citing high attrition rate and its disinclination to provide committed funds to Air India.

Three years later, in 2017, reports of Air India drawing up another VRS being planned to offer voluntary buyouts to just over a third of its 40,000 employees resurfaced.

MAY COLLECTION TOPS ₹1.4 LAKH CR FOR THIRD STRAIGHT MONTH

Economic activity, higher prices lift GST mop-up 44%

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

GROSS GOODS and Services Tax (GST) collections rose 44 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1,40,885 crore in May (for sales in April), reflecting improved economic activity, enforcement actions and higher inflation, data released by the Finance Ministry showed.

The GST collections had recorded the highest-ever level of Rs 1.68 lakh crore in the previous month for year-end sales in March. This is the fourth time the monthly GST collections have crossed Rs 1.40 lakh crore mark since inception of GST and third month in a row since March 2022. GST collections in May 2021 had stood at Rs 97,821 crore. "The collection in the month of May, which pertains to the returns for April, the first month of the finan-

EXPLAINED
Action on evasion helps too

Actions against tax evaders including efforts in audits and analytics also helped push the growth in GST collections.

March 2022, it said.

Revenues from import of goods were 43 per cent higher and the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) were 44 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

Experts said actions against tax evaders including efforts in audits and analytics helped push the growth in GST collections.

MS Mani, partner, Deloitte India said, "The stability demonstrated by GST collections exceeding Rs 1.4 lakh crore over the past three months is a good indicator of the growth of the economy and ties in with the other macro economic indicators including the GDP numbers. Significant efforts in audits and analytics have also led to a drive against tax evaders, inculcating a tax compliance culture. The reduction in collections

compared with the previous months was expected as the collections for March, being the last month of the fiscal year, have always been more than other months of the year."

ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar said the high year-on-year growth reflects the low base of the second wave. "Nonetheless, the May 2022 GST collections are robust compared to the Q4 FY2022 trends, benefiting from improved compliance, market share gains by the organised sector as well as the transmission of higher commodity prices into output prices. Given the trends for Apr-May 2022, and the anticipation of a sustained healthy momentum of activity in absence of another wave of Covid and major disruptions, we expect the CGST inflows in FY23 to exceed the BE level by Rs 1.15 trillion, helping absorb a part of the higher subsidy bill," she said.

'With rise in input costs, FMCG pack size drops'

As raw material prices soar, FMCG companies are undertaking price hikes on standard packs via reduction in pack sizes. This translates into one unit fewer in a pack of glucose biscuits or less quantity of shampoo in a bottle

HOW IT STACKS UP

■ Old Pack Size ■ New Pack Size ▼ Change

Britannia Tiger Glucose Biscuits (₹10)

124 gm 100 gm ▼ 24 gm

Sunfeast Biscuits Glucose (₹5)

38 gm 32 gm ▼ 6 gm

Parle Salted Krackjack Biscuits (₹10)

83 gm 71 gm ▼ 12 gm

Dove Intense Repair Shampoo (₹1,099)

700 ml 680 ml ▼ 20 ml

Surf Excel Detergent Bar (₹10)

95 gm 83 gm ▼ 12 gm



25-50% SOME CATEGORIES LIKE SOAPS SAW SUCH PRICE HIKES OVER THE LAST ONE YEAR BOTH THROUGH MRP INCREASES AND GRAMMAGE REDUCTIONS

4-18% price hikes in the three months from February to April this year

DURING THE SAME THREE MONTHS, companies manufacturing toothpastes raised the prices of their products by 2%-18%, while some shampoo brands saw a price hike of nearly 47%

IN THE FOOD AND BEVERAGES SEGMENT as well, while edible oils saw a 10-29% price hike, noodles saw an increase of 10-17%

Compiled by ENS Economic Bureau
Source: Kotak Institutional Equities

Kant: Aadhaar helped govt save over ₹2 lakh cr



NITI CEO Amitabh Kant. File

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

NITI AAYOG Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant on Wednesday said Aadhaar has become the "bedrock" for the government's welfare schemes and has saved over Rs 2 lakh crore to the government by "eliminating fake and duplicate identities". He also called Aadhaar one of the "most successful" biometric-based identity programmes in the world, which has prompted deliberations and discussions with global multilateral agencies.

"It is remarkable how 315 Central Schemes and 500 state schemes are leveraging Aadhaar to ensure effective delivery of services... Aadhaar has now become the bedrock for government welfare schemes, ensuring faster benefit transfers... saving Rs 2.22 lakh crore rupees to the government by eliminating fake and duplicate identities," Kant said at a workshop on 'Recent Initiatives for Simplifying Aadhaar usage'. Full report on www.indianexpress.com

BRIEFLY

Factory PMI up

Mumbai: The manufacturing sector expanded in the month of May and 'sustained strong growth' despite historically high inflation, according to a survey. The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) was at 54.6 in May, little-changed from 54.7 in April. It said factory output was boosted by jump in international orders, which was the highest in over 11 years, since April 2011, the survey said.

Sebi Member

Mumbai: Ashwani Bhatia on Wednesday took charge as a Whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi). Bhatia was previously the Managing Director of SBI.

SBI Gen Insurance

Mumbai: SBI General Insurance Wednesday unveiled its new health insurance vertical. The company aims to leverage the expansive footprint and network of its parent company SBI to further entrench health insurance penetration in Tier 3 and 4 markets across India. ENS

Reliance Brands

New Delhi: Reliance Brands Ltd (RBL) will acquire 40 per cent in Italy-based Plastic Legno's toy manufacturing business in India. PTI

NFL turnover

New Delhi: National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) has achieved "highest ever" turnover of Rs 15,857 crore and reported profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 108 crore on a standalone basis in FY22, said a statement. ENS

HDFC, PNB, ICICI Bank hike lending rates

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JUNE 1

HDFC Ltd, Punjab National Bank (PNB) and ICICI Bank on Wednesday announced an increase in their lending rates.

HDFC has increased its Retail Prime Lending Rate (RPLR) on housing loans, PNB and ICICI Bank

have announced a hike in their marginal cost-based lending rates (MCLR), leading to an increase in EMIs for borrowers. The upward revision in rates will essentially lead to an increase in EMIs for borrowers. This is the third time HDFC has hiked its RPLR in the last one month. In May it hiked rates twice for a total of 35 bps. The Reserve Bank of India

hiked the repo rate — at which it lends short-term money to banks — by 0.4 per cent to 4.4 per cent. HDFC hiked the RPLR on housing loans by 5 basis points. The rate on home loans up to Rs 30 lakh will be 7.15 per cent (7.10 per cent for women) and 7.40 per cent for loans between Rs 30 lakh and Rs 75 lakh. PNB said that it has raised its

marginal cost of funds-based lending rate by 15 basis points or 0.15 per cent across all tenures.

ICICI Bank also revised the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate with effect from June 1, 2022, according to its website. Bank of India also raised marginal cost of funds-based lending rate on some tenor from June 1. Full report on www.indianexpress.com

DoT panel to study direct broadcast to smartphones

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

THE DEPARTMENT of Telecommunications (DoT) has set up a committee to study the feasibility of a spectrum band for offering broadcast services directly to users' smartphones, a senior official said. Public service broadcaster Prasar Bharati had last year announced a collaboration with IIT Kanpur to test the feasibility of the technology, called 'Direct-to-Mobile' (D2M).

"Band 526-582 MHz is envisaged to work in coordination with both mobile and broadcast services. DoT has set up a committee to study this band," said K Rajaraman, Secretary, DoT, while speaking at a conclave on "Direct-to-Mobile & 5G Broadband Convergence Roadmap for India" organised by IIT Kanpur and Telecommu-

NEED FOR TECH



■ The technology is being necessitated on account of increasing internet penetration

coming the primary mode of content consumption. One of the use cases of the D2M network is its ability to converge with traditional mobile networks and provide additional data pipes to the mobile operator which can help decongest their network from heavy bandwidth consumption during peak traffic periods.

Information and Broadcasting Ministry Secretary Apurva Chandra said the convergence between 5G and 5G broadband will improve consumption of broadband and utilisation of spectrum in India. However, he pointed out that a mass roll out of the technology will entail infrastructure and regulatory changes.

Prasar Bharati CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati said Indian consumers do not want "silos" of hardware in their homes.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Car sales race past pre-Covid levels

VARUN SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 1

DESPITE THE semiconductor shortage and production cuts, passenger vehicle sales staged a good recovery in May with the country's top three manufacturers registering higher volumes compared to

the same month in 2019, which was non-pandemic year.

Maruti Suzuki India's sales in the domestic market during the month was 3 per cent higher at 124,474 units than the same month in 2019. Hyundai Motor India saw its sales almost flat at 42,293 units due to maintenance shutdown at its plants for six days

during the month.

The company lost its second spot in terms of sales to the resurgent Tata Motors, which saw a 298 per cent jump in sales at 43,341 units. This is the second time in the last six months that Tata Motors has overtaken Hyundai in terms of monthly volumes. FE

National Centre for Radio Astrophysics
TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH
Satvirbhil Phule Pune University Campus, Ganeshkhind, Pune - 411 007.

TENDER NOTICE NO. 02/2022-2023
Sealed bids are invited in Two Part for (a) Laptops (b) Compute Servers (c) Compute Rack Servers.
For details and downloading the tender document please visit website:
<http://www.ncra.tifr.res.in/ncra/ncra1/public-tenders-1>

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No.: 9/SE/PHCK/2022-2023. JUM-2020-2021-Phase II-WSS to Akalakkunnam Panchayat - Kottayam District - Package 2 - Supply and Laying distribution network from Karimnadi Tank and Providing FHTCs.
EMD: ₹2,00,000. Tender fee: ₹10,000 + (18% GST) - It will be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns
Last date for submitting tender: 21-06-2022, 03:00 pm. Ph: 0481 2562745
Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-284-2022-23 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kottayam

Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Limited
"SARAS SANKUL" J. L. N. MARG, JAIPUR - 302017 Ph. No. 2702501-08 Direct: 0141-2710209 Website: www.sarasankulfd.rajasthan.gov.in E-Mail: pur-cdf-rj@nic.in
No. RCDP/Pur/F/Pkg. Mat./2022/12475-512 Dated: 31st May, 2022
SHORT TERM/EMERGENCY NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
Single Stage Two Parts unconditional online e-Tenders/Bids are invited by Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Ltd., Jaipur for the procurement of 1 Lined Carton for 1 Litre Ghee Packing (UBN No. CDF223GLRC00295) and Lined Carton for 1/2 Litre Ghee Packing (UBN No. CDF223GLRC00296). From eligible bonded manufacturers or their authorized suppliers as per details given in the respective bid document.
The Complete Bidding Documents can be visited and downloaded from our website www.sarasankulfd.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. E-Bids shall be submitted only on <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>.
Raj. Samwad/C/2764/2022-23 (R.K. Suthar), General Manager (Purchase)

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR
No. NIT/2022-23/5698-5685 तिथि 2022-23-23 Date: 31.05.2022

क्रमांक का विवरण	अनुमानित मात्रा (रु.)	तिथि सूचना समाप्त
NITC work at Medical College & RBHM Hospital, Bhanpur (Phase-II).	419.00 Lakh	₹-08/22-23
Remaining Work of TTI Bldg. At Lohawat (Jodhpur)	251.32 Lakh	₹-08/22-23
Construction work at various places of Medical College, Dholpur.	3041.00 Lakh	₹-08/22-23
Construction work in Psychiatry and Radio Therapy Departments at MDM Hospital Jodhpur.	340.50 Lakh	₹-09/22-23

अतिरिक्त विविध प्रायः सर्वसोप्य करके की अग्रिम तिथि 30.05.2022 प्रायः 09.00 बजे से 20.06.2022 प्रायः 06.00 बजे तक की जायेगी।
किसी भी सम्बंधित प्रश्न में निम्नित सूचना, फोन करके, डाकवाकफ करके या ऑनलाइन की जायेगी।
निम्नलिखित सूचना एवं संबंधित विवरण <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> तथा <http://roads.rajasthan.gov.in> पर उपलब्ध है।
किसी भी प्रश्न में निम्नलिखित सूचना एवं संबंधित विवरण <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर उपलब्ध है।
किसी भी प्रश्न में निम्नलिखित सूचना एवं संबंधित विवरण <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

'USE AND FILE' SYSTEM

Market now, get nod later: Irdai eases approval for health insurance products

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JUNE 1

THE INSURANCE Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) on Wednesday extended the "Use and File" procedure to all health insurance products, facilitating faster customer access to health policies.

All categories of products and add-ons or riders to be introduced or modified or revised under health insurance business and offered by general and health insurance companies are permitted to be launched through "Use and File". Irdai said in a circular to the CEOs of insurance companies.

Health portfolio has emerged as the biggest segment in the general insurance category with a premium income of Rs 73,582 crore in FY22, a rise of 25.39 per cent. Under the "Use and File" system, insurers are permitted to market products without the regulator's prior approval, thus avoiding a longer waiting duration in offering innovative insurance solutions to customers in order to help address the dynamic environment. However, in the "File and Use" system, an insurer, who wishes to introduce a new product, has to file an application for the product with the Irdai and use the product for sale in the market only after getting all the regulatory approvals.

"The board approved policy shall also comply with the norms specified herein and the same shall be complied at the point of launching the products or modification or revision of the products. The Product Management Committee of the insurer should ensure compliance to the policy of the board while signing of the new products or modification of products," Irdai said.

Tapan Singhel, MD and CEO, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, said, "the proactive initiative by Irdai will provide some necessary mechanisms to insurance companies who wish to bring out more innovative products in the

THE SYSTEM

■ Under the "Use and File" system, insurers are permitted to market products without the regulator's prior approval

market at a faster frequency." Customers have the opportunity to choose from a plethora of insurance products that best suits their needs and thus secure their lives against any exigencies, Singhel said.

Insurers should file the proposed name of the product, date of approval by Product Management Committee and they should obtain the UIN. "Thereafter, insurers should file the product along with all other with the authority within 7 days of launch of the product," the circular said.

Insurers should ensure that the product pricing is viable, self-sustainable and affordable to the targeted market. The revision in the price, if any, should be effected only based on the underlying claims experience (Incurred Claims Ratio) and to make the product viable and self-sustainable. Insurers should disclose the rationale for revision in price along with the underlying claim experience (ICR) of the product that lead to the revision in the price in their website.

If optional covers or add-ons are offered with very low premium rates giving an indication that coverage is not material under the said add-on or optional cover, insurers are advised to consider subsuming such add-ons or optional covers into base cover of the product, Irdai said.

Pricing of the products or add-ons should be based on the generally accepted actuarial principles. The premium rates should appropriately reflect the benefits, terms and conditions of the underlying products or add-ons and should not be discriminatory.

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

Sl. No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No	Total
1	SE/P&A/MTPS	(570 Due Date Extension)	1
2	SE/C/PCC	05, 06, 07	3

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit website, www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tenders.gov.in/nicepp/app
Work Completion Time 24 Months.
*தரமான விலை வழங்கும் தரமான கட்டுமானப் பணிகளை மேற்கொள்ளும் வகையில்

Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, Heavy Water Plant (Kota)

1. e-Tender invitation notice no. - HWPK/CIVL/2022/408
Online item rate tenders are invited through e-Tendering mode for "Water proofing of various plant building's roof at Heavy Water Plant (Kota)" by General Manager, Heavy Water Plant (Kota), Post: Anushakti 323303, Via - Kota (Rajasthan) and on behalf of the President of India, from approved, eligible and experienced contractors. Estimated cost of work: Rs. 65,91,727/-, EMD: Rs. 1,31,835/-, Work Completion Time 24 Months.
Tender document can be viewed/downloaded from 03.06.2022 (10:00 hrs) to 17.06.2022 (14:30 hrs). The last date for online submission of tender is 17.06.2022 (14:30 hrs). The technical bids will be opened on 20.06.2022 at 15:00 hrs.

2. e-Tender invitation notice no. - HWPK/MECH/2022/317
Online item rate tenders are invited through e-Tendering mode for "Assisting in Carrying out Mechanical Maintenance Jobs of Utility Area of HWPK Plant Site and HWPK Colony WTP" by General Manager, Heavy Water Plant (Kota), Post: Anushakti 323303, Via - Kota (Rajasthan) and on behalf of the President of India, from approved, eligible and experienced contractors. Estimated cost of work: Rs. 62,41,179/-
Tender document can be viewed/downloaded from 03.06.2022 (10:00 hrs) to 14.06.2022 (14:30 hrs). The last date for online submission of tender is 14.06.2022 (14:30 hrs). The technical bids will be opened on 16.06.2022 at 15:00 hrs.

3. e-Tender invitation notice no. - HWPK/ELECT/2022/EHTR/012
Online item rate tenders are invited through e-Tendering mode for "Design, Supply and installation of electrical heat tracing panel, heat tracing distribution junction boxes, electrical heat tracer & its accessories and thermal insulation on pipe lines" by General Manager, Heavy Water Plant (Kota), Post: Anushakti 323303, Via - Kota (Rajasthan) and on behalf of the President of India, from approved, eligible and experienced contractors. Estimated cost of work: Rs. 34,65,192/-, EMD: Rs. 69,303/-, Work Completion Time 04 Months.
Tender document can be viewed/downloaded from 03.06.2022 (10:00 hrs) to 17.06.2022 (16:00 hrs). The last date for online submission of tender is 17.06.2022 (16:00 hrs). The technical bids will be opened on 20.06.2022 at 15:00 hrs.

The detailed NIT and Tender Documents are available on the website <https://eproc.gov.in/eprocure/app> for free to view/download. The detailed NIT can be seen at website www.hwb.gov.in For further information please contact Telephone no. 01475-242201/242231/242225, fax -01475-242203 on all working days.
General Manager
For & on behalf of President of India

मुख्यमंत्री निःशुल्क दवा योजना
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of Rajasthan
RMSCL
"Mukhyamantri Nishulk Dava Yojana"
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur - 302005, India
Phone No: 0141-2228066 / 2228064 Website: www.rmssc.rajasthan.health.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ2011SG0350567 E-mail: edorms@nic.in
Ref. No.: F02/120/RMSCL/Proc./S&S(MD)/NIB-06/2022/426 Dated: 27.05.2022

Notice Inviting E-Bids
E-bids are invited up to 6.00 PM of 20.06.2022 E bid for Rate Contract cum Supply and Empanelment of Surgical & Sutures (Drug Items). Details of NIB-6/2022 may be seen in the Bidding Documents at our office or at the website of State Public Procurement Portal (IN MS2223GLRC00017) <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>, [www.dipronline.org](http://dipronline.org), <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, www.rmssc.rajasthan.health.gov.in and may be downloaded from there.
Note: If any amendment is carried out in the tender specifications and terms & conditions following pre-bid meeting, the same will be uploaded on the Departmental website www.rmssc.rajasthan.health.gov.in, sppp.raj.nic.in and <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>. In case any inconvenience is felt, please contact on telephone number i.e. 0141-2228064
Executive Director (Procurement)
Raj.Samwad/C/21/2718 RMSCL

Revolutionary, visionary

McCullum changed the way Kiwis played and will try to bring a similar identity to the England Test team

SRIRAM VEERA
JUNE 1

ENGLAND NEW Test coach Brendon McCullum's stocks have risen so much in eight years or so that one assumes he has always been this uber-confident, cool, courageous, swaggering leader. He wasn't. It's that personal transformation that offers England fans greater hope of a revival; that here is a man intimate with the vulnerabilities in sportsmen and knows what to do to turn things around.

Going by the way he has coached Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League, two effects can be expected by the England players: no insecurity and a sense of identity. Considering England Test team has lacked both security and identity in recent times - Stuart Broad and James Anderson were agast that they were dropped without proper communication - McCullum's arrival, combined with Ben Stokes' charisma, will be a breath of fresh air.

Whether McCullum can make it last a long time, as he rides the ebbs and flows in fortunes of a Test team, is what will make his stint interesting to track.

But first, a story about vulnerability. On a Durban evening in 2009, when he was KKR's captain, McCullum walked away from the dugout, disconsolate after a string of losses. Their coach John Buchanan would jump out of the shadows, and throw his hands over the shoulder in an avuncular gesture of consolation. Moments later, a sombre McCullum, looking like a lost puppy, would tell the press pack that he wanted to quit the captaincy. "I have found it difficult to deliver messages to the team without having individual performances to stack up," he would say.

Six years later, on the evening before the 2015 ODI World Cup final in Melbourne, Buchanan had looked back at that moment. "When things weren't going his way, he wanted to step away. I told him that's not the best thing to do, not for himself or for the team. I think he wanted to hear that from me," Buchanan had told this newspaper.

"McCullum is a passionate and emotional person. He is a real competitor, a cheeky sort of a guy. Now I think he has learnt how to control his emotions and use them to his advantage," Buchanan had identified the trigger for the positive change. "He has been so aggressive as a captain."

McCullum's greatest achievement wasn't about batting fearlessly at the top or even placing attacking fields or being gung-ho in how he would often bowl out his strike bowlers within 30 overs in pursuit of wickets in an ODI. The greater achievement was that he convinced his team of that philosophy. He didn't have to drag them along to-



Coach Brendon McCullum and fast bowler James Anderson on the eve of the first Test against New Zealand at the Lord's cricket ground. Reuters

wards his vision.

During that 2015 World Cup, on the sidelines of a New Zealand tourism event, former skipper Stephen Fleming opened up on what he thought was McCullum's best trait. "Look, to place three or four slips in an ODI is one thing - it does take courage - but to convince your entire team that this is the way to go is entirely a different matter."

By all accounts, McCullum seems to be a fabulous inspiring leader. Once, when he was with KKR, Dinesh Karthik had raved about McCullum in a chat on Ravichandran Ashwin's YouTube channel.

"He was a revolutionary captain. In every generation, there will be some cricketers who change the game. I think he changed the way the game was played... playing with a smile. His was the greatest leadership any international team had seen. His style of play was so different. He would finish the strike bowlers within, say, 30 overs. Trent Boult will get bowled out. He changed the game. And when you hear him speak, it's fabulous," Karthik would say.

"When the horses fan around the last bend and they all kind of fan out, at that moment, you are not sure (what's going to happen) but there is a chance, hope. You think about when you bought that horse, saw how it walked, how it looked, you saw the pedigree paper, put your hand up and bought it. You then prepare for three-four years. Then

at that moment (in the last lap of the race), that thrill it gives you... Only time I have experienced it outside cricket is in horse racing."

Last year, in a New Zealand docu-series Beyond the winning post, McCullum opened up on his other passion: horses. Such was his passion that he quit city life and moved to a small town named Matamata to start a farm. In that show, he takes the host around his 10-acre farm, shows some of his 10-15 racehorses, and talks lovingly and passionately about them. One was a 10-year old horse from Australia, a famous racing horse that was once sold for a million dollars, he says, and that was injured and available for 6000 dollars when he bought it.

He tells the story about growing up near a horse-racing track in Dunedin which inculcated the love for thoroughbreds in him. "I wasn't hands on, more about having a punt on." He made some money and then thought "will have a share of a racehorse and he won some races".

Later, a co-passenger on a plane saw him reading the horse results and casually told him he should meet up with her brother Mark Chittick, who owns the Waikato stud - and McCullum would gallop into the equine world. Around 10 years back, McCullum had more ambitious plans for his horses. He had started a firm Vernair, and wanted to have a racing syndicate around the world. That didn't take off as he had planned but his horses still race, he says, in the country. Along with Fleming, he was also involved in the New

Anderson, Broad named in Playing XI

London: James Anderson and Stuart Broad, the most prolific wicket-takers in English Test history, will return to the team for the first match of the three-Test series against New Zealand starting Thursday at Lord's. There was also a new face alongside the two veterans when the team was named on Wednesday, with Matthew Potts selected for his debut to complete the lineup of seamers.

The 39-year-old Anderson and 35-year-old Broad were dropped for the recent tour of the West Indies but return at the first time of asking under new captain Ben Stokes and head coach Brendon McCullum. England is without a slew of pace bowlers due to injury, with Jofra Archer, Mark Wood, Chris Woakes, Olly Stone, Saqib Mahmood and Matt Fisher among those sidelined. AP

Zealand meat and wine business, getting them into the Indian market.

For some time now, his life has been about horses and some T20 coaching. But now, it will take a big leap forward as England have invested in him to steer their Test side. With the left-field choices of Rob Key as director of cricket and McCullum as coach, England seem to be moving towards men who can make them bolder, infuse fresh thought and character.

The story of how a Test match in 2013 in which they were shot out for 45 turned things around for McCullum, the leader, has been well documented.

An evening of introspection with coach Mike Hesson, currently Royal Challengers Bangalore's coach, made him conclude that the team "were seen as arrogant, emotional, distant, up-ourselves and uninterested in our followers. We concluded that, individually and collectively, we lacked character. The key for all of us was the team had no 'soul'. We were full of bluster and soft as putty," he said in his MCC Colin Cowdrey Memorial lecture.

The England establishment obviously feel that their 'Test team' collectively lack character. If McCullum can infuse a sense of identity in them, and let his fellow New Zealand-born Stokes ensure that it organically flows through their game, his job would be done. **England vs New Zealand, 1st Test, 3:30 PM, Live on: Sony Sports Network.**

Rookies landing on the podium good sign for Indian hockey

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JUNE 1

A THIRD-STRING Indian side with 10 debutants, that was managed by a rookie coach - Sardar Singh - and began its campaign with an underwhelming draw and a morale-sapping defeat, somehow fought its way onto the podium at the Asia Cup.

Led by captain Birendra Lakra, India put up a solid defensive performance to defend a 1-0 lead for most of the match to beat Japan and win the bronze medal at the continental championship. Compared to the previous edition in 2017, when India won the title, this may seem like a drop in performance if taken at face value. But in reality, this will assume as much significance, if not more.

After all, none of the players from the 33-men core group were part of this side. Instead, this was a hastily-formed team, comprising junior India internationals apart from some national team discards, others who had impressed at the national championships and a couple of retired stars who were forced to make a comeback.

This bunch was assembled with the idea to take part in the Commonwealth Games next month, with the main team focusing on the Asian Games. With the Asiad now postponed, it looks likely that all of them will head to Birmingham as they have given a good account of themselves, forcing the team management to take note of their performances.

Sardar, too, successfully changed the mindset of the team, which looked disjointed and undisciplined in the first match against Pakistan but grew as the tournament progressed to become strong defensively and dangerous on the attack. BJ Kariappa, who is the junior India coach, handled the dugout with Sardar, but it was the former India captain who seemed to be calling most of the shots during matches, making tactical tweaks, barking instructions from the sidelines and putting his arm around the players after defeat.

These facets of Sardar's coaching style were on display on Wednesday when India edged out Japan by one goal. His team began the match cautiously and held possession in midfield. Karthi Selvam, one of the debutants, linked up well along with another rookie, Vishnukant Singh, in the opening exchanges. Then, in the seventh minute, Uttam Singh - who was one of the standout Indian players in the Junior World Cup last year - made an impressive run on the right to set up his under-21 teammate Raj Kumar Pal inside the circle. Pal slotted the ball home to give India a 1-0 lead.



A young Indian team beat Japan 1-0 to win bronze at the Asia Cup. Hockey India

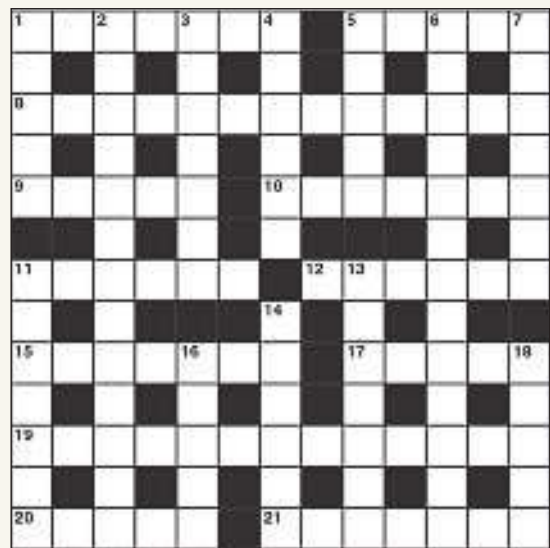
This bunch was assembled with the idea to take part in the Commonwealth Games next month, with the main team focusing on the Asian Games.

After that strike, Japan - who were in Jakarta with their full-strength squad given that the 2023 World Cup qualification was at stake for them - began exerting pressure with their quick interplay and won back-to-back penalty corners. But first rusher Yashdeep Siwach denied them on both occasions. In the second half, India discard Dipsan Tirkey, the tournament's third-highest scorer with five goals, showed alertness to deal with dangerous balls played into the Indian 'D'.

Along with Lakra and Siwach, he did well to keep the Japanese attackers at bay even though they won a string of penalty corners in the last two quarters and ensured India finished on the podium.

After a disappointing outing in the Asian Champions Trophy and suffering mixed results in the Pro League, the performance over the last week in Jakarta will please the team management. Chief coach Graham Reid has used the post-Olympics period to experiment with players and tactics, a trend that is likely to continue for a few more matches until he settles on the core group for the World Cup, which will be held in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. If the performance at the Asia Cup is anything to go by, Reid will have a large pool of players to choose from come January.

CROSSWORD 4756



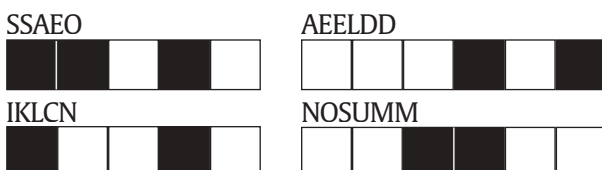
- ACROSS**
- Permit bad behaviour? (7)
 - He has a trying job (5)
 - Deigning to be gracious (13)
 - Just one line from a letter (5)
 - Widely used way to study construction (7)
 - Runs out of lighters (6)
 - Sort of dagger with a rough edge (6)
 - We do turn out after all - it's not forbidden (7)
 - They are used for holding coal fires (5)
 - The last job one aims for on a racecourse (9,4)
 - Girl back in Oriental island (5)
 - Expert put to death by direction (7)
- DOWN**
- They're not the key parts of firearms (5)
 - Danny's car ails? Maybe he should fly there (6,7)
 - End fuel blending as required (7)
 - Company guard (6)
 - Wild jaunt for those in power (5)
 - Where to find motorists on course? (7,6)
 - Signed up in preparation for a match? (7)
 - Dishonest way to acquire piece of riding gear (7)
 - A ship for example with first-rate missile (7)
 - Acknowledges it's mad to change (6)
 - A tract for spendthrifts (5)
 - Fed up with dates having to be rearranged (5)

Solutions Crossword 4755: Across: 1 Lager, 8 Shindigs, 9 Tie-up, 10 Pretence, 11 Septa, 12 Ada, 16 Stones, 17 Macaws, 18 Sty, 23 Tolls, 24 Hand over, 25 Annoy, 26 Founders, 27 Gross. Down: 2 Anisette, 3 Esurient, 4 Shared, 5 Knits, 6 Liens, 7 Ashen, 12 Ass, 13 Army, 14 Schooner, 15 Swallows, 19 Theory, 20 Shift, 21 End up, 22 Words.

JUMBLD WORDS

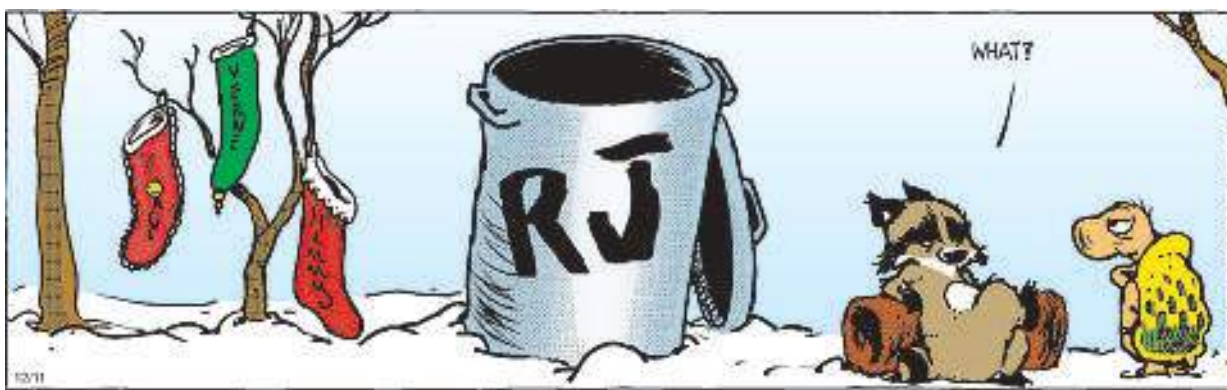
Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Nature, to be ____, must be obeyed. - Francis Bacon (9)



Answer: Nature, to be **commanded**, must be obeyed. - Francis Bacon

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4853

Difficulty Level 1s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4852



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

You've got to be careful not to cause offence, but you must also say what you think, for you never know when you will have the chance again. Also, do realise that, in the long run, you must act in accord with your true inner nature. You may therefore have to disregard what people say.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You may now begin to wonder if you have overlooked one or two facts. I think you have, so don't commit yourself to a new decision or opinion until next week. One thing you can be sure of is your dreams, and when all else fails you still have a vision of a better world.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Mars is very firm in its insistence that a partner or business associate must settle a debt of honour. It is not your fault that other people have lost money, or been ripped-off or short-changed. If you can do one thing this week then it's to get others to recognise that things can only get better.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

I know that you have put on a brave face, but if the past few weeks have taught you anything it is that in future you must be more honest and speak from your heart. If other people behave badly, then they must be told. If they take any notice is another matter.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

A good general, they say, never goes into battle unless victory is assured. In some respects the odds are stacked against you. This is probably quite a good thing, for if you are stopped in your tracks you will be forced to think again and smarten up your act.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You're now in a relatively prosperous period, one when you should check up on all joint commitments. Hopefully you've taken all the right advice and have turned a potential loss into a healthy profit. Bear in mind that there may be a conflict of interest between your desires and a partner's needs.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You can't always look at life seriously, so take some of today's developments with a pinch of salt, for not everything is as it seems. You may soon discover that developments in your public affairs will go a long way towards increasing the quality of your life.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

It's true that other people are full of themselves, but partners are barking up the wrong tree if they imagine they can out-smart or out-manoeuvre you. Even if you pretend to agree with them, you will nevertheless maintain your own attitudes and opinions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

Hopefully you will now begin to realise that partners, colleagues and close companions are entitled to have a say in joint financial arrangements. If you are thinking of teaming up with someone in a potentially profitable venture then the best choice may be a female relation.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You must try to avoid any further disruption. The emphasis should swing very much towards co-operation and compromise, even if you do feel that someone is getting away scot-free. In any event, an individual who has wronged you may shortly make amends.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your sole aim and priority must be to arrange your monetary affairs in such a manner that you benefit other people as well as yourself. There are two possibilities around the middle of the day: either you'll voluntarily give something away or you'll lose it. In other words, are you going to jump, or will you wait to be pushed?

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Your sensitive nature can make you stronger than others, but it can also make you vulnerable. You will be increasingly prepared to stand up for yourself and ignore other people's petty complaints, and if you steer a sensible course then your reputation can only benefit.

EASY CWG BADMINTON DRAW

Defending champions India will have an easy entry into the knockout stage of the badminton event of the Commonwealth Games as they have been drawn against Australia, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan in Group 1 of the mixed team competition. **PTI**

To win against Novak there is only one way to play, at your best and first point to the last.

RAFAEL NADAL, 21-TIME GRAND SLAM CHAMPION

Paris night, Nadal, clay... a never-ending affair

Spanish great beats Djokovic 6-2, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (4) in quarterfinals to move a step closer to 14th championship and 22nd major

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS, JUNE 1

RAFAEL NADAL insists he can't know for sure whether any match at Roland Garros might be his very last at a place he loves, a place he is loved. For now, as he keeps winning and keeps performing the way he did during his monumental quarterfinal victory over long-time rival Novak Djokovic that began in May and ended in June, Nadal will have more chances to play.

With a mix of brilliant shot-making and his trademark resilience, Nadal got past the top-seeded defending French Open champion Djokovic 6-2, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (4) to move a step closer to his 14th championship at the clay-court Grand Slam tournament and what would be a 22nd major trophy overall, adding to records that he already owns. "One of those magic nights for me," Nadal said.

For anyone lucky enough to be there, too — provided they were able to stay awake — or even anyone watching from afar. The match began a little past 9 p.m. Tuesday and concluded more than four hours later, after 1 a.m. Wednesday.

"TV decides," Djokovic said about the late start. "That's the world we are living in."

The bracket said this was a quarterfinal, yes, but it felt like a final, from the quality of play to the quality of effort, from the anticipation that preceded it to the atmosphere that enveloped it. The only missing ingredient: There was no trophy handed to the winner. Nadal turns 36 on Friday, when he will face third-seeded Alexander Zverev in the semifinals. When the subject of Nadal's future was brought up during his on-court interview, he smiled. "See you, by the way, in two days," Nadal said. "That's the only thing that I can say."

It'll be difficult for any match the rest of the way to live up to this one. Nary a game, a point, a stroke or, indeed, a step came with



After his latest win over Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal's Roland Garros record is 110-3. The three losses were against Soderling in the 4th Round in 2009, Djokovic in the quarters in 2015 and semifinals in 2021. *Reuters*

a hint of insouciance. Both men gave their all. Nothing came easily.

Nadal's 3-0 lead in the second set did him no good: Djokovic ended up taking it and would say later, "I thought, OK, I'm back in the game."

But Djokovic's 3-0 lead in the fourth did him no good, even though he served for it at 5-3, even standing one point from forcing a fifth twice. Nadal saved those set points and broke there, then ran away with the closing tiebreaker, seizing a 6-1 edge and never losing focus after his first three match points went awry. "I lost to a better player today," said Djokovic, who had won 22 sets in a row

until the 49-minute opener against Nadal. "Had my chances. Didn't use them. That's it."

This showdown was their 59th, more than any other two men have played each other in the Open era. Nadal narrowed Djokovic's series lead to 30-29 while improving to 8-2 against his rival at Roland Garros.

Nadal is now 110-3 for his career at the place. Two of those losses came against Djokovic, including in last year's semifinals. This time, Nadal made sure Djokovic remains behind him in the Slam count with 20. Nadal broke their three-way tie with Roger Federer at that number by capturing the Australian Open in January, when Djokovic was not able

to play because he had not been vaccinated against COVID-19. Before Nadal advanced to his 15th semifinal in Paris, Zverev reached his second in a row by holding off 19-year-old rising star Carlos Alcaraz 6-4, 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (7). "Not really getting easier from here," Zverev said after putting an end to Alcaraz's 14-match winning streak.

The nightcap was saved for two players who know each other so well. The tendencies and tactics. The mannerisms and moods.

So it should come as no surprise they engaged in points so involved, so lengthy — 57 of at least nine strokes, with one that went 25 — that before some were concluded, folks

MATCH BOX

DJOKOVIC		NADAL
68%	First serve	71%
4	Double faults	4
4/12	Break points won	7/17
53	Unforced errors	43
26/41	Net points won	22/30
8	Passing shots	18
21	Drop shots	29

in the stands would let out a gasp or an "Aaaaah!" or "Awwwww!", drawing rebuking hisses of "Shhhhh!" in response.

As time passed and the air became colder — below 60 degrees Fahrenheit (15 Celsius) — Nadal and Djokovic embodied the words in clay-colored capital letters in French and English along the facing of the lower level of the arena, attributed to Roland Garros, the World War I fighter pilot for whom the facility is named: "Victory belongs to the most tenacious."

In the early going, and down the stretch, it was Nadal getting the better of the baseline back-and-forths, pushing and pulling Djokovic this way or that, up and back, until an opening for a clean winner presented itself. Djokovic reacted to his miscues by rolling his eyes, shaking his head or putting his palms out as if to say, "What's going on?"

Nadal showed zero signs of being slowed or bothered one bit by the chronic pain in his left foot that flares up every so often and kept him off the tour for the last half of 2021 and arose again before the French Open.

Nor did Nadal betray a trace of fatigue from his five-set tussle against No. 9 seed Felix Auger-Aliassime in the fourth round on Sunday that lasted 4 hours, 21 minutes, nearly twice as long as Djokovic's matter-of-fact win that day.

BRIEFLY

India to play 3 ODIs, 5 T20Is vs Windies; 2 games in Florida

New Delhi: The Cricket West Indies (CWI) and the BCCI announced India's tour of the West Indies where the 'Men in Blue' will play three ODIs and five T20Is between July 22 and August 7. The ODI series and three T20Is will be hosted across Trinidad and Tobago and St Kitts & Nevis, with the final two T20Is scheduled to be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in the USA. **PTI**

Bale confirms Real Madrid exit

Madrid: Gareth Bale confirmed he is leaving Real Madrid on Wednesday, saying he was happy to have fulfilled his dream of playing with the Spanish powerhouse. The 32-year-old Bale joined Madrid from Tottenham in 2013. He played on loan with the English club in 2020-21. **AP**

Pogba to leave Manchester United

Manchester: Paul Pogba joined Manchester United for a world-record fee. He'll leave the English club for nothing. United said Wednesday the France midfielder would be departing Old Trafford at the end of the month when his contract expires. **AP**

Asian Cup: Tangri to replace Das

Kolkata: National coach Igor Stimac named ATK Mohun Bagan midfielder Deepak Tangri as a replacement for Ritwik Das for their Asian Cup Football qualifiers beginning here on June 8. Das, who was named in the 26-member squad for the friendly against Jordan recently, is down with chicken pox that necessitated the change. "Ritwik Das was diagnosed with chicken pox recently, so we have brought in Deepak Tangri as his replacement," Stimac said. **PTI**

March to No.14: How Rafa's aggressive groundstrokes and serving toppled Novak

NAMIT KUMAR
JUNE 1

DESPITE CONCERNS over his declining physicality, the disadvantageous night scheduling, and his previous record against his great rival, Rafael Nadal provided an over-four-hour-long exhibition in clay-court mastery to take down Novak Djokovic and book his customary spot in the semifinals of the French Open. The Spaniard did so through an aggressive strategy from start to finish, with precise execution of his tactics.

Nadal's baseline strategy

His incredible legacy on clay has long been lauded for his ability to outlast opponents from the baseline. But on this occasion, the Spaniard started far more aggressively than usual, which allowed him to race to a 6-2, 3-0 lead. During last year's semifinal, Djokovic triumphed over Nadal using angled crosscourt forehands that exploited any weaknesses in his opponent's backhand. The Spaniard was wary of that this time though, and used plenty of slices and looping backhands down-the-line to bring his forehand back into play.

For most of the match, and particularly in the first set, Nadal hit his forehand with a lot of precision, particularly when he went down the line or inside-out towards his opponent's backhand.

Djokovic took too long to get out of the gates in the encounter, during which time he made several unforced errors and failed to take advantage of good court positions. Nadal, however, was tuned in from the get-go. He had 57 winners compared to Djokovic's 48.

Djokovic's strengthened return

After winning just two of the first 11 games in the match, much of Djokovic's reset was down to him targeting Nadal's back-



Novak Djokovic tried to target Nadal's backhand and was successful to a certain extent. *Reuters*

NUMBER PLATE

57 Number of winners Nadal struck. Djokovic had 48.

48 Djokovic's first serve percentage in the first set.

hand more and more. As the ball became heavier with the cooler night conditions setting in, Djokovic stepped up the court and took the ball much earlier than he did in the first set, particularly while returning.

The Serb made Nadal hit most of his shots after the serve deep into the backhand side, instantly taking control of the rally by doing so. The strategy worked very well in the second set, earning him 24 return points, eight break-point opportunities, and allowing him to come back from a double-break deficit to draw level.

Although Nadal's serving was very consistent in the third and fourth sets, Djokovic used his returns to prolong rallies, put away

any loose balls, and make the Spaniard work far harder to hold serve.

Opposite serving show

Djokovic's serve let him down for much of the match.

The Serb was struggling to find much purchase on what is usually an extremely reliable first serve, only making it 48 percent of the time in the first set, and failing to land it on multiple crucial points. The pace was off on his second serves too and resulted in only 42 percent points won.

In contrast, Nadal had an outstanding serving day.

The Spaniard was angling first serves with precision, and as has been the case for much of the tournament, his second serve was a crucial asset, clocking an average speed of 154 km/h with a success rate of 60 percent. His serve also played a huge role in his comeback in the fourth set. Nadal lost just eight points on serve in the fourth, and only two of those were on his second serve.

Final set turnaround

After Djokovic's resurgence in the second set, Nadal did well to take advantage of his opponent's lapses and take the third 6-2. The match was far from a foregone conclusion though, as Djokovic raced to a 3-0 lead and eventually served for the set at 5-3. From there on, Nadal produced some of his best tennis of the tournament to turn the tide his way. The Spaniard was able to save a set point and pile the pressure on Djokovic through solid returns and serves, and take the set into a tie-breaker.

He raced into a 6-1 lead there, where the redlining performance of his forehand was on full display. While a lot of the match was intense and hinged on tactics, Nadal's vintage shot-making and mental resilience in the final half-hour are what eventually took him past the finish line in the marquee match-up.

Swiatek closes in on Serena's match-win streak

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS, JUNE 1

IGA SWIATEK benefited from the chair umpire's no-call on a double bounce that gave her a key first-set service break during a match-altering five-game run and the French Open's No. 1 seed moved into the semifinals with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Jessica Pegula on Wednesday.

Swiatek extended her winning streak to 33 matches, the longest on tour since Serena Williams won 34 in a row in 2013.

Swiatek will face No. 20 Daria Kasatkina in one women's semifinal Thursday, when the other will be No. 18 Coco Gauff, an 18-

year-old American, against unseeded Martina Trevisan, a 28-year-old from Italy.

Only Swiatek has previously participated in the final four at a major tournament, losing in the semifinals at the Australian Open in January and taking the title at the 2020 French Open when she was ranked outside the top 50. "This year it's a little bit different, because I'm not an underdog," she said, "and everything has changed, honestly."

Kasatkina beat No. 29 Veronika Kudermetova 6-4, 7-6 (5) in a match between two Russian players who will not be allowed to compete at Wimbledon later this month because of that country's invasion of Ukraine. Theirs was a mistake-filled quarterfinal, with the players combining for 75 unforced errors,

50 by Kudermetova. That allowed Kasatkina to win despite coming up with just 16 winners over the course of 165 points. "It was a roller coaster," said Kasatkina, who hadn't reached a major quarterfinal in four years. "Just happy with the way I stayed on the court and didn't put myself in the situation where I was disappointed and stuff. So really happy with this mental part."

A day after her 21st birthday, Swiatek was not at her dominant best against the 11th-seeded Pegula, a 28-year-old from New York whose parents own the NFL's Buffalo Bills and NHL's Buffalo Sabres.

"Getting old, but still fresh," Swiatek wrote with a silver marker on the lens of a court-side TV camera.

Ministry of Culture
Government of India

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF MUSEUMS AT INDIA'S NEWEST GALLERIES

VISIT

National Museum, New Delhi

Virtual Experiential Museum on Ajanta (VEMA)
An enhanced digital museum experience

Central Asian Antiquities
Rare historical collections from Central Asia

Company Paintings
A glimpse into 19th century art

Kashi Gallery
The story of India's eternal city

Buddha Museum
A dedication to the glory of Gautama Buddha

National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi

हस्तांतरण
(In Transmission)
An artistic journey of Nandalal Bose

3D Projection Mapping on Facade

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Information & Public Relations
Department
Government of Kerala

ONE
GLORIOUS YEAR
SECOND SUCCESSFUL TERM



Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan
Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala

WHERE PEOPLE & PROGRESS COME FIRST

Kerala has always been at the forefront when it comes to all-round development, be it healthcare, education, infrastructure development, social welfare or ease of doing business. With more development projects and initiatives in the pipeline, aimed at bettering the state and the lives of people, the first anniversary of the second term of **Hon. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's** governance will mark the beginning of another era of progress.



India's first 100% digital state
with access to internet
as a basic right.

Kerala ranked No. 1 in the NITI Aayog
Sustainable Development Index.
(A recognition of its social, economical and environmental progress)

Best performing state in the
Happiness Index.
(India Today State of the States ranking)

- Among the top three performers in the State Energy and Climate Index, April 2022
- Best performer among major states in the India Innovation Index 2022
- No. 1 in the NITI Aayog Health Index for the fourth consecutive time
- Best performing state among the large states as per the Public Affairs Index
- State with the least amount of poverty as per the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)
- Best state in India that handled the online classes effectively during the pandemic
- No. 1 in the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India Quality Index
- Indian Police Foundation declared the Kerala State Police Force as the least corrupt force in the country
- Awarded India Today Healthgiri Award for conducting the best Covid 19 vaccination drive in the country
- Won Vayoshreshtha Samman 2021 for the best state in India that cared for its aged populace