

HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH HOLDS REVIEW MEETING

Targeted killings: J&K moves staff from minority communities to 'safer' locations

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

GRAPPLING WITH the spate of targeted killings in Kashmir, the J&K administration has started posting all employees belonging to minority communities, including Kashmiri Pandits, to "safer locations" within the Valley.

In New Delhi Friday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah held a meeting with J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, NSA Ajit Doval, Army chief General Manoj
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J&K L-G Manoj Sinha after a meeting in New Delhi on Friday. Prem Nath Pandey

EXPLAINED
E Killings cast shadow

THE SPATE of targeted killings in the Valley has had non-locals in a state of panic. This comes at a time when the UT is gearing for the Amamath Yatra. Tourists have also been heading to J&K and airlines are mounting flights like never before.

UP INVESTORS' SUMMIT

PM: Rs 80,000 cr investment, UP will drive India growth story

Global situation a big opportunity, India a reliable partner, says Modi

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, JUNE 3

MAKING A strong pitch for the state that he represents in Parliament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked the ground-breaking ceremony of the UP Investors Summit in Lucknow on Friday by laying the foundation for 1,406 projects worth Rs 80,000 crore.

Modi, who is the Varanasi MP, announced the investment while addressing a gathering that included Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Gautam Adani of Adani Group, Kumar Mangalam Birla of Aditya Birla Group, Niranjan Hiranandani of Hiranandani Communities and Matthieu Eyries of Paris-based Air Liquide.

In his address, Modi thanked investors for having "trusted the power of UP's youth" who "will be the biggest beneficiaries" of

TOP FIVE PROJECTS

- NIDP Developers Pvt Ltd: Rs 9,100 cr
- Medical Device Park: Rs 3,800 cr
- Noida Apparel Export Cluster: Rs 3,500 cr
- Adani Enterprises Ltd: Rs 2,706 cr
- SIFY Technologies Ltd: Rs 2,692 cr

the investment. "This record investment will create opportunities for thousands of jobs in the state. Along with India, it shows the increasing trust in the country's and UP's growth story," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

TATA FIRM WINS BID TO BUILD JEWEL AIRPORT PAGE 14



President Ram Nath Kovind and PM Narendra Modi at a public meeting in Paraunkh village in Kanpur on Friday. Vishal Srivastava

President welcomes PM: 'Sanskar trumps protocol'

MAULSHREE SETH
PARAUNKH (KANPUR DEHAT), JUNE 3

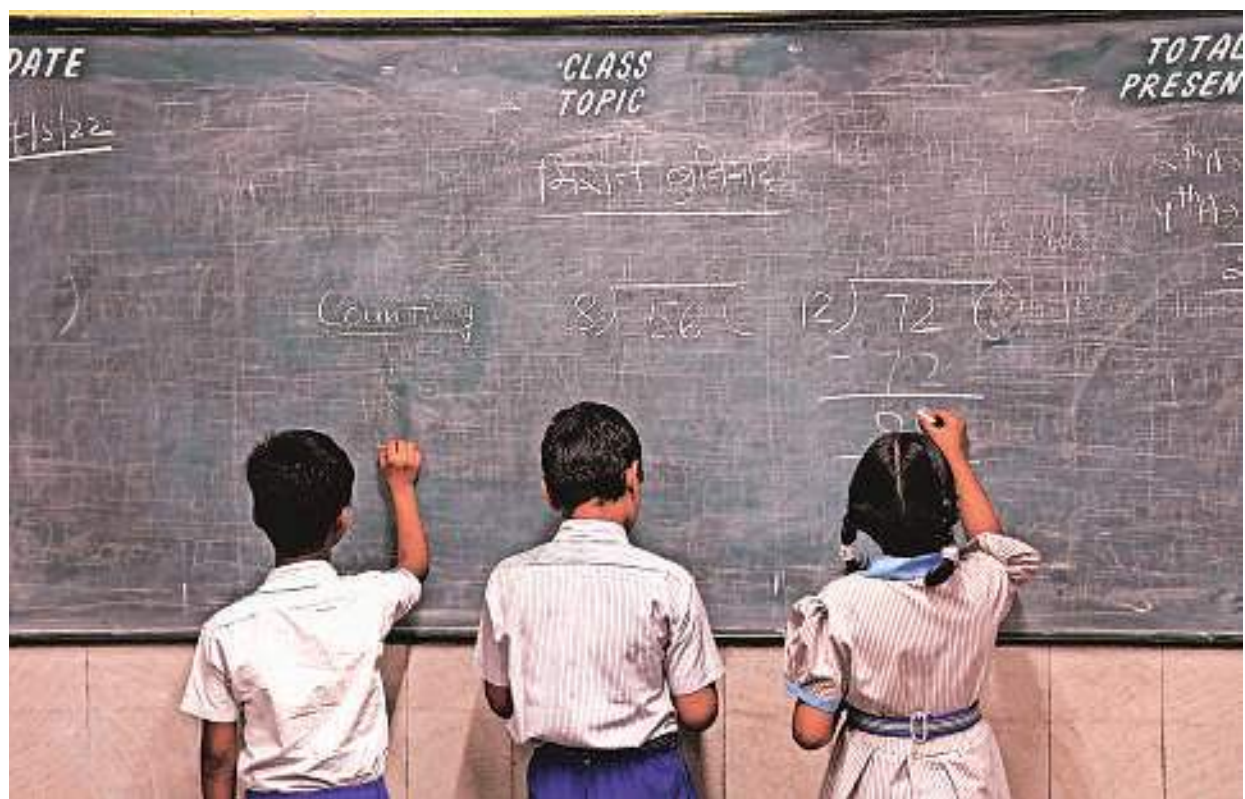
PARAUNKH, THE remote village in UP's Kanpur Dehat where Ram Nath Kovind hails from, became the venue of an unusual sight when the President broke protocol to receive Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, who had arrived for a brief visit on Friday.

While delivering a speech later, Modi said that Kovind told him he had come to the helipad personally since the Prime Minister was an "atithi (guest) of his village". Modi added that though he felt "embarrassed" by the gesture, it showed that the
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AN EXPRESS INVESTIGATION - PART 1

A national math problem: how to teach Class 5 kids after 2 years lost



(Left to right) Harish, Siddharth and Keerti, students of Class 5 A back after the pandemic in their mathematics class at Delhi Government's Veer Savarkar School. Their teacher Neha Sharma (below) has her task cut out. Photographs by Abhinav Saha

A MATH PROBLEM

Over two months, *The Indian Express* tracked a mathematics class of 10-year-olds in a Delhi government school to find how a teacher is racing against time to plug their critical learning gaps in the wake of the pandemic. The story of teacher Neha Sharma and the 38 children in her Class 5 A illustrates the unprecedented challenge playing out in countless classrooms across the country

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

SIDDHARTH CANNOT subtract 13 from 21 because this entails borrowing. Keerti can do only simple division, so 59 divided by 7 is a struggle since she hasn't understood the concept of a remainder. Harish's climb is steeper: he cannot identify one-digit numbers, something he should have been able to do in pre-school.

All three are 10-year-olds, students of Class 5A at the Veer Savarkar Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, a Delhi government school in Kalkaji. Each should have been fluent in these foundational mathematical skills that are taught in Class 3 or earlier. But this class of 38 children — 20 girls and 18 boys — were last in school in Class 2.

Now back after two years of a pandemic and a lockdown that touched every aspect their lives, their teacher Neha Sharma, 31, has a problem, one that teachers across the country are grappling with, highlighted by the recently released results of the National Achievement Survey (NAS): academic performances in schools across the country, including in the national capital, slipped be-

CLASS 5 A, VEER SAVARKAR SARVODAYA KANYA VIDYALAYA: REPORT CARD ON DAY ZERO

Total students	38
Can do simple division	20
Cannot do simple division, can do 2-digit subtraction	2
Cannot do subtraction, can count and identify numbers 10-99	14
Cannot identify 2-digit numbers, can count and identify numbers 1-9	1
Cannot identify single-digit numbers, beginner	1



TOMORROW: SITTING IN CLASS FOR FIVE WEEKS OF CATCH-UP

low levels recorded in 2017, except in Punjab and Rajasthan.

Over two years of the pandemic, much of these Class 5 kids' learning happened through weekly worksheets and activities shared on WhatsApp. But with access to devices and data uneven, digital learning re-

mained, at best, very patchy.

So, how will Sharma meet this unprecedented challenge: bringing her class up to speed for Class 5? Given that the students have different competencies and levels of learning, how does she calibrate her teaching, at different speeds for different children?

To investigate this, *The Indian Express* sat in for five weeks tracking the 38 children of Class 5A right from their first day of
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Behind (withdrawn) Aadhaar advice, a drugs bust in Bengaluru and an arrest

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

ON MAY 29, the Centre withdrew an advisory issued two days previously by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), which advised people to not give photocopies of their Aadhaar to establishments such as hotels, cinemas, etc. to prevent

their possible "misuse". The advisory could be "misinterpreted", the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said in a statement.

The *Indian Express* has learnt that the original advisory, issued on May 27 by the UIDAI's regional office in Bengaluru, was triggered after an individual who was allegedly part of an international narcotic drugs racket, was caught using fudged Aadhaar cards to book illegal export cargo of prohibited substances.

"One of the shipments, des-

tined for Australia, was seized at the Bengaluru airport," an official said. It is learnt that the matter was referred to the Chennai Police, which then arrested a person for forging an Aadhaar card of an individual from Andhra Pradesh.

The Customs Intelligence Unit reportedly seized 4.4 kg of ephedrine crystals worth Rs 90 lakh that was concealed in a shipment of garments. The cargo was intercepted at the international courier terminal of Bengaluru airport. The accused individual

was apprehended on May 20.

In its May 27 advisory, UIDAI asked people to make sure they shared their Aadhaar details only with entities that have a "user licence" from the Authority, but did not specify how they should verify this.

While withdrawing the UIDAI's advisory, the IT Ministry, however, said that people should only exercise "normal prudence", and assured that the "Aadhaar identity authentication ecosystem has provided
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GOVT & POLITICS



KERALA BYPOLL DEALS BLOW TO CPM, K-RAIL PROJECT; BOOSTS CONG PAGE 6

अपनी समस्या बताएं, समाधान पाएं।

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जन-सुनवाई

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क्र.सं.	अधिकारी	कार्यालय का पता	फोन नं.	ई-मेल
1.	उपायुक्त, मध्य क्षेत्र	शिव मंदिर मार्ग, लाजपत नगर -II	011-29815975	dc-cnz@mcd.nic.in
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4.	उपायुक्त, करोल बाग क्षेत्र	डी. बी. गुप्ता रोड, आनंद पर्वत, करोल बाग	011-25729723	dc-karolbagh@mcd.nic.in
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6.	उपायुक्त, नजफगढ़ क्षेत्र	वांसा मेट्रो स्टेशन के नजदीक, नजफगढ़	011-28014302	dc-najafgarh@mcd.nic.in
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10.	उपायुक्त, शाहदरा दक्षिणी क्षेत्र	इंस्टीट्यूशनल क्षेत्र, विश्वास नगर, शाहदरा	011-22303651	dc-sz-edmc@mcd.nic.in
11.	उपायुक्त, दक्षिणी क्षेत्र	अरविंदो मार्ग, ग्रीन पार्क	011-47501986	dc-south@mcd.nic.in
12.	उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी क्षेत्र	डॉ. साहिब सिंह वर्मा निगम भवन, शिवाजी प्लेस, राजा गार्डन	011-25934789	dc-west@mcd.nic.in
13.	अतिरिक्त आयुक्त, सिविक सेंटर	चौथा तल, डॉ. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी सिविक सेंटर	011-23225454	addlcommedu@mcd.nic.in
14.	सहायक आयुक्त, पटपडगंज (पूर्ववर्ती पूर्वी दिल्ली नगर निगम)	उद्योग सदन, पटपडगंज औद्योगिक क्षेत्र	011-22386319	ac-mcd1@mcd.nic.in

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WEB EXCLUSIVE



TONY FADELL INTERVIEW: 'I SEE PAIN-KILLING PRODUCTS ALL OVER, YOU JUST HAVE TO LOOK DIFFERENTLY'S

As his latest book, 'Build: An Unorthodox Guide to Making Things Worth Making' comes out, he spoke to Nandagopal Rajan on building revolutionary products and the importance of keeping the customer in mind.

EDUCATION

INDIAN STUDENTS IN CHINESE UNIVERSITIES ARE STUCK

Why, and what next?



ENTERTAINMENT

VIKRAM MOVIE REVIEW: HAASAN RETURNS TO BIG SCREEN

He couldn't have asked for a better comeback



EXPRESS AUDIO

Aadhaar confusion! singer KK dies; and Monkeypox worries

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Why people continue to be confused about Aadhaar, the legacy of singer KK, and how worried we should be about Monkeypox

FROM PAGE ONE

Growth story

"It is UP that will give momentum to India's growth story in the 21st century," he said. Making a case for more investment in the state, Modi praised UP's administration for stepping up to the challenge — and listed key projects coming up in the state such as the eastern and western freight corridors, and two multi-modal logistics transport hubs in Greater Noida and Varanasi, apart from those in the defence sector. He identified "chemical-free natural farming" along the Ganga and food processing as "golden opportunities". The Prime Minister also spoke about India's global standing and pitched the nation as a "reliable partner". "The current global situation presents a big opportunity for us. The world is looking for a reliable partner, and only democratic India has the capability to accept the challenge. Today, the world is seeing India's potential and also praising its performance," he said. "India didn't stop even during the pandemic, rather it stepped up the pace of reforms. We are seeing the results today. We are

the fastest growing economy in the G-20 (group of nations). Today, India is No.2 on the Global Retail Index. India is the third largest energy consumer in the world. In the year gone by, FDI worth \$84 billion has come from over 100 countries. In the last financial year, India exported merchandise worth...Rs 30 lakh crore and set a record," he said. Pointing to the past eight years under the NDA government, Modi said: "In this period...we have moved ahead with the mantra of reform, perform, and transform. We have given emphasis on policy stability, coordination and ease of doing business." He said that with law and order improving in UP, investors' confidence has increased. "There is a good atmosphere for business. In the past few years, administrative power and governance have improved here," said Modi. Noting that the Ganga flows through 25-30 districts of the state, covering around 11,000 km, he picked out opportunities in the agri sector with the Union Budget providing for a natural farming corridor on both sides of the river on stretches of 5 km each — in addition to the state government's

food processing policy. Referring to the defence sector, he said: "Under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat programme, we have taken a decision with a lot of courage and identified 300 items that we will not be bringing from abroad. These items are related to military equipment. So those who want to manufacture in the defence sector, there are these 300 items and the market for them is available," said Modi. Speaking about infrastructure, he said that the stretch on which work on expressways in UP is ongoing is a "record" in itself. "The modern network of expressways will connect different economic zones of UP. Very soon, the identification of UP will also be with modern railway infrastructure. The eastern and western dedicated freight corridors are going to be joined. Along with Jewar, UP's five international airports will improve international connectivity here," said Modi. According to him, an indicator of the pace at which India has progressed is the "digital revolution". "In 2014, there were only 6.5 crore broadband subscribers. Today, their number has passed 78 crore. In 2014, one GB data was around Rs 200. Today, it is worth Rs 11-12.

India is among the few countries where data is so cheap," he said. "In 2014, there was optical fiber covering 11 lakh km. Today, the length of optical fiber has crossed 28 lakh km. In 2014, there were less than 100 gram panchayats where optical fiber had reached. Today, the number of gram panchayats connected with optical fiber has crossed 1.75 lakh. In 2014, the country had 90,000 common service centres, today there are more than 4 lakh," he said. "Today, 40 per cent of digital transactions in the world are happening in India. Any Indian would be proud of this; an India which people once called illiterate is doing this." He said there were 100 start-ups in India before 2014, while the number of registered start-ups is near 70,000 today. Striking a personal note in between, Modi said: "I am the MP of Kashi (Varanasi)...Even though all of you are very busy, take out time and see my Kashi. It has changed a lot. It is a city of the world which, with its ancient power, can be decorated in new colours and forms. This is a living example of UP's power."

A national math problem

school through each of their 26 math classes and key parent-teacher meetings. Being their final year of primary school, Class 5 marks a crucial milestone, just one year away from middle school, the bridge to secondary. Maths was chosen since it is a subject that has traditionally challenged both students and educators alike and these challenges, experts said, were exacerbated during the lockdown. Especially for children from economically weaker sections and working-class families, the demographic that constitutes much of Class 5A, who did not have ready access to screen devices or the Internet. While Harish's father is a daily-wage worker, Siddharth's family is supported by his mother's anganwadi job, and Keerti's father is a fruit vendor. Each of them brings to the classroom a unique set of challenges which Sharma has to grapple with using a range of

tools: from innovative worksheets and quizzes to detailed sessions with parents, all the while playing teacher, counselor and, often, even their friend. Framing her challenge is the CBSE Class 5 curriculum that prescribes word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; angles and degrees; perimeter and area; fractions; factors and multiples with LCM and HCF; measuring volume of cuboids; expressing tenths and hundredths in decimal points. This is standard rubric for Sharma who has taught in government schools for 10 years. But this time, barely two weeks before school, at full capacity, began on April 1, it looks scary — Class 5A was nowhere near ready for it. Indeed, Sharma had conducted a basic assessment of all the children in mid-March to understand where they stood. This is what the report card looked like: **CLASS 3 LEVEL:** 20 of her

38 students were able to do only simple division sums which did not have remainders. Two students were able to do subtraction sums with two-digit numbers though they were not able to do simple division. **Satisfactory.** **CLASS 1 LEVEL:** 14 students were not able to subtract and were put in the 10-99 category — that is, they could only identify and count numbers between 10 and 99. **Bleak.** **PRE-SCHOOL LEVEL:** One student could only identify numbers between 0 and 9, while Harish could not even do that. He had to be categorised as "beginner". **Distressing.** This baseline, that Sharma has to work with, was at the heart of the Delhi Government's decision, when schools reopened in April, to devote the first three months of Classes 3 to 9 to foundational learning — called Mission Buniyad — and preparing to get the students to grade level, working on the assumption that most children

would have fallen behind. So, until mid-June, all children in these grades will focus on the basics of reading, writing and maths. For Class 5A and Sharma, this is the window to try and make up for lost time. She knows it's a long, hard journey — even those she identified as her brightest are not up to their grade level. "Before the pandemic, if there was a class with 40 children, there would always be four to five of them who were weak but not that they didn't know the numbers or the alphabet," said Sharma. "That has changed now. I suspect that even by the end of the year, despite all our efforts, at least 30 per cent of the class will not be able to grasp the Class 5 syllabus. My aim is to get the children to the next grade with a working understanding of these concepts." With this realism tempering her hope, she gets to work. (Names of children have been changed to protect their identities)

'Sanskar trumps..'

President embodied both the "samvidhan" (constitution) and "sanskar" (cultural values). Modi said the incident shows how the "sanskar (cultural values)" of "atithi devo bhava (guest is equivalent to god)" is "in our veins", and that the President "has shown an example". At one point during the speech, Kovind got up with folded hands in response to Modi offering his "pranam" in gratitude for the reception at the helipad. "Paraunkh ki mitti se Rashtrapati ji ko jo sanskar mile hain aaj poori duniya uski sakshi ban rahi hai (The world is becoming witness to the cultural values that the President has imbibed from the land of Paraunkh)," Modi said in his speech. "Today in the village, the President went beyond the protocols created for his position and surprised me. He himself came to the helipad to receive me. I felt embarrassed as we work under his guidance and his post has its own seniority and respect," he said. According to Modi, when he told Kovind that "you have done injustice to me", the President replied that "samvidhan ki maryadaon ka palan to main karta hun, lekin sanskar ki bhi apni takat hoti hai. Aaj aap mere gaon mein aaye hain. Main aaj yahan atithi ka swagat kame aya hun, Rashtrapati ke roop mein nahin aaya hun." ("I do maintain respect for the Constitution but cultural values have their importance too. Today, you have come to my village. I have come here to receive a guest, I have not come as the President"). In his speech that followed, the President did not refer specifically to the incident but said that his ancestral village and the district were "obliged"

to the Prime Minister for making the visit. "The people of this state feel proud that a person from the state has been given the top constitutional post of the country and the credit for that goes to you, Prime Minister," he said. Kovind said he was impressed when Modi took the initiative "to give responsibility to someone like him who was born into a poor family of the state". According to him, the people of UP had always felt that the state had given nine Prime Ministers to the country but not a President. The President also praised the Prime Minister for "giving new meaning to the term 'Bharat Mata ki seva' (serving mother India)". The President said that the Prime Minister visited the Pathar Devi temple and made an offering of flowers at the statue of B R Ambedkar in the village. During the visit, Modi was shown how Paraunkh has been developed into a model village with solar energy, model parks and a model anganwadi centre. The Prime Minister also visited an exhibition on the village, including various schemes implemented, and the "life journey" of Kovind. **J&K moves staff** Pande, R&AW chief Samant Goel, Intelligence Bureau head Arvind Kumar and senior officials to review the security situation in the Union Territory among other issues. It is learnt that the meeting lasted for over an hour and a half. Sources in the J&K administration said they would not agree to demands for transfer of minority community employees from Kashmir to Jammu. "Any such demand coming from any group of people is actually very, very counterproductive," sources said, adding that the administration does not "support people leaving the Valley." "Can there be transfers to Jammu? No, not at all. If we start transferring them to Jammu... Can we become a facilitator of some kind? No way. The government cannot be part of it... We cannot be part of it," the sources said, a day after a bank manager hailing from Rajasthan and a brick kiln worker from Bihar were shot dead by suspected militants. On Tuesday, a woman teacher from Jammu was gunned down outside her school in Kulgam in the latest wave of attacks targeting minorities and migrants in the Valley. "The spate of targeting killing will definitely stop. It happened last October, we

controlled it. It is happening now; we will control it. Because of this we will not facilitate... Then, what would be the difference between the 1990s and now?... Our system will take care of that," sources said. Asked about the security of government employees recruited under the Prime Minister's development package for J&K in 2015, the sources said, "Un sabhi ki posting is waqt safe locations par kar di gayi hai (All of them have now been posted to safe locations). There were about 6,000 people recruited under the PM package, of which over 5,500 have been posted." Besides, there are about 10,000 minority (non-Muslim) employees who have also been posted to safe locations, the sources said. To a query about Rajani Bala's letter — the teacher shot dead Tuesday — regarding her posting to a safer location, the sources said that she was about to be posted. "Government is taking every possible step to ensure that everybody is safe. This is a kind of conflict which we have not created. Some people have created it. It will be dealt with and everybody will be safe," the sources said. "Targeted killing is evidence that their (terrorists) ability to strike at more protected targets is very minimal. Therefore, you take out anybody. Today, the targets are Kashmiri Pandits, tomorrow it will be non-local labourers, and another day it will be a government employee who has no protection. This shows the level of desperation," the sources said. Stating that about 2.5 lakh people have registered for the Amarnath Yatra this year, the sources made it clear that the annual pilgrimage will be organised. "Yatra nahin hogi aisa to katai nahin hoga. Hamare hisab se yatra honi chahiye (It cannot be that the pilgrimage is not undertaken. According to us, the pilgrimage should take place)," the sources said, adding that the pilgrimage has been a symbol of the "composite culture" of Kashmir. Over 6 lakh people participated in the Amarnath Yatra in 2011-12. In 2019, the Yatra was curtailed and about 3 lakh people took part. About 2.5 lakh people have registered for the Yatra this year, the sources said. "This year we were expecting that more people would come and, therefore, we were preparing for that." Listing development works undertaken in the last few years, the sources said that about 3,000 works had been completed under district plans during 2018-19, and this increased almost 12

times to 35,000 in 2021-22. Similarly, the number of works completed under the UT plan increased from about 9,200 to 52,000 in the last financial year, the sources said. The number of tourists who visited the UT stood at 10 lakh during January-May this year, the sources said. Asked about applications regarding encroachment of land of Kashmiri Pandits who had migrated from the Valley, the sources said, "We received 7,966 applications on the portal... about 6,500 applications have been closed. Roughly 2,500 kanal (12.64 lakh square meter) of land belonging to Kashmiri Pandits has been recovered." **WITH INPUTS FROM MAHENDERSINGH MANRAL** **Hyderabad rape** Police seized a Mercedes Benz belonging to one of the accused, in which the assault allegedly took place. The driver is being questioned, police said. Officials said the 17-year-old had gone to a pub with a friend for a birthday party. Her father, who lodged the complaint, said they had permitted her to go as it was to be a no-alcohol party. While she was at the pub, officials said, she was befriended by a group of minors who offered to drop her home. They first went to a bakery where they purchased snacks. They then allegedly drove the 17-year-old to a secluded area and proceeded to gangrape her. Later in the night, they dropped her back at the pub and left. Police have retrieved video footage from at least six CCTV cameras in the vicinity of the pub. The girl initially told her parents that the bruises on her hands were caused by a fall, but it was when they noticed other injuries and questioned her that she admitted she had been assaulted. The 17-year-old was counselled by women police, during which she described the gangrape. A medical examination later confirmed the assault. Police said the teenager was in shock, and severely traumatised. BJP chief spokesperson K Krishna Sagar Rao alleged that there were five accused, including sons of two prominent local politicians. "The Hyderabad police have not yet arrested any accused despite the criminal complaint lodged by the parents of the victim, and the alleged criminals' car being impounded," Rao said. The BJP also held a protest at the police station concerned, demanding arrest of the accused, with some party workers forcing their way in before they were re-

moved. MLA Raja Singh said police were not making any announcement about the case because they do not want to include the names of the real culprits. "This is an elaborate plot to protect the real accused and name someone else... The state government is offering them protection," Singh alleged. **Aadhaar advice** adequate features for protecting and safeguarding the identity and privacy of the Aadhaar holder". The ministry did not say what constituted "normal prudence". In the period before it was withdrawn, the UIDAI advisory caught people by surprise, who expressed concern on social media that they routinely submitted photocopies of their Aadhaar for a range of services from obtaining SIM cards to opening bank accounts to checking into hotels. The advisory appeared to sharply contradict the claim of security made in 2018 by former UIDAI chief and then chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India R S Sharma, who had posted his Aadhaar number on Twitter and challenged a user to show a "concrete example" of how the number could be used to "harm" him. Critics have repeatedly flagged privacy concerns related to Aadhaar. A Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report released in April noted that UIDAI has not ensured that the applications or devices used by agencies or private firms for Aadhaar authentication were "capable of storing personal information... which put the privacy of residents at risk". In 2018, the Supreme Court had struck down a part of Section 57 of The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, which allowed private entities to collect Aadhaar details. While reading down the provision, the top court had called it "unconstitutional". Soon after the judgement, however, the UIDAI had clarified to banks that Aadhaar know-your-customer (eKYC) can be used to authenticate beneficiaries of government subsidies and welfare schemes, paving the way for private banks to use the document to identify beneficiaries of government welfare schemes. A few months later, in March 2019, the Centre issued The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019, which allowed banks and telecom operators to collect Aadhaar details as proof of identity. In July that year, Parliament passed a law to replace the Ordinance.

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Individual has right to profess any religion: HC

Declines to issue notice on BJP leader's plea to prohibit forced conversions

SOFIAHSAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

DECLINING TO issue notice at this stage on a petition seeking steps to prohibit forced religious conversions, the Delhi High Court Friday grilled the petitioner, BJP leader Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, and told him that data available on WhatsApp or social media cannot form the basis of a petition.

The division bench of Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said the plea would require a detailed examination to see whether it warrants even issuance of notice to the authorities. "Why should we issue notice? We have to first be satisfied with the petition. This is a petition which can have severe ramifications either way. There is no basis, no documentation, not one instance given by you," said the bench, while listing the matter for hearing on July 25.

The court also said the laws against forced conversions are already in place and asserted that conversion, in general, is not prohibited. "It is the right of an individual to profess any religion, religion of his birth or religion that he chooses to profess. That is the freedom of the Constitution. What you are saying is somebody is being forced to convert. When somebody is forced to convert, that is a separate issue," the bench added.

Questioning Upadhyay on data, the court said the petition does not mention any instances or provide any statistics about the claims of mass conversions. It asked whether anybody has come forward to complain. "It is somebody saying this has happened. Has it happened or not happened, something has to come on record. You have given three judgments... the rest is your averment," said the court.

Upadhyay in the petition claimed that the situation is alarming as many "individuals and organisations" are carrying out mass conversions in rural areas of the socially and economically underprivileged. He said the conversions are rooted in "a surge of foreign-funded international conversion campaigns" and "unethical predatory conversion strategies" are commonly used. When Upadhyay submitted he has data from social media, the court said, "Social media is not data. We have instances of photographs being morphed. Some incident being shown that look this is something that has happened, it turns out that it has happened somewhere in some other country 20 years ago and it is shown happening yesterday or today".

The court further said that newspapers, social media and even WhatsApp may or may not contain facts, but they cannot be the basis of petitions.



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NOTICE FOR 26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND E-VOTING INFORMATION

- NOTICE** is hereby given, pursuant to Bank of Baroda General (Shares and Meetings) Regulations, 1998 and Rule 20 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014, that the 26th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Shareholders of Bank of Baroda will be held on Monday, 27th June 2022 at 11.00 A.M. through Video Conferencing (VC) / Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM) in compliance with Circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Government of India and Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in this regard, to transact the following businesses as contained in the notice of AGM:
 - To approve the financial results of the Bank for the year ended 31st March, 2022.
 - To approve and declare dividend for the FY2021-22.
 - In compliance with the above Circulars, electronic copies of the Notice of the 26th AGM and Annual Report 2021-22 have been sent to all the shareholders whose email addresses are registered with the Bank/Depository Participant(s). A copy of the same is available on Bank's website i.e. www.bankofbaroda.in and on website of e-voting Agency i.e. <https://evoting.kfintech.com>
 - Shareholders holding shares either in physical form or dematerialized form, as on the cut off date may cast their votes electronically on the business as set forth in the Notice of 26th AGM through the electronic voting system of KFin Technologies Ltd. ("remote e-voting").
- Shareholders hereby further informed that:
- The business as set forth in the Notice of the 26th AGM will be transacted through remote e-voting and e-voting system at the 26th AGM;
 - The Register of the Shareholders and Share Transfer Register of the Bank will remain closed from Tuesday, 21st June 2022 to Monday, 27th June 2022 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of 26th Annual General Meeting and dividend payment. Shareholders having shares as on Monday 20th June 2022, being the cut-off date shall be eligible for dividend. Applicable Tax will be deducted on Dividend Payment as per Income Tax guidelines.
 - The remote e-voting shall commence at 9:00 a.m. IST on 23rd June 2022 and end at 5.00 p.m on 26th June 2022;
 - The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by remote e-voting or by e-voting system at the 26th AGM shall be 20th June 2022;
 - Remote e-voting module will be disabled after 5:00 p.m. IST on 26th June 2022;
 - Any person, who acquires shares of the Bank and becomes a member post-dispatch of the Notice of the 26th AGM and holds shares as on the cut-off date i.e. 20th June 2022, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@kfintech.com. However, if a person is already registered with KFin Technologies Ltd., for e-voting, then the existing user ID and password can be used for casting their vote;
 - Shareholders may note that:
 - the facility for voting will also be made available during the 26th AGM, and those shareholders present in the 26th AGM through VC facility, who have not cast their vote on the resolutions through remote e-voting and are otherwise not barred from doing so, shall be eligible to vote through the e-voting system at the 26th AGM;
 - who have cast their votes by remote e-voting prior to the 26th AGM may also attend the 26th AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their votes again; and
 - only persons whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the cut-off date shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or e-voting at the 26th AGM.
 - The manner of voting remotely for shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for shareholders who have not registered their email addresses is provided in the Notice of the 26th AGM. The details will also be made available on the website of the Bank. Members are requested to visit www.bankofbaroda.in to obtain such details.
 - Shareholders who have not registered their email addresses are requested to register their email addresses with respective depository participant(s) and members holding shares in physical mode are requested to update their email addresses with Bank's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, KFin Technologies Limited, at einward.ris@kfintech.com to receive copies of the Annual Report 2021-22 along with the Notice of the 26th AGM, instructions for remote e-voting and instructions for participation in the 26th AGM through VC/OAVM.
 - In case of queries relating to remote e-voting, members may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for members and e-voting user manual for members at KFin Technologies Private Limited's website or contact Mr. S.V. Raju, DGM of KFin Technologies Ltd, (Unit : Bank of Baroda), Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad – 500 032 at e-mail v-raju.sv@kfintech.com at phone no. 1-800-309-4001 (toll free).
4. The aggregate results of Remote E-voting and voting at the meeting will be announced within 2 working days of the 26th AGM by the Bank in its website, KFin's website and also informed to the Stock Exchanges.
5. The members who require technical assistance to access and participate in the meeting through VC may contact the helpline number: 1-800-309-4001.
6. Annual Report 2021-22 and Notice of 26th AGM is available at <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/-/media/project/bob/countrywebsites/India/pdfs/mlg0622/ar2021-22-02-08.pdf>

Place: Mumbai
Date: 04.06.2022

For Bank of Baroda
Sanjiv Chadha
Managing Director & CEO

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June 2 373

June 3 345

Total 1,446

Cases 373

Recoveries 448

Deaths 2

Tests 20,195

ICU BEDS 2,216

Deaths 0

Total 18,80,324

Deaths 26,212

Total 3,85,86,396

Total active cases in Delhi

Total 9,595

Vacant 9,516

HOSPITAL BEDS 2,216

ICU BEDS 2,198

Tests 20,195

Deaths 144

Deaths 151

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

Deaths 0

ANOTHER DOCTOR NABBED, TOTAL ARRESTS NOW 11

Inspired by 3 Idiots character, kidney racket kingpin started at similar gang in Rajasthan

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

TWO DAYS after 10 men, including a doctor, were arrested in connection with a kidney transplant racket in South Delhi, police arrested another doctor, Dr Priyansh Sharma (34), who works as a surgeon at a private hospital in West Delhi.

Police also found that three arrested gang members — alleged mastermind Kuldeep Ray (47), Dr Priyansh, and Dr Sourabh Mittal (37) — have links to a Rajasthan-based kidney racket.

"Ray has worked as an OT technician for over 20 years... Three-four years ago, he came in contact with the Rajasthan-based gang and he operated on many patients. The recipients were paying the gang Rs 10-20 lakh for a kidney and the operation. Soon, he realised he could make more money by starting his own gang. He was charging Rs 20-25 lakh per operation now," said an officer.

Officers said Ray was inspired by the Bollywood movie, 3 Idiots, and calls himself 'Rancho' because he felt he was a "gifted" surgeon. "Ray was the 'head surgeon'... he would take around six-seven hours on one operation. During questioning, he revealed

MEET THE GANG

KULDEEP RAY VISHVAKARAMA (47): 'Kingpin' of the gang and an OT technician who allegedly performed the operations

SONU ROHILLA (37): 'Owner' of the 'hospital' at Gohana where they allegedly transplanted kidneys

DR SOURABH MITTAL (37): Anaesthetist at a private hospital who allegedly helped perform the illegal transplantation

DR PRIYANSH SHARMA (34): General surgeon at a private hospital who allegedly assisted Ray in surgeries

SARVJEET JAILWAL (37): Allegedly scouted for



Police said the accused allegedly targeted homeless people and illegally sold their kidneys. Express

targets, usually the poor and homeless, outside temples and hospitals and took them to the main accused

SHAILESH PATEL (23): Allegedly scouted for potential targets

MD LATIF (24): Worked as a field boy at a Hauz Khas lab, allegedly helped with medical tests of victims

VIKAS (24): Allegedly

provided accommodation to donors at his DDA flat and transportation to Gohana

RANJIT GUPTA (43): Allegedly provided food to the victims at the flat and brought them to Gohana

OM PRAKASH SHARMA (48), MANOJ TIWARI (36): OT technicians, allegedly helped in transplants

nician at hospitals in Rohtak, allegedly helped carry out the procedures here — despite not being a qualified doctor. Police said he and Ray set up the hospital illegally and Ray had sourced equipment, medicines and supplies from in and around Delhi.

The first doctor who was arrested, Sourabh Mittal (37), an anesthesiologist, also allegedly worked for the Rajasthan gang and was later offered a role in Ray's gang, said a source. He was allegedly being paid Rs 1.5-2.5 lakh for administering anaesthesia to patients at Gohana and examining medical reports.

Police said Mittal, a graduate from Maulana Azad Medical College, works at BL Kapoor Hospital. The management from BLK Hospital issued a statement saying: "It has been brought to our attention that some personnel working at BLK-Max Hospital have been allegedly involved in illegal surgical work at a hospital in Gohana... We have no knowledge of this and are assisting authorities in their investigation."

Police suspect Dr Priyansh was also part of the Rajasthan gang. DCP (South) Benita Mary Jaiker said he was arrested from Rohini on Friday and was allegedly assisting Ray with the surgeries.

On Friday, police wrote to the Medical Council of India to suspend the licences of Dr Mittal and Dr Priyansh and take strict action against Rohilla who has been working illegally as a medical practitioner for over a decade. They are now looking for those running the Rajasthan-based kidney selling syndicate.

According to police, the gang has been operating for close to a year and has allegedly transplanted over 14 kidneys in the last six months — at least two surgeries were performed by them per month. Police said the accused would usually perform the surgeries at night and keep the hospital shut during the day.

The gang had given specific tasks to each member — 'agents' were tasked with looking for "young men in their 20s; a lab technician Md Latif (among those arrested) would help with medical tests; and others set of 'agents' would send patients to Gohana where doctors and medical workers would operate on them".

"Members from the Rajasthan racket had guided Ray on keeping a low profile. He and Rohilla told us a few locals had begun suspecting their activities... and they were planning to shift someplace else," said an officer.

Boosting Delhi's groundwater level to ensure 24x7 supply to all: CM



He said they inspected the Rohini STP, which treats 15 MGD of wastewater per day. Express

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

AFTER INSPECTING the Rohini sewage treatment plant, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Friday said the AAP government is working on increasing production capacity by recharging groundwater to provide 24x7 water supply to all houses in Delhi.

He said the government is working on a unique mix of natural and scientific methods to prevent sewage from flowing into the Yamuna river, adding that water production levels have increased from 930 MGD to 990 MGD. "We are developing several lakes alongside the Rohini STP to treat water and increase the water table levels," he said.

Highlighting water issues between Delhi and Haryana, the CM said, "Delhi gets water from neighbouring states as per the allotment made in the 90s by the Supreme Court; the amount hasn't been increased ever since. Delhi's population has increased from less than 1 crore in the 90s to 2.5 crore now. We are trying to augment water production capacity both by implementing measures internally and asking the

Centre to increase Delhi's share of water coming from these states. We will supply treated water from Rohini STP to nearby lakes."

"At the same time, we are making efforts to implement the most advanced water management systems to increase water supply throughout Delhi using internal sources," he added.

He said they have inspected the Rohini STP, which treats 15 MGD of wastewater every day. "After treatment, it was earlier released into the Yamuna. However, now the government has decided to make it cleaner and improve its purity from the 25-30 standards and add it to the under construction Rohini lake. This will help increase groundwater levels."

The government is also working to install tubewells at several places for extracting water that can be used for drinking. By February 2023, this mechanism will be in place and operational.

The government is extensively working to make Delhi a 'City of Lakes' and has planned to revive 250 water bodies and 23 lakes, including the one at Rohini. The purpose of the project is to create multiple water reservoirs to stop urban flooding and avoid choked drains.

BRIEFLY

HC reserves judgment on ED petition against Jain

New Delhi: The High Court Friday reserved its judgment on the ED's petition against the trial court direction permitting a lawyer to remain present at a distance during AAP minister Satyendar Jain's questioning.

Expedite work on WTP at Tehkhand: L-G to MCD

New Delhi: Inspecting the Okhla waste-to-energy plant Thursday evening, new Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena directed MCD officials to expedite work on another plant at South Delhi's Tehkhand and complete it by August.

St Stephen's admissions: HC notice to DU, UGC

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Friday issued a notice to Delhi University and the University Grants Commission on the petition filed by St Stephen's College against the varsity's letter that directed it to withdraw the admission prospectus and admit general category students to UG courses only through the CUET. ENS



INFERNO

A transport godown caught fire in the Sahibabad industrial area, Friday morning. At least 18 fire tenders were rushed to the spot and the blaze was brought under control. While there was damage to property, nobody was injured. Praveen Khanna

Metro takes cognizance after woman alleges sexual harassment at station

MALAVIKA PRASAD
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

AFTER A young woman was allegedly sexually harassed at a Metro station Thursday afternoon, the Delhi Metro Railway Corporation (DMRC) issued a statement stating that it has "taken up the issue with the security agencies" concerned. CCTV footage has already been shared with police who are actively pursuing the case further, it added.

In a series of tweets, the woman said she was travelling on the Yellow Line when a man approached her and asked for help with an address. The woman said she then got down at a station and while she was trying to book a cab from the

platform, the man approached her again. He then exposed himself, she alleged.

Following her tweets, the DMRC issued a statement on Twitter emphasising its "zero-tolerance for any act amounting to indecent behaviour and sexual harassment".

"...In the context of the recent incident... we have already taken up the issue with the security agencies concerned. Delhi Police has already taken cognizance of the complaint and is investigating the matter... The Delhi Metro premises and trains are covered by CCTV cameras at multiple locations," said Anuj Dayal, Principal Executive Director, Corporate Communications, DMRC.

Police said officers were sent to her home and her statement

was recorded. "She ran away and approached a policeman (CISF) passing by, who directed her to a CISF personnel and she was taken to the CCTV control room where the incident was noticeable. This incident came to the notice of Delhi Police, when the complainant posted... on social media around midnight. She was immediately approached for contact details... A case has been registered under applicable IPC sections," said Harendra Kumar Singh, DCP, Railways, who is presently looking after the work of DCP, Metro.

The woman, however, alleged that neither the "policeman on the platform nor others in the CCTV control room helped her". "The entire incident was captured on camera but we saw him

get into a different train and leave. I asked them to do something about it but instead they started victim blaming me and said that I should've created a scene and there was nothing they could do since he had managed to leave," she claimed in her tweet.

On this, a senior Delhi Police officer said the incident was neither reported by the complainant nor did security personnel at the station escalate the matter to them.

A senior Central Industrial Security Force official said the woman approached a personnel from the force, who helped her identify the accused from CCTV footage. However, by that time the accused had already fled. Police said he was seen boarding a train towards Gurgaon.

Defence officer targeted in Gurgaon snatching

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, JUNE 3

TWO UNIDENTIFIED men on a motorcycle snatched a senior defence officer's gold chain while he was out on a morning stroll at Sector 45 on Thursday. This is the third chain-snatching incident by motorcycle-borne snatchers in the East zone of the city in the past week.

According to police, the incident took place around 6.30 am when the 42-year-old senior defence officer, who is posted at an air force station in Punjab, was walking in a service lane near Ambedkar Chowk.

In the police complaint, he said he had come to his house on leave. "On Thursday morning, I went for a walk. After walking in the service lane at Sector 45 for 5-7 minutes, I turned towards the lane going towards Kanhai village. I had walked for more than 150 metres when a man came from behind and suddenly snatched my gold chain before he pushed me and ran towards his accomplice, who was waiting on a motorcycle on the wrong side," he said.

The official requesting anonymity, said, "They drove from Ambedkar Chowk towards Unitech Cyber Park. The motorcycle driver kept the ignition on during the incident. I chased them but they managed to escape." Police said the victim suffered minor bruises on the neck.

An FIR was registered against the accused under IPC sections 379 A (snatching) and 34 (common intention) at Sector 40 police station, said police.

AT MUKARBA CHOWK

3 underpasses to help ease traffic on Outer Ring Road, deadline Sept 2023

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

IN A bid to decongest the Outer Ring Road area near Mukarba Chowk, the Public Works Department (PWD) is planning to construct three underpasses in the area as well as a ramp from Badli junction to Haiderpur Metro station.

"Currently, at the Mukarba Chowk junction and Haiderpur Metro station, traffic remains heavy throughout the day as the section comes under the

Outer Ring Road and on the Delhi-Haryana border, with vehicles from Delhi and nearby areas using the road in large numbers. With the construction of these underpasses, congestion will reduce. It will also facilitate a smooth commute for people travelling to and from Rohini, Wazirabad, Azadpur market and Transport Nagar," he said.

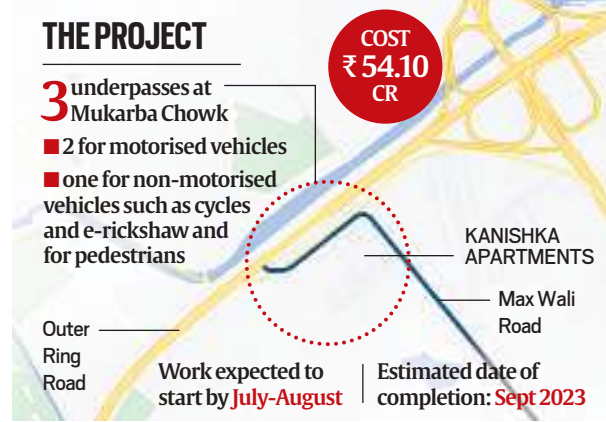
The underpasses will come up between Badli Mor towards the drain; Shalimar Bagh road (Max Wali road) to Kanishka Apartments turn; and from

Kanishka Apartments to Max wali road. The third underpass will be for non-motorised vehicles.

"Two underpasses are for motorised vehicles and one for non-motorised vehicles such as cycles, e-rickshaws and pedestrians," said the official.

The two-lane underpasses will be 50 metres long and 7.5 metres wide. It will also have 2.1-metre-wide footpaths. The road for non-motorised vehicles will be 5.5 metres wide and will have a footpath.

The department will also



construct footpaths, a drainage system, carry out landscaping, and install road signages and safety fixtures.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be Rs 54 crore.

The proposal was approved by the Unified Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure Planning and Engineering Centre (UTTIPEC) in 2016.

"The project was to start in 2020 but was delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic and financial approvals. It is on track now and tenders have been floated for construction of the under-

passes using box-pushing technology," said a senior PWD official.

Under the box-pushing technology, the box segments are pushed with the help of hydraulic jacks installed at the rear end of the segment. The jacking reaction is obtained from the pocket provided in the thrust bed and rear wall. The technique has been used to create underground space primarily for rails and roads, car parking, water pipelines, drainage, and pedestrian access.

The PWD is also planning to

construct a three-lane elevated ramp alongside the Mukarba Chowk flyover to provide smooth connectivity to National Highway-44, and Karnal in Haryana. This proposal will soon be submitted to UTTIPEC for approval.

Pre-construction work on the underpasses, such as site mapping, soil investigation, and topographical survey, has begun. Tenders have been floated and work is expected to start by July-August and the tentative deadline is September 2023.



8 Years
Seva, Sushasan,
Garib Kalyan

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav



NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARATH



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

Karnataka Agriculture sector (2014-2022)

Significant progress made in centrally sponsored schemes.

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

“Agriculture makes significant contributions to the fundamentals of our country's economy. Economic prowess of villages imparts momentum to the nation's economic progress.”

- Narendra Modi

Centre's total contribution to Karnataka (2014-22)

Rs. 1,29,776.74 crore

Excluding Devolution, GST Compensation, Finance Commission Grants, etc.

Total amount for agriculture and allied sector Rs. 19,374 Crore (2014 to 22)

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana **Rs. 8,704.29 crore**. Beneficiaries: **Rs. 4.17 crore**
- Rashtriya Kisan Vikas Yojana: **Rs.2,111 crore** Beneficiaries: **Rs. 23.9 lakh**
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana: **Rs. 797.20 crore**
- Sub-Mission of Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM) **Rs. 681.65 crore**. Beneficiaries: **Rs. 5.07 lakh**
- National Food Security Mission: **Rs. 842.50 crore**
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Credit Card Yojana **Rs. 19,950 crore**
- Soil Health Cards - Beneficiaries: **78,32,189**
- Neem Coated Urea: **13,67,026 MT**

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As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.



karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

VOH 6th International Conference 'Digital Healthcare 2022' explores the 360 degree transformative potential of tech enabled Healthcare.

ADVERTORIAL

By *Voice of Healthcare* - May 25, 2022

VOICE of Healthcare (VOH) organised the 6th International Conference on 'Digital Healthcare 2022', an annual VOH event that was powered by **CrelioHealth** this year at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.

The occasion witnessed a series of panel discussions that sought to deep-dive into a diverse range of topics under the central theme of 'Tech Enabling The Future Of Healthcare'.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from delegates who asked urgent questions to the panellists, eliciting insightful responses from the stellar galaxy of speakers.

LEADER EXCERPTS

Dr Naveen Nishchal (Chairman, VOH and Co-Founder, Meddo Health) drew everyone's attention to the emergent need for the advancement and integration of emerging technologies within healthcare for enhancing affordability, accessibility and availability of health services throughout the country.

Dr. Lai Ching-te (Vice President-Taiwan) set the **global tone for the multi-national event** by stating that **"India is important to Taiwan both for bilateral cooperation and as a like-minded partner in the Indo-Pacific region. Going forward, we will strengthen exchanges with India in areas including trade, healthcare, technology and education, deepening the relationship between our countries, for the benefit of both our people"**

He was joined by other **luminaries such as** Thomas Schlitt & Christian Grosser (Messe Düsseldorf), Rajiv Nath (AIMED & HMD), Sagi Itcher (Consul General, Israel, Mumbai), Diedrah Kelly (Consul General, Canada), Shri Rajesh Tope (Public Health Minister, Maharashtra), Dr. Po-Chang, Lee (DG, NHIA, MOHW, Taiwan), Peter Truswell (Consul General, Australia, Mumbai), Dr Minnie Bodhanwala (Wadia Hospitals) and Sanjay Jha.

The two day program offered the larger healthcare community a unique window and opportunity to reimagine and reinvent itself with the power of tech and digital **thought leadership, knowledge exchange and multi-level networking.**

Shri Rajesh Tope raised the strategic narrative by adding, "The continuing transformation in the space of digital healthcare will ensure that more patients from tier 2 and tier 3 cities get the same high quality care and support as those in big cities."

Diedrah Kelly elaborated on the strong ties Canada and India shares in the space of Health-



care, and their shared interest in expanding the same at the global level. Sagi Itcher underscored the importance of digital healthcare in day to day lives in this era, taking the example of Wearable Health Devices. He further encouraged India - Israel collaborations for Indian Healthcare Manufacturers for expanding into Israel and vice versa. Dr. Po-Chang, Lee, sharing Taiwan's experiences with the world while delivering an eloquent presentation on the state of Digital Healthcare in Taiwan.

POWER PANELS

The two day-long conference featured Panel Discussions that featured an inclusive umbrella of topic categories, and brought the proceedings alive with dynamic deliberations and insightful to-and-fros. Some of the themes under the spotlight were: **The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission; Medical Device Innovation; Connected Health; Emergency Care; Nursing Excellence; Transformation Of Indian Labs; India As A Hub Of Diagnostic Solutions; Future Of Diagnostics and Future Of Supply Chain, among others.**

In the panel discussion on Creating Digital Healthcare Ecosystem that also witnessed participation from Wadia Hospitals, PD Hinduja Hospital, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital and MJN Medical College - Dr. J L Meena (NHA, GOI) shared, "We are planning to incentivise hospitals that have already adopted the digital means. At the national level, we are also planning to include the digital healthcare system in the curriculum of MBBS, BDS, Nursing and allied health professionals so that they are better aware going forward."

The panel discussion on **'Medical Device Innovation In Digital Era of Healthcare'** concluded on the consensus that the existing ecosystem poses challenges to ethical manufacturers and ethical healthcare providers in India, noting that the recent policy on medical devices does not mention solutions to achieve affordability. Experts from AIMED & HMD, Innovation Imaging Technologies, Accurex, NCKU-Taiwan, Insight Medical Solutions, EPED and Collateral Medical participated in this panel.

Akhil Ganatra (Clancy Global) delivered a pre-



sentation on **Project Delivery with BIM for Healthcare.**

This was followed a session that explored the power of leveraging **'Connected Health for Smart Future'** where the focus was on leveraging public private partnerships in the space of digital Health to democratize good health, as well as the role of telemedicine in reducing healthcare challenges. Prominent experts from Healthassure, Omni Hospitals, Salucro, BestDoc, Trizone Healthcare Consultants along with EBM technologies and IQVIA participated in this panel.

The panel on the criticality of **'Emergency Care at the Golden Hour'** shifted the discourse to the realm of emergency care. It was supported by Stanplus, a fast growing enterprise that is catalyzing professional medical care through quicker and better emergency and medical transport solutions. Prabhdeep Singh of Stanplus called for the creation of a more updated and efficient system for faster delivery of care at the golden hour. Experts from Yashoda Hospitals, Medicovert Hospitals, AIMS, ACRO Biomedical and ECOVIS RKCA amplified the conversation.

The panel discussion on **'Nursing Excellence For Achieving Better Patient Outcomes'** powerfully delivered the message of equal inclusion of nursing professionals in the creation of new and expedient digital health technologies. Nursing leaders from Continental Hospitals, Sir H.N Reliance Foundation Hospital, Jaslok Hospital, Sheth L.G.Gen.Hospital, Breach Candy Hospital and NCKUH-Taiwan, participated in this panel.

Amongst the core focus areas of this seminal, two day Conference was the spate of innovations happening in the **Indian Diagnostics** space (especially in the wake of the pandemic), and the unmistakable ascension of India as a global diagnostics superhub.

Indian Actor and Co-Founder of Ketto, Kunal Kapoor, marked his presence with a reflective **Fire-side Chat** with Dr Naveen Nishchal. He shared proprietary insights and learnings on how Ketto has been impacting lives through the means of crowd-funding for various causes, including healthcare.

The panel on **'Patient Centric Transformation of Indian Labs'** underlined that top quality

seamless patient experience were the top-most priorities for Indian labs. This panel attracted participation from Indira IVF Group, Pathkind Diagnostics, mfine, Aarthi Scans & Labs and Praxis Global Alliance.

The panel examining **'Advancement Of India As A Hub Of Diagnostic Solutions'** highlighted the role of Public Private Partnership in developing the Diagnostics sector all across India. The narrative also attempted to explore feasibility of bringing in 'Clinical IT' - which is the ability to interpret results from various parts of diagnostics within a setup. This panel witnessed participation from Dr. Lal PathLabs, Krsnaa Diagnostics, Roche, Beckman Coulter, Redcliffe Labs, NASSCOM and CrelioHealth. CrelioHealth - the POWERED-BY partner for the Conference - offers solutions for diagnostic labs, personalized patient experiences, improved TAT & cost optimization for patients.

The panel discussion deliberating on **'The Future Of Diagnostics'** scrutinized the affordability of genomics, and the role IT and Innovation is playing as the 'Principal Game Changer' for the healthcare industry. This panel saw participation from Metropolis Healthcare, MedGenome, SRL Diagnostics, Mylab Discovery Solutions, CrelioHealth, aetherAI and Haystack Analytics.

The two day event concluded with the panel discussion exploring **'The Future Of Supply Chain For Indian Diagnostics Sector'** which emphasised that while there exists a lot of healthcare data in the system, it was not backed up with sufficient analytical and digital management tools - severely compromising our ability to mine that data for constructive information and actionable outcomes. This discussion saw participation from Metropolis Healthcare, MyLab Discovery Solutions, Dr DRG Labs, Aspira Pathlab, Sahyadri Speciality Labs and CrelioHealth.

GLOBAL FORCES

An honourable assemblage of distinguished **International Partners** lent shape, conviction and momentum to this grand, multi-dimensional knowledge cum networking event in Mumbai. They were National Cheng Kung University Hospital (Taiwan) and Country Partners Israel Economic and Trade Mission Mumbai and Australian Consulate-General Mumbai. This event was supported Wadia Hospitals and trusted by Apollo Hospitals, with Redcliffe Labs and Medgenome as associate partners. Stanplus was the session partner, while Trizone Healthcare Consultants, Chitkara University and DY Patil University were the academic partners.

Issued in Public Interest by Digital Healthcare



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



OUT OF FAVOUR

WITH BY-POLLS to four Assembly seats scheduled for June 23, the political climate is heating up in Tripura. Curiosity is also growing over how the BJP plans to use the services of former Chief Minister Biplab Deb. After being removed as the CM, Deb started touring the state extensively, participating in party programmes amid suspense over the BJP's state unit head. But towards the end of May, he went quiet, with the new CM Manik Saha indicating that he will continue to handle the post of party chief as well. The party has also appointed Kailash Vijayvargiya, Assam minister Ashok Singhal and Himanta Biswa Sarma's political secretary Jayanta Malla Baruah as 'prabharis' for Tripura.

TREK RECORD

IN AN unusual move, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar trekked to a polling station in a remote village of Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Friday. Kumar, who took charge as the CEC in May, said he chose to visit the polling station in Dumak village to motivate poll workers who take around three days to reach the area ahead of every election. "Leading the way, Kumar trekked for 18 kms through inaccessible terrain to visit polling station in Dumak village in Chamoli, Uttarakhand," the ECI tweeted.

FILM FESTIVAL

OFFICIALS AT the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are preparing for a film festival to be held in Srinagar between June 15-20. It is learnt that I&B Secretary Apurva Chandra himself is very keen about the festival, which is being organised for the first time. Apart from showing movies based on J&K, or shot in the Union Territory, and documentaries, the officials are also planning to hold some special screenings by the Dal Lake or on houseboats.

Cases creep up, govt writes to five states: Maintain strict watch

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE CENTRE on Friday wrote to five states — Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana — asking them to "maintain strict watch and take pre-emptive action" to control the spread of Covid-19. There has been an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases and positivity rate reported over the last one week, driven by an increase in these five states, said the letter written to these states by Union health secretary Rajesh Bhushan.

The states have been asked to ensure Covid-19 appropriate behaviour, monitoring clusters of Covid-19 cases, adequate testing, monitoring cases of influenza like illnesses in health facilities, and genomic sequencing of samples from international travellers, from sentinel sites, and local clusters.

The number of Covid-19 cases reported across the country increased from 15,708 during

the week ending on May 27 to 21,055 during the week ending on June 3. The positivity rate — proportion of samples tested that return positive — increased from 0.52 per cent to 0.73 per cent during the period.

"There are a few states which are reporting a higher contribution to India's cases indicating the possibility of a localised spread of infection. There is, therefore, a need to follow risk-assessment-based approach on public health responses without losing gains made so far in the fight against the pandemic," the letter read.

Kerala accounted for 31.14% of the new cases reported across India during the week ending on June 3. Maharashtra accounted for 23.19%, Karnataka 6.87%, Tamil Nadu 3.13%, and Telangana 1.78%, as per the letter.

There was a small surge in April as well, driven mainly by the increase in cases in Delhi and neighbouring districts of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

Eateries can hike rates, shouldn't charge more through deceit: Goyal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

A DAY after the Centre said that it will soon release a "robust framework" to ensure strict compliance of its 2017 guidelines, which bars charging for service by hotels and restaurants, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal said that restaurants can not ask customers to pay hidden charges.

Addressing a press conference, Goyal said, "You [restaurants] can raise wages of your workers by raising rates. There is no bar on that. We would welcome it if they raise their employees' wages. They are free to increase the wages of their employees and they are free to charge any rate."

"Par chhal se chhupa hua ek

rate aur wo bhi kuch charge karte hain kuchh nahin karte hai...to logon ko kaise maloom padega ki kya real price hai. (But [they cannot charge] a hidden rate by deceit, that too, some of them charge and others don't. In this situation, how will people know what the real price is?)" Goyal said, in response to a query.

Goyal's remarks came a day after the Department of Consumer Affairs held a meeting with restaurant associations, in which representatives of restaurant owners' association stood their ground on the issue of service charge and said collecting service charge is neither illegal nor in violation of law. However, the Consumer Affairs Department said that it will soon release a "robust framework" to ensure strict compliance of its 2017 guidelines, which bars charging for service by hotels and restaurants.

41 elected unopposed to RS; Sibal, Chidambaram, Jayant among them

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

SENIOR CONGRESS leader P Chidambaram, former Congress leader Kapil Sibal, RLD chief Jayant Chaudhary, RJD's Misa Bharti, BJD's Sasmit Patra and YSRCP's V Vijayasai Reddy were among the 41 candidates from 11 states who were elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha on Friday. As the last date for withdrawal of candidatures ended, it became clear that Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Haryana will witness high-stake elections on June 10.

Biennial elections are being held to fill 57 seats in Rajya Sabha

across 15 states.

The entry of media baron Kartikeya Sharma as the third candidate for the two seats in Haryana, and Subhash Chandra — the founder of Zee Media — as an independent with the support of the BJP as the fifth candidate for the four seats in Rajasthan has forced elections in both the states.

In Karnataka, the ruling BJP, the Congress and the JD(S) have put up candidates for the fourth seat, necessitating an election. The BJP has fielded three candidates, the Congress two and the JD(S) one for the four seats in Karnataka. In Maharashtra, too, there are seven candidates in fray for the six seats which have fallen vacant.

Of the 41 candidates who



Clockwise: Kapil Sibal, Jayant Chaudhary, Misa Bharti, P Chidambaram

won unopposed, 11 are from Uttar Pradesh — eight from the BJP, one each from SP and RLD

and Sibal, an independent backed by the Samajwadi Party. The Samajwadi Party candidate was former Rajya Sabha MP Javed Ali Khan. The RLD candidate was its chief Chaudhary.

Those from the BJP who won include former state unit chief Laxmikant Bajpai and national OBC morcha chief K Laxman.

Congress's Chidambaram was among the six candidates who won from Tamil Nadu. Those elected from Bihar are RJD supreme Lalu Yadav's daughter Misa Bharti and her party colleague Faiyaz Ahmed, JD(U)'s Khiru Mahto and BJP's Satish Chandra Dubey and Shambhu Sharan Patel. Senior Congress leader Rajeev Shukla and AICC

secretary Ranjeeta Ranjan were elected from Chhattisgarh.

Congress leader Vivek Tankha and the BJP's Sumitra Valmiki and Kavita Patidar were elected from Madhya Pradesh. The two nominees of the ruling TRS won unopposed in Telangana. In Odisha, the ruling BJD's three candidates including Patra won unopposed.

Four candidates of the ruling YSRCP, including Reddy, were declared elected in Andhra Pradesh.

In Jharkhand, ruling JMM's Mahua Maji and BJP's Aditya Sahu were declared elected unopposed. In Punjab, two AAP candidates were elected unopposed. In Uttarakhand, the lone winner was the BJP's Kalpana Saini.

For first time in two decades, Maharashtra to witness poll for an RS seat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JUNE 3

THE BJP in Maharashtra Friday refused to withdraw its third candidate for the June 10 Rajya Sabha polls, setting the stage for a contest with the Shiv Sena for the sixth seat. The development is also a setback for the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government, which was hoping to avoid a contest in the elections.

On Friday, the last day of withdrawing nominations, none of the seven candidates in the fray — four of the MVA and three of BJP — withdrew their nomination.

This will be for the first time in more than two decades that the state will see election to the Upper House of the Parliament. The last such election was in 1998, where the Congress candidate Ram Pradhan had lost despite the party having enough numbers in its favour. In 1998, the election was held as per the secret ballot system, while this time the voters (MLAs) will have to show their vote to the party whip before dropping it into the ballot box.

The BJP has fielded Union Minister Piyush Goyal, Anil Bonde and former MP Dhananjay Mahadik, while Sena has put up two candidates — Sanjay Raut and Sanjay Pawar. The NCP has renominated Praful Patel, while Congress has fielded Imran Pratapgarhi. The fight for the sixth seat is between BJP's Mahadik and Sena's Sanjay Pawar.

National Herald case: ED asks Rahul to appear on June 13

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) has issued fresh summons to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi asking him to appear before the agency on June 13 in connection with a money laundering case related to the National Herald newspaper.

The Congress had on Wednesday said that the ED summoned its president Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi to appear before it on June 8.

The party said the summons was received "just a few days ago" and Sonia would "100 per cent" appear before the ED. "If Rahul Gandhi is here... then he will also go. Otherwise, we will seek some time," said Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi.

Rahul Gandhi is yet to return to the country after a trip to London.

Centre gives Akal Takht Jathedar 'Z' category cover, he turns it down

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AMRITSAR, JUNE 3

THE MINISTRY of Home Affairs Friday granted 'Z' category security to Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh — who declined the offer saying it would come in the way of his work as a religious leader.

The Jathedar was one of 424 people — including singer and Congress politician Anand Moosewala — whose security was pruned by the AAP government in Punjab on May 28. Even though it was later restored, the Jathedar refused to accept it.

Moosewala was shot down after the security was trimmed.

Home Ministry officials in Delhi said the decision to accord the Z-category security, the country's second highest, to the Sikh religious leader was taken in view of an enhanced threat perception.

"Z-category security has been provided to Jathedar of Akal Takht Giani Harpreet Singh. The CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) commandos will be in charge of his security," an official said earlier in the day.

Hours later, the religious leader said that he had come to know about the decision through news reports.

He said: "I am thankful to union government for showing concern. I respect sentiments of government. But I request them to take back this decision."



Giani Harpreet Singh

Singh said that being the Jathedar, his area of work is to propagate the Sikh religion, it principles and tenets and that he has to travel within and outside the country for the purpose.

The Akal Takht is the highest temporal seat of Sikhs, and Jathedar is its appointed head.

"I visit different states and countries where I meet with common Sikhs. Sometimes, I also stay at their homes. So the security will affect my interaction with the Sikh community," he said.

A 'Z' category protectee is secured by about 16-20 armed CRPF commandos who are deployed round-the-clock in shifts.

Before the withdrawal, the Punjab government had deployed six personnel — three each from Bathinda police and the India Reserve Battalion — for the community leader's security.

On Friday, an AAP spokesperson said: "We welcome the decision of the Union government to provide security to the Akal Takht Jathedar."

ASSEMBLY BYPOLLS

Kerala: Bypoll deals a blow to CPM, boosts a flailing Congress

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 3

THE CONGRESS Friday registered a resounding victory in the by-election to the Thrikkakara Assembly constituency in Kerala's Ernakulam district, giving a jolt to the ruling CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF).

Congress nominee Uma Thomas, the wife of late party legislator P T Thomas, won the seat which her husband had represented since 2016, defeating the CPI(M) candidate Dr Jo Joseph by over 25,000 votes.

Uma's victory margin is the highest ever since the formation of the constituency in 2011. Her late husband had won the seat, a traditional Congress stronghold, by 14,300 votes in the 2021 Assembly polls.



Cong's Uma Thomas in Kochi on Friday. PTI

In Kerala, by-elections are generally won by the ruling front. However, Thrikkakara, an urban constituency, has bucked

the trend this time.

The victory was also a "do-or-die battle" for the state Congress, led by Leader of Opposition V D Sathesan and state unit chief K Sudhakaran. The duo ensured that the traditional Christian votes remain with the Congress despite the retirement of senior leaders.

The CPI(M) had hoped the constituency's urban voters would support its development agenda, at the heart of which is the proposed semi-high speed rail corridor or K-Rail project. As the line would pass through Thrikkakara, all political parties, sought to project the bypoll as a referendum on the project.

But despite the loss, the CPI(M) state secretary Kodyeri Balakrishnan Friday said the project will go ahead if Kerala receives permission from the Union government.

Odisha: BJD landslide, BJP slips to third place

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR, JUNE 3

THE RULING BJD in Odisha Friday registered a landslide victory in the Brajrajnagar Assembly bypoll, with its candidate Alaka Mohanty winning by a margin of 66,122 votes, pushing the opposition BJP to the third position for the first time since 2019.

In the by-election, held ahead of the 2024 simultaneous general election and state polls, Mohanty secured 93,953 votes to defeat her nearest rival Congress veteran Kishore Patel, who bagged 27,831 votes. BJP candidate Radharani Panda, a former Brajrajnagar MLA, secured 22,630 votes and lost her deposit, according to the Election Commission.

Mohanty won the seat riding the crest of a sympathy wave after the untimely death of her MLA husband Kishore Mohanty.

The Brajrajnagar by-poll margin is the highest in all the bypolls held in Odisha since 2019. According to the EC, the BJD candidate secured 61.25 per cent vote, Congress 18.14 per cent and BJP got 14.75 per cent, which is less than one sixth of the votes.



Agriculture Minister Ganesh Joshi celebrates Chief Minister Dhami's win from Champawat, in Dehradun on Friday. PTI

Uttarakhand: CM Dhami wins by record margin

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DEHRADUN, JUNE 3

UTTARAKHAND CHIEF Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami Friday won the bypoll to the state polls held in February.

Though chief ministers of Uttarakhand who contested bypolls never lost, this is the highest margin with which one has won a by-election in the state.

Dhami has overtaken the record of Vijay Bahuguna, who had won a bypoll from Sitarganj on a Congress ticket in 2012 by 40,000 votes.

Dhami had lost to Bhuvan Chandra Kapri of the Congress in Khatima, a seat he had won in 2012 and 2017 Assembly polls.

Between lines, the messages in Bhagwat's Gyanvapi speech

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

RSS CHIEF Mohan Bhagwat packed several messages in one address before a gathering of swamyasevaks in Nagpur Thursday. He supported the Hindu claim over the Gyanvapi Mosque in Varanasi on grounds of both "issues of faith" and "historical facts", but emphasised that the Sangh does not support claims from across the country regarding numerous historical sites. He repeated that Islam came to India via "invaders", but stressed that the followers of the faith in the country were "not outsiders".

Speaking on the Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi Mosque controversy for the first time, Bhagwat said the row had started years ago, for which no one in the present, on either side, could be held responsible. "One should not raise a new issue every day. Why escalate fights? Regarding Gyanvapi, our faith has been there for generations. What we are doing is fine. But why look for a Shilving in every mosque?" he had said.

In the case of Gyanvapi, the petitioners on the Hindu side have claimed that a videographic survey ordered by the court has discovered a shilving inside the mosque. The matter is in court.



The gathering addressed by the RSS chief included more than 700 swamyasevaks selected from across the country gathered for a training programme that began on May 9.

Bhagwat reinforced the line that the BJP too has adopted in the wake of a series of court cases on disputes similar to Kashi: that these rows, including Gyanvapi, should be settled by courts or mutual consent, and

that there would be no campaign or agitation by the Sangh.

"It was a very clever warning to hardliners that are seeking to raise disputes regarding every other monument or mosque. At the same time, the Sarsanghachalak extended the organisation's moral support to the Gyanvapi issue," a senior BJP leader who works closely with the RSS said.

The leader added that the message was significant as "it's a fact that many Islamic monuments were built after demolishing temples or Hindu places of worship". "But, as he said, that doesn't mean that every place can be claimed, and today's

Muslims cannot be held responsible for it."

While the BJP's critics may call it a "change of stance", party leaders said the "context" had changed — from being an Opposition party fighting against Congress dominance, the BJP was now the dominant force. As an Opposition party, the BJP could demand that the government in power settle disputes or express disapproval of a court verdict or the government's decisions, citing public sentiment. But, as the party in power, it was on the BJP now to resolve sensitive disputes, while the government had its own set of obligations, with its actions open to

scrutiny inside and outside the country. Hence, the leaders said, the government has to act fairly and through Constitutional means even while pushing the BJP's agenda.

However, a BJP leader pointed out, this did not mean that either the party or the RSS will stop pushing for amendments to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, which freezes status quo on places of worship as they existed on August 15, 1947. "That demand remains. It won't be from the BJP or the RSS, it reflects the sentiments of the Hindu majority."

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com



खेलेगा इंडिया तो खिलेगा इंडिया

Opening Ceremony of

4th KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES Panchkula, Haryana - 2021

Chief Guest

Sh. Amit Shah

Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation

Presided Over By

Sh. Manohar Lal

Chief Minister, Haryana

Guest of honour

Sh. Anurag Singh Thakur

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports,
Information and Broadcasting

August Presence of

Sh. Dushyant Chautala
Deputy Chief Minister,
Haryana

Sh. Nisith Pramanik
Union Minister of State for
Home Affairs, Youth Affairs & Sports

Sh. Gian Chand Gupta
Speaker,
Vidhan Sabha Haryana

S. Sandeep Singh
Minister of State for Sports
& Youth Affairs, Haryana

Date : 4th June, 2022 (Saturday)

Time: 06:00 pm onwards

Venue: Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex, Athletic Stadium, Panchkula, Haryana

For the schedule
of games
Scan the QR Code



PANCHKULA, HARYANA 2021

4th to 13th June, 2022



Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

www.prharyana.gov.in | Follow us on @diprharyana

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited (TSIIC), the nodal agency of Government of Telangana for development of industrial infrastructure in the State, invites Bids from reputed Developer firms with relevant experience for Allotment of Land (~75 acres Undeveloped) on Outright Sale basis for Development of plug & play Industrial Park at Dandumakapur (V), Choutuppal (M), Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri (D), Telangana.

The RFP can be downloaded from www.tsiic.telangana.gov.in from 04-June-2022. Last date for submission of Bids: 04-July-2022, before 15:00Hrs (IST).

Vice Chairman & Managing Director
Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited
"Parishrama Bhavan", 8th Floor, 5-9-53/1B, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad,
PIN:500004, Telangana Ph: 23237625/26, Fax: 040-23240205
R.O.No.: 195-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/11/2022-23, Date: 03-06-2022

omfed
CAD-705
www.omfed.com

The Odisha State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd.
D-2, SAHID NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR-751 007.
Ph No- 2546030/254073/2540417, Fax No (0674)2540974

TENDER CALL NOTICE FOR SALE OF EQUIPMENTS
OMFED invites sealed techno-commercial offers from purchaser/buyers of the dairy equipments for "Purchasing the fully functional 5 (five) Metric Ton powder plant equipment of Bhubaneswar Dairy under OMFED, Chandrasekharpur, Dist. Khurda, State, Odisha". Tender documents will be available from 04/06/2022 to 27/06/2022 up to 1.00 PM at the above mentioned address & can also be downloaded from website & submit their offers in the address on or before 27/06/2022 at 2.00 PM. The offers shall be opened on 27/06/2022 at 5.00 PM. The corrigendum / amendment to this notice if any shall be published only in the OMFED website www.omfed.com. Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bid documents or part thereof without assigning any reason. For details please visit our website www.omfed.com.

Managing Director
OMFED
OIPR- 06063/11/0029/2223

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

E-Procurement Notice

Invitation for Bids

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Bharmour invites tenders on behalf of Government of Himachal Pradesh through approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through e-tendering process.

Sr No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Cost of tender form	Last date for uploading the tender through e-tendering	Bid opening Date
1	Providing Sewerage Scheme to Bharmour and adjoining Area, Bharmour, Distt. Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, (SH-Laying, joining of sewage DI K.V pipes, HDPE Pipe, demolishing of existing manhole chambers, construction of new manhole chambers, inspection chambers in the working sewerage network)	Rs. 55923269.00/-	Rs. 591730.00/-	Rs. 2500/-	16-06-2022 17:00PM	17-06-2022 at 11.30 AM

The tender form and other detailed conditions can be obtained from the web site www.hpphp.org.

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Division Bharmour

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Green Campus, Ganderbal-191201 (J&K)

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for appointment of various teaching positions on substantive basis in the following departments: Convergent Journalism, Economics, Education, Teacher Education, English, Information Technology, Law, Mathematics, Politics & Governance, Tourism Studies, Urdu, Animal Sciences (Zoology), Physics, Religious Studies, Biotechnology, Physical Education, Medical Technology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Plant Sciences (Botany), Civil Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Management Studies, Commerce & Kashmiri.

The detailed notification along with prescribed online application form is available on the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in. The last date for submission of online application form/s is **30th June, 2022** & the submission of downloaded application form/s along with annexures is **9th July, 2022**.

Sd/
Registrar

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Ranjan Kumar, S/o Ramji Yadav, R/o Village Kosma, Post Vadoli, PS Imamganj, District Gaya, Bihar** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **Case FIR No. 830/2021 U/S 381/34 IPC PS Kotwali, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Ranjan Kumar** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Ranjan Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ranjan Kumar of FIR No. 830/2021 U/S 381/34 IPC PS Kotwali, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **08.07.2022**.

By Order
Ms. Meena Chauhan
Metropolitan Magistrate-08
Room No. 272, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Gajendra Kumar @ Gollu, S/o Sagar Chaudhary, R/o: H.No. 156, Pitampura Village, New Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 279/17 U/S 380/454/11/34 IPC** registered at P.S. Janak Puri, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Gajendra Kumar @ Gollu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Gajendra Kumar @ Gollu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Gajendra Kumar @ Gollu** accused of **FIR No. 279/17 U/S 380/454/11/34 IPC, P.S. Janak Puri, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **03.08.2022**.

By Order
Ms. Neetika Kapoor,
Metropolitan Magistrate-11,
Room No. 05, Ground Floor,
Dwarka District Courts, Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

NARMADA, WATER RESOURCES, WATER SUPPLY & KALPASAR DEPARTMENT

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.(short term) Second Attempt Of 2022-23

In the name and on behalf of Governor of Gujarat State. The Executive Engineer Drainage Division, Navsari, Dist : Navsari pin code No. 396445 Invites online tender from Current Registration Certificate as a firm / consultant in the Class shown Below For Work B-1 Tender as under:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	particulars
1.	THIRD PARTY INSPECTION/PROJECT MANAGEMENT/CONSULTANCY AGENCIES FOR THE SERVICES OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT, DESIGN REVIEW, CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION AND INSPECTION FOR ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT AND CONSTRUCTION (EPC) WORK FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VAGHRECH WEIR, FLOOD PROTECTION EMBANKMENTS AND ASSOCIATED WORKS, ACROSS RIVER KAVERI AND DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING DRAINAGE SYSTEM ON BOTH BANKS OF RIVER KAVERI NEAR VILLAGE VAGHRECH OF NAVSARI DISTRICT	(1) Estimated Cost-Rs. 12899415.00 (2) E.M.D.-Rs. 129000.00 (FDR) (3) Tender Fee D.D.-Rs. 3600.00 (4) Solvency-Rs. 25.80 Lakh (5) class of Registration - Current Registration Certificate as a firm/consultant (6) Time Limit - As per Original work
2.	Downloading of tender Document	DL 03/06/2022 to DL 10/06/2022 18.00 Hrs. DL 03/06/2022 to DL 10/06/2022 18.00 Hrs.
3.	Tender/Uploading Date	DL 03/06/2022 to DL 10/06/2022 18.00 Hrs.
4.	Pre-bid Conference	DL 10/06/2022 to DL 17/06/2022 upto 18.00 Hrs. Office of the Executive Engineer Drainage Division (Sinchai Bhavan) 2nd Floor Near Parsi Hospital, Navsari. Ph.No. 02637-259143, M.No. 9825058021
5.	Last date & Physical Submission of document	DL 10/06/2022 to DL 17/06/2022 upto 18.00 Hrs. Office of the Executive Engineer Drainage Division (Sinchai Bhavan) 2nd Floor Near Parsi Hospital, Navsari. Ph.No. 02637-259143, M.No. 9825058021
6.	Tender Opening Date & Time	DL 10/06/2022 at 18.30 Hrs. office of the SE, SIC, Atwalwales, Surat
7.	Inquiry/Contact office Address	Office of the Executive Engineer Drainage Division Sinchai Bhavan 2nd Floor Near Parsi Hospital, Gandevi Road, Navsari. M.No. 9712774785; 9825058021 Office of the Superintending Engineer, Sural Irrigation Circle, Atwalwales, Surat, Ph.No. 0261-2668700, 2667426
8.	The tender documents for the works will be available on the web site www.nwr.nprocure.com & further details notice can be seen at www.statetenders.gujarat.gov.in . All the contractors are requested to follow the tender after site visit only.	

INFNAVSARI12/2022

Certificates issued by Arya Samaj not valid proof of marriage: SC

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE SUPREME COURT on Friday declined to accept a certificate issued by the Arya Samaj as proof of marriage, saying issuing such certificates was not the sect's job but that of the authorities.

A vacation bench of Justice Ajay Rastogi and B V Nagarathna was hearing a petition of a man who has been bail by the Rajasthan High Court in a rape case. The man has been charged with raping a minor girl.

The petitioner's counsel contended that the prosecutrix in the rape case was a major, mar-

ried to the accused. The counsel added the marriage was conducted at the Arya Samaj.

The bench, however, said it was not the Samaj's job to issue marriage certificates and asked the petitioner to produce one issued by the authorities instead.

The bench also refused to interfere with the Rajasthan High Court order denying him bail.

"We have heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and find no reason to interfere in the order impugned at this stage. However, after the charges are framed, the petitioner is at liberty to renew his application for bail before the trial court," the bench said in its order.

The development comes amidst a pending plea in the SC of the Madhya Bharat Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, the nodal body of Arya Samaj temples in Madhya Pradesh, which has challenged a December 17, 2021 order of the HC's Division Bench directing it to solemnise marriage in accordance with the Special Marriage Act, 1954.

The HC order said no one other than the competent authority under the Act, 1954, can issue certificates in such marriages.

Upholding a Single Judge decision, the HC also asked the Samaj to amend its August 2016, guidelines by incorporating the provisions of Sections 5.6, 7, and 8 of the Special Act.

In its August 2016 guidelines, the Sabha had asked all Arya Samaj temples affiliated to it to comply with the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 while solemnising marriages.

Cong's Solanki announces 'small break' from active public life

Ahmedabad: Former president of Gujarat Congress Bharatsinh Solanki said on Friday that he is taking a "small break" from active public life, in the wake of an alleged domestic dispute between him and his estranged wife Reshma Patel.

Recently, a video had emerged on social media regarding an altercation between Solanki, his estranged wife, and a friend of Solanki's, after which the former held a press conference in The Grand Bhagwati Hotel in Ahmedabad on Friday.

"I am taking a small break from public life and I will return for the Gujarat assembly elections slated in December this year. During this time, I will be mobilizing ground support for the party by talking to people of my community," Solanki said.

9TH TELANGANA FORMATION DAY

KCR lists out state's achievements, says GSDP doubled in 8 yrs

CM cites growth in irrigation, power, agriculture, education and health

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, JUNE 3

TELANGANA HAS doubled its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) from Rs 5,05,849 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 11,54,860 crore in 2021-22, Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao has said.

On the occasion of the 9th Telangana Formation Day Thursday, the Chief Minister said the statehood was achieved with the sacrifices of its people, and it was built with the same spirit. After unfurling the Tricolour and singing the national anthem at his office-cum-residence, KCR

drove to the Telangana Martyrs Memorial to pay tributes. The Chief Minister said since it was formed, Telangana has registered qualitative growth in agriculture, irrigation, power, education and health. "In 2014-15, the state's per capita income was Rs 1,24,104. It increased to Rs 2,78,833 in 2021-2022," he said.

When the state was formed, he said, the installed power generation capacity was only 7,778 MWs. With the efforts put in by the state government, the installed capacity now stands at 17,305 MWs. "In the past eight years, in solar power, the state government had increased its



K Chandrashekar Rao. File

capacity from a mere 74 MWs to 4,478 MWs, which is a record in itself. The Telangana state stood first in the country in per capita power consumption," he said.

In education, the state government has taken up development works in all schools in a phased manner at a cost of Rs 7,289 crore, he said. In his speech, KCR also said that in the last eight years, 1.33 lakh government job vacancies were filled. The government is filling up about 91,142 government vacancies in one go; 11,103 contract employees who were working for a long time were regularised on humanitarian consideration, the CM said. "An additional 80,039 vacancies are going to be filled with the new recruits. The state stood as an ideal state by creating 2,24,142 government jobs," he said.

"With strict financial prudence and perfect planning, we could increase our revenue resources," KCR said.

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग

15, नेहरू पथ (वेली रोड), पटना-800001

सहायक अभियंता (असैनिक/यांत्रिक/विद्युत)

प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा (वि.सं. 03/2020, 08/2020 एवं 09/2020) को स्थगित करने के संबंध में

आवश्यक सूचना

वि.सं. 03/2020, 08/2020 एवं 09/2020 सहायक अभियंता (असैनिक/यांत्रिक/विद्युत) प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा की संभावित तिथि 02.07.2022 एवं 03.07.2022 थी, जिस अपरिहार्य कारण से स्थगित किया जाता है। उक्त परीक्षा के पुनः आयोजन की तिथि की घोषणा बाद में की जाएगी।

हस्ता./-
संयुक्त सचिव-सह-परीक्षा नियंत्रक,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Green Campus, Ganderbal-191201 (J&K)

NOTICE FOR EXTENSION OF TENDER (EOI) FOR PROVIDING SECURITY SERVICES ON O/S BASIS (NIT NO. SEC. - 04 of 2022)

Due to poor response, the last submission date of the Tender issued vide EOI NO.04 OF 2022 for providing security services to the University on outdoor basis is hereby extended till 15-06-2022. The detailed specifications as given in the e-tender document viz. qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications along with Terms & Conditions of the Contract & other relevant information shall remain unchanged. Moreover, bidders have to submit the hard copy of the technical bid along with all the requisite documents mentioned in the NIT to the Registrar's office by or before 10/06/2022 (04:30 pm).

Sd/
Registrar

JAIPUR METRO RAIL CORPORATION LIMITED

Directorate of Operations & Systems, 4th Floor, Administrative Building, Metro Depot, Shriya Path, Mansarovar, Jaipur-302020, Tel. No. 0141-2222101, Email: do@jaipurmetrorail.in & CM:160211R/2010SC030630

NOTICE INVITING BID

JMRC invites bids from the eligible contractors for services as mentioned below:

- No. JMRC/O&S/OP/HK/2021-22/NIB/16 "Mechanized cleaning and housekeeping Works of Mansarovar, New Aatish Market, Vivek Vihar, Shyam Nagar, Ram Nagar, Civil Lines, Metro Railway Station, Sindh Camp, Chandpole, Chhoti Chaupar, Badi Chaupar Metro Stations and RSS (MSOR & SICP) of Jaipur Metro Rail Corporation Ltd." Last Date of Submission & Opening of Bids: 27.06.2022 at 15:00 Hrs & 15:30 Hrs. (UEN: JMRC2221291000025)
- No. JMRC/O&S/OP/CS/2021-22/NIB/03(2R-1) "Bid for Selection of Agency for Providing Customer Facilitation Services for Mansarovar to Ram Nagar and other designated places of Jaipur Metro Rail Corporation Ltd." Last Date of Submission & Opening of Bid: 24.06.2022. (UEN: JMRC22230800024)
- No. JMRC/O&S/OP/CS/2021-22/NIB/03(3R-1) "Bid for Selection of Agency for Providing Customer Facilitation Services for Civil Lines to Badi Chaupar and other designated places of Jaipur Metro Rail Corporation Ltd." Last Date of Submission & Opening of Bid: 24.06.2022. (UEN: JMRC22230800023)

Bid documents may be downloaded from www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or www.transport.rajasthan.gov.in/jmrc or www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in

Raj.Samwad/C/22/2878 Director (Operations & Systems)

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Indra Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur- 302004

No: JDA/EE&T/AToDir.Engg.-I/2022/D-168 Dated: 03.06.2022

NOTICE INVITING BID

NIB No. : EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-I / 8 / 2022-23

Bids are invited for work given below in various zones as per details given:

S. No.	UBN No.	Cost of Work (Lacs)	A & F	Nature of Work	Last Date
1	JDA2223WLOB00106	521.00	156/2020-21	EE-ROB/RUB-I 'Construction of Service Road, Drain and Boundary wall at Civil Lines ROB, Jaipur'	20.06.2022

Details are available at Procurement Portal website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in

Raj.Samwad/C/2882/2022-23 Executive Engineer & TA to Dir. Engg.-I

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER M-3

DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (T) M-3 DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI

H-BLOCK : SECTOR-15 : ROHINI : DELHI-89
E-mail id: ee-tenderingm3.djb@gmail.com

PRESS NIT No. 22 (2022-23)

Press Notice Tender

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender/ Estimated cost	EMD/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement solution/ I.D. No.	Last date/time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1.	Improvement of peripheral sewerage system in ward no. 03 in AC-01 Narela under ACE(M)-3 (Re-invite)	Item Rate Rs. 97,200/- Rs. 500/-	Rs. 97,200/- Rs. 500/-	02.06.2022, 2022_DJB_223565_1	17.06.2022 Upto 3.00 PM
2.	Replacement of damaged defective sewer line 355 mm dia through static pipe bursting process Mahadev Chowk to DDA Market and opposite Asha Kiran Avantika Sector-I, Rohini in AC-06 Rethala under ACE (M)-3 (re-invite)	Item rate Rs. 98,400/-	Rs. 98,400/- Rs. 500/-	02.06.2022, 2022_DJB_223570_1	17.06.2022 Upto 3.00 PM
3.	Replacement of 100 mm dia. to 700 mm dia. M.S/C.I/DI connecting old network of various Tubewells to newly laid 1500 mm dia. M.S. water main by providing and laying 150mm dia. To 700mm dia M/S water line between sank no-1 to sank no-7 RWTW Palla in AC-01 Narela under ACE(M)-3 (Re-invite)	Rs. 1,96,19,330/-	Rs. 3,92,400/- Rs. 1000/-	02.06.2022, 2022_DJB_223572_1	17.06.2022 Upto 3.00 PM
4.	P/L peripheral sewer line from Aastha Kunj to DDA Market sec. 18 Rohini in AC-13 under EE(M)-13 (presently under ACE(M)-3)	Rs. 49,45,269/-	Rs. 99,000/- Rs. 500/-	02.06.2022, 2022_DJB_223573_1	17.06.2022 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 162 (2022-23)

Sd/
Dy. Superintending Engineer (T) M-3

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

(E-Mail: servbrp2004@yahoo.com, Tel/Fax:- 0680-2404287)

NOTICE

FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH "e"-Procurement

Bid identification No. Online Tender/16-2022-23/PMGSY/BPR

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads & Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the districts of **Ganjam for 02 (Two)** number of packages with estimated cost totalling to **Rs 19.97 Cr (Approximate)** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with **State PWD / CPW / MES / Railways**. The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. **DL 06.06.2022**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security declaration and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB with Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur // Superintending Engineer of the Concerned divisions on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement to **20.06.2022 upto 3.00 P.M**

For further details and corrigendum (if any) please log on to www.pmgstenders.gov.in

Sd/
Chief Construction Engineer
R.W. Circle, Berhampur
OIPR-25071/11/0026/2223

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION,

Jal, "O" PARIMAL BHAWAN, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR-751001, ODISHA
Tel. 0674-2395734, FAX : 0674-2394946, e-mail: cervssodisha@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING BID

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT FOR EXECUTION OF RURAL PIPED WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS ON EPC CONTRACT No. 4438 / Date: 03.06.2022

The Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS&S, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites proposals for Consultancy Services for engagement of Authority's Engineer (AE) for supervision of Mega Piped Water Supply projects on the basis of National Competitive Bidding for the works detailed in the table given below. The firm is advised to examine carefully all instructions in the RFP Document. Name & Address of officer inviting Bid:

S No	Name of the Rural Water Supply Project	Bid ID No.	Assignment Period (months)	Availability of Bid Documents for online Bidding
				From To
1	RFP for Consultancy Service for engagement of Authority's Engineer (AE) for supervision of various Mega Piped Water Supply projects in Cuttack Circle	EIC, RWSS-1422-23	24 months (Twenty four months) extendable by further upto 12 months	17.00 hours of 20.06.2022 to 17.00 hours of 10.08.2022
2	RFP for Consultancy Service for engagement of Authority's Engineer (AE) for supervision of various Mega Piped Water Supply projects in Koraput Circle	EIC, RWSS-1522-23	24 months (Twenty four months) extendable by further upto 12 months	17.00 hours of 20.06.2022 to 17.00 hours of 10.08.2022
3	RFP for Consultancy Service for engagement of Authority's Engineer (AE) for supervision of various Mega Piped Water Supply projects in Sambalpur Circle	EIC, RWSS-1622-23	24 months (Twenty four months) extendable by further upto 12 months	17.00 hours of 20.06.2022 to 17.00 hours of 10.08.2022

Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS
JAL "O" Parimal Bhawan,
Unit-V, Bhubaneswar,
Ph: 0674-2395734/ 0674-2531533
e-mail: cervssodisha@gmail.com

Sd/03.06.2022
Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS
OIPR-25003/11/0008/2223

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि. तिथि विस्तार इस कार्यालय की निविदा संख्या टी.-25/22-23 के खुलने की तिथि अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिनांक 07.06.2022 तक बढ़ायी जाती है। शेष शर्तें याथावत रहेंगी। अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पराेषण मण्डल, 130-डी विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बढ़ायें"

पत्रांक/No. 1495/वि.पा.म./ETC/ मेरठ/MT/Tender दिनांक/Dated 03/06/2022

"IMPORTANT"

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Office- Chairman and Administrator, Greater Sharda Sahayak Command Area Development

Authority/Project, 23C, Gokhale Marg, Lucknow-226010, U.P. Letter- 110/AGR./SNP/III-E-Tender/Batch-10/2022-23 dated 02.06.2022

Short Term Notice for Inviting e-Tender (NIT)

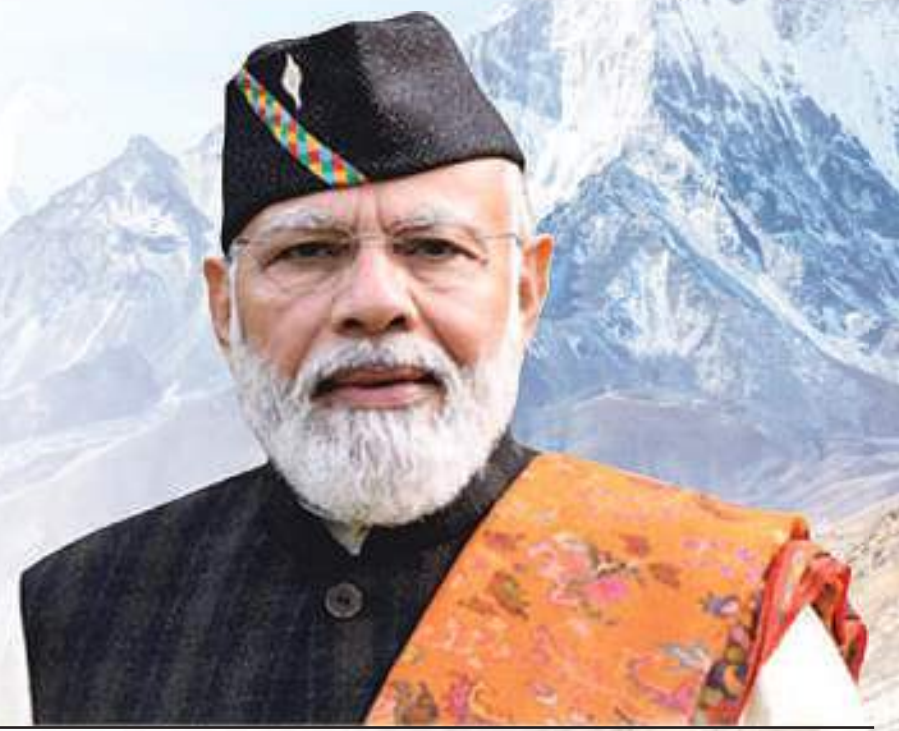
The tender is invited in the Financial Year 2022-23 on <http://tender.up.nic.in> for On-Farm Development works under scheme Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) for the work relating to the construction of R.C.C. Lined Channel, Unlined channel, R.C.C. Water controlling structures works. The bid is invited from registered contractor/firms/companies in Irrigation Department U.P./UPP/WD/ U.P. Jal Nigam/U.P. Rural Engineering Department/U.P. Project Corporation Limited/U.P. Urban Local Body/Development Authority of U.P./CPWD from 07.06.2022, 9:00 a.m. to 15.06.2022 till 5:00 pm. Technical bid will be opened online at 23C, Gokhale Marg, Lucknow on dated 16.06.2022 at 12:00 O'Clock in the presence of the Tenderers/their authorized representative and tender committee. If the office is closed due to any reason the tender will be opened on the next working day at the same time. Tender is invited for On Farm Development works (CADWM) in 07 districts of Uttar Pradesh in 15 packages/ lots:

S. No.	District	Tender Invitation Lot No.	BSA unit	CCA (in ha)	Unlined Channel (in m.)	R.C.C. Lined Channel (in m.)	Water Controlling Structures (in no.)	Estimated Amount With GST (Rs. in lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs. in lakhs)	Cost of Tender Form (Rs. in lakhs)	Category of contractor	Time period to complete work
1	Shrawasti	ilnd 01	Shrawasti	232.00	17532.00	1987.00	45	57,359.11	1.15	2360/-		
2	Gonda	ilnd 11	Gonda-II	177.55	7600.00	1487.92	51	44,154.00	0.90	2360/-		
3	Gonda	ilnd 12	Gonda-V	355.00	18950.00	2995.38	78	88,339.17	1.78	2360/-		
4		ilnd 13	Gonda-V	298.62	20145.00	2134.00	72	66,884.14	1.41	2360/-		
5	Balrampur	ilnd 02	Balrampur-II	255.00	16862.00	1						



विकल्प
रहित

संकल्प



चम्पावत की देवतुल्य जनता का हमारे युवा नेता पुष्कर सिंह धामी को असीम स्नेह और आशीर्वाद के साथ उपचुनाव में विजयी बनाने पर कोटि-कोटि आभार एवं धन्यवाद। मुझे विश्वास है कि धामी जी उत्तराखण्ड की प्रगति के लिए और भी अधिक मेहनत करेंगे।

नरेन्द्र मोदी प्रधानमंत्री



पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

चम्पावत की देवतुल्य जनता का मुझे ऐतिहासिक विजय दिलाने के लिए कोटिशः आभार।

यह विजय चम्पावत की सम्मानित जनता की विजय है, जिसने मुझ जैसे सामान्य परिवार से आने वाले सैनिक पुत्र को अपने हृदय में स्थान दिया। यह विजय मुझे उत्तराखण्डवासियों की सेवा में प्राणपण से जुटे रहने का आदेश दे रही है। यह ऐतिहासिक विजय उत्तराखण्ड के अंतिम छोर पर खड़े व्यक्ति के सपनों को पूर्ण करने के विकल्प रहित संकल्प की प्रतिध्वनि है।

मेरे जीवन के इस अत्यंत ही महत्वपूर्ण अवसर पर मैं, अपने यशस्वी प्रधानमंत्री आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का हृदय की अनंत गहराइयों से आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ, जिनके सतत मार्गदर्शन ने मुझे इतना सौभाग्यशाली बनाया कि आज मैं, समस्त उत्तराखण्ड के स्नेह व आशीर्वाद का पात्र हूँ।

प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की जनसेवा, कर्म साधना और तपस्या हम सभी के लिए आदर्श का एक मानक बन चुकी है। यह एक ऐसा मानक है जिसका अनुसरण कर हम निश्चित ही राष्ट्र और राज्य की आकांक्षाओं को पूर्ण कर सकते हैं।

चम्पावत विधानसभा का यह उपचुनाव मात्र विजय या पराजय का रण नहीं था, यह उपचुनाव उत्तराखण्ड निर्माण के लिए अपने प्राणों की आहुति देने वाले अमर शहीदों की आशाओं को पूर्ण करने, प्रदेश की सम्मानित जनता के हर स्वप्न को सच करने व प्रगति का स्वर्णिम अध्याय लिखे जाने के लक्ष्य को पूर्ण करने के लिए किए जा रहे यज्ञ का एक अभिन्न अंग था और यह विजय उसी यज्ञ की पूर्णता की दिशा में दी जाने वाली पहली मंगल आहुति है।

मैं, चम्पावत की जनता को विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि उनकी प्रत्येक समस्या, प्रत्येक आग्रह और प्रत्येक आदेश पर मैं, स्वयं उनकी सेवा में सदा उपस्थित रहने का प्रयास करूँगा।

मेरे जीवन का एकमेव संकल्प यही है कि मैं अपनी मातृभूमि की सेवा जीवन की अंतिम श्वास तक कर सकूँ और इस संकल्प की पूर्ति हेतु मैं सदा सर्वदा प्रतिबद्ध हूँ।

पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

हृदय से
आभार
चम्पावत



एक ही लक्ष्य-एक ही सपना

सर्वश्रेष्ठ बने
उत्तराखण्ड अपना

2021 encounter: J&K HC stays exhumation of body

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUNE 3

A DIVISION bench of the J&K High Court on Friday stayed the exhumation of the body of Amir Magrey, one of the four persons killed in last year's controversial encounter at Hyderabad, Srinagar, till the next hearing on June 28.

A bench of Justices Ali Mohammad Magrey and Wasim Sadiq Nargal said the matter "requires a final decision from this court after hearing all parties concerned."

The division bench order has overruled the HC's single-judge bench order on May 27 that directed the J&K government to exhume Magrey's body.

Stating that the administration had "arbitrarily" turned down the request of Magrey's father for exhumation of the body, the single-judge bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar also held that the J&K Police's decision to deny Magrey's family an opportunity to perform his last rites was a violation of the Constitution.

While noting that the body "must be in advance stage of putrefaction", Justice Kumar had also said "if the body is highly putrefied and is not in deliverable state or is likely to pose risk to public health and hygiene, the petitioner and his close relatives shall be allowed to perform last rites as per their tradition and religious belief in the Wadder Payeen graveyard itself."

However, the UT administration argued that the relief granted by the single-judge bench "could not have been granted in terms of the medical science analysis of the body which envisages that the body gets putrefied after a period of one month."

On Friday, Advocate General DC Raina, appearing for the UT government, said the May 27 judgment "is self-contradictory as the learned Single Judge, on the one hand, has referred to the putrefaction of the dead body in advanced stage...but, at the same time, has taken a contrary view by directing exhumation of the dead body."

GLOBSEC 2022

Europe has to grow out of mindset that its problems are world's problems: EAM

SOURAV ROY BARMAN NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

POINTING OUT that India's problems with China "predates" the ongoing conflict in Europe, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Friday that attempts to draw links between the two situations are misplaced. He defended New Delhi's position on Russia's aggression against Ukraine, saying that "caricature version of one situation" should not be used as a yardstick to pass sweeping judgments.

Speaking at the Globsec 2022 forum in Slovakia, Jaishankar, responding to a question on India's official position on the Ukraine conflict, said, "Europe has to grow out of the mindset that Europe's problems are the world's problems but the world's problems are not Europe's problems."

"There is a linkage today which is being made. A linkage between China and India and what's happening in Ukraine. So, come on guys, I mean China and India happened way before anything happened in Ukraine. So the Chinese don't need a precedent somewhere else in the world on how to engage us or not engage us or be difficult with us or not be difficult with us. I don't see this frankly as a very clever argument, a very self-serving one," he said.

Killing of 3 militants: Magisterial probe ordered into May 26 Kupwara encounter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUNE 3

THE KUPWARA administration has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the killing of three militants near the LoC on May 26.

In a statement issued after the encounter, J&K Police had stated, "Based on a specific input regarding an infiltration attempt



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar holds a meeting with Slovakian counterpart Ivan Korcok in Slovakia. PTI

He was responding to a question on whether India will be in a position to reach out for support if there are further skirmishes along its border with China. Last Tuesday, holding talks on the border standoff after a gap of six months, India and China decided to continue the discussions through diplomatic and military channels.

"We have a difficult relationship with China. We are perfectly capable of managing it. If I get global understanding and support, obviously it is of help to me. But this idea that I do a transaction, that I come in one conflict because it will help me in conflict two, that's not how the world works. So, a lot of our

problems with China have nothing to do with Ukraine, have nothing to do with Russia, they are predated. And if we are getting into who is silent on what issue at what point of time, I could point to a whole lot of issues on which, as I said, Europe has held its peace," he said.

Maintaining that India's position on Ukraine has been "mischaracterised", Jaishankar held out New Delhi's statement condemning the killings in the Ukrainian city of Bucha as an example. India had "unequivocally condemned" the killings and also supported calls for an "independent probe" into the incident following global outrage.

Underlining that the "world

cannot be that Eurocentric that it used to be in the past," Jaishankar said, "If I were to take Europe collectively, which has been singularly silent on many things which were happening, for example in Asia, you could ask why would anybody in Asia trust Europe on anything at all."

Jaishankar's latest statements are in sync with his recent comments, as he has been very sharp in his comments on Europe in the last few months.

In April this year, in candid responses to questions from European ministers and leaders at the Raisina dialogue on the crisis arising out of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Jaishankar had pointed to the challenges in Asia and India's neighbourhood — in Afghanistan and from China — and said it was a "wake-up call" for Europe to look at these instances where the problems are happening.

In Washington DC earlier in April, on the issue of oil purchases, Jaishankar had said India's total purchases for the month would be "less than what Europe does in an afternoon".

In March, with British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss listening, Jaishankar had addressed the issue of sanctions as he had said that "it looks like a campaign" and said that Europe is buying more oil from Russia than before and majority of the

buyers of Russian oil and gas are from European countries.

Rejecting suggestions that India is a "fence-sitter" on global issues, Jaishankar said on Friday he does not necessarily believe that India has to choose between the two axes represented by the US-Europe and China-Russia. "Look, they are not exclusionary but we are a democracy. We are a market economy. We are a pluralistic society. We have laws and contracts, we have positions on international law and I think that should give you a fair part of the answer."

"The fact that today you have a grouping like the Quad where very important decisions were made on connectivity, on telecommunications, supply chains, cyber security and maritime domain awareness, it should tell you which direction we are going. Do not use a caricature version of one situation as a yardstick to pass a sweeping judgment," Jaishankar said.

On India acting as a possible conduit for sale of Russian oil to other countries, he said, "There's an enormous shortage of oil, there's a physical shortage of oil, getting access to oil is difficult. A country like India would be crazy to get oil from somebody and sell it to somebody else. This is nonsense." He also rejected reports that India was allowing "trans-shipment of oil".

KERALA ACTOR ASSAULT CASE

Crime branch gets extension to finish investigation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 3

THE KERALA High Court Friday gave the state crime branch another one-and-a-half months to complete the additional investigation into the 2017 abduction and sexual assault of an actor.

The Supreme Court had initially set a deadline of 16 August,

2021 for the completion of the original probe.

The Kerala crime branch then got an extended deadline of May 30 to complete the second round of investigation.

It had approached the High Court seeking a three-month extension. But on Friday, the bench of Justice Kausar Edappagath gave it time till 15 July.

"Considering the fact that the analysis of voluminous evidence

US religious freedom report: India retorts, says 'vote bank politics in global relations'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

A DAY after US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken had said that India, "the world's largest democracy and home to a great diversity of faiths", had "seen rising attacks on people and places of worship", India hit back on Friday by calling it "ill-informed comments by senior US officials" and said that it is unfortunate that "vote bank politics" is being practised in international relations.

In a tit-for-tat response, the Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that India has also expressed concern over racially and ethnically motivated attacks, hate crimes and gun violence in the US.

The MEA spokesperson said that the observation on India in the report is based on "motivated inputs and biased views".

"We have noted the release of the US State Department 2021 Report on International Religious Freedom, and ill-informed comments by senior US officials," the MEA spokesperson said.

"It is unfortunate that vote bank politics is being practised in international relations. We would urge that assessments based on motivated inputs and biased views be avoided," the spokesperson added.

"As a naturally pluralistic society, India values religious freedom and human rights. In our discussions with the US, we have regularly highlighted issues of concern there, including racially and ethnically motivated attacks, hate crimes and gun violence," he said.

The annual report on international religious freedom, released by Blinken alleged that attacks on members of the minority communities, including killings, assaults, and intimidation, took place throughout 2021 in India. These incidents included "cow vigilantism".

Also speaking at the release of the report, US ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom Rashad Hussain, who is of Indian origin, had contended that some officials in India "are ignoring or even supporting rising attacks on people and places of worship".

The report referred to anti-conversion laws in 28 states and arrests made under them, as well as arrests of "non-Hindus for making comments in the media or on social media that were considered offensive to Hindus or Hinduism".

The report also highlighted the killing by terrorists of civilians and migrants from the Hindu and Sikh minorities in Jammu and Kashmir.

SECOND EDITION: GENDER - THE FUTURE OF WORK, UPSKILLING FOR A POST-PANDEMIC ERA

'Link skills with opportunity to access markets'

At the second edition of the IE Thinc Gender series, presented by *The Indian Express* with IWWAGE and Krea University, panellists argued for talent to be gender-agnostic. The session was moderated by Rinku Ghosh, Editor, Special Projects



VED MANI TIWARI
COO, NSDC
We have coding classes for women, where they don't need engineering degrees



MADHU SINGH SIROHI
HEAD OF POLICY PROGRAMS & OUTREACH, INDIA, META
About 69 per cent of our mentees built businesses online and could interact with the Internet



FARZANA HAQUE
TCS LEADERSHIP, MENTOR, BOARD MEMBER, PHILANTHROPIST
Get women on company boards, decide the policy

Digital financial awareness & literacy

Abhishek Singh: Only 38 per cent of women have bank accounts because traditionally, they have not been given the opportunity to assert themselves as heads of families or claim land rights. Under government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, the subsidy for making toilets is released in the name of the woman member of the family. Women are direct beneficiaries of the PM Mudra scheme and get concessions if a property is registered in their name. Even in the "one nation, one ration card" scheme, women are recognised as heads of families, and in the states that are routing cash transfers, a bank account is mandatory for women. Having said that, the outreach for financial inclusion is being done by banks and Common Service Centres (CSCs), which are banking correspondents. We have a network of almost 400,000 CSCs in the villages, all fully equipped to open bank accounts for women. Theoretically, if women have an Aadhaar card, they can go to a CSC or a bank and open an account. But in practice, we need to do a lot of awareness-building exercises and provide value to what women will do once they get a bank account. Once they get wages, subsidies and cash transfers, there will be greater demand from them to have bank accounts. It would require a combination of legal provisions and outreach.

Future-proofing women for tech

Ved Mani Tiwari: When we run a mass-level skilling programme, there is a livelihood question. And so there seems to be a tilt towards traditional job roles, which will continue for

some time. But can we bring economic empowerment into roles? Should we only be skilling a woman to be a sewing machine operator or provide her relevant skills to become a boutique operator? That is an entrepreneurship question. That is where the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is taking a lot of initiative. We are working with non-banking financing companies (NBFCs) to provide loans to women without collateral. This will open up financial access to women. As for digital skills, we have designed coding classes for women, where they don't need an engineering degree or even a science background. It's a boot camp where girls educated up to Class XII acquire skills and get decent salaried jobs. Then there's the Skill India Impact bond where the private sector has also invested. We are not only identifying competencies that industry wants but connecting women to these opportunities.

Is there gender de-equality?

Ritu Dewan: India has 120 million women who are out of the workforce. This is not only because of the pandemic but the result of demonetisation that hit the small scale sector, particularly MSMEs. More than mindset, there are structural constraints towards financial inclusion like the privatisation of public banks. RBI data shows that when the number of banks decreases, particularly public sector banks, the financial inclusion of women decreases progressively. But my fieldwork has shown that even account-holding women don't have enough money to maintain them. So even if it is zero account, there are user fees, charges on withdrawals, ATMs etc.

by terrorists in Jumagund village near LoC area of Kupwara, a joint party of police and Army intercepted them. They fired indiscriminately, leading to an encounter.

On Friday, Additional District Magistrate GN Bhat was nominated as the inquiry officer into the incident under Section 176 of the CrPC.

The police had claimed that

all the three terrorists were LeT operatives citing the documents seized from them, however, no further details on their identification was given in the statement.

Security forces had claimed recovery of "incriminating materials," including arms and ammunition — three AK rifles, 12 AK magazines, a pistol, 2 pistol magazines and three mobile phones.



ABHISHEK SINGH,
PRESIDENT & CEO,
NATIONAL E-GOVERNANCE DIVISION, DIGITAL INDIA
Our teams are much better balanced compared to most Govt departments. We do have almost 40 to 45 per cent women employees

India has the lowest female workforce participation rate in all of Asia and is one of the three lowest countries in the world on that count. Then there's the wage gap. The word "development" has disappeared from any kind of political or economic debate as we focus only on growth. If we see the sectoral breakup, the only sector which has grown is the informal



one. And agriculture, in spite of the decreased support to it. The private sector has not provided any kind of employment. If you see the first year of the pandemic, 100 listed manufacturing companies increased their profits by about 18 per cent. Yet their wage share fell by 19 per cent. This is de-equality. Skilling is in the PPP (Papad, Pickle and Petticoat) model. Then there are the digital divide and the decreased allocations for women in the Budget. Is there a financial articulation of our commitments?

The issue of unpaid work can only be resolved at the macro-economic and national level. Now they say teachers and nurses will have contractual jobs and education and health are sectors where women are employed the most. The ASHA workers, who had started with 20 schemes to look after, now have 72 schemes to oversee but their increments are held back. We keep hearing this very strange term called *sakhis*. But a *sakhi* is a worker first.

Bridging gender gaps online

Madhu Singh Sirohi: Based on a Mobile Gender Gap Report by JSME, Indian women are 15 per cent less likely to own a mobile phone and almost 33 per cent less likely to use mobile internet services than men. There is the urban-rural divide, an income-based digital divide and intra-household discrimination. So, we need to provide women much better access to finance. Our GOAL (Going Online for Leadership) programme, with

the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, is helping tribal girls with entrepreneurial efforts and mentoring them to access digital markets. About 69 per cent of the mentees were able to build businesses online or at least open pages and start interacting with the Internet.

This may not immediately result in a big change but just that confidence of coming online or feeling that leadership potential is a great initiator of this journey.

Besides, we need to drive role parity. The Meta Global State of Small Business Survey found that in some countries, more than one in four female business leaders spend six hours or more on domestic responsibilities everyday.

Changes women can drive in policy

Farzana Haque: There has to be a fundamental shift in thinking that this is not a gender but an economic conversation. How can half the population of the world that holds up the sky not be a part of the economic engine? When I enter the workforce, how can I not be a part of it all my life? The talent pool is gender-agnostic and needs to be so. There is a lot of social pressure on women to carry care-giving responsibilities. That mindset has to change. Everyone has a huge moral responsibility of supporting everyone in their families. I've been working for 24 years in the same company and it's very alarming that in 2022, so many women I have mentored, all highly growth-oriented and achieving individuals, say, "I can't do this anymore." In India, the workplace orientation is male, there's always the supposition of a wife or a mother looking after things. We shouldn't allow women to fail.

Besides, women themselves have to stay the course. We need

to have at least 50 per cent women on all company boards. Someone cannot set the policy for me. I have to set up the policy for myself and my fellow-workers who have to deal with a lot of care-giving. It is time that women in India became the hero of their own lives. We cannot wait for saviours. In TCS, 50% employees are women. Leaders of men and women, we try and proactively see that people don't quit for whatever reason. So, whatever was needed to retain an employee, we have done it. That way our policies have evolved.

Abhishek Singh: About 20 years ago, when I was working as chief development officer in UP, although women became *panchayat pramukhs* because of the 33 per cent reservation quota, they became proxies for their men (*pramukh patis* and *pramukh pitas*) and wouldn't attend meetings. We took a tough stand and held orientation programmes for the elected women. Six months later, a woman *pradhan* reported her husband, who had made her sign a blank cheque. A year later, I was surprised that women *sarpanches* were focussing more schools, water supplies and *anganwadi* centres. They forced social issues on the agenda.

A woman *pradhan* once told me "We get only 33% of the reservation but we represent 70% of the population because we represent the children too." So if you give them the right opportunity and tools, from *pradhan* to start-ups, women know what to do. In 2022, we need to give them their rightful place and ensure that we benefit from the insights they bring in. There are reports which show that women-led companies do much better.



RITU DEWAN
VICE-PRESIDENT, INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS
When we talk about the future of work, we urgently need data. Let's remember the demographic dividend is going to get over in another 12 to 14 years. So the time for skilling is extremely short



DR NEHARIKA VOHRA
VC, DELHI SKILL AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIVERSITY
We need public provisioning. The Delhi Govt's Saheli Samanvay Kendras allow conversations on nutrition, health, skilling and entrepreneurship. We need to help them come up with their passion project and convert it into a business

DISMISSES PLEAS, TERMS THEM FRIVOLOUS

Construction near Jagannath temple in public interest: SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE SUPREME Court Friday dismissed pleas against the Odisha government's construction activity around the Jagannath temple in Puri, saying the work to provide amenities like toilets and cloak rooms was in the public interest.

It termed the petitions "frivolous" and imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh on the appellants.

A bench of Justices B.R. Gai and Hima Kohli said: "We have no hesitation in holding that the activities undertaken by the State are completely in tune with the directions issued by the three-Judge Bench (of the Court in a 2019 ruling)."

"The construction is being carried out for the purpose of providing basic and essential amenities like toilets for men and women, cloak rooms, electricity rooms etc. These are the basic facilities which are necessary for the convenience of the devotees at large", said the court.

"They are necessary in the larger public interest and there is no prohibition in the statute for doing so, as sought to be argued by the appellants".

The dispute related to the construction of public amenities in the "prohibited area" around the temple.

Hearing a PIL, the Orissa High Court had on May 9 refused to restrain the state from going ahead with the work.

The appellants had contended that the work violated the Ancient Monuments and Archeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, which prohibits construction or excavation within a 100-metre area from a protected monument — except in exceptional circumstances with the permission of the Centre or the Director General of the Archeological Survey of India.

They had also referred to an ASI report that concluded that

the project had "no valid permission" and talked of "irrevocable damage to heritage site" due to removal of stratified deposits to a depth of 15-20 feet.

Friday's SC ruling, however, noted that the work does not fall in the purview of construction as defined by the Act.

The SC said: "We are of the considered view that the public interest litigation filed before the High Court rather than being in public interest, is detrimental to the public interest at large".

KARNATAKA

7 killed as bus catches fire after collision

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KALABURAGI, JUNE 3

SEVEN PASSENGERS of a private bus were burnt to death in an accident in the Kamalapur town of Kalaburagi district in north Karnataka in the early hours of

Friday. Police said that around 29 passengers were travelling on the bus from Goa to Hyderabad. "According to the preliminary investigation, the fire followed an accident involving the bus and a goods vehicle. All the injured have been admitted to various

hospitals in Kalaburagi," a police officer said. SP Isha Pant visited the spot and the hospital and inquired about the condition of the injured victims. Pant said, "We are conducting a detailed inquiry into the accident. All the injured passengers are being treated in hospitals..."

JHARKHAND

HC rejects pleas questioning maintainability of PILs against CM

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, JUNE 3

THE JHARKHAND High Court on Friday rejected the non-maintainability plea filed in two PILs concerning Chief Minister Hemant Soren — the mining lease of 2022 and the alleged money laundering through shell companies of 2021 — and will hear the arguments on merits on June 10.

The state had filed a plea against the maintainability of the shell companies PIL on the basis of credibility of the petitioner and on incomplete information, while the CM had challenged it and mining lease issue on similar grounds.

A detailed order by the bench of Chief Justice Ravi Ranjan and Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad is yet to be uploaded.

JOURNALIST MURDER

CBI gets notice for declaring living witness dead

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JUNE 3

A WITNESS, who was declared dead by the CBI in the 2016 murder case of Siwan journalist Rajdev Ranjan, turned up before a Muzaffarpur court on Friday, following which the court issued a showcase notice to the investigating agency. The CBI had also submitted a "death verification report" in this regard.

Badami Devi, a resident of Siwan, who was declared dead by CBI, presented herself before the court on Friday and produced documents to support her identity. She is a witness against Laddan Mian, one of the accused in the murder case being heard by the same court.

Sharad Sinha, advocate of Badami Devi, told reporters: "The court of first additional session judge-cum-special judge MP/MLA case has expressed surprise at the matter and issued showcase notice to CBI."

सहित्य कला परिषद् Sathiya Kala Parishad
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Academy of Music, Dance, Drama & Fine Arts
18-A, Satsang Vihar Marg, Spl. Institutional Area
New Delhi-110067
Tel: 26867636 E-mail: sathiyakalaparishad@gmail.com Website: skpdelhi.in

Applications are invited for the following posts being filled on Deputation (Including Short Term Contract) basis:

Sl. No	Name of the post	Number of post	Pay Matrix
1	Assistant Secretary (Music and Dance)	One	Level 7 (Rs. 44900-142400) in the Pay Matrix as per the 7th CPC
2	Assistant Secretary (Drama)	One	Level 7 (Rs. 44900-142400) in the Pay Matrix as per the 7th CPC

Interested and willing employees of Central Government/ State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations / Public Sector Undertakings / Statutory or Autonomous Bodies/ Recognized Universities / Recognized Research Institutes may submit their applications, complete in all respect, in the prescribed format through proper channel to the Secretary, Sahitya Kala Parishad, 18-A, Satsang Vihar Marg, Special Institutional Area, New Delhi-110067 within 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News Weekly. For details please visit website: <http://skpdelhi.in> (under "News" and "Download").

Sd/-
Secretary
Sahitya Kala Parishad

DIP/SHABDARTH/0125/22-23

GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA
(A Central University established by the Central Universities Act, 2009, No.25 of 2009)
KONI, BILASPUR-495 009 (C.G.) INDIA Tel. +91-7752- 260342, Fax +91-7752- 260154, 260148, website - www.ggu.ac.in
ADMISSION NOTICE (2022-23)
Ref. No. 198 /Admission /Academic/22 Bilaspur, Date- 03/06/2022
The Dr. Ambedkar Centre of Excellence (DACE), Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya invites online applications for free coaching of scheduled caste aspirants for civil services exams 2022-2023 (preliminary and mains). The entire information regarding admissions is available on our GGV website www.ggu.ac.in/dace. The online application form for admissions will be available from our portal from 08.06.2022. The last date to fill up the applications is 30.06.2022.
207 Registrar (Acting)

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Form No. CAA. 2
[Pursuant to Section 230(3) of the Companies Act, 2013, and Rules 6 and 7 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations Rules, 2016)]
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL,
BENCH, AT CHENNAI
C.A (CAA) NO. 39 OF 2022
In the Matter of the Companies Act, 2013
And
In the Matter of Sections 230 to 232 read with Section 52 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013
And
In The Matter of The Composite Scheme of Arrangement and Amalgamation between Shrilekha Business Consultancy Private Limited and Shriram Financial Ventures (Chennai) Private Limited and Shriram Capital Limited and Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited and Shriram City Union Finance Limited and Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram Investment Holdings Limited and their respective shareholders
NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING OF THE EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 230 TO 232 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 READ WITH RULE 6 OF THE COMPANIES (COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS) RULES, 2016.
Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited
a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, having its Registered Office at No. 4, Burkit Road, T.Nagar, Chennai – 600017, Tamil Nadu, Represented by its Director Mr. Nanda Kishore Sessa Narayanam
.... Resulting Company 1/SLIH

To,
The Equity Shareholders of Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited ("Resulting Company 1" or "Company" or "SLIH")
TAKE NOTICE that by an order made on May 11, 2022 in the above mentioned Company Application ("Order"), the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bench, at Chennai ("NCLT") has directed that a meeting of the Equity shareholders of the Company, be convened and held at the registered office of the Company on Thursday, the July 7, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving, with or without modification(s), the arrangement embodied in the Composite Scheme of Arrangement and Amalgamation between Shrilekha Business Consultancy Private Limited and Shriram Financial Ventures (Chennai) Private Limited and Shriram Capital Limited and Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited and Shriram City Union Finance Limited and Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram Investment Holdings Limited ("Scheme") and their respective shareholders.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in pursuance of the said Order and as directed therein, a meeting of the Equity Shareholders of the Company, will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022 at 10:00 A.M., at the registered office of the Company at which date, day, time and place you are requested to attend.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you may attend and vote at the said meeting in person or by proxy on July 7, 2022 at 10 A.M at the registered office of the Company at Shriram House, No. 4, Burkit Road, T.Nagar, Chennai – 600017, Tamil Nadu.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Notice calling the Meeting, proxy form, attendance slip along with copies of the Scheme and of the Explanatory Statement, under Sections 230(3) and 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 6 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016 with Annexures have been sent. The same can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Company at Shriram House, No. 4, Burkit Road, T Nagar, Chennai – 600017.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the NCLT, Chennai Bench has appointed Advocate Mr. K.M. Ramesh, Madras High Court and in his absence, a Director of the Company to be the Chairperson of the said meeting including for any adjournment or adjournments thereof.
The Chairperson shall submit his report on the meeting within three days of the conclusion of the meeting to the Hon'ble Tribunal.
The above-mentioned Scheme, if approved at the aforesaid meeting, will be subject to the such statutory and other approvals required and the sanction of the Hon'ble Tribunal.
Note: The Notices have been dispatched to the Equity Shareholders of the Company by email dated 03.06.2022.
Sd/-
Mr. Nanda Kishore Sessa Narayanam, Director
Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited
Dated at Chennai on this the 03rd day of June 2022
Registered Office:
Shriram House,
No.4, Burkit Road, T Nagar,
Chennai – 600017

Form No. CAA. 2
[Pursuant to Section 230(3) of the Companies Act, 2013, and Rules 6 and 7 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations Rules, 2016)]
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL,
BENCH, AT CHENNAI
C.A (CAA) NO. 5 OF 2022
In the Matter of the Companies Act, 2013
And
In the Matter of Sections 230 to 232 read with Section 52 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013
And
In The Matter of The Composite Scheme of Arrangement and Amalgamation between Shrilekha Business Consultancy Private Limited and Shriram Financial Ventures (Chennai) Private Limited and Shriram Capital Limited and Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited and Shriram City Union Finance Limited and Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram Investment Holdings Limited and their respective shareholders
NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING OF THE EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 230 TO 232 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 READ WITH RULE 6 OF THE COMPANIES (COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS) RULES, 2016.
Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited
a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, having its Registered Office at No. 4, Burkit Road, T.Nagar, Chennai – 600017, Tamil Nadu, Represented by its Director Mr. C Mahesh
.... Resulting Company 2/SGIH

To,
The Equity Shareholders of Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited ("Resulting Company 2" or "Company" or "SGIH")
TAKE NOTICE that by an order made on May 11, 2022 in the above mentioned Company Application ("Order"), the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bench, at Chennai ("NCLT") has directed that a meeting of the Equity shareholders of the Company, be convened and held at the registered office of the Company on Thursday, the July 7, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving, with or without modification(s), the arrangement embodied in the Composite Scheme of Arrangement and Amalgamation between Shrilekha Business Consultancy Private Limited and Shriram Financial Ventures (Chennai) Private Limited and Shriram Capital Limited and Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited and Shriram City Union Finance Limited and Shriram LI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited and Shriram Investment Holdings Limited ("Scheme") and their respective shareholders.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in pursuance of the said Order and as directed therein, a meeting of the Equity Shareholders of the Company, will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022 at 11:00 A.M., at the registered office of the Company at which date, day, time and place you are requested to attend.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you may attend and vote at the said meeting in person or by proxy on July 7, 2022 at 11 A.M at the registered office of the Company at Shriram House, No. 4, Burkit Road, T.Nagar, Chennai – 600017, Tamil Nadu.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Notice calling the Meeting, proxy form, attendance slip along with copies of the Scheme and of the Explanatory Statement, under Sections 230(3) and 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 6 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016 with Annexures have been sent. The same can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Company at Shriram House, No.4, Burkit Road, T Nagar, Chennai – 600017.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the NCLT, Chennai Bench has appointed Advocate Mr. K.M. Ramesh, Madras High Court and in his absence, a Director of the Company to be the Chairperson of the said meeting including for any adjournment or adjournments thereof.
The Chairperson shall submit his report on the meeting within three days of the conclusion of the meeting to the Hon'ble Tribunal.
The above-mentioned Scheme, if approved at the aforesaid meeting, will be subject to the such statutory and other approvals required and the sanction of the Hon'ble Tribunal.
Note: The Notices have been dispatched to the Equity Shareholders of the Company by email dated 03rd June 2022.
Sd/-
Mr. C Mahesh, Director
Shriram GI Holdings Private Limited
Dated at Chennai on this the 03rd day of June, 2022
Registered Office:
Shriram House,
No.4, Burkit Road, T Nagar,
Chennai – 600017

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR
DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAY HOSPITAL
HARI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110064
Corrigendum to Advertisement Notice dated 14/05/2022 for Vacant Posts
This is corrigendum to the previous notice dated 14/05/2022 As only few number of applications were received in response to the said vacancy notice, the last date for submission of application has been extended to 08/07/2022 (upto 4:00 PM) for Engagement of Doctors Retired from Government Service purely on contract basis. Accordingly, keeping in view with wider scope of applications the extension of last date, the dates of events, eligibility of age, scope of post, etc have also been modified. For more details, all the interested applicants may see Notice Board in Administrative Block of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital or visit Hospital's website i.e. dduh.delhi.gov.in for detailed information. Applicants who have already applied need not to apply again.
Sd/- (Dr. B. L. Chaudhary)
Medical Director
DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar,
New Delhi-110064.
DIP/SHABDARTH/0121/22-23

SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR
Special Admission Drive 2021-22
M.Phil. / Ph.D.
(For Vacant Seats of Reserved Category)
Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for Special Admission Drive (for Vacant Seats of Reserved Category) for M.Phil. and Ph.D. Programme for the year 2021-22. Please visit University website www.unishivaji.ac.in, under link "M.Phil./Ph.D. Special Admission Drive – 2021-22" for details.
Important Dates :
1. Online application available from 04/06/2022 from 12.00 noon onwards.
2. Closing date : 18/ 06/ 2022 till 12.00 midnight. (Other details will be available on university website in due course of time.)
Place : Kolhapur (Dr. V. N. Shinde)
Date : 04/06/2022 Ag. Registrar



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Don't go looking

... for a shivling in every mosque, said RSS chief. For his words to carry any meaning, the BJP leadership should pay heed

RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat's comments on the Gyanvapi controversy while speaking to a gathering of swayamsevaks in Nagpur on Thursday are significant — and welcome. In a speech that roamed the themes traditionally favoured by the RSS, of Hindu society, national unity and power, and which spoke of Indian exceptionalism and "santulan (balance)" at home and abroad, including in Ukraine, and reiterated the RSS view of the (Ayodhya) in terms of "bhasha (language)", "pooja/panth (sect)" and "praant (region)" as the "saaj sajjaa (decoration)" of "ekta (unity)" — that is, diversity as an accoutrement or embellishment of unity, not a value in its own right — some lines could be read as a departure and a potential softening. Even as he spoke of the "vishesh shraddha (special faith)" of the "Hindu samaj" on Gyanvapi, the RSS chief opened a door: There is a history that we didn't make, he said, and that we cannot change, as Hindus and as Muslims, but as far as the RSS is concerned, its agitational role was confined to the specific circumstances of the (Ayodhya) movement. "Ab hamko koi aandolan nahin karna hai (now we will not be involved in any campaign)". If a solution cannot be found through negotiation ("aapas mein mil baith kar, sahmati se"), everyone should accept the decision of the courts. Meanwhile, "roz ek jhagda kyun badhana hai (why create a daily conflict)", let there be no more hunts in mosques for "shivlings".

To be sure, past experience of the playing out of Hindu-Muslim disputes over places of worship and the RSS's own shadowy politics in them, serve as a health warning against over-reading what Bhagwat said, and what he meant. And yet, his attempt to prise away, even if just a bit, the Hindu-Muslim present from its past resentments, his underlining of the authority of the courts, and most of all, his caution, in nearly so many words, against an overzealous Hindu assertion and triumphalism raking up old disputes and creating new confrontations, is heartening. In the current climate, in which the BJP's top leadership maintains a strategic silence even as shrill voices rise on Gyanvapi, the RSS has spoken up, taken a step forward. It has drawn a line that the hot-heads in the project of cultural revivalism, emboldened by Hindutva's serial electoral successes, cannot easily dismiss or ignore. Because it carries the imprimatur of the Sarsanghchalak's position within the Sangh Parivar, it comes from within.

But of course, these can be lines in the sand. Even in September 2018, Bhagwat had seemed to take a bold step forward by reading down MS Golwalkar's *Bunch of Thoughts*, in which Muslims are called the enemy or "shatru". But that seeming breakthrough did not translate into anything politically substantial. Now, Bhagwat's statements will only carry meaning, or make a difference, if they are heeded not just by the army of Hindutva hardliners on the ground, but also, and much more importantly, by the BJP's senior leadership in the party and government. If what was said in Nagpur on Thursday has to travel outside, and to the ground, the party will need to own and amplify the message — with minimal loss in translation.

AAP KA CHALLENGE

In Punjab, its newly elected government is battling security spectres and an agrarian crisis. It must not let its focus waver

PUNJAB HAS BEEN in the eye of a storm since the killing of popular singer Sidhu Moosewala last Sunday. Coming as it did days after the withdrawal of his security along with that of 423 others in the run-up to the Operation Bluestar anniversary on June 6, it spotlighted one of the two monumental challenges facing the Aam Aadmi Party government in the state. The newly-elected Bhagwant Singh Mann government has inherited spectres and problems in the security and agricultural sectors. They can't be wished away or resolved with a magic bullet, for they have been building up for years — one that is in large part due to the geography of the state that makes it vulnerable to the machinations of an inimical neighbour, and the other due to the criminal lack of foresight by successive governments that let the gains of the Green Revolution plateau and peter out. So deep is the agrarian crisis that farmers and farm labourers continue to take their own lives even as CM Bhagwant Mann has made a commendable start with steps such as monetary incentives for promoting direct seeding of rice to save water, and announcement of a minimum support price for moong (green gram).

The new government has been hamstrung by allegations of deteriorating law and order. The Patiala violence between a rogue faction of the Shiv Sena and some outfits partial to a separatist agenda was the first big test for the Mann government. That it acted swiftly and did not let it spill over goes to its credit. Then came the rocket attack on the intelligence headquarters in Mohali, which gave more heft to the Opposition charge that the state was back on the precipice. The daylight killing of Moosewala and the tsunami of anger that followed has been unprecedented.

The Union home ministry has decided to give Z plus security to Akal Takht head priest Harpreet Singh who had rebuffed Punjab police security after it withdrew and restored it in a day — he has declined this offer as well. The state government should draw a lesson from this incident and dedicate its energies to governing the state, instead of playing to the gallery. The state which gave the AAP a sweeping mandate has had its share of gimmicks and rhetoric. What it needs is sustained sober and serious governance.

A MELANCHOLY MUSIC

Bhajan Sopori's demise leaves the santoor orphaned.
The void will be hard to fill

THE SANTOOR IS in mourning. Within the space of a month, the 100-stringed instrument from Kashmir has lost two of its finest practitioners. Just three weeks after Shiv Kumar Sharma passed away in Mumbai, Bhajan Sopori died in a Gurugram hospital on Thursday. Both had left the Valley to pursue their art in less cool climes. But in the cities they lived and performed in, their santoor brought alive a piece of the Valley.

Sopori was born into a family of musicians. His grandfather Pandit Samsar Chand Sopori and father, Pandit Shambhu Nath Sopori were greatly respected musicians in Jammu and Kashmir and they initiated young Sopori into the world of music. Their music represented the composite Shaivite-Sufi tradition of the Valley. The santoor, a musical instrument distinct to Kashmir, has been an essential feature of the Valley's folk and devotional music. Bhajan Sopori reinvented it for the Hindustani concert platform, combining aspects of Sufiyana mausiqui and the classical raga system. He was helped by the fact that Sharma had prepared the ground for the santoor to be accepted as an instrument in its own right for the classical concert stage. Together, they raised the profile of the santoor, and found an inventive playing style which allowed the exploration of Hindustani ragas. Their work is comparable to the effort of Baluswamy Dikshitar, who in the 19th century adapted the violin, then seen as an exclusively western instrument, for Carnatic music, first as an accompanying instrument and then for solo concerts.

Sopori, who worked with All India Radio, was forced to shift out of Kashmir when violence engulfed the Valley in the '90s. Kashmir became a memory that found its voice in his music. His santoor was a raga in which listeners heard the gurgle of mountain streams, experienced the quiet of mountain peaks, and sensed the deep blue of the lakes.



SANJIB BARUAH

CIVILISATIONISM IS AN intellectual fad sweeping across the corridors of power in important capitals around the world. Since civilisations are the broadest cultural entities into which the human species is often divided, one would have expected civilisationism to transcend nationalism. Yet the civilisational rhetoric of today is mostly an exercise in rebranding nations — an effort to expand or narrow an imagined "we" against an equally imagined "they".

The civilisation-state is now counterpoised to the nation-state. India, China, Russia, Turkey, and Iran are among countries where either state officials or influential personalities close to the governments in power have made statements to the effect that their countries are civilisations unto themselves and not nation-states.

In the case of Russia, the statement that "Russia is not just a country, it's really a separate civilisation" has been attributed to President Vladimir Putin himself. There is a direct link between the civilisational idea that the Russian world is not limited to the geographical borders of Russia and the irredentist claim that Ukraine is not a real state. It was the ideological motivation and impetus for the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

It is perhaps not a coincidence that countries that have tried to find a middle ground on the Russo-Ukraine war are also aspirational civilisation-states. Does the entanglement with civilisationism at home produce a level of inchoate sympathy with fellow civilisationists abroad?

What do these aspirational civilisation-states have in common? They are relatively large countries that are often described as middle powers, regional powers, or even would-be superpowers. The territories of these countries were once home to ancient civilisations and great empires and kingdoms in the pre-colonial era. The documentary record of that history — notably, the corpus of classical texts — survived the onslaught of the Western conquest. A contrast can be drawn with three great civilisations of the Americas — the Aztec, Mayan, and Inca — most of whose codices or manuscripts did not survive the depredations of the European conquest. In terms of social practices, however, continuities with the pre-

Across the world, the idea of civilisation is being utilised in the service of a narrow nationalism

What do these aspirational civilisation-states have in common? They are relatively large countries that are often described as middle powers, regional powers, or even would-be superpowers. The territories of these countries were once home to ancient civilisations and great empires and kingdoms in the pre-colonial era. The documentary record of that history — notably, the corpus of classical texts — survived the onslaught of the Western conquest. A contrast can be drawn with three great civilisations of the Americas — the Aztec, Mayan, and Inca — most of whose codices or manuscripts did not survive the depredations of the European conquest.

colonial era are as evident in the Americas as in countries of the Old World.

While the contemporary claimants to a civilisational identity are relatively large countries, smaller entities too have occasionally made such claims. For instance, the Naga leader Angami Zapu Phizo, who proudly asserted that "Nagas are not Indian, and we have never had anything to do with India", said in support of this claim that "we have our own culture and civilisation, which our forefathers developed centuries ago... It has stood the test of time".

Portuguese politician and author Bruno Macaes makes the claim — surprising at first glance — that even the European Union (EU) "is in the process of being reconfigured as a civilisation-state, a political entity aggregating all those who live by a specific value system and using political tools to protect European civilisation from the attacks of its enemies". Macaes says, rather tellingly, that he first became aware of this quiet transformation when his fellow European politicians began saying that Europe is the best place in the world to live.

Macaes's emphasis on a particular value system as being foundational to Europe's civilisational identity points to a view that civilisationism, like nationalism, also has its good and bad versions. In a 1945 book, Hans Kohn, a pioneer scholar of nationalism, made a controversial distinction between Western and Eastern nationalisms. Only Western nationalism, he argued, was connected to the Enlightenment's legacy of the free individual; the nationalisms of Central and Eastern Europe and Asia were not.

A crude version of the European civilisational rhetoric is a key facet of the political stance of national-populist politicians like Victor Orban of Hungary and Donald Trump of the United States. They openly tried to define their country's borders in civilisational — and effectively racial — terms, not in terms of what international law requires or forbids. Right-wing populist politicians in a number of European countries now talk of a European civilisational identity. They even embrace Christianity, though not in a religious sense, and a few cherry-picked elements of liberalism — including the public

disavowal of anti-Semitism — as parts of their European identity. The talk of a civilisational identity allows them to maintain a studied silence on race.

The late historian Eric Hobsbawm once compared the historians' relationship to nationalism with that of poppy-growers to heroin addicts: "We supply the essential raw material for the market". Nations belong to the era of political modernity and they are all necessarily young, but "what makes a nation is the past, what justifies one nation against others is the past". Since historians produce the past, "my profession", said Hobsbawm wryly, cannot avoid getting entangled in political controversies. Unsurprisingly, this applies to civilisationism as well.

But if civilisations are utilised in the service of nationalism, what happens to the promise of the civilisational idea as a higher order principle for judging the nation-state as a political form? Some reflections by philosopher Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, made nearly a century ago, relate to this question. In *Kalki or the Future of Civilisation*, Radhakrishnan wrote, "Before we can build a stable civilisation worthy of humanity as a whole it is necessary that each historical civilisation should become conscious of its limitations and its unworthiness to become the ideal civilisation of the world".

When one juxtaposes the haughty civilisation talk of today against the state of our planet, Radhakrishnan's appeal to humility becomes prophetic and compelling. In 1929, when that book came out, Radhakrishnan had reasons to be optimistic about the future of the planet: "Astronomers tell us that there is no reason to suppose that this planet will be uninhabitable". But in our era of climate crisis, the ongoing death and loss from the pandemic, and surging global and intra-country inequality, it is hard to harbour this optimism.

One can only hope that the civilisationism fad soon becomes passé and that the world embraces a new, just, and peaceful form of planetary politics.

The writer is professor of Political Studies at Bard College, New York



AMIT BHANDARI

THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE conflict, now more than three months old, will cause major, long-term shifts in the global energy and commodity trade. Western sanctions on Russia and efforts of European nations to diversify their energy supplies are already causing market distortions and high prices. Those, in turn, have begun to trigger inflation and widespread financial distress. In India, the price shock for commodities across the board, could derail the economy as it recovers from the effects of Covid-19.

The conflict has already had a worldwide economic impact. Crude oil prices are at their highest level since 2014; the price of LNG is at its highest ever, fertiliser and food are up and markets for several other commodities such as nickel have been disrupted. Expensive commodities are already causing distress in India's neighbourhood, for example, in Sri Lanka and Pakistan. In Sri Lanka's case, economic turmoil due to high inflation, shortages of basic necessities and a default on foreign debt, has caused a political crisis as well.

The warning signs were visible long before the conflict in Ukraine began. Insufficient investment in oil and gas production in preceding years resulted in high prices, and shortages were being felt. A number of European investors, such as Norway's sovereign wealth fund, announced they would no longer invest in traditional fuels — oil, gas, coal. With investors keeping away, the conflict in Ukraine

LESSONS FROM A PRICE SHOCK

India must work on insulating its supply chains from global political crises

Larger emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil will disregard sanctions on their key economic interests, particularly food, fertilisers and energy. Specifically for India, its dependence on these essentials is unlikely to reduce meaningfully over the next 15-20 years. In the immediate future, the country should collaborate with other similar economies to ensure that Russia doesn't get locked out of global commodity markets.

precipitated the inevitable.

Even without the conflict, another factor could have triggered the price shock. Natural gas is used as a feedstock for fertiliser. An energy shock is then inevitably followed by a food price shock.

What does the future hold? How bad the situation can become depends on multiple factors — the duration of the Ukraine conflict, the terms on which it is settled, if it is, and the response of the US and its allies, especially on the sanctions.

While these outcomes cannot be predicted, some trends are evident. First, irrespective of how the conflict pans out, the European Union's ties with Russia will continue to be strained. In the immediate term, the EU is trying to source its raw materials — most critically oil and natural gas, but also fertiliser, agricultural goods and metals — from non-Russian sources. This will cause distortions and price spikes for those commodities in the global market, as can already be seen in the natural gas market, up 300 per cent in the last year.

Second, sanctions on Russia are unlikely to achieve the desired political outcome. The US and its allies are quick to impose sanctions — and these are rarely withdrawn, if ever. Iran has been under US sanctions since 1979, and the same with Venezuela for over a decade. In both cases, sanctions have failed to achieve the desired political outcome — a change in regime or its behaviour. As Russia is much bet-

ter placed than either of those two countries to weather sanctions, the restrictions are likely to remain for a long while.

Third, the high price of energy and the resulting inflation shows why much of the emerging world is unwilling and unable to align with the West on the current sanctions. Russia is 11 per cent of the global landmass and among the world's top five producers and exporters of oil, gas, fertiliser and other critical commodities like nickel. It is too big to be replaced as a supplier. Attempts to buy from other countries will only distort markets further. In emerging economies, it can fan public anger and political unrest, as was seen in Tunisia and other Arab countries from 2010 on.

Larger emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil will disregard sanctions on their key economic interests, particularly food, fertilisers and energy. Specifically for India, its dependence on these essentials is unlikely to reduce meaningfully over the next 15-20 years. In the immediate future, the country should collaborate with other similar economies to ensure that Russia doesn't get locked out of global commodity markets. For the long term, it must work on insulating its supply chains from global political crises.

Bhandari is Senior Fellow for Energy, Investment and Connectivity, Gateway House. He has also authored India and the Changing Geopolitics of Oil

JUNE 4, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

STANDOFF AT STANLEY

BRITISH JETS SWOOPED over the Falklands capital of Port Stanley and dropped thousands of leaflets calling on Argentina's 7,000 besieged troops to surrender, the ministry of defence said. It said the leaflets included copies of an open letter from Rear Admiral John Woodward, commander of the naval task force sent to restore British rule, to Argentina's military governor in the seized colony, Brig Mario Menendez. As his troops on commanding heights outside the beleaguered town geared for the order to attack, Admiral Woodward told the Brigadier: "The forces under my command have established

a dominating presence in this area and there can be no prospect of your garrison being relieved. Matters have now reached the point where you must consider whether there is any further point in maintaining resistance in the face of such overwhelming odds."

PUNJAB SHAKE-UP

THE CENTRE'S DECISION to remove the Punjab Chief Secretary, I.C. Puri, is part of the process the Union Government has started under the direction of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to tone up the Punjab administration in view of wanton extremist activities. Puri is being sent to Mussoorie as director of the Shastri

Academy. The Punjab government has been told the new Chief Secretary should be appointed immediately and Puri relieved soon.

AKASHVANI DEBATE

THE MINISTRY OF Information and Broadcasting is in no mood to oblige the AIADMK, which has whipped up a controversy over the renaming of All India Radio as Akashvani. The Deputy Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Arif Mohammad Khan, told ENS that the Centre would not rescind the order despite M G Ramachandran's decision to boycott AIR and Doordarshan.



13 THE IDEAS PAGE

A student of India

Over six decades, Paul Brass wrote on a range of topics — from farmers' movements in Western UP and a three-volume biography of Charan Singh to Hindu-Muslim faultlines and riots



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT

HOW CAN I do justice to Paul Brass's contribution to Indian studies in a thousand words? First of all, perhaps, by mentioning my first meeting with him — simply because it is revealing of his generosity (when he is said to be better known for his cantankerous nature). It was 1987. We were in Paris — where he had been invited by the *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* — and I had just started my PhD. He not only spent two hours with a 23-year-old non-initiated doctoral student but gave me key information, including the address of Bruce Graham, the then best specialist on the *Jana Sangh* whom I was to visit a few months later in Brighton — and who finally supervised my thesis. Many colleagues have similar stories to tell.

Paul, like some of his contemporaries, Myron Weiner, Lloyd Rudolph and Susan Hoeber Rudolph, played a pioneering role in the study of India. And like them, he remained a key figure in the field for more than half a century. He visited India to do fieldwork for the first time in 1961 and chose Uttar Pradesh, a state he was to study for decades and knew like the palm of his hand — Western UP districts like Aligarh and Meerut in particular. Paul believed less in quantitative methods than in ethnography. During his long career, he interviewed several kinds of resource persons — including obscure local leaders and stalwarts of Indian politics. Most times these interviewees remained in his published works but were referred to in footnotes with a code number that harked back to Paul's notebooks.

On the basis of this rich empirical material, Paul visited key themes of political science. He focused first on the party building process that the Congress and other political forces followed in UP. This allowed him to refine the role of factionalism in Indian politics — at the same time Rajni Kothari conducted his own study of the "Congress system".

He then concentrated his energy on identity politics. In *Language, Religion and Politics in North India* (1974), his first masterpiece, he used case studies from Bihar, UP and Punjab to analyse the malleability of ethnic identities. Accounting for the strategy of political entrepreneurs of the Maithili movement, of the Muslim League before and after Partition, and of the Sikh activists till the Punjabi Suba agitation, he showed that language-based and religious identities, far from being givens, were shaped and reshaped by ideologies and politicians against the so-called "others" (with whom, in fact, they often shared many cultural features). He articulated this instrumentalist theory against the primordialist approach very convincingly in his debate with Francis Robinson — a remarkably civilised, academic controversy.

If ethnic politics continued to preoccupy Paul empirically and theoretically in the 1980s, his major subject by then had become communal violence — a theme he had encountered



CR Sasikumar

before but on which he started to focus systematically then. In 1983, while he was doing fieldwork in Aligarh — his main case study along with Meerut — he conceived the notion of the "institutionalised riot system", a system "in which known persons and groups occupy specific roles in the rehearsal for and the production of communal riots". And he added: "The production of communal riots is very often a political one, frequently associated with intense interparty competition..." The year the Ramjanmabhoomi movement started, Paul had already understood what was to be the mechanism of the march of India to ethno-religious polarisation. And by contrast to many of his colleagues, who preferred to use euphemisms, he called a spade a spade, as evident from the title of his books, including the one he published in 2005, *Forms of collective violence: riots, pogroms and genocide in Modern India*.

By then, a fourth cycle, the last one, had already started: Paul's monumental biography of Charan Singh in three volumes. This magnum opus is like an allegory of Paul's long-term relationship with India and UP in particular. He had met the great kisan politician for the first time in 1962, and then in 1967, and started a correspondence with him in 1968 that ended only in 1987, with the death of Charan Singh. By then, Singh had agreed to give Paul full access to his private papers, an amazing sign of trust. The three volumes draw from these 155 files. They offer a formidable entry point in the history of pre-independence and post-1947 India.

Paul, who has written 16 books and

If ethnic politics continued to preoccupy Paul empirically and theoretically in the 1980s, his major subject by then had become communal violence — a theme he had encountered before but on which he started to focus systematically then. In 1983, while he was doing fieldwork in Aligarh — his main case study along with Meerut — he conceived the notion of the 'institutionalised riot system', a system 'in which known persons and groups occupy specific roles in the rehearsal for and the production of communal riots'.

dozens of articles and book chapters, was so much in love with research that he took early retirement from the University of Washington in the late 1990s. Relieved from teaching, he devoted his time — including some of the time he spent in his house in the Rocky Mountains — to writing. But he continued to do fieldwork. The last time I met him, with Gilles Verniers, another UP specialist whom he considered one of his most promising successors, it was at the India International Centre, in 2013, for a memorable lunch. On the following day, they both went to Meerut and Baghpat districts, to revisit some of the villages Paul had studied in his PhD, 50 years earlier.

Paul has left us, but his books are still with us, and it is the right time to (re)read them. Not only because they decipher India's political and social trajectory over the last 50 years, and describe how we have reached where we are today, but also because they demonstrate the incomparable value of his method: A rigorous fieldwork-based technique of investigation relying on interviews, participant observation and archival work. Speaking about archives: Paul gave more than one hundred boxes of his papers to the University of Washington in Seattle; those who are interested in the primary sources he had collected can consult them and learn — not only about India but also about the job of the social scientist.

The writer is senior research fellow at CERI-Sciences Po/CNRS, Paris, professor of Indian Politics and Sociology at King's India Institute, London

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Even before the jury decided in Johnny Depp's favour, the publicity surrounding this case was troubling." — THE GUARDIAN

When a teacher is killed

Why it will be difficult for me to forget the murder of Rajni Bala in the Valley



AVIJIT PATHAK

AT A TIME when the age of violence has reduced death to just a number to be added to the official statistics, we will soon forget Rajni Bala, the 36-year-old teacher who was shot by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district. And possibly, because of our psychic and spiritual impoverishment, many of us will plead for yet another form of violence — militarism as an answer to terrorism. However, it is really difficult to understand what it means when violence enters the corridors of a school, and children, irrespective of their religious identities, see their affectionate teacher killed by terrorists. The reason is that we have almost forgotten to value the healing power of education or say, the possibility in an act of communion between a "Hindu" teacher and "Muslim" students. As the terrorists kill Rajni Bala, they try to kill this emancipatory possibility. Because terrorism is essentially a despiritualised and nihilistic act; it instils fear and negates the art of communication. Like any other extremist doctrine, it cannot go beyond the violence of stereotyping "enemies".

However, as a teacher, it is exceedingly difficult for me to forget Rajni Bala. Nor can I find some sort of vicarious pleasure in consuming a counter-narrative like this — "Two Jaish-e-Muhammad militants were shot dead in the anti-militancy operation in Pulwama"! In fact, the vicious cycle of violence and counter-violence further brutalises our consciousness, and takes us nowhere. Furthermore, as a teacher, I have learned what toxic militants or non-reflexive generals often fail to understand — the realisation of our shared humanity is the ultimate gift of meaningful and dialogic education; and a classroom, unlike the battlefield, can take us to the fusion of horizons. For instance, in my class, I have seen bright and sensitive Kashmiri "Muslim" students; we have walked together, and learned and unlearned together. Neither the terrorists nor the militarist state can conceive of this possibility. And hence, as I feel, the killing of Rajni Bala ought to disturb all those who value the healing power of education.

Imagine that traumatic morning on May 31. She was just about to enter the school; children were ready for the assembly and then, they saw their teacher being shot and killed. Possibly, these children were waiting eagerly for this history teacher to illuminate their minds; possibly, Mrs Bala too was waiting for the moment that every genuine teacher loves — the art of discovering what Khalil Gibran said — Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself. But then, terrorism, even if it wears the uniform of some religion or other, has no religiosity; it is against life; it moves towards collective suicide. And those wonderful children who were about

to begin their morning prayers, as every good teacher would like to believe, are still endowed with creative possibilities, the possibilities that gave us a mystic like Jalaluddin Rumi, a peace activist like Martin Luther King Jr, or a singer like John Lennon. And terrorists are afraid of these possibilities.

As they kill Rajni Bala, they seek to convey a message to these children: Abhor all noble dreams; negate the spirit of dialogue and communication; your teacher can be your enemy; and accept that violence is normal, inevitable and desirable for creating a "free" land. In fact, unless these children are adequately counselled, loved and nurtured by great teachers, many of them might become emotionally crippled and psychologically wounded. When extremist violence, encounter deaths and targeted killings pollute the cultural environment and cause widespread fear, suspicion and broken communication, will it be possible to imagine the praxis of liberating education?

Rajni Bala was not a celebrity. And even though all major political personalities in Kashmir — from Mehbooba Mufti to Omar Abdullah — condemned this terrorist act, she will soon be forgotten. And possibly, representatives of the Indian state will arrange yet another press conference, and give us the new statistics — the number of terrorists arrested or killed, and the way they are dealing with the "Pakistan factor" in this conspiracy against India. The ruling regime with its discourse of hyper-nationalism will continue to persuade us that the abrogation of Article 370 was the right step to restore "normalcy" in Kashmir. Meanwhile, Kashmiri Pandits will threaten to undertake mass migration from the Valley if the government does not relocate them to "safe" places.

Amid this rapid flow of events, why should we allow the tragedy of a simple/unknown school teacher like Rajni Bala to disturb us? In fact, the privileged ones who live in "mainstream" India will rather love to consume Kashmir as just a tourism spectacle. Amid the instantaneity of social media and the act of sharing their "happy" moments at Dal Lake and Sonamarg, they will possibly thank the brigade of hyper-nationalists sitting in Delhi for restoring "normalcy" in the Valley. Or for that matter, our noisy television anchors — the new educators in this toxic age — will ask us to believe that the only answer is heightened militarism or the reduction of the entire territory into a site of surveillance.

However, Rajni Bala was different. She was truly in the "field". She left her home in Samba district — she was living in a rented house in Kulgam for the past 14 years; and above all, she was a teacher. And despite the psychology of fear that naturally enveloped her being at this time of targeted killings, she was, as my own identity as a teacher makes me believe, trying to accomplish what every sane person should do — seeing children as flowers to bloom, or sowing the seeds of love in that school in a disturbed territory. This was like seeing the extraordinary in the ordinary. No wonder, the terrorists — the bearers of Thanatos, the death instinct — killed her.

The writer taught sociology at JNU

The farm in the city

Planning for urban agriculture can make cities sustainable, achieve food security



SAYAN DAS, RITU PRIYA, RAMILA BISHT

A PREMATURE AND punishing summer makes life miserable for many across India, especially in the cities. The soaring temperatures adversely affect health, cause a dip in agricultural production, and also dry up rivers. Indeed, the repercussions of climate change are being felt more strongly than ever, especially in climate-vulnerable zones. Cities in India are also feeling the heat due to a combination of factors, including the urban heat island effect, but largely on account of ill-conceived urbanisation.

India is rapidly urbanising and is estimated to host 50 per cent of its population in cities by 2050. But are Indian cities ready to sustain this growth over the long haul, especially when urban planning appears woefully out of step with growth and ill-equipped to deal with the existing gaps, let alone the challenges of climate change?

Our cities already suffer from high population density, unaffordable housing, improper waste disposal, water scarcity most of the year and flooding during the rains, pollution and attendant illnesses, food and nutritional insecurity and urban poverty, among others. They are a far cry from the "centres of sustainable living with opportunities for all" that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman wishes them to be. Hence, noting the critical need for a paradigm shift in urban planning, her 2022-23 budget speech announced the decision to set up a high-level committee to steer the required changes in urban policy, planning, capacity building and governance. Given the current context and future exigencies, this presents an opportune moment to critically engage with urban land-use plan-

ning (ULP), especially urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA), as one of the essential elements of sustainable urbanisation.

The role of green infrastructure (GI) in combating pollution and climate mitigation and adaptation is well recognised, as are the health and recreational benefits. The Centre's 2015 AMRUT programme, for instance, included green spaces and parks as a thrust area. What, however, is often left out in urban planning is agriculture, still seen as a predominantly rural practice and source of livelihood. India's Urban and Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation (URDPI) guidelines mention Green Cities under the urban planning approach, with prevention of damage to "... [P]roductivity of agricultural land" listed as a key benefit. Yet there is little on how agriculture can be a part of ULP. This stands in contrast to the Food and Agricultural Organisation's (FAO) recognition of UPA as a significant contributor to food security; livelihood generation, especially for women; poverty alleviation; and urban resilience and sustainability. Urban areas already house at least 55 per cent of the world's population and consume 80 per cent of the food produced globally, thus underlining UPA as key to achieving sustainable food systems. With a current urban population of 481 million, which is expected to double by 2050, this holds true for India as well.

Hence, to look at GI, specifically UPA, in the context of ULP in NCR, we studied three peri-urban "villages" in Ghaziabad district, representing diverse contexts. The first is an "urbanised village" that falls in official mu-

nicipal boundaries, receives few urban amenities but has suffered loss of traditional livelihoods (and yet one-third of households rely on agriculture and allied activities to varying extents), loss of natural resources — land, water — to the urban middle class. The second is a peri-urban village that receives urban industrial waste and its health consequences, but with few advantages in terms of livelihoods or even compensation. The third is a "model" urbanising/urbanised village with majority households in agriculture but with domestic water supply, clean paved roads and drains, educational facilities and diversification of livelihoods towards the service sector.

To further explore the actual practice of UPA vis-à-vis ULP, the project compared three municipal master plans of the Ghaziabad sub-district with actual land-use mapped using satellite imagery. It found that in Ghaziabad city's masterplan area, total agricultural green space (72 sq km) far exceeded the area designated in the masterplan (41 sq km). In fact, UPA was the most significant type of GI that had been designated for either urban development or formal green spaces (park, city forest, green buffer etc.). In the Loni masterplan area, while total agricultural land-use still surpassed the area earmarked in the masterplan, agriculture underwent a substantial decline by more than half between 2014 and 2018. However, the Modinagar masterplan area, home to the "model" peri-urban village, was found to have 50 per cent of its area covered under UPA, showing little change over years.

If the existing pattern of urbanisation/in-

dustrialisation prevails on the third kind of villages, as in other peri-urban areas, how can urban planning now prevent these areas from becoming as polluted and unhealthy as the others?

While our first two study villages reflect the planned expansion of cities into surrounding rural areas, the third reflects endogenous or "subaltern" urbanisation. Expanding cities and "census towns" forming a major substrate of the current process of "urbanisation" and urban growth in India, makes our question relevant for large parts of the country.

While the former needs urgent remediation measures and other correctives, the third kind will benefit from a shift in paradigm for urban planning. ULP for such areas must prioritise estimation of waste management capacity, build infrastructure for it and regulate industrial installations to this capacity. Adequate political will for financial inputs and enforcement of regulations will be essential for often fund-starved urban administrations and for curbing violations of environmental norms. Urgent attention to UPA and its incorporation into ULP with enabling support will also go a long way in achieving urban food security and even a circular bioeconomy. We hope the desired "paradigm change" in urban planning accords UPA due consideration for developing healthy and sustainable cities for all.

Das is a researcher, and Priya and Bisht are professors at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DISTRACTION TACTICS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Enforced Directorate' (IE, June 3). All governments use investigative agencies against their adversaries for their own political gain. What is noteworthy is that ED gathers steam only when elections are on the cards — indeed serving as a potent distraction and poaching weapon to bring down governments. The question that begs answering is — what comes of these investigations? They either don't see any convictions and when they do, it remains business as usual for a political class that has innumerable convicts amid their ranks.

Deepak Singhal, Noida

THIS REFERS TO the editorial 'Enforced Directorate' (IE, June 3). While all ruling regimes have been guilty of misusing investigating agencies falling under their purview, the manner in which the Modi government is unabashedly using these to meet their political ends has left any semblance of their being independent and impartial in tatters. As the editorial points out, most of these cases, in the course of time, fall by the wayside, and this tells its own story. It would have broken new grounds had the NDA thought of de-linking these agencies from parochial political considerations. Without this de-linking, there is little hope for change.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

OIL THE MACHINE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The scars of instant justice' (IE, June 2). The SC panel's report on the case evoked mixed reactions in society. Some are enraged at the police machinery for jumping the rubric of law, while others are arguing that the victim's family was provided some closure through the encounter, that generally remains elusive to complainants in matters like these. This legal proceeding has opened the door to a conversation around why encounters are so frequent in our country. The inefficiency of the justice delivery system, skewed often to favour the accused over the complainants is one of the main reasons for these extra-judicial killings. The SC panel report must be taken as a wake up call to deal with this vital issue in a holistic manner.

Ravi Mathur, Noida

GROW AT HOME

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A Lesson In Food Security' (IE, June 2). The advice of the writer to India to be self-sufficient in edible oils and milk deserves to be taken on board readily. This is because their shortage has created unprecedented political upheaval in Sri Lanka recently. Faulty policy decisions and shrinkage of the tourist industry due to the pandemic made the country unable to import even basic food items adequately. India must focus on incentivising farming activities outside of wheat and paddy crops.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

Man gets death for rape, murder of 8-year-old girl

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, JUNE 3

A SPECIAL court on Friday sentenced a man to death for the rape and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Mumbai, within a year of him being released from jail after he was convicted for sexually assaulting another minor in 2013.

Special Judge H C Shende said the accused, Vadivel alias Gundappa Devendra, had already spent five years in jail for a similar offence and the repeat offence showed that his reformation is impossible. He was found guilty on charges, including murder and rape, under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

Considering the submissions made by Special Public Prosecutor Vaibhav Bagade, the court said that the manner in which the offence was committed was a mitigating circumstance to pronounce capital punishment for the accused.

The special judge had on Thursday given the death sentence to another accused booked for the rape and murder of a woman in Mumbai's Saki Naka, last year.

Devendra was convicted in 2013 for sexually assaulting a minor girl. He was sentenced then to seven years in jail and granted an early release on May 9, 2018, five years after his conviction.

Within 11 months, on April 4, 2019, an eight-year-old girl went missing from near her residence located in the same area as Devendra's previous victim. She had stepped out after school to buy tea, as her mother was unwell after undergoing a surgery. Her family began searching for her when she did not return and then approached the police.

The initial clues in the case came from a shopkeeper in the area, who had seen the girl with Devendra. Following this, the police interrogated Devendra after two days. He led them to a septic tank in the area where he had dumped the body.

"The accused was convicted in an offence against a minor. After his release, he again committed an offence of the same kind against another minor. In this offence, he killed the victim so that she could not speak against him. Not only did he kill her, he disposed her body in such a manner that it would have probably never been found. If I hear mitigating circumstances like his age and show him leniency, what if he finds another prey," the court asked. It added that to destroy evidence, the girl was killed in a "horrible" and "spine-chilling" manner.

"I think that if I give the accused a lesser sentence, he will again go to jail and again pretend to be good there, he will again get the rest of the sentence pardoned. This would again give him a chance to commit the same crime and ruin the life of another girl," the judge said in her order.

She added that the POCSO Act's objectives were to provide children a safe environment to grow up in and the accused, despite his previous punishment, had shown no regard for it.

The girl's mother, who was present in court, said that her daughter was bright in studies and was aspiring to become a policewoman or a lawyer.

"We made a lot of sacrifices and were making ends meet to raise my daughter and my son. The incident changed our lives forever. Her father has been so broken, he still does not speak to anyone or go anywhere. We wanted him to be given the death penalty."

SAKI NAKA CASE Gait report valid identity of convict sentenced to death

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, JUNE 3

IN A first in Mumbai, gait analysis report was among the evidence relied upon by a court hearing a case against a 44-year-old man, accused of raping and murdering a woman in Saki Naka last year.

Mohan Chauhan was convicted and sentenced to death by a special court in Dindoshi on Thursday. The Mumbai Police, in its investigation, had included a forensic report relying on gait analysis to corroborate that the man captured in the CCTV camera footage recovered from the spot of the incident was indeed Chauhan.

The 31st witness in the case was a scientific officer from the state Forensic Sciences Laboratory, who had analysed Chauhan's gait recorded after his arrest and compared it with the CCTV footage seized during investigation.

Explaining gait analysis, the officer deposed that it is a process where the gait of a person - manner of walking - is compared with CCTV camera footage in which the suspect is seen walking. The officer said that a sample video is made of the suspect walking. It requires the same angle, same light conditions and same distance to be covered as in the CCTV footage. The sample video and the CCTV footage are compared through a software by static images from both and analysed frame by frame. In this case, the officer said that the hairline, forehead and shoulders "were found similar" with the man in the reference photographs, which featured Chauhan.

This time, don't know who is behind gun: Pandit families who stayed back in '90s

NAVEED IQBAL
SRINAGAR, JUNE 3

SUSHEEL PAJNOO has noticed police vehicles making extra rounds as he leaves his house in Srinagar's Nawakdal in the morning. His wife, who works as a librarian in a government school, has also sensed enhanced security presence in the area. "We got a call from someone in the authorities one evening after the recent killings began. They asked my wife if she wished to be transferred. She flatly refused. We are home and we are fine," Pajnoo said.

Pajnoo's family is one of the few that remained in Kashmir even after many members of their community left the Valley in the 1990s. "I still live in my ancestral house. Both my parents lived here until they passed away, and now I live here with my wife and two kids," the 51-year-old said.

Amid the spate of targeted attacks against minorities in different parts of the Valley, Kashmiri Pandits who did not leave in the 1990s drew comparisons with the fear the community faced in that decade. But they also underlined a difference.

"The difference now is that neither the person behind, nor in front of the weapon is clear," Pajnoo said.

Not just Kashmiri Pandits,

TARGETED ATTACKS AGAINST MINORITIES IN KASHMIR

Employees start returning to Jammu's Jagti township

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, SRINAGAR, JUNE 3

AMID A spate of targeted killings, employees belonging to the minority community, especially Kashmiri Pandits posted in the Valley under PM's employment package, have started returning to their homes in Jammu.

Around 30-40 families of the employees returned to Jagti township meant for Kashmiri Pandits near Nagrota, on Thursday night.

The Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) Ashok Pandita said he got to know about the return of employees staying at Mattan in Anantnag district. Many others are still staying put in Baramulla, Sheikhpora and Kupwara, he added.

An employee who reached home in Jagti said there was an atmosphere of fear, making it difficult for the minorities to stay in the Valley. "As we heard about the killing of a bank employee, we immediately left," he said, adding that 40-50 families have returned so far.

"Others, too, will come back in a couple of days and they will be launching an agitation in Jammu," another employee said, adding "we have only one demand that government shall relocate us to Jammu until situation becomes congenial for our safe stay in the Valley".

"Do you think we can stay there when we are getting killed point blank," asked a migrant Kashmiri Pandit employee who also returned to Jammu from the



Kashmiri Pandit families return to Jagti township in Jammu on Friday in wake of targeted killings in Kashmir. PPT

Valley. While two minority community non-locals, including a bank employee and a labourer were killed on Thursday, a woman school teacher was killed two days earlier, he pointed out. "Prior to that, militants killed Rahul Bhat, school principal Supinder Kour, teacher Deepak Chand, chemist M.L. Bindroo and policeman Ajay Dhar. Have we been sent there to pick up dead bodies," he asked.

The targeted killings in the Valley ahead of the Amarnath Yatra have sounded alarm bells for the UT administration.

The ongoing violence has already cast its shadow on the forthcoming annual Kheer Bhawani mela on June 8 in Kashmir's Ganderbal district, with many a Kashmir-based organisations appealing for its cancellation. The Ramakrishna Mahasammelan Ashram in Achabal area of Anantnag, which has been organising langar for pilgrims on the

temple premises for the past over two decades, has decided not to do so this year. "We had procured ration and made arrangements for providing food to pilgrims. However, we have decided to cancel our programme," said B.L. Bhat, chairman of the administrative council of the Mission.

The officials of Dharmarth Trust that looks after the Kheer Bhawani temple said they have not announced cancellation of the annual fair.

Shopian: 2 migrants injured in grenade blast

Two migrant labourers were injured in a grenade blast in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, police said. "Militants lobbed grenade at Aglar Zainapora, resulting in minor injuries to two non-locals. Area has been cordoned off," a police spokesman said in a tweet.

Prophet remark: 6 injured in Kanpur clash, 18 arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JUNE 3

AT LEAST six persons were injured in a clash between two groups belonging to different communities in Kanpur's Beckonganj area on Friday afternoon.

The police said the incident took place when members of a community were trying to force traders to close their shops as part of a protest over alleged objectionable remarks made by a BJP leader against Prophet Mohammad.

Eighteen people were arrested and efforts were being made to identify others involved in the incident, said Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar.

The two groups entered into a scuffle and pelted each other with stones following a heated exchange.

The situation was brought under control after a police team arrived and used force to disperse the crowd. Those injured were undergoing treatment at hospital. The doctors said their condition was stable.

ADGP Kumar said those involved in the incident would be booked under the Uttar Pradesh



During the clash in Kanpur on Friday. Express

Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act and their property would be seized.

The police are examining videos of the incident to identify the suspects.

Additional police teams comprising senior officers were being rushed to Kanpur to maintain peace in the area, it is learnt. Round-the-clock vigil will be maintained in the area, officials said.

A group belonging to the minority community had given a call for bandh on Friday over al-

leged objectionable remarks made by BJP national spokesperson Nupur Sharma, they said.

The protesters were demanding arrest of Nupur Sharma.

Kumar said after 'Jumme Kinamaz' on Friday, some people assembled in the area and forced traders to close their shops. When another group raised objection, the situation took an ugly turn. Both the sides resorted to sloganeering.

Stones were also pelted at the police during the clash.

ANAND MOHAN J
HANUMANGARH, JUNE 3

MANOJ KUMARI believed in her husband. She was sure that he would become a branch manager at his bank, took his word when he promised their honeymoon in Kashmir would be safe and that would one day they would return to Rajasthan.

He managed to keep one promise. The other two remain unfulfilled as her husband, Vijay

PSI scam affects moral fibre of society: court

Bengaluru: Rejecting pleas of two middlemen who took money to ensure selection of candidates and three candidates who used unethical means to clear the police sub-inspector (PSI) recruitment exam, a sessions court on Friday said that the scam is a socio-economic offence which affects the moral fibre of society.

"It is a case of a recruitment scam by manipulating the OMR sheets to deprive deserving candidates who have honestly worked hard for the examination for selection. Therefore, it is a socio-economic offence which affects the moral fiber of the society," a sessions court in Bengaluru has ruled.

The sessions court has cited a 2017 judgment by the Supreme Court in the State of Bihar vs Amith Kumar alias Bacha Rai case to turn down the bail pleas.

ENS

Beniwal (29), bank manager at Ellaquai Dehati Bank (EDB) branch in south Kashmir's Kulgam was killed by suspected militants on Thursday.

They had tied the knot in February and Vijay spent the initial days of his marriage professing his love for her over the phone. Then he convinced her to shift with him in Kashmir.

"He told me Kashmir was safe. For our honeymoon, he took me to Pahalgam and Vaishno Devi. After our honeymoon, I started



Vijay Beniwal with wife Manoj Kumari

getting scared as the targeted killings began in Kashmir. He told

Tata firm wins bid to build Jewar airport

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

BRINGING THE Noida International Airport (NIA) in UP's Jewar, about 100 km from Delhi, a big step closer to reality, the bid for engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) of the greenfield facility was awarded on Friday to Tata Projects.

Tata Projects outbid EPC rivals Larsen & Toubro and Shapoorji Pallonji - and, as part of the mandate, will construct the terminal, runway, airside infrastructure, roads, utilities, landside facilities and other ancillary buildings at the greenfield airport.

With the closure of the EPC contract, the first phase of the airport is on track to be delivered within three years of the concession period's commencement on October 1, 2021, said officials.

Tata Projects is already undertaking several key infrastructure projects, including the new

Parliament building, Mumbai trans-harbour link, multiple stretches of dedicated freight corridors, and Metro lines across cities including Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Lucknow, Ahmedabad, and Chennai.

The Jewar facility will be the first full-fledged airport construction project being undertaken by the company, which had built the new terminal building at Prayagraj Airport in 2018 for the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in a record 11 months.

"We are proud to be entrusted with the EPC works for the greenfield Noida International Airport at Jewar. Tata Projects will work closely with YIAPL to deliver India's most advanced and environment friendly airport on time. We shall deploy the latest technologies in its construction, while meeting the highest standards of quality, safety, and sustainability," said Vinayak Pai, CEO and MD-designate, Tata Projects Ltd.

Yamuna International Airport

me that bank employees were not targeted in Kashmir. He promised to become the branch manager and take a posting in Rajasthan," Kuman (26) said.

Vijay had been posted in Kashmir after qualifying the Regional Rural Banks exam in 2019. He was initially posted as a clerk, but later was posted as a bank PO after passing a qualifying exam. His family now faces a tough time ahead as they had taken a Rs 19 lakh loan to renovate their family home in

Hanumangarh's Nora Tehsil. Vijay's father is the only remaining breadwinner, while Kumari has decided to become a teacher.

At the family home, Om Prakash (54), peered into the local newspapers with his son's wedding photos splashed across the front pages announcing his death. "No politician has visited my family today... My son... never said anything bad about Kashmir. We were waiting for him to return home... my son returned home in a hearse van," Prakash said.

Private Limited (YIAPL) is a 100 per cent subsidiary of Zurich Airport International AG, which has been incorporated as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to develop the greenfield airport in Jewar.

"Together with Tata Projects, we're working to deliver a passenger terminal, runway, and other airport infrastructure with a capacity of 12 million passengers annually, by 2024. We are aiming to enable, promote and strengthen the all-inclusive sustainable development of the aviation ecosystem in India. Noida International Airport will bolster employment generation and economic growth in the state as well as the country," said Christoph Schnellmann, CEO, YIAPL.

Currently, many of India's private airport projects are being undertaken by Larsen & Toubro's L&T Construction, including Delhi's Terminal-3, Mumbai's Terminal-2, Kannur International Airport, in addition to expansion work at various airports like Delhi, Bengaluru,

Chennai and Hyderabad. The Mumbai-based company also received the contract to build the greenfield airport at Navi Mumbai. The Jewar airport will be a digital facility, enabling contactless travel, said officials, with its design based on sustainable development that will be India's first net-zero emission airport. The steps of the terminal forecourt will resemble the ghats of Varanasi and Haridwar - and the passenger terminal will feature intricate ornamental lattice screens inspired by Indian architecture, officials said.

The airport was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in November last year.

Incidentally, on January 27, the Tata Group regained control of Air India, with a bid of Rs 18,000 crore for 100 per cent of the airline, including its 100 per cent stake in budget airline Air India Express and 50 per cent stake in ground handling firm AI-SATS.

Australia seeks framework for univs to set up campuses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

AUSTRALIA HAS requested the University Grants Commission (UGC) to create a dedicated regulatory framework to allow foreign higher educational institutes set up campuses in India.

A delegation led by Australian Deputy High Commissioner to India Sarah Storey made the suggestion during a meeting with UGC chairperson Prof M Jagadeesh Kumar on Friday, the commission said in a statement.

"The Australian side suggested that a self-regulatory framework for foreign higher

educational institutions might be developed for promoting their establishment and operations in India," the statement added.

Prof Kumar said the UGC was already working on drawing up regulations to allow top-ranked global universities to set up campuses in India. "Our regulations will cover what the Australian side has suggested," Prof Kumar added.

Over the next few days, the UGC has lined up similar meetings with heads of other foreign missions to promote the commission's new regulations issued in April on twinning, joint degree and dual degree programmes between Indian and foreign universities.

Gangster Bishnoi's nephew claims he shot the singer

NAVJEEVANGOPAL
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 3

AMID REPORTS that gangster Lawrence Bishnoi has told investigators that his gang's members, including Canada-based Goldy Brar, hatched a conspiracy and murdered Sidhu Moosewala, a person claiming to be his cousin has claimed to have killed the singer-politician with "his own hands".

Sachin Thapan Bishnoi, who claims that Bishnoi is his maternal uncle, told news channel News-18 that Moosewala was not killed for any "publicity stunt" or for "ransom", but because he "financially supported and arranged for the

shelter" of gangsters who killed Vicky Middukhera, a Youth Akali Dal leader. Middukhera was shot dead on August 7 last year in a parking lot in Mohali.

In the purported conversation with the news channel, Thapan said Moosewala's name had "come up" in the Middukhera case, but the police did not take any action and "that is why we killed him". He said Bishnoi was a "follower of Bajrang Bali and was an icon for the whole nation, not only for us".

A member of the SIT probing Moosewala's murder, said, "We are looking into the purported remarks of Sachin Thapan Bishnoi. We neither confirm nor deny the remarks. But, yes, he is a suspect."

SIDHU MOOSEWALA MURDER

Killers will be behind bars soon: Mann

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, JUNE 3

FIVE DAYS after Sidhu Moosewala was killed in cold blood, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann Friday visited his residence and assured the slain singer's family that his killers would soon be behind bars and slammed those "playing politics" over the death.

Mann spent about an hour with Moosewala's family at their village Moosa in Mansa district, condoling the death of the singer-politician who was killed on May 29 in a hail of bullets fired by unidentified assailants. The killing had come a day after the Mann-led government pruned



Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann with Balkaur Singh, father of Sidhu Moosewala, on Friday. PPT

the security provided to the singer and over 400 other VIPs

and made the list of protectees public.

"Police has got vital clues regarding the murder and the day is not far when we will nab the perpetrators of this heinous crime," Mann assured the family. The CM said he has already asked the state police chief to speed up the investigation. A judicial probe by a sitting high court judge has been ordered, following the family's demand, he recalled.

The state police has so far arrested one person who, it claimed, had arranged the vehicles that the assailants had used to tail Moosewala's car.

DGP VK Bhawra had earlier termed the incident as "a case of an inter-gang rivalry." He had later added that the Lawrence Bishnoi gang was behind the killing.



Bonding with the Best

VIKRAM

★★★★

Director: Lokesh Kanagaraj
Cast: Kamal Haasan, Vijay Sethupathi, Fahadh Faasil, Narain, Arjun Das, Harish Uthaman, Kalidas Jayaram, Chemban Vinod Jose

MANOJ KUMARR

TAMIL SUPERSTAR Kamal Haasan has returned to big-screen entertainment after a gap of four years. While Haasan and Lokesh (Kanagaraj; director) kept telling us that there was no connection between *Vikram* that came out in 1986, and the new iteration, but that is only a half-truth. Lokesh, like his other films, lifts material from the cinematic well of Kamal, and reinvents it to suit the taste of the current crop of the movie-going audience.

That *Vikram* was Kamal's attempt to make a Bond-like movie in Tamil, while this *Vikram* is very rooted in terms of culture and in the context of social and relationships, far removed from the world of Bond. Kamal reprises his role as a spy named Vikram from the first movie. The film's background, however, borrows events from Lokesh's career-making movie *Kaithi* (2019). The story: Vikram and his team of spies were disgraced and hunted down by the government after a covert operation in the 1990s went sideways. Kamal and his companions go off the radar and live in hiding for about 30 years. They no longer harbour the thirst to stop foreign attacks. All they want is to protect their loved ones from the very people they once fought to protect.

Amar (Fahadh Faasil) runs his own cop unit, which carries out hit jobs at the behest of the government. And there is Vijay Sethupathi's Santhanam — a local version of legendary drug lord Pablo Escobar. He is a cook, who produces quality narcotic drugs when he's provided with the right raw materials. A huge consignment of raw materials goes missing. Amid all this chaos, where does Vikram, a rogue spy, fit in?

Lokesh weaves a convoluted chase around the missing raw material that is needed to produce drugs in the first half. He chooses to drag the pace, but just before we reach the breaking point, he hits us with the movie moment that we have been waiting for: 'Aarambikalangala (shall we start)', says Vikram.

Yes, we bought the tickets for Kamal. But, Lokesh doesn't burden Kamal with the responsibility of keeping us entertained for the entire length of three hours. He has given even minor characters moments to shine. There is a surprising woman character who channels her inner Bride (*Kill Bill*), slaughtering a group of men with some silverware.

In the climax, we are teased about at least three separate movies that could branch out — Achoo (Suriya!), Achoo (Karthi!), Achoo (Kamal Haasan!).



Ten Episodes of Tedium

EK BADNAAM... AASHRAM 3

Directed by: Prakash Jha. **Cast:** Bobby Deol, Chandan Roy Sanyal, Aaditi Pohankar, Esha Gupta. **Streaming on:** MX Originals

THE FIRST two seasons of *Aashram*, in 2020, followed within a few months of each other. This third season has taken two years. About the only difference this time around is in its name: it has turned into *Ek Badnaam... Aashram*, so that there is no doubt in our minds that this *ashram* is a bad place, run by an evil baba, and his equally evil cohorts.

But we already knew that. So, what's new? We have been a witness to the *kali kartoots* (black deeds) of Baba Nirala (Bobby Deol) and his faithful sidekick Bhopa (Chandan Roy Sanyal), which included de-

SHUBHRA GUPTA

THE HANDSOME king who galloped away with his bride, her knight in shining armour, has an ancient Indian context: Prithviraj Chauhan, the early 12th century ruler of Ajmer, claimed Rajkumari Sanyogita as his own, after she lost her heart to him. Details of this love story are recorded in *Prithviraj Raso*, penned by Chand Bardai, said to be Prithviraj's court poet. Not only was the fair princess rescued from the wrath of her father, the traitor Jaichand; the might of the Mughals was kept at bay till his last breath, so valorous was Prithviraj.

This is a beloved legend that most Indians remember from their childhood. But there never has been a better time to make a movie out of it: muscular nationalism is at its peak, and, at every turn, we are being reminded of the cruelties of the Mughal invaders who 'trampled upon our temples and turned them into mosques'. *Samrat Prithviraj*, in which Akshay Kumar plays the titular character, loses no time to tell us that he was the 'last Hindu king': after him came centuries of oppression which came to an end only after India attained Independence in 1947.

What Chandraprakash Dwivedi has done is to soup up the legend so that it is in sync with the dominant national mood: Prithviraj is representative of a Bharat when it was pristine, pure, unpolluted. How did a director who has also made the astonishingly subversive *Mohalla Assi* achieve this switchover? (Dwivedi has been on record to say that this is his passion project, and he has been trying to get it off the ground for a decade and more). Or, is it just a question of being expedient?

Dwivedi is also a filmmaker who knows how to dramatise situations. The two-and-a-half hours run-time of *Samrat Prithviraj* is all high-pitched drama, row upon row of costumery in place, massive scale filling up the screen. Mohammad Ghori (Manav Vij) is the chief antagonist, and while he is not shown to be as much of an out-and-out monster as Ranveer Singh's Alauddin Khilji in *Padmaavat*, he gets to narrow his eyes and hit a man when he is down, as befits those dastardly invaders.

The question is: given the kind of film it is, does it work? A Roman-arena like space, with a grievously wounded



Prithviraj fighting off four-legged and two-legged beasts is a show-stopper which tops and tails the film: in between are few other effective moments, especially the one in which the *dilwala* takes his *dulhaniya* away.

But at no point is the plot or any character given significant breathing space, so intent it is upon glorifying its subject: Chand Bardai (Sonu Sood) has more ardour in his gaze than Prithviraj's lady love (Manushi Chhillar, who comes off more

contemporary than period, and leaves little impact). Sanjay Dutt's Kaka Kanha whose undying faithfulness to Prithviraj is tested

more than once, does double duty of a court jester and an affectionate uncle: how do you do a mainstream film without a comic figure? And then there is Ashutosh Rana as Jaichand, whose name has long been synonymous with being a traitor, and Sakshi Tanwar as his voluble wife, who carry their scenes, but are given softer treatment than they deserve, because, hey, we know who the real bad guys here are.

Not only does Prithviraj's bravery makes him a combination of Bhishma and Bheem (in the words of the always-adoring Bardai), he is made into an early

feminist, spouting inadvertently funny lines in support of women generally, and specifically his Sanyogita, whom he encourages to share his throne and listen to the people. Did anyone else feel a dissonance when these same sword-wielding *veeranganas* jump to their death, committing *jauhar*? That leaves Akshay doing his thing: cleaving through *dushman fauj* (enemy soldiers), twirling in the song-and-dance, fighting off the inexorable advance of the treacherous outsiders.

As befits its simplistic, shorn-of-nuance tone, the film is loud and lurid, lurching between dialogue-*baazi* and blandness, and staying determinedly faithful to its stated intent.

shubhra.gupta@expressindia.com

Always Sunny in Downton

DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA ★★

Director: Simon Curtis

Cast: Maggie Smith, Michelle Dockery, Hugh Bonneville, Hugh Dancy, Dominic West, Laura Haddock, Jim Carter, Elizabeth McGovern, Laura Carmichael



SHALINI LANGER

PLUS CA change, *plus c'est la meme chose*. Pardon the French, but this re-dip into the pastoral, pastel palimpsest of the English manor born might promise 'A New Era', via Hollywood and the South of France, but nothing really changes for the Granthams.

Well, one thing does. A villa on the French Riviera drops into their laps, just the kind of gifts rich people pass on to other rich people, even if the acquaintance lasted all of one 'idyllic interlude' 60 years ago.

That kicks off one aspect of the so-called New Era, with a lot of tepid (never heated) speculation about why Lady Violet Grantham would be the recipient of such devoted attention from a French Marquis she briefly met. It's exactly what you are thinking.

The other aspect relates to the Granthams welcoming into their stately Downton Abbey a film crew for a month as they are so hard-pressed for money that they can't repair a leak-

ing attic. On all other matters, there is no tightening of the purse strings — no one handles money, not even a purse, so one can't be sure.

The films themselves are entering a new era as the talkies are barging their way in. The silent movie that Barber (Dancy) is shooting at Downton comes almost to a halt as a result, till Lady Mary (Dockery) comes up with a solution: why not just start recording dialogue? This upends the film's silent superstars Dexter (West) and Dalgleish (Haddock), who have never done a talkie before. While Dexter quickly finds his feet, given his British origins, Dalgleish is out of sorts with her American accent, and hence in comes Mary again.

There are some minor traumas to be overcome; some desires to be tamped down; some unions to be made; some others to be only whispered about; servants to be kept happy and, briefly, have a taste of the Upstairs; and one wedding and a funeral to bring out the cutlery for. But, in the end, no downturns here.

shalini.langer@expressindia.com

An Ode to the War Hero

ACTOR-FILMMAKER Adivi Sesh has been fascinated by the courage and the story of late 26/11 hero Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan since he first saw the latter's passport-sized photo on a news channel in San Francisco in 2008. Adivi has been a fan of Sandeep since

and has collected every news clipping he could find on the braveheart. And the admiration for the real-life hero culminated in a three-hour-long action drama, *Major*.

Major Unnikrishnan was just 31 when he died fighting terrorists at Mumbai's Taj hotel in 2008. A chapter in the book *Black Tornado: The Three Sieges of Mumbai 26/11* has a detailed account of the last-minute decisions of Unnikrishnan and how he single-handedly charged at the terrorists, pushing them into a corner and achieving a breakthrough in a deadly siege that had rattled the Indian security forces. In the process, he lost his life, thus becoming the first NSG commander to die in action.

The siege itself provides such an explosive background to whip up an edge-of-the-seat movie. *Major* is not an authentic war movie. Instead, Adivi, who has also written the movie, adds a liberal dose of fa-

miliar romanticism that's typical of such movies made in India. The themes of this film are cliché.

Adivi has taken immense creative freedom tracing Unnikrishnan's evolution into an elite soldier from a gentle and kind young man. The film may just work for you if you just focus on the emotional component of it.

The narrative switches into thriller mode, when the story shifts to the Taj hotel. Again, the staging is carried out without any regard for the rigid pecking order of the Army. There are moments when the commanding officer takes command from the subordinate. Some consequential decisions in the military operation are taken based on emotions, rather than objective and strategic cues. A little authenticity would not harm the drama, no?

Prakash Raj and Revathy get to us with their performance as the parents of Unnikrishnan. And the romantic story between Sandeep and Isha (played by Saiee Manjrekar) also strikes a chord, thanks to the youthful exuberance. *Major* is far from being perfect. Nevertheless, it's an effective homage to the hero of 26/11.

MKR

STREAMING WATCH LIST



THE WAGONER

MUBI

This 1963 film by Senegalese director Ousmane Sembène is considered to be the first film made in Africa by a Black African. This 18-minute-long tells the story of a cart driver who moves to Dakar to make a living. But out of sympathy with other poverty-stricken people, he works for free and goes hungry himself.



12 MIGHTY ORPHANS

NETFLIX

The movie is based on the true story of the Mighty Mites, the football team of a Fort Worth orphanage who, during the Great Depression, went from playing without shoes — or even a football — to playing for the Texas state championships. The architect of their success was Rusty Russell, who gave up a privileged position so he could coach at an orphanage. Recognising that his scrawny players couldn't beat the other teams with brawn, Rusty developed innovative strategies that would come to define modern football.



JUNGLE CRY

LIONSGATE PLAY

Jungle Cry is a sports drama based on the real-life story of Indian rugby coach Rudraksh Jena of Bhubaneswar's Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), who guided a team of 12 rural Odia boys to a historic victory in the Junior Rugby World Cup in England in 2007. Helmed by Sagar Ballary, it stars Abhay Deol as the Indian coach of the team.

HOLLYWOOD STARGIRL

DISNEY+HOTSTAR

This is a sequel to the 2020 hit about free spirit Stargirl Caraway, whose simple acts of kindness work magic in the lives of others. This Julia Hart-directed movie follows Stargirl's journey out of Mica, Arizona and into a bigger world of music, dreams and possibilities. When her mother is hired as the costume designer on a movie and they relocate to Los Angeles, Stargirl quickly becomes involved with an eclectic assortment of characters.

COMPILED BY

ALAKA SAHANI





DELAYED BY COVID PANDEMIC

CHINA BEGINS WORK ON UNMANNED SHIP

China has started building its most-advanced unmanned ship. The drone ship characterised by fully domestically-developed propulsion system can independently carry out missions under different scenarios.

TOP OF THE WORLD



The US is Taiwan's most important foreign backer. File

US removes line on Taiwan independence

THE US State Department has updated its fact sheet on Taiwan again, to restate a line about not supporting independence for the Chinese-claimed, democratically governed island. Last month, the State Department changed its website on Taiwan, removing wording both on not supporting Taiwan independence and on acknowledging Beijing's position that Taiwan is part of China, which angered Beijing. A State Department spokesperson said on Friday the fact sheet was again updated to reflect Secretary of State Antony Blinken's recent speech on China, in which he said the US does not support Taiwan independence. AP

UNITED STATES
Trump aide indicted for contempt

PETER NAVARRO, former trade adviser to President Donald Trump, has been charged with contempt of Congress for refusing to cooperate with a House of Representatives investigation of the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, the Justice Department said on Friday. Stephen Bannon, the onetime chief strategist for Trump, was criminally charged in November for defying a subpoena from the committee. Each count of contempt of Congress carries a maximum of one year in jail, as well as a fine of up to \$100,000. AP

UNITED NATIONS
Taliban faces threat from IS, ex-security men

THE TALIBAN rulers of Afghanistan are maintaining close ties with al-Qaeda as they consolidate control over the country, and their main military threat is coming from the Islamic State extremist group and guerrilla-style attacks by former Afghan government security personnel, UN experts said in a new report. The report to the Security Council says fighting may escalate with the onset of better weather. But neither IS nor al-Qaeda "is believed to be capable of mounting international attacks before 2023 at the earliest, regardless of whether the Taliban acts to restrain them," the experts said. AP

PARIS SAYS FRENCH NATIONAL KILLED IN FIGHTING

Ukrainians hold out against Russian troops as war enters its 100th day

AGENCIES
KYIV, JUNE 3

RUSSIAN FORCES advanced deep into the ruined eastern factory city of Sievierodonetsk but Ukrainian troops were still holding out there as Russia's assault on its neighbour reached its 100th day on Friday.

"I regret to say that the Russian army succeeded in making its way deep into the city... they control most of the city," regional governor Serhiy Gaidai said. But he said Ukrainian fighters were holding out in one area. "So I would tell sceptics not to write off Sievierodonetsk. The city is holding on."

Despite being driven from the north in March after a failed assault on the capital, Russia still controls around a fifth of the country, about half seized in 2014 and half since the Feb 24 invasion.

Kyiv hopes advanced missile systems pledged this week by the US and Britain will help swing the battle in its favour. "We are expecting more good news on weapon supplies from other partners... We are working to bring the supply of modern combat systems to a much higher level," President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

Russia has denounced the \$700 million US weapons package for Ukraine saying Western weapons will pour "fuel on the fire".

REUTERS



Russia now controls around a fifth of Ukrainian territory. AP File

WAR'S END NOWHERE IN SIGHT, A LOOK AT THE DEVASTATION SO FAR

DISPLACEMENT

6.8 million people driven out of Ukraine at some point during the conflict, according to UNHCR, of which 2.2 million are back

7.1 million people have been displaced internally, by estimates of UN's International Organization for Migration

INFRA

38,000 residential buildings destroyed, according to Ukraine's parliamentary commission on human rights

900 educational facilities from grade schools to kindergartens to universities damaged

300 car and 50 rail bridges, 500 factories and 500 hospitals among other losses to infrastructure, according to Ukrainian officials

296 attacks on hospitals, ambulances and medical workers, according to the WHO

NOBODY KNOWS how many combatants or civilians have died as verified information is scant. President Zelenskyy has pegged the civilian toll at "at least tens of thousands". He has also said 60 to 100 Ukrainian soldiers are dying every day. While Moscow has not released any figures of late, in late April, Britain estimated Russian losses at 15,000. Source: AP

Israel raises Iran concerns with UN nuclear watchdog

REUTERS
JERUSALEM, JUNE 3

Israel told the UN nuclear watchdog on Friday it would prefer a diplomatic resolution to the standoff over Iran's nuclear programme but it could take independent action, reiterating a long-standing veiled threat to launch a preemptive war.

The warning to visiting International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi followed calls by Western powers on the IAEA Board of Governors to rebuke Tehran for failing to answer questions on uranium traces at undeclared sites.

That dispute has further clouded so far fruitless attempts by negotiators to resurrect a 2015 Iran nuclear deal. Since Washington's walkout and its reimposition of sanctions against Iran, Tehran - which says its nuclear designs are peaceful - has stepped up uranium enrichment.

Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett "stressed (to Grossi) the importance of the IAEA Board of Governors delivering a clear and unequivocal message to Iran in its upcoming decision", a statement from Bennett's office said.

"While it prefers diplomacy in order to deny Iran the possibility of developing nuclear weapons, Israel reserves the right to self-defence and action against Iran to stop its nuclear programme if the international community fails to do so within the relevant timeframe," it added without elaborating.

South Korean and US intelligence officials have said they detected North Korean efforts to prepare its northeastern testing ground for another nuclear test, which would be its seventh since



Israel reserves right to act: Bennett

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"While it prefers diplomacy in order to deny Iran the possibility of developing nuclear weapons, Israel reserves the right to self-defence and action against Iran to stop its nuclear programme if the international community fails to do so within the relevant timeframe," it added without elaborating.

Envoy says US, its allies preparing for possible nuclear test by N Korea

Seoul: President Joe Biden's special envoy for North Korea said Friday the United States is "preparing for all contingencies" in close coordination with its South Korean and Japanese allies as it monitors North Korean arrangements for a possible nuclear test explosion that outside officials say could be imminent.

South Korean and US intelligence officials have said they detected North Korean efforts to prepare its northeastern testing ground for another nuclear test, which would be its seventh since



Sung Kim, US Special Envoy for North Korea, at a meeting in Seoul on Friday. Reuters

2006 and the first since September 2017, when it claimed to have detonated a thermonuclear bomb to fit on its intercon-



SURPRISE SIGHTING

Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, arrive for Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee celebrations at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, on Friday. The 36-year-old monarch, however, skipped the event due to 'some discomfort'. Reuters

Lanka officials instructed to stockpile food as crisis looms

Colombo: Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has instructed officials to stockpile adequate essentials and warned against organised efforts of traders from creating an artificial scarcity amidst an impending food shortage facing the island nation in the next three months, media reports said on Friday.

A crippling shortage of foreign reserves has led to long queues for fuel, cooking gas, and other essentials while power cuts and soaring food prices heaped misery on the people.

"President Rajapaksa has instructed relevant officials to take measures to ensure that there is no shortage of goods and prevent the organised efforts of some businessmen to increase prices by pretending to have a shortage of goods," news portal *Economy Next* quoted a statement from Sri Lanka's Presidential Media Division issued on Friday.

President Rajapaksa also instructed the Consumer Affairs Authority to take legal action against those trading at unfair prices, a news portal said. PTI



President Joe Biden speaks about gun violence during a primetime address from the White House. Reuters

'Enough': Joe Biden calls on lawmakers to pass law on guns

NEW YORK TIMES
WASHINGTON, JUNE 3

PRESIDENT JOE Biden demanded Thursday that lawmakers respond to communities turned into "killing fields" by passing far-reaching limits on guns, calling on Congress to ban assault-style weapons, expand background checks and pass "red flag" laws after recent massacres.

In an address to the nation, Biden dared Republicans to ignore the repeated convulsions of anger and grief from gun violence by continuing to block gun measures supported by large majorities in both parties.

"My God," he declared from the White House. "The fact that the majority of the Senate Republicans don't want any of these proposals, even to be debated or come up for a vote, I find unconscionable. We can't fail the American people again."

Biden's speech came a day after a mass shooting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that killed four people and nine days after a massacre in Uvalde, Texas, that took the lives of 19 elementary school children and two teachers. Ten days before that, 10 Black people were gunned down in a grocery store in Buffalo, New York.

With the 17-minute address, Biden abruptly shed the reluctance of his White House to engage in what could become yet another fruitless partisan confrontation. "Enough, enough. It's time for each of us to do our part," he told Americans. "For the children we've lost. For the children we can save. For the nation we love."

Whether that will happen remains unclear. House Democrats on Thursday advanced a wide-ranging package of gun control legislation that would prohibit the sale of semi-automatic rifles to people younger than 21 and ban the sale of magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. But those measures, too, were all but certain to die in the Senate.

A bitterly divided House Judiciary Committee spent Thursday considering the legislation and approved it in evening, on a party-line vote of 25-19.

Pak govt plans sedition case against ex-PM Khan

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, JUNE 3

THE PAKISTAN government is mulling to launch a sedition case against former prime minister Imran Khan and the chief ministers of Gilgit-Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for allegedly planning an "attack" on the federation during a protest here last month.

A meeting of the special committee of the Cabinet held under the chairmanship of Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah Khan on Thursday deliberated on the issue of bringing sedition charges against Khan and others following their "Azadi March" that left a trail of destruction in the capital Islamabad.

The May 25 march aimed at forcing the government to call snap polls, but failed to achieve its objective as clashes erupted

TULSA ATTACKER BLAMED SURGEON FOR PAIN: POLICE

A GUNMAN who killed his surgeon and three other people at a Tulsa medical office blamed the doctor for his continuing pain after a recent back operation and bought an AR-style rifle just hours before the rampage, police said.

The patient called the clinic repeatedly complaining of pain and specifically targeted the doctor who performed the surgery, then killed himself as the police arrived, Tulsa Police Chief Wendell Franklin said. AP

between protestors and police.

The government has been mulling options for appropriate action against Khan and others for vandalising the property of the State.

The committee was briefed about the PTI's long march and its formal plan to attack the federation, according to a report by the state-run Associated Press of Pakistan (APP).

The Interior Minister said the march was an armed attack on the federation besides a mutiny. He said formal planning was made to hold the capital hostage and Khan provoked his workers through hate speeches against the federation. PTI

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Ousted Pak PM Imran Khan

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MEALTIME THE END OF PLAYTIME

Do Swedes feed guests? Online post sparks conversation, and some concern

AMANDA HOLPUCH
JUNE 3

A SWEDISH child sits at a dinner table while his friend and the friend's parents dine on meatballs, mashed potatoes and lingonberry sauce. The delicious aroma wafts below the child's nose, but there is no plate for him.

This setting, while quite normal in Sweden and other Nordic countries, has horrified people around the world, shocked to learn that some Swedish families do not invite their children's visiting friends to eat with them

at mealtime.

Instead, when it's time to eat, a child might go home, stay in the friend's room and play or sit at the table with the family and not eat.

The custom was the subject of much conversation (and a little concern) online after a recent Reddit post circulated widely. The post asked "what is the weirdest thing you had to do at someone else's house because of their culture/religion?" and in one of the more popular replies, someone described going to their Swedish friend's house and being told to wait in a room while the family ate. "I wish my

abuella were still around," Lynda Carter, the actress who played Wonder Woman, said on Twitter. "She'd be trying to airlift tamales to Sweden."

The people of Sweden, a country UNICEF ranked as the most family friendly in 2019, were left to explain why there did not seem to be enough pickled herring to go around.

Hakan Jonsson, a food studies professor at Lund University in Sweden, said sharing food is the foundation of culture, so he understands why other people might see this custom as a "hostile" act. A few years ago, he was

part of a program to discuss Swedish cultural customs with immigrants and this practice was "regularly mentioned" as being very strange.

Jonsson said he had not studied the custom, and it was not one his family practiced, but he guessed it could be traced to several parts of Swedish identity.

Before advances were made in food storage, he said, Swedish people would have three to four months to harvest a year's worth of food in the cold climate, so spontaneous dinners have never been a part of the culture. He said Swedish people also want to re-

spect the independence of the family and offering another person's child a meal could be seen as a critique of the other person's ability to support a family.

"There has been a very strong urge of independence, to not rely on others' good will for having a good and independent life," Jonsson said. "It was a very strong driver toward the welfare state, to create this impersonal assistance, where you did not have to rely on any other person."

Soff Tegsveden Deveaux, director of LYS förlag, a publishing house in Stockholm that focuses on works related to the process of



In 2019, Sweden was ranked by the UNICEF as the most family friendly country in the world. AP

moving to Sweden, said in an email that it was not considered impolite to decline an offer in Sweden. So, children sometimes decide they don't want to eat with their friend's family but are still invited to the table while the family nibbles at fish fingers with rice.

As a mother now, she said she had never asked her children's friends to wait while they have dinner, but she has asked them to leave when it's dinnertime.

"In Swedish culture, it's very important to respect others' privacy and their rights to take their own decisions and do things the way they prefer." NYT

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"In Swedish culture, it's very important to respect others' privacy and their rights to take their own decisions and do things the way they prefer." NYT



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How the world's largest plant grew and survived 4,500 years

ITS SIZE, IN CONTEXT

The world's longest plant, a type of seagrass called *Posidonia australis* (ribbon weed), has been discovered in Shark Bay off the Australian coast



180 km

Distance spanned by the world's longest plant is more than that between Mumbai and Pune



SHARK BAY



1.41 hectares

India's largest, the Great Banyan in Howrah's Botanical Gardens

43.6 hectares

World's second largest, the clonal colony of a quaking Aspen tree in Utah

20,000 hectares

Area spanned by the seagrass

THE WORLD'S largest plant has recently been discovered off the West Coast of Australia: a seagrass 180 km in length. The ribbon weed, or *Posidonia australis*, was discovered in Shark Bay by researchers from Flinders University and the University of Western Australia (UWA). They found it is 4,500 years old, and sterile. Their findings have been published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.

The ribbon weed covers an area of 20,000 hectares. A distant second is the clonal colony of a quaking Aspen tree in Utah, at 43.6 ha.

THE DISCOVERY: The seagrass was known, but it was not known to be a single plant. Researchers were studying what they then thought was a meadow. They sampled seagrass shoots across Shark Bay's variable environments and generated a "fingerprint" using 18,000 genetic markers. "The answer blew us away – there was just one!" UWA

quoted lead author Jane Edgeloe as saying, **GROWTH & SURVIVAL:** Sometime in the Harappan era, the plant took root in the Shark Bay. Then it kept spreading, overcoming everything in its way. Ribbon weed rhizomes can usually grow to around 35cm per year, which is how the scientists estimated its age at 45,000.

The ribbon weed cannot spread its seeds, which helps plants overcome environmental threats. Also, conditions in Shark Bay are challenging for any plant. The ribbon weed's survival may be due in part to the fact that it is a polyploid – instead of taking half its genome from each parent, it took 100% from both, and ended up with twice as many chromosomes as similar plants.

YASHEE LONGER VERSION:
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Graphic: Dinkar Sasi

EVERYDAY TECHNOLOGY

HOW D2M CAN BRING VIDEOS TO YOUR PHONE, NO INTERNET LINK REQUIRED

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Prasar Bharati are exploring the feasibility of direct-to-mobile (D2M) technology, which will allow broadcasting video and other multimedia content directly to mobiles, without needing an internet connection.

HOW D2M WORKS: The technology is based on the convergence of broadband and broadcast, allowing mobile phones to receive terrestrial digital TV. The idea is to directly broadcast content related to citizen-centric information and also to counter fake news, issue emergency alerts and offer assistance in disaster management.

BENEFITS: For consumers, this would give access to multimedia content from Video on Demand or Over The Top (OTT) platforms without exhausting their mobile data, and at a nominal rate. D2M will also take video content to people from rural areas, with limited or no internet access.

For businesses, one of the key benefits is that D2M can enable service providers to offload video traffic from their mobile network onto the broadcast network, helping

decongest mobile spectrum. This will free up bandwidth that can help reduce call drops, increase data speeds etc.

GOVT MOVES: DoT has set up a committee to study the feasibility of a spectrum band for offering broadcast services directly to smartphones. DoT Secretary K Rajaraman said on Wednesday, "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." At the moment, the government uses this band for TV transmitters. Prasar Bharati had last year announced a collaboration with IIT Kanpur to test the feasibility of D2M.

CHALLENGES AHEAD: Prasar Bharati's CEO has said bringing key stakeholders such as mobile operators on board will be the "biggest challenge" in launching D2M technology on a wide scale. Information & Broadcasting Ministry Secretary Apurva Chandra said a mass rollout will entail infrastructure and some regulatory changes.

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK

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How NAS assesses what school students have learnt; what it has found

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

A NATIONWIDE survey by the Union Ministry of Education has found that between 2017 and 2021, the literacy and numeracy skills of school students worsened considerably across subjects and grades.

The outcomes of the National Achievement Survey (NAS), the latest edition of which was carried out in the shadow of the prolonged closure of schools due to the pandemic, are supposed to guide interventions by authorities across the country to bridge the learning gaps among students.

What is the objective of the NAS?

The NAS is an exercise carried out broadly in alternate years to monitor the health of the country's school education system. It has been designed by the Ministry along with the NCERT to provide a snapshot of learning out-

comes in key subjects – essentially "what students know and can do" – at the end of Classes 3, 5, 8 and 10. These classes are seen to mark important stages in the development of a child's cognitive abilities.

Since when has it been carried out?

The first edition was carried out in 2001. In the beginning, the survey was supposed to be an independent project of the NCERT, but it was soon brought under the ambit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the government's flagship programme for universalisation of elementary education, now subsumed into the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

Over the years, the structure of the survey has undergone changes. Between 2001 and 2015, each cycle of the survey covered students of just one grade – so, students of Class 3 were covered in 2003, 2007, 2012, and 2015; of Class 5 in 2001, 2005, 2009, and 2014; of Class 8 in 2002, 2007, 2010, and 2015; and of Class 10 in 2015 and 2018.

What is the survey's current structure?

In 2017-18, the NAS was redesigned. For the first time, students of all four grades were covered on the same day. Also, instead of states, districts were made units of reporting, leading to a much larger sample size. So, until 2017-18, each cycle of NAS had a sample size of 1-2 lakh students; in 2017-18, over 20 lakh students were covered on the same day. The latest round (2021) covered 34 lakh students in 1.18 lakh schools across 720 districts.

And what exactly does the NAS assess?

Until 2015-16, the survey assessed the competency of students based on the core curriculum followed by states and UTs. In 2017-18, the focus moved to mapping the progress of learning outcomes as listed under the Right to Education Rules as amended in 2017.

Questions are framed to assess whether students can read, and carry out simple mathematical operations required in daily life. The

levels of difficulty vary from one grade to another. In the higher classes, the survey also assesses the knowledge acquired by students in areas related to the Constitution of India.

The survey covers schools run by the central and state/UT governments, government-aided schools, and private unaided schools. Language, mathematics and environmental science are assessed in Classes 3 and 5; language, maths, science and social science in Class 8; and maths, social science, science and English in Class 10.

So what does NAS 2021 show?

Compared to 2017 (in 2018 only Class 10 students were assessed), performance has taken a hit across grades. A comparative analysis shows that the national average scores of students across subjects have dropped by up to 47 marks. Consider:

In Class 3, the average scores of students in language, maths and EVS have dropped by 13, 15 and 14 marks respectively. In Class 5,

any other useful object, and intends to apply its profits, if any, or other income in promoting its objects, and to prohibit the payment of any dividend to its members".

Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 includes other objects such as sports, education, research, social welfare and protection of environment among others.

While it could be a public or a private company, a Section 25 company is prohibited from payment of any dividend to its members. Section 25 states that by its constitution the company is required/ intends to apply its profits, if any, or other income in promoting its objects and is prohibited from paying any dividend to its members."

What are prominent examples of Section 25 or Section 8 companies?

According to details available with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, a large number of

companies have been formed under the Section. Among these are Reliance Foundation, Reliance Research Institute, Azim Premji Foundation, Coca Cola India Foundation, and Amazon Academic Foundation.

Why are companies formed under Section 25 when there is a Trust structure in place?

Experts say that most people looking to form a charitable entity go for forming a company under Section 25, now Section 8, rather than a Trust structure because most foreign donors like to contribute to a company rather than Trust because they are more transparent and provide more disclosures.

Trust experts say that if a company has to be converted into a not for profit company, they can't be converted into a Trust, however, they can be converted into a Section 25/ Section 8 company.

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Engaging with the Taliban

New Delhi sent an delegation to Kabul this week, the first time it has engaged officially with the Taliban regime. A look at India's reluctance over the years, and how Pakistan's shadow has influenced its stance.

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
CHENNAI, JUNE 3

WHEN INDIA sent an official delegation to Kabul earlier this week, it was the first time that New Delhi signalled that it wanted a formal engagement with the Taliban.

With this, it appears that the Indian foreign and security establishment is less divided about the need to engage formally with the Taliban and prevent getting marginalised in a country that New Delhi sees as vital to its strategic interests in the region, and where the people's affection for India is legendary.

Although recognition of the Taliban government is not on the cards yet, Thursday's visit may have paved the way for the reopening of the Indian embassy, albeit a downgraded one.

From 1996 to now, India's journey from first opposition, then diffidence to engaging with the Taliban, to the resigned acceptance of its inevitability, is in no small measure a story of India's problematic relationship with Pakistan.

In 1996, when the Taliban fought their way through warring mujahideen factions into Kabul for the first time, India, fearing a spillover on Kashmir insurgency (there was indeed some), backed the Northern Alliance with money and weapons. As the scholar Avinash Palival has pointed out (*My Enemy's Enemy: India in Afghanistan from the Soviet Union to the US Withdrawal*), New Delhi did briefly contemplate opening contacts with the group but dropped the idea as the establishment was divided on reaching out to a group tied to Pakistan.

India bore the brunt of this nexus twice. During the 1999 hijacking of IC814, when the Pakistani hijackers took the plane to Kandahar, the then ruling Taliban acted as a support arm of the hijackers. Second, in 2008, the CIA traced the bombing of the Indian Embassy at Kabul to the Haqqani group, part of the Taliban and deeply embedded with the Pakistani security establishment. The bombing was reported to have been carried out at the orders of the ISI. Moreover, Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed were increasingly reported to be present in Afghanistan.

Reconsidering the Taliban

After 9/11, under the US umbrella, India invested money and energy into the rebuilding of Afghanistan. But by 2010, with increasing doubts about the US continuance, India was once again considering reaching out to the Taliban.

In the final months of UPA-2, Mullah Abdul Salam Zaeef, who was the Ambassador in Pakistan in the Taliban's first regime, made a splash at a literary event in Goa. He had been



ME Joint Secretary J P Singh (right) with Taliban's acting Deputy Foreign Minister Sher Mohd Abbas Stanekzai (centre) in Kabul on Thursday. Twitter/Abdul Qahar Balkhi

invited as the author of the bestselling *My Life with the Taliban*. Then Home Minister P Chidambaram was in a photograph that also included him. Then in the opposition, the BJP trained its guns at the government for keeping company with an Islamist extremist.

Media reports then quoted government sources as saying it was not Zaeef's first visit, and that keeping a door open to the Taliban was necessary. The reasons were the same as they are today: New Delhi did not want to be left out or marginalised in the Afghanistan of the future. After getting Osama bin Laden in Pakistan in 2011, the Obama Administration was getting ready to declare an end to the war, and the US and the Taliban had already made tentative contact towards talks.

But with Pakistan continuing to loom large – the Pakistan security establishment, which had a huge role in the birth of the Taliban, had given Mullah Omar and other Taliban leaders sanctuary in Quetta after the 2001 US invasion, and sustained them with money and weapons – New Delhi did not have the will to pursue the plan seriously.

Pakistan shadow

As talks between the Taliban and the Trump Administration took off, the Indian establishment decided to put its weight behind President Ashraf Ghani and the government of Afghanistan, which had been left out of the talks. When it became increasingly clear that far from collapsing, the talks might actually lead to Taliban rule or at least a set-up in Kabul with a significant Taliban presence, India flagged "concerns" about terrorism, even as it

looked for a seat at the table in any of the several regional groups, and also for openings to the Taliban. One view was to build relations with factions in the Taliban that were opposed to Pakistan, but there was little clarity on how strong such factionalism was, and if such factions had any influence. An Indian diplomat who had been approached by a Taliban leader once in a foreign capital said talking to the Taliban was "the same as talking to the ISI".

It was evident that India had missed the bus. Pakistan had delivered the Taliban to the Trump Administration for talks. Russia was backing the Taliban fully as the future ruler of Afghanistan, seeing in this sweet revenge for its own defeat in Afghanistan by US-financed, Pakistan-trained mujahideen; Iran, also glad at America's defeat at the hands of the Taliban, hosted a delegation of the Shia-persecuting group in Tehran. China leveraged its relationship with Pakistan to get a foot into Kabul.

Nine months after the Taliban took over Kabul, 15 countries have a diplomatic presence in the country. Pakistan, China and Russia never shut down; others, including the EU, have reopened to facilitate humanitarian assistance. The Taliban regime is not recognised by any country yet. When members of the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation's anti-terror sub-group met in Delhi recently to discuss the situation in Afghanistan, host India was the only one without a diplomatic presence in Kabul.

Counter-intuitive timing

India's cautious opening to the Taliban has come at a time when the group has made it clear it has not changed from its previous

mediaevalism. Restrictions on women have increased, from not being allowed to attend school to curbs on free movement in public spaces and at work. A UN Taliban monitoring committee has reported that the Taliban continue to remain close to al-Qaeda, with a significant presence of its multinational fighting force in Afghanistan. The report has also flagged JeM and LeT training camps in Nangarhar and Kunar, close to the Pakistan border. India is the chair of the Taliban sanctions committee.

However, a view that has gained ground in the Indian establishment is that it is time to de-hyphenate Pakistan from the Taliban, especially as the Pakistan security establishment is finding the going tough with the Kabul regime.

The Pakistani Taliban (TTP), which has spread terror in Pakistan since it came into existence in 2007, has found sanctuary in Afghanistan, and it has taken several rounds of negotiations mediated by the Afghan Taliban for the Pakistan security establishment to arrive at a ceasefire with the TTP. There are other disagreements between the Kabul regime and Pakistan, including over Durand Line as the border between the two countries.

Another reason advanced for India's change in policy is that the Taliban in power are more divided than they were as a fighting force, and that the situation may provide room for a layered political and diplomatic engagement with different actors. It has also helped that the Taliban have made no hostile statements on Kashmir since taking over in Kabul. The ban on girls' high-school education is reported to have brought out rifts in the open between hardliners led by supreme leader Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada and others seen as pro-West Taliban, such as Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanekzai. In all this, the Haqqani are projecting themselves as the true moderates.

Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, a former Indian Ambassador to Kabul, said the hardening of the regime, widening internal rifts, and the resistance against the Taliban getting more organised made for a "far from stable Taliban rule".

As long as the move helps the Afghan people, facilitating humanitarian assistance through international organisations, and paving the way for access to consular services, Mukhopadhyaya said it was a step in the right direction.

"It is a good move towards Afghan people, provided the [Afghan] opposition is being taken into confidence and is kept in touch with on a parallel track, and basic principles are not sacrificed for formal relations," Mukhopadhyaya said.

THIS WORD MEANS: SECTION 25 COMPANY

A not-for-profit company with defined objectives

Now Section 8 of Companies Act, the provision has been cited by Congress in National Herald case

SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate on Wednesday, summonsed Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi following a trial court order that allowed the Income Tax Department to probe the affairs of the *National Herald* newspaper – owned by AJL – and conduct a tax assessment of Sonia and Rahul.

BJP MP Subramanian Swamy had in his complaint in 2013 alleged cheating and misappropriation of funds on part of the Gandhis in acquiring the newspaper. He had alleged that the Gandhis acquired properties owned by the *National Herald* by buying the newspaper's erstwhile publishers, AJL, through an organisation called Young India – a Section 25 company – in which they have 86% stake. Sonia and Rahul had been granted bail in the

case by the trial court on December 19, 2015.

While the Congress has described the case as "weird" since "no money was involved", it said that AJL became an indebted company and it converted its debt into equity by assigning its debt to a new company – Young India – and became debt-free.

The Congress has said that since Young India has been created under a special provision of the Companies Act – Section 25 – it has to be a not-for-profit company and no dividend can be given to its shareholders or directors.

So, what is a Section 25 company?

As per the Companies Act, 1956, a Section 25 company – similar to what is defined under Section 8 under Companies Act, 2013 – is a not-for-profit charitable company formed with the sole object of "promoting commerce, art, science, religion, charity, or

any other useful object, and intends to apply its profits, if any, or other income in promoting its objects, and to prohibit the payment of any dividend to its members".

Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 includes other objects such as sports, education, research, social welfare and protection of environment among others.

While it could be a public or a private company, a Section 25 company is prohibited from payment of any dividend to its members. Section 25 states that by its constitution the company is required/ intends to apply its profits, if any, or other income in promoting its objects and is prohibited from paying any dividend to its members."

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Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,hitherto known as MAYA RANI alias MAYA MAURIA D/O OM Parkash W/O NAND KISHORE residing at A-136, DDA Flats, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MAYA MAURIA. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection

0040617164-1

I,hitherto known as Vijender Kaur Sehrawat alias Vijender Kaur, D/o Sh. Dhare Singh, W/o Sh. Dilbag Singh R/o, H.No.48, Tilang Pur Kotla, West-Delhi, Delhi-110043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vijender Kaur.

0040617165-1

I, Wasim S/O Naney Khan R/O-S-63, Gali No.20, South Anarkali, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051, inform that Wasim and Mohd Vaseem both are one and the same person.

0040617161-1

I, RAJESH S/O SURAJ BHAN DAHIYA R/O VILLAGE MANDAUARA, SONIPAT-131103, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJESH DAHIYA, FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040617158-9

I, SUSHMA DEVI W/O RAJESH DAHIYA R/O VILLAGE MANDAUARA, SONIPAT-131103, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUSHMA, FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040617158-8

I, VINEET KUMAR JHA, S/O RAVINDRA JHA, ADD-E-87, GAZIPUR VILLAGE, EAST DELHI-110096, Changed my name to BINIT KUMAR JHA, Permanently.

0040617165-6

Gurpal Singh S/O Major Harjit Singh Sandhu R/O-A-505, Himachal Apartment, Sector-5, Plot.No.21, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, has changed my name from Gurpal Singh Sandhu to Gurpal Singh and, my date-of-birth is 29.11.1947 for all future purposes.

0070788746-1

I Anisha alias Shreya Vishwakarma D/O Late Sh. Hari Shankar Vishwakarma R/O RZ-32-F, Street No.24, Indra Park, Near Bihar Shiv Mandir, Palam Colony, Palam Village S.O., South West Delhi, Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Shreya Vishwakarma for all purposes.

0040617110-8

I Ankit Kumar Mishra S/O Om Prakash Mishra R/O P-69, Sanjay Gandhi Puram, Faizabad Road, Indira Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226106, have changed my name to Subh Mishra.

0070788743-1

I Davinder Pal Singh Jaggi Alias DPS Jaggi Alias Devender Pal Singh Alias Davinderpal Singh Jaggi Alias Davinder Pal Singh Alias Davender Pal Singh Jaggi Alias DPS Jaggi S/O Harbans Singh Jaggi R/O Plot No-25, WZ-06, Third Floor, Vishnu Garden, Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Davinder Pal Singh Jaggi

0070788722-1

I Dharampal Jain alias Dharmpal S/O Satpal Jain R/O A-61/A, A Block, Near Shukra bazar chowk, Ashok Nagar, Mandoli, North East Delhi, Delhi-110093, have changed my name to Dharm Pal

0070788749-1

I Islam Ahmad S/O, Liyaqat Ali R/O R6/15 Safaena Road Joga Bai Extn Okhla New Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Mohd Islam for all purposes.

0040617163-1

I,hitherto known as Saddam, S/O Mohd Salaudinn, residing at B-250, Gali.No-2, Indira-Vihar, Delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Saddam Hussain.

0040617165-2

I, chayan Yadav, S/O Parmanand yadav, H.No-784, near-jaina market chakarpur (74)Gurgaon, Haryana-122002, have changed my name to Chaman yadav, for all, future Purposes.

0040617158-7

I, Tejal S/O Gulab Singh R/O FU-77 Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my Name to Tejal Yadav for all purposes

0040617166-2

I, TABASSUM, W/O MANZAR HASNAIN, H NO.56, HUSAIN KHAN, NEAR IMAMBADA HAKIM KAZMAN, SHER KHAN SARAH, SAMBAL, U.P.244302, changed my name to TABASSUM BAQA.

0040617172-1

I, Surinder Kumar S/O Pritam Das R/O-2942, Gali No. 42, Beadonpura Karol Bagh N, Delhi-110005, change my name to Surinder Mehra.

0040617166-1

I, Suresh Kumar S/O Indler Lal Kaushal R/O-House no-2006 Ganj Mir Khan, Darya Ganj have changed my name to Suresh Kumar Kaushal.

0040617161-1

I, Shristi Ganguly D/O Subrato Ganguly R/O N-171 Sector-25 Noida, UP-201301 have changed my name to Shristi Ganguly for all purposes.

0040617116-2

I, Saleem Ahmad S/O Mohd. Talib R/O 5/203-B, First Floor, Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to SALEEM AHMED, for all purposes.

0040617162-2

I, Parul Naib W/O Rahul Gupta R/O-10, Mandakini Enclave, Gate-No-8, Alaknanda, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019 have changed my name to Parul Naib Gupta.

0070788751-1

I, Ram Kumar, R/O: DB-25F, LIG-Flats, Hari-Nagar, New Delhi-110064, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name, from Dhruv Kumar to Dhruv Chaudhary.

0040617158-3

I, Rahul DHAMIJA, S/O Surinder rai, Add :171 gujrawala town part-2 Delhi-110009, Changed my name to Rahul Rai DHAMIJA.

0040617158-10

I, REVATHI, SPOUSE OF, SURAPATI DHARMARAJU, RESIDENT OF, 1-424 KOYIRI VEEDHI VAJRAPUKOTTURU DOKULAPADU SRIKAKULAM (AP)-532222, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM REVATHI TO SURAPATI REVATHI, VIDE- AFFIDAVIT, DATED 03/06/2022, BEFORE NAME AND PLACE-OF COURT-DELHI.

0040617165-8

I, Prince S/O Satpal, R/O S-158, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110083, have changed my name to Prince Sharma, for future purposes.

0040617165-9

I, Parkash Bhatia D/O Late Dev Raj Gandhi R/O-D-24, Sharma, Colony, Budh, Vihar Phase-II, Delhi-110086, changed my name to Prakash Bhatia.

0040617166-5

I, Panna Lal Mittal, S/O Krisan Kumar Mittal, R/O G-56, Pushkar Enclave, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Panna Lal.

0040617158-5

I, Nidhi Choudhary W/O -Ram Kumar R/O:DB-25F, LIG-Flats, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064, Have Changed My Name to Nidhi Chaudhary.

0040617158-2

I, Naresh Rani Alias Mamta Khunger, W/O Satish Kumar, R/O, Flat.No-37, Polytechnic Staff CGHS Ltd, Sharda-Apartment, West Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, that Naresh Rani & Mamta Khunger is one & Same Person.

0040617165-4

I, Khayati Yadav D/O Tejpal Yadav R/O-FU-77, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have Changed my Name to Khayati Yadav.

0040617166-3

I, Kamini W/O Sunil Kapoor R/O A-225 Derawal Nagar Model Town Delhi-110009, have changed my name to Kamini Kapoor

0040617166-6

I, Kamini Gangwal W/O Bhupendra Kumar Gangwal R/O:House-No-67, Second-Floor, Paschim Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057, Has Changed My Name to Kamini Devi Gangwal, for all Purposes.

0040617158-1

I, Hitherto known as Tanilal, S/O Late Ram Kishan R/O-B-62 B-Block, Mata Wali Gali, Johipur Village, Gokalpur, Delhi-94, have changed my name & shall hereafter be known as Tanil Lal Pradhan

0040617165-5

I, SUMIT KUMAR AGGARWAL, S/O KAMAL AGGARWAL R/O C-362, GALI NO.9, MAJLIS PARK, ADARSH NAGAR, DELHI-110033, have changed my name to SUMIT AGGARWAL

0040617172-12

I, Hairpreet Singh Khanna S/O-Shobha Singh R/O:20B/49AB, Second-Floor, Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi-18, Have Changed My Name to Harpreet Singh.

0040617158-4

I, Dharampal Jain alias Dharmpal S/O Satpal Jain R/O A-61/A, A Block, Near Shukra bazar chowk, Ashok Nagar, Mandoli, North East Delhi, Delhi-110093, have changed my name to Dharm Pal

0070788749-1

I, Islam Ahmad S/O, Liyaqat Ali R/O R6/15 Safaena Road Joga Bai Extn Okhla New Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Mohd Islam for all purposes.

0040617163-1

I, hitherto known as Saddam, S/O Mohd Salaudinn, residing at B-250, Gali.No-2, Indira-Vihar, Delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Saddam Hussain.

0040617165-2

I, chayan Yadav, S/O Parmanand yadav, H.No-784, near-jaina market chakarpur (74)Gurgaon, Haryana-122002, have changed my name to Chaman yadav, for all, future Purposes.

0040617158-7

I, ASHNA MEHTA/ASHNA KAUR MEHTA W/O HARSIMRAT SINGH SEHGAL R/O A-119, ANSAL SUSHANT, CITY, SECTOR-62 KUNDALI SONIPAT, Haryana-131028 CHANGE MY NAME TO ASHNA KAUR SEHGAL.

0040617166-4

I, Swati Bansal D/O Sham Sunder Bajaj W/O Nitin Bansal R/O S-430, Ground Floor, Greater Kailash Part-2, Delhi-110048, have changed my name to Swati Bajaj Bansal.

0040617134-1

I, SALILARANI, Spouse of No.14648637P(HAV) CHAKRADHAR PANDA, R/O:Village & Post Office-Tolankapada, Tehsil-Andanpur, District- Kendujhar, Odisha-758020, have changed my name after marriage from SALILARANI to SALILARANI KAR, vide affidavit no. IN-D-417595703221UJ dated 03/06/2022 before Notary Advocate Vijay Kumar, Regd.No.-17819, New Delhi.

0070788752-1

I, Payal W/O Rohit Prakash R/O E-72 Ekta Apartments Saket South Delhi 110017, declare that name of my minor daughter is wrongly written as Shreesha Prakash in Birth Certificate. Her correct name is Nivisha Prakash which shall be used for all future purposes.

0050198318-1

I, Dayaram R/O Flat.No-603, KM-17, Kosmos J.P., Goids Wish Town, Sec-134, Nooids, G.B.Nagar, U.P. declare that name of my wife wrongly mentioned in my service record/pension record-as Mithlesh Kumari instead of her correct name Mithlesh Sharma. In future, my wife will be known-as Mithlesh Sharma for all purposes

0070788755-1

I, Nisha Bairaig D/O Raj Kumar Bairagi R/O-140, Sector-11-D faridabad Haryana, have change my name to Nisha Vaishnav

0040617119-1

I, Leena Thangappan, R/O 1604, Tower 6A, Valley view Estate, Gurgaon Faridabad Road, Gurgaon 122003 Haryana have changed my name to Leena Menon.

0070788756-1

I, Kavita Sharma W/O Late Amit Bhardwaj R/O-309, Jahaz Apartment, Indir Enclave, Rohtak Road, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-87, have changed my name to Kavita Bhardwaj for all purposes.

0070788759-1

I, Akanksha Bhasin, D/O Shri Jagmohan Girdhar, R/O 479/3, Shastri Nagar, Kanpur, have changed my name to Akanksha Girdhar for all future purposes.

0040617133-1

I, Pooja W/O Piyush thakur R/O-153, A Block Sakni colony Sector-49, faridabad, Haryana have change my name to pooja Arora

0040617119-2

I, Aditi Ghosh Srivastava D/O Amit Kumar Ghosh R/O 402, A3 Tulip Orange, Sec 70, Gurugram have changed my name and shall hereafter be known As Aditi Ghosh for all future purposes.

0070788686-1

Sunita Kamra W/O Gulshan Kumar R/O House No-171/13, G.T. Road, Behind PNB, Lajpat Colony, Panipat, Haryana-132103, have changed my name to Savita Kamra

0070788747-1

I Rohit Chandur Thakur S/O. Late Shri Chandur Tolaram Thakur, R/O A 19 Mayfair Garden, New Delhi 110016 Have Changed My Name From Rohit Chandur Thakur To Rohit Thakur For All Purposes.

0070788707-1

I Ritesh S/O Sandeep Kumar H.No.114, Sultanpur Dabas, North West Delhi, Delhi:-110039 have changed my name to Ritesh Kumar for all my future purposes.

0070788685-1

I Richa W/O Rajendra Kumar R/O A-108/1, Nand Vihar, Rohta Road, Near Godwin Public School, Meerut-250002, should be known as Richa Singh W/O Rajendra Kumar in future for all purposes.

0070788753-1

I, SUBHASH CHANDRA NAGPAL, S/O SH. ISHWAR DATT NAGPAL, R/O, A-1/101 Oxford Village, Kedari-Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra-411040 have Lost my Original Documents of Flat.No.C-46, Retreat CGHS, 201, P.Extn. Delhi-110092, I need a Pleasure Contact#9810044130

0040617137-1

I, NEELAM BAWEJA W/O Satya Prakash Baweja lost share certificate of Flat No.13D, Delhi Pradesh CGHS Ltd. Plot No. 43, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, FINDER-9654478020

0040617166-7

I, Devendra, S/O Lt. Sh. Bharat Ram, R/O-B-55, Janakpur, Sahibabad Ghaziabad, U.P. have lost the GPA in the name of Smt. Chitra Sehgal, Pradeep Kumar, Hemant Kumar, Updesh Singh by Smt. Mahender Kumar in respect of the above said-property reg. as Sub Registrar(II) Ghaziabad, Book No. 4, Vol.No. 1027. If any found please contact#9958131399.

0040617172-10

I, RK Samtani, Residence-A2-416, Ekta Vihar CGHS Ltd, plot.no.9, IP Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-92, would like to inform you that I, have lost the original Share certificate of the mentioned property. If found, kindly contact me at the above-mentioned address. Call-9810350476, 9810045397.

0070788801-1

I Vijay Kumar Batra S/O Lt.Jagan Nath Batra do hereby inform that I have lost property documents of Shop (15X10) at Kharsa No-412, Plot No-1, Jangpura Road, Bhogal, New Delhi-110014 in the name of myself Joint with Lt. Daya Ram Batra S/O Lt. Nihal Chand Batra. If any one finds it, Kindly Contact me at 9811058132 within 15 days of issue of this public Notice.

0040617110-10

I, Padam Nidhi, S/O Sh. Bhoo Nidhi Sharma, R/O/Owner of Plot No. CP-148, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi, have Lost My Original DDA Allotment Letter along with Payment receipt to DDA, Possession letter, Site Possession, FORM-C and other related documents with regards to the Property Bearing No. CP-148, Pitampura, Delhi. If anyone found the same, kindly inform to the undersigned on the below provided mobile numbers. Padam Nidhi +91-9810029904M +91-9910009230

0040617110-9

I, Padam Nidhi, S/O Sh. Bhoo Nidhi Sharma, R/O/Owner of Plot No. CP-148, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi, have Lost My Original DDA Allotment Letter along with Payment receipt to DDA, Possession letter, Site Possession, FORM-C and other related documents with regards to the Property Bearing No. CP-148, Pitampura, Delhi. If anyone found the same, kindly inform to the undersigned on the below provided mobile numbers. Padam Nidhi +91-9810029904M +91-9910009230

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0040617110-9

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my clients Sh. Shree Ram Ray S/O Sh. Surya Varsh Ray and Smt. Padma Ray W/O Shree Ram Ray, Both R/O Flat No.300C, Ramnashy Apartment, Anugrah Nagar, Rupaspur, Bailey Road, Danapur, Patna, Bihar-801503, have lost their confidence in their son namely Sh. Rahul Raj Singh aged about 34 years, daughter-in-law Smt. Sweeta Singh W/O Sh. Rahul Raj Singh aged about 3 years All R/O B0052015, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063, because of their unlawful illegal conduct with general public as well as with my client and clientless. I hereby inform all of you that my clients have debarred their Son and daughter-in-law and their daughter from their personal life and also from their movable/immovable properties. Any person dealing with their people take note of it that my client and clientless would not be responsible for any legal/illegal/unlawful conduct of their son and daughter-in-law and their daughter above named.

Sd/- (Ajay Kumar Singh)
Enrol. No. D-1947/12 Advocate
L-16, K-1, Sharma Block, New Gate
No.2, The Hazrat Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client Ramesh Mohan Lal Late Sh. Alkar Chand, R/O 299-B, DG-2, DDA Flats, Vasantpur, Delhi-110018, purchased of DDA Jania Flat No. SH-500, located in Shalimar Bagh DDA House-10988 has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat into a residential flat and vide his No.F.126769/SOHP in DDA. The entire original documents i.e. Allotment-cum-Demand Letter, NOC for electric connection, possession letter and possession slip of above flat have been lost. In pursuance of his application, the said flat has been lodged online. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents and/or 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to the above property, please personally inform or write to, Director / LAB (JUG) or Director (H), Block-D, 3rd Floor, Vasant, Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110018.

GIRISH KUMAR SHARMA
ADVOCATE
Ch. No. 48, Tughlakabad, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

19 ECONOMY

Gold, Rupee, Oil, Silver market rates and exchange rates.

SENSEX: 55,769.23 ▼ 48.88 (-0.09%) NIFTY: 16,584.30 ▼ 43.70 (-0.26%) NIKKEI: 27,761.57 ▲ 347.69 HANG SENG: 21,082.13 ▼ 212.81 FTSE: 7,532.95 ▼ 74.71 DAX: 14,490.72 ▲ 5.55

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH AVIATION

No boarding denial to differently abled sans seeking medical opinion: DGCA draft

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

IN THE aftermath of the Ranchi Airport incident, where low-cost airline IndiGo denied boarding to a specially-abled passenger...

EXPLAINED Need for change

THE CURRENT clause on a standalone basis says airlines can refuse carriage to any person on basis of disability...

of such persons would or might be inimical to the safety of flight. In such a case, airlines are bound to specify in writing the basis of such refusal.

The regulator had on May 28 said that in order to avoid such situations in the future, it would revisit its own regulations, making it mandatory for airlines to take the airport doctor's written opinion on the health of a passenger before making a decision to deny boarding.

At the time of penalising IndiGo, the DGCA had noted that the airline's ground staff could have avoided the situation with a "more compassionate handling", and ended up "exacerbating" the situation.

BRIEFLY NCLAT, IL&FS

New Delhi: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal has directed the new board of the debt-ridden IL&FS Group to distribute Rs 16,361 crore of cash and INVT units available across the Group to its creditors on pro-rata basis.

Essar Power

New Delhi: Essar Power Ltd on Friday said it has agreed to sell one of its two electricity transmission lines to Adani Transmission Ltd for Rs 1,913 crore.

Director norms

New Delhi: The government has put in place stricter norms for appointment of individuals from certain countries, including China, as directors on the boards of Indian companies, by making security clearance mandatory, PTI

Musk on jobs

San Francisco: Tesla CEO Elon Musk has a "super bad feeling" about the economy and needs to cut about 10 per cent of jobs at the electric carmaker, he said in an email to executives seen by Reuters. The message, sent on Thursday and titled "pause all hiring worldwide", came two days after the billionaire told staff to return to the workplace or leave. Almost 100,000 people were employed at Tesla. Meanwhile, Twitter said the US antitrust waiting period for Musk's \$44 billion acquisition of the social media giant had expired, indicating it had dodged a lengthy review of the proposed deal. REUTERS

Singapore regulator raises issues over Tata takeover of AI

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 3

TATA GROUP will direct to convince Singapore's Competition and Consumer Commission (CCCS) that its takeover of Air India does not violate the country's anti-competition laws.

This is because the CCCS has observed that Air India and Vistara, which is a 51:49 joint venture between Tata Group and Singapore Airlines, are two of the three key market players along overlapping air passenger and air

Demand offsets price rise, services PMI at 11-year high

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 3

THE COUNTRY'S services sector expanded at the fastest pace in 11 years in May on strong demand and new orders despite inflationary pressures touching new highs, according to a survey.

The S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index rose to 58.9 in May from 57.9 in April, its highest since April 2011. The 50-mark separates growth from contraction. The growth was led by substantial pick-up in new business growth amid demand recovering following the reopening of the economy after the Covid lockdowns.

Anecdotal evidence suggested that the upturn in output reflected better underlying de-

AHEAD OF MPC MEET NEXT WEEK

Hope in rains, easing global food prices give RBI room

HARISH DAMODARAN NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

GLOBAL FOOD prices are seemingly easing. That, and the India Meteorological Department's (IMD's) updated forecast of a better-than-normal monsoon, should be good news as the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy committee (MPC) meets on June 6-8 amid concerns over inflation.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) food price index has fallen for a second consecutive month to 157.4 points in May. The index, which is a weighted average of world prices of a basket of food commodities over a base period value (taken at 100 for 2014-16), had hit a record of 159.7 points in March and 158.3 points in April.

The decline in the benchmark gauge for international food prices comes despite the 'cereal' and 'meat' sub-indices within the



The RBI, Mumbai. File

overall FAO index scaling new highs of 173.4 points and 122 points respectively in May. But this has been offset by a significant dip in the 'vegetable oils' sub-index (from a peak of 251.8 points in March to 237.5 in April and 229.3 in May) and also those of 'dairy' (from 146.7 points in April to 141.6 in May) and 'sugar' (121.5 in April to 120.3 points in May).

The FAO data clearly suggest that global prices have fallen off their March/early-April peaks in the case of vegetable oils and dairy products. The most-active

crude palm oil futures contract closed at 6,468 ringgit per tonne in the Bursa Malaysia derivatives exchange on Thursday, after trading at a lifetime high of 7,268 on March 9. Falling global prices translate into lower domestic inflation, especially for commodities that are substantially imported (vegetable oils). They have a similar impact on commodities whose domestic prices are linked to export parity levels.

The food inflation situation in India has also improved due to supply-side management measures by the Centre. That includes banning exports of wheat (thereby de-linking domestic realisations from soaring international prices) and allowing import of up to 2 million tonnes each of crude soyabean and sunflower at nil duty (to partially counter the effect of Indonesia's restrictions on palm oil shipments).

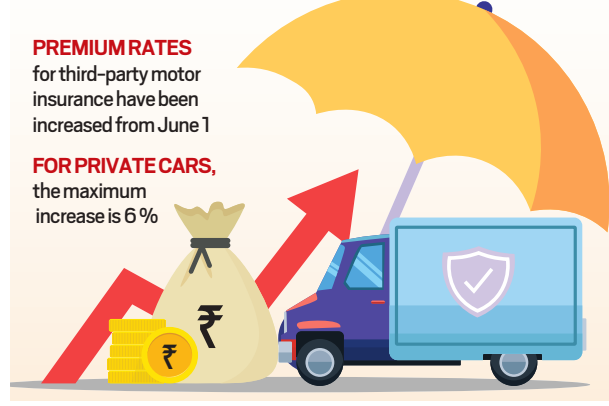
Even in cereals, where the FAO attributed the all-time-high price

index in May to India's wheat export ban decision, international prices are likely to ease with the harvesting of the Russian crop. Russia is expected to export 39 million tonnes (mt) out of a total production of 85 mt in the new 2022-23 season (July-June), as against corresponding figures of 32-32.5 mt and 76 mt in 2021-22.

But it is not only world prices, where the FAO index soared from a low of 91.1 points in May 2020 (at the height of the Covid-19 lockdowns around the world) to the record 159.7 points in March 2022 (after the Russian invasion of Ukraine)—there is also hope from the prediction of a 'normal' monsoon. On both counts—easing global food prices and the prospect of a good monsoon—the MPC members can perhaps afford to breathe somewhat easier than in the May 2-4 "off-cycle" meeting that resulted in drastic interest rate hikes. Full report on www.indianexpress.com

'3rd-party motor cover: premium rise to slightly offset underwriting losses'

The recent increase in the premium rates on third-party motor insurance is unlikely to fully offset the motor insurance segment's underwriting losses, Crisil Ratings said



The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways' move to increase the premium on third-party motor insurance after two years is a step in the right direction, but unlikely to fully offset the segment's underwriting losses

TWO-WHEELER PREMIUMS HAVE RISEN THE MOST - BY 12-21% - ACROSS ENGINE CAPACITIES

Third-party insurance cover is for other than own damage and is mandatory (as per the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988) to purchase along with own damage cover

Underwriting losses occur when claims are higher than the premium income of an insurance company

Last hike in June 2019 and thereafter policyholders were given some respite because of Covid

Claims incurred by most insurers have risen since the second quarter of last fiscal, following the relaxation of lockdown restrictions and reopening of offices

Source: Crisil Ratings/PTI

Forex reserves bounce back to over \$600 bn

Mumbai: The country's foreign exchange reserves crossed the \$600 billion mark again during the week ended May 27, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Forex reserves rose by \$3.85 billion to touch \$601.36 billion during the week, the RBI said. Forex reserves had recently declined from the record high of \$642.45 billion registered September 3, 2021.

A major reason for the decline in forex reserves is capital outflows by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) who pulled out \$21.43 billion since September 2021 as the US Federal Reserve started the monetary policy tightening and interest rate hikes.

The biggest fall was in March when FPIs pulled out \$6.56 billion. Full report on www.indianexpress.com

PMJJBY: Irdai eases capital requirement to attract insurers

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 3

AFTER THE recent hike in the premium rate, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) on Friday relaxed capital requirement norms significantly for insurers to encourage their participation in the government's flagship programme Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY).

The regulator has reduced the capital required to be held by insurers offering PMJJBY by almost 50 per cent.

This move will enable life insurers to offer more policies under the scheme, and provide financial security to the bottom of the pyramid of the Indian population through life insurance, Irdai said in a statement. The easing of capital requirements by Irdai will accelerate the penetration of life insurance in India and will support the life insurers in achieving the target set by the government. The government has recently hiked the premium rates for the two flagship schemes, PMJJBY and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, to make these schemes viable.

Govt ratifies 8.1% EPF interest for FY22

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE CENTRAL government has approved the interest rate of 8.1 per cent for over 6 crore subscribers of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for FY22. In March, the Central Board of Trustees (CBT) of the country's largest retirement fund, had recommended a return of 8.10 per cent for financial year 2021-22, the lowest interest rate in at least four decades but higher than that of other small-savings

instruments.

"The Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, has conveyed the approval of the central government under para 60(1) of Employees' Provident Scheme, 1952 to credit interest @8.10% for the year 2021-22 to the account of each member of the EPF scheme as per the provisions under para 60 of EPF scheme, 1952," an EPFO order said. It instructed zonal offices to issue necessary instructions for crediting the interest rate to the members' accounts.

The EPFO Board had in March

INTERVIEW WITH TONY FADELL

'See pain killing products all over, you just have to look differently'



Tony Fadell, iPod inventor

OF THE many hats TONY FADELL has worn from an inventor and entrepreneur to investor and mentor, the one he is most famous for is being the man who created the iconic iPod—he also co-invented the iPhone during his time at Apple. Fadell's life journey is not one common even by Silicon Valley standards and that's why his new book 'Build: An Unorthodox Guide to Making Things Worth Making' is being called an advise encyclopaedia for everyone. He spoke to NANDAGOPAL RAJAN for Express Audio's Our Own Devices podcast on entrepreneurship, designing for customers and innovation. Edited excerpts:

Your book has a lot of advice for people who are in the innovation space, people who are interested in technology. But what do you think is the biggest reason for somebody to read the book?

I wrote it for myself if I was 21, again; if I was coming out of college and if I wanted to know all the things that I had learned over the last 30 years in the technology business. So really the audience is high schoolers or university students or new graduates or somebody early in their career. But the audience can go all the way to somebody who might be starting to think about retirement, and everybody in between. It's really an encyclopaedia of mentorship, there are many different chapters about helping you to build yourself, build your career, build a team, build a product, company, business...

Human nature becomes a factor in innovation in creation, but is that a very important factor? Because it can also be counterproductive at times, you know, when teams cannot come together or when the thinking does not align.

There's the human nature of each individual on the team. But there's also the human nature of

the individuals who are your customers. And if you start from looking at the why—why a customer wants the product you are creating, what is the pain you are solving for them, what is the superpower you are hopefully giving them—and making sure you start with what their needs are, and build a story around those things and making sure the tech marries with it, it's much easier to keep your team aligned and understand how to work on those things. Too often technology companies take a lot of bits and bolt them together and say, look at this cool new thing. But they really don't understand how it's going to impact the customer, what they are solving for the customer... you have to approach it with a holistic view of the customer...

Have technology companies stop thinking like that? Is that why maybe to a certain extent we don't see those kinds of products come out anymore?

I see pain killing products all over, I just think that, you know, you have to look differently. Everybody thinks, where's the next iPod or where's the next iPhone. Everybody's trying to look for that flashy personal device that they are going to take with them that's going to transform their lives. Those things don't come around every year or every 10 years. It takes time for those types of technologies to be developed, and then ultimately deployed in the right fashion. Full interview on www.indianexpress.com



mand and strong inflows of new work and service providers mentioned that demand continued to strengthen following the lifting of pandemic-led restrictions, the survey said.

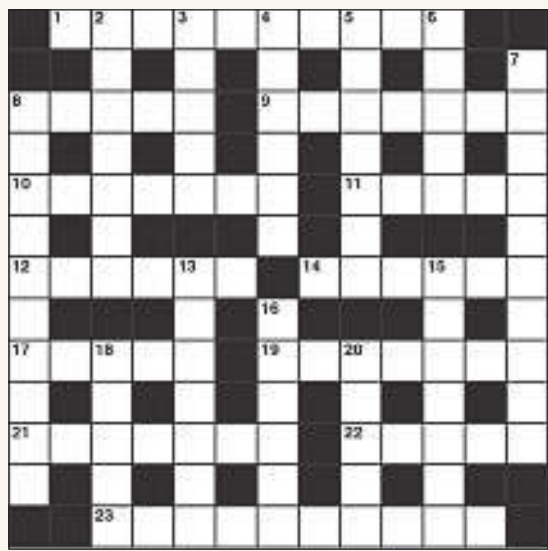
DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi) OFFICE OF THE ACE (Dr) Proj-III THROUGH DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (C) DR-VIII Yamuna Vihar Sewage Treatment Plant (Adjoining Dr. Ambedkar College) Delhi-1100094

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR. NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY Mechanical & Electrical Engineering Department. E-Tender - NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD. EOI/Notice No. CON/TE/EOI/Bulk handling/Cement-Flyash/2022

CROSSWORD 4759



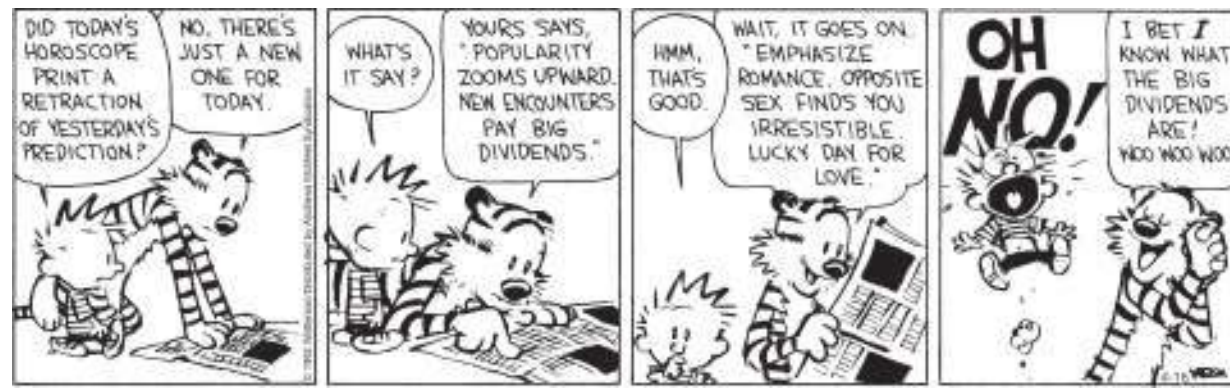
- ACROSS**
- Signify some wind high in the Alps (10)
 - Exercise around meadow and fold (5)
 - Is stout perhaps so doesn't dance (4,3)
 - In a bout we are able to last longer (7)
 - Possibly earn a place in the sporting world (5)
 - Attack or shun as ordered (6)
 - Ship's mascot for the ancient mariner? (6)
 - Classical type (5)
 - Guide one's behaviour (7)
 - How 17 admitted his guilt (7)
 - Lear's daughter is convulsed in anger (5)
 - Recognises and arrests (10)
- DOWN**
- One helping a superior it's said (7)
 - It goes up before the tax (5)
 - Roman Catholics can count on it (6)
 - Smashed our gate - it's a scandal (7)
 - Broken bone I set for a woman in tears (5)
 - Tear things to pieces - and put them in order again (10)
 - A positive result (10)
 - Presumably one gets a light tan from it (3,4)
 - Somehow grudging not being fully conscious of events (7)
 - Lively turn I've put on (6)
 - Holy city came about within a century (5)
 - Version of senor in an ancient language (5)

Solutions Crossword 4758: Across: 1 Escape, 4 With, 9 Symptom, 10 Stall, 11 Those, 12 Amnesty, 13 The naked eye, 18 Cabaret, 20 Sofia, 22 Often, 23 Overall, 24 Tether, 25 Etcher. Down: 1 Ersatz, 2 Cameo, 3 Pattern, 5 Ibsen, 6 Hearsay, 7 Relays, 8 Embarkation, 14 Habitat, 15 Dessert, 16 Acoust, 17 Tailor, 19 Range, 21 Flash.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLER 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 clue.

--- every truth is so true that any truth must be false. - F.H. Bradley (11)

CPEEI **EHOCC**

XSTIE **ANEMIC**

Answer: PLEDGES, EXIST/EXITS, CLOCHE, GENIAN

SUDOKU 4855

Difficulty Level 2s

Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4854

1	5	9	8	6	2	3	4	7
6	8	3	7	4	5	1	2	9
7	4	2	9	3	1	8	5	6
8	6	1	2	3	7	9	5	4
5	3	1	6	7	9	2	8	4
2	9	7	5	8	4	6	1	3
9	7	5	2	1	6	4	3	8
3	2	6	4	9	8	5	7	1
4	1	8	3	5	7	9	6	2

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh Ph. 0172-4801828

E-TENDER NOTICE

Notice for inviting e-tenders for allotment of Built-up Dwelling/Commercial Units on Free-Hold Basis in U.T. Chandigarh

"It is hereby notified for the information of general public that e-tenders are invited for the sale of Built-up units. All the Commercial Units and Residential Units are being sold on Free-Hold basis. E-Tenders are invited individually for each of Built-up Unit."

- The E-Tender Process is open for all the citizens of India as well as NRIs/PPIOs above 18 years of age. The persons already having any property (Residential or Commercial) can also participate in the E-Tender.
- The Built-up Units shall be allotted to the highest eligible bidder, quoting above the reserve price of the Built-up Units. The GST will not be applicable on the consideration/premium of the units.
- All willing participants may visit the official website www.chbonline.in to understand the detailed procedure for submission of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and e-bids. The Terms & Conditions and the detailed List mentioning localities/sectors of Built-up Units and reserve price can be downloaded from the official website of the Chandigarh Housing Board at www.chbonline.in.
- In order to submit e-bids, every prospective bidder is required to get himself/ herself registered at <https://tenders.chd.nic.in>.
- Stickers have been pasted at each of the Built-up Unit for better identification and Site Offices have been provided at different Sectors/Location to facilitate inspection by the prospective bidders. The location of each of the unit on Google map, address of the Site Offices and contact details of the officials are available on the official website www.chbonline.in. The days specified for the inspections of the units are as under:-

Sr. No.	Built-up Units	No. of Units	Days for inspections (10.00A.M. to 5.00 P.M)
I	Residential Units on Free-Hold Basis	27	Saturday
II	Commercial Units on Free-Hold Basis	04	Sunday
	Total	31	Sunday

6. Schedules of dates for e-Tender of the Units:-

Sr. No.	Starting date and time for bid submission	From 03rd June, 2022 (10:00 AM)
1.	Closing date and time for bid submission	Till 22nd June 2022 (upto 10:00 AM)
2.	Opening of e-bids	22nd June 2022 (From 10:15 A.M. onwards)

Chief Accounts Officer

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER

Tender Notice No. SRC-PESTROD-DT-02.06.2022. Open Tender is invited by Area Manager, Santragachi, S.E. Railway, Khargapur Division for and on behalf of the President of India through e-tendering in www.irops.gov.in website as per details mentioned below. Eligible tenders are requested to apply for the same through online only in www.irops.gov.in website as per details mentioned below. No offline tender will be accepted. Please read the tender document uploaded in the document section in the website for details. Name of the work: "Pest and rodent control in Railway coaches maintained at Santragachi/Padmapukur and rodent control in yards & Railway premises at Santragachi & Padmapukur" for a period of 03 years. Tender value: ₹ 5,48,94,483.65 inclusive of GST. EMD: ₹ 4,24,500/- Cost of tender document: ₹ 10,000/- (non-refundable). Closing date of tender: 08.07.2022 at 15.00 hrs. (PR-181)

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

SECR BSP HQ 258 THIN CLIENT AMC

Name of Work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance of Contract for 258 nos. Thin Client installed at various station over SECR for a period of 02(two) years. Tender Value Rs.: 14,91,756,00/-, Completion Period: 24 Months. Start date of Submission of Tender: 02.06.2022. Last date of Submission of Tender: 16.06.2022 upto 15.00 hrs.

The complete information of above e-tender notice is available over website www.irops.gov.in. Bids other than e-bid shall not be accepted against above Tenders.

Dy. Chief Commercial Manager (PS) CPR/10/55 S.E.C. Railway/Bilaspur

South East Central Railway @secrail

Government of Odisha, e-Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Bid Identification No. C.C.E.D.K.(R&B) 03/2022-23 Letter No 1293/Dt. 31/05/2022

The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Building works as detailed below:

- Name of the works: Building works
- No. of work: 05 (Five) Nos.
- Estimated Cost: Rs.1,10,92,635/- to Rs. 8,86,52,712/- (as given in column No. 03 of table)
- Cost of tender paper: Rs 10,000.00
- Class of Contractor: 'B', 'A', 'Special' & 'Super' Class (as given in column No. 06 of table)
- Period of Completion of work: 07(Seven) & 11 (Eleven) Calendar months (as given in column No. 07 of table)
- Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website: From Dt. 09.06.2022 to 5.30 P.M. of 23.06.2022
- Date of opening of bid: Dt. 24.06.2022 at 11.30 hours

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal: www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Dhenkanal(R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
OIPR-34132/11/0008/2223

NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA

Ministry of Education, Government of India
Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi- 110070
Phone: 011-26707700, Email: office.nbt@nic.in

TENDER NOTICE

Tender No. NBT/ADMIN/BPC-DDN&BPL/02/2002-23
National Book Trust, India (under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India) invites sealed Tenders from reputed contractors/service providers in the prescribed Tender form for providing following services:-

Design, Concept, Fabrication and interior designing of NBT's Book Promotion Centre at Bhopal & Dehradun

Tender form can be obtained from Deputy Director (Administration) National Book Trust, India OR can be downloaded from NBT Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in and e-procurement portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. For further amendment, if any, visit: www.nbtindia.gov.in. Director, NBT reserves the right to accept/reject any or all Bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

davp 21103/12/0007/2223

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED

(A Govt. Of India Undertaking)
SIBIAN ROAD, BATHINDA - 151 003 (Pb)
Empowerment of Advertising Agencies

Applications are invited from MS accredited Advertising Agencies with minimum average turnover of Rs. 50 Lacs in last 3 financial years for advertisement for a period of 3 years. For detailed terms & conditions and application format, please visit our website www.nflindia.com under 'Open Tender' category. The last date of submission of application is 15.07.2022 upto 01.00 PM. For any corrigendum/tender/updates in future, information shall be made available on our website only.

DGM (HR)

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Mondipatti, Manapparai Tk, Trichy Dist. - 621306
Ph: 04332-261600; Email: purchaseimp.u2@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Description of work	Due date
222323 000797	Transportation of Paper Board in Reels/Bundles/Pallets from TNPL Unit-2 at Mondipatti and its Outside Godowns to various Branches / Destinations throughout India for the period of One Year.	18.06.2022

*Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed terms & conditions, Tender Fee, EMD, etc. are available in the Tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in.

DIPR/2639/Tender/2022 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

"சேரத்தை எ. ந்து கட்டுதலும் அம். ந்தேரி, சாத்தை புதிது சேர்த்தும் உம். ப்.மும்."

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

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

TENDER NOTICE No. RWF/S/P1/004/2022-23 dt 02.06.22

On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Materials Manager invites electronic Tenders from Interested Vendors for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways E-Portal - www.irops.gov.in. The Tender documents and the Corrigenda to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the Portal only.

Sl. No.	Tender No	Due date	Short Description	Quantity
1	P1221568	16-06-2022	SE drill modular body of (3L/D) dia 22.5 mm with through coolant, overall length 169 mm, Shank dia with suitable crown drill insert dia 22.5mm as per RWF drawing.	30 Sets
2	P1221596	04-07-2022	M.S. angle cut pieces weldable of size: 75 X 75 X 6mm thickness X 75 mm long to IS:808-1989 and IS : 2062-1992 Gr. A SK.	388705 kgs
3	P1221601	01-07-2022	Aluminium Star to IS 23/1980 as per RWF drawing and specification	14540 kgs

GLOBAL TENDER:

Sl. No.	Tender No	Due date	Short Description	Quantity
1	P1221578	24-06-2022	Ultrasonic immersion transducers 3/4" dia (water proof). Make: Magnaflex [1] 2.25 MHz : 18 Nos [2] 5MHz : 23 Nos	

Principal Chief Materials Manager

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us @SCRRailwaysIndia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C. Railway can be seen on our website: www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No.147/2022. Dt.03.06.2022

Supply Of Stores Items.
E-Procurement Tender Notice

The Following Tenders Have Been Floated Online. Tenderers Are Requested To Visit The Website www.irops.gov.in And Submit Their Offers Online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD May Be Seen In Website. Offers Submitted Manually Will Not Be Accepted. Offers By Post Will Not Be Entertained. Tender Closing Time Is 14.30 Hrs Of The Due Date Of The Tender. "For All Indigenous Offers, EMD Will Be Accepted Only Via Online System As Available On www.irops.gov.in."

38.22.2311	Poly Rings
31.22.1632	Body side Window arrangement
33.22.1209	Set of Brake Cylinder LH&RH
82.22.1137A	(PH No.0414) Pantoprazole 40 mg TAB
82.22.1226A	(PH No.06041) Ceftriaxone Sodium 1 gm ING
LH186472C	Supply Erection of Dyno drive with VWF
82.22.4248A	(PH.No.2061) Nitrous Oxide Bulk cylinder 17.10 cum
33.22.1135A	PAD for Secondary suspension for LHB
33.22.1091	Secondary Lateral Damper
81.22.1416	Compressed oxygen gas
LY205226D	100 Tonnes capacity closed frame type down stroking
31.22.1662	Non-Asbestos based 'K' type high friction
38.22.1636A	Distributor Valve with adapter
56.22.1194	Route shunt calling on aspect LED 110V
33.22.1092	Primary Vertical Damper
38.22.2078	Shoe 30/DEGREES
38.22.2348	Pressure Transformer

Note:- Due dates of Tender Opening:

SL No.01 on dt.21.06.2022.
SL No.02 to 05 on dt.22.06.2022.
SL No.06 on dt.23.06.2022.
SL No.07 on dt.24.06.2022.
SL No.08 to 11 on dt.27.06.2022.
SL No.12 on dt.01.07.2022.
SL No.13 & 14 on dt.04.07.2022.
SL No.15 on dt. 05.07.2022
SL No. 16 on dt. 07.07.2022
SL No. 17 on dt.11.07.2022.

CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No.144/2022 dt. 13.05.2022. Tender No.65.22.5007A due on 02.06.2022. Brief Description, Design Manufacture Supply Installation, Testing The tender due dt. May be read as on 06.06.2022. Instead of existing. Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Below Rs. 25 Lakhs. For Details, Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Secunderabad.

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <https://www.irops.gov.in> or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities and OBC Welfare Department Ranchi-834008

Ref no: 597 Ranchi, Dated: 03/06/2022

Re- Expression of Interest

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested Universities/Anthropology Department of Universities/ Colleges/ Non-Government Organization having Anthropological Research Background/Retired Research Officer Anthropological Research Background of any Research Institute/ for undertaking a Ethnographic Caste Study of Jharkhand for TRI, Ranchi during the year 2022-23.

Interested University/ Anthropology Departments/Colleges/NGOs/Retired Research Officer are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by registrar of universities/Chief Functionary of NGOs and self-attested by Retired Research Officer along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 10/06/2022 by 4.30 P.M.

The interested agencies may submit their bid in sealed envelope on or before the due date. Technical proposal should be sealed in an envelope clearly marked in **BOLD** "A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR 'Ethnographic Studies of Khetauri, Ghatwal-Ghatwarand Tanti-TatwaCommunities of Jharkhand' written on the top of the envelope. The envelope is to be addressed to the Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi, Ranchi-834008. TRI will not be responsible for delay in transits or damages or loss of tender document sent by post.

Technical Bid will be opened on 14/06/2022 at 11:30 A.M in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi.

Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for presentation of project.

Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working day during office hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from the website www.trijharkhand.com/ www.prdjharkhand.in/ or E-mail tri.directorate@gmail.com by specifying the topic & details of Institution/ Organization Interested.

TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons. TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/empanel one or more firm depending on requirements.

Sd/-
Director
PR 270758 (Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minority and Backward Class Welfare Department) 22-23 (D)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Shyam Babu Choudhary S/o Sh. Joginder Choudhary R/o B-3/473, Duggal Farm, Tara Nagar, Kakraula, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 325/2015, U/s 420/467/468/471 IPC has been registered at P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Shyam Babu Choudhary cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Shyam Babu Choudhary has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Shyam Babu Choudhary accused of FIR No. 325/2015, U/s 420/467/468/471 IPC, P.S. Janakpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer said complaint on or before 28.07.2022.

By Order
Ms. Neetika Kapoor, Metropolitan Magistrate-11, Room No. 05, Ground Floor, Dwarka District Courts, New Delhi
DPR/888/WD/2022-(Court Matter)

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES (MI) MEGHALAYA : SHILLONG

No.HSM/Tender/A&H-Med/9/2019/10320 Dated Shillong, the 02.06.2022

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tender affixing Court Fee Stamp of ₹300/- (Rupees Three Hundred) only are invited from bonafide Stockist/Distributors/Manufacturers etc for supply of Homoeopathic/Ayurvedic medicines to Homoeopathy & Ayurvedic Institutions in the State.

The last date and time for receipt of tenders will be on 27/06/2022 noon and will open at 5:00 P.M on the same date in the presence of the Tenderers.

The detailed tender form can be had from the Office of the undersigned on all working days from the 06/06/2022 between 11:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M on payment of ₹500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) only through Demand Draft.

Sd/-
MIPR No. 400
Dt. 03/06/2022
Director of Health Services (MI), Meghalaya, Shillong.

NEW ZEALAND FIGHT BACK

Daryl Mitchell and Tom Blundell led a recovery as New Zealand battled back from losing its first four wickets cheaply to reach 236/4 in the second innings on Day 2 of the opening Test against England at Lords. **Brief scores:** NZ 132 & 236/4 (Mitchell 97*, Blundell 90*) lead Eng 141 (Crawley 43, Southee 4/55) by 227 runs

‘My daughter saw the car for the first time... will take her for a spin’

RAVI SHASTRI

The gold-coloured Audi that Ravi Shastri won for being the Champion of Champions in the 1985 World Championship of Cricket triumph is Indian sport's most iconic car. On the day the car was restored, Shastri, former India coach, went down memory lane about his set of wheels, why it means so much to him and the final moments of the summit clash against Pakistan

WE NEEDED some 15-20 runs more to beat Pakistan in the final of the 1985 Benson & Hedges tournament. I had a look at square-leg to check the field set by Javed Miandad, Pakistan's captain. Javed perked up from midwicket.

"Tu baar baar udhar kya deke raha hai" (Why are you looking there repeatedly?) he said in his characteristic lisp. "Gaadi ko kyun dekha raha hai?" (Why are you looking at the car). Voh nahi milne wali hai tere ko! (You are not going to get it!)."

That's when I had one proper look at it, and told him, "Javed, meri taraf hi aa Raha hai! (It's coming my way, only!)". So, in some ways, the fun had started before I got the keys.

When I got the keys from Ian Chappell in the post-match ceremony, I heard a buzz behind him. I look around and my teammates are already all over the car. Sunny (Sunil Gavaskar) was in the passenger seat. Kapil

was at the back. Others were climbing. I told Ian, 'one minute, I will be back'.

I went, sat inside, turned on the ignition, and saw the petrol indicator suggest there was a bit of petrol. Enough for a spin. And before the organisers or anyone could react, I had started the car, and we were off! Jimmy (Amarnath) was at the bonnet. I remember Sadanand Vishwanath was on the top, and the legend was moving from back to front with his spike shoes apparently in the air but had created enough scratches. Crazy happy times.

As a recall factor, more than most things I have done in my life, this car stands at the top. The six sixes had a recall value but this is the biggest in my career. The circumstances aligned: The timing of one-day cricket, day-and-night matches coming in from Australia, Channel 9 coming into India for the first time, 1983 was all whites, this was colour clothing and that pristine telecast. And of course when you get Pakistan in a final, no one can ever forget it - if you win it!

Years later, I remember I was in Frankfurt in Germany on a holiday, having a nice pint of typical German beer. A big, tall Pathan walked across, obviously from North-Western frontier of Pakistan or Afghanistan. He recognised me and the first thing he asked me was, "Oh Shastriji, voh Gaddi ki ki haal chaal?" I said 'bikul theek-thaak!' That's the kind of reach it has. (How is that car?) It's very good!



Ravi Shastri along with his daughter Aleka in Mumbai on Friday. Pradiip Das

As I tweeted, it's just not my car, it's a national asset and Indian team's car because that's what it is. It will be forever remembered for that drive at MCG. A happy team, a world-cup winning team, and now another big ODI tournament in Australia - people don't forget all that. That drive was in front of 50,000 people, that time a record probably for a non-Australia game. Those memories

stay etched in memories of people, especially of my generation and those who were 7-10 years younger than me.

Thousands at the docks

It came a couple of months after the tournament, courtesy the shipping corporation of India. I still remember that day, in some ways the highlight for me with that car. At the

I was in Frankfurt in Germany on a holiday, having a nice pint of typical German beer. A big, tall Pathan walked across, obviously from North-Western frontier of Pakistan or Afghanistan. He recognised me and the first thing he asked me was, "Oh Shastriji, voh Gaddi ki ki haal chaal?" I said 'bikul theek-thaak!'

docks, there were 8000-10000 people to have a look at it as it came out from the container of the ship.

I refused to drive the car as I was wary that I might bang into people as I still wasn't fully hands on with that Audi. I had someone from Audi, a proper driver, to get it home. All along the way, people were honking from bikes and it was quite a celebration and I still don't know how it reached my home without a scratch.

Talking of scratches, that memorable drive at the MCG had left the car with lots of scratches, dents, champagne. And Audi were kind enough to send a brand-new car.

Wherever I go in the world, if I need a car to drive, they provide me with one. I must have driven the Audi the most in England.

In that old Audi, I have gone to Alibag and to Shirdi (Sai Baba temple). Initially, my father also would occasionally take it out for drives to the races on Sundays with his friends. He was a doctor, a most selfless one, who till two days before he died, was in his two clinics at Mahim and Dharavi. If you go to those places, even if they don't know me; they will know Dr. Shastri. He was my buddy, my hero, the man who taught me how to live life on my terms.

He stopped taking that car out as he would be hounded at traffic lights. There weren't many four-rings Audi then, and then that number plate MFA 1, everyone knew it was mine. They would through the car, thinking I would be there. So he stopped driving it.

As I sat in the new restored car, all the MCG memories came flooding back. Who was sitting where, what we did, all the good times. How the prime minister had then allowed me to get it duty-free; incidentally only after this time was legally allowed for any sportspeople to bring the car back to India duty-free if they won it in a tournament.

The best thing about this is that my daughter saw the car for the first time ever in her life. She sat in it for the first time. In the days to come, I shall take her for a spin in it. In some sense, the circle of life would be complete.

Ravi Shastri is a former India cricketer, coach and commentator. He spoke to Sriram Veera

Delhi HC stops govt grant and assistance to federations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

THE DELHI High Court on Friday directed the union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to stop grant of funds to National Sports Federations (NSFs) and also ordered it to not provide any assistance to them at least till July 20. The court said that in the meantime, assistance to sportspersons should be ensured through the Sports Authority of India.

"Evidently, there is no clarity or confirmation as to which of National Sports Federations (NSFs) are fully complied with the Sports Code. Therefore, in view of the previous orders... it would be only logical, prudent, legal and just that the government monies be not expended on entities whose status in law is yet to be determined," said Justice Najmi Waziri. The order came in a case filed by lawyer and sports activist Rahul Mehra in 2020 about compliance of the Sports Code by NSFs.

The court directed that the money, patronage and other facilities to NSFs should be resumed only when they comply with the Sports Code, particularly the clause which stipulates that 25 percent of the management shall comprise prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit with voting right. The order comes on the heels of the ones passed by the Supreme Court and High Courts earlier in respect of All India Football Federation, Hockey India, Maharashtra Archery Association and All India Chess Federation.

"It is hoped that the entire exercise of ensuring compliance will be completed by the end of this month," said the bench, adding that non-compliant NSFs shall be subject to notice of suspension of their recognition.

The court on Thursday had asked an officer of the rank of joint secretary to remain present after noting that the Centre has not ensured compliance of the previous orders passed by it. The sports ministry's joint secretary L.S. Singh appeared before the court on Friday and submitted that 15 NSFs have complied with the Sports Code, six have been granted exemption from certain provisions, administrators have been appointed by courts for three NSFs, and five need to "carry on minor amendments in their respective constitutions". Seventeen NSFs require extensive amendments, the court was told.

However, Mehra challenged the figures and information submitted by Singh and told the court that at least 23 NSFs - Weightlifting, Pencak Silat, Swimming, Cycling, Wushu, Kudo, Rifle, Atya Patya, Kayaking and Canoeing, Roller Skating, Table Tennis, Athletics, Boxing, Golf, Softball, Billiards and Snooker, Roll Ball, Sepak Takraw, Cycle Polo, Yachting, Chess, Yogasana and Shooting Ball - have supernumerary posts or persons in the management or on positions which are not contemplated in the Sports Code.

Mehra added the Wrestling Federation of India has not even submitted its constitution to the ministry and therefore like many others, does not qualify for grant, any benefits, assistance or even continuation of recognition.

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A painful twist

With the semifinal finely poised, Zverev forced to retire after suffering an ankle injury; Nadal in his 14th French Open final

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS, JUNE 3

RAFAEL NADAL was locked in a tight, compelling and lengthy French Open semifinal Friday when his opponent, third-seeded Alexander Zverev, ran to his right to chase a shot and twisted his right ankle. Zverev crumpled to the ground, wailing in agony and clutching at his lower leg.

His black outfit, arms and legs caked with rust-colored clay, Zverev was helped up by a trainer, then taken away from the court in a wheelchair. Minutes later, Zverev came back onto Court Philippe Chatrier on crutches, his right shoe removed, and conceded the match, unable to continue.

The sudden end to a contest that was 3 hours old but not even through two full sets allowed Nadal to become, on his 36th birthday, the second-oldest men's finalist in French Open history. Now he will try to become the oldest champion at a tournament he's already won a record 13 times.

"Being in the final of Roland Garros is a dream, without a doubt," Nadal said during an on-court interview, then revealed he had seen Zverev crying in a small room in the stadium.

"Very tough, no? And very sad for him, honestly, no?" Nadal told the full house of 15,000 spectators who had loudly tried to encourage him throughout the match, chanting "Ra-fal!" repeatedly.

With the pitter-patter of rain audible against the closed retractable roof at Court Philippe Chatrier, Nadal emerged to claim a tight-as-can-be, draining first set that lasted 1 1/2 hours by a 7-6 (8) score. The second set also was headed to a tiebreaker after another 1 1/2 hours when Zverev tumbled behind the baseline and lost a point that allowed Nadal to hold serve for 6-1.

A trainer came out to attend to him, and Nadal walked around the net to check on Zverev, too. After Zverev returned to the court to say he would need to retire from the match, he shook the chair umpire's hand and then hugged Nadal.

Nadal has been dealing with chronic pain in his left foot and was coming off a pair of victories that each lasted more than 4 hours - including his quarterfinal against defending champion Novak Djokovic that ended at 1:15 a.m. on Wednesday - but showed no signs of age, injury or fatigue against the 25-year-old Zverev.

In addition to bidding for a 14th trophy from the French Open, Nadal can claim his 22nd Grand Slam title to add to the men's record he already holds after his triumph at the Australian Open in January. Djokovic and Roger Federer are tied at 20.

There's also this on the line for Nadal in Sunday's final against No. 8 Casper Ruud of Norway or No. 20 Marin Cilic of Croatia: It would be the first time the Spaniard ever has won the first two legs of the calendar-year Grand Slam.

Cilic won the 2014 U.S. Open; Ruud has never been to a major final.

Zverev was the runner-up at the U.S. Open two years ago and won a gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics last summer.

"I know how much he's fighting to win a Grand Slam, but for the moment, he was very unlucky," Nadal said. "The only thing that I am sure is he is going to win not one - much more than one. So I wish him all the best and a very fast recovery."

Maybe, just maybe, the pristine conditions in what was transformed into an indoor arena helped Zverev bring out his best for stretches on Friday, compiling nearly twice as many winners as Nadal, 40-21.

There was no wind to worry about, no sunlight or shadows, no energy-draining



Alexander Zverev falls to the ground after injuring his right ankle while playing a return. He consequently retired, meaning Rafael Nadal entered the final. Reuters

YOUNG & OLD

18 Aged 18, Coco Gauff is the youngest French Open finalist since Kim Clijsters in 2001 and the youngest major finalist since Maria Sharapova at 2004 Wimbledon.

36 Nadal, who turned 36 on Friday, is the second-oldest men's finalist in French Open history after Andres Gimeno. Nadal could become the oldest champion on Sunday.

heat or cold. After two nervous-looking misses to lose the initial two points, Zverev settled in, pushing his 6-foot-6 (1.98-meter) frame and strength into every shot. Most sliced through the still air and alit precisely where he wanted.

There was little subtlety to his approach.

Not a lot of finesse, either. Pure power, essentially. And it worked rather well, permitting Zverev to stake himself to a 3-1 lead after 19 minutes in large part because he accumulated seven winners before Nadal delivered a single one.

When Zverev did try a drop shot in the match's eighth game, it was merely so-so, and Nadal not only reached it but ripped a down-the-line backhand passing winner. A few points later, Zverev set up a break point for Nadal by double-faulting, eliciting a roar of approval and applause from thousands, the sort of cheer-for-a-mistake generally looked down upon in tennis circles.

Things would get worse from there for Zverev in that game. His racket flew out of his hand and landed behind him after one wild swing mistakenly sent a ball zipping past the chair umpire until it landed 10 feet wide of the court. Later, an errant backhand let Nadal break for the first time, making it 4-all and sending red-and-yellow Spanish flags flapping in the stands.

In the opening tiebreaker, Zverev began brilliantly, taking a 6-2 lead to earn four set



Very tough, no? And very sad for him, honestly, no? I know how much he's fighting to win a Grand Slam, but for the moment, he was very unlucky. The only thing that I am sure is he is going to win not one - much more than one. So I wish him all the best and a very fast recovery."

RAFAEL NADAL
ON HIS OPPONENT ALEXANDER ZVEREV

points. On the first, Nadal hit a wide-swinging 113 mph (183 kph) ace. On the second, Zverev flubbed a volley and rolled his eyes. On the third, Nadal sprinted to his left, ending up wide of the doubles alley, to somehow conjure up a cross-court forehand passing winner at an unbelievable angle. The crowd gave him a standing ovation. He probably had no business getting to Zverev's sharp volley, let alone fashioning that short of response.

And yet, that is what Nadal does, so often, to so many opponents. He hangs in there, he never takes a point off, he plays each shot as if it might be his very last.

Been that way since he was a teen. Why stop now that he's in his mid-30s?

Nadal then saved Zverev's fourth set point with the help of a drop shot. When it was Nadal's turn to press for the set, he finally sealed it with a down-the-line forehand passing winner, then held his follow-through pose for a moment while staring into the stands.

The second set was filled with service breaks - each man had five on the afternoon - and, in the end, the denouement was as anticlimactic as could be.

Swiatek faces Gauff

Reuters adds: Iga Swiatek is one step away from a second French Open title in three years but the world number one will face a unique challenge on Saturday in teenager Coco Gauff in a tournament that often proved unpredictable.

Poland's Swiatek is on a remarkable 34-match winning streak and should the 2020 Roland Garros champion lift the Suzanne Leglen Cup again, she will match Venus Williams's run from 2000 - the longest on the women's tour in the 2000s. Her final record is also impressive as the 21-year-old has won the last eight finals she has played, losing more than four games only twice in those matches.

She has a unique game, with her light footwork, powerful forehand and unsettling slice proving a nightmare to handle as her opponents during this fortnight have realised. Swiatek has only dropped one set and showed occasional signs of nerves before steamrolling Daria Kasatkina in the semi-finals in an awe-inspiring demonstration of mastery.

Nerves have often been a deciding factor in finals but there is little chance that Swiatek, who has been working with a psychologist, will struggle with her composure. **PLAYING TONIGHT: Women's singles final: Iga Swiatek vs Coco Gauff, 6.30pm onwards, Live on Sony Sports Network**

From grass track to synthetic, Rupal makes smooth transition

ANDREW AMSAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 3

QUARTER-MILER HM Priya was undoubtedly the favourite to take home gold at the U-20 Federation Cup in Nadiad, Gujarat on Friday until a certain 17-year-old outshone her by just .01 seconds. Meerut's Rupal clocked a solid 52.48s under the scorching Gujarat sun. Rupal had already achieved the U-20 World Championships qualification mark of 55.20s in the heats itself where she clocked 53.91s.

Rupal was naturally overjoyed at Friday's victory over the much-fancied Priya, who topped the India charts last year. "She is such a fine runner. She is one of the best junior athletes in the world and beating her in a way proves that I am a fine athlete as well. My confidence has been boosted," Rupal says with a lot of admiration for Priya.

Priya came into the competition having already clocked the jr Worlds qualification timing. Rupal first came into the limelight in October last year when she clocked (53.73s) the best timings in the 400m National Open. Priya and Rupal have contrasting backgrounds. While Priya has just returned from a training stint in Europe, Rupal has been shuttling between Meerut and Delhi to get access to a synthetic track.

"Main toh gaon ki ladki hun (I am a village girl)," Rupal says in an assertive tone when asked about her background. Meerut, who comes from a farmer family in Meerut, always had a liking for running. After outshining her fellow athletes at the school level, the next step for Rupal was to train at a professional stadium. Rupal, then 13, reached the Kailash Prakash Stadium about 18 kilometres from home. But she was in for a rude shock. The facilities at the stadium disheartened the teenager.

"The stadium still doesn't have a synthetic track. There is a grass track that is in terrible shape. The gym has no proper equipment. We had to save up money and get equipment for weight training," she says.

With no track in the vicinity, Rupal and her training partners have no choice but to travel to Delhi, about 100km away, thrice a week. That means waking up at 3 in the morning and covering a distance of more than 500km a week just to get basic training facilities. "Thrice a week we train at the Jawahar Lal Nehru stadium and return by 11 am. I have come this far training under such conditions," Rupal says.

Overcoming hardships

Despite the hardships, Rupal isn't going to back down and feels her best is yet to come. "This is just the beginning and I have a lot of areas to improve on. My timings will dip down further," says the teenager who, not surprisingly, wants to compete at the Olympics one day. Rupal's jam-packed training schedule leaves no room for a social life or any recreational activity. She also has to help her family with household work. "My mother has some health complications and she needs my assistance. I cook, clean and do the dishes. After my training, I am assigned cleaning duty (laughs)," says Rupal.

When Rupal returns from Gujarat, the teenager knows that she will have to go through the same gruelling travel and training routine. And without much choice, she has somewhat accepted it. "It is working out so far. I will practice harder and bring better results," she says. But the lack of a synthetic track in the vicinity is a huge roadblock she admits. "Kya aap Meerut mein synthetic track banwaa sakte ho? (Can you set up a synthetic track in Meerut?)" she asks in a jovial tone.

'If you want somebody to take the responsibility of failure, I will take it'

Outgoing high-performance director Nieva on Tokyo debacle and Indian boxing's future

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 3

CHIEF HIGH performance director Santiago Nieva is ending his tenure in India before joining Australia as their head coach. The Swede talks about various facets of Indian boxing, his policy of having no trials, the disappointments at the Tokyo Olympics and what lies ahead for Indian boxing.

EXCERPTS:

You joined in April 2017 and are leaving now after a five-year stint. What has been the main difference between then and now?

The main difference has been the high-performance structure I tried to put in place. We needed good tactical and technical training and worked around that. There was much emphasis on strength and endurance earlier and I had to put the focus on power and tactics too. Tactically speaking, our boxers were going head-hunting in the ring rather than aiming for more variations. We had to work on things like avoiding clinching the opponent or holding, and knowing how to come out of those situations. Once it got into their heads, it became easier to train. The thing about top boxing nations like Russia, Cuba and Kazakhstan is that they start tactically right from the grassroots. A boxer at the age of say 16-17 has good ring IQ. And I tried to inculcate that.

You have been an advocate for having no trials for boxers for international competitions like CWG, Asian Games or Olympic qualifiers. We have seen boxers like Nikhat Zareen and others demanding trials. What's your take on this issue?

Well, in India, people are crazy about having trials. When I introduced this concept and policy of having no trials, obviously I faced resistance from the boxers who don't qualify. I believe if there is a boxer who has proven himself on the international level through exposure with coaches too investing in him, why put extra burden of trials on him. In some cases, where we have equally good boxers, trials are necessary. As the head coach, you should be able to take the decision based on the boxer's assessment and back that boxer in a particular weight category. The recent qualification system for the Paris Olympics has reduced the number of qualifiers and put more emphasis on world rankings. If we back one boxer, who has regular good performances at international level, he will be able to collect more ranking points. Yes, having no trials is not a fool-proof system but that's my view.

What will be the highlight of your stint?

There are several highs for me. Seeing Amit Panghal



Chief high performance director Santiago Nieva.
Jasbir Malhi

"Indian boxing has to look forward. Losing is part of the game and yes, we failed in Tokyo except that one medal but we have to build on the process."

box in the world championship final in 2019, where we won two medals and four boxers reaching the quarters, was definitely one of the high points of my career, apart from the Indian contingent winning 13 medals in the 2019 Asian Championships. But the best moment has to be Amit beating reigning Olympic champion Hasanboy Dumatov in the Asian Games final in 2018. That made us believe that anything is possible.

And what has been the low point of your stint?

Well, Tokyo has to be the low point in terms of men's boxing. There is no secret that we could not deliver according to our expectations and no hiding from the fact that we did not win a medal. People ask me to do an analysis and I only have to say that sadly, it happened at the Olympics. We have to understand that all our boxers lost to good opponents. The Colombian (Yuberjen Martinez), whom Amit lost to, is a 2016 Olympic medallist. Manish lost to a very good boxer. Vikas got injured in Italy but as coaches, we took a decision to take a risk. Our best boxer at

the Olympics was Satish, who came close to winning a medal but faced somebody like Bakhodir Jalolov. We did not qualify any women boxers for Rio but qualified four women boxers for Tokyo. To return with one medal, where few countries medalled more than once, is a good achievement.

Women's high performance manager Raffaele Bergamasco quit due to the non-extension of his contract last year. Under him, the women boxers returned with an Olympic medal. How do you see his departure?

Obviously, it was a big loss for Indian boxing. It was difficult that he took such a decision and we have to respect that. If we look at the results, he had a very successful journey in India and Indians owe him for playing a role in Lovlina's (Borghain) bronze medal, India's only third medal in the sport.

Looking forward, how do you see Indian boxing grow and what will be your advice to Indian boxers?

Indian boxing has to look forward. Losing is part of the game and yes, we failed in Tokyo except that one medal but we have to build on the process. Remember, two world champions lost in the first round in Tokyo. A country like France, which won six medals in Rio, did not win a medal in Tokyo.

If you want somebody to take the responsibility of failure, I will take it. But I am happy that we have a coaching structure and a thing called high-performance management in place in Indian boxing. What we should aim for is to have a good internal competition structure throughout the year. And I hope to pat one of my boxers in Paris for winning an Olympic medal.

There has been some criticism of the Indian team training in Italy ahead of the Olympics. Boxers like Vikas Krishan have termed the lack of Indian food options as one of the reasons for failure in Tokyo. Do you believe that the training stint in Italy played a role in what happened with Indian boxers in Tokyo?

It was not our plan to spend so much time ahead of the Olympics in Italy. We had a meeting with the boxers and everybody in the men's camp agreed for a 2-3 week camp in Italy. Among women boxers, only Mary Kom said she will be training in India.

The plan was to spend 2-3 weeks in Italy and come back to India and then go to the Olympics. But as the Covid-19 situation changed, the government told us that we have to quarantine if we come back to India. So, we had to make that decision of staying in Italy for longer. Yes, food was a problem for the extended stay.

But nobody had complained when we trained at the same venue before the world championships or Olympic qualifiers and gave results. To say Italy is the sole reason for what happened in the Olympics is to simplify things.

Asian Cup qualifiers without general public irks Chhetri

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, JUNE 3

NATIONAL FOOTBALL icon Sunil Chhetri didn't hide his disappointment at no tickets being sold to the general public for the Asian Cup Group D qualifiers to be played at the Salt Lake Stadium from June 8-14, and felt it deprived the Indian team of home advantage at a time when it needs crowd support the most. About 20,000 complimentary tickets have been issued, which has resulted in the organisers getting the stadium rent-free. Public sale of tickets would have forced the All India Football Federation (AIFF) to fork out around Rs 16 lakh per day.

The Indian team would be playing in Kolkata, the country's football hub, after a gap of nearly three years and Chhetri would have liked the crowd in his corner as he tried to lead India to the continental championship. "When Mohun Bagan played at 4 o'clock (in the AFC Cup), there were 38,000 people. How is it that we are finding it difficult to sell tickets (for 8.30 pm kick-offs) when the national team is playing? The same thing happened in Mumbai. If there are no fans for the game, I understand. When the national team is playing in the Northeast, in Kerala, it's jam-packed. It doesn't make sense," said the veteran marksman.

The sparse crowd in the stands will make a mockery of home advantage, Chhetri said.

"The least I was expecting was 30,000 because at 4 o'clock, they came for Mohun Bagan. We are happy that we are hosting it (the tournament), but (such little turnout) it would make no difference. When we come to play (here) for Bengaluru FC against Mohun Bagan and East Bengal, we feel it as an away side and it's intimidating. So, they should fill (the stands) and then we can say we have home advantage. If in a stadium of almost 90,000, only 10,000-15,000 people turn up, then what's the point of having home advantage? We go to training, there are 100 people, man! (So) I don't understand how?"

He said Kolkata was one of the places where the national team can expect good support. "There are a

few places in my country where you go to playing for the national team and we know you are going to get support. Kerala is one of them. Of course, Kanteerava (in Bengaluru) is one of them. But Kolkata is right up there and you feel special here, because they (fans) love their football."

Lack of star power

Organisers, on the other hand, have cited lukewarm response to a tournament featuring teams from footballing backwaters as the reason for less crowd. India has a FIFA ranking of 106, ahead of Hong Kong (147), Afghanistan (150) and Cambodia (171).

"Look at the teams playing and their rankings. Do you think fans will throng the stadium? I don't see more than 10,000 spectators turning up," a former top AIFF official said. The Salt Lake Stadium has a capacity in excess of 70,000. "The Bengal government has issued instructions that all tickets should be free. See, printing tickets is not an issue but how to distribute them, whom to distribute to is an issue. Yes, they (state government) are giving (us) the stadium free and that's why tickets (for the matches) have to be free. But we are giving 20,000 tickets, not a very small number," AIFF director (competition) Anil Kamath told The Indian Express, informing that the complimentary tickets would go to the state football associations, different clubs, government offices and from there "to public". According to him, some tickets would be directly distributed to the public online.

The AIFF is currently helmed by the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA), although tournaments are organised by the Federation's secretariat. CoA member and former India captain Bhaskar Ganguly made his displeasure known. "I told Mr Kamath, if we would have been informed about this earlier, we could have taken the matter to the state government. The state government allowed 100 per cent turnout for IPL matches only a few days ago. We might have helped the organisers in this regard. Now, it's probably too late. India are playing at home and they deserve crowd support," Ganguly told this paper.

Congratulations! The Shinning Star

Advait's scripted story 'The Knight Warrior' will be launched as a part of the Book 'and the kind dragon dream..' by Mr Shiv Khera, on 5th June, 2022 at LPS Auditorium, PHD House.

Advait Bhardwaj, is a 'Young Dragon' with a magnetic personality who loves to travel & learn about the History of India.

Advait has scripted more than 25 short stories & reviewed more than 15 books, inspired by his favourite authors Roald Dahl, Enid Blyton and Ruskin Bond.

Advait also holds ranks among top 3 in International & National Level UCMAS Abacus Competitions.

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