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#### WHISTLEBLOWER BREAKS SILENCE

## 'May have to wait until my death (to reveal my identity)'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

BREAKING HIS silence in an interview for the first time, the anonymous whistleblower calling himself John Doe, who leaked more than 2.6 TB of data that became the Panama Papers about offshore trail of unaccounted wealth, has said that he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



### THE PANAMA PAPERS

EXPLAINED PAGE 13

#### RECOVERY GRADUALLY STRENGTHENING, SAYS DAS

## RBI to ensure rupee finds its level, zero tolerance for volatility: Governor Das

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, JULY 22

RESERVE BANK Governor Shaktikanta Das Friday said the central bank will ensure that the rupee "finds its level" in line with its fundamentals with "zero tolerance" for volatile and bumpy movements of the currency.

"I would like to reiterate that we have no particular level of the rupee in mind, but we would like to ensure its orderly evolution," Das said.

"Due to the RBI actions, including measures to encourage inflows, the movements of the rupee have been relatively smooth and orderly. By eschewing sudden and volatile shifts, we

have ensured that expectations remain anchored and the forex market functions in a stable and liquid manner," he said addressing the Bank of Baroda Annual Banking Conference.

The rupee, which depreciated over 7 per cent since January this year, and dipped below the 80-level this week,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Shaktikanta Das in Mumbai on Friday. Pradip Das

### BCCI's Rs 18-cr Olympics gift: Theme song, mementoes

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
MUMBAI, JULY 22

RS 7 CRORE for the advertisement agency that worked on the promotion of Tokyo Olympics in India; Rs 98 lakh for Olympics' campaign T-shirts; Rs 70 lakh for singer Mohit Chauhan who composed and sang the theme song, "Lakshya tere saamne hai, jeet ke aana (The target is in front of you, return as a winner)", for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## In CBSE exams after pandemic, drop in Class X, XII pass percentage

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

AFTER THE record results of the pandemic-hit 2021, the Central Board of Secondary Education's (CBSE) Class XII and X results were tempered this year by the return of external board examinations,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RELATED REPORTS  
PAGE 4

THE 90-PLUS CLUB			
	2021		2022
CLASS 12 STUDENTS			
Above 95%	5.37%	Above 90%	11.51%
	2.33%		9.39%
CLASS 10 STUDENTS			
Above 95%	2.76%	Above 90%	9.58%
	3.10%		11.32%

#### EXCISE POLICY ROW

## Sisodia in line of fire as L-G calls for probe by CBI

### AAP accused of kickbacks for Punjab spend, Kejriwal hits back: Not afraid

GAYATHRI MANI  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE ALREADY strained ties between the Centre and the AAP government in Delhi plummeted Friday when Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22, putting Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, in-charge of the excise department, directly in the line of fire.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal hit back, saying the Lt Governor was making "false allegations" and leaders of the AAP were "not afraid of jail".

The Lt Governor's move follows a report submitted by Delhi Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar on the matter. The report, which

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED  
Revenue boost

THE NEW excise policy is crucial for the Delhi government's revenue target. Last September, before it was implemented, Sisodia said the government expected to earn around Rs 10,000 crore a year from bidding of liquor shops. Under the new policy, the licence fee had been increased substantially — from Rs 8-10 lakh earlier to Rs 6-6.5 crore per vend.

RELATED REPORTS  
PAGE 3

### Airlines can't deny boarding over 'disability', need medical opinion: DGCA

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

STATING THAT airlines cannot deny boarding to "any person on the basis of disability", the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has said that if an airline feels the passenger's health is likely to deteriorate during the flight, it must consult a doctor at the airport and then take an "appropriate decision".

In a statement on Friday, the DGCA said it has amended its regulations to improve accessibility of boarding and flying for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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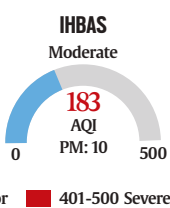
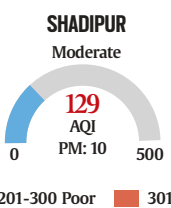
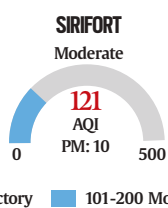
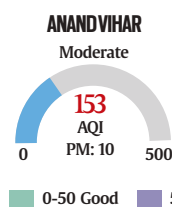
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0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very Poor 401-500 Severe

**SKYWATCH**  
**FORECAST: July 23**  
Generally cloudy sky.  
Light to moderate rain/  
thundershowers  
**MAX: 33** | **MIN: 26**  
1.8°C below normal | 1.3°C below normal

## AFTER SAXENA RECOMMENDED CBI PROBE ON EXCISE POLICY

# Under L-G fire, AAP steps up attack on Centre

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

HOURS AFTER the L-G recommended a CBI investigation into the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22, the Aam Aadmi Party put up a united front to back Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, who heads the Excise department. From party chief and CM Arvind Kejriwal to Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh and senior leaders Atishi and Saurabh Bhardwaj, the party's top brass hit out at the Centre and said it was "scared" of AAP's expansion and growth in the country.

Calling the allegations against Sisodia fake, fabricated, and baseless, Kejriwal said the Deputy CM is the most staunchly honest person he has ever met: "I have been saying this for the last three-four months that they want to arrest Sisodia... There is not an iota of

truth in this case."

Calling his political adversaries the "children of Savarkar", Kejriwal said, "We are children of Bhagat Singh, who refused to bow his head before the British and was hanged to death... We are not afraid of jail."

He added, "How far can you go with false allegations. You arrested Satyendar Jain who was working in the health sector and now you want put Sisodia, who is making careers and lives of lakhs of children in Delhi, in jail. Arrest him, keep him in jail for two months, three months, he will come back. Your allegations will fail in court, and you will only be proven wrong and will be reprimanded in court."

Atishi, AAP MLA from Kalkaji, said, "The Centre is saying the policy caused huge losses to the exchequer while revenue collected increased... within four months of



L-G V K Saxena; Deputy CM Manish Sisodia



implementation of the new policy... There was a gain of Rs 1,300 crore to the public exchequer. The BJP should learn some maths before raising allegations."

Responding to the allegations being made by BJP leader Meenakshi Lekhi, Atishi said, "She said that the amount submitted by the agency which didn't get the tender should be returned by Manish Sisodia. I want to give her clarity regarding the policy—which was signed by the L-G who is your own

representative—that all agencies submitting the tenders had to give a security deposit and the ones who didn't get the tender will get the amount back. This is a basic principle on which security deposits work. The BJP is falsely projecting this as a major scam."

Lekhi had alleged that a waiver of over Rs 144.36 crore was given to licensees and earnest money deposit worth Rs 30 crore of one company was refunded without following rules

and processes.

Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said the ED and CBI are clueless about how to bring back fugitive offenders like Nirav Modi and Vijay Mallya who fled the country after looting thousands of crores. "Rather than arresting them, the Modi government is harassing and humiliating Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain...", he said.

### Singapore row

Earlier in the day, Bhardwaj Friday hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "blocking" Kejriwal's visit to Singapore for a summit and said that his "insecurity" was hampering the country's image.

"Suppose during (US) President (Donald) Trump's term, the governor of Washington or Texas is called by the Indian government for the good work done

in these states, to talk about how it was done, and Trump stops them saying they can't go; someone else can go in their place. He would have been criticised in India and all over the world that a President, a leader of the nation, is stopping political leaders of a state, saying that they will not go, he will go," Bhardwaj said at a press conference Friday.

"Because of this, India's image is being hampered. The whole world is laughing at us that a Prime Minister is not letting a Chief Minister go for a foreign visit despite an invitation," he said, adding that Kejriwal was not going on a leisure trip, holiday or vacation. The L-G had written to Kejriwal "advising" him not to go to the World Cities Summit in Singapore, stating that it was a conference of mayors and all the subjects covered did not fall under purview of the government.

## Meant to boost revenue, new liquor policy ran into trouble from early on

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE DELHI government's liquor policy has faced stiff opposition ever since it was announced. While the AAP government maintains it would end the liquor mafia, the BJP has accused it of allowing liquor shops close to schools and places of worship.

### What is the policy?

Proposed in 2020, it came into effect in November 2021. Delhi was divided into 32 zones with each zone having 27 liquor vends. It also marked the exit of the government from selling liquor—only private liquor shops now run in the city and each municipal ward has 2-3 vends. It aimed to end the liquor mafia and black marketing, increase revenue and improve consumer experience, and ensure equitable distribution of liquor vends. The government also made rules flexible for licensees such as allowing them to offer discounts and set their own prices instead of selling on MRP fixed by the government. Following this, discounts were offered by vendors, which attracted crowds. After protests by opposition, the excise department withdrew discounts for some time.

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**EXPLAINED**

### What changes were made in awarding tenders?

Several licensees faced problems in getting permission to open shops in non-conforming areas due to protests by the MCD, opposition and the public. To this end, the excise department allowed them to open additional vends in conforming areas without taking ap-

proval of the competent authority. A total of 849 liquor store licences were issued by Delhi government last year, but several liquor shops closed due to financial losses. From 849 shops, it came down to 649 stores May. This dropped to 464 in June.

### What does the chief secretary's report say?

According to officials, if changes are made/proposed after implementing the policy, the excise department needs to place it before the Cabinet and forward it to L-G for approval. Chief secretary Naresh Kumar, when appointed in April, found alleged "procedural lapses" and asked the Excise department to reply. The report was sent to the L-G on July 8. The department replied to the questions on July 12.

**EXPRESS explained.Live**

**Dean Starkman**  
Senior Editor  
International Consortium of Investigative Journalists

**David Pegg**  
Investigations Correspondent  
The Guardian, London

**Ritu Sarin**  
Executive Editor - Investigations  
The Indian Express

**Rakesh Sinha**  
Executive Editor (News Operation)  
The Indian Express

**Behind the Uber Files**

*In conversation with*

The Uber Files are a leak of 182 gigabytes of data that were obtained by The Guardian newspaper from an anonymous source and shared with ICIJ and its media partners from 30 countries, including The Indian Express.

Dean Starkman, Senior Editor of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ); David Pegg, Investigations correspondent of The Guardian, London & Ritu Sarin, Executive Editor - Investigations of The Indian Express will take you behind the scenes of this global investigative project. And reveal how a small ride-hailing firm in San Francisco bypassed laws, disregarded safety and used aggressive lobbying to thwart scrutiny and become a global behemoth.

They will be in conversation with Rakesh Sinha, Executive Editor (News Operation) of The Indian Express.



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**Deputy Manager (C&P)**  
**PETRONET LNG LIMITED**  
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Dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2022

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Start date of submission of Online Application Form	22 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2022
Last date for submission of online Application form, Application Fee payment	5 <sup>th</sup> August, 2022 up to 12:00 midnight
Date: 22-07-2022	Sd/- Registrar

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ**  
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Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Positions
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3	<b>Project Scientist – MAD</b> (Mobile Application Development)	2
4	<b>Project Scientist - GIS</b> (GIS)	6
5	<b>Project Scientist - RS</b> (Remote Sensing)	6

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The last date for submission of online applications is **August 11, 2022**.  
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**APPEAL**

With support of fellow residents of Delhi and the inspirational guidance of Lt. Governor, Shri V.K. Saxena, we at MCD are striving to provide better civic amenities in the National Capital. In this direction, efforts are being made to scientifically flatten the garbage mounds in Delhi. This would require proactive cooperation on part of the people of Delhi. As you all know, the entire garbage of Delhi is dumped into the Ghazipur, Okhla and Bhalaswa sanitary landfill sites. Due to continuous dumping for the last 35-40 years, heaps of garbage at these landfill sites have turned into garbage 'mountains' of 50 to 60 metres height, containing 280 lakh tonnes of garbage.

All units of Municipal Corporation are involved in reducing the height of these unseemly mounds by undertaking the disposal of garbage accumulated there. In this process, while on the one hand, we are using plastic waste in Waste to Energy Plant to generate electricity, on the other hand, we are segregating Construction & Demolition Waste (C&D Waste) and Inert Waste and turning them useful products which can be used to fill low-lying areas and pot-holes, make foundation of a building, road construction, inter-locking blocks, etc.

I appeal to the residents of Delhi and the National Capital Region, Builders, Road Developers, Contractors and related Government Agencies to optimally use the C&D Waste and Inert material for their construction activities and become our partners in addressing this festering problem affecting the National Capital.

It has been decided that any department, agency, individual or contractor, etc., can take the available C&D and Inert material for their use themselves, free of cost from these three landfill sites. In this regard, you can take permission of Municipal Corporation of Delhi by writing to [ceprojectmcd@gmail.com](mailto:ceprojectmcd@gmail.com) giving details of your requirement. Shri Sanjay Hingorani, Nodal Officer can also be contacted on **Phone No.: 011-23226903; 9717788196 (WhatsApp)**, for any assistance.

**Commissioner**  
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**Extract of Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter Ended 30th June, 2022**  
(₹ in crore, except per share data)

Particulars	Quarter Ended	Quarter Ended
	30th June, 2022	30th June, 2021
Value of Sales & Services (Revenue)	2,42,982	1,58,862
Less: GST Recovered	19,869	14,490
<b>Revenue from Operations</b>	<b>2,23,113</b>	<b>1,44,372</b>
Profit Before Exceptional Item and Tax	27,236	17,270
Profit Before Tax	27,236	17,270
Profit for the Period*	19,443	13,806
Total Comprehensive Income (after Tax)*	12,929	16,890
Paid up Equity Share Capital, Equity Shares of ₹ 10/- each	6,765	6,550
Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserve**	-	-
Earnings per Equity Share (Face value of ₹10/- each) (Not Annualised)		
Basic (in ₹) – After Exceptional Item	26.54	18.96
Basic (in ₹) – Before Exceptional Item	26.54	18.96
Diluted (in ₹) – After Exceptional Item	26.54	18.63
Diluted (in ₹) – Before Exceptional Item	26.54	18.63

\* Includes share of Non-Controlling Interest  
\*\* Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserves for the year ended as on 31st March, 2022 was ₹ 7,72,720 crore.

**Notes:**  
1. The Audit Committee has reviewed the above results and the Board of Directors has approved the above results and its release at their respective meetings held on 22nd July, 2022. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out a Limited Review of the aforesaid results.  
2. Additional information on Unaudited Standalone Financial Results is as follows:

Particulars	Quarter Ended	Quarter Ended
	30th June, 2022	30th June, 2021
Value of Sales & Services (Revenue)	1,57,716	94,803
Less: GST Recovered	6,373	4,233
<b>Revenue from Operations</b>	<b>1,51,343</b>	<b>90,570</b>
Profit Before Exceptional Item and Tax	19,672	10,188
Profit Before Tax	19,672	10,188
Profit for the Period	15,096	8,595
Total Comprehensive Income (after Tax)	10,466	7,328

3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2022 filed with the Stock Exchanges pursuant to Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

The full format of the Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2022, are available on the Stock Exchanges' websites ([www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) / [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com)) and the Company's website [www.ril.com](http://www.ril.com).

For **Reliance Industries Limited**  
Sd/-  
Mukesh D. Ambani  
Chairman & Managing Director  
Date : 22nd July, 2022  
[www.ril.com](http://www.ril.com)



# 4 THE CITY



VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS  
**33,137**



PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: **118**  
OXYGEN SUPPORT **21**  
VENTILATOR SUPPORT **3**

DELHI TOTAL  
CASES  
**19,47,025**

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
July 21	649	592	1	15,974
July 22	712	593	1	15,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,327*</b>	<b>19,18,400</b>	<b>26,298</b>	<b>3,93,84,267</b>

\*Total active cases in Delhi

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	<b>9,488</b>	<b>9,368</b>
ICU BEDS	<b>2,115</b>	<b>2,088</b>

	July 21	July 22
Cases	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Deaths	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

GURGAON	
Cases	<b>229</b>
Deaths	<b>0</b>

## BRIEFLY

**Nuh: 7 dead, 4 injured after truck collides with auto**



**11 passengers were in the auto at the time**

*Nuh:* Seven people died while four were injured after a truck allegedly collided with an autorickshaw in Nuh Friday afternoon, said police. According to police, the incident took place around 3 pm when an autorickshaw, with at least 11 passengers, was going towards Hodal. Police said after a truck from the opposite direction allegedly hit the vehicle, it fell into a ditch on the roadside. Dayanand, SHO, Bichor police station, said, "It appears that due to heavy rain, the truck lost balance and collided with the auto, which fell into a ditch. The truck also lost balance and overturned and fell on top of the auto, which was crushed. Seven people were killed while four, including two children, suffered injuries. Among the dead were five men and two women."

**DSP mowed down in Nuh: Third accused arrested**

*Nuh:* Three days after Haryana Police DSP Surender Singh Bishnoi was allegedly mowed down by a dumper truck during a raid to check illegal mining in Nuh district, police Friday arrested another accused. Krishan Kumar, spokesperson, Nuh police, said, "Jabid alias Billa, a resident of Gandwa village in Alwar, Rajasthan, was arrested from Bibipur village in Nuh. He was produced in a district court and taken on two-day police remand. We are questioning him on his role."

**Vandalism outside CM house: Cops present protest footage as key evidence**

*New Delhi:* Presenting footage of the protest as key evidence, Delhi Police has chargesheeted 30 persons in connection with the vandalism outside CM Arvind Kejriwal's residence during a protest by the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) on March 30. Police stated in the chargesheet that during probe, they found video footage which shows Lok Sabha MP and BJYM national president Tejasvi Surya, along with BJYM workers, protesting outside the CM's residence. He was seen with protesters who later indulged in vandalism.

**Body of man found inside refrigerator**

*New Delhi:* The body of a 50-year-old man was found stuffed inside a fridge at his house in Seelampur Friday. DCP (Northeast) Sanjay Kumar Sain said primary inquiry revealed that the victim was living alone. "A clue about the suspect has been found which is being developed," he said. **ENS**

## CBSE CLASS XII BOARD RESULTS

# After 7 yrs, pvt schools fare better than govt ones

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

DELHI'S PRIVATE schools have fared better than government schools in the CBSE class XII exams after seven years. Though the city's class XII performance is better than the national average, its class X performance in government schools dipped to below the national average after the high of 2021.

Since 2015, Delhi's government schools have consistently been achieving better pass percentages than private schools in the class XII board examinations. In step with the national trend, the class XII pass percentage in both private and government schools in Delhi is lower this year than in 2021. Private schools have a slightly higher pass percentage of 97.65 when compared to the government schools' 96.01%. The last time government schools had a lower pass percentage was in 2014, when they had 88.78% and private schools had 92.09%. However, both have a higher pass percentage than the national percentage of 92.71.

In both class XII and X, the difference between scores resulting from last year's internally computed results at the school level and this year's return to external board examination is visible nationally with a slip in pass percentages in both grades.

However, it is starkest in the performance of Delhi's government schools in class X. With the introduction of the alternate school-level assessment scheme last year, the pass percentage of Delhi government schools had surged from 82.61% to 97.52%, almost at par with the national pass percentage of 99.04%. However, this year, they have registered a pass percentage of 81.36% below the national pass percentage of



Students of Delhi's St Thomas School. *Praveen Khanna*

## PASS PERCENTAGE OVER 5 YEARS IN DELHI

### CLASS X

2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
<b>GOVT SCHOOLS</b>				
81.36	97.52	82.61	71.58	69.33

<b>PVT SCHOOLS</b>				
95.99	99.54 DE, 99.61 DW	91.29 DE, 89.09 DW	93.18	89.45

### CLASS XII

2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
<b>GOVT SCHOOLS</b>				
96.01	99.95 DE, 99.96 DW	97.68 DE, 97.91 DW	94.29	90.65

<b>PVT SCHOOLS</b>				
97.76	99.7 DE, 99.73 DW	91.69 DE, 92.12 DW	90.68	89.38

(DE: Delhi East DW: Delhi West)

(Figures in %)

94.4%. On the other hand, the city's private schools performed ahead of the national average with a pass percentage of 95.99%.

Deputy CM Manish Sisodia highlighted that students took exams after facing exceptional challenges over two years of the pandemic and that their performance is better than those of pre-pandemic years. "It is worth mentioning here that Covid-induced school closure in the past two years had a serious impact on

studies and emotional wellbeing of children. But despite this, when schools were reopened on a regular basis earlier this year, students- teachers worked hard and gave their best... This time, the Board exams were held in normal mode after two years and the pass percentage has been recorded 2% points higher this year," he said.

This year, 160 government schools recorded a 100% pass percentage in class XII while 95 had a 100% pass percentage in class X.

# 27-year-old woman's death puts spotlight on safety at Golf Course Road in Gurgaon

PAYNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, JULY 22

THE FATAL accident of a 27-year-old woman, who was killed late on Wednesday night after her car crashed into a Metro pillar on Gurgaon's Golf Course Road (GCR), has again shifted focus on safety concerns along the 8-km long stretch, which has upscale condominiums, commercial office complexes and malls on either side.

Road safety experts said the stretch from Golf Course Road to Cyber City has accounted for over 30 fatalities in the past three years. In Wednesday's incident, the victim's mother alleged in her police complaint that an unknown vehicle brushed against her daughter's car, due to which it rammed into a Metro pillar. In March, four employees of a restaurant were killed after a car rammed into their motorcycles near Arjun Marg. In December 2021, two law students were killed after their car was hit by an unknown vehicle near the marble market.

In the aftermath of the March incident, officials of the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority, National Highways Authority of India, traffic police and road engineering experts had carried out an inspection and announced a safety audit of the entire Golf Course Road, to reduce accidents



Road safety experts said the stretch from Golf Course Road to Cyber City has accounted for over 30 fatalities in the past three years. *Express*

and check wrong side driving. Several months later, the audit is yet to be completed, said officials.

Sewa Ram, an urban transport systems design expert and a faculty member at the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) in Delhi, said, "The road has several design flaws. GCR should have set and defined speed limits and proper signages for commuters. Lack of such interventions can cause confusion and over speeding, especially while moving in and out of under-

passes. The U-turn near Bristol Chowk on MG road is close to the surface of an underpass, which is unsafe and can result in collisions when vehicles pass at high speed. The footpath continuity has not been maintained at stretches. In terms of land use, with several commercial and residential properties coming up on the road, the problems are compounded for pedestrians, cyclists and two-wheelers, who are vulnerable to accidents at several intersections."

Experts said wrong side driving is another major concern on several stretches on the road. "Several vehicles going towards Sikanderpur/Cyber City exit Arjun Marg by taking the prohibited turn and drive on the wrong side to get on to the other car-ridgeway. At Sector 53/54 roundabout near the Metro station where the recent accident occurred, a similar problem persists with vehicles indulging in wrong side driving on the service road. Traffic rules need to be en-

forced and additional deployment of police personnel can help in addressing some of these concerns. There must be a detailed audit to look into these issues," said a road safety consultant, requesting anonymity.

Officials said that they have installed rumble strips, cat-eye road studs, speed cameras and other measures to prevent accidents.

Amit Godhara, executive engineer, infrastructure-1, GMDA, said, "A safety audit was commissioned to the developer that maintains the road and the report is awaited. After the survey is complete and a report is finalised, remedial measures regarding design or any other issues shall be taken up. Over-speeding is something that occurs everywhere, but we are looking into these issues."

Meanwhile, traffic police said that to curb accidents and for better traffic management, a plan to set speed limits on all major stretches and internal roads across the city has been approved after an audit. Currently, a generic speed limit is imposed across the city.

"For all major arterial roads, a speed limit of 50 km/hr for light vehicles and 30 km/hr for heavy vehicles has been proposed, while on state highways, a speed limit of 70 km/hr for light vehicles and 40 km/hr for heavy vehicles will be imposed," said Ravinder Tomar, DCP traffic.

# Doctors perform new endoscopic procedure to treat swallowing disorder in 6-year-old girl

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

SURGEONS AT a city hospital operated on a six-year-old with an obstruction in the bowel using an endoscopic technique that is mainly used in adults. The girl from Kashmir came to the hospital four weeks ago with a history of not being able to swallow food for almost three years.

"When she came to us, she was very thin, emaciated, and

marasmic (protein malnutrition). She weighed 8-10 kg lower than the normal weight. We diagnosed her to be suffering from Achalasia Cardia (a disorder that results in the muscle at the base of the food pipe where the food enters the stomach becoming tight)," said Dr Anil Arora, head of department of gastroenterology at Sir Ganga Ram hospital. The girl repeatedly regurgitated from her mouth and nose.

The condition is not often

seen in children, with less than 5% of all cases reported in those below 15 years of age globally. The usual treatment for the condition is open surgery, but due to her condition, the doctors decided to perform an endoscopic procedure that the hospital has been doing in adults for around seven years.

The procedure called POEM or peroral endoscopic myotomy is an endoscopic procedure that involves cutting the internal lining of the food pipe, creating a

tunnel between the muscle layers and the inside lining of the food pipe, and then cutting the tight muscle at the stomach and food pipe junction. The procedure took one and a half hours to complete.

"The challenge for us was to do this novel procedure in such a low weight child of this young age, one of the youngest in India to the best of our knowledge, and weighing 11 kg, lowest weight to the best of our knowledge in India, as there was a sub-

stantial risk of infection, aspiration and respiratory problem in the child. There were limitations of the use of adult endoscopic equipment and accessories used in POEM procedure to be used in a small child," said Dr Arora.

He added, "We have already successfully performed this procedure in 427 cases till date in our hospital. But this procedure in a young child of six years weighing only 11 kg has been performed for the first time in India."

The Indian Express, "We had also advised the Board to follow this weightage system. We felt that we could not rise up to the occasion in the first-term exams and some schools did not conduct them very diligently. We thought that deserving students would be affected, so we wanted the weightage to be less for Term I."

"The Term II exams were conducted like board exams in any regular year where students go to external centres, unlike Term I where they wrote in schools, so that was fair," she added.

# Marrying minor does not mitigate offence of rape: High Court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

DISMISSING THE bail petition of an accused in a rape case, the Delhi High Court Friday said that merely because such sexual abuse ended in marriage between the minor victim and the accused and resulted in the birth of a child, it does not mitigate the act in any manner since the consent of a minor is immaterial and inconsequential in law.

"Such incidents of luring a minor and entering into a physical relationship, accused thereafter claiming consent of the minor, cannot be treated in a routine manner, since rape is not only a crime against the minor victim but is a crime against the entire society which leaves little option for the minor child but to toe the line of the petitioner/accused," said Justice Anoop Kumar Mendiratta, while denying bail to the accused, who is 27 years old and has been in custody since October 2021.

The victim in the case was 14 years and six months old when her mother filed a case of kidnapping in July 2019. Following a habeas corpus plea before the court, the girl was recovered in October 2021 along with her 8-month-old child from the house of the accused. She was also one and a half months pregnant at the time. During probe, the accused

allegedly suppressed information about the whereabouts of the girl and it was only based on mobile technical surveillance that she was found.

The counsel representing the accused had argued that the relationship between the victim and accused was voluntary and her age has not been verified in accordance with law. It was also argued that she is suffering on account of his incarceration. He is required to look after the victim as well as the minor children, the counsel contended.

Police opposed the petition saying that the entire machinery was kept in the dark by the accused. She was studying in class IX at that time, the court was told. The alleged marriage with a minor was in violation of law and consent of minor cannot be recognised, the prosecution argued.

Justice Mendiratta said child marriage stands prohibited and also IPC section 375 makes it clear that if the woman is under 18 years, sexual intercourse with her with or without consent is rape. "Even sexual intercourse with wife under 18 years regardless of her willingness or consent is rape as held in Independent Thought vs Union of India... giving a meaningful reading to exception 2 to section 375," said the bench. The court said merely because the accused claimed marriage had been performed in a temple, the same cannot "sanctify" the offence.

## State must protect those who marry irrespective of caste: HC

*New Delhi:* The State is under constitutional obligation to protect its citizens, especially in cases where marriage between two consenting adults has been solemnised irrespective of caste or community, the Delhi High Court said while directing police to ensure safety of a couple who married against the wishes of their families last month.

"The Constitutional Courts under our framework are empowered to pass orders to protect citizens, especially in the cases of the nature to which the present dispute pertains. Once two adults consent to live together as hus-

band and wife, there can be perceptibly no interference in their lives from third parties, including their family. Our Constitution ensures it too. It is not only the duty of the State but also its machinery and agencies which ensure law and order to ensure no harm comes to citizens of this country," said Justice Tushar Rao Gedela in an order.

The couple married under the Special Marriage Act on June 13. The woman is from UP, and the court was told her father is politically well-connected and capable of influencing the state machinery. **ENS**





# Launch of Jharkhand Tourism Policy 2021 by

**Shri Hemant Soren**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Jharkhand

**New Delhi | 23rd July, 2022**

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# 6 IN PARLIAMENT

## MONSOON SESSION

### FROM THE GALLERY

#### 5 QUESTIONS



RJD MP MANOJ KUMAR JHA SPEAKS TO MANOJ CG ABOUT THE PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL THAT HE MOVED

The Rajya Sabha functioned smoothly on Friday afternoon after four days. And there was an intense discussion on a Private Member's Bill — The Right to Health Bill — that you moved I am glad. I think there is a message among the people that disruption has its own value, but the people of this country would love to see what our MPs are doing on important and core issues like education, employment, health, inflation and so on. I would give credit to every member because the attendance was near full, which is a rare sight on Fridays.

**Why this Bill?** Although it was in my name, I have been speaking about this Private Member's Bill to many MPs, including those from the Treasury benches and my leader, Tejashwi Yadav. All of them, including BJP members, were keen that a Bill of this nature be brought in Parliament. And I think it touched everyone. That was the reason that, except for one or two people, the level of debate was quite positive and it was sensitive to the core.

**What is the aim of the Bill?** Without realisation of health as a right, one cannot be expected to live a life of dignity and reach their highest human potential. A rights-based approach is required to solve the dismal health outcomes in the country. The goal is to attain the highest possible level of health and well-being for all at all ages, through a preventive and promotive health care orientation in all developmental policies.

**The Bill seeks to make health a fundamental right to all citizens and ensure equitable access and maintenance of a standard of physical and mental health conducive to living a life in dignity. But some members made political speeches** There was politics. Those people who took a partisan attitude to it...they were not liked by the majority of their own party members.

**Given the history of passage of Private Member's Bills, do you expect it to sail through?** Frankly speaking, I know the history of Private Member's Bills. I also know that in this country, post the pandemic, people want some concrete interventions from the government. They don't want health to be made a kind of football between the State List and Centre List. People of the country want some very positive interventions on the lines of Right to Education. I believe that the government realises that it has traction among the people. So they might ask me to withdraw, but it will bring pressure on them to bring a Bill of similar nature.

## More PhD applications from SC, ST, OBC candidates at IITs in 5 years: govt data

### Share of applications getting accepted by IITs remains largely same across social categories

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

OVER THE last five years, the annual rate of PhD applications getting accepted by the IITs have remained largely the same across social categories, but the pool of aspirants, including candidates from the disadvantaged communities, has grown a little, according to data presented by the Centre in Parliament.

Between 2017-18 and 2021-22, annual applications from candidates from Scheduled Castes (SC) background for pursuing doctoral programmes in the 23 Indian Institutes of Technology rose from 12,476 to 17,814 and from 2,132 to 3,461 among students from Scheduled Tribe (ST) background.

The respective increase for candidates from OBC communities was 27,734 to 40,418, and those from general category from 68,663 to 74,343.

The Ministry of Education shared the numbers in Rajya Sabha on July 20 in response to a question from CPI(M) member V Sivadasan.

During this period, the acceptance rate, or the percentage of applications accepted out of the total number of applications received, however, did not show any major change. In the case of students from SC background, the acceptance rate was 3.4% in 2017-18 and 3.2% in 2021-22; 4.4% and 4.01% for those from ST communities; 4.2% and

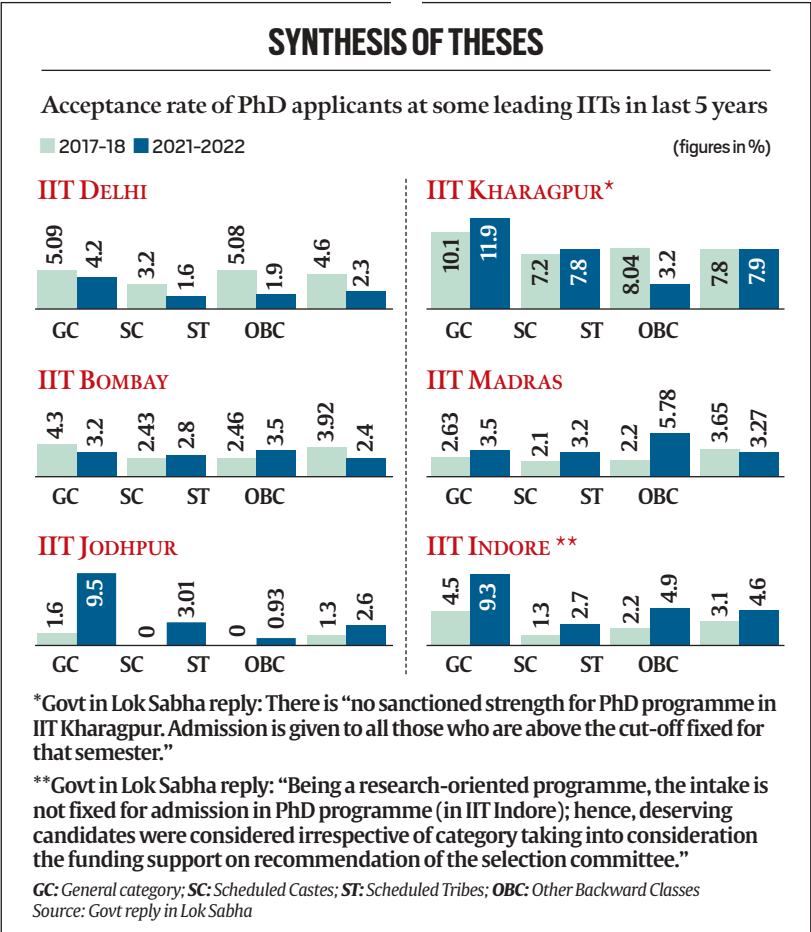
3.3% for OBCs; 4.5% and 4.5% for general category applicants.

Overall, the period between 2017-18 and 2021-22 saw 17,044 PhD applications getting accepted by the IITs, in which the share of SC, ST, OBC and general category students stood at 9.3%, 2.2% and 23.3% and 61.6%, respectively.

The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in admission) Act, 2006 mandates 15%, 7.5% and 27% quota for SC, ST and OBC students, respectively, out of the annual permitted strength in each branch of study or faculty. But many IITs maintain that since there is no fixed sanctioned annual intake for PhD programmes in their institutes, they cannot technically follow the reservation policy.

Another written response from the ministry in Lok Sabha, responding to a question by CPI(M) member S Venkatesan on July 18, shows that in some IITs, the skew against the disadvantaged groups was deeper than the overall average in 2021. For instance, in IIT Bhilai, out of 207 applications from candidates from SC background, none was accepted in 2021, while only one each was accepted at Dharwad and Tirupati IITs.

Also, last year, at IITs Mandi, Bhilai, Goa and Tirupati, not one out of 140, 30 and 93 ST applicants, respectively, was selected. Among others, IIT Jodhpur and IIT Bhubaneswar accepted one out of 107 and 149 ST applicants, respectively.



## Ex-servicemen getting govt jobs declining in numbers since 2015

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE YEARLY number of ex-servicemen given government jobs has seen a drastic decline in the last seven years, coming down from 10,982 in 2015 to 2,983 in 2021, according to the data shared by the government in the Lok Sabha on Friday.

The data shared in a written reply by Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt with the Lok Sabha have details of the recruitment of the ex-servicemen from 2014 to 2021.

Only 2,322 ex-servicemen were recruited in government jobs in 2014, however, the number increased to 10,982 in 2015 only to see a declining trend till 2020. In the subsequent years, the number of servicemen recruited in government jobs came down to 9,086 in 2016, 5,638 in 2017; 4,175 in 2018; 2,968 in 2019; and 2,584 in 2020. However, it slightly went up—2,983—in 2021.

The government shared this data in a reply to a question asked by the 14 opposition members—11 from Congress (Dean Kuriakose, Anto Antony, Adoor Prakash, Benny Behanan, Dr Amar Singh, Dr A. Chellakumar, Uttam Kumar Reddy Nalamada, Balubhau Alias Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar, Manickam Tagore B, Mohammad Jawed and Kumbakudi Sudhakaran) and one each from NCP (Mohammed Faizal PP), CPI (M Selvaraj), and CPI-M (S Venkatesan).

These MPs had sought details of the total number of ex-servicemen recruited in government jobs from 2014 to 2022. They also wanted to know about the reservation quotas or targets for the recruitment of ex-servicemen in various government departments.

As per the reply, the representation of ex-servicemen in the Central Civil Services & Posts (CCS&P) stood at 1.39 per cent in Group-C posts and 2.77 per cent in Group D as on June 30, 2021.

## Opposition disrupts Lok Sabha over price rise, GST on packaged food

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

LOK SABHA witnessed uproarious scenes for the fifth consecutive day with the Opposition disrupting the proceedings with sloganeering against the increased taxes on fuel and packaged foods. The government, which assured that it is ready for a debate, accused the Opposition of "depriving" the rights of the MPs who want to raise the issues in Parliament.

The government reiterated that it is ready to discuss the GST in the House as and when Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who is down with Covid, gets recovered and returns to Parliament. However, the Opposition MPs, who staged a protest demonstration in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue before the House met, did not go back to their seats.

The Speaker first adjourned the proceedings till 12 noon and later till 2 pm. As the House met in the morning, Congress, DMK and Left MPs rushed to the well of the House raising placards and shouting slogans like "Tanashahi bandh karein; nahin chalegi tanashahi; and dadagiri bandh karein".

Speaker Om Birla took up the Question



Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and P Chidambaram, along with some other Opposition MPs, protest near the Gandhi statue at Parliament House. Anil Sharma

Hour but could not proceed as the MPs increased their sloganeering.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi took strong exception to the continuous disruptions in the Lok Sabha. Assuring that a discussion on GST could be held as soon as the finance minister recovers from Covid and returns to work, Joshi said: "You could raise the issue during the Zero Hour, you don't want the

Question Hour nor any debate..."

With the Opposition not paying heed to the Speaker's requests to go back to their seats, Birla adjourned the proceedings for 45 minutes. When the House met again at 12, Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, who was in the chair, also asked the Opposition that they should use the floor of the House for debate. The House was again adjourned after a few minutes.

## MPs absent, Bills seeking repeal of places of worship Act, on UCC not introduced

MANOJ CG  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

ASA Varanasi court continues hearing the civil suit on Kashi Vishwanath temple-Gyanvapi mosque dispute, a Private Member's Bill moved by a BJP MP demanding repeal of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, was listed for introduction in Rajya Sabha on Friday.

The Bill, however, was not introduced

since Harnath Singh Yadav, the MP who had given notice for moving it, was not present in the House when his name was called.

Fellow BJP MP Kirodi Lal Meena, whose Private Member's Bill on Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is pending for introduction since 2020, was absent yet again. Meena had given notice for introducing the Bill on UCC in 2020, but he was found to be absent on multiple occasions when his name was called to introduce it.

When contacted, Yadav said he could not

be present since he was unwell. He said the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, "violates fundamental rights such as the right to equality and the right to life, and also infringes on citizens' constitutionally guaranteed right to religious freedom".

The law, introduced in 1991, seeks to maintain the "religious character" of places of worship as it existed in 1947, barring the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute, which was already in court.

## Alva: TMC decision to abstain from V-P poll disappointing

New Delhi: The Opposition's vice-presidential candidate Margaret Alva Friday described the Trinamool Congress' (TMC) decision to abstain from voting in the election as "disappointing" and said this is not the time for "whataboutery, ego or anger".

Her reaction came a day after the Mamata Banerjee-led party announced that it will abstain from the election as it did not agree with the manner in which the Opposition candidate was decided and was not kept in the loop.

"The TMC's decision to abstain from voting in the V-P election is disappointing. This isn't the time for whataboutery, ego or anger. This is the time for courage, leadership and unity. I believe Mamata Banerjee, who is the epitome of courage, will stand with the opposition," Alva wrote on Twitter.

The leaders of 17 Opposition parties decided to field Alva, a former governor of Rajasthan and Uttarakhand, as their candidate for the vice-presidential poll during a meeting at Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Sharad Pawar's residence on June 17. Leaders of TMC and AAP were not present at the meeting. Pawar subsequently said he was in touch with both Mamata Banerjee and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal and was confident of getting their support. PTI

## ‘Message for Cong: Don’t take TMC for granted; treat us as equals’

A DAY after the NDA's candidate in Presidential elections, Droupadi Murmu, won the contest handsomely against the Opposition's Yashwant Sinha, and also a day after the Trinamool Congress announced its decision to abstain in the upcoming Vice President's election, senior TMC leader and the party's Rajya Sabha leader, **DEREK O'BRIEN**, tells **MANOJ CG** why and how that decision came about. And also what next for the party, and the Opposition. Excerpts from the interview:

**What was the reason behind TMC's decision to abstain in Vice President polls? Is there anything more to it than meets the eye?**

There was no question of voting for the BJP's Vice Presidential candidate. That is an ideological impossibility. Also, (NDA candidate) Jagdeep Dhankhar's role as West Bengal Governor is a travesty to the Constitution. So we had two options: either abstain, or to support a candidate whose name was conveyed to us 15 minutes before a press conference in Delhi. We have the highest regard for (Opposition's candidate) Margaret Alva, and we respect her legacy. However, we have opposed the manner and the method in which the candidate was decided.

**As Governor, Jagdeep Dhankhar clashed with the state government on many issues. Wasn't the Vice President polls a good chance to hit out at the BJP-led government and its choice?**

The Vice President election is not about individuals. We are ideologically opposed to the bigoted and divisive policies of the BJP government. TMC's strident opposition to BJP doesn't require any further certification. However, there is another perspective, where we needed to give a message to the Grand Old Party (Congress) that they cannot take large opposition parties like TMC for granted. Treat us as equal partners and we will smoothly work together to expose BJP on matters where they have failed this country. The BJP has botched up [on many fronts, leading to issues] like unemployment, price-rise, federal structure, media freedom, credibility of institutions, and more. The TMC will keep raising people's issues in both Houses in collaboration with opposition parties.

**Much is said about Mamata Banerjee's meeting with Jagdeep Dhankhar and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma in Darjeeling. Some Opposition leaders say there was a Darjeeling part.**

The Governor had tea and biscuits with



the Chief Minister. The CM of a neighbouring state was present. No reason whatsoever for a storm in a teacup.

Congress and CPI(M) leaders claim Sonia

**Gandhi had spoken to Banerjee before announcing Margaret Alva's candidature. It is said that NCP chief Sharad Pawar, too, was in touch with Banerjee. They question TMC's claim that it was not consulted.**

"We stand by what we [have] said. You can't spring a name upon us at 10 minutes' notice. The Grand Old Party must introspect. We are the second largest opposition party in Parliament, and I'm sure we will grow bigger after 2024 elections. I must point out there are two kinds of relationships between "like-minded" parties who oppose BJP's ideology. The first kind is where the GOP works with its allies. The DMK is an electoral ally in Tamil Nadu; NCP and Shiv Sena, till a few days ago, ran a government with them in Maharashtra. The RJD and CPI(M) are also electoral allies. The TMC is not an electoral ally (of Congress). Yes, we are a like-minded party, but not an electoral ally. Yes, we need to remove this bigoted (Narendra) Modi (Amit) Shah government, but the message for the GOP is direct and non-confrontational: Do not take us for granted; treat us as an equal partner. There is a need to change the status quo in Delhi.

**TMC has been a strong votary of Opposition unity. How will this decision**

## Lok Sabha clears Antarctic Bill, this session's first

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE INDIAN Antarctic Bill, 2022, which seeks to extend the jurisdiction of Indian courts to the icy continent, became the first Bill Friday to be cleared by the Lok Sabha during the ongoing monsoon session of the Parliament.

Earth Sciences Minister Jitendra Singh tabled the Bill, which is set to become the first domestic legislation with regard to Antarctica in India, amid protests by the Opposition demanding discussions on price rise.

The Bill seeks to give effect to the Antarctic Treaty, which was signed in 1959 by 12 countries. It was implemented in 1961, and India, which has two permanent scientific stations Matri and Bharti in the continent, became a signatory to it in 1983.

"The fundamental objective of the treaty is demilitarisation of Antarctica. The signatories are supposed to bring laws so that no activity in contravention of the treaty takes place. The law is supposed to take care of any violations, offer solutions and fix appropriate punishment," Singh said.

Apart from extending the jurisdiction of Indian courts to Antarctica for investigation and trial for crimes committed on the Arctic continent, the Bill also introduces regulations to ensure that scientific missions or commercial expeditions do not harm the ecology of the continent.

Participating in a brief discussion on the Bill, BJP MP Jayant Sinha said, "India is a coastal country. Goa, Mumbai, Kolkata, Kochi, Chennai and many such places are located along the coast. Any rise in the sea level due to melting of glaciers may cause damage through flooding. That's why it is essential to understand the impact of global warming on Antarctica."

Lending his support, BJD MP Bhartruhari Mahtab said the Bill aims at promoting Antarctica as a natural reserve that is devoted to science and peace, and to ensure that Antarctica does not become the scene of international discord.

## No provision for transfer of students enrolled abroad to Indian varsities: Govt

ANONNA DUTT  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

TWO MONTHS after the West Bengal government allocated seats for practical training to 412 medical students who had returned from Ukraine to the state, the Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr Bharti Pravin Pawar told the Lok Sabha that there were no provisions in the Acts governing medical education to allow such transfers. "Therefore, no permission has been given by the NMC to transfer or accommodate any foreign medical students in any Indian medical institute or university," the minister's reply read.

"As informed by National Medical Commission (NMC), the regulatory body of medical education in the country, no such information is available with them," when asked about whether 400 students were accommodated by the West Bengal government in state universities. All admissions to MBBS seats – even the 85% seats under the state quota – happen according to the ranks of the students in the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET).

The Indian Express had previously reported that officials from the NMC were very clear that no such permission had been sought or granted. And, students who complete their education in such a manner will not be eligible to appear for the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination (FMGE), without which no medical student from foreign universities – barring from a few countries like UK, USA, Canada, New Zealand, or Australia – can practise in India.

affect that?

Mamata Banerjee made every effort for Opposition unity in the Presidential election. Let us be optimistic and find common issues. Like I mentioned above, there are key issues which need to be highlighted, (such as) how there is an economic blockade against Opposition states, how agencies like ED and CBI are being used for political vendetta.

**The decision to field Yashwant Sinha had splintered the Opposition. It became clear yesterday that there was massive cross-voting, too. Does TMC feel Sinha was perhaps not the best candidate?**

The Presidential elections are now a closed chapter. Kudos to Yashwant Sinha-ji for a battle fought with energy, conviction and grace. With 36% votes, Sinha-ji is the Opposition candidate with the third highest percentage of votes in Presidential election history. The only two other Opposition candidates who got a higher percentage of votes were Koka Subba Rao in 1967 (43%) and Neelam Sanjiva Reddy in 1969 (49%). Let's leave it at that.

**How do you foresee Dhankhar's tenure as Chairman of Rajya Sabha?**

Khela hobe (it's game on).

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



New Delhi







### BLINKER-ON RESPONSE

WHENEVER YSRCP MP from Narsapuram K Raghurama Krishna Raju, who has rebelled against his party leader Jagan Mohan Reddy, rises to speak in the Lok Sabha, his party colleagues become attentive. Raju on Thursday alleged the state government has introduced a new rule under which it diverts the income that should have accrued to the treasury, provoking Margani Bharat, chief whip of the party, to intervene that he was talking without evidence. As both started arguing, Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the chair, repeatedly asked Raju to address the Chair. "Ok Sir, I will not look at them, I will look at you only," Raju said, covering the right side of his face (where Bharat was standing). Amid protest from YSRCP MPs, Raju managed to complete his submission.

### UNFRUITFUL WAIT

BJP MP Ravi Kishan's three-year wait to introduce a Bill on population control grew longer on Friday, with the Lok Sabha getting adjourned till Monday without taking up any Private Member's Bill. Kishan's attempt to express his "anguish" over the delay was shot down by the chair Rajendra Agrawal. "Sir, I would like one clarification on a Private Member's Bill, for which I have been waiting since 2019," said Kishan, prompting Agrawal to remind the Gorakhpur MP to speak only if he has any clarification to seek on the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 which was being debated then.

### VISIT, INVITE

PRESIDENT-ELECT Droupadi Murmu on Friday had some surprise visitors. A delegation of DMK MPs led by T R Baalu and Tiruchi Siva called on her. The DMK had backed Yashwant Sinha in the Presidential elections. The DMK MPs congratulated her on her victory and informed her about the 44th International Chess Olympiad that Chennai is hosting. They handed over a replica of the official mascot 'Thambi', a horse clad in the traditional Veshti-Sattai, to her. The inaugural ceremony of the event will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 28 at Poonjeri Village in Mamallapuram, 50 km from Chennai.

# Home Ministry shifts Bihar terror module case to NIA

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE MINISTRY of Home Affairs (MHA) has handed over the Phulwari Sharif terror case of Bihar Police to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The case pertains to arrest of three people earlier this month, including a retired Jharkhand policeman, for being part of a "potential terror module" as they were "working towards radicalisation" and planned to foment trouble during PM Narendra Modi's visit to the state.

"The ministry has issued orders to the NIA to take over the case as it is a case of terrorism and has inter-state implications," an MHA official said.

An NIA official said the agency had begun the process of taking over the case from Bihar Police.

Earlier this month, the Bihar Police had arrested three men allegedly linked to the Popular Front of India (PFI) for being part of a "potential terror module" that sought to target those "who make adverse and objectionable" comments against Islam.

During a press conference, Patna Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Manavjit Singh Dhillon had said the accused held meetings and imparted physical training "just as RSS shakhas are held for physical training and imparting training in wielding lathis". The comment had prompted the BJP to seek disciplinary action against the officer.

The accused — Athar Parvez, allegedly a former member of the now banned Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI); Mohammed Jalaluddin, a retired sub-inspector of the Jharkhand Police; and Arman Malik — were arrested from Phulwari Sharif area in Patna.

According to the police, the arrests were made following intelligence alerts that some people were gathering in Patna to "foment trouble" ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit.

Before the arrests, the police filed an FIR against 26 people, allegedly part of a "potential terror module", under IPC Sections 120B (criminal conspiracy), 121 and 121A (waging war against state), 153A (promoting enmity between different groups), 153B (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration). The trio, all residents of Patna, were arrested the next day.

"They had been holding meetings at mosques and madrasas and working towards what is called radicalisation... Besides Bihar, some of the named members are from Karnataka also," Patna SSP Manavjit Singh Dhillon had told reporters.

Phulwari Sharif Additional SP Manish Kumar told reporters that Jalaluddin was a retired Jharkhand Police sub-inspector. According to police, the accused said they were looking to expand PFI's base in Patna.

### RSS didn't hoist flag for 52 yrs, talks of its history: Rahul

New Delhi: In an apparent swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday said the RSS "did not hoist the tricolour at its headquarters for 52 years" but its members of the organisation are now talking about its history and planning 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign.

Gandhi posted on Facebook hours after Prime Minister Modi appealed to people to strengthen the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' movement by hoisting or displaying the national flag in their homes between August 13 and 15. "Why was import of polyester flags allowed from China?" he asked.

**ENS**

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Associate Professor	20 SC-9 / ST-1 / OBC-8 / PWD- 2
Assistant Professor	9 ST-1/ OBC-7/PWD-1
Total	44
<b>Advertisement No. 3/2022 Dated 21.07.2022</b> <b>Vacancy positions.</b>	
Professor	16 OBC-2 /UR-12 / EWS-2
Associate Professor	15 ST-1 /OBC-1 / UR-10 / EWS-3
Assistant Professor	28 SC-2/ ST-1 / OBC-4 / UR / 17 EWS- 4
Total	59
Last date of online submission is 31st August, 2022 at 6.00 P.M. For details log on to <a href="http://www.visva-bharati.ac.in">www.visva-bharati.ac.in</a>	

# Assam: Half of Opp broke ranks to vote for Murmu

**TORA AGARWALA**  
GUWAHATI, JULY 22

WHILE DROUPADI Murmu's victory in the Presidential elections was a foregone conclusion, what has also got the BJP-led NDA excited is the support she received from unexpected quarters — in Assam, for instance, 22 leaders from the Opposition ranks voted in her favour, highest in any state.

"Droupadi Murmu polled 104 votes compared to NDA's original strength of 79 in the 126-member Assam Assembly. 2 absent. My heartfelt gratitude to the people of Assam..." Chief Minister Himanta Sarma tweeted on Thursday evening.

In the 126-member Assam House, the Opposition has 44 MLAs — Congress (27), AIUDF (15), and one each from CPI(M) and Independent ranks. This means half of them voted for Murmu.

This is a throwback to the Rajya Sabha polls in March, when cross-voting led to NDA winning both vacant seats from the state, even though the ruling front did not have the numbers for a second seat. A war of words had ensued between once-allies Congress and AIUDF, and each accused the other of breaking ranks.

This time, though, the Congress was forced to concede that its MLAs also cross-voted, given that the AIUDF had only 13 members on the floor of the Assembly when voting took place. "It is 100 percent certain that six Congress MLAs cross-voted — there is no point hiding it," state Congress chief Bhupen Borah said.

On Friday, Sarma told the media that "15-16 votes" for Murmu came from the Congress but it was "inappropriate to look for political meaning in it". "This is not a division. For a post like that of the President of India, a vote is informed by conscience," he said.

The AIUDF claimed that none of its MLAs voted for Murmu. Stating that "action" will be taken against the errant Congress MLAs, Borah told the media, "These people are double-faced; they let go of all their principles, and surrendered their ideology. We will be able to identify them, and we will take action accordingly."

When Opposition candidate for the President's polls, Yashwant Sinha, came to Assam earlier in the month, Borah said, all 27 legislators "stood by his side" in a show of support. "If it [voting for Murmu] was a decision based on their conscience, no one minds. But they should have been frank with us from the start..." he said.

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Congress's Debabrata Saikia, blamed BJP's "dirty politics" for the cross-voting. "The ruling party is responsible for such dirty politics — there is neither any ethics nor transparency. Our Chief Minister frequently says in public that Opposition MLAs have no real power. He is responsible for the decay of democracy," Saikia said.

State minister and BJP leader Pijush Hazarika, however, rubbished these allegations and said: "This is a conscience vote. The Congress suffers from a trust deficit. Their own legislators do not trust their leaders; (they) instead blame us."

Chief Minister Sarma said Opposition MLAs representing constituencies that have people from Adivasi and tea garden tribe background "had it in their heart" to vote for Murmu.

Alleging that the Congress had been "cosying up to BJP" on voting day, AIUDF's Karim Uddin Barbhuiya said, "Since two of our legislators were absent, 13 voted. Not a single one has Adivasi representation in their constituencies. So there was no political obligation or compulsion to break ranks."

## PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

### Three Opp members leave meeting as chairman refuses discussion on Agnipath

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THREE OPPOSITION members — two from Congress and one from the BSP — of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on Friday walked out of a meeting of the panel over the chairman's refusal to discuss the Agnipath scheme for recruiting soldiers across the three services.

The panel is headed by BJP's Jual Oram. The agenda of Friday's meeting was consideration and adoption of the draft report on the action taken by the government on the observations and recommendations contained in the panel's report on demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence for 2021-22 on ordnance factories, DRDO, Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA), and NCC. Besides, the meeting was to chalk out the future programme of the committee.

The move by the Congress's K C Venugopal and Uttam Kumar Reddy, and BSP's Danish Ali came at a time when the Opposition parties are engaged in a war of words with the government in Parliament over their demand for a discussion on the rise in prices and the hike in GST rates of essential commodities.

As soon as the meeting began, Ali is learnt to have demanded a discussion on the issue pointing out that there was huge anger among the youth over it and the violent protests by them had seen thousands of crores worth of public property being damaged.

He is learnt to have said that the scheme has huge financial implications and the primary responsibility of the Standing Committee is to peruse the demands for grants of the ministry. Oram countered, saying the issue was not on the agenda.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets outgoing President Ram Nath Kovind, during a farewell dinner hosted in his honour, in New Delhi on Friday. *PTI*

## MP: At least 11 Cong MLAs cross-voted

**IRAM SIDDIQUE**  
BHOPAL, JULY 22

THERE IS disquiet within Madhya Pradesh Congress after NDA's Presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu polled 146 votes from the state Assembly against the Opposition's Yashwant Sinha who managed only 79 votes. This comes despite the Congress having 96 MLAs in the House of 230.

With five votes being declared invalid, of the 225 remaining votes, Murmu secured 146, meaning at least 19 MLAs cross-voted, including 11 from the Congress.

The ruling BJP has 127 MLAs, Congress has 96, while two belong to Bahujan Samajwadi Party (BSP), one to SP and four are Independents. Recently, one BSP, one SP and another Independent candidate had defected to the BJP, taking the party's strength to 130 and had likely voted for Murmu.

Among the Congress' 96 MLAs, Sachin Birla — the party's sitting MLA from Barwaha in Kargone — had defected to the BJP ahead of the Khandwa Lok Sabha bypolls with his disqualification plea pending, leaving Congress' effective strength at 95. After the Presidential results, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said, "...several MLAs apart from those with BJP have listened to their inner voice and voted for Murmuji. I would like to extend my thanks to all MLA not with the BJP and yet voted for her."

Murmu's victory assumes greater significance in MP which has the highest tribal population in the country and has 47 reserved Schedule Tribe seats. Of these 47 seats, Congress had won 31 ST seats while 16 went to the BJP in the 2018 Assembly elections.

Ahead of the presidential elections, state Congress president Kamal Nath had alleged that the party's tribal MLAs were being offered money by BJP to cross vote.

New Delhi: The Election Commission on Friday issued a 'certificate of election' to NDA nominee Droupadi Murmu who emerged victorious in the Presidential poll. Out of a total 4,796 electors who were eligible to vote, 4,754 electors exercised their franchise, the EC said.

The Returning Officer of the election, after counting was over, declared Murmu elected as the next President of India.

"The process initiated on 15th June, 2022 with the publication of programme notification in the Gazette has culminated today with the signing of the Certification of the Election of Shrimati Droupadi Murmu as the 15th President of the Republic of India by Sh Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner of India and Sh Anup Chandra Pandey, Election Commissioner..." the EC said in a statement.

Murmu will be administered the Presidential oath of office by CJI NV Ramana in the Central Hall of Parliament on July 25. **ENS**

## Traitors want to finish off Shiv Sena: Aaditya

**EESHANPRIYAMS & VALLABHOZARKAR**  
MUMBAI, JULY 22

LASHING OUT at "traitors" from the rebel Eknath Shinde camp of the Shiv Sena in the aftermath of the June 21 split that shook the party to its core and led to the downfall of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government, Yuva Sena chief Aaditya Thackeray on Friday said the intent of the "traitors" was to finish the party and isolate Uddhav Thackeray.

On the charge by rebel Sena MP Rahul Shewale that the Thackerays were keen on a patch-up with the BJP, Aaditya remained evasive. "The traitors can go on with their script," he said.

While Aaditya refused to speak on the possibility of a reconciliation with the BJP, he said that the doors are always open for the rebel MLAs. "The doors are always open for those who want to return to the Sena family."

"The traitors are trying to create confusion (among the Sena cadre). Our first agenda is to ensure nobody is confused," he said.

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4.	Senior Flight Gunner (Inspector)	Pay Matrix -7	05
5.	Junior Flight Gunner (Sub Inspector)	Pay Matrix -6	04
6.	Junior Flight Engineer (Sub Inspector)	Pay Matrix -6	07
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# EXPRESS NETWORK

## UDAIPUR KILLING

NIA arrests  
19-year-old for  
conducting recce

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested one more accused in the Udaipur killing case. Late on Thursday, NIA arrested Mohammed Javed, 19, from Amalkanta in Udaipur in connection with the killing of tailor Kanhaiya Lal Teli last month.

"The accused, Mohammad Javed, who was arrested on Thursday had played an important role in the conspiracy of killing Kanhaiya Lal by conducting recce and passing on the information about the presence of the victim at his shop to the main accused Riyaz, prior to the gruesome attack," the NIA said in a statement.

This is the eighth arrest made by the NIA in connection with the case. The agency had on July 12 conducted searches on the premises of the accused.

"During the searches, digital devices (mobile phones, laptop and SIM cards) and other incriminating materials were seized," the NIA had said in a statement.

Sources said searches were also conducted at as many as nine locations.

The case pertains to the murder of a tailor in Udaipur, identified as Kanhaiya Lal Teli, on June 28 by two Muslim men who also later released a video of the crime on the internet. The assailants were arrested the same day by the Rajasthan police. The case was later taken over by the NIA.

The assailants, identified as Ghouse Mohammed and Riyaz Attari, are suspected to have been influenced by teachings of Karachi-based proselytizing organisation Dawat-e-Islami. One of them had even visited Pakistan in the past and the duo was in touch with some eight to nine numbers in Pakistan.

The agency is probing if the assailants were part of any Islamic State online group.

## NSE ex-CEO gets judicial custody

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

A DELHI court on Friday remanded former National Stock Exchange (NSE) MD and CEO Chitra Ramkrishna to 14 days in judicial custody in the case of alleged illegal phone tapping and snooping of some of the company's employees between 2009 and 2017.

Special Judge Sunaina Sharma on Friday sent Chitra to judicial custody after taking note of the ED application which did not seek further custody. She was produced before the court on Friday after ending of remand period granted earlier.

ED has booked former Ramkrishna and former Mumbai Police commissioner Sanjay Pandey in the case.

The present case is based on a CBI FIR registered recently against Pandey and his company, iSec Securities, along with others including Ramkrishna.

In its new case of alleged corruption related to the NSE co-location scam, the agency alleges that iSec Securities illegally tapped phones of NSE employees and gave the transcripts to the accused.

## BENGAL TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT 'SCAM'

# Rs 20 crore seized as ED raids houses of 2 ministers, others

Cash recovered from residence of Partha Chatterjee's close aide: Agency

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, JULY 22

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday conducted raids at 14 locations, including the residences of West Bengal ministers Partha Chatterjee and Paresh Adhikary, and a Trinamool Congress MLA among others, as part of its investigation into the alleged scam in the recruitment of teachers by the School Service Commission (SSC).

The central agency claimed to have seized Rs 20 crore from the house of Arpita Mukherjee, a close associate of minister Partha Chatterjee as nearly 80-90 of its personnel carried out search operations across the state.

Chatterjee, state Parliamentary Affairs, Commerce and Industry Minister who earlier held the education portfolio, was being questioned since morning at his Naktala house in south Kolkata where the raid was conducted.

Three doctors from the SSKM Hospital reached the house of Chatterjee after he complained of chest pain around 3pm when his questioning was on, it is learnt. The doctors were also accompanied by the minister's lawyer. Chatterjee was given a half an hour break after which ED officials started questioning him again. Officials also reached the house of a relative of Chatterjee at Pingla in



A photo provided by ED shows the seizure of Rs 20 crore cash from the premises of an aide of Partha Chatterjee, Friday.

West Medinipur district.

Paresh Adhikary, the Minister of State (MoS) for Education whose residence in Mekhliganj in Cooch Behar district was raided, said, "I am in Kolkata. They (ED) didn't tell us about the visit. If I were there I would have offered them muri (puffed rice). My daughter and wife are there."

While Chatterjee did not issue any statement till the report was filed, Adhikary said he was unable to contact his daughter and wife.

A team of agency officials also visited the Jadavpur residence of Trinamool MLA Manik Bhattacharya, former president of the West Bengal Board of Primary

Education. He was asked to fill a questionnaire, said sources.

Others whose premises were raided include PK Bandyopadhyay and Sukanta Achary, OSD and personal secretary, respectively, to the then Education Minister; SP Sinha, adviser of the West Bengal Central School Service Commission and convenor of a five-member panel; Kalyanmoy Ganguly, ex-president of the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education; Saumitra Sarkar, ex-president of the West Bengal Central School Service Commission; Alok Kumar Sarkar, deputy director, School Education Department; Chandan Mondal,

## EXPLAINED Edu Dept under lens

FOLLOWING ED'S recovery of huge cash from the residence of Arpita Mukherjee, the ruling TMC has found itself in a tight spot. After the ED said the recovered amount is suspected to be proceeds of crime of the SSC scam, the spotlight now is on the governance in Bengal and find out how deep the roots of corruption have gone. The education department is under scanner and further action will make matters worse for the TMC government.

alias Ranjan, an agent; one Kalyanmay Bhattacharya and his relative Krishna C Adhikary.

TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said the money recovered by the ED had nothing to do with their party. "We are keeping a close watch as why our party's name is being linked with this," he added.

Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari tweeted, "Piles of cash were found in envelopes of the West Bengal Education Ministry... It's just a tip of the iceberg."

## Yediyurappa gives up Shikaripura for son

**JOHNSON T A**  
BENGALURU, JULY 22

FORMER KARNATAKA chief minister and veteran BJP leader B S Yediyurappa on Friday signalled his retirement from electoral politics by declaring that his youngest son B Y Vijayendra will replace him as the candidate in his Shikaripura constituency in the 2023 state Assembly polls.

Addressing a public meeting in Shikaripura, his home turf, in Shivamogga, Yediyurappa urged the local voters to support his son like they have been backing him over the last several decades.

"Please support Vijayendra in the same manner that you have supported me. Help him win by over 1.5 lakh votes and affirm the development work we have done in this region. I will be travelling soon to the villages with Vijayendra to seek support for him," said the 79-year-old Lingayat stalwart who has been a seven-time MLA from Shikaripura.

His announcement has come at a time when the BJP leadership has refused to budge from its stance that it cannot consider Vijayendra's candidature because of the PM's pitch against dynastic politics, pointing to the existing position of Yediyurappa and his elder son B Y Raghavendra, 48, as the Shikaripura MLA and the Shivamogga MP, respectively.

Vijayendra, 45, has been attempting to make a mark in Karnataka politics for over five years now. The BJP had rejected



Former Karnataka CM B S Yediyurappa and his son B Y Vijayendra. File

his demand to be fielded from the Varuna seat in the Mysore region in the 2018 Assembly polls. In May this year, the party thwarted his bid for an MLC nomination in order to join the Basavaraj Bommai-led party government in the final year of its tenure.

Yediyurappa's move to unilaterally declare his son's candidature from Shikaripura is being seen as his attempt to pre-empt the BJP's denial of a ticket to Vijayendra in the Assembly polls.

Shivamogga is known to be the Yediyurappa family's pocket borough. After Yediyurappa was elected to Lok Sabha from Shivamogga in 2014, the seat was won by Raghavendra in the ensuing bypoll. Since 1983, it has been held by the Yediyurappa family, barring 1999.

"He (Yediyurappa) is not retiring from active politics. He will remain in politics. He will not contest the Shikaripura seat," Vijayendra told reporters Friday.

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

## Attempt on to achieve \$100bn climate finance target by 2023: COP 26 president

**ESHA ROY**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

WITH ENVIRONMENT Minister Bhupender Yadav raising the issue of transfer of climate finance and technology by developed countries to developing nations, COP 26 president and Britain's Cabinet minister, Alok Sharma, on Friday said that a mechanism is being put in place to achieve the target of \$100 billion by 2023.

On the concluding day of his two-day visit to India, Sharma, who met Yadav and Power, New and Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh, also said, "It's in our collective self-interest to ensure that we tackle climate change."

Sharma, on his third visit to India, held discussions on India's implementation of its COP 26 commitments, pressing for deliv-



Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and COP 26 president Alok Sharma at Indira Paryavaran Bhavan on Friday. Express

ery of the Glasgow climate pact.

"I have always been very clear that what developed nations cannot do is ask developing countries to curb growth," he told The Indian Express. "What we have to do is assist and work with developing nations to help them make clean energy transitions, get financing for climate resilient infrastructure; that's why ensuring that developed countries delivered on the \$100-billion goal, made some years ago now — that we put together a climate finance delivery plan before COP 26, which concluded that we will get to \$100 billion by 2023."

He said, "From 2021-25, we will exceed \$500 billion. One of the big commitments we got out of COP 26 is that developed nations agreed to collectively double climate-adaptation finance. We are working together with

## FADNAVIS QUESTIONED IN PHONE-TAPPING CASE

# Two cases in which BJP leaders quizzed transferred to CBI

**SAGAR RAJPUT**  
MUMBAI, JULY 22

THE MAHARASHTRA government has issued an order directing the state police to transfer the investigation of a case concerning sensitive call recordings being leaked from the State Intelligence Department (SID). The Mumbai Police had recorded the statement of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis while probing the case.

Another case in which BJP leader Girish Mahajan and 28 others were booked for extortion and criminal conspiracy has also been transferred to the CBI.

The Mumbai Police had registered an FIR in March 2021 against unknown persons under the Official Secrets Act (OSA), days after then leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis had alleged there was hectic lobbying by IPS officers for plum postings in exchange for money with politicians in then Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government.

Fadnavis had said that he has 6.3 GB worth of data of call records, obtained from phone tapping allegedly conducted by the then SID commissioner Rashmi Shukla, in which names of several key police officers were discussed.

The MVA government had then asked then additional chief secretary (Home) Sitaram Kunte to inquire into the phone tapping and how the recordings were

leaked. Subsequently, a case was registered by the Mumbai Police and the statements of Fadnavis and Shukla were recorded.

Sources in the DGP office on Friday confirmed to The Indian Express that the case was being handed over to the CBI.

Similarly, the investigation of another case in which BJP leader Girish Mahajan and 28 others were booked under extortion and criminal conspiracy has also been transferred to the CBI.

The FIR was registered on a complaint filed by lawyer Vijay Patil, who is also one of the directors of the Jilha Maratha Vidyaprasarak Sahakari Samaj — a cooperative educational institute in Jalgaon. The case was lodged at Nimbhora police station in Jalgaon in December 2020 and the investigation was handed over to Kothrud police station in Pune.

The alleged offence was committed over a period of time between January 2018 till the time of registration of the case.

According to the FIR, as part of the criminal conspiracy involving all the accused, Patil was threatened and asked to resign. Patil has alleged that during a visit to Pune in 2018, he was forcibly taken to a flat in Sadashiv Peth area, confined there and was asked for money. He was also threatened that he will be booked in false offences. Patil also made allegations of forgery by some of the suspects in order to gain control of the Jalgaon-based institute.

## FAKE DOCUMENTS

## Mukhtar Ansari's bail plea rejected

*Lucknow:* The Allahabad High Court has rejected the bail application of gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari in a case related to fake documents allegedly used for registration of an ambulance. The ambulance was allegedly used by Ansari to travel to a court from Ropar jail in Punjab.

The case was registered last year in Barabanki district. Ansari filed a bail application in the High Court after the same was rejected by the MP/MLA court in December last year.

Rejecting the bail application, Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh on Tuesday observed, "The long criminal history of the accused-applicant of most heinous offences and looking at the facts of the case that the ambulance was allegedly being used to carry his men armed with weapons for his protection, this court finds that there is no ground to enlarge the accused-applicant on bail." **ENS**

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## 14 years after split, Jamiat factions agree on merger

**ESHA ROY**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

AFTER TWO-DAY-LONG deliberations that concluded on Friday, the Maulana Mahmood Madani faction of the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind (JUH), one of India's largest Muslim organisations, passed a resolution to start the process of a merger with the Arshad Madani faction of the Jamiat. The working committee of the Arshad

Madani faction had last month given a green light for the merger.

The JUH had split in 2008, after members of its working committee objected to the way it's then president Maulana Arshad Madani conducted its operations, and he formed his own faction.

Friday's resolution now paves the way for reconciliation of the two JUH factions after 14 years. The JUH is one of the largest Muslim organisations in the country, claiming to have 1.5-

crore members and followers.

"After long deliberations, it was unanimously approved that the Working Committee of the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind appreciates the recent reconciliation process of the organisation and agrees to take forward the process of reconciliation. To advance this process, the WC authorised president of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind Maulana Mahmood Arshad Madani to continue the process of reconciliation in accordance

with Jamiat's constitution," said a statement from the JUH.

In order to facilitate the merger, the working committee further passed a resolution that all members of the working committee, special invitees, state presidents and general secretaries submit their resignation to Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president Maulana Mahmood Madani.

The working committee has further said in its resolution that "religious fanaticism and insult-

ing of religious leaders as promoted by political leaders is a grave threat to the country and would tarnish the image of the country among the global fraternity". Jamiat leaders had told *The Indian Express* that the need was felt to merge both factions of the JUH to strengthen it, in the face of increasing communalism in the country and discrimination against Muslims.

**FULL REPORT ON**  
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## African cheetahs to be moved around for healthy gene flow: Expert

Says in over 5-10 yrs, 5-10 cheetahs will be relocated to India annually; Leopards at Kuno may be a threat to cheetah cubs

**ESHA ROY**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

THE 12 African cheetahs, which board a flight to India from South Africa next month, are being prepared for their trans-continental journey. They have already been quarantined in two different "Bomas", a smaller fenced camp in which animals are kept temporarily for treatment. They are part of the first batch of 20 that India will receive (eight others are being sourced from Namibia) as a part of its cheetah reintroduction plan at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

The cheetahs have already received their first vaccine and will receive a second dose tomorrow, along with blood tests to check for any diseases. They will also be collared tomorrow.

Addressing concerns of gene

flow in such a small group of cheetahs, who will initially be housed only in Kuno to monitor the success of the project before its expansion to other areas in the country, South African veterinary wildlife specialist professor Adrian Tordiffe of the University of Pretoria says South Africa has similar projects within the continent, in which measures are taken to ensure gene flow. The University of Pretoria has partnered with the Wildlife Institute of India and with India's National Tiger Conservation Authority and is the South African government's representative in the cheetah project.

"We face the problem of gene flow in South Africa with our own cheetah population. Most of the cheetahs are found in small privately owned reserves that are not close to each other and therefore not connected. But under our cheetah metapopulation pro-



One of the cheetahs that will board a flight to India from South Africa next month. University of Pretoria

gramme, we are constantly moving them around to ensure healthy gene flow. We have been doing this for the past 10 years between the 50 reserves that are part of the programme," says Tordiffe.

Not only within the country, but South Africa carries out a similar programme with Malawi

and Mozambique. "The cheetah was locally extinct in Malawi. So, it was a completely new re-introduction. In South Africa, we are moving cheetahs from South Africa to Malawi, and then back to South Africa, which are then exchanged with new blood from the South African side. We have

been monitoring the genetic variations," he said.

Tordiffe said despite the trans-continental distance, the travel to India was not likely to take much longer than within Africa.

The cheetahs will be flown on planes to India, and then again, by helicopters to Kuno.

"This population size will not be limited to this first batch. Over the next five to 10 years, 5-10 cheetahs will be relocated to India annually. We anticipated that from time to time, we will be bringing back some of these cheetahs from India and taking some others there," he said.

When translocation of cheetahs first began in Africa just over a decade ago, the mortality rate in transit would be as high as 20%. This has been brought down. "The University of Pretoria has been brought in to ensure that there is zero mortality rate during the

translocation to India," he said.

In the Kalahari, the cheetah is critically endangered due to poaching. But now, with healthy female cheetahs producing five-six cubs each, South Africa is rapidly running out of space for them. "There are no new reserves and with a genetically healthy population, the numbers are growing even within these comparatively small private reserves. If this continues, the cheetah will decimate the prey and we may need to start using contraceptives on them. But this will be unfortunate as thereafter there would be no guarantee that the female cheetah will regain fertility," he said.

Tordiffe said the challenge India may face is that of the large population of leopards at Kuno, which are a threat to cheetah cubs. "But wildlife conservationists involved in the project are in the process of addressing it," he added.

## Now security cover for ally Rajbhar, SP says can't get clearer, he is with BJP

**ASAD REHMAN**  
LUCKNOW, JULY 22

DAYS AFTER he voted for President-elect Droupadi Murmu who was fielded by the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance, Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) chief Om Prakash Rajbhar received Y-category security cover from the state government on Friday. The SBSP contested the Assembly polls earlier this year in alliance with the Samajwadi Party (SP) but the relationship between the two sides has been strained since the loss in the elections.

Following the Yogi Adityanath government's announcement, most SP leaders chose to stay quiet while some said it had been quite a while since the party stopped considering Rajbhar an ally. "It is

clear that he is with BJP. It can't get clearer than this. All he wants is power," said a senior SP functionary. Another SP leader said, "The kind of leader he is, it is difficult for him to stay in Opposition. So, after the SP lost the polls, he started meeting BJP leaders."

Earlier this year, after the BJP returned to power with an absolute majority, Rajbhar criticised Akhilesh Yadav, claiming that the SP president does not get out of air-conditioned rooms to lead struggles against the government.

On Friday, Rajbhar said the government order was issued on July 15, three days before the presidential election. "I would like to thank the CM for according Y-category security to me." The SBSP leader also alleged at least 10 SP MLAs and its ally RLD cross-voted in the election.



WHATSAPP PRIVACY POLICY PROBE BY CCI

Meta tells Delhi HC probe not ‘innocuous’

SOFIAHSAN  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

META PLATFORMS, the owner of Facebook and WhatsApp, on Friday told the Delhi High Court that the Competition Commission of India’s (CCI) ongoing probe against it with regard to WhatsApp’s privacy policy was “no innocuous investigation”.

The tech giant termed the competition regulator’s actions as intrusion in its business and said that there was no material to prove it was abusing its market dominance. It also said that the social media company was being subjected to the investigation only because it owns WhatsApp.

CCI came to a prima facie conclusion in 2021 that the conduct of WhatsApp in “sharing of users’ personalised data with other Facebook companies, in a manner that is neither fully transparent nor based on voluntary and specific user consent”, appears unfair to the users.

Meta and WhatsApp have separately approached the court against the CCI probe.

FAKE WEBSITES OF POPULAR BRANDS

Delhi HC orders probe, police lodge FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

OBSERVING THAT there are a number of cases where fraudulent domain names are being registered under the marks of well-known and established business houses and their brands to dupe people, the Delhi High Court has directed the Special Cell’s Cyber Crime Unit to continue with its investigation and submit a status report before the court on August 3.

Man held in UP for raping teen, bid to convert her to Islam: Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, JULY 22

THE KANPUR police have arrested a 22-year-old Muslim man for allegedly raping and forcing a minor girl to “convert to Islam for marriage”. The man had allegedly taken the 17-year-old girl to a court on Thursday and was accused by some members of the Bajrang Dal, police said on Friday.

Police were informed and the two were taken to the local police station, where Bajrang Dal members staged a protest demanding action against the accused.

An FIR was registered against the accused on charges of rape, cheating and criminal intimidation. Police also invoked Protection of Offence Sexual Children Act and anti-conversion law. Police said that during preliminary investigation, the girl told them that the accused allegedly raped her and also took Rs 50,000 from her on the pretext of marriage.

“The accused was on Friday produced before a local court that sent him to judicial custody,” said a senior police officer.

Bajrang Dal puts up ‘Haj House’ posters at Gujarat Cong HQ over Thakor remark



The whitewashed walls of Congress Bhavan. Nirmal Harindran

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
AHMEDABAD, JULY 22

OBJECTING to a purported remark made by Gujarat Congress chief Jagdish Thakor earlier this week, Bajrang Dal workers Friday stuck posters on the walls of the party headquarters in Ahmedabad which said the party office has been renamed “Haj House.”

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), the sister organisation of Bajrang Dal, took responsibility for the act.

Congress said Thakor’s statement had been distorted and that the BJP was behind the incident. Addressing a party event of minority communities Wednesday, Thakor had reportedly endorsed the statement of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh that minorities must have the first claim on

the resources of the country.

He added that Congress will not deviate from its ideology even if it faces electoral defeats.

Spokesperson of Gujarat VHP Hitendrasinh Rajput told The Indian Express, “Yes, our workers from Bajrang Dal have pasted

the posters at Congress office. Day before yesterday, addressing a programme of minorities, Jagdish Thakor made a statement that minorities have the first right over the resources of the country. In protest of that statement, Bajrang Dal did this

RAJASTHAN

Former ‘granthi’ thrashed, hair cut by unidentified assailants

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
JAIPUR, JULY 22

A FORMER ‘granthi’ of a gurdwara was allegedly thrashed and his hair cut by unidentified assailants in Rajasthan’s Alwar district, police said on Friday.

A ‘granthi’ is a ceremonial reader of the Sikh holy book, Sri Guru Granth Sahib, in a gurdwara.

The incident took place on Thursday night when Gurubaksh Singh was on his way to Alawada village on a motorcycle, the police said.

The accused stopped him

on the pretext of seeking some help and threw chilli powder in his eyes. They then thrashed him and cut his hair, police said.

Superintendent of Police, Alwar, Tejaswani Gautam said it appears that Singh was targeted because of old enmity between Sikhs and Meo Muslims in Alawada village over alleged love affairs. “The matter is being investigated,” she said.

An FIR has been registered in connection with the incident at Ramgarh police station and investigation is currently underway, police said.

68TH NATIONAL FILM AWARDS

Ajay Devgn, Suriya share best actor title

DIVYAA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

TAMIL FILM *Soorai Pottru* and Hindi film *Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior* walked away with most trophies at the 68th National Film Awards announced on Friday.

*Soorai Pottru*, which bagged five awards, is inspired by events from the life of Deccan Airlines founder GR Gopinath, while *Tanhaji*, which traces the life of Maratha warrior Tanaji Malusare, bagged three awards.

The leading actors of both movies — Ajay Devgn for *Tanhaji* and Suriya for *Soorai Pottru* — shared the honour for Best Actor. The awards pertain to the films re-

leased in the year 2020.

This is Devgn’s third National Award for Best Actor, after *Zakham* in 1998 and *The Legend of Bhagat Singh* in 2002.

Soorai Pottru’s honours include Best Feature Film besides Best Actress for Aparna Balamurali and Best Screenplay (for Shalini Usha Nair and Sudha Kongara) and Best Music Director (Background Score) for G V Prakash Kumar, while *Tanhaji* also grabbed the award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment, in addition to Best Costume Designer (for Nachiket Barve and Mahesh Sherla).

“Testimony of Ana” bagged the Best Non-Feature Film award,

while Madhya Pradesh was adjudged the Most Film Friendly State with special mentions in the category for Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

Sachidanandan KR got the Best Director award for Malayalam movie *AK Ayyappanum Koshiyum*, while Manoj Modhwar won the award for Best Lyrics for the Hindi movie *Saina*. The awards were announced by Chitrartha Singh, Chairperson, Non-Feature Jury, Anant Vijay, Chairperson, Best Writing on Cinema Jury, and Dharam Gulati, Feature Film Jury (Member – Central Panel), in the presence of Neerja Sekhar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of I&B.

IE THING THIRD EDITION - GENDER: WOMEN COLLECTIVES, CHANGEMAKERS FROM THE GROUND UP

‘Each woman can create 10 jobs. One mn = 10 mn jobs’

Panellists share how self-help groups and women’s cooperatives have worked for their financial inclusion, economic stakeholderhood and increased role in governance. This session was moderated by Rinku Ghosh, Editor, Special Projects



**NITA KEJRIWAL**,  
JOINT SECRETARY, NRLM



**CHETNA SINHA**,  
FOUNDER AND CHAIRPERSON, MANN DESHI BANK



**ANJINI KOCHAR**,  
SR RESEARCH FELLOW, 3IE



**HASINA KHARBHIH**  
FOUNDER OF IMPULSE NGO NETWORK



**BIJAL BRAHMBHATT**  
DIRECTOR OF GUJARAT MAHILA HOUSING, SEWA TRUST

On NRLM’s model cluster-level federations (CLFs)

**NITA KEJRIWAL:** On an average, one cluster-level federation has 30 village organisations, 450 self-help groups (SHGs) and 5,000 members. It is aimed at building capacity, hand-holding and self-help. We are trying to develop 1,500 model cluster federations so that they become immersion sites for other cluster-level federations. These are already conducting financial intermediation as they get Community Investment Funds. Some mature federations have crores of rupees in their corpus fund, which they use to give loans to their members. That work will go on but the liaison with banks and credit support for other financial services will also be conducted parallelly. These federations help in livelihood planning for each member, support Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), negotiate with the market, help members access the entitlements that come from different government departments and have MoUs with Amazon and other such e-commerce retailers. An important job of these federations is to bring forth the demands of the members at different forums such as Gram Development Plans and influence policy-making. These federations have started Gender Justice Centres too.

On women-led cooperative banks and financial inclusion

**CHETNA SINHA:** The women who came together to form the Mann Deshi Sahakari Bank said that we do not know to read and write but we can count. And I think that was a powerful statement. They meant that women at the grassroots level know financial planning and how to support each other. Now women vendors come together and pledge the group’s guarantee in repaying the loan. They are even moving to individ-


ual entrepreneurship. We are looking at impacting one million women entrepreneurs, each of whom will create 10 jobs. That means one million women entrepreneurs with 10 million jobs. This is the potential you have at the grassroots level.

**ANJINI KOCHAR:** In terms of financial inclusion, India was at the bottom since 2012. Those numbers have improved tremendously. So even in a state like Bihar, the percentage of women who report having access to a savings account is 70 to 80 per cent. I would have to say that NRLM and self-help groups have played a large role in this. It hasn’t just been the Jan Dhan accounts. SHGs have pushed women to open their own accounts. Now we need to see how financial access translates into growth. We see huge heterogeneity across the world in this respect. For example in Bihar, we were looking at the Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY), the maternity support programme, which gives credit payments directly to women’s savings accounts. The Rs 2,000 coming to the woman’s account was being withdrawn immediately by the men in the household. This is an extreme example but it shows you what has to be done so that benefits are real.

On women in urban slums influencing policy-making

**BIJAL BRAHMBHATT:** The Mahila Housing Trust’s mission was to improve the housing, living and working environment of poor women in the informal sector by directly empowering them and giving them the technical know-how to be able to talk and negotiate with the government and private sector on an equal basis. In Ahmedabad, women needed access to water connection or sanitation. We opted for network solutions to reduce inequality.

A woman represented each household and then each elected community action groups, which



**GIRIRAJ SINGH**,  
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ

**My mission is to ensure that no rural woman, who wants to connect with the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is left behind. I will also improve the turnover of 5.9 lakh crore women. If half of the country’s population improves its earnings, the women will be significant contributors to the national GDP. Today,**



**8.35 crore women are connected to NRLM and there are 5.9 lakh crore bank linkages, while the NPAs have reduced to 2.5 per cent**



were specifically trained in understanding the governance systems in cities. It began from there and expanded to include access to legal electricity, housing finance and legal land rights.

In urban areas, climate change is something which intersects directly with the kind of built environment that you create. Our communication was very smartly designed to make them understand the complexities of climate change. And the idea was to demystify scientific facts so that they could co-create solutions. The second aspect was to engage technologists and scientists with these poor women to propagate technologies that would help them

adapt or mitigate the impact. They took these ideas to the city governments and supported the development of heat action plans or cool roof policies or monsoon action plans at that level. Today, 125,000 families, an average of five persons in each family, have joined this movement against climate change.

**MADHU KRISHNA:** Our latest evaluation of NRLM shows that you can increase incomes by 19 per cent. There was a decline in share of informal loans by 20 per cent and an increase in household savings. When you’re talking about resources, if you can show the power that women can display, both the technical skills they bring to the table and the local knowledge and context they bring, that’s super helpful. In Odisha, the running of fecal sludge treatment plants (FSTPs) was entrusted to SHGs. That kind of initiative is now diffusing across other States. Schemes like MN-REGA build productive assets, not

only for cities but also for individual women. This convergence is actually going to be the next big game changer.

**On including the ultra poor in collectives**

**BALAMURUGAN D:** The World-Bank funded Jeevika is able to access more than Rs 21,000 crore of credit linkage from banks, helping women come out of poverty. Though the ultra-poor become part of an SHG, they can’t even afford five rupees of savings per week. Bihar’s Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) is a sustainable annual programme to select ultra-poor families and work with them. The best part is that it is being done by the SHG itself, the village organisations (VOs), which select the poorest of the poor. When you make selections through these community-based organisations, particularly VOs, the inclusion and exclusion error is very minimal. The most important element here is coaching and household visits. Initially, Rs 10,000 is given as a grant to start some activity and we also give Rs 7,000 in support money for the initial seven months. We have 1,44,000 families right now under this programme more than 50 per cent of whom moved from one ladder to another. They’ve started saving Rs 250 per month.

**On the socio-economic impact of the Meghalaya model**

**HASINA KHARBHIH:** It is a model that has scaled very deeply in the seven states of the Northeast and in neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal. The lack of employment, an entrepreneurial support system and market resilience meant that women from indigenous communities with traditional skills had lost value. Vulnerable, they became migrants and exposed themselves to the risk of human trafficking. Now we encourage them to revive traditional crafts and expertise and help them market

their products. The biggest enabler has been the work-from-home flexibility. Our business model involves a centralised raw material distribution for quality control, engaging storytelling of the pattern and motif in their creations and the uniqueness of the product that is sustainable in nature. This has decreased migration and human trafficking over the last 14 years. Each woman is earning almost Rs 7,000 to 8,000 a month. It is a gender-enabler because the husband distributes the raw material while the woman weaves.

**On private funding and scaling for women-led cooperative businesses**

**CHETNA SINHA:** Even if women are a part of the SHG, when you want to start a business, you need capital. One is the capital or loan you get from the bank but women do not have collateral. That’s where Mann Deshi back comes in. Many wealthy women want to support other women, so there’s a sort of grant equity. Women are using apps like Mera Khata and Mera Bill for their financial management and making very simple entries of their business. At our bank, women get a revolving grant to buy the machinery. Private investment can come in the form of hypothecated machinery. And when private investment comes, your standardisation and financial planning follow, which help women to graduate from proprietorship businesses to LLPs, or private limited companies.

**MADHU KRISHNA:** We are helping NRLM create a very strong digital architecture. So, while the current MIS systems rarely look at the SHG credit linkages, once we have a strong database, and the credit histories of individual women entrepreneurs, we think this will be a very big thing. Then you can bring in multiple cluster-level federations and provide them with some sort of an enterprise support system. But definitely, scale is important.



**ANIRUDDHA BRAHMBACHARI**  
HEAD OF RESEARCH OPERATIONS/SR M&E EXPERT, LEAD, KREA UNIVERSITY

**Collectives talk about rights, entitlements and address gender violence. They bring a lot of power that is changing the grassroots story. NRLM recognised that addressing gender, as part of its overall architecture, could be critical in making sure that the programming is much more effective**



**MADHU KRISHNA**,  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, GENDER EQUALITY, BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION



**BALAMURUGAN D**  
SECRETARY, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BIHAR



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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## ABDICATING SPACE

TMC's abstention from V-P election makes it look churlish. It also undermines itself in a time of shrinking Opposition

THE TRINAMOOL CONGRESS'S move to abstain from the vice-presidential poll shows the party in poor light. The TMC has offered two reasons in its own defence — that it could not go with the NDA's choice, Jagdeep Dhankhar, who, as West Bengal Governor, has had running battles with the TMC government in the state. And, that it was unwilling to support the Opposition's candidate, senior Congress leader Margaret Alva, because it "had not been consulted" before the announcement of her candidature — TMC's Rajya Sabha parliamentary party leader Derek O'Brien has said his party needed to give "a message to the Grand Old Party that they cannot take large opposition parties like the TMC for granted". While the first reason is understandable given the Mamata Banerjee government's confrontational relationship with Governor Dhankhar, the second makes the TMC look petulant and churlish. Point-scoring vis a vis a Congress that is in great decline in most states, including in West Bengal, is certainly not compelling enough to justify the boycott of an election to a key constitutional office, especially by a party that aspires to grow beyond the state that it rules to play a larger national role.

The Vice President of India presides over the Rajya Sabha, which is the House where the Opposition, heavily outnumbered by the ruling BJP in Lok Sabha, still has a significant presence and voice, to express its views and demand accountability. The TMC has 221 MLAs, 23 MPs in the Lok Sabha and 13 Rajya Sabha MPs from West Bengal. The party's abstention from the V-P election would mean that its legislators would have no say in the election of the chairman of the Upper House. This amounts to abdicating space in an important and consequential process, at a time when parties of the Opposition, singly and together, must already contend with a fast shrinking foothold inside Parliament and outside it. Participation in an election, even if it is on the losing side, is in itself a political statement — the Opposition fielded Yashwant Sinha in the presidential election knowing fully well that the numbers favoured the NDA nominee, Droupadi Murmu. Similarly, Alva stands little chance of defeating Dhankhar. And yet, both contests matter, both will send signals that go beyond victory and defeat.

The TMC's fractious relationship with the Congress stems from its national ambitions — an offshoot of the Congress, it seems to be positioning itself to claim the space, or pieces of it, that the Congress is vacating. However, the TMC must know that it needs to back its ambition with maturity in tactic and strategy. Its stance on the V-P election is a self-goal.

## DELAYING RESOLUTION

Court ruling on IBC creates uncertainty in admission of cases. Timelines envisaged in code must be adhered to

THE INTRODUCTION OF the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code marked a fundamental change in the relationship between borrowers and lenders. With a creditor-in-control framework, the move to a time-bound resolution process shifted the balance of power away from the corporate borrower. The code was meant to discipline errant borrowers — who till then had been able to game the system — with the threat of losing control. However, delays in the resolution process beyond the timelines prescribed in the code, the large haircuts that creditors have taken, and the disproportionate share of cases that have ended in liquidation, have cast a shadow over the functioning of the code. A recent court judgment is only likely to further complicate matters.

Till now, in order to initiate proceedings under the IBC, financial creditors had to provide proof of the corporate debtor's default. Once the adjudicating authority, the National Company Law Tribunal, was convinced of the default, the application was admitted. This allowed for quick admission of cases. However, the judgment in Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd. v. Axis Bank appears to have created ambiguity in this process. As per the judgment, the NCLT "has to consider the grounds made out by the corporate debtor against admission, on its own merits." This creates space for applications by financial creditors to be rejected even if there is a default. If the NCLT is now required to delve into the financial position of the corporate debtor, to inquire if the default is due to cash flow distress and whether it can repay, then matters of commercial considerations, which are the domain of the committee of creditors, are now also being placed with the NCLT. Doing so may also lead to delays in the admission of cases beyond the timelines envisaged.

In large measure, the success of the IBC was in its attempt to transform the credit culture in the country. The threat of losing control over the firms was meant to ensure that borrowers honour their obligations. There are indications of this threat having become a credible deterrence. Till March 2022, 21,000 applications for the initiation of the resolution process were resolved before their admission. However, if the admission of cases itself becomes a matter of discretion, this will impinge on IBC being an effective deterrence for errant borrowers. Considering that delays in either admitting the case or the resolution process will only lead to further destruction of asset values, NCLTs must ensure that the timelines envisaged in the code are strictly adhered to.

## OFF FIELD PROBLEM

Even as India's sports federations are run abysmally, athletes perform well. Sports administrators need to step up

THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES are round the corner but the country's sports administrators are busy fighting for survival. On Wednesday, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) threatened to suspend India after the country's Olympic Association failed to hold its elections, which were due seven months ago. Their warning comes at a time when other sports, including football and hockey, are staring at a similar fate. All these federations find themselves in the dock primarily because of poor governance, failure to adhere to laws and to hold timely elections.

While an IOC ban can be damaging — in terms of optics as well as the consequences for athletes — it won't have any immediate impact in terms of participation in the CWG, beginning July 28. India's 215-strong contingent is primed to win medals at the Birmingham Games. And therein lies an anomaly — even though the federations continue to be run abysmally, India's performance graph on the field has been steadily on the rise. Across sports, the country's athletes have consistently been challenging the best and finishing on the podium, which points to the infinite possibilities if only sports bodies performed their duties more sincerely.

The federations must set their house in order to remain relevant. The IOA, which was suspended a decade ago by the IOC for similar governance issues, has already been reduced to a post office, with its role largely confined to sending entries for major multi-disciplinary events. To ensure that they, too, don't meet a similar fate, it is important for the federations to act professionally and think creatively to identify talent, train players and become self-sustaining financially. Else, the never-ending power struggle could see them dwindle into oblivion, especially with the government, in many cases, already bypassing them.

# The littleness of Opposition



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

It allows the BJP to all too easily run away with narrative of inclusion, mobility, newness

INDIAN DEMOCRACY IS without a meaningful Opposition. This is the only conclusion to be drawn from the recent conduct of the Opposition. Admittedly, the opposition parties are facing an uphill battle. The BJP is a well-organised electoral juggernaut, it is ruthless in using state power to intimidate opponents. It is allied to a social movement, and has a leadership that thinks politically in the deepest sense of the term. But a formidable opponent and repression often galvanise an Opposition, not make them comatose. But the Opposition is not held back by the power of the BJP. Its besetting sin is its own excruciating littleness.

Take just this week. The BJP showed inspired political imagination by nominating Droupadi Murmu as its presidential candidate. Her candidature was a symbolic gesture towards a community the Indian Republic has historically victimised the most. But even more than that, her personal story is deeply compelling. It allowed the BJP to position itself as the party of social inclusion. But it was also a reminder of how the BJP has occupied the social space against the old order, and produces a far more instinctive identification at a national level than any other political party.

How does the Opposition respond? Without any political imagination. It might actually have politically done better to embrace Droupadi Murmu as an all-party candidate. But then comes the vice-presidential pick. But in this instance, the BJP chose a talented political hack who exemplifies the ruthless culture of the party. What does the Opposition do? Nominate Margaret Alva, as much a reminder of an old plutocratic ancien régime as you can get. And then, to top it off, it does it without preparation or laying the groundwork. Even the Trinamool Congress, the party with the most reason to resent Jagdeep Dhankhar, decides to abstain.

The outcome of the presidential and vice-presidential elections was never in doubt. But that is precisely why the conduct of the Opposition is so revealing. If the Opposition cannot do minimal coordination when their material interests are not as much at stake, there is almost no chance they can do anything meaningful when there are real stakes.

The outcome of the presidential and vice-presidential elections was never in doubt. But that is precisely why the conduct of the Opposition is so revealing. If the Opposition cannot do minimal coordination when their material interests are not as much at stake, there is almost no chance they can do anything meaningful when there are real stakes. The point was not to win, it was to create some buzz.



NIRMALYA CHOUDHURY

ASSAM HAS BEEN ravaged by two bouts of floods in quick succession. At the peak of floods in May, some 31 districts, more than 2,000 villages, 7 lakh people and 95,000 hectares of land got affected. As the flood adversity increased, so did river bank erosion — at the peak, some 19 districts reported multiple instances of river bank erosion. The holy grail of flood protection — the embankments — got breached once again. The situation deteriorated drastically in June.

In this hour of crisis, it is apt to reflect on what Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said a couple of years ago when the country was still experiencing the initial shock of Covid-19 — "turning a crisis into an opportunity". Restated in this context, it would mean turning the seasonal flood-related crisis into an opportunity to bring a paradigm shift in flood management. To do so, we need to move away from restrictive pathways.

The overall aim has to move away from hazard prevention to the minimisation of disaster risk. Hazards like floods — fluvial or pluvial — are often triggered by extreme weather events, but they translate into disaster risk due to anthropogenic factors. The latter share a complex relationship with biophysical and social vulnerability. A logical corollary of this is to move away from the sole focus on structural interventions and river engineering to prevent floods and instead, address the underlying factors that drive the multiple dimensions of vulnerability. It is only by reducing the causes of vulnerability that one can contribute to build-

## FLOOD, NOT DISASTER

*Holistic flood management strategies can help vulnerable communities thrive*

This would require a range of development interventions — including new models of embankment management — to improve the overall livelihoods of the rural populace. At the community level, there must be redundancies that contribute to resilience building: For example, every village in Assam should have access to elevated shelters, even if they are not used during the non-flood months.

ing people's resilience. The riparian population and their lives and livelihoods should be at the centre of the planning process of flood management.

Flood risk management strategies would need to expand their scope from river engineering and embankment construction and address the diverse root causes through a set of interventions targeted to address the drivers of vulnerability. Risk management cannot be done just by the water resources department. It needs convergence across multiple departments. In the overall flood risk management strategy, the role of agriculture, animal husbandry, education, PHED and health departments are as important — if not more.

Strategies should include round-the-year developmental activities. A national programme like Swachh Bharat has demonstrated the efficacy of working on a mission mode. In this case, the mission has to ensure that communities not just live with floods but thrive despite floods. This would require a range of development interventions — including new models of embankment management — to improve the overall livelihood of rural people. At the community level, there must be redundancies that contribute to resilience building: For example, every village in Assam should have access to elevated shelters, even if they are not used during the non-flood months.

Climate scientists predict an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, and hence the importance

national politics, but it is held back by its internal authoritarianism, and the fact that it is difficult to create a buzz around a Bengal model. The DMK, like all Tamil Nadu parties historically, plays well within limits, fiercely protecting its turf but avoiding national politics if it can. KCR is trying to sell Telangana nationally but has very little prospect of succeeding. The Congress is most likely to even lose Rajasthan, a state where it had the opportunity to create a buzz. The party has no fight or talent left in it. The Mandal parties are on their last legs. Social engineering is still important to good electoral strategy, but it will not be the basis of viable large-scale electoral victories and is self-defeating if made into an ideological project. The AAP has the advantage of newness and tries to export a Delhi model story. But Punjab is its real test. If it botches up Punjab, its national ambitions will come to a halt. But the AAP, like many regional parties, is no longer an ideological opposition to the BJP; it has practically aligned itself with the BJP on majoritarianism.

So here is what the Opposition is playing for. Three or four regional parties will play for their states, but have no national prospects. The Opposition in North India has settled for what someone called the "Mayawati equilibrium". The party continues to exist, drawing a small support base, but is pretty much a shadow of itself. Notwithstanding the recent elections, the SP will be on this trajectory soon. The use of the ED has had the desired effect of convincing most opposition leaders that they have to play for their individual family survival.

The talk of existential threat to democracy is met by retreating into an even narrower circle of self-interest. Prepare for a democracy where the political "opposition" is just a label, a mere shadow shaped by the ruling party. The BJP managed to remind everyone that the opposition parties are like little scared cats hissing away at each other, while the grander animals of prey lord over this land. The sheer littleness of the Opposition will make the BJP look big.

*The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express*



## JULY 23, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

### RESOLUTION DELAYED

LOK SABHA SPEAKER Balram Jakhar put off a decision on the Opposition demand to table verbatim proceedings of the Committee on Public Undertakings on the Kuo Oil deal, but announced that he would convene a meeting of leaders of parties to sort out matters. The Speaker told Madhu Dandavate that his request was still under consideration. While welcoming the decision of the Speaker, Atal Bihari Vajpayee said, meanwhile, the Speaker should allow a discussion on the deal. Jakhar said he wouldn't bar discussion, but nothing matters more than the interests of the institution (Parliament).

### ISRAEL BOMBS BEIRUT

WAVES OF DIVEBOMBING Israeli jets hammered West Beirut. Israeli jets and artillery also blasted Syrian positions along the 40-km cease-fire line in the eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and Syria said its forces were returning fire. PLO's "Voice of Palestine" radio station said Israeli warplanes bombed the Syrians just as air assaults were mounted on West Beirut after 27 days.

### REBELS SURRENDER

FOR THE FIRST time in the chequered history of the Marxist National Socialist

Council of Nagaland, five of its "officers", including the chief bodyguard of its chairman, Isak Swu, and "major" Itokhu Sema, surrendered to the Deputy Commissioner of Kohima district, S S Rai.

### RSS WORKERS KILLED

TWO RSS WORKERS — Subramaniam (24) and Rajan (20) — both fishermen, were burnt alive in their room by a group of over 40 persons, said to be Marxist party workers at Kazheembram in Valapad panchayat. About 130 people have been taken into custody by the police as a preventative measure.



# Welcome, Madam President

Droupadi Murmu’s identity, her political journey and her rise make her life story one that will inspire generations of Indians



OPENING ARGUMENT  
BY MENAKA GURUSWAMY

ON DECEMBER 19, 1946, speaking at the Constituent Assembly, Adivasi leader Jaipal Munda called the new constitution “an opportunity for my people who have suffered for 6,000 years”. Subsequently on January 24, 1947, he admonished the Advisory Committee tasked with preparing schemes for the administration of tribal areas, that it never occurred to those responsible for the selection of the committee to have a tribal woman on it. Today, almost 75 years after Munda stood amidst our founders and spoke, India will have its first Adivasi President in Droupadi Murmu. I have no doubt that Munda would have smiled broadly at what he would have considered a fitting but long overdue election.

Adivasis or the “earliest inhabitants”, are the original indigenous people living in India. Scheduled Tribes constitute over 8.6 per cent of the population — as per the 2011 Census, the ST population is 104 million. They are found predominantly in Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha.

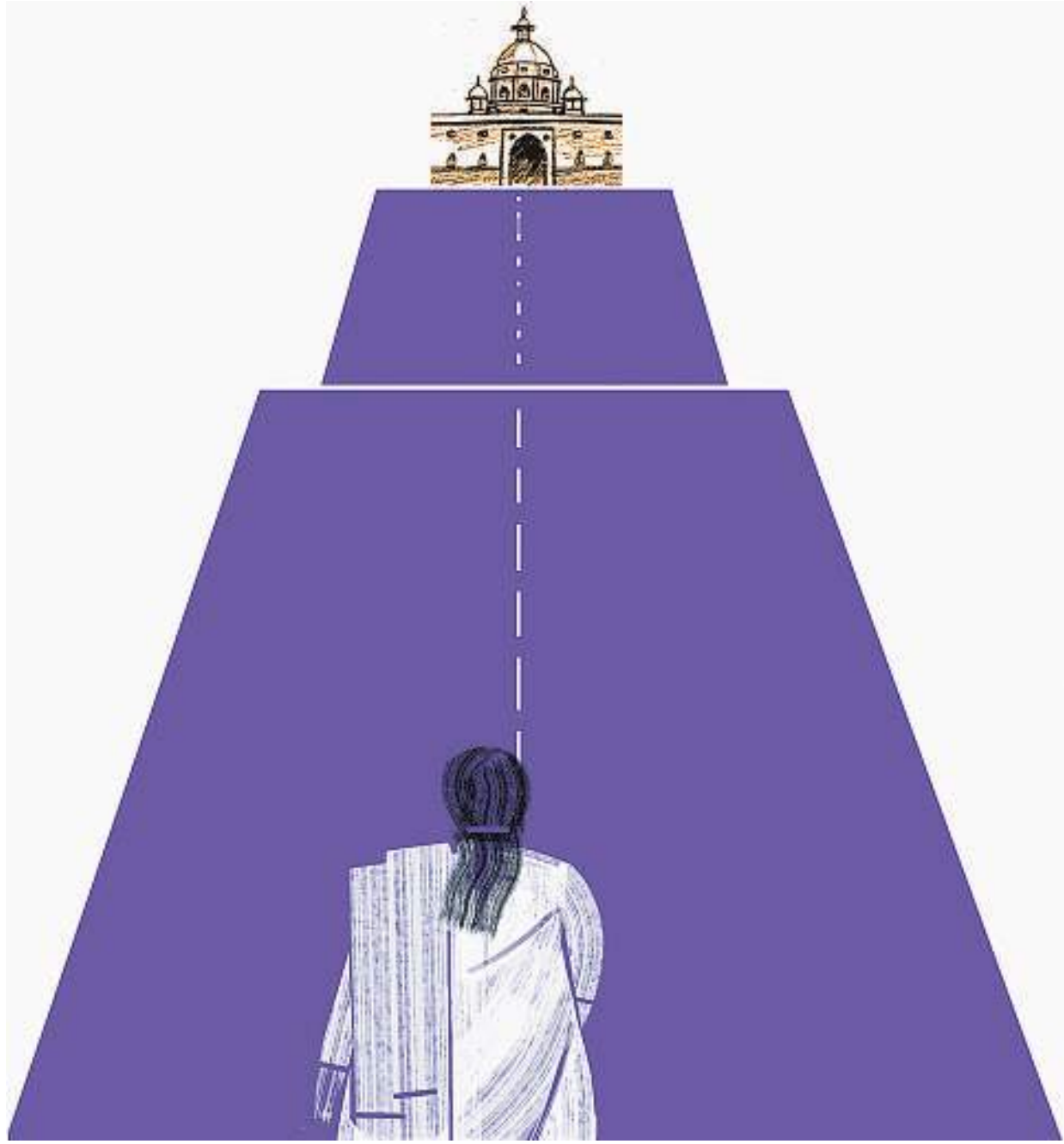
President-elect Murmu is an inspired choice, given her identity as a Santhal woman. She is also a formidable and appropriate choice for President. She has a lifetime of experience in politics and in governance, having occupied positions as a legislator, minister, and governor.

Born in 1958, in the Uparbeda panchayat in Odisha’s Mayurbhanj district, she was the first woman in the area to go to college. She was elected twice to the Odisha Assembly in 2000 and 2009 and was also a minister in the coalition government formed by the BJP and BJD, led by Naveen Patnaik from 2000 to 2004. Subsequently, she was Governor of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2021.

She is clearly no pushover. When the President-elect was Governor of Jharkhand, in November 2016, two amendments bills were sent to her for approval by the BJP government. The amendments were to the old Chotanagpur Tenancy and Santhal Pargana Tenancy Acts that would allegedly ensure easy transfer of land for industrial use. The amendments were protested by tribal communities and many delegations called on the governor. Eight months later, in June 2017, the governor returned the bills, noting that she would not let injustice flow from her pen.

President-elect Murmu comes from the Santhal community which has a long and proud history. On June 30, 1855, two years before the 1857 revolt, siblings Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu organised over 10,000 Santhals and rebelled against the British East India Company and the revenue-grabbing zamindari system that perpetuated dual oppression in parts of what are now Jharkhand and West Bengal.

The Murmus succeeded in freeing large tracts of these areas, before the East India Company declared martial law in November 1855. Soon after, the British killed the



CR Sasikumar

Murmus along with many Santhals who had rebelled against them. In the writing of India’s histories, the Santhal rebellion is often relegated to a footnote. With the election of Droupadi Murmu as our President, perhaps Indians will be inspired to learn more about those who are part of our glorious past, but have been neglected in the telling of history.

President-elect Murmu’s own life is as inspiring as it is moving. Her identity, her political experience and her rise make her life story one that will inspire generations of Indians. For they will believe that if her rise is possible, so is theirs. Murmu’s personal story includes the loss of two children and her husband while continuing with her commitment to public service. It is this extraordinary dedication coupled with loss that makes her story so moving.

The Constitution of India vests the executive power of the Union in the President. This means that since we are a parliamentary form, the government exercises real power, with the President as the titular head.

The Indian President is constitutionally envisaged to have the power to return bills to the government, should she have concerns that need to be satisfied. Murmu has already exhibited that thoughtfulness and constitutional propriety when she was Governor of Jharkhand.

However, the Indian President is not intended to be a simple rubber stamp for the decisions of any ruling regime. She is constitutionally envisaged to have the power to return bills to the government, should she have concerns that need to be satisfied. President-elect Murmu has already exhibited that thoughtfulness and constitutional propriety when she was Governor of Jharkhand. As a country, we hope that she will continue to display that fortitude and constitutional concern, by ensuring that injustice will not flow from her pen.

In the Mahabharata, the name Draupadi is derived from Drupada (her father) which means “pillar”. The President of India is intended to be a pillar of constitutional strength for her people. It is perhaps most apt then, that our President-elect is named Droupadi. Welcome, Madam President. As Jaipal Munda smiles from above, you inspire all of us.

The writer is a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court of India

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“The next UK PM should be someone who seeks to repair prior offences. Sadly, the nature of the campaign is such that any candidate who attempts to do so would be less likely to win.” — THE GUARDIAN

# Upper House, an answer

As ‘cooperative federalism’ becomes a fig leaf, Rajya Sabha grows more important. It also provides crucial continuity



MANOJ KUMAR JHA

THE POINTS RAISED by Manish Tewari — the erudite and eloquent MP representing the Lok Sabha constituency of Sri Anandpur Sahib, Punjab — in his article (‘Upper House, a question’, IE, June 13) merit deliberation, discussion, and debate. Ironically, these are also the most critical functions of the Upper House or the Rajya Sabha. Given the prevailing political scenario in the country, a careful appraisal of the functions of the Rajya Sabha in strengthening the fundamentals of our parliamentary democracy becomes even more necessary.

Known as the federal or second chamber of Parliament, the genesis of the Rajya Sabha can be traced to the Montague-Chelmsford report of 1918 and, consequently, the Government of India Act, 1919, which provided for a second federal chamber or the “Council of States”. The relevance of the Rajya Sabha was debated in the Constituent Assembly on July 28, 1947. During this debate, a few members did indeed oppose the creation of the “Upper House”. They argued that such a House, over and above the Lok Sabha, would unnecessarily delay law-making. However, many others argued that the “second chamber” would instead introduce an element of sobriety and enhance the quality of debate and discussion.

Tewari’s article highlighted that “it is the parliamentary democracy that is supposed to be the basic structure and not bicameralism”. In my opinion, the role and importance of the Rajya Sabha lie not only in the consideration of representation but also in the quality of deliberation. Given the federal nature of the Indian polity, the Rajya Sabha ensures healthy bicameralism by providing some kind of accountability to the law-making process undertaken in the Lok Sabha. The process of indirect elections also makes its way to the Indian parliamentary system as the members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by the members of the state legislative assemblies based on proportional representation. It acts as a conduit between the states, people, and Parliament, furthering the principles of decentralisation by lending an independent voice to the states. The deliberative and reflective function of the Rajya Sabha is the most valuable, as it meticulously analyses the merits and demerits of a Bill so discussed. It also empowers its members to voice resistance, dissent, or any disagreement, even if the Lok Sabha dominates as the primary stakeholder in the law-making process.

The naysayers also often argue that the Rajya Sabha exercises limited powers in legislative procedures, especially in the case of Money Bills. The Lok Sabha has the power to introduce Money Bills and also exercises the final say over these bills. However, on all bills besides Money Bills, there exists a balance of power between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. A no-confidence motion too cannot

be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. In addition, it exercises a limited role in the functioning of the Public Accounts Committee and has no part in the Estimates Committee.

It has been long argued that matters related to finance, fiscal federalism, and economic reforms must also be brought under the purview of the Rajya Sabha. This will further help articulate states’ concerns and strengthen the premise of cooperative and competitive federalism, endorsed by the present dispensation. It is worth mentioning that members of the Lok Sabha are usually so preoccupied with their parliamentary constituencies, electorate, and the processes entailing elections, that an in-depth and nuanced discussion on different concerns of states can be further pressed upon by the members of the Rajya Sabha.

It is important to remember, however, the special powers the Rajya Sabha has over and above the Lok Sabha. For instance, it exercises the ability to create new All-India Services under Article 312 by passing a resolution subject to support and voting by two-thirds of members. Second, the Rajya Sabha exercises power to make laws on any subject included in the State List toward “national importance” under Article 249. Third, it can approve proclamations under Article 352 or 356 or 360 if the Lok Sabha stands dissolved.

The Rajya Sabha must not be used by political parties to accommodate candidates who fail to win mass elections. Instead, parties should select their candidates with the specific role of the Upper House in mind. The provision of nomination of eminent persons from fields like the arts and sports is also a testament to the original intention of expanding horizons beyond electoral calculations. This feature makes the Rajya Sabha even more democratic and participatory as people making significant contributions to society, who otherwise cannot contest an election, make their way to the highest echelons of politics. Moreover, the electorate and society benefit from engaging in discussions that draw from diverse walks of life.

Through its voice of intellectual reasoning, the Rajya Sabha acts as an instrument to provide compelling insights, discuss the ethics and morals underlying any topic, and review and influence public policy. Through its rich quality of ideas and debate, the discussions in the Rajya Sabha mould the thinking of students, political enthusiasts, and the general masses. In the last couple of years, while there is much sloganeering around “cooperative federalism”, there have been veiled encroachments as well as attacks on the rights of states. For this reason, more than anything else, we need the Rajya Sabha to safeguard the rights of states.

Finally, the most crucial role of the Rajya Sabha is the continuity it provides to the Indian parliamentary democracy — it is often referred to as the permanent house of Parliament. While the Lok Sabha gets dissolved every five years, the Rajya Sabha is not subject to dissolution. It is here where more responsibility should be given to the Rajya Sabha alongside the permanent executive, owing to its representative nature.

The writer is an academic and MP, Rashtriya Janata Dal



JITENDRA SINGH

LAST MONTH, I had the privilege of representing India at the high-level UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, where India assured the world community that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it is committed to protecting at least 30 per cent of “our” lands, waters and oceans, and thus adhere to its commitment of 30X30 by 2030 in a mission mode. The ministers, delegates and representatives from more than 130 countries were told that we are there at the UN forum to present before the world the PM’s vision for the conservation and sustenance of oceans and their resources.

India is part of the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, which was initiated at the “One Planet Summit” in Paris in January 2021, to promote an international agreement to protect at least 30 per cent of the world’s land and ocean by 2030. India also offered to provide science and innovation-based solutions for the implementation of SDG-Goal 14 through partnerships and environmentally-friendly solutions at the World Ocean Summit. Goal 14 calls for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, and marine resources.

Now, after the declarations at the UN high-level meeting, it is time to walk the talk. Therefore, barely a week after the UN Ocean Conference, India announced that it will undertake a massive coastal clean-up drive that will cover 75 beaches across the country — there will be 75 volunteers for every kilometre of the coastline. A 75-day-long awareness campaign, “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar” has been launched on July 5. It will culminate on International Coastal Clean-up Day on

September 17. It will be the first-of-its-kind and possibly the world’s longest-running coastal cleanup campaign with the most number of people participating in it. The participation of the common people will convey the message of “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar” for the prosperity of not only coastal areas but other parts of the country as well.

It is pertinent to mention that in March this year, I had said in the Lok Sabha that single-use plastics contribute to over 50 per cent of marine litter, as per the pan-India coastal monitoring and beach clean-up activities are undertaken by the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Chennai, from 2018 to 2021. The ‘Beach Litter Survey’ has further revealed that the maximum litter accumulation occurs on the backshore than in the inter-tidal zone. Moreover, urban beaches have higher accumulation rates than rural beaches. Samples from coastal water, sediment, beach, and biota were analysed for micro/meso/macro plastics pollution. An increase in the abundance of microplastics was observed along India’s east coast during the monsoon. The stations closer to the river mouth in particular had higher numbers of microplastic concentrations. Several other studies have highlighted the harmful effects of litter, especially plastics, on marine biodiversity, ecosystems, fisheries, human health and the economy. Usually, waste from land-based sources makes up the major share of marine litter.

In his very first Independence Day address as prime minister, Narendra Modi gave India the “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan”, which made the country ODF (Open Defecation Free). Similarly,

after starting his second term as PM in 2019, his first address from the ramparts of the Red Fort addressed another major Swachhata issue — single-use plastic. He said, “Remembering revered Bapu, we should move out of home collecting single-use plastic from homes, streets, chowks, and drains. Municipalities, Municipal corporations, Gram Panchayat should make arrangements to collect single-use plastic.” PM Modi then asked us: “Can we take the first big step on October 2 towards making India free from single-use plastic”? He also requested start-ups, technicians and entrepreneurs to see what could be done to recycle this plastic and at the same time, he urged the people to promote jute and cloth bags.

In line with the clarion call given by PM Modi to phase out single-use plastic items by 2022, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, on August 12, 2021. On June 21, the Ministry announced that India will ban the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of identified single-use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, across the country from July 1.

These domestic measures are part of international obligations as India, as a signatory of the UN “Coastal Clean Seas” campaign, has adopted and undertaken activities that have direct relevance to the “Swachh Bharat” vision to prevent pollution from both land-based and offshore activities, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 14. Its target 14.1 seeks to “prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based

activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution” by 2025.

The “International Coastal Cleanup Day” is observed globally on the third Saturday of September, every year. On September 17, the government, along with other voluntary organisations and local people will run the “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar” campaign along India’s entire coastline. This year’s event also coincides with the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Efforts will be undertaken to collect scientific data and information on various matrices of marine litter. The target of the drive is to remove 1,500 tonnes of garbage from the coast, which will be a huge relief for marine life and the people staying in coastal areas.

This campaign will include the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), National Service Scheme (NSS), Indian Coast Guard, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Seema Jagran Manch, SFD, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), Paryavaran Sanrakshan Gatividhi (PSG), along with other social organisations and educational institutions.

A mobile app, “Eco Mitram”, has been launched to spread awareness about the campaign and facilitate the registration of volunteers.

There is also a firm belief that through this campaign, a mass behavioural change among the masses will take place by raising awareness about how plastic usage is destroying our marine life.

The writer is a Union minister

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FREEBIE LESSON

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘A mixed bag of freebies’ (IE, July 22). “Freebie” per se is not an abominable concept. It is a double-edged sword. Used discreetly, for the genuine welfare of the people by catering to their immediate needs, it can be a boon. But if doled out with the ulterior motive of electoral gain, it proves to be a bane. The pitiable condition of our neighbour, Sri Lanka, is a glaring example of the damning impact of wanton distribution of freebies to appease the population. We should draw a lesson from it and heed to its drawbacks.

Ravi Mathur, Noida

### PRESIDENT’S DUTIES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Spirit of a nation’ (IE, July 22). As the president of India, Droupadi Murmu has to play the role of the custodian of the Constitution. It is well known that the president has to act on advice of the council of ministers. But, as per Article 60 of the Constitution, the president also takes an oath to “protect and defend the Constitution and the law”. It is the duty of the president to reject the advice tendered by her council of ministers if it goes against the spirit of the constitution. Hopefully, Murmu will bring the office of the President closer to the people by doing just that, when needed.

Suchak D. Patel, Ahmedabad

### SYMBOL OR MORE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘A president

for our time’ (IE, July 22). The 15th president of India is a tribal woman — a first for India. Droupadi Murmu will connect the masses to the high office. The author talks at length about the value of the symbolism it holds. The question remains, though — Is Murmu going to be a rubber-stamp president? All the exemplary presidents that he quoted were, while constitutional in their exercise of their powers, also vocal. Mere symbolism without substance is hollow. Whether the boldness in her nomination will translate to something concrete remains to be seen. The hope is that Murmu expands the legacy of the high office.

Abhishek Kumar Anshu, Patna

### WHAT UK NEEDS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Goodbye Boris’ (IE, July 22). The anointment of Boris Johnson as the nation’s new prime minister, after three rough but educational years under Theresa May, came at a time when no Tory leader dared to don the mantle of a knight saviour. Johnson did pull Britain out of the EU. But his cavalier ways only fed the rebellion within, even more. Much like former US president Donald Trump, Johnson came with a colourful personal history and was brazenly enthusiastic in outturning vexing issues. At war with itself, Britain today, needs to create a new Winston Churchill; another Tory.

R.Narayanan, Navi Mumbai



## 12 THE WORLD

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Storage tanks for contaminated water at the plant. Reuters file

## JAPAN

## Regulators clear release of Fukushima water into sea

JAPAN'S NUCLEAR regulators have approved a plan to release into the ocean water from the wrecked Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, the government said on Friday. The water, used to cool reactors in the aftermath of the 2011 nuclear disaster, is being stored in huge tanks in the plant, and amounted to more than 1.3 million tonnes by July. The regulators deemed it safe to release the water, which will still contain traces of tritium after treatment, the foreign ministry said in a statement. Plant operator Tokyo Power Electric Company will face additional inspections by regulators, it added. **REUTERS**

## THE KOREAS

## South set to lift ban on North TV, newspapers

SOUTH KOREA plans to lift its decades-long ban on public access to North Korean television, newspapers and other media as part of its efforts to promote mutual understanding between the rivals, officials said Friday, despite animosities over the North's recent missile tests. In a policy report to new President Yoon Suk Yeol on Friday, South Korea's Unification Ministry said the move was meant to boost mutual understanding, restore the Korean national identity and prepare for a future unification. **AP**

## PAKISTAN

## Pak, Iranian women reach K2 summit

A WOMAN from Pakistan and another from Iran appear to be the first females from their countries to reach the top of K2, one of the world's highest and most dangerous summits, a mountaineering official said Friday. Samina Baig, a 32-year-old mountaineer from a remote northern village in Pakistan, hoisted her country's green and white flag atop the peak of the 28,250 foot-high K2 mountain on Friday. Iran's Afshaneh Hesamifard, who according to Iranian media became only the third woman to reach the top of Mount Everest this past May, was hailed in Farsi-language posts on social media. **AP**

## MALI

## Militants attack main military base, situation 'under control'

ISLAMIST MILITANTS struck Mali's main military base, just outside the capital Bamako, on Friday in a complex attack involving car bombs, but the armed forces said they had repelled the assault and had the situation under control. Militants linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State have repeatedly raided bases across Mali during a decade-long insurgency concentrated in the north and centre but never so close to Bamako in the south. **REUTERS**

## Ukraine, Russia agree to resume grain exports



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Turkish Defence Minister Hulusi Akar attend a signing ceremony in Istanbul on Friday. Reuters

## New Zealand's Covid death rate at record levels amid new wave

LUCY CRAYMER  
WELLINGTON, JULY 22

NEW ZEALANDERS are dying from Covid-19 at record rates as the country battles a new wave of the Omicron strain that is particularly affecting the older population. Deaths from the virus reached 151 in the seven days to July 16, compared with 115 in the worst week of the previous wave, in March, according to Health Ministry data. In the latest 24 hours, 26 people died from Covid, all aged over 60, the ministry said in a statement on Friday.

The Omicron BA.5 sub-variant is driving the current wave in New Zealand, which has 5.1 million people. There have been 64,780 active cases in the past seven days, although authorities say many infections are unreported.

Once regarded as a model for preventing Covid infection, New Zealand's swift response to the pandemic and its geographic isolation kept it largely free from the

virus until the end of last year.

The government dropped its zero-Covid policy this year once the population was largely vaccinated. Since then the virus has been allowed to spread.

Emergency departments, general practices and medical centres are under pressure. However, Health Ministry data shows hospitalisation levels remain below those seen during the March peak.

The government is resisting pressure from some doctors to reinstate curbs on public gatherings or mandate the wearing of masks at schools. However, Education Ministry chief Iona Holsted said on Thursday the ministry had advised schools to enforce the wearing of masks as much as practicable when children returned from holidays next week.

"We understand that implementing mask policies can be a challenge but ask that you take action to strengthen your mask wearing policy as soon as possible," she said.



Gambian Attorney-General Dawda Jallow with representatives of Rohingya groups outside the ICJ in The Hague on Friday. AP

## ICJ rejects Myanmar's initial objections, will hear Rohingya case

*The Hague:* Judges at the United Nations' highest court on Friday dismissed preliminary objections by Myanmar to a case alleging the Southeast Asian nation is responsible for genocide against the Rohingya ethnic minority.

The decision establishing the International Court of Justice's jurisdiction sets the stage for hearings airing evidence of atrocities against the Rohingya that human rights groups and a UN probe say breach the 1948 Genocide Convention. In March, US

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that the violent repression of the Rohingya population in Myanmar amounts to genocide.

Gambia filed the case in 2019 amid international outrage at the treatment of the Rohingya, hundreds of thousands of whom fled to neighbouring Bangladesh amid a brutal crackdown by Myanmar forces in 2017. It argued that both Gambia and Myanmar were parties to the 1948 convention and that all signatories had a duty to ensure it was enforced. **AP**

## Warring sides ink deal to release grain stuck in Black Sea ports

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
BRUSSELS, JULY 22

RUSSIA AND Ukraine signed an agreement in Istanbul on Friday to free more than 20 million metric tonnes of grain stuck in blockaded Black Sea ports in Ukraine, a deal aimed at bringing down soaring grain prices and alleviating a mounting global hunger crisis.

The breakthrough comes after months of talks and was brokered with the help of the United Nations and Turkey. The agreement provides a method for exporting Ukrainian grain through Turkey, and it comes after the UN gave Russia assurances that it can export its grain and fertilisers.

If the agreement holds, it could help ease catastrophic food shortages that worsened when Russia invaded Ukraine in February. Ukraine is one of the world's breadbaskets and the invasion reverberated across the global economy, aggravating a growing food crisis, contributing to famine in Africa and threatening political unrest in some countries.

"This agreement did not come easy," António Guterres, the UN secretary general, said at the signing ceremony, calling the deal a "beacon in the Black Sea."

President Vladimir Putin's willingness to block food exports to gain international leverage has led to some of the gravest global consequences of

Moscow's attack on Ukraine, undermining a global food distribution network that was already strained by pandemic-related disruptions and climate change. Kyiv and Moscow have agreed on very little since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine began on February 24. Peace talks held in Belarus that month and in March went nowhere.

Negotiators have been able to reach agreements on prisoner exchanges and on the evacuation of a steel plant in Mariupol where hundreds of Ukrainians were holed up for 80 days.

But Friday's pact was the first time that representatives from the warring countries have publicly signed an agreement.

## SRI LANKA CRISIS: US, UN DENOUNCE USE OF FORCE

## Rajapaksa ally Dinesh Gunawardena named PM as protest site is cleared

President Wickremesinghe calls on armed forces to maintain law and order

KRISHAN FRANCIS, RAFIQ MAQBOOL & RISHI LEKHI  
COLOMBO, JULY 22

DINESH GUNAWARDENA, a Rajapaksa political ally, was appointed Sri Lanka's Prime Minister on Friday, hours after Army troops and police forcefully cleared the main protest site occupied for months by demonstrators angry at the Rajapaksas over the country's economic collapse.

The overnight raid occurred even though protesters had announced they would vacate the site on Friday voluntarily, and the UN, US and others denounced the heavy-handed force that was used. A lawyer said several protesters were hospitalised for injuries and that journalists and a lawyer were among people arrested.

Sri Lankans have taken to the streets for months demanding their leaders resign over an acute economic crisis. Last week, the protests forced out former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, whose family has ruled Sri Lanka for most of the last two decades. The PM he appointed in May to lead negotiations for a bailout of the bankrupt country succeeded him. Ranil Wickremesinghe was elected President by lawmakers, and he appointed as his own successor his school classmate Gunawardena, who is 73 and from a prominent political family.

On Monday, when he was acting president, Wickremesinghe declared a state of emergency. On Friday, he issued a notice under the state of emergency calling out the armed forces to maintain law and order nationwide. Before dawn, troops cleared the main protest camp near the presidential palace in the capital, Colombo, where demonstrators have gathered for the past 104 days. **AP**



Soldiers arrive to remove protesters from a camp outside the Presidential Secretariat in Colombo on Friday. AP

## New PM: Ranil's schoolmate, Leftist stalwart from prominent family

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, JULY 22

DINESH GUNAWARDENA, a Leftist leader whose family has a connection with India, became Sri Lanka's Prime minister by a quirk of fate at a time when the country is grappling with unprecedented economic and political turmoil.

A stalwart of Sri Lankan politics, Gunawardena was appointed the Prime Minister on Friday, a day after Ranil Wickremesinghe was elevated to the post of President.

Gunawardena, 73, earlier served as a foreign minister and education minister. He was appointed as Home Minister in April by then President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. A schoolmate of



Dinesh Gunawardena (right) with President Ranil Wickremesinghe as he is sworn in as PM. Reuters

Wickremesinghe, Gunawardena, has held various Cabinet posts in the past.

Born in 1949, Gunawardena is the leader of the Trotskyist majority nationalist Mahajana Eksath Peramuna (MEP), a constituent party of the ruling Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna. Gunawardena belongs to a

prominent political family in Sri Lanka and is a close ally of the Rajapaksa family, which ruled the country for nearly two decades.

His father was a prominent figure in the Leftist socialist movement prior to the country's independence in 1948.

His elder brother Indika, who died in 2015, was born in Mumbai (Bombay, at the time) in 1943 when his parents were in hiding in India as they had revolted against British rule. Indika was a Sri Lankan Cabinet minister from 1994 to 2001.

Gunawardena, who got business degrees from the Netherlands and the US, succeeded his father Philip Gunawardena as party leader in 1979. He entered Parliament for the first time in 1983, and became a Cabinet minister for the first time in 2000.

mit insider trading in cryptocurrency assets by using confidential Coinbase information about which crypto assets were scheduled to be listed on Coinbase's exchanges. The Securities and Exchange Commission also announced insider trading charges against the three men. **PTI**



UK Foreign Secy Liz Truss

## Liz Truss has big lead over Rishi Sunak in UK PM race: Survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LONDON, JULY 22

FOREIGN SECRETARY Liz Truss has extended a commanding 28 lead over British-Indian ex-minister Rishi Sunak in the race to be the UK's next Prime Minister, according to the latest YouGov survey.

On Thursday, Conservative Party members voted to send both Sunak and Truss through to the final stage of the party's leadership contest in the race to replace Boris Johnson.

One of them will now be selected as the next Prime Minister by the party membership in a ballot running from August 4 until early September, according to the YouGov survey.

YouGov is a leading British international Internet-based market research and data analytics firm.

Earlier this week, figures suggested that Truss, 46, would beat the 42-year-old former Chancellor in a hypothetical head-to-head by 19 points.

Now, with the final two announced and the summer campaign just beginning, a new YouGov poll of Tory members suggests Truss retains her advantage.

According to the survey of 730 Conservative Party members on Wednesday and Thursday, 62 per cent said that they would vote for Truss and 38 per cent opted for Sunak, excluding those who said they wouldn't vote or did not know.

## January 6 panel: Trump spurned aides' pleas to call off mob

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
WASHINGTON, JULY 22

DESPITE DESPERATE pleas from aides, allies, a Republican congressional leader and even his family, Donald Trump refused to call off the January 6 mob attack on the US Capitol, instead "pouring gasoline on the fire" by aggressively tweeting his false claims of a stolen election and celebrating his crowd of supporters as "very special," the House investigating committee showed Thursday night.

The next day, he declared anew, "I don't want to say the election is over." That was in a previously unaired outtake of an address to the nation he was to give, shown at the prime-time hearing of the committee.

The panel documented how for some 187 minutes, from the time Trump left a rally stage sending his supporters to the Capitol to the time he ultimately appeared in the Rose Garden video that day, nothing could compel the defeated president to act. Instead, he watched the violence unfold on TV.

"President Trump didn't fail to act," said Rep. Adam Kinzinger, a fellow Republican but frequent Trump critic who flew combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. "He chose not to act."

## EFFORT AIMED AT COMBATING GLOBAL WARMING AND INFLATION

## Near free public transport eases congestion on Germany's roads

TOM SIMS  
BERLIN, JULY 22

URBAN TRAFFIC congestion eased in the weeks after Germany made public transport almost free, data show, suggesting an experiment by Europe's largest economy to combat its addiction to cars may be having some success.

Since the beginning of June, Germany has sold a monthly ticket for nine euros (\$9.21) that is valid for unlimited trips on a vast swathe of its public transport network. The offer, which continues

through August, was designed to take the sting out of soaring inflation and cut vehicle emissions.

It was a bold move for the home of automakers BMW, Mercedes and Volkswagen, where drivers famously have no speed restrictions on stretches of motorway.

Mohawk-wearing punks from around Germany took advantage of the cheap tickets to flock to the upmarket resort island of Sylt last month. But it was unclear whether most travellers would park their beloved cars and board buses, trams and trains.



Since the beginning of June, Germany has sold a monthly ticket for nine euros (\$9.21) that is valid for unlimited trips on a vast swathe of its public transport network. Reuters

While it is still early to draw conclusions, data compiled by

the navigation company TomTom for Reuters suggest the

policy may be having an effect.

During the week of June 20, rush-hour traffic congestion was down in 23 of 26 cities compared with the week of May 16, before the new ticket was introduced, the data show. TomTom chose the two weeks because they were both free of holidays.

"This decline is related to the introduction of the nine-euro ticket," said TomTom traffic specialist Ralf-Peter Schaefer.

Other factors may also play a role in the reduction, such as high fuel prices and pandemic-related work from home trends.

But TomTom data for the full

month of June also show lower congestion compared with both May this year and June 2019, before the pandemic: congestion was down in 24 of 26 cities in June from May, and in 21 of 26 cities versus June 2019.

The findings could interest policymakers weighing possible future measures for low-cost public transport beyond August. "If I were the government, I would really think hard now," said Schaefer.

The cheap ticket has also spurred train usage, which was up 42% in June from the same month in 2019, according to

Germany's statistics office.

The rise has been most marked at weekends, leading to complaints from some passengers about overcrowding.

In 2020, Luxembourg became the first country to make public transport free. Officials there have reported increased tram usage, and TomTom data show congestion down in recent months from pre-pandemic levels.

But it may be an uphill battle to wean some Germans off their cars. TomTom's Schaefer said he still preferred to drive to his Berlin office to save time on his daily commute. **REUTERS**





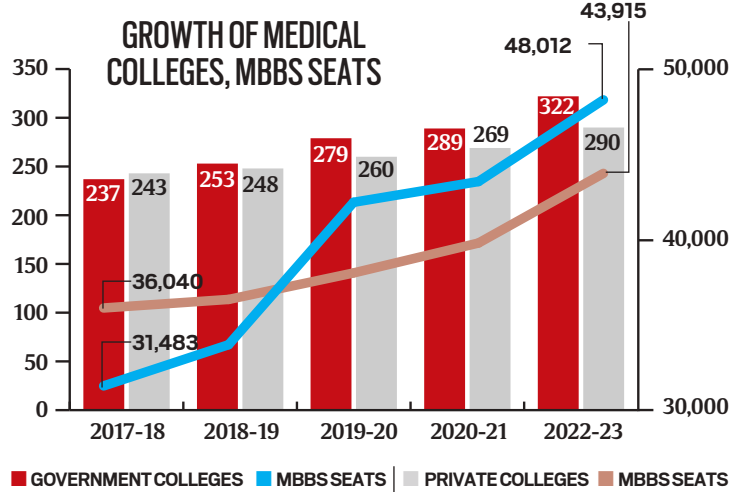
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#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

## TELLING NUMBERS

### 92,000 MBBS seats in medical colleges: how they are distributed



THERE ARE 612 medical colleges in the country, 322 government and 290 private. Between them, they have almost almost 92,000 MBBS seats for the 2022-23 session, over 48,000 of these in government colleges and nearly 44,000 in private colleges, according to data tabled by Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in Lok Sabha on Friday, in a written response to a question raised by Dr Heena Gavit (BJP) and Dr Shrikant Eknath Shinde (Shiv Sena).

Under a centrally sponsored scheme, 3,495 additional MBBS seats have been approved for existing government colleges in 16 states and Union Territories, the Minister's reply said. These are in Andhra Pradesh (150 seats), Gujarat (270), Himachal Pradesh (20), Jammu & Kashmir (60), Jharkhand (100), Karnataka (550), Madhya Pradesh (600), Maharashtra (150), Manipur (50), Odisha (200), Punjab (100), Rajasthan (700), Tamil Nadu (345), Uttar Pradesh (50), Uttarakhand (50), and West Bengal (100).

In addition, 5,930 seats for new postgraduate disciplines have been approved in 22 states and UTs. These seats will be introduced in two phases, the Minister's reply said.

#### The states

At present, Tamil Nadu has the highest number of MBBS seats in government medical colleges (5,225 in 38 col-

#### MBBS SEATS IN GOVT COLLEGES: TOP 10 STATES

STATE	SEATS	COLLEGES
Tamil Nadu	5,225	38
Maharashtra	4,825	29
UP	4,303	35
Gujarat	3,700	18
West Bengal	3,225	20
Karnataka	3,150	42
Rajasthan	3,055	9
Andhra	2,485	18
MP	2,180	11
Telangana	1,840	23

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, reply to Lok Sabha question

leges), followed by Maharashtra (4,825 in 29), Uttar Pradesh (4,303 in 35), Gujarat (3,700 in 18), and West Bengal (3,225 in 20). While the smaller states have fewer colleges and seats, Sikkim is the only state without a single government medical college (its only private medical college has 150 MBBS seats).

Karnataka has the highest number of MBBS seats in private medical colleges (6,995 seats in 42 colleges), followed by Tamil Nadu (5,500 in 32), Maharashtra (5,070 in 33), Uttar Pradesh (4,750 in 32) and Telangana (3,200 in 23).

aged or submerged for extended periods. It uses a combination of plastics.

"The coating provides a reliable alternative to standard disinfectants, which are becoming less effective and require regular reapplication, and is the only permanent surface layer proven to protect surfaces from contamination by viruses," the release said.

The coating can be applied to surfaces in public settings such as lift buttons, stair rails, surfaces in hospitals, nursing homes, schools and restaurants, it said.

"Like a lotus leaf, the surface spray creates a coating that repels water. Because

pathogens like to be in water, they remain trapped in the droplets and the surface is protected from contamination. If this mechanism fails, a secondary burst of ions is triggered by carefully designed nanomaterials dispersed in the coating," the release quoted co-lead author Antonio Tricoli as saying.

EXPRESSNEWSERVICE



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

## A new spray coating to protect surfaces from viruses, bacteria

AT THE beginning of the pandemic, before it became widely accepted that respiratory particles are the primary mode of transmission of Covid-19, the focus was on transmission via contact with surfaces. The disinfect-

The study describes an alternative: a sprayable coating. This "can prevent the surface spread of infection from bacteria and viruses, including Covid-19, over a sustained period", the University of Sydney said in a press release. It said the coating is also safer than existing alternatives to disinfectant, with no harmful side effects.

The study said the coatings "register an 11-fold decrease in viral contamination compared to the noncoated surfaces".

The spray works in two ways: repelling viruses and bacteria through an air-filled barrier, and killing pathogens through microscopic materials if the layer becomes dam-

## After the source of the Uber Files investigation, the whistleblower of the 2016 Panama Papers has given his first interview. What motivates such whistleblowers, and why doesn't India have any on that scale?

RITU SARIN

NEW DELHI, JULY 22

Within 10 days, two whistleblowers have gone public in interviews given to major media outlets. Is this a coincidence?

It could be.

On July 13, Mark MacGann, who worked with Uber as a senior lobbyist for years, was named in an interview with The Guardian as the person who had leaked the 1,24,000 documents that are now described as the Uber Files. MacGann was revealed to be the source of the data towards the end of the publication of the series of investigative reports that make up the Uber Files, a collaboration led by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), The Guardian, and 42 other media outlets, including The Indian Express.

And on July 22, the whistleblower of the Panama Papers gave his first-ever interview to Frederik Obermaier and Bastian Obermayer, who were earlier investigative reporters with the German daily newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, and who now collaborate with the German magazine *Der Spiegel*.

The Panama Papers, a sprawling and impactful offshore investigation by the ICIJ in which The Indian Express partnered, exposed how the rich and powerful parked and moved their money in and out of global tax havens. The investigation, which was published in April 2016, won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting.

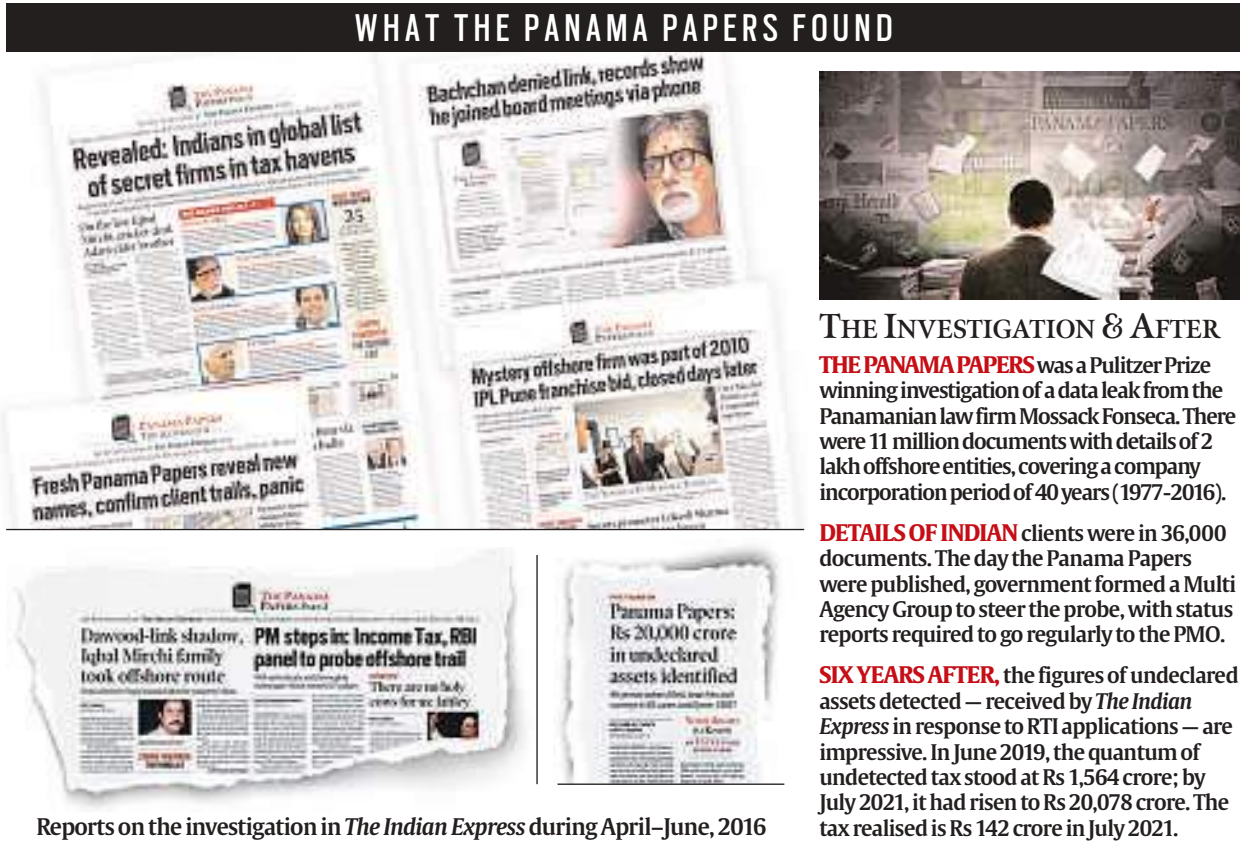
In his interview to Obermaier and Obermayer, the Panama Papers whistleblower — who still prefers to remain anonymous, referred to only as "John Doe" — recalled that the source for the Watergate investigation, former FBI associate director W Mark Felt, had revealed himself to be "Deep Throat" only after 33 years. Felt did this in 2005 in an interview to *Vanity Fair* magazine, when he was 91.

"I have thought about Mark Felt from time to time and the types of risks he faced. My risk profile looks a bit different from his. I may have to wait until I'm on my deathbed," the whistleblower of the Panama Papers has said.

#### What are the major takeaways from the interview given by John Doe?

The Panama Papers were a leak of 2.6 terabytes of secret data of the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca, which had to eventually shut down due to the global media revelations of offshore holdings of heads of state, heads of government, criminals, and drug cartels. The man who blew the whistle on the law firm's entire clientele and network says compiling the data for the giant media leak "felt like looking down the barrel of a loaded gun".

Interestingly, John Doe has revealed that he had first offered the Panama Papers data dump to at least three premier publications, including Wikileaks, all of whom had seemed "uninterested" in the project. He eventually



Reports on the investigation in The Indian Express during April-June, 2016

shared the dump with two reporters of *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, the same journalists to whom he has now given his first interview.

The whistleblower has also said that a year after the publication of the Panama Papers, in 2017, he had given "a ton" of Mossack Fonseca documents to the German federal police for a fee. However, he has said the German authorities had "violated" their agreement on safety for himself and his family, which "put my safety at risk".

Also, he has said, the German government did not fully "honour the financial arrangement", and that he was shocked at the manner at which the German police repeatedly turned down the opportunity to analyse "more" data about the offshore world beyond the Panama Papers. "I was not comfortable with their overall approach," he has said.

Haven't the travails of Edward Snowden, who leaked classified data on the US National Security Agency (NSA) in 2013, deterred the present-day whistleblowers?

Evidently not. Uber's whistleblower, Mark MacGann, has said he was, in fact, facing threats to his life while he was working with Uber. In his interview earlier this month, he

said: "I think people need to look at the facts that I'm helping to expose. Certainly I have had grievances with Uber in the past. What I'm doing isn't easy, but I believe it's the right thing."

On Uber's corporate lobbying successes, he said, "These are cozy networks that have existed for so long but still manage to change shape, but still exist. Access to power is still not something that is democratized."

John Doe has spoken about the future of Snowden, who sought asylum in Russia, and was given permanent residency there in 2020. Snowden has been active in the seminar and social media space. "I used to work for the Government. Now I work for the public," he says in his Twitter bio.

On Snowden being "trapped" in Russia for fear of

being prosecuted in the United States, John Doe has said: "If the American intelligence community has evidence against him, it would lay it out for all to see. If they do not, President Biden should pardon him and welcome him home."

Does India have a comparable case of a whistleblower revealing major state or corporate secrets?

None that are comparable to the scale of

the scandals exposed by whistleblowers about the US National Security Agency or the offshore secrets of Mossack Fonseca. One well-known Indian whistleblower was Satyendra Dubey, an IIT graduate working on a segment of the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Golden Quadrilateral in Bihar, who wrote directly to the Prime Minister's Office exposing corruption in the project. He paid with his life for doing so, and The Indian Express in 2003 published a series of articles exposing the NHAI scandal.

The year after Dubey's killing, in 2004, the government introduced the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers (PIDPI) Resolution for the logging of complaints against alleged corruption or misuse of office by a government officer or department. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was designated as the agency to administer complaints, which it continues to routinely route to its relevant section after masking the name of the whistleblower.

It was almost a decade later, in 2014, that the government enacted the Whistleblowers Protection Act, aimed at providing a legislative route for people to file complaints on alleged corruption and misuse of office by public servants.

Eight years have passed, and the Act has not come into force, and the Rules for it have not been finalised.

## EXPLAINED BOOKS SATURDAY SUMMARY

# The regenerative potential of sorrow

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI

NEW DELHI, JULY 22

A DECADE ago, amid the implosion of social media, and motivational speakers urging people to put themselves out there, American writer Susan Cain posited a contrarian view in her book, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* (2012).

What if, she asked, in pathologising introversion in a world full of sociable, confident people, we were denying acknowledgment to the creativity and contemplation of those who felt deeply but could not or would not vocalise it with the same fervour? Cain traced the change in societal attitudes to introverts to the Industrial Revolution of the early 20th century when agricultural societies transformed into industrial economies, giving rise to what she termed as the "extrovert ideal".

"The new economy called for a new kind of man — a salesman, a social operator, some-



BITTERSWEET: HOW SORROW AND LONGING MAKE US WHOLE BY SUSAN CAIN Penguin Viking 310 pages; ₹799

one with a ready smile, a masterful handshake, and the ability to get along with colleagues while simultaneously outshining them," she wrote of the American culture of hustle that could hold true in any other part of the world as well. How to win friends and influence people, she explained, was really about putting forward a carefully manicured version of oneself and cultivating sociability as a tool for self-aggrandisement.

Part self-help, part philosophy, part research and analysis, *Quiet* put forward a com-

elling argument that won Cain many admirers and catapulted the book to bestseller lists as a contemporary classic. Her new book, *Bittersweet: How Sorrow and Longing Make Us Whole*, picks up from where she left off in *Quiet*. It focuses on the depth of the "melancholic direction" and why a culture's neglect of its regenerative potential can be inhibiting.

"The bittersweet is also about the recognition that light and dark, birth and death — bitter and sweet — are forever paired," she writes. Coming on the heels of Covid-19's unprecedented devastation, *Bittersweet* espouses the compassion instinct to forge connections, even if the pandemic remains on the periphery of her narrative.

Cain makes important connections between toxic positivity and 21st century's own special hell — the private struggle with anxiety and feelings of insecurity. She knits together her own struggles with those of other people, examines music (Leonard Cohen is her patron saint) and philosophy, and follows

"a centuries-old trail laid by artists, writers, contemplatives, and wisdom traditions from all over the world...contemporary psychologists, scientists, and even management researchers" to forge a response to pain. It involves, in the end, an acknowledgement of its presence in our lives and turning it into art, innovation, and, ultimately, into healing.

But *Bittersweet*'s test lies elsewhere. Quiet, despite its criticism of approaching things in binaries that overlooked those on the margins, rang true because of the originality of its argument. In *Bittersweet*, the binary — sanguine and happy — poses a problem as it fails to include a larger milieu, struggling with a world slowly spinning out of its axis, despite its awareness of the need for mindfulness, despite its longing for beauty, art and empathy.

Explained Books appears every Saturday. It summarises the core argument of an important work of non-fiction.

# Why Goa has tightened the law on changing one's name or surname

MAYURA JANWALKAR

PANAJI, JULY 22

THREE YEARS after the Goa Change of Name and Surname (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which provided for arrest if someone changed their name without following the laid-down procedures, the Goa Assembly passed another amendment Bill on Wednesday, tightening the restrictions. To change one's name now, one will need to have their birth registered in Goa, and either a parent or a grandparent born in Goa.

This was one of three amendment Bills introduced by Law Minister Nileshe Cabral

on Wednesday, all passed by the Assembly.

#### What is the new amendment to the Change of Name Act?

The Goa Change of Name and Surname (Amendment) Bill, 2022 amends Sections 2 and 3 of the Goa Change of Name and Surname Act, 1990. In Section 2, two clauses have been omitted, pertaining to the definitions of registrar and chief registrar. Under Section 3, the power to permit name changes, which were earlier vested in the registrar or the Chief Registrar of the state, have now been placed with "Civil Judge Junior Division" or a "District Judge" — in effect, with the judiciary rather than with the government.

The statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill reads: "The Goa Change of Name and Surname Act, 1990 has been enacted to lay down the procedure for change of name and surname of any person born in the State of Goa... Further, sub-rule (5) of rule 3 of the Goa Change of Name and Surname Rules, 1991 provides for examination of witnesses, hence it is imperative that the functions under the said Act be administered by the Judicial Officers. The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend section 3 of the said Act to that extent."

#### What led to the amendment?

The Amendment Bill passed on Wednesday is the sequel to the 2019 amend-

ment to the 1990 Act. While the original legislation had laid down the rules for carrying out changes in one's name and surname — through the registrar, with necessary documents as proof, after issuing advertisements in newspapers — the 2019 amendment made it a cognisable offence to carry out such changes in breach of the stipulated norms.

The latest amendment also stems from allegations made by several communities — including the numerically strong Bhandaris — and MLAs across party lines over changes in names and surnames advertised in newspapers by 'outsiders' who had adopted Goan names and surnames, allegedly in order to avail benefits under

government schemes, or to buy or inherit land or even apply for Portuguese passports.

#### How widespread are such allegations?

Over the years, newspaper advertisements declaring name changes have often been a point of debate on social media, and the ingress of the 'outsiders' has dominated Goan politics with hardly a voice that differed.

Before the Assembly elections in February, Cabral, Law Minister in the previous government too, had said that the state Cabinet had approved amendments to the Goa Change of Name and Surname Act, 1990, vesting the powers to permit names changes in the judiciary, and also inserting

the conditions that a person desiring to changing her or his name would have to have their birth registered in Goa and either a parent or a grandparent born in Goa.

On Friday, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said in the Assembly, "No other government had even thought of this. Many Nairs had become Naik, but now only those whose parents or grandparents are born in Goa will be able to change their name."

The decision to amend the Act arose from "fear" in the minds of indigenous Goan people that benefits available to them may be usurped by "persons from other states" by changing and adopting Goan names and surnames, both Hindu and Christian.



SHAMSHERA

★★★

**Director:** Karan Malhotra,  
**Cast:** Ranbir Kapoor, Sanjay Dutt, Vaani Kapoor, Saurabh Shukla, Ronit Roy

SHALINI LANGER

THERE IS a Piyush Mishra hiding inside this big, bad, loud and messy Bollywood blockbuster, that one thought one had left a couple of decades behind. The one where the hero single-handedly brought the British Empire to heel, along with some very bad police officers, romanced and danced, and like here, even gave birth to a younger, more screen-friendly version of himself.

That Piyush Mishra surfaces in the form of Saurabh Shukla, who puts in impressive words that Shamsheera is trying less-impressively to do over its excruciating 150-minute length — which is to emphasise that Shamsheera (Ranbir Kapoor) and later his son Billa (Ranbir Kapoor) are literally braveheart lions, who walked the earth, unconquered and so on.

That Piyush Mishra (dialogue writer in the film) also seems to exist somewhere in the film's half-hearted exploration of caste politics, and how for those dubbed the lowest of the low — the "Khamiran tribe" in this case — the system was far more oppressive than what the British brought along.

One has the sneaking suspicion that the story actually has a kind view of its Englishman (there is really only one who is meant to stand in for his entire race), if only for his honour, integrity, and his "love for Hindustan". The bird that seems to have adopted the Khamiran tribe as its own is no graceful, beautiful creature, but the little-regarded, almost-despised crow.

However, subtlety is not something that this Rs 150-crore Yash Raj film, bringing Ranbir to the big screen after a long four years, and walking in the looming shadow of RRR, has any use for. Against sets that are almost comically fake, of rugged hills, desert forts and ragged existence, everything is dramatic and exaggerated — interspersed with songs and music that are equally loud.

Against sets that are almost comically fake, of rugged hills, desert forts and ragged existence, everything is dramatic and exaggerated — interspersed with songs and music that are equally loud.

## In the Grey Zone

ONCE YOU have reduced Chris Evans to unflattering haircut, stern moustache, pleated Ts and white trousers, and cast him as a sociopath ex-Agent called Llyod who likes to torture, among other eccentricities, you better make it fly. *The Gray Man* does no such thing, evoking the effortless charm of Evans and getting as much out of it as the flat metallic shield of Captain America.

If he is the villain, Ryan Gosling is the hero of this by-the-numbers, been-there done-that film about the dirty world of government agencies within agencies with "big secrets" to keep. Which is carried around in a SIM card

THE GRAY MAN

★★★

**Director:** Anthony Russo, Joe Russo  
**Cast:** Ryan Gosling, Chris Evans, Ana de Armas, Billy Bob Thornton, Dhanush, Jessica Henwick, Rege Jean-Page



on a pendant displayed publicly. Hmm.

Gosling might perhaps be the only thing good about *The Gray Man*, and that's because he brings that right amount of disinterest which makes his character, by the name of Sierra No. Six, interesting. You want to rescue him, even if he considers himself un-rescuable. Thornton as the father figure Six finds early on is quite good too, while acting against type.

There is a third charming actor almost blunted to dullness here, Ana de Armas, whose Agent Miranda is at the right place at the wrong time, then at the wrong place at the wrong time, then at the wrong place at the right time, till she decides to pick Six as the side she wants to be on. At least Miranda is right in the thick of action after that, though always in the shadow of Six.

Dhanush plays the "sexy Tamil man", one of the many mercenaries that Llyod summons from across the world to get hold of the aforementioned SIM card. Dhanush wields a Rudraksh and doesn't mind killing and banging a woman around, till he suddenly has a change of heart — still counting the Rudraksh. Maybe Llyod's comment when Dhanush appears looking all roughed up, while bearing the SIM, has something to do with it: "You look like you have been hit by a bus, but that just adds to your mystery."

If that sounds awfully patronising, the worst lot is Harvard's. For some reason, the Russo brothers (of the *Captain America* fame) invoke that hallowed institution several times to underline the Agency's connection with it. **SL**

SHUBHRA GUPTA

WHAT HAPPENS when a fictional character escapes the confines of its creation? This is the chief conceit of Rajat Kapoor's film-within-a-film. But being a Rajat Kapoor film, *RK/RKAY* has to also ask the big questions, with the familiar themes of reality, myth-making, truth, falsity, being joined by an exploration of creativity, compulsion, and agency.

A few minutes into this 95-minute long crowd-funded film, one of the principal characters tells another, "Oohhh, I love the script. It's so you". The one being addressed is called RK, a film director played by the real-life director Rajat Kapoor. Not content to leave it there, the film director RK plays the hero in the film currently on the floors. The latter goes by the name of Mehboob. And no, the film is not *Mehboob Ki Mehendi*, though it might well be, given the time it is set in.

Got it? Never mind if not all is instantly

RK/RKAY

★★★

**Director:** Rajat Kapoor  
**Cast:** Rajat Kapoor, Mallika Sherawat, Ranvir Shorey, Kubbra Sait, Chandrachoor Rai

career and marriage, flummoxed. It leaves RK staring at the impossible — how can a character he has written — '*maatra ek paatra*' — whose trajectory has been fixed, flee into the real world? The film references similar flights of fancy undertaken by movie-

## Half-hearted Hero



Ranbir is efficiently good as Shamsheera, a leader of a tribe first treated as outcasts and later betrayed and kept enslaved in a fort. His end comes quickly, after he is caught in a bid to climb a hill and then stoned to death.

Ranbir has more fun as Balli, Shamsheera's son, who gets a short joyous interlude when he doesn't know the truth about his father, and gets to show both his dancing feet and his fighting chops (as taught by Shamsheera's loyal comrade played by Ronit Roy). Till he does find out, and encounters Shamsheera's nemesis and now his, Daroga Shuddh Singh (Sanjay Dutt, who has been doing this maniacal, sadistic act since *Khalnayak*).

Vaani Kapoor is Sona, the oasis of this desert, who dances her way into everyone's hearts every time she is called to perform — which is quite often, to forgettable music. Sona and Balli always have a thing going, which is one less matter this film has to concern itself with as it goes about pitting Balli against the English Colonel and Shuddh Singh, again and again.

And again. In a curiously scripted and paced story, the film seems to be heading towards climax, only to pull away and subside, and repeat the pattern once more.

Some of those periods when the film subsides, such as when Balli and his team of stragglers, including Shukla and a handful of other notable characters, decide to

"disappear" to get the Colonel and daroga off their backs, Shamsheera again suggests it could have been so much better. The pain on the faces of the men, who are seeing their dream of freedom snatched away and fear returning to their old, forgettable lives (of which at least one involves entering sewers to clean them), looks like real pain.

However, compared to that pain, this is the kind of film that lingers more on the chunk of wood struck deep into Balli's back. With little to do except dance and give birth, loudly and painfully and in the most traumatic of circumstances, and to later hold that infant through a fight that rages around her, Vaani Kapoor is the only thing minimalistic about *Shamsheera*.

From her draped linen wraps to her no make-up make-up, to her un-sand-filled hair, it's hard to tell whether Sona belongs to 1896 (as intended) or 2022 (as perhaps also intended).

In a curiously scripted and paced story, the film seems to be heading towards climax, only to pull away and subside, and repeat the pattern

## Inside the Mind of a Criminal

ALAKA SAHANI

THIS IS undoubtedly a chilling story of a cold-blooded murderer harbouring a deep-rooted grudge and angst against the system. As he goes on committing one grotesque murder after another in Delhi, he keeps on daring the police to catch him. Documentary filmmaker Ayesha Sood's three-part crime series *Indian Predator: The Butcher of Delhi* recreates a string of sensational murder cases that rocked the Capital, and forced authorities to delve into the mind of the person who had carried it out. However, rushing through the process of piecing together the motive and finding the man behind these killings, the mini-series fails to spend enough time to make it a gripping tale and offer any fresh insight.

Initially clueless, the Delhi police finally tracked Chandrakant Jha, a migrant labourer from Bihar. The police managed to get his conviction in three cases, while the actual number of victims could be at least seven. Like many serial killers, Jha liked to brag about his exploits and that gave away his identity. He butchered his victims and left the body parts outside Tihar Jail to taunt the police. However, the ordinariness of the man — on the surface — made it hard to believe that he was capable of such brutal crime.

In the course of the series, we come to know of his modus operandi, how he chose his targets and "groomed them for murder". In his mind, Jha was playing god and dispensing justice. Everyone associated with the case



INDIAN PREDATOR: THE BUTCHER OF DELHI

Director: Ayesha Sood, Streaming on: Netflix

admits that he was supremely crafty — someone who could use his intellect to plan in detail every move to avoid detection. He would travel miles on Delhi roads on a motorised van with the body parts and never once raised suspicion of the traffic police. It couldn't have been just a matter of luck.

Sood's exploration of Delhi also forces us to confront an ugly truth — the way mi-

grant labourers live in the Capital, and the unrelenting reality of poverty, squalor and deprivation. Jha's circumstances had a big role in bringing out his inner demons. The series could have delved deeper into the lives of the victims and how migrants are at times pushed into the world of crime. There is a reason why crime breeds in a city's underbelly.

## Between the Real and Reel



makers in the past (Woody Allen and *Hannah And Her Sisters* is one). Can a fictional character really take on a life of their own, become the arbiter of his own destiny? And finally, watching all these real and fictional characters jumping through hoops, we ask, how meta is too meta? Because after a point, things start to slip and slide.

The better parts of the film take place on sets-within-sets when Sherawat is doing the diva act: she knows how to throw tantrums, and get everyone to bend to her will, including a hapless associate on the film (Rai), whom she keeps cussing out. Manu Rishi Chaddha is a hoot as the builder-producer who wants the hero to do heroic stuff, which

includes a happily-ever-after with the heroine. And a climactic hook, if not entirely unexpected, leaves us smiling.

The hark back into how Hindi cinema used to be isn't madly new, but it never gets old. But soon, we are left looking for things to latch on to. We can see that RK and his wife (Sait) are not quite as simpatico as they may have once been: why? Is it because there's been a problem, or have they just grown out of each other? We are not given enough to play with when these two come together to share screen space, whether it is a lunch — quinoa salad for her, chicken in red sauce for him — or a bed. What's going on inside her? And when the real and fictional come face-to-face, the former reacts more with irritation rather than an oh-my-god how-is-this-even-possible look.

Missed the wonder that needs to suffuse the quirky idea that a character can write his or her own destiny, and can break free. Are we also just characters in someone else's story, playing out someone else's script? *RK/RKAY* needed to be more magical, less matter-of-fact.

### STREAMING WATCH LIST

BY ALAKA SAHANI



VIRGIN RIVER: S4

NETFLIX

The romantic drama series set in a picturesque fictional small town has its dedicated fan-following. After the third season ended at a crucial point, the new season opens with Mel (Alexandra Breckenridge) and Jack (Martin Henderson) getting ready to welcome a baby into their lives. However, the question over the baby's paternity keeps bothering Jack even though he is supportive during Mel's high-risk pregnancy.

TRIJYA (RADIUS)

MUBI

The debut feature of Akshay Indikar follows a young poet's journey of self-discovery. Avdhut (Abhay Mahajan), the protagonist of this Marathi-language movie, finds himself looking for a foothold in the world of journalism even as he learns to cope with life in Pune after growing up in a village. Without a steady income, he is not able to pursue his dream of being a poet. Partly autobiographical, this meditative feature is a riveting portrait of an aspiring poet who is looking for answers and purpose in life.



GHAR WAAPSI

DISNEY+HOTSTAR

This feel-good comedy explores familial ties, friendship and ambition. Directed by Ruchir Arun, this slice-of-life drama revolves around the Dwivedi household in Indore, following the homecoming of their beloved son. The six-episode series features Vishal Vashishtha, Akanksha Thakur, Atul Shrivastava, Vibha Chibber, Saad Bilgrami and Anushka Kaushik.



RUN THE WORLD: SEASON 1

LIONSGATE PLAY

This eight-episode series revolves around a group of four Black, vibrant and fiercely loyal best friends who work, live and play in Harlem as they strive for world domination. At its core, it's an unapologetically female show about friendship and not only surviving, but thriving together. The comedy series features Amber Stevens West, Bresha Webb, Andrea Bordeaux, Corbin Reid and Erika Alexander.



JUG JUGG JEEYO

PRIME VIDEO

This movie is about family, values and unresolved issues. School sweethearts Kuku and Naina, after five years of marriage, decide to part ways as love seems to have run its course, or has it? When they try to share their decision with their family during the wedding of Kuku's sister, they are in for some surprises. As family secrets are revealed and threaten to bring down the facade of happy relationships, the family must decide what's best for them.







# NOTICE BOARD

CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY

APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, HONOURS



## DEDICATED- GAIL

Taking a significant step towards building a Natural Gas-based economy as envisioned by PM Modi, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas & Housing & Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri recently dedicated 166 CNG stations to service of the community.



## WORKSHOP- NTPC

National Mission on the use of Biomass in Thermal Power Plants (SAMARTH) collaborated with NTPC and organized a one-day workshop in Chandigarh, on ex-Situ utilization of agricultural residue for co-firing in thermal power plants.



## INAUGURATION - PNB

100th Branch for customer service at Chidderwala Village District Dehradun, inaugurated by M/o Finance, Parliamentary Affairs, Reorganisation & Census & Urban Development Uttarakhand Government Dr Premchand Aggarwal.



## MoU- NHPC

AK Singh, CMD, NHPC & Ram Naresh Singh, Chairman, DVC alongwith MOU documents signed between NHPC & DVC to "Explore Formation of Joint Venture Company (JVC) for Exploring & Setting up Hydropower & Pump Storage Projects".



## LAUNCH - NR

Indian Railways launched an iconic week to celebrate 'Azadi Ki Rail Gadi Aur Stations' from 18th-23rd July 2022, to highlight its unique contribution during the freedom struggle. GM Northern Railway, A Gangal briefed the media in New Delhi recently.



## FOUNDATION DAY - BANK OF BARODA

On the occasion of Bank of Baroda's 115th Foundation Day, Anoop Sharma, Regional Head & Netra Mani, Dy. RM, extended warm greetings to all staff members & customers who participated enthusiastically in the event.



## MoU- NTPC

NTPC & Masen (Moroccan Agency for Sustainable Energy) signed an MOU for cooperation in renewable energy sector during the 17th CII EXIM conclave on India Africa growth partnership. The conclave witnessed huge participation.



## MoU-PNB

PNB has inked a MoU with Assam Rifles, the oldest paramilitary force of the country, to deliver specially designed banking products to the military personnel through the bank's flagship scheme "PNB Rakshak Plus".

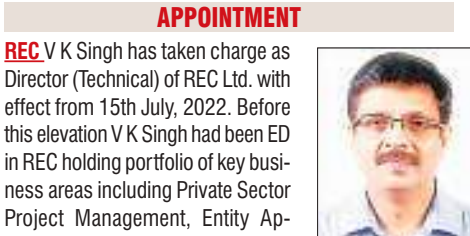
**TATA POWER-DL.** a leading power utility in association with the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLISA) will be organising a 'Special Lok Adalat' for amicable resolution and on-the-spot settlement of Direct Thefts and Disconnection Cases. The session will be held at District Electricity Office, Mangolpuri on Sunday, 24th July, 2022 from 10AM to 4PM.

**BIS.** The toxicity and safety aspects of toys are major concern among parents all over the world. BIS, The National Standards Body of India has published 10 Indian Standards on safety aspects of Toys related to physical safety, safety against chemicals, flammability, electrical safety etc. These standards prevent the use of unsafe and toxic materials in manufacturing of toys.



## OUTREACH PROGRAMME- NHB

National Housing Bank organised an outreach programme 'Janta se Judna' at Hyderabad recently. The programme was graced by SK Hota, MD, National Housing Bank and attended by more than 120 officials.



## APPOINTMENT

**REC** V K Singh has taken charge as Director (Technical) of REC Ltd. with effect from 15th July, 2022. Before this elevation V K Singh had been ED in REC holding portfolio of key business areas including Private Sector Project Management, Entity Appraisal & Procurement & is also a Director on the Board of REC Power Development & Consultancy Ltd. VK Singh holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Roorkee & in his illustrious career spanning more than 33 yrs, he has demonstrated excellence while holding various positions across leading power sector PSUs namely NTPC, PGCIL & REC.



## PERFORMANCE

**PSTCL** Under the leadership of Bhagwant mann CM Punjab & guidance of Harbhajan Singh power minister, punjab state transmission corporation limited is performing a key responsibility of transmission of electricity for Punjab & also strengthening "interstate highway" of electricity delivery. While sharing recent achievements, CMD PSTCL A.Venu Prasad said that PSTCL is carrying out a major role for the transmission of electricity that moves bulk electricity from the generation stations over long distances all over India to substations in Punjab for feeding electricity to areas of demand in the state.



**Punjab National Bank** joins the Account Aggregator(AA) Ecosystem & went live on the Ecosystem as both Financial Information User & Financial Information Provider. PNB is the second public sector bank to Go Live on the ecosystem acting as Financial Information User (FIU) & Financial Information Provider. The Account Aggregator ecosystem helps the bank to leverage on data acquired digitally through customer's consent, providing them a seamless journey and eliminating the need of physical documentation.

**LIC** The Board of Directors of Life Insurance Corporation of India approved the Report on Indian Embedded Value as on March 31, 2022. Below are key highlights of IEV Report results. LIC has engaged M/s Milliman Advisors LLP for determining the IEV of the LIC of India as on March 31, 2022. The Board of LIC, in its meeting, adopted the IEV Report of Milliman Advisors LLP pertaining to the IEV of LIC of India as on March 31, 2022.

**DFCCIL** in its constant endeavour to improve green logistics and provide an expeditious freight transportation solution has tied up with a startup - CARDROP India Pvt Ltd. to provide vehicle transportation services between the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor's New Rewari station in Haryana to Kalamboi (Navi Mumbai) & other cities. The service will offer protection from the vagaries of weather & human intervention by providing a safe & secure mode of transport in approximately 2 days from the present more than 5 days.

**THDC India Limited** THDCIL-Vishnugad-Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project is running a program in Pipalkoti area of Chamoli district for widow women known as the Widow Assistance Program in order to make them self-reliant so that they can rise in social standing and can pass on the same into future generations.

## AWARD

**BEL** Dinesh Kumar Batra, Director (Finance) & CFO of Navratna Defence PSU BEL, has received the "Public Sector CFO of the Year" (Individual Category) award at the 8th edition of the "National Awards For Leadership & Excellence in CFO", held on July 7, 2022, at Mumbai. Dinesh Kumar Batra has been a change agent for BEL, facilitating sustainable growth by following best practices of corporate governance with financial transparency.



EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, LAUNCHES, CSR INITIATIVES, APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

**भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली**  
(विज्ञान संशोधन धारण सरकार द्वारा स्थापित)  
प्लॉट नं. 61, नोबल रोड, च. ऑ. पत्नी, सायफा नगर, मोहाली, पंजाब-140306  
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI**  
(Established by Ministry of Education, Govt of India)  
Sector-41, Knowledge city, PO-Muscat, SAS Nagar Mohali-140306, Punjab  
PAN No. - AAAN1781K GST No.- 03AAAN1781K2Z5  
Phone : +91-172-2248112 & Fax : +91-172-2248124  
http://www.iiser-mohali.ac.in, Email: iiser@iiser-mohali.ac.in

**ISER Mohali**  
ISER/1519-3/2223-Pur-GTE Date: 21-07-2022

**ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना/NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
Online tenders are invited on behalf of the Director, ISER Mohali at E-procurement portal. i.e. <http://procure.gov.in/eprocureapp>, for the following items.

Tender Ref. No.	Description	Last date & time for upload the tender
ISER/1519-3/2223-Pur-GTE	Supply, installation and commissioning of Spinning Disk Super-Resolution Confocal Microscope with accessories	10 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 up to 11.00 A.M.

For detail and apply online, please visit the website <http://procure.gov.in/eprocureapp>. "http://www.iiser-mohali.ac.in". Bid(s) shall be accepted only through online mode and no manual submission of the same shall be entertained.

सहायक कुलसचिव (चक्र और खरीद)  
Assistant Registrar (Stores & Purchase)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely: Joginder Singh, S/o Lt. S. Baldev Singh, R/o: S-2/85, Old Mahavir Nagar, Delhi** has been missing since **07.07.2022** at about 11:00 am. from his house from the area of P.S. Tilak Nagar, New Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 73A dated 09.07.2022** has been lodged at P.S. Tilak Nagar, New Delhi. The description of the missing person is as under:- **Age:** 52 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Strong, **Wearing:** Red colour T-shirt with blue colour cap, black colour pant and blue colour sport shoes in his feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person kindly inform to the following.

**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in>  
**E-mail Id -** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
**Ph.:** 011-24368638, 24368641  
**Fax No.** 011-24368639  
**DP/987/WD/2022**

**SHO**  
**P.S. Tilak Nagar, New Delhi**  
**Ph.No. 25407500, 8750871130**

## Government of Jharkhand Department of Mines & Geology Engineers' Hostel No-2, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004

**Notice No. 05/2022- 23**

1.	Name of the Work	Expression of Interest for Empanelment of Agencies for "Preparation of Auctionable Minor Mineral Blocks in the State of Jharkhand".
2.	Mode of submission of Bids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application form, terms &amp; conditions are available on our website <a href="http://www.jharkhand.gov.in">www.jharkhand.gov.in</a>.</li> <li>Downloaded and filled Documents have to be submitted by Speed post or by hand in the following address:- Directorate of Geology Engineer's Hostel 2, Second Floor, Near Gol Chakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India- 834004</li> </ul>
3.	Type of Tender	Open Tender
4.	Contract Period	36 months.
5.	Date of Publication	23.07.2022
6.	Last Date of Submission	16.08.2022 at 1.00 P.M.
7.	Last date of submission of pre-bid queries	04.08.2022 at 1.00 P.M.
8.	Date of Pre-Bid Meeting	05.08.2022 at 3.30 P.M.
9.	Date of Opening of bid	17.08.2022 at 3.30 P.M.
10.	Address of Submission of Bid	Directorate of Geology Engineer's Hostel 2 Second Floor, Near Gol Chakkar Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India 834004 email: <a href="mailto:dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in">dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in</a> (Website: <a href="http://www.jharkhand.gov.in">www.jharkhand.gov.in</a> )
11.	Cost of Bid Document/ Earnest Money	Rs. 5000.00 (Rs. Five Thousand only) to be deposited through website <a href="http://www.jharkhandminerals.gov.in/other-E-services/e-payment/">www.jharkhandminerals.gov.in/other-E-services/e-payment/</a> Directorate of Geology It will be submitted online through official website <a href="http://www.jharkhandminerals.gov.in">www.jharkhandminerals.gov.in</a> → Other & Services → e Payment → Payment option (Directorate of Geology) → Head of Payment (Cost of Tender Document) → Description → Type of Depositor (Other) → District Name (Directorate of Geology) → DDO Code (PRJOT1002)

**Sd/-**  
**(Vijay Kumar Ojha)**  
**Director, Geology**

PR274305 (Mines and Geology/22-23'D

**कार्यालय नगरपालिका नाथद्वारा, जिला-राजसमन्ध(राज.)**  
Email: [np\\_ntd@yahoo.co.in](mailto:np_ntd@yahoo.co.in), [nagarpalikanathdwara@gmail.com](mailto:nagarpalikanathdwara@gmail.com) Ph. 02953-233526  
क्रमांक : न.पा.नाथ. / निर्माण / 22 / 13965 दिनांक : 21.07.2022

**निविदा निरस्त सूचना**

एतदर्थ नगरपालिका नाथद्वारा द्वारा पालिका के पत्रांक न.पा.नाथ./निविदा/निर्माण/ 22 / 13232-13234 दिनांक 29.06.2022 से जारी निर्माण कार्य की निविदा सूचना संख्या 12 / 2022-23 में वर्णित कार्य (Construction of tourism Information cum culture centre at Nathdwara under swadesh Darshan Yojna) को अपरिहार्य तकनीकी कारणों से तुरन्त प्रभाव से निरस्त किया जाता है।

UBN No.- DLB2223WLOB09871, Eproc Tender Id - Eproc Tender Id - 2022\_DLB\_284198\_1

राज.संवाद / सी / 22 / 5414 आयुक्त, नगरपालिका नाथद्वारा

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Md. Umar S/o Mustaq Hussain R/o W-167/H272, Indra Camp No. 4, Vikasपुरी, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **SC No. 745/2017 U/s 135 of the Indian Electricity Act, P.S. Vikasपुरी, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Md. Umar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Md. Umar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Md. Umar of SC No. 745/2017 U/s 135 of the Indian Electricity Act, P.S. Vikasपुरी, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **05.09.2022**.

**By Order**  
**Sh. M.P. Singh**  
**Addl. District & Session Judge (South West)**  
**Special Court (Electricity)**  
**Court No. 609, Dwarka District Courts,**  
**New Delhi**

DP/990/WD/2022(Court Matter)

**HIMACHAL PRADESH**  
**Jai Shakti Vibhag**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

Online bids on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer Jai Shakti Division **Sunder Nagar** on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in Two covers for the under mentioned work from the contractors/firms of appropriate class enlisted with Jai Shakti Vibhag

Sr. No	Name of work.	Estimated Cost. (Rs)	Earnest Money.	Cost of tender form	Time
1	Providing Lift Water Supply Scheme to Dehar and adjoining area in Tehsil Sundernagar Distt. Mandi H.P. (SH :- C/O RCC Overhead storage tank of 35000 liters (2 Nos) for phase-I and 30000 ltrs. (1) No./for phase-II C/O RCC sub storage tank 45000 ltrs Cap. (1No), C/O RCC 7 Nos sub- storage tank 25000 ltrs. cap., C/O RCC Sub-Storage tank 30000 ltrs. Cap. thrust block for rising main and C/O approach road)	1,04,28,902/-	1,36,800/-	1500/-	Ten Months

**Schedule of tendering:-**

1	Bid submission start date	22.07.2022	5:00 PM
2	Bid submission end date and time	29.07.2022	5:00 PM
4	Opening of Cover 1	30.07.2022	11.30 AM
5	Opening of Financial bid	Date and place to be notified separately	

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

**Executive Engineer,**  
**Jai Shakti Division Sunder Nagar**

2682/hp

**Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)**

**Request for Proposal (RFP) for**

Appointment of service provider and consultant for Property survey and Assessment of property and allied taxes, and relevant services for entire properties (Lands & Buildings) within the limits of Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Pimpri Chinchwad- second call.

**E-Tender Notice No. 1/2022-23**

Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation invites online RFP for "Appointment of service provider and consultant for Property survey and Assessment of property and allied taxes, and relevant services for entire properties (Lands & Buildings) within the limits of Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Pimpri Chinchwad", under Quality cum Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method. The detailed e-tender document for the above is available at <https://mahatenders.gov.in> The duration of work is 2 year of implementation phase and 1 years of Operations & Maintenance phase extendable up to 2 or more years, solely based on the performance by the bidder

In that context, PCMC invites interested entities having experience as envisaged in the RFP document, to submit their proposal. Interested entities can download the RFP document from the website <https://mahatenders.gov.in> Interested entities shall make online payment of Rs. 49,819/- (Rupees - Forty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen only) towards the cost of RFP document and bid security/earnest money deposit of Rs. 48,00,000/- at the time of submission of its proposal through the e- tendering system.

The last date of submission of bid will be 12/08/2022

**Sd/-**  
**(Rajesh Patil)**  
**Commissioner**  
**Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation**

ADV.NO. 146

**NMDC Limited**  
(A Government of India Enterprise)  
'Khanij Bhavan', 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500 028, CIN- L13100TG1958G001674

**CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT**  
**E-Tender Notice (Open Tender Enquiry for Domestic Bidding)**

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites **online bids** from experienced domestic bidders for:

- "Internal Painting works of Type - 1D, II, III, A, B, C & D Quarter in Donimalai Township"**
- Tender Enquiry No.: HO (Contracts)/ DIOM Internal Painting/2022/ 852 dated: 22.07.2022**
- MSTC Ref. No.: NMDC/HO/40/22-23/ET/285**
- "External Painting works of Type - 1D, II, III, A, B, C & D Quarter in Donimalai Township"**
- Tender Enquiry No.: HO (Contracts)/DIOM External Painting/ 2022/851 dated: 22.07.2022**
- MSTC Ref. No.: NMDC/HO/41/22-23/ET/286**

The detailed NITs and Bid documents can be viewed and /or downloaded from 22/07/2022 to 22/08/2022 from following website links;

- NMDC website - <http://tenders.nmdc.co.in>
- Central Public Procurement portal - <http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app> and
- MSTC portal - [https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmcdc/buyer\\_login.jsp](https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmcdc/buyer_login.jsp)

For accessing the bid document from MSTC portal, bidder has to register as 'New Vendor' at MSTC website link [https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmcdc/buyer\\_login.jsp](https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmcdc/buyer_login.jsp) and search Tender Event No. NMDC/HO/40/22-23/ET/285 and NMDC/HO/41/22-23/ET/286. For further help refer to 'vendor guide' given in MSTC website.

The bidders are requested to submit their bids online through MSTC Limited e-procurement website.

For further clarification, the following can be contacted:

Chief General Manager (Contracts), NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, Fax No. 040-23534746, Tel No. 040-23532800, email: [contracts@nmdc.co.in](mailto:contracts@nmdc.co.in)

**Chief General Manager (Contracts)**

**हर एक काम देश के नाम** **इस्पाती इरदा**

**JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II)  
MM Building, Old Power House Premises,  
Near Ram Mandir, Banipark, Jaipur-302006  
Tel. 0141-2202607, E-Mail id: [sem2@jvvnl.org](mailto:sem2@jvvnl.org)

**e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

e-tenders are invited for purchase of 11 KV CT-PT sets of various ratios (TN-2752, UBN-VN2223GLOB00202). All the details regarding tenders are available at web site [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvn1](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvn1), [www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) and [www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in). In future, corrigendum/ extension, if any, shall be published only at above web sites.

**JPR 2727 (2022)**  
Raj.Samwad/C/22/5437

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II)**  
For Electricity complaints Toll free No. 1800 180 6507

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Divya, D/o-Anand Kumar, R/o H.No. C-1, MCD Colony, Samaypur, Delhi. Age : 26 years, Height : 5'5", Complexion-Fair, Face-Long, Built-Medium, Wearing-Mustrad colour Top Light Blue Jeans and Black Valley Shoes** In feet has been reported missing from her house, since **13.05.2022**. In this regard a **DD No. 44A dated 14.05.2022** has been registered at **PS. Samapur Badli, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned.

**E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)**  
**Ph : 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**Fax : 011-24368639**  
**DP/1999/ON/2022**

**SHO**  
**P.S. Samapur Badli, Delhi**  
**Ph. : 011-21710052, 7065036326**

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely **Kajal Kumari D/o Shambhu Saini R/o K No.52/7, Near Rly Fatak Swatantra Nagar, Narela, Delhi Aged- 14 Years** has been reported missing/kidnapped since 14.05.2022 at about 9 AM vide **FIR No.218/22 Dated 18.05.2022 u/s 363 IPC** registered at Police Station Narela, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:- **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 4'6", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Clothing:** Red coloured suit, salwar, red coloured duppatta and Red coloured plastic sandal in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Narela, Delhi at E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

**TeLe No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641**  
**FAX No. : 011-24368639**  
**DP/2014/ON/2022**

**Sd/-**  
**SHO, Narela, Delhi**  
**Tel. : 011-27282350, 27280435**



**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**  
**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ROADS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (HPSRTP)**

**Request for Expression of Interest Proposal**

**Name of Project:** Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)

**Loan No./Credit No.** 9066-IN **Date:** July 21, 2022

The Chief Engineer-cum-Project Director, State Roads Project, HPRIDCL Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar Shimla-171002, Himachal Pradesh India invites the Request for Expression of Interest Proposal from national consultants for the consultancy services as detailed in the table below:

Sr. No.	Description Services of the Consultancy	Date of availability of Detailed Request for Expression of Interest-cum-Request proposal/ Expression of Interest Proposal Document on HPRIDC web site	Last date/Time for submission of Proposals
1	Consultancy Services for Development of Transport Disaster Management Policy and Plan for the State of Himachal Pradesh under World Bank Funded HPSRTP	July 23, 2022 (Request for Expression of Interest Proposal document)	August 22, 2022 at 1500 hours (IST)

**Note:** Any further addendum/Corrigendum to this Request for Expression of Interest-cum-Request for Proposals/Request for Expression of Interest Proposal Documents shall be available to all interesting firms on official web site of HPRIDC under <http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/HPSRTP.html> link.

**Chief Engineer-cum-Project Director,**  
**State Roads Project, HPRIDCL,**  
**Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar,**  
**Shimla-171002(H.P)**  
**Facsimile: +91-177-2620663;**  
**Tel: +91-177-2627602, E-mail: [pdsp-hp@nic.in](mailto:pdsp-hp@nic.in)**

0311/HP

**New Delhi**

**PROVISION OF IRS IN 11 NO. BLOCK SECTIONS**

**E-Tender No. SNT-23-LMG-2022- 23. Dated: 19-07-2022.** E-tenders are invited by undersigned for the following work. **Name of work & its location:** Provision of IRS in 11 no. Block sections of Lunding Division. **Tender Value:** ₹35,15,20,292.15; **Amount of Bid Security Money** to be deposited: ₹18,07,700/-; **E-tender will be Closed at 16:00 hrs. on 22-08-2022 and Opened at 17:30 hrs. on 23-08-2022.** Website where details of tender notice & document can be seen: [www.irsps.gov.in](http://www.irsps.gov.in)

**Sr. DSTE, Lunding**  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
Serving the Frontiers with a smile

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice**  
**No. DNR/S&T/Sig/2022-23/5**

Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom), East Central Railway, Danapur Division, for and on behalf of President of India invites tenders on web portal [www.irsps.gov.in](http://www.irsps.gov.in) for the following work: (1) Name of work with its location: S&T work in connection with provision of Interlocked LC Gate (For NHA) with necessary changes in existing signalling working system at Hathidah station along with modification in Electronic Interlocking system under Danapur division (2) **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 11584691.42 (3) **Earnest Money:** Rs. 207900.00 (4) **Last Date & Time of Submission:** Up to 15:00 hrs. on 12.08.2022 (5) **Opening of tender:** 15:30 hrs. on 12.08.2022 (6) **Website particulars where detail of the work and criteria can be seen:** [www.irsps.gov.in](http://www.irsps.gov.in) (7) **Address of the office from where detail Information can be obtained:** Sr. Divnl. Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, East Central Railway, Danapur **Note:** Any corrigendum if required will be uploaded on above website before 14 days **DSTE/DNR** **PR/00664/DNR/S&T/7/22-23/32**

**"IMPORTANT"**

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## New Delhi



Classifieds

PERSONAL

**I, Harshita Jain** W/o Akash Bucha, R/o F-125, Mansarovar Garden, N.Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Yogita Bucha. 0040623681-6

**I, Suprem Lathwal** S/o Raj Kumar Lathwal, R/o House No-1857, Sector-2, 3 (Part), Rohtak, Haryana- 124001. Declare that Name of Mine & My Father and My Mother has been wrongly written as Suprem & Raj Kumar and Santosh in my 10th Class Certificate No- 561602 and that the name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Suprem And Rajkumar in my Pan Card No-DGPGST1140. The actual name of Mine & My Father and My Mother are Suprem Lathwal & Raj Kumar Lathwal and Santosh Lathwal, which may be amended accordingly. 0070795735-1

**I, Suman Devi,** W/O Krishan R/o Shamlo Khurd-63, Baroli, Jind, Haryana- 126114, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Radha 0070795732-1

**I, Sheo Murat,** S/o Jaggi Lal, R/o Village Lotiwa, Post-Nara, Tehsil-Sirathu, Distt-Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh-212217, that name of my Wife has been wrongly written as Shobha in my Pension Payment Order (PPO) No- S/O17653/2008. The actual name of my wife is Uma Devi. 0070795795-1

**I, Subodh Kumar** S/o Vishnu Kant, H.No.-29, Gali No.-11, Roshan Vihar, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Subodh Kumar Thakur S/o Vishnu Thakur, for all purposes. 0040623480-1

**I, Renu,** W/o Dharamender Singh, R/o House No-187, Dadhota, Palwal, Haryana-121102, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Renu Tewatia. 0070795748-1

**I, Rajesh Goyal,** S/o Durga Dass, R/o B-208, Saraswati Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi 110034, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar. 0070795787-1

**I, Puneet Sohal,** S/o Jai Gopal, R/o B-3/701, Cherry County, Surajpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201306. I have changed the name of my minor Daughter Shivika Sohal aged about 2 Years and she shall hereafter be known as Taapsee Sohal. 0070795744-1

**I, Praveen Kumar Sharma,** S/o Vishnu Dutt Sharma, R/o 1506, Kosmos-10, Jaypee Wishtown, Sector 134, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name to Praveen Sharma. 0070795786-1

**I, No-9104932M,NK Surjeet Singh** S/O- Shri Rattan Singh, R/O- Khandwal, P/O- Simbal Camr, Tehsil/District-Jammu-181101. In my service records the (D o B) of my wife namely Mrs Nisha Kumari has been wrongly mentioned as 28-12-1989 instead of 11-11-1988 instead of 11-11-1988 instead of 11-11-1988. I need correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days. 0020442621-1

**I, Neera Agarwal** D/o RP Jain, R/o Flat No.265, Block-L, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076, informs that Neera Agarwal & Neera both are one and the same person and is known as Neera Agarwal for all future purposes. 0040623557-3

**I, Mohd Rashid Hasan** S/o Late Abid Hasan R/o 832, Ashiana Upvan, Tower-7, Ahinsa Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014, have changed my name to Mohammad Rashid Hasan for all future purposes. 0040623578-1

**I, Km Ganga Rawat** alias Ganga Negi, D/o Gaje Singh, W/O Mahipal Singh Negi, R/o E-29 A, Gali No-2, Near Saranath Dharan Mandir, Deenpur Extension, Najafgarh, South West Delhi-110043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Meenu Negi. 0070795750-1

**I, MADHURI W/o AAKASH, H.NO-1 FF KH NO-42/11, AMRITA PURI RANHOLA** NANGLOI DELHI-110041, have changed my name to KAJAL. 0040623690-5

**I, Kapil Kumar,** S/o Om Parkash, R/o House No- 793, Near Post Office, Patel Nagar, Hisar, Haryana- 125001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kapil Dev. 0070795747-1

**I, Munera Ghose** W/O, Nadir Hussain R/o C-65, Lane No. 7, Madanpur Khadar Extension, New Delhi-110076 have changed my name to Munira Ghous for all purposes. 0040623662-1

0040623684-2

**I,Anandi W/o Hari Singh R/o Village Behrampur Raashupur** Aligarh Jalali Up have changed my name from Anadi Devi to Anandi 0050200814-1

**I, Sanjiv Kumar Behl** S/o Rohan Bhel R/o 172/8, Marla-Model Town Sec-11, Gurgaon HR, have changed my name to Sagiv Kumar Bhel. 0040623673-2

**I, SURINDER SINGH, S/O BALBIR SINGH R/O-11C, DDA FLATS SHIVAJI ENCLAVE NEW DELHI-110027,** have changed my name to SURENDER SINGH. 0040623665-6

**I, SONAL ARORA, D/O HARIOM ARORA R/O-50 GF, DAYANAND-VIHAR DELHI-110092,** HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER NAME AIRA TO AIRA ARORA. 0040623665-8

**I, Rishab** S/o- Rajesh Kumar, R/O-C-599, 2nd-Floor, Sushant Lok-1, Galleria DLF-IV, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122009, have changed my name to Rishab Chaudhary, for all purposes. 0040623681-8

**I, Richa** wife of, Manish Agarwal, R/O R-11/124, Raj-Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name, from Richa to Richa Agarwal, for all future purposes. 0040623689-2

**I,Reena Kanwer,** Spouse of Army No- 10136298M, Rank Hav Ashok Singh presently residing of vill/Po-Bango Thari Kalan, Teh- Suraj Gajh, Distt- Jhunjhunu, State- Rajasthan, Pin-333031, have changed my name from wrong name Reena Kanwer to Right name Reena Kanwar vide affidavit no -IN-JKT1803423660324U dated- 14-07-2022 before notary public Srinagar. 0020442619-1

**I, RAJNI W/O- RAKESH DAWAR , R/O Q-39, GROUND-FLOOR, RAJOURI GARDEN, DELHI-110027,** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJNI DAWAR, FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040623681-1

**I, RAJESH/RAJESH KUMAR WALECHA/RAJESH WALECHA/RAJESH KUMAR S/O SH.NANAK CHAND, R/O H.NO.C-219, MADHUBAN-COLONY SHAKARPUR DELHI-110092,** Have changed my name to RAJESH KUMAR, for ALL FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040623665-5

**I, Surrender Gupta,** S/o Prem Sagar Gupta, R/O D-181, Second Floor, Block-D, Sector-8, Dwarka, New Delhi-110077, have changed my name to Surinder Kumar Gupta. 0070795796-1

**I, Ramesh Kumar Mohanni,** S/o Tahal Ram R/o 165, Kailash, East of Kailash, Delhi-110065, have change my name to Ramesh Kumar Mohnani. 0040623690-3

**I, Ritu Ahuja,** W/o Nikhil Ahuja, R/o 204, Tower-16, Lotus Zing Society, Sector-168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, declare that name of Mine has been wrongly written as Ritu Manga in my minor Son Nihir Ahuja, aged about 3 Years, In his Birth Certificate Registration No-B-2018: 9-56044-011057. The actual name of Mine is Ritu Ahuja, which may be amended accordingly. 0070795745-1

**I, S MUKUND S/O J S BALAJI, R/O 79-C, FG-1, Opp. United Bank of India, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MUKUNDAN BALAJEE 0040623557-1

**I, SAMBA MURTHY,** father of, S S Narayana Singamsetti Presently residing at, 4-51-4, Sai-Hanuman-Nilayam, Near-D Cheruvu, Subbarao-Peta, Tadepalligudem, West-Godavari, Andhra-Pradesh-534101, have changed my name, from SAMBA MURTHY to SINGAMSETTI SAMBA MURTHY, vide- affidavit, dated-21-7-22. 0040623684-5

**I, Sanjay Kumar** alias Sanjay Rai Bhatnagar S/O Hem Rai Bhatnagar, R/O Hem Rai Bhatnagar, R/O A-12/A, DDA Flats Munirka Delhi- 110067, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sanjay Rai Bhatnagar. 0070795730-1

**I, Sanjeev Kumar** S/O Surjeet Singh, R/o House No- 483, Near Shri Mandir, Khirak Kalan (131), Bhiwani, Haryana-127114, Declare that name of Mine and My Wife has been wrongly written as Sanjeev and Sushila in my minor Son Nikhil Panwar, aged about 17 Years, In his 10th Class Certificate No- 1055076. The actual name of Mine and My Wife are Sanjeev Kumar and Sushila Devi, which may be amended accordingly. 0070795736-1

**I, Sarita Maurya,** W/o Prem Chand Maurya, R/O Banafa Sultanpur, Ghosi Distt Mau-275304, declare that name of My Wife has been wrongly written as Prem Mourya in my minor Daughter Simran Mourya, aged about 16 Years, In her Birth Certificate No-4988. The actual name of My Wife is Prem Chand Maurya, which may be amended accordingly. 0070795741-1

**I, SARITA W/O, RAJEEV KUMAR, ADD- B-62, J AND C-BLOCK NARULA BAKERY, BAKERY LAXMI-NAGAR, EAST DELHI-110092,** changed my name to SARITA SOOD, permanently. 0040623673-6

**I, BHAVYA S/O YOGESH THAKUR,** ADD-D-158, BATHLA APARTMENTS, PLOT NO.43 I.P.EXTN, DELHI-110092, changed my name to BHAVYA THAKUR, permanently. 0040623673-5

**I Divya Rani** D/O, Late Sh. Surinder Kumar R/o House No- W2 283/111 Vishnu Garden Gali Number 4 have changed my name to Divya for all purposes. 0040623663-1

**I, Kamal Deep Dabas** S/O Ravinder Singh R/O,H.No-303-B, Barwala Delhi-110039, have changed my name to Kamal Deep permanently. 0040623673-1

**I, KM Aradhana Devi,** W/O Gopal Chaubey R/o P-1402 Floor-14, Great Value Sharanam, Starling Edge Mall, Sector-107, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Aradhana Chaubey 0070795739-1

**I, H Jindal S/O B B Jindal, R/o 160, Sarai Dubey, Opp Gandhi Park Market, G Road, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh-202001,** have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Himanshu Jindal. 0070795729-1

**I, Ravi, S/o** Subhash Bhardwaj, R/O E-39, Second Floor, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110052, have changed my name to Ravi Bhardwaj. 0070795766-1

**I, Chalti Devi,** W/O Ram Chander R/o Quarter No- 2, Type-5, BSNL Staff Colony, Sector-8, Karnal, Haryana- 132001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Shanti Devi 0070795733-1

**I, Bharti Meena** W/O Sonu Babu Meena, R/O Qtr C-6, DAO Flats, New Mahavir Nagar, Vikas Puri, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-110018 I have changed the name of my minor daughter Akshika Meena aged about 4 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Krishvika. 0070795734-1

**I, Baneesh Pal Singh Khokhar, S/o Ravinder Singh, R/O 2127, Gali No-166, Tri Nagar, Delhi-110035,** have changed my name to Baneesh Pal Singh for all future purposes. 0070795801-1

**I, BALWINDER KAUR, W/o BALJEET SINGH, H.NO-13 U/T/F GURUNAK VIHAR NILOTHI EXTN NANGLOI DELHI 110041,** have changed my name to BALINDER KAUR. 0040623690-4

**I, Arvind Agarwal** S/o Ram Shankar Agarwal, R/o Flat No. 265, Block-L, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076, informs that Arvind Agarwal, Arvind Kumar & Arvind Kumar Agarwal are one and the same person and is known as Arvind Agarwal for all future purposes. 0040623557-2

**I, Arun Kumar, S/o Shri Kartar Singh, R/O D-759, Street No. 30, Amar-Colony East, Gokulpur Delhi-110094,** declare that name of my minor-son Shubham Brijeshi age-9-years has been wrongly-written as Shubham in his School Records. The actual-name of my minor son is Shubham Brijeshi. 0070795760-1

**I, Anmol Malothra, S/o Ashok Malhotra, R/O B-102, Subhadra Colony, Delhi-110035,** have changed my name to Anmol Malhotra. 0070795768-1

**I, Anjali Rathore** W/o Sh.Ramesh Rathore, R/o-A-212, Panda-Nagar, Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008, have changed my minor daughter name from Sara to Sara Rathore, for all future purposes. 0040623562-1

**I, Anam, W/o Mohd. Sameer Khan Lodhi, R/o 5805, 3rd Floor, Kucha Rehman Chandni Chowk, Delhi-110006,** have changed my name to Anam Khan Lodhi, permanently. 0070795788-1

**I, Amren Saleh D/O Hashmat Ullah, R/o 474/23/3 Sitapur Road, Madehganj Khadra, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226020,** have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Ambreen Hashmat 0070795731-1

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The general public is hereby informed that my client Delhi Gujrat Kunruthast Trust, 38, Gujrat Vihar, Vikas Marg, Delhi-82 are buying Property No.B-27, G/Floor, Subhash Vihar, Delhi-92 from Smt. Harleen Kaur W/o Shri Manmeet Singh R/o-G-163A G/Floor, Rajouri Garden, N.Delhi-27 and Smt. Manpreet Kaur Arora W/o Shri Jasmeet Singh R/O-1A2A, MIG Flat, Ashok Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-52. If anyone has any interest, charge or dispute, objection or any party or financial institution has any loan against this property kindly intimate within 15 days with proof failing which it will be presumed that the party if any will be left with no interest, right, title encumbrances mortgage, lien over the said property.  
Ashok Budhraj (Advocate)  
Chamber No. E-308  
Karkardoma Court, Shahdara, Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
"I is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Grijia Nandani has executed property bearing no. RZ-1119C-1, (portion of RZ-1119A), Cat No. 11, measuring 27 sq. yds. Kharsa No. 90/250, situated at Village Palam Delhi, Sach Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi vide Sale deed dt. 16.09.2021 executed by Mr. Gopal Agarwal through his attorney Mrs. Grijia Nandani and now Mrs. Grijia Nandani is the undersigned owner of above said property. If any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.  
Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate)  
H.No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General Public is hereby informed that my Client Shri Sunil Pruthi S/o Satpal Pruthi and Roopa Pruthi both R/o 5/59, First Floor, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027 have severed all ties with their son Shri Gautam Pruthi and Daugther in law Priyanka Sehgal and Daugther in law Priyanka Sehgal upon their death and real WILL. From this day on, anyone dealing with Shri Gautam Pruthi and Daugther in law Priyanka Sehgal shall do it at his/her own risk and responsibility. Our Client and client shall not be responsible for any said deed and dealing with Shri Gautam Pruthi and Daugther in law Priyanka Sehgal.  
Sd/-  
MS. HANCY WADHWIA,  
Advocate  
4-131, RAJOURI GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027

**IN THE COURT OF SH. BHARAT PARASHAR DISTRICT JUDGE COMMERCIAL COURT-01 CENTRAL, ROOM NO-308 TS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI**  
PROCLAMATION REGARDING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT  
(Order S. Rules 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)  
SUIT NO-CS (COMM) NO.1213/2021  
ICICI BANK LTD .....Plaintiff  
VS  
NEERU CHAUDHARY .....Defendant  
To, NEERU CHAUDHARY D/O SH. BHARAT PARASHAR, SUIT NO-140/59, DELTA-7, GAITAM BUDDHA NAGAR GREATER Noida, UP-201306.  
ALSO AT: HANUJ PPOORJA, MAJRA SALAH, THE KHAR ALAGRA, UTTAR PRADESH-202137.  
ALSO AT: H.NO.483, UTTARA-1, ALPHA 2, GOLF VISTA, NOIDA, UP-201306.  
ALSO AT: A.J.G.ACADEMY FRANCHISE 703A, 7TH FLOOR, OM TOWER, ALAHA BADLI, GAITAM BUDDHA NAGAR, DELHI-110027.  
EMAIL ID- neeru@neeru1985195  
WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 28.07.2022 the day fixed for the final disposal, I will be heard and determined ex parte.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 18.06.2022.  
Sd/-  
District Judge  
(Commercial Court)

**IN THE COURT OF SH. BHUPESH KUMAR, JUDGE, FAMILY COURTS, CENTRAL DISTRICT, TS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI**  
SUMMONS/NOTICE FOR SERVICE BY ADVERTISEMENT IN A NEWSPAPER (O.V. 1, 20)  
HMA NO. 1399/19  
PRIYANKA SRIVASTAV .....Petitioner  
VIS  
SUNIL SRIVASTAV .....Respondent  
To, SUNIL SRIVASTAVA, S/O SH. MAN MOHAN SRIVASTAV, R/O H.No. 552, GALI-24, CHANDAN VIHAR, SANT NAGAR, BURARI, DELHI.  
Whereas (petitioner) Priyanka Srivastav D/o Ravi Srivastav, W/o Sunil Srivastav, R/o Kh. No. 14/10, Ground Floor, Chandan Vihar, Sant Nagar, Sarai, Delhi has instituted divorce suit U/s 13(1)(i)(1) of Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 for Decree of marriage, you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or by a pleader on 20.10.2022 at 10.00 A.M to answer the same, failing which the suit will be disposed of Ex-Parte.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 08.06.2022.  
Sd/- (BHUPESH KUMAR) Judge, Family Court Central District, THQ Delhi.

**IN THE COURT OF SH. BHARAT PARASHAR DISTRICT JUDGE COMMERCIAL COURT-01 CENTRAL, ROOM NO-308 TS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI**  
PROCLAMATION REGARDING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT  
(Order S. Rules 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)  
SUIT NO-CS (COMM) NO. 2365/2019  
ICICI BANK LTD .....Plaintiff  
VS  
SANJAY KUMAR .....Defendant  
To, SANJAY KUMAR (MS. LYASAS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY) S/O SH. BUKHARI SINGH, R/O B-2103, GOLF CROFT SOCIETY, PLOT NO.4, SEC-11, DWARKA, NEAR ATYSHAM HOSPITAL, DELHI-110078.  
ALSO AT: PLOT NO-66, Flat No-202, F/SIDE, 1ST FLOOR, KH NO-286, BLOCK-D, BHARAT PARI, DELHI-110078.  
ALSO AT: LYASAS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY (MS. LYASAS) ITS PROPRIETOR 265A, PLOT NO-11, AGGARWAL PLAZA, SEC-12, DWARKA, DELHI-110078.  
EMAIL ID- not available  
PHONE NO- not available  
WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 28.07.2022 the day fixed for the final disposal, I will be heard and determined ex parte.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 18.06.2022.  
Sd/-  
District Judge  
(Commercial Court)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that I, Mr. Amit Gupta S/o Mr. Jugal Kishore 2] Mrs. Shefali Gupta W/o Mr. Amit Gupta is owner of through REGISTERED SALE DEED of A Entire Third Floor, With its Roof Rights, Built on Land area measuring 84 Sq. mtrs, Part of Free Hold Property bearing No. 67, Block-P, Situated in Layout Plan of Pitam Pura Residential Scheme, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034 vide through REGISTERED SALE DEED dated 20.12.2017. All persons are hereby informed that Mr. Amit Gupta S/o Mr. Jugal Kishore 2] Mrs. Shefali Gupta W/o Mr. Amit Gupta has approached Janasha Finance Private Ltd to take a Loan REGISTERED SALE DEED dated 20.12.2017 the said above mentioned property with JANASHA FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED. General public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.  
Prasoon Lata, Advocate, SG Associates (Law Firm) Unit No. 17, Basement, Phase C-76, Sector 2, Noida, UP 201301 E-MAIL: sgassociates@gmail.com, Ph.701172784, 8132000837

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
That my client Sh. Manish Kalia Son of Shri Nareesh Kalia House No. 331/31A, Street Number-4, Rajgarh Colony, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-110031, has lost his Original Demand Letter issued by D.D.A. vide File No. LC39 (579) 2015 /DDA/14NA, Regarding to Flat No. 42, Ground Floor, Block-B6, Pocket03, Sector-G8, Locality Narela, Delhi. If any person found the same, Please contact to my above named client at his above Address and Mobile Number- 9811436640 Or Deputy Director, D.D.A. at D.D.A. Housing Scheme 2014, Room No. 302, D-Block, 2nd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023.  
Sd/-  
Mukesh Sharma Advocate  
E-42, 1st Floor, E-Block, Karkardoma Court, Delhi-32

**LOST AND FOUND**  
Lost Original Property Documents i.e. Allotment letter, Demand letter, Preputual Lease Deed of House No. F-271, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 FIR / NCR Lodged vide LR. NO. 614304/2022 dated: 21/07/2022. Founder inform at above address.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My clients Sh. Rajiv Kumar Syal S/o Raghuvi Chand Syal & Mrs. Sunita Syal W/o Sh. Rajiv Kumar Syal both R/o B-10, Street No.4, Adarsh Nagar, Sec-28, Mandi Gobind Garh, Distt. Patnagarh Sahib, Punjab & present address B-51A, Kirti Nagar Park Gali No.1, Vikas Nagar, New Delhi-110018, disowned and severed all relationship with their son Vicky Syal & his wife Irena Syal separated them from all their movable and immovable property/assets acquired or to be acquired because of their misbehaviour & misconduct and their nature being disobedient. Any person dealing & relation with them in any manner shall be at their own risk, cost & consequences and my clients shall not be responsible for any act and deed of the forasaid.

**Advocate Rajiv Kumar**  
310, Dwarka Court, Delhi

**Lost & Found**  
To be known to all that my original GPA, Agreement to sale, Affidavit, Notary Public dated on 08/12/98 or will 15/06/2020 are regarding plot no.- 38 & 39, Kharsa no. 53/6, Bhawani Kunj D-2 Vasant Kunj, Vill- Mehrauli, Tehsil Mehrauli, New Delhi-70, Braham Prakash, 14A Raj Nagar -41, Palam Colony New Delhi-45 Phone No.-9811779901.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
GENERAL PUBLIC is hereby informed that my clients SHRI RAMESH KUMAR CHAUDHRI S/O SHRI CHAMBEEL SINGH CHAUDHARI & SMT. SUSHISH KAUAR W/O SHRI RAMESH KUMAR CHAUDHRI BOTH R/O FLAT NO.1094, SBI ENCLAVE, H-3 BLOCK, VIKAS PURI, New Delhi-110018, do hereby disowned and severed all their relations and connections with their son AMIT CHAUDHRI and his wife SMT. RUBY RANI, because they are out of control of my clients and have debarrated them from their all movable and immovable properties. Any body deals with them at his/herther own risk, cost and expenses. My clients shall neither liable and responsible for their acts, deeds and things under any circumstance.  
Sd/-  
(GAUTAM KUMAR SINGH) Regd. No. D/0232/1991 (Advocate)  
OFFICE: Sub Registrar Office, Transport Authority Building, Distt. Centre, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110059

न्यायपालिका-सिविल जज (सीडिज) बादा  
मूल बंद सं 81 म्य 2021  
1. सिध शक्ति ट्रेडर्स सिविल लाइन्स,  
बादा हाना प्राप्रेटर चिन्मि लाइन्स,  
सिध, सिविली सर्वोयन ग्राम, बादा  
2. चिन्मि कृष्ण सिध प्रभु च्यो श्री प्रेमनारायण सिध, सिविली सर्वोयन ग्राम बादा  
बादा  
चरण  
1. योगेश भद्रीया सिध श्री वृषनर सिंह भद्रीया, सिविली ग्राम पोट वरार तलसीया मीरता, लिता हमीरपुर  
2. वाई.एस.आर., मिमरलस सिमसि लि 2/10 दिवित्त तल बरक-2, कालका एक्स्प्रेसवे, बादा सिविली-19 जुरा योगेश भद्रीया साहिदारा  
सिधरकालिका  
हराह सिमल कृष्ण सिध बादागोन  
आदिक नयन  
सिधका नयन को नयन की है, सिहात आपका हुकम होत है कि आप बरतीर 27-7-2022 वेबसा नो बत दिने को असमलत या पारित करिक को नय मुकदमे को हलतम मे करार नयन बाकि किया गय हो और जो कूर बुरा और अपार पालिका मुकदमे को नयन हे सब वा सिमल बाकी को और जुरा को हि समन से समन का नयन है, सिमल हो और जवानीर सिध की कर और आपका सिमल हे कि सी नयन वृषनर दयनकरन चर कर, सिध पर आप बरतीर अपन जवानीर को इमदालत करन बाते हो  
आपको इमलत हो जाती है कि अपर बरान सकूर अपर हानिर न हाने नो कृष्णका बरत हानिरा आपके समुसध और कलत हाने हो। वरकन मे दयनकर और नयन असमल को अपन बरतीर बादा म्य 2022 हो को बाते किया गय।  
सिविल जज (सीडिज) बादा

**M.P. STATE LIVESTOCK & POULTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
Main Road No. 3, Kotara Sultanabad, Bhopal-462003  
Tele Fax : 0755-2776086, E-mail : mlpdcbp1@rediffmail.com  
NIT No. 04/MLPDC/Purchase/2022-23/ Bhopal Dated : 23.07.2022

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
Online Tenders are invited by Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh State Livestock and Poultry Development Corporation for "Purchase of Equipment, Consumables, Liquid Nitrogen Container and Bulk Tank" during the year of 2022-23.  
Last date for Submit bid online **06.08.2022 up to 17.30**  
The amount of EMD is : Rs. 1.00/- Lacs (One Lac Only).  
Tender documents can be purchase Online from **https://www.mptenders.gov.in**  
M.P. Madhyam/105582/2022 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**देवी अहिल्या विश्वविद्यालय**  
आर.एच.टी. मार्ग, इन्दौर (म.प्र.)  
क्रमांक-वि.वि.नु./निविदा/2022-23/579 निचांक- 21.7.2022

**ई-निविदा**  
देवी अहिल्या विश्वविद्यालय, इन्दौर के मुख्यालय विभाग में (1) ब्याडेट क्रमकोड '18' \*23' 60 GSM 250 मैट्रिक टन क्षमता बन्द एवं (2) विश्वविद्यालय में शासक बाली उदार पुस्तिकाओं के निर्माण हेतु ई-निविदाएं [mptenders.gov.in](https://mptenders.gov.in) पर निचांक 6.8.2022 को सांच 5.30 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। विस्तृत निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना व अन्य शर्तों से संबंधित जानकारी [mptenders.gov.in](https://mptenders.gov.in) पर निचांक 23.7.2022 को सुबह 10.00 बजे से देवी का वेबसाईट 'निविदा' की सूचना विश्वविद्यालय को वेबसाईट पर भी उपलब्ध है। निविदा में किसी भी प्रकार के संबंधन की सूचना विश्वविद्यालय को वेबसाईट के माध्यम से की भी जावेगी। इस संबंध में किसी भी प्रकार की जानकारी के लिये दूरभाष क्रमांक 0731-2528966 पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है।  
डॉ. म. मधयम/105582/2022 कुलसचिव

**“IMPORTANT”**  
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COMMONWEALTH  
GAMES, 2022

BIRMINGHAM  
28 JULY- 8 AUG

Commonwealth of emotions: Breaking stereotypes, a novice's dare, a desire to end poverty, a mother's struggle and curious origins.

# Race to change perceptions

Kenya is known as a distance-running giant, but Omanyala, the fastest African ever, is showing they can excel at sprints too

NIHAL KOSHIE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 22

FERDINAND OMANYALA has sprinted much faster than the 10.01 seconds he clocked at a Grand Prix in Lagos in March last year, a few months before the Tokyo Olympics. But there is a reason he remembers the heats where he finished first, before winning the final a few hours later. With the Olympics round the corner, Omanyala wanted more exposure by running against the best sprinters. A letter was sent out to the director of a Diamond League competition for an entry for Africa's most exciting sprint star.

"You will not believe the reply. I ran 10.01 in Nigeria and we sent a request to participate. Then the guy replies that he doesn't believe the times because he doesn't believe a Kenyan can run so fast. He said 'let us look out and see what he runs in the future'. It showed people didn't believe I could run fast because I was from Kenya," Omanyala says.

The 26-year-old soon proved the Diamond League director's doubts were misplaced. At the Olympics, he became the first Kenyan to reach the semifinals of the men's 100 metres. When he returned home, Omanyala was greeted by dancing crowds at the airport and taken on open-top car rides as hundreds cheered.

A couple of months later at the Kip Keino Classic in Kasarani, in a field which included America's best - Justin Gatlin and Trayvon Bromell - Omanyala clocked 9.77 seconds, the ninth-fastest ever in the 100m.

This year too, he is clocking fast times and is also winning races against some of the best. Omanyala won a title which matters in the continent.

At the African Athletics Championships, he beat defending champion Akani Simbine, this generation's foremost sprinter from Africa, by three-thousandths of a second. South African Simbine and Omanyala both clocked 9.93 seconds and it required a photo finish to decide the winner. The Kenyan thus earned bragging rights in Africa. Bettering Simbine, a fourth-place finisher at the Tokyo Games, was testament to Omanyala's rising stature.

To find another Kenyan with the title of fastest in Africa, the clock has to be turned back to 1990. Joseph Gikonyo's personal best was

10.28 seconds. He also clocked 10 seconds but it was wind-aided. Omanyala has gone sub-10 seven times in the past 18 months.

A sprinter from Kenya at the highest echelons of the event is still a novelty for a country which has dominated middle- and long-distance running for years at the Olympic Games and World Championships.

"So many people are asking how to do that (sprint), but it is great to do something different. I still get those questions because so many people cannot believe that a Kenyan can sprint," Omanyala says.

## All in the mind

A culture that discouraged youngsters in Kenya to take up sprinting created a mental block, Omanyala believes. Even the few who tried their hand at the 100m and 200m didn't have the drive and belief to take them to the next level.

"Previously, people had this notion in their head that a Kenyan can't sprint. So, any time a kid or an athlete or someone wanted to do sprints, a guardian would tell them that you won't be going too far with this. Also, the federation was not supporting sprinters much because when sprinters would be taken to championships, they would go out there and not compete seriously. The federations treated sprinters as jokers. There was not much support. Sprinters also thought of just making the national team and didn't want to push themselves to greater achievements. It was mostly about the mind," Omanyala says.

This trend was not surprising. The Rift Valley in Southern Kenya is home to some of the best middle- and long-distance runners and is where athletes from around the world come to train. At nearly 2000 metres above sea level, it is ideal for high-altitude training. But that isn't the only reason why the likes of Eliud Kipchoge, widely considered the greatest marathon runner, has emerged from this region. Kipchoge, like many of the other elite runners from the region, belongs to the Kalenjin tribe. Their lean muscular frame, long legs and endurance built from a young age when they walked or travelled by foot for many kilometres to get to school have made them good distance runners.

Of the 113 medals Kenya has won at the Olympics, 106 have been in track and field and a majority of them in middle- and long-distance running, including marathons.



At the Tokyo Olympics, Ferdinand Omanyala became the first Kenyan to reach the semifinals of the men's 100 metres.

However, no sprinter has come close to winning a medal on the world stage.

Omanyala believes the winds of change are blowing. "I am the first one to do sprints professionally in Kenya. It is not an easy way of coming up. But now that I am there, I will try to promote sprints. The country also now thinks we can do well in sprints. I remember there was a weekend meet (in January) and there were about 19 heats. Earlier, there could have been four to five heats maximum. In the near future, we will have sprinters from not just Kenya coming up but also from Africa," he says.

## From rugby to sprinting

Omanyala's father was a footballer and sprinter but wanted his five sons to be academically-inclined. The boys had a library at home built by their father. The books were all about "coursework and the syllabus", Omanyala recalls.

"Growing up, I was not much into sports. My dad wanted us to get through school and

work hard. Primary school was all about classes and reading. There were not many sports activities."

His father got a feeling that the third of his five sons could run fast. Omanyala was difficult to get hold of when the former sprinter wanted to discipline him.

"I remember, I used to make a mistake and was chased by my parents but they could not catch me. My dad used to tell me I am fast." School was 30 minutes away by bicycle and Omanyala cycled up and down. He started playing a sport at a school in Kimilili. Track and field didn't catch his fancy; it was rugby.

"I never even imagined I could be where I am today, because I never thought I could be a sprinter. In high school, I got interested in rugby. So, I wanted to be a rugby star because Kenya is known for its rugby sevens. I trained with a rugby team."

As a winger, a young Omanyala was too fast for most of the teams. He didn't have to even side-step to beat defenders.

## BRIEFLY

### High jumper Shankar to compete at CWG



**New Delhi:** Indian high jumper Tejaswin Shankar was on Friday cleared to compete at the upcoming Commonwealth Games after the organisers accepted his entry on the request of Indian Olympic Association (IOA), ending a month-long drama surrounding his participation. The organisers had initially rejected Shankar's late entry but the IOA has now got confirmation from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) and Birmingham CWG organisers about acceptance of his entry after a Delegate Registration Meeting (DRM). **PTI**

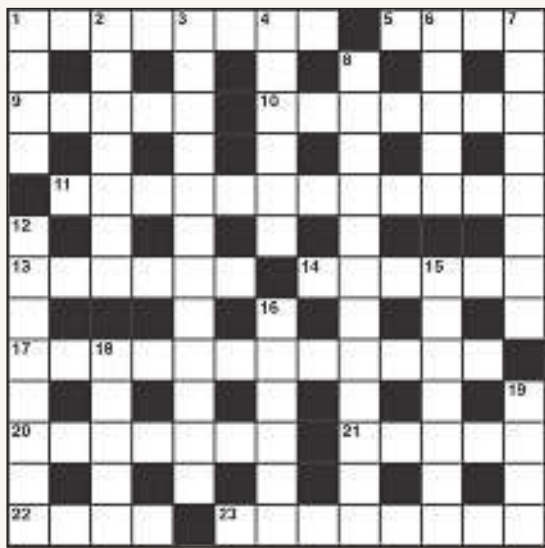
### Six CWG-bound cricketers await visas

**New Delhi:** Six members of the Indian women's cricket contingent are yet to get visa, less than 48 hours before their departure for the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. Women's cricket is making its debut at the Commonwealth Games. The Indian squad is currently training in Bengaluru and is scheduled to leave for Birmingham on Sunday. The BCCI is in touch with the Indian Olympic Association on the issue. **PTI**

### Twin blows for South Africa cricket team

**Birmingham:** After missing the first T20I, Marizanne Kapp and Tumi Sekhukhune will miss the remainder of the series and are in doubt for the Games, which begin on July 28, the ICC said in a press release. Sekhukhune re-injured her groin earlier on tour and will recuperate at home, while Kapp returns to Gqeberha to attend a family matter. While a Cricket South Africa statement did not disclose the matter, Kapp's wife and Proteas teammate Dane van Niekerk confirmed via social media that their brother-in-law had been involved in an accident that had left him in intensive care. **PTI**

## CROSSWORD 4801



### ACROSS

- 1 Life after death? (8)
- 5 Throw into play? (4)
- 9 Refuse to make fun of (5)
- 10 Giving to the poor but cautious about it (7)
- 11 Study perfume of the valley that's getting better (12)
- 13 Elementary sum I do get wrong (6)
- 14 Capacity to get on after bitterness? (6)
- 17 Nine starting in an uncompromising way (12)
- 20 Sheet that doesn't stay put - it's cold (3,4)
- 21 Give instruction in church after a meal (5)
- 22 Habit to boast about (4)
- 23 False encouragement given on debts (8)

### DOWN

- 1 A singular occasion (4)
- 2 Briefly I draw no conclusion (2,1,4)
- 3 Not good value for a bun perhaps (12)
- 4 Remember and make another visit (6)
- 6 A woman; one about 51 (5)
- 7 Attempt to get smart at the meeting (8)
- 8 How a fellow's amusement may be killing? (12)
- 12 Here's hoping I spring a surprise (8)
- 15 Yearn to have an attempt in the distant past (4,3)
- 16 Successfully retired? (6)
- 18 Father leaves the pair of them (5)
- 19 So it is held by most husbands (4)

**Solutions Crossword 4800:** Across: 1 Round hand, 8 Often, 9 Battery, 10 Groove, 11 Desert, 12 Abstract, 15 All clear, 18 Edited, 20 Enmity, 21 Impinge, 22 Ocean, 23 Tradesmen. Down: 2 Orate, 3 Nutmeg, 4 Heritage, 5 Dorrit, 6 Ottoman, 7 Unsettled, 11 Decameron, 13 Screamed, 14 Slimmer, 16 Latent, 17 Admits, 19 Eagle.

## JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

If the path be beautiful, let us not ask \_\_\_\_\_ - Anatole France (5,2,5)

GSEEE



HYAIR



EEVLST



AOSDHW



Answer: If the path be beautiful, let us not ask where it leads. - Anatole France

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## SUDOKU 4904

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 4903



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Although some people are inventive, others are belligerent. You'd be advised to watch your wallet and think very long and hard before making any rash commitments, especially financial ones. You don't want to say 'yes' now, only to end up letting someone down.

### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Venus' relationship with passionate Pluto is certainly stormy. You would be well advised to adopt a posture of considerable caution unless, that is, you are prepared for all the consequences. Only make decisive moves if you're ready for anything.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Secret and hidden resentment is your enemy. You see, long-forgotten frustrations may build up to the point where you blow up at completely the wrong person. Channel your righteous anger into selfless purposes, and always try to give partners and rivals the benefit of the doubt.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The strongest planetary alignment in your chart suggests a combination of creative passion and social ambition. Woe betide the person who stands in your way. They are likely to find that you are much tougher than they thought. A word of advice: steer clear of financial risks.

### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Partners and loved ones still hold the key to your happiness. Also, recent unexpected developments at work don't seem to have upset your confidence. It seems that it's undercurrents in your personal life which pose the greatest threat, and complacency your major enemy.

### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

News from overseas, which should arrive over the next few days, may cause you to catch your breath. Travelling and other adventurous Virgos may expect excitement but should take absolutely nothing for granted. In addition to which, you'll put in any effort to make sure that partners are happy and healthy.

### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Any financial commitment may be about to grow out of all proportion to the original aim. Only by savage pruning at the roots will you guarantee that potentially escalating costs can be cut. You'll probably be taking some radical, even shocking, decisions next week.

### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

No matter how trying or upsetting the situation becomes, you must take very great care on the home front and consider the matter very carefully before sounding off. It is impossible to predict the outcome your actions may have on someone else's feelings or behaviour.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

Your chart is showing spectacular developments. With some wonderful planetary aspects now in operation, you are primed to achieve a great deal indeed. If possible, keep your end up by demonstrating that you are no stranger to hard work and high principles.

### CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Feelings are running high and you'll be in a mood to take risks. I think you're in a strong position, but beware of false confidence, because there'll be times when you pick up the wrong end of the stick. Harmless adventures may be best. Keep an eye on your wallet.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You have a tendency to imagine that you can do without the support of close friends and loved ones. Right now you're liable to swing between never wanting to have anything to do with somebody ever again and making a total life-long commitment.

### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

There's no reason why you should take all the responsibility, and nobody can complain if you decide to leave awkward issues to others. If you're feeling introverted or withdrawn, it's probably because you need some space and time on your own to think things over.



# Chopra’s date with history

National Record holder vies to become the first javelin thrower since 2009 to hold both, Olympics and World C’ship, titles at same time

NIHAL KOSHIE

NEW DELHI, JULY 22

AS EVER, it took just one throw for Neeraj Chopra to wrap up his day and qualify for the Sunday finals. History awaits. Since 2009, no one has had both the Olympics and World Championships medals wrapped around their necks at the same time.

In a back-breaking sport in which the slightest imbalance in alignment of the joints, limbs and torso can result in injury, finding the perfect balance between strength and flexibility is key, the search for precision technique a lifelong quest and the body impacted by extreme force while throwing the javelin, Neeraj Chopra is making big distances look easy.

Early birds too could have missed watching Chopra throw in a blink. At about 5:30 am on Friday morning, the 24-year-old Olympic champion donning a sky blue kit needed less than half a minute to seal his spot in the final of the World Championships with a throw of 88.39 metres.

He didn’t tumble at the edge of the scratchline like he usually does but just used palms to arrest his fall. It took just one throw. There was no stress about the automatic qualifying mark of 83.50 metres.

When the second thrower Czech Republic’s Jakub Vadlejch, the Olympic silver medalist, was getting ready, Chopra was winding down and looking forward to his first ever World Championship final.

Chopra, since winning the World Junior gold six years ago, has spoilt Indian fans by winning a medal almost every time he has entered a competition with the historic Olympic gold being the watershed moment for Indian track and field. At Eugene, Chopra’s quest to add the World Championship gold to his CV, if successful, will make him one of the greatest ever.

He will become the first male javelin thrower since Norway’s Andreas Thorkildsen in 2009 to be the title holder in both the Olympics and the World Championships at the same time. Before Thorkildsen, the legendary Jan Zelezny of the Czech Republic, was the owner of the two prestigious gold medals simultaneously.

Like in the qualifiers for the final at the Tokyo Olympics, Chopra looked in no trouble early Thursday. In Tokyo he had thrown 86.65 metres to make the final. His 88-plus throw on Friday morning was a metre and a half less than his national record of 89.94 metres. But in qualifying Chopra would not have gone all out though he said later that he wanted to get the job done with a big throw in the first round itself. He was only required to go beyond the automatic qualifying mark. That he could touch 88 metres is an indication that he can push further in the final.

## Starting from scratch

Seeing Chopra unleash national records - he had broken it twice since returning to competition in June after the Olympics - it is easy to overlook how he was in a race against time to get back to his best after losing nearly four months in the off season because of felicitations around the country. He had to start from scratch in December when he reached Chula Vista in California. He wasn’t in the best physical shape.

Almost 14 kilograms over his optimal weight and with a higher than acceptable body fat percentage for a world class thrower, Chopra’s comeback began with a change of diet. Less carbohydrates, more protein were on his plate and refined sugar was a strict no. He didn’t find it easy to cover three rounds of a 400 metre track but by controlling what he ate, burning fat and with weight training he became leaner. It took nearly a month and a half for him to start light throwing sessions. Chopra and his team had to train smartly

## Paul becomes first Indian to qualify for TJ final

*Eugene:* Eldhose Paul became the first Indian to qualify for the triple jump final at the World Championships with an effort of 16.68m. He finished sixth in Group A qualification round and 12th overall to make the cut for Sunday’s final (6:50am IST). The 25-year-old Paul, who reached here just a few days ago due to visa issues, has a season’s and personal best of 16.99m, recorded in April. **PTI**

because of the paucity of time. He isn’t as strong as he was during the Olympics, but he has made up for it by improving his natural arm speed, fine tuning his technique and also a better block of the leading leg before release of the javelin. The distances he has touched in a short season - three competitions before the world championships - left his coach Dr Klaus Bartonietz ‘pleasantly surprised’.

Chopra has not been short on confidence either with two national records created in less than a month.

An 89.30 metres at the Paavo Nurmi Games, his first competition after the Olympics, to finish second, 86.69 on a slippery runway at the Kuortane Games for first place and 89.94 at the Stockholm Diamond League, just behind World Champion Anderson Peters of Grenada.

Talking about what has worked for him this season as compared to the Tokyo Olympics, Chopra had said: “Back then my strength was more compared to today. If I talk about my strength in Tokyo, my full squat was 160 kilograms to 170 kilograms. Now I have done up to 140 kilograms because of the lack of time to build strength. This time the focus is on the technique. My strength is at a good level but the technique in throws is important, like the angle of the throw and that is helping me,” Chopra said.

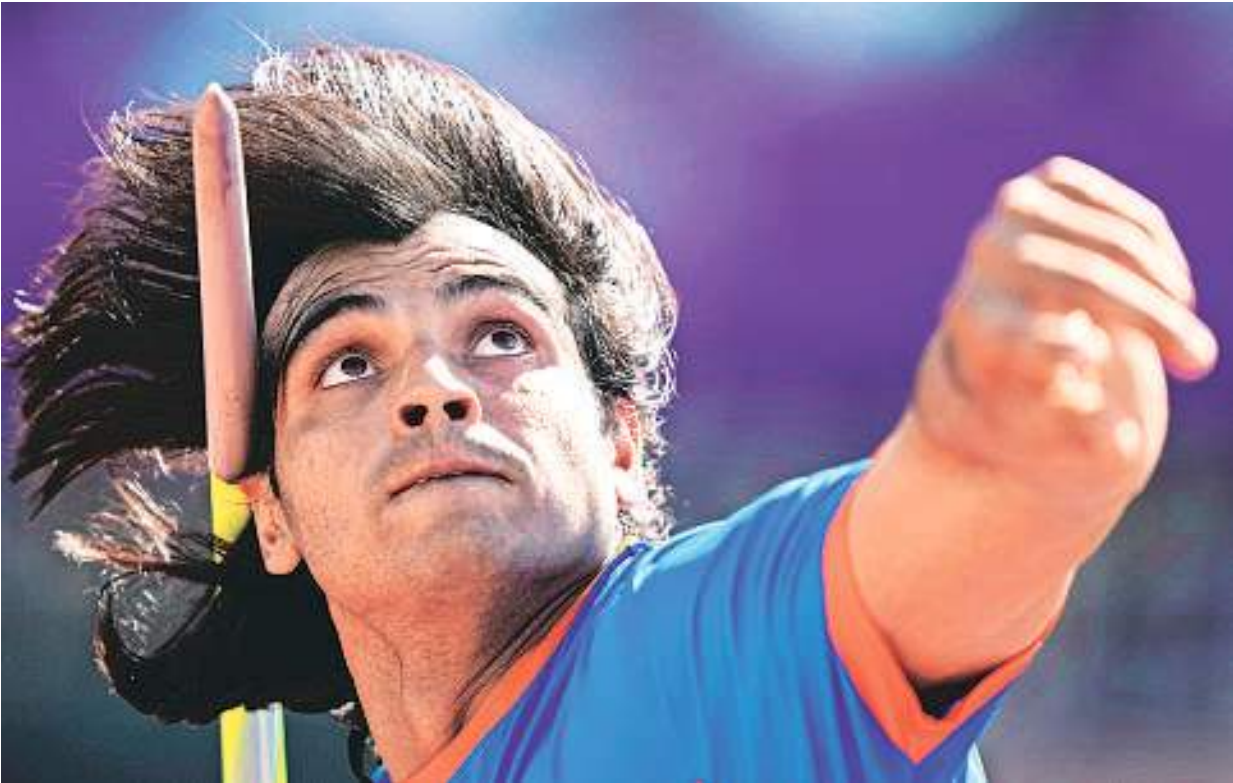
Chopra has thrown with a lighter javelin in practice to help boost his arm speed. The standard javelin used in the men’s event weighs 800 grams and Chopra uses one which is 100 grams lighter to work on arm speed.

“It is not easy to improve it (arm speed). My natural arm speed is good. We can’t do too much exercise (to improve arm speed), but we can throw with light javelin. In practice after throwing with 800 grams javelin, I throw with a 700 gram javelin to see how fast the arm is. It is lighter and the arm will go faster. The angle of the javelin needs to be good (34 to 36 degrees) and the arm speed too. If arm speed is fast, the force will be transferred to the javelin,” Chopra said.

Peters will once again be a formidable opponent in the final on Sunday morning. Competing in Group B of the qualifying round Peters threw 89.91 metres, the best among all throwers. The Grenadian, the defending World Champion, has the world leading throw of 93.07 metres at the Diamond League in Doha in March this year.

There is anticipation of Chopra going 90 metres and beyond and it is a question he has been asked time and again and the distance is at the back of his mind. There could be no better place than the World Championship final for an Indian thrower to break the barrier but funny things happen in a big final - like finalists losing their collective form or one set encountering headwind and another benefitting from a sudden tailwind.

Both Chopra and his coach Bartonietz have spoken with cautious optimism about going beyond 90m. Sunday could be a special day for Indian track and field in more ways than one.



Neeraj Chopra needed just one throw, which travelled a distance of 88.39m, to qualify for the World Championship final. *AP*

# Rohit’s village follows his exploits on mobile phone due to power cut

ANDREW AMSAN

NEW DELHI, JULY 22

WHILE JAVELIN thrower Rohit Yadav was competing in the qualification rounds at the World Championships

in Eugene, his family and folks back in Dabhiya village of Uttar Pradesh’s Jaunpur district were praying that the battery in his father’s smartphone lasts till the final results came in.

The battery didn’t let them down, and neither did Rohit who managed a best throw of 80.42m to join compatriot Neeraj Chopra in the final. It’s been three days since the power at Rohit’s village, about 45km from the main town, went off after a thunderstorm. But the Yadavs are now used to frequent power cuts. To ensure they didn’t miss Rohit in action, father Sabhajeet went to the town a day before to get his mobile charged from an inverter and also bought a subscription for the streaming app for the Worlds.

“Our television is out of order due to frequent power fluctuations and watching on mobile was the only option. Some boys in the village told me that I would need to buy an application subscription to watch it. I gave Rs 300 to a shopkeeper and he did the rest. I don’t even know how to open the application,” says 65-year-old Sabhajeet.

Rohit was introduced to the sport when he was around 14 by his father, who is still an active long-distance runner. He bagged a gold at the Bengaluru TCS 10K run in the 65-69 age category in May this year.

“I have taken part in all kinds of sports and always had a special spot for javelin. I wanted him to give it a shot and I am so happy that today he’s representing India at the world level. I went to Jaunpur market

## Lyles leads US sweep; Jackson tops Jamaica 1-2

*Eugene:* Noah Lyles retained his 200 metres title as U.S. sprinters secured their second podium sweep while Shericka Jackson and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce made it a 1-2 finish for Jamaica in the women’s event. It is the first time a country has swept both men’s sprint events in the same year at the World Championships. Lyles, bronze medallist at the Tokyo Games, scorched to victory in 19.31 seconds to become the third-fastest athlete of all time over the distance and break four-time Olympic champion Michael Johnson’s national record.

**REUTERS**

to get him his first bamboo javelin,” Sabhajeet proudly recalls. Rohit’s elder brother Rahul and younger sibling Rohan are also javelin throwers.

However, as soon as Rohit started to progress in the sport, bamboo javelins became redundant and those made of fibre were beyond their purchasing power. The youngster had to manage with low-quality aluminium javelins for quite some time until Sabhajeet’s friend volunteered to fund an imported javelin. “My friend Bhaskar Desai, who I have met during my marathons, offered to buy us an imported javelin. It cost him around Rs 60,000 in 2016,” says Sabhajeet.

## Dope taint

With the right equipment in hand, Rohit didn’t look back as he topped a series of junior-level meets. He came to the limelight after winning a gold in 2016 and backed his credentials with a Youth Championship silver medal in Bangkok the following year.

**From a constructive and sustainability point of view, ISL longevity, this (making clubs the main owners) is the way forward. So in that sense, it’s a missed opportunity.”**

MANDAR TAMHANE

CEO, BENGALURU FC

their objections, the issue of the league is likely to be at the heart of their arguments.

## Self-managed league system

In 2014, research conducted by the International Centre for Sports Studies on behalf of FIFA, found that out of the 32 national associations it studied - including India - 26 top division leagues were self-managed by the clubs, with 22 being financially independent.

“Our analysis clearly shows that self-management goes hand in hand with the ability to generate sufficient income to finance the administrative structure needed to properly run competitions,” the study noted.

India, of course, did not feature among the nations that had a league managed by the clubs. At the time of the research, the I-League, which failed to take off, was the

## ON THE TUBE

**ATHLETICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

10.20pm onwards, Live on Sony Sports Network  
Javelin throw final: 6.35am (Sunday)

# Dhawan shows he is India’s ageing but firm backbone

ABHISHEK PUROHIT

JULY 22

THE OVAL ODI against England earlier this month was Shikhar Dhawan’s first game for India in five months. Rohit Sharma’s volley of hooks and pulls meant the small chase of 111 was finished by the 19th over, and was little more than a nice centre-wicket workout for Dhawan. He would fall to soft dismissals for single-digit scores in the following two ODIs on the tour.

Leading a side without several regulars to the West Indies next, the stand-in skipper and single-format India opener perhaps needed to start the three-match ODI series on a strong note. And the 36-year old did exactly that on Friday with a brisk 97 off 99 balls, missing what would have been his 18th ODI century by a whisker to a sharp catch at backward point by Shamarh Brooks. Before that, he put on his 24th century opening partnership in ODIs, this time with Shubman Gill.

It was a typically busy, almost auto-pilot, effort from the Indian captain at the Queen’s Park Oval in Port of Spain. On a pitch where the ball gripped for the spinners, and hitting out became harder after about the halfway mark, Dhawan made sure India exploited the new ball and the field restrictions after losing the toss.

Punishing the West Indies seamers for some wayward bowling on either side of the stumps, Dhawan collected boundaries through his strong area square of the wicket. When they strung together some disciplined lines on occasion, Dhawan left without fuss, holding his bat close to the body and letting short-of-length deliveries climb over off stump.

It helped that both the specialist West Indies spinners, Akeal Hosen and Gudakesh Motie, were left-arm orthodox, turning the ball into the left-hander. Dhawan was tighter against Hosen, who bowled flatter and gave barely any width. But he took the odd chance against Motie’s flight; after a slog-swept six from over the stumps, Motie changed the angle, but Dhawan deposited him over deep midwicket even from round the wicket. Often, he ran down the wicket to take singles in front of the square with the turn, never allowing the dots to build.

Almost 12 years since his India debut, Dhawan has shown once again that his one-day game still remains on song. He had made a couple of half-centuries in South Africa at the start of the year as well. And while the three-figure score has been elusive after the 2019 World Cup, he is averaging nearly 50 since, with nine fifties in 21 innings, including three 90s.

Especially in the absence of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, like on this West Indies tour, he remains the ageing but firm backbone of this ODI line-up, building big partnerships with the future (Gill) and the present (Shreyas Iyer) of Indian cricket. And he does it while being restricted to single-digit appearances each year for the team in a single format.

**BRIEF SCORES:** India 308 for 7 in 50 overs (Dhawan 97, Gill 64, Iyer 54; Motie 2/54, Joseph 2/61) vs West Indies



Shikhar Dhawan scored 97 off 99 balls against WI in the first ODI on Friday. *AP*

## SELF-MANAGED OR FEDERATION-CONTROLLED?

# How CoA missed a chance to align league structure with global practices

MIHIR VASAVDA

MUMBAI, JULY 22

THE GERMANS called it a ‘birth defect’.

Since its inception, the country’s football leagues have been run and governed by their football association. Unhappy with the arrangement, which they claimed robbed them of their ‘independence’, the clubs from the top two divisions, Bundesliga and Bundesliga 2, cut the proverbial umbilical cord. And at the turn of the century, they all came together to fix the ‘defect’ by forming a separate body that took over the management and operations of Germany’s domestic leagues.

This move was in continuation of a structure that was well established in most mature football countries. Clubs in Spain, the Netherlands, and France as well as Japan and South Korea had already formed associations independent financially from their national federation to organise and manage the domestic league systems.

For years, there have been muted calls for the same in India, where the premier division, the Indian Super League (ISL), is essentially run by what can be described as a start-up - Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL), a joint venture between Reliance

Sports and Star India under the aegis of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

Last week, the Committee of Administrators (CoA), tasked by the Supreme Court to draft the constitution of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) as per the National Sports Code of 2011, submitted a copy to the apex court.

According to Article 1.50 of the draft, the CoA proposed the ‘senior most top division league’ be ‘owned, operated, recognised and directly managed by the AIFF’. It goes on to add that the ‘above functions/roles cannot be delegated or assigned to any other entity or organisation.’

## Missed opportunity

While the Sports Code does not get into the issue of a professional league specifically, the drafting of this particular article leaves very little scope for the clubs to become majority stakeholders of the league. And in doing so, the CoA might have missed an opportunity to align India’s domestic structure in the ‘right way’, feel senior Indian football officials.

The chief executive of former ISL champions Bengaluru FC, Mandar Tamhane, said: “Ideally, this could have been done and if the CoA would have guided us in that direction, it would have been appreciated.”

The FSDL has challenged the CoA’s proposal



## ISL is India’s top division right now.

in the Supreme Court, which heard the case on Thursday. Former Solicitor General Harish Salve, representing FSDL, argued: “Certain implications which may flow from the language... may tie the hands of all future parties to bring a league system which is prevalent in a large number of countries. Whether the language needs a bit of toning is something Your Lordships may have to consider.”

The Supreme Court bench, comprising Justices DY Chandrachud, Surya Kant and AS Bopanna, agreed to look at the ‘toning’ during the next hearing on July 28, when it will hear the objections raised by all parties in relation to the draft constitution. When FSDL presents