



TEJASHWI SET TO BECOME DY CM
in Mahagathbandhan govt

NITISH: FELT SUFFOCATED IN NDA,
the kind of atmosphere built

BJP: PERENNIAL PALTU RAM...
no one can trust him now

The Patna Powershift

Nitish dumps BJP, returns to Grand Alliance, stakes claim

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 9

FIVE YEARS after he resigned as Chief Minister and walked out of the Mahagathbandhan when RJD leader and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav refused to step down in the wake of an alleged corruption case, JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar returned to the Mahagathbandhan and Tejashwi.

On Tuesday, Nitish ended his alliance with the BJP, resigned as the coalition Chief Minister, only to stake claim again hours later with Tejashwi as his deputy. He is all set to form a new government with the support of the RJD, Congress, CPI, CPI (M-L) and HAM (S) and an Independent — they together make a team of 164 MLAs in a House of 243.

Before Nitish submitted his resignation to Bihar Governor Phagu Chauhan in the afternoon, the JD(U) and RJD held separate meetings with their MLAs. The RJD reposed faith in Nitish's leadership and did not put any

pre-condition for extending him support to form a government. The Congress and CPI (M-L) had already offered their support to Nitish on Monday.

Nitish met the Governor again in the evening along with Tejashwi, carrying signed letters of support from all allies to form the next government. The Governor is yet to decide on a date for the swearing-in ceremony.

After emerging from the Raj Bhavan, Nitish said, "I have nothing much to say on how suffocated we felt in the NDA... There was a dominant view in the party about snapping ties with BJP. Now, the Grand Alliance has seven parties."

Taking a swipe at the BJP, he said, "Everyone knew what kind of an atmosphere was being built. We will continue to work for Bihar."

Asked if he aspired to become a PM candidate, he said, "I have a mandate to work for Bihar."

Tejashwi said, "In the entire Hindi heartland, the BJP has no

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar with RJD leaders Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap Yadav at former Bihar Chief Minister Rabri Devi's residence in Patna on Tuesday. *ANI*

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



EXPLAINED

Between now and 2024

THE JD(U)-BJP parting of ways in Bihar, soon after the Shiv Sena split leading to a new government in Maharashtra, points to political realignment as parties start strategising for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The run-up will see Assembly elections in at least seven states — Gujarat and Himachal this year, and Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana next year.



Maharashtra gets a Cabinet after 40 days; 9 seats each for BJP and Shinde



Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, CM Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis with some of the new ministers in Mumbai on Tuesday. *Amit Chakravarty*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

FORTY DAYS after he was sworn in as Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Eknath Shinde on Tuesday carried out the much-awaited expansion of the State Cabinet with Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari administering the oath of office to 18 ministers at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai.

Reflecting the delicate balance in the new ruling coalition of Shinde's Shiv Sena faction and the BJP led by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, the "first phase" of Cabinet expansion included nine ministers each from both sides.

Indicating the challenges involved in the exercise, Shinde said, "Today, we have done the first phase of expansion. In the second phase, we will certainly accommodate more candidates."

Similar assurances echoed from the BJP, which has 106 MLAs in the assembly that cur-

rently has 287 members. Shinde had obtained the support of 40 of the 55 Sena MLAs to win the confidence vote.

The ministers from the BJP include state party president Chandrakant Patil, Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil, Sudhir Mungantiwar, Vijaykumar Gavit, Girish Mahajan, Ravindra Chavan, Suresh Khade, Atul Sawe and Mangal Prabhat Lodha.

Those from the Shinde camp are Gulabrao Patil, Dada Bhuse, Sanjay Rathod, Sandipan Bhumre, Uday Samant, Tanaji Sawant, Deepak Kesarkar, Abdul Sattar and Shambhuraje Desai.

Apart from experience and seniority, the Cabinet composition reflects regional and caste equations. There are four representatives from north Maharashtra, four each from Marathwada and western

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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[PAGE 7](#)

Double engine decoupled: Loss of JD(U)'s EBC bastion rattles BJP

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

IN PUBLIC remarks over Nitish Kumar's move to end their alliance, Bihar BJP leaders are calling it "good riddance". But the parting of ways with the JD (U), its only major ally in the NDA, has the BJP in a dilemma and the party's national leadership is nervous because the realignment in Bihar, a crucial Hindi heartland state, has the potential to jeopardize BJP calculations for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Although the Bihar unit of the BJP always had a grudge against Nitish and many there looked at him with suspicion, the party national leadership, sources said, maintained that the JD (U) chief would remain at the top post, irrespective of the arith-



Bihar BJP president Sanjay Jaiswal with outgoing Deputy CM Tarkishore Prasad in Patna on Tuesday. *PTI*

metic in the alliance tally. The BJP leadership, sources said, was conscious of what the Kurmi leader could bring to the table in an electoral test.

The BJP top brass in Delhi did

not offer any immediate comment on the developments in Patna after Nitish made his move.

Some BJP leaders believe that Nitish may emerge as a binding

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

BREAK AND MAKE

Pre-2024, it may seem Opp has added numbers in Bihar but Nitish will need to work harder to stitch a shared story
[PAGE 12](#)

INSIDE



[PAGE 6](#)

Nitish Aayog: Is stage being set for him as Opp face against Modi?

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FOR MANY in Opposition, Nitish Kumar's decision to snap ties with the BJP was a coup — a pay-back in the same coin to the ruling party which they say is out to "destabilise" non-BJP governments in states. But was Kumar merely trying to save his party, Janata Dal (United), from a split, or is there more to his resignation than meets the eye?

With less than two years for Lok Sabha elections in April-May 2024, Nitish Kumar emerging as a consensus candidate of a reconfigured alliance of Opposition parties to challenge Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a pos-

sibility many in Opposition are already discussing.

While leaders say it is early to link the JD(U)-BJP split with the Opposition strategy for 2024 — apart from the fact that the new RJD-JD(U)-Congress-Left alliance in Bihar can be a formidable front against the BJP — they reckon that Kumar's shift to the Opposition camp can act as a catalyst for anti-BJP parties. A socialist veteran of stature, Kumar is perceived to be non-corrupt with a proven governance track record.

Kumar may be acceptable to many in the Opposition who are not comfortable with the Congress leading the grouping. NCP chief Sharad Pawar is an acceptable face, but he is past his

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

SIMPLY PUT
ELECTRICITY BILL: THE PROPOSALS AND PROBLEMS
[PAGE 14](#)

EXPRESS NETWORK

COPS: 1 HELD FROM AZAMGARH, LINKED TO I.S., PLANNED I-DAY ATTACK
[PAGE 8](#)

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SANDIP G
CHENNAI, AUGUST 9

AFTER FORCING a draw from the clutches of defeat against Poland's Oliwia Kiolbasa, guaranteeing a gold medal for Ukraine in the Chess Olympiad on Tuesday, Anna Ushenina quietly walked to the side of the hall and slumped into the arms of her teammate Natalia Buksa.

There were no leaps of joy or high-fives, just tears and hugs. When millions back home, facing a brutal Russian invasion, were fleeing for life and struggling for food and shelter, the gold medal

Customs to airlines: Give details of foreign travellers for 'risk analysis'

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

THE CENTRAL Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has asked airlines to mandatorily share PNR (passenger name record) details of all international passengers with the National Customs Targeting Centre-Passenger, 24 hours prior to departure of flights.

Airline officials said the move creates a standardised process of passenger data sharing with the Customs department, given that non-standard requests for passenger data could potentially lead to privacy infringements.

As per the CBIC notification issued on Monday, airlines will have to share 19 data points with the authorities, including name of the passenger, date of intended travel, all available contact details, all available payment or billing

information such as credit card numbers, travel status of the passenger that includes confirmation and check-in status, baggage information, seat information, and travel agency or agent from where the ticket was issued.

At present, airlines are required to share passenger information limited to name, nationality and passport details in advance with the immigration authorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE WORLD



PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS PROBE: FBI SEARCHES TRUMP'S HOME

TAIWAN MINISTER SAYS CHINA DRILLS GAMEPLAN FOR INVASION [PAGE 11](#)

Shrikant Tyagi held, got 'vidhayak' sticker through S P Maurya: Police

MALAVIKA PRASAD
NOIDA, AUGUST 9

SHRIKANT TYAGI, who was booked by police last Friday after he was caught on video pushing and abusing a woman at the Grand Omaze residential society in Noida, was arrested from Meerut on Tuesday.

Senior Uttar Pradesh Police officers said Tyagi, who was absconding ever since an FIR was



Shrikant Tyagi in Noida on Tuesday. *Prem Nath Pandey*

registered against him, kept changing locations and devices to evade arrest.

Noida Police Commissioner Alok Singh said Tyagi claimed that he had got the "vidhayak" (MLA) sticker on one of his vehicles "through (former MLA) Swami Prasad Maurya".

Maurya, a former BJP MLA, joined the Samajwadi Party (SP) ahead of the Assembly elections earlier this year. He lost the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Chess Olympiad gold for Ukraine: 'But medal can't stop a war'

— an Olympiad gold no less — brought just fleeting relief.

Later, with a quivering voice and welled-up eyes, Ushenina put the triumph in perspective: "It's obviously a great feeling, but the medal can't stop a war." There was a moment of stunned silence as her voice echoed across the packed room.

The 36-year-old Ushenina, her country's first women's world champion, is from Kharkiv, just 30 miles from the Russia border and one of the heavily shelled cities in the invasion. "It was a dreadful time because we were living so close to the border. As soon as we heard

the news that the Russians were marching, we had no other option but to flee with our family without any preparations," she says.

The seasoned player has not gone back home yet. Like most of her teammates, everyone in the five-member team has a story of ordeal to narrate. The Muzychuk sisters, Anna and Mariya, made a harrowing escape from Lviv, a city in western Ukraine sharing a border with Poland, from where they travelled to Germany and Spain.

Although the news of an impending war was spreading, the sisters deliberated until the first



The team from Ukraine at the Chess Olympiad in Chennai

day of the full-scale invasion on February 24 before fleeing. "At around seven in the morning I woke up because I heard a siren, and I saw — a disaster," Anna Muzychuk said in a podcast on the website chessbase.com.

By that time, Kiev was being bombed from Belarus. "They are bombing our ships in the sea. They are invading from the west, through the north, to the south. And then like: 'oh my God, this is a war, what should we do? Mariya, wake up, listen to the

sirens, the war has started, I told my sister," she said.

That night, with flights halted and trains full, the sisters reached the Polish border in a crammed bus with just a bag and a laptop. "We were very sad, because we didn't want to leave. I love my city and my apartment, and we were leaving everybody behind. Our parents, our grandparents, most of our relatives. They are still in Ukraine," she said.

At the border, they had to wait for 15 hours in a queue to cross. But she says they were lucky as those crossing by bus had special lanes. "There were people who spent days in the

queue," Anna Muzychuk said. When the sisters finally found a store after crossing the Poland border, they found to her horror that most of their credit cards were blocked — fortunately one card worked.

The men's team captain Oleksander Sulypa was preparing for a chess tournament in Reykjavik when the war struck. He immediately left his family behind and drove to the military

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INDIA B SETTLE FOR BRONZE
[PAGE 18](#)

FROM PAGE ONE

Nitish Aayog

prime. The Congress too realises that. The grand old party also needs a credible alternative on its side to deal with outliers like the Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party. Kumar had in the evening thanked both Rahul and Sonia Gandhi for Congress's support to the new gatbandhan.

There is already a talk in the Congress that the Gandhis could take a tactical retreat from the leadership of the party. Sources said Rahul Gandhi is not keen to return as Congress president and he does not want anyone from the family to head the party. So, is the grand old party willing to accept a non-Congress leader as the head of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) to revive the virtually non-existent alliance? It seems like a logical conclusion if the Gandhi family does make way for a non-Gandhi as party president.

A terse statement put out by the Congress on Tuesday — announcing its decision to advance the start of the proposed Kanyakumari to Kashmir yatra to 7 September 7 from October 2 — said Congress workers and leaders including Rahul Gandhi will "participate" in the yatra. It is not clear whether Rahul will lead the yatra. Sources said the word "participate" stemmed from a discussion some of the senior leaders had with Rahul earlier.

The party is preparing to elect a new President to replace Sonia Gandhi 7 between August 21 and September 20. Its decision to advance the yatra hence was surprising. Some senior Congress leaders said it was "too premature" to talk about Kumar emerging as a challenger to Modi in 2024 - although there are already talks of him handing over the Bihar baton to Rashtriya Janata Dal's Tejashwi Yadav within a year. If he switches to national politics, the 71-year-old Kumar can appeal to the Hindi heartland where the opposition desperately needs a face and seats.

Some Congress leaders say the opposition has to win big in the southern states and in Maharashtra to stop the BJP in its tracks in 2024. "Kumar will have no appeal in the south and Maharashtra. So I am not enthusiastic about this theory," one Congress leader said.

Another leader said in politics momentum picks up gradually. "And we need to claw back in the North to stop the BJP. In the south, the DMK is on a strong wicket in Tamil Nadu. In Kerala, it doesn't matter

whether we win or the Left does. We have a fair chance of staging a comeback in Karnataka. In Telangana, the TRS also needs to be part of the national narrative to take on the BJP," he said.

As far as Bihar is concerned, the RJD, Congress and the Left frankly did not have much option but to back Kumar once he told them he had decided to end his alliance with the BJP. Tejashwi Yadav was not keen to join hands with Kumar again. But the political context has changed, a senior RJD leader said. The narrative was that there was an apprehension that the BJP was trying to engineer defections in JD(U), RJD and the Congress, similar to what happened with the Shiv Sena in experiment. "So there was not much of an option for us," he said.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra, and two each from the Vidarbha, Mumbai metro and Konkan regions.

Eight ministers hail from the Maratha community, five from OBCs, and one each from the brahmin, Marwari Jain and Muslim communities, apart from one tribal leader and an SC representative.

However, the inclusion of Sanjay Rathod and Abdul Sattar from the Shinde camp has raised eyebrows.

Rathod had to resign from the Uddhav Thackeray government in 2021 after the controversial suicide of a 22-year-old woman allegedly known to him. The BJP had then sought his resignation.

Sattar's two daughters were on the list of candidates debarred by the Maharashtra State Council of Exams for their alleged involvement in the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) scam. Their names cropped up a day before the Cabinet expansion.

"I think the induction of Sanjay Rathod could have been avoided," a national-level BJP leader, who did not wish to be identified, said. Party sources said that although Rathod represents the Shinde faction, his induction would affect the BJP's image too at a time when it has projected Fadnavis as "Mr Clean".

Their inclusion and the non-inclusion of women in the Cabinet drew criticism from the Opposition. The Leader of Opposition, NCP's Ajit Pawar, said, "The government should have exercised caution to keep controversial ministers out of the Cabinet." Pawar's party MP

Supriya Sule said, "It is unfortunate that there is not a single woman in the Cabinet."

Sources in the Shinde camp described the Cabinet expansion as an ordeal with the number of aspirants outnumbering the limited berths. The ten independents and smaller parties that had joined the Shinde-led revolt, which toppled the Thackeray-led MVA government, did not get a slot this time.

Shinde did not give a time-frame for the next phase of expansion, with 23 of 43 slots still vacant. Sources in the BJP said, "The decision to have nine ministers each was to contain the unrest within the Shinde faction. But in the next expansion, the representation from BJP will be more...The formula that has been worked out is 60:40."

Fadnavis said, "We will work as a team. Our focus will be Mission Maharashtra. The development of Maharashtra, with special emphasis on backward regions, will be high on the government's agenda."

Airlines

In addition to the Customs department, law enforcement agencies or government departments of India or any other country can also get access to the data "on a case-to-case" basis, subject to maintenance of the same level of information protection, privacy and safeguards, provided the agencies specify the purpose of the information being sought.

The move to gather the data, which is being done by the CBIC with the objective of conducting "risk analysis" of passengers, comes close on the heels of the Centre junking its proposed personal data protection framework in favour of a new set of legislation, which effectively extends the time frame for establishing a rulebook for the protection of citizens' personal data.

The CBIC notified the 'Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022', aimed at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade.

According to information shared by the government in Lok Sabha in September 2020, 38 persons involved in cases registered by CBI related to financial irregularities with banks fled the country from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, applications for Red Corner

2018 were filed against 11 persons.

With this, India joins a list of over 60 countries, including the US, that have regulations on sharing prior information with Customs and border control authorities. "The objective is to collect advance information on passengers for better risk profiling. Immigration data is available only after the arrival or departure of passengers," a senior CBIC official told The Indian Express.

The consent will be "manifested" by the person's registration in the passengers' list of the aircraft operator and the data will be recorded for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act.

Earlier this year, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) – a trade body representing global airlines – had written to the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagging non-standard requests raised by law enforcement and investigative authorities for seeking passenger details.

According to experts, this will provide a consolidated database on a government portal for risk analysis of passengers. "The objective is to obtain relevant passenger data for risk analysis to proactively prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute offences under the Customs law or any other domestic or international law. The onus of timely collecting and sharing such information has been put on the airline operators. Further, while strict privacy guidelines have been stipulated under the said regulations, the government should ensure that the same are duly enforced to prevent unauthorised usage," said Abhishek Jain, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG in India.

Chess Olympiad

base in Lviv and volunteered to defend his country. "I did not think twice. I wanted to be part of protecting my country. My job is to monitor the stations and stop cars that drive past it. On an average, we used to search 2,000 cars," Sulypa told *The Indian Express*.

The 50-year-old did not participate in direct combat, but helped seize hundreds of Russian spies near the military camp and airport. "At that time, chess was the last thing in my mind. We did not know we would be alive for the Olympiad and I did not know where the players were, whether they were dead or alive," he said, adding that if need be, he would return to the warfront again. "My first duty is to protect my country," he said.

There were others whose houses were razed, who lost friends and relatives, and who endured close brushes with death. And yet, in Chennai, Ukraine's women's team rose to top the table on the final day with a hard-fought win over Poland, despite drawing to India A and looking at one stage

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EXPRESS AUDIO

Lost and Found: Girl No. 166, and the cop who didn't give up on her

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Mohamad Thaver and Smita Nair tell the story of how a 7-year-old girl went missing, how she was found, and the cop who simply refused to give up on her

Nitish dumps BJP, returns to Grand Alliance

ally now. It is all because the BJP tries to finish its ally... *Hamare purkhon ki virasat koi aur lega kya?* (Can someone else hijack our legacy?)... I am happy Nitish Kumar decided to come back to us. We thank Lalu ji. He is the one who stopped L K Advani's rath. We will not allow the BJP to fulfill its agenda."

He called Nitish "the most experienced CM in the country". Asked if Nitish will be a PM candidate in the 2024 polls, he said: "I leave this question to Nitish Kumar ji... Bihar will continue to move forward under his leadership... We are chacha-bhatija, we fought each other and we are together again."

Earlier, as Nitish's car moved inside Raj Bhavan, a small group of JD(U) support-

ers, waving party flags, chanted slogans of "*Desh ka Pradhan Mantri kaisa ho, Nitish Kumar jaisa ho*." He returned from Raj Bhavan within 15 minutes and made a brief statement to the media that he had tendered his resignation to the Governor.

Sources said Tejashwi will be the lone Deputy CM in the new government. Although the Congress also hopes to get a Deputy CM position, Nitish is unlikely to agree, sources said, adding that there could be too many power centres.

Dumped by Nitish a second time, the BJP pointed to his "habit" of political somersaults. BJP leader and Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey said, "Nitish Kumar is a perennial 'Paltu Ram' (turncoat). No one can trust

him now. People of Bihar are going to see another round of jungle raj."

Neither the BJP's central leadership nor its state unit tried to dissuade Nitish from ending the alliance. Nitish had snapped ties with the NDA in June 2013 but had returned in July 2017 after being in power with the RJD for 20 months.

Several BJP leaders called the break-up with Nitish "good riddance".

PTI adds: At a press conference in Patna, former Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad accused Nitish of inconsistency in beliefs.

"You talk about communalism but you aligned with us in the 1990s when the Ayodhya movement was at its peak. You fought with us against Lalu Prasad on the is-

sue of his involvement in fodder scam. In 2013, your personal dislike for Narendra Modi made you leave us and join hands with the RJD president," Prasad said.

"You left the RJD in 2017 after Tejashwi Yadav's name cropped up in a corruption case. You are now pushing Bihar back into the era of lawlessness and corruption which you claimed credit for bringing the state out of," alleged the Patna Sahib MP.

Speaking at the same press conference, state BJP president Sanjay Jaiswal alleged that Kumar was a "habitual betrayer" ("*aadatan dhokhebaaz*") who will be punished by the people of Bihar for betraying the "mandates of 2019 (Lok Sabha polls) and 2020 (Assembly elections)".

Heartland state loss, Nitish's EBC support pose problems for BJP

force for the Opposition since he has the potential to bring in more regional parties to a prospective alliance.

Nitish, who was said to have once nursed prime ministerial ambitions, could be pitted against Prime Minister Narendra Modi by the Opposition, BJP leaders said. "Although he cannot match the popularity and acceptance of Prime Minister Modi, the Opposition, which is headless now, can re-emerge and gain strength. Whether it can win the electoral test is a different matter," a former BJP MP said.

With the JD (U) breaking away, the BJP's biggest fear will be its impact on the support base comprising the Most Backward Classes or Extremely Backward Classes, which

Nitish had brought in for the BJP in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and the 2020 state elections. In Bihar, where caste still matters in electoral battles, the combination of Muslims and Yadavs (the traditional support base of the RJD) with the MBC, which is 17 per cent, can create a serious problem for the BJP.

In at least eight districts in Mithila and Magadh regions, the BJP had banked heavily on Nitish's goodwill to win the seats. The NDA won 39 of the 40 seats – 16 for JD (U), 17 for BJP and six for JUP – in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

Although the BJP maintains that the popularity of Prime Minister Modi and the welfare schemes initiated by his government at the Centre played key roles in NDA wins in the

two elections, senior party leaders admit that Nitish's departure can be "disastrous" if the BJP does not play its cards carefully in Bihar – it is the only eastern state where it has had the confidence of assured numbers, until now.

Sources indicated that a tough contest in Bihar could spoil the BJP's national strategies too. While the eastern and southern regions are difficult for the BJP to secure a sizable number of seats, the party will have to rely heavily on the northern and western regions in the general election.

For now, the JD (U)'s exit means the loss of one more state for the NDA, but it does not make any significant difference to it in the Lok Sabha where it has a brute majority. However,

in Rajya Sabha, where even the Shiv Sena's three MPs are still with the Opposition, five members of JD (U) are expected to join the Opposition. The BJP does not have a majority in the Upper House.

According to party sources, the BJP national leadership will soon "review" the strategies. There could be appointment of a new general secretary in charge as well as a rejig in the state organisation, sources said.

"The BJP's advantage is that it is a strong organisation with roots at the ground level and it has the machinery and network to implement any fresh strategy in a short span of time. We have enough time to refresh ourselves and can go out with a fresh strategy," a senior BJP leader said.

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Construction Circle, Uttarakhand
Peyjal Nigam, Haldwani, Nainital

Letter No. 4385 / 613 / 554

E-Tender/Nivida Suchna

Date 08-08-2022

Name of Work :- Construction of CWR/OHT, Distribution System Rising Main, Pump House, FHTC etc as per Two Bid System under JMM in following water supply schemes of Block Khatima & Sitarganj of Udhham Singh Nagar Distt. (Uttarakhand) with material, testing & Commissioning etc complete in all respect.

Block Khatima:- (1) Alavardi MVS water supply scheme, (2) Bagga Chawan SVS water supply scheme.

Block Sitarganj:- (1) Baekunthpur SVS water supply scheme, (2) Baruwa Baag MVS water supply scheme, (3) Bijli MVS water supply scheme, (4) Dohra - Dohri MVS water supply scheme, (5) Sisaiya MVS water supply scheme, (6) Surendra Nagar MVS water supply scheme.

1	Date of Calling of tenders	08.08.2022
2	Date of Online Publication	12.08.2022 at 17:00 hrs.
3	Document Download : Start Date	16.08.2022 at 10:00 hrs.
4	Document Download : End Date	30.08.2022 at 17:00 hrs.
5	Pre Bid Meeting	20.08.2022 at 13:00 hrs.
6	Bid Submission : Start Date	22.08.2022 at 10:00 hrs.
7	Bid Submission : End Date	30.08.2022 at 17:00 hrs.
8	Offline submission of documents (Cost of bidding document, Bid Security, Original Affidavits & all the Supporting Documents in support of qualification)	31.08.2022 upto 17:00 hrs.
9	Date of Technical Bid Opening	01.09.2022 at 11:00 hrs
10	Date of Financial Bid Opening	To be announced Later

Other Terms & Conditions of bidding contained in bid documents can be seen on the e-GPS portal i.e. <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

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Ref. No. 116211-02(xix)-24TCO/URRDA22

Dated 08.08.2022

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
e-Procurement Notice- 08/2022-23

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Almora & Pantnagar for 02 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 3.24 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 10.08.2022.

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

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

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement : 16.08.2022 01:00 PM.
For further details please log on to www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in

Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.

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

E-Tender Notice
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. - ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-28-22-23 E- TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDER MENTIONED WORK: **Particulars Sl.No. 1. Name of work:** Supplying, leading and loading of 1,00,000 cum machine crushed 50mm size stone ballast as per RDSO specification for B.G. Railway track from the quarry of Rajgram to any type of railway wagons under CAO/Con/N, ECR 2. **Approx cost of the work:** Rs.13,16,11,000/- **Bid Security:** Rs.8,08,100/- **3. Date and time for closing of tender:** 29.08.2022 at 14.30 hrs. **4. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc.** The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>, and also can be seen in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna **Note:** Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender

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GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA
TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE TIME	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HALED PANCHKULA	HALED INVITES SHORT TERM E- TENDERS/ E-AUCTIONS FOR PURCHASE OF 200 MT KACHCHI GHANI MUSTARD OIL (LOOSE) FOR HALED OIL MILL, REWARI AND NARNALL. THE DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ON HTTPS://ETENDERS.HRYNIC.IN AND WWW.HALED.GOV.IN	CLOSING DATE 17.08.2022	2 LACS	www.haled.gov.in	01722590497 haled.oilmills@gmail.com

11771HRY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

KERALA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
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E-TENDER NOTICE

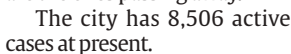
Name of Item	e-Tender ID	Last Date of Bid submission
10.00x20-16 PR Radial Tyre with Tubes and Flaps.	2022_KSRTC_502716_1	06.00 PM 23.08.2022

For the detailed tender document visit: www.etenders.kerala.gov.in, www.keralartc.com/tenders/purchase, e-mail : sr@kerala.gov.in

sd/-
Chairman & Managing Director
09.08.2022

Covid positivity rate crosses 15%, CM says don't panic

The capital also recorded six deaths with the infection on Monday, which is the highest since June 25 when also six



While there has been an uptick in cases and positivity rate over the past two weeks, the rise

The spike in cases over the past two weeks is different from the two small spikes seen in April and June since Covid cases in the capital are continuing to increase. To compare, fewer than 1,800 cases and around 10% positivity was the highest recorded during the previous two spikes in infection. Experts said that these ups and downs in the infection is likely to continue for some time before settling into a seasonal pattern, unless there is a new variant that starts spreading.

New Delhi: The Excise department, which is gearing up to revert to the old excise policy, has got a new deputy commissioner, officials said Tuesday. The Delhi government has appointed Jitendra Agrawal, a 1997-batch DANICS officer, as deputy commissioner, said an order by the services department. **PTI**

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद् पीथमपुर, जिला धार (म.प्र.)

क्रमांक/4417/न.पा./22

पीथमपुर दिनांक :- 04/08/2022

:- द्वितीय ई - निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना :-

नगर पालिका पीथमपुर क्षेत्रान्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्य की निविदा सूचना ई-टेंडरिंग पद्धति से

ई-प्रोक्थोरमेन्ट पोर्टल (www.mptenders.gov.in) पर आमंत्रित है। निविदा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

क्र.	पोर्टल क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनु. लागत (लाख)	अर्नेस्ट मनी	समयावधि (माह)	फार्म शुल्क
1	2022_UAD_215269	वार्ड क्र. 28 में शमशान घाट पुलिया से भागीरथ कॉलोनी तक सी.सी. रोड़ निर्माण एवं नाली निर्माण	112.36	56180/-	04	12500/-

समय सारणी:-

01. निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाईन क्रय करने की प्रारंभ दिनांक :- 05.08.2022 (प्रातः 11:00 बजे से)

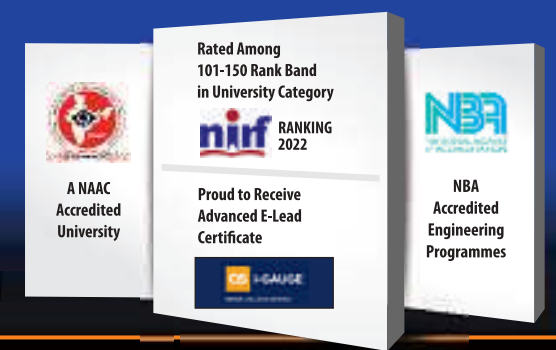
02. निविदा ऑनलाईन क्रय/बीड सबमीशन की अंतिम दिनांक :- 19.08.2022 (शाम 5:30 बजे तक)

03. निविदा खोलने की दिनांक :- 22.08.2022 (प्रातः 11:00 बजे)

मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी नगर पालिका परिषद पीथमपुर	(श्रीमती क्षमा सुभाष जायसवाल) प्रभारी लो.नि.वि. नगर पालिका पीथमपुर	(श्री हंसराज पटेल) उपाध्यक्ष नगर पालिका पीथमपुर	(श्रीमती कविता संजय वैष्णव) अध्यक्ष-नगर पालिका पीथमपुर
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PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITIONS



New Delhi

4 THE CITY

CORONAVIRUS
IN THE CAPITALVACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS
19,170PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: **534**
OXYGEN SUPPORT **114**
VENTILATOR SUPPORT **16**DELHI TOTAL
CASES
19,73,394

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Aug 8	1,372	1,927	6	7,686
Aug 9	2,495	1,466	7	16,187
Total	8,506*	19,38,545	26,337	3,96,42,039

*Total active cases in Delhi

Total
HOSPITAL BEDS **9,406**
ICU BEDS **2,119**

	Aug 8	Aug 9
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A

Noida
Aug 8
Aug 9

	Aug 8	Aug 9
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A

Gurgaon
Aug 8
Aug 9

	Aug 8	Aug 9
Cases	302	368
Deaths	0	0

TELLS SUPREME COURT

Can't call schemes meant for welfare of disadvantaged masses 'freebies': AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

OPPOSING THE plea seeking a ban on political parties promising 'freebies' to lure voters in the run-up to elections, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has told the Supreme Court that "schemes for socio-economic welfare of deserving and disadvantaged masses cannot be described as 'freebies'".

The party also accused the petitioner — who it said has "strong links" to the BJP — of "furthering a particular political agenda".

In an application seeking intervention in the PIL filed by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, the AAP stated that the plea "clearly seeks judicial action against a particular model of economic development by exclusively targeting fiscal expenditure on socialist and welfare measures for the masses".

But, AAP said, it "ignores the vast fiscal losses to the exchequer caused by tax rebates, subsidies and other such 'freebies' routinely provided to big industries and businesses by the Centre and various state governments".

"Instead, the petitioner

prefers that the burden of improving the fiscal health of the nation be imposed solely on the underprivileged masses," it said.

The application stated that the plea "neglects to acknowledge that a socialist and welfare economic agenda is built into the Constitution of India by way of the Preamble and the Directive Principles of State Policy and is, therefore, the constitutional mandate of any elected government... By removing such socialist and welfare agenda from electoral discourse, the petitioner seeks to advance the interests of a different, more parochial kind of politics reliant on caste and communal appeals instead of on appeals to people's welfare."

The petition also raises questions of freedom of speech of the political parties, the application stated.

Giving a list of schemes such as free canteens, free and subsidised electricity and water, etc, AAP said they "are absolutely essential in an unequal society such as ours", and that "to describe them as 'freebies', despite their immense social utility and their impact on both the social and economic development of the country, is not just incorrect,

CM Arvind Kejriwal had said on Monday that people who call welfare schemes provided to ordinary citizens "free ki revdi (sweets)" are "traitors" to the country. *Archive*

but also an affront to our constitutional project..."

The party said that if a discussion has to take place on "freebies" and their connection to fiscal health of the country, then the discussion has to be first in respect of what is being given to politicians, ministers, MPs and MLAs. If the idea is resource-conservation within the nation, then it should not begin with the "deserving masses

who are constitutionally entitled to support in attaining a dignified standard of living, but the political and governing class which has, in the past and even now, been a significant beneficiary of the State's largesse, through, inter alia, free housing in prime areas of national and state capitals, given to Ministers/ Members of Parliament/civil servants, etc".

The AAP also stated that "the Petitioner because of his politics has consciously chosen not to flag the large amount of fiscal loss which the State and consequently the people suffer because of very selective benefits given to certain industrial sectors, the net effect of which is to benefit and enrich certain business houses".

The application stated that if fiscal responsibility is the concern, then "it is relevant to remember that fiscal issues are both complex and contingent on geography and time and are thus unamenable to strait-jacketed or binary solutions that any litigation may throw up", the application stated. It said enactments such as Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, already exist, "which have the ef-

fect of legislatively restricting the deficits that a government can run".

It prayed that should the court go into the fiscal issue, "then the stakeholders could be directed to consider imposing a budgetary limit on free/subsidised services depending on the overall fiscal health of each State. This, in any event, is a far better solution than trying to restrict political parties from making electoral promises, which does not directly translate to outgo of funds".

Such promises, it said, are "only an example of electoral speech that is an instance of a process of democratic communication", and "restricting such speech will both be irrelevant to any fiscal reform, and also harmful to healthy democratic functioning of elections and policy-making".

With the Centre in favour of an end to freebies by political parties using public money, the Supreme Court, while hearing the PIL last week, had sought suggestions from petitioners and respondents on the composition of a committee which can go into the issue "dispassionately" and make recommendations.

LIQUOR POLICY ROW

Sisodia a 'desperate man trying to save his own skin': Former L-G Baijal

Delhi govt says former L-G 'diverting from actual issue'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FORMER LIEUTENANT Governor (L-G) of Delhi Anil Baijal Tuesday said the allegations levelled against him by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, in connection with the new liquor policy, were "baseless" and "motivated", and called him a "desperate man saving his own skin by perpetrating allegations against others".

Last week, Sisodia, who also holds the excise portfolio, said he had written to the CBI requesting a probe into what he claimed was a sudden change in former L-G Baijal's decision on opening vends in unauthorised areas. This caused "thousands of crores of losses" to the Delhi government, he alleged. He had also claimed the change in decision came "48 hours before implementation of the policy on ground" (on November 17, 2021).

Stating that facts are now in the public domain, Baijal said, "In the matter of not allowing liquor vends in non-conforming areas, (I) discharged my constitutional responsibility of upholding the laws of the land. No law in Delhi, even today, allows for opening of liquor vends in non-conforming areas."

Baijal added: "Raising doubts and levelling allegations against the L-G's decisions has been a norm ever since the AAP has formed the government in Delhi. The allegations now made by Manish Sisodia are baseless and motivated against me. They are nothing but blatant lies and falsehoods being perpetrated by



(Left) Former L-G Anil Baijal; Deputy CM Manish Sisodia

a desperate man to save his own skin." He added that the Deputy CM is trying to find some alibi for "his and his colleagues' acts of commission and omissions".

Baijal said the AAP government and its excise minister appeared to have "initially claimed record revenue through excise by manipulating figures; but when that got utterly exposed, they are now playing this deplorable game of blaming me by distorting facts and painting a false narrative".

The ex- L-G added that he flagged "unlawful" decisions taken by the AAP government on several occasions during the implementation of the new excise policy. "In view of the multiple cases which came to be filed during that period and their pendency in courts, and further in view of various observations made therein, I had decided to set up a committee under chairmanship of VC-DDA with divisional commissioner, excise commissioner, commissioners of DMCs, secretary (IT) and representative of National Institute of Urban Affairs, MoHUA, as its members to examine setting up of liquor vends in non-conforming areas," said Baijal.

He said the committee on December 10 submitted its report and decided that with regard to 67 non-conforming wards, the excise department can consider allowing the licensee of such wards to open additional vends in conforming areas of such adjoining wards where conforming areas exist or any other ward allotted to the licensee. "Accordingly, no permission was granted for opening liquor vends in non-conforming areas," said the former L-G.

Responding to Baijal's statement, the Delhi government said: "Instead of diverting from the actual issue, the ex- L-G needs to answer what made him change his stand just 48 hours before opening of shops? Why did he deliberately cause so much loss to the government and give undue favours to selected licensees? Who forced him to take a stand against the policy passed by the cabinet and L-G himself?"

Baijal further said he has upheld constitutional values and laws of the land, in letter and spirit, during his entire tenure: "The record will speak for itself; I dismiss the claims made by the government and its excise minister in toto. Time and investigation will reveal the truth. As a public functionary, I have always worked with the highest degree of moral values and ethics."

Sisodia had announced on July 30 that the new excise policy would be rolled back. This came after current L-G VK Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the new policy over alleged irregularities, and Delhi Police's EOW launched a probe into the excise department.

L-G lays foundation stone of Delhi's first bamboo park

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

L-G V K Saxena laid the foundation stone of 'Baansera', the city's first multi-purpose bamboo-themed park. The park will have several amenities like conference spaces, watchtower, kiosks, huts, and seats for public use in a greenway area, with bamboo-curtained enclosures, said a senior DDA official. "The project has been started to enhance ecological character of the Yamuna floodplains and make it more people-friendly by making it attractive as a recreational and cultural venue," the official said.

Ten hectares of the floodplain, south of NH-24 on the western bank, is being developed for the park. More than 25,000 special varieties of bamboo saplings, brought from Assam, will be planted. The official said it is aimed at achieving the purpose of augmenting public spaces in the national capital on one hand, and also at ensuring that the rich biodiversity of the floodplain is preserved and maintained, he said.

Saxena said planting bamboo on a large scale will help address the city's problem of air pollution significantly. "Bamboo produces about 30% more oxygen even as it consumes far less water and enriches the soil," he said.

Bamboo groves at the periphery will also help contain pollution caused by seasonal dust storms. Bamboo as a source for various economic activities will also help create employment opportunities and augment income, he said.

Uncovered drain leaves a family shattered as 8-yr-old is washed away

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 9

"*Humne umeed chhodh di hai ab* (We have given up hope now)," said Rajesh Ladot, as officials continued to look for the body of his eight-year-old son, Dishant Ladot, who allegedly drowned in a drain while playing outside his house in Gadoli Khurd village in Gurgaon's Sector 37D three days ago. Rajesh said his wife has not been able to eat since then.

The family said the incident took place around 3.30 pm on Sunday when the boy was playing outside his house, which is along the drain. He had gone to pick something up when he is suspected to have slipped and fallen into the drain and was swept away in a matter of seconds, they said.

"My daughters repeatedly ask '*Le aaye bhai ko*' (Have you brought our brother back). I do not know what to tell them. It's the third day. *Ab chance nahi hai* (There is no chance now). Initially, we had hoped that he may have held on to a rock or an edge and would be saved by a diver," said Rajesh, a driver who also does daily-wage work.

"We just want to see our child one last time. We hope authorities locate his body soon. *Bas body dhoond kar saap do humein* (Just locate the body and hand it over to us)," he said, his voice breaking.

The boy's body is yet to be recovered as teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), police, fire department and civic agencies continued rescue efforts.

"The water level in the drain was high due to rain earlier that

Rescue operations entered the third day on Tuesday at Gurgaon's Gadoli Khurd village. The body is yet to be found. *Express*

day. Since the drain is uncovered, water comes to our doorstep when it rains. My sister-in-law heard cries of people that Dishant was drowning. She, an aunt and some neighbours ran outside, but it was too late... he was struggling to remain afloat and was swept away in front of us. The incident took place due to the negligence of authorities. If they had covered the drain, this would not have occurred," alleged the boy's uncle, Sunder Ladot.

Officials said the drain is 26.5-km long of which a 6-km area, where the incident took place, is not covered. Waste from industrial effluents across the city is dumped into the drain, which flows to Badshahpur drain and eventually to Najafgarh.

After the incident, the family and villagers blocked the Gurgaon-Pataudi road at Umang Bhardwaj chowk in protest for hours. The protest continued on Monday, with traffic being diverted. Police said the road was reopened Tuesday evening after consultations with the family and villagers.

The family also alleged their complaints about installing fences around the drain and concretisation were ignored.

Krishan, a resident, alleged: "We have been suffering for years... The authorities are now putting up fences. Some fencing was installed earlier, but it was stolen. Our main demand is that the drain is covered permanently. We also request some compensation for the family."

Vikram Singh, executive engineer, Infrastructure-2, GMDA, denied allegations of negligence. "Work on installing fences around residential areas along the drain started on Monday. Our teams are assisting in the rescue efforts," said Singh.

Ankita Choudhary, SDM, North Gurgaon, said rescue operations were on: "Teams are still locating the boy. The open area has been scanned multiple times by divers, but the body could not be located. The main issue that teams are facing is that a lot of waste is dumped in the drain, and the lack of oxygen in those parts."

The SDM added, "The drain is not completely covered due to some NGT guidelines and issues of land acquisition around it."

CCTVs currently at police stations don't have audio recording facility: Cops to HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FOLLOWING THE Delhi Police's admission that CCTV cameras at its stations and posts in the national capital do not have audio recording facility, the Delhi High Court has sought a response from the MHA to ensure compliance of the Supreme Court order on installation of cameras in police stations.

In response to an order seeking compliance of the apex court directions, police told the court that it had already installed 2,127 CCTVs having night vision capability with video storage capacity for up to 30 days in 192 police stations and 53 chowkis. "Total 10 CCTV cameras are installed in each police station and 4/5 cameras in each police post, depending upon the size of the post, covering all essential places of the police station/police post building(s). However, the CCTV system already installed in police stations and police posts (chowkis), presently, do not have audio recording facility," police said.

Justice Anu Malhotra in an order said it is "essential" that di-

rections passed by the SC in December 2020 are complied with, and listed the matter for hearing on September 27.

The court has passed the direction in a case alleging that a complainant was allegedly threatened and harassed by certain private people in front of police officials at Nabi Karim police station in May. The petition prayed for preservation of CCTV footage of the incident. The court was told CCTV cameras do not have the audio recording facility.

Advocate Sufian Siddiqui, representing the petitioner, had argued before the court, "To preserve and uphold the primacy of 'Rule of Law', to protect the sacrosanct fundamental rights of the common man and to restore their faith in the functioning of the Delhi Police, it is expedient that the court's directions are complied with on an exigent basis.

Police in its reply has told the court that following the Supreme Court's order, the Commissioner of Police had constituted a committee of senior police officers to examine the matter expeditiously and give its recommendations.

Agent from pvt detective firm held for 'selling' call records

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

A 22-YEAR-OLD field agent from a private detective agency has been arrested for allegedly procuring call detail records (CDRs) illegally and selling them to individuals, police said Tuesday. The accused, Pawan Kumar, was arrested after an officer was sent as a decoy customer to purchase CDRs. Senior police officers said the accused was allegedly working in connivance with a security agency and that the role of police and the internet service provider is being checked.

Police said they received inputs from an informer that unknown persons are procuring CDRs and selling them. On Sunday, police along with the informer approached the accused as customers. They met the accused and finalised a deal of Rs 25,000. Brijiendra Kumar Yadav, DCP (Outer north), said, "... a raid was conducted with a staffer posing as a decoy customer. The man was held with incriminating documents... We've been told there's involvement of a security agency... The matter is being investigated and action being taken against the accused for taking the data in an unauthorised manner."

23-YEAR-OLD WON SILVER IN JUDO

Behind CWG medal, a mother's struggle: 'Took loan, withdrew pension'

ARNAV CHANDRASEKHAR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FROM THE outside, Commonwealth Games medalist Tulika Maan's Tagore Garden residence shows no sign of housing a champion. But just a few hours earlier, members of the neighbourhood had thronged the area to congratulate the 23-year-old judo silver medalist.

"It was amazing, out of this world. So many people had come to greet her at the airport. When she came back to Tagore Garden, the local politicians walked back with her. One

thing that really touched my heart was that the neighbours had come to celebrate her win," her mother, Delhi Police assistant sub-inspector Amrita Singh (55), told *The Indian Express*.

ASI Amrita's colleagues in the force are Tulika's fans too: "They are all extremely happy to hear about her win, and have even been using her picture as all their profile pictures."

But the medalist herself is nowhere to be seen, having gone to see a physiotherapist to examine a leg injury from the Games. Her mother said ruefully, "I haven't been able to spend much

time with her yet, and she also has to go to SAI (Sports Authority of India) Bhopal tomorrow for a felicitation."

Over the phone, Tulika told *The Indian Express*, "It was a great experience at the Commonwealth Games. But I never want to overreact after winning; now I have to prepare for the Asian Games."

Tulika is not one to sit complacently on her laurels, according to her mother: "She regrets that she didn't win the gold medal." Tulika echoed this: "I made a mistake during a half-minute period in the fight. If not for that, it might have gone dif-

Judo silver medalist Tulika Maan being welcomed at the airport on her return from the games. *Express*

ferently."

When she's back home, Tulika usually likes to stay there, her mother said: "Her idea of a night out is hanging out with her friends on the roof." Those include her fellow judo competitors. "They are family — in fact they call me 'ma' and not 'aunty'. They stay here for many days sometimes," her mother said.

But it has been a hard journey to get here, with ASI Amrita raising her daughter alone after her husband passed away. "We got occasional help sometimes from authorities for travel tickets, but for the most part, I have

had to manage alone. I have even taken personal loans and withdrawn from my pension fund — I don't have a great deal of savings to speak of, after 31 years in the force," she said.

She had originally put Tulika into judo classes in 2006, when she got frustrated with being cooped up at home or being taken to the police station. Tulika has been competing in major tournaments since 2017.

One of Tulika's fans is her 11-year-old sister, Vanshika. Her mother said, "In fact, she knows much more about me than judo; I don't follow the sport much. Vanshika herself is interested in

shooting."

ASI Amrita finds the situation amusing. "Even with Tulika, I wanted her to focus on studies. It's not like I pushed her to become a star. Now the younger one also wants to start shooting — I don't know what I will do!" she said.

But for all this, Tulika has maintained her humility, despite returning as a champion. Her mother said, "She was never one to go around talking about the various awards she had won. In fact, she's not very enthusiastic about crowds also, she is very down to earth. I think this is what makes her a star."



UNIVERSAL FORCES- ATMANIRBHARATA THROUGH BIO-FUEL PROJECTS.

UFI is a leading organization in providing technology for production of bio-fuels such as ethanol (sustainable green energy) to replace fossil fuels (coal, petroleum products etc.)



On the occasion of World Bio Fuel Day a focus on the contribution of UFI..

As we know that day by day the traditional energy resources like petrol, diesel are creating hazardous pollutants in the environment & are also becoming costly. These resources are also becoming scarce which is forcing us to search for cleaner energy sources. After extensive research, Ethanol is found to be the most reliable & less polluting fuel. India is a part of this global endeavor.

Pradeep dhokare the founder of UFI (Established on 1st May, 1986) was very passionate about working on his new innovative ideas about development of greener energy sources. With guidance from his elder brother working as an expert in conventional fossil fuel energy technologies guided him to focus on development of green energy technologies like biofuels which they saw as the future of energy field. Further efforts of Mr. Pradeep dhokare resulted in very dynamic, technology oriented project company which has been providing total solution and greenfield projects with Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD System). Further ahead they also developed slop (distillery waste) fired incinerated boiler which is very reliable and has become an essential part of this industry.

That period was an era of Ethanol based projects. Soon UFI become a brand & completed its turnkey projects in wineries, distilleries, breweries, dairy etc. Later, Central Government of India took bold steps to design policies related to alternative fuel especially ethanol. The technology was rapidly evolving from mechanization to automation. It helped to save invaluable foreign exchange for the country. As prices of traditional fossil fuels skyrocketed, demand for alternative sources of energy was on the rise.

After getting well established in distillery business the application of alcohol switched to fuel. This motivated him to expand his business globally to meet the increasing demand of green energy sources. As rules for environment,



safety & protection became very stringent the need for usage of recycled water with minimum pollution became buzzword.

According to Mr. Pradeep Dhokare, founder of UFI, the former central minister encouraged production of alternative energy sources. Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh, the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra took courageous decisions about alternative fuels & energy resources. With the technological support of UFI, Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh encouraged to produce ethanol at Manjara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, Latur & made it available at a very subsidized rate to the Government of India. This path breaking decision was beneficial which resulted in increased production of ethanol in the country.

Under the leadership of Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Central Minister for Road, Transportation & Infrastructure usage of ethanol is again encouraged. In days to come, ethanol will be blended in petrol and diesel with a percentage of more than 25 or more, and will be used as a fuel either in the form of liquid or gaseous states in any type of automobile.

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By Dr. Dipak Bidkar

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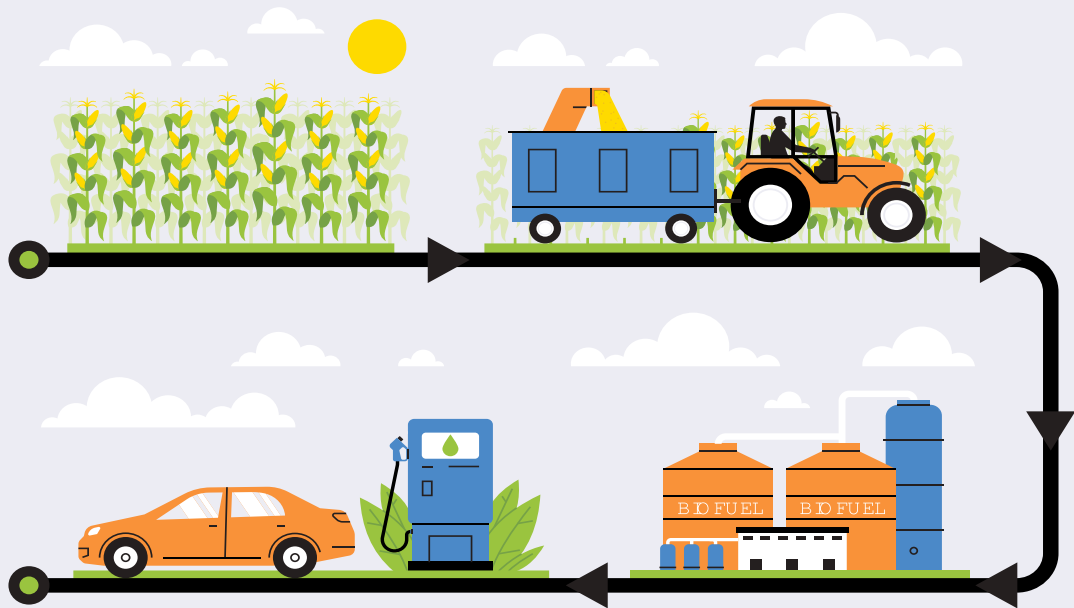


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6 PATNA POWERSHIFT

Constant sparring, communication gap, poaching shadow: Why Nitish quit NDA

MANOJ C G

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

NITISH KUMAR's decision to walk out of the NDA and join hands with rival RJD marked a bitter end to his tenuous relationship with the BJP after returning to power in November 2020 as Chief Minister heading the coalition government.

Those who have interacted with Nitish said he was "not at all comfortable" from Day One. "He believed the BJP belittled him using Chirag Paswan (of LJP). When you lose (votes), you start believing in such things. He did not want to be Chief Minister but reluctantly agreed after Prime Minister Narendra Modi requested. But he was not at all comfortable," a leader said.

Over the last year, equations between the two parties deteriorated drastically. Here are the key reasons why, according to sources in the JD(U) and BJP:

FIRST DISAPPOINTMENT: The BJP's decision to keep former Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi out of the Cabinet. The two shared a good relationship, and Sushil Modi could have ironed out any difference between the two parties. Nitish was not at ease with the BJP's new Deputy CMs, Tarkishore Prasad and Renu Devi.

CONSTANT SPARRING: The past year saw a constant war of words between leaders of the BJP and the JD(U). Several BJP leaders, including its state president Sanjay Jaiswal, spoke publicly against the government. From the JD(U) side, Upendra Kushwaha returned fire. Despite this friction, there was no intervention from the BJP central leadership, which gave Nitish the feeling that the sniping against him and the government was part of a plan.

COMMUNAL ISSUES: Nitish was visibly



JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar after a press conference in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

upset over communal issues. JD(U) leaders said issues like "love jihad" and the controversy around loudspeakers at mosques unsettled him. Sources said he felt the controversies were "manufactured" to show him in a bad light. Talk of BJP wanting to replace him as Chief Minister angered him further. He even said once that he would not mind going to the Rajya Sabha.

COMMUNICATION GAP: Sources said Modi's visit to Patna at the invitation of the Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha to attend the concluding function of the Bihar

Legislative Assembly centenary celebrations did not go down well with Nitish. Although Modi praised him at the function, sources said he felt BJP leaders were trying to bypass him. "His point was, 'how could the Prime Minister visit his state at somebody else's invitation.' 'He felt hurt,' a leader said.

POACHING SHADOW: In March, the BJP poached all the three MLAs of Vikassheel Insaan Party and became the largest party with 77 MLAs in the Assembly, sending another signal. Then came the R C P Singh episode — suspecting that the JD(U) leader in Delhi had grown close to the BJP, Nitish denied him a Rajya Sabha berth in May. Sources said he suspected a poaching bid by the BJP using Singh.

AGNIPATH PROTESTS: The violent protests in Bihar over the Agnipath military recruitment scheme was the final nail in the coffin. Bihar BJP chief Jaiswal made several statements against the state government. BJP leaders said Nitish had neither condemned the violence nor appealed for peace for several days. The Centre's decision to provide 'Y' category security to several BJP leaders in the state angered him further. It was seen as a sign of no confidence in the state's law-and-order machinery.

NATIONAL AMBITION: His critics also attribute the split to Nitish's national ambitions. "We thought he would gracefully exit from politics in 2025 when his term ends. He would be 75 then. He perhaps has bigger plans. He is in no mood to exit," a BJP leader said. The sense among some leaders is that he felt the BJP would ditch him and the JD(U) in 2025. His decision to snap ties with the BJP has automatically catapulted him to be a contender for the Prime Minister's post, a leader said. "But whether he will really become a challenger to Modi, no one knows," one leader said.

Why Mahagathbandhan 2022 is different from Grand Alliance 2015

SANTOSH SINGH

PATNA, AUGUST 9

IT IS Tejashwi Yadav who explained why Nitish Kumar had to come back to RJD. "You see BJP's old allies now, from Punjab to Maharashtra to Bihar. They tried to finish their allies at all these places. Now BJP has no allies in the entire Hindi heartland. The BJP had been trying to subsume JD(U), too. But we are socialists. Nitish Kumar is our senior, and we alone should hold on to his legacy," the RJD leader said on Tuesday.

This perhaps is the most striking and discernible difference between the Mahagathbandhan of 2015 and of 2022. If Nitish needed the alliance seven years ago to regain his political supremacy after the 2014 Lok Sabha poll drubbing, he needs it now for political longevity, to remain a stakeholder beyond the 2025 Assembly elections.

When he first snapped ties with BJP in June 2013, Nitish perhaps believed he could try branching out on his own. He had already taken a very public anti-Narendra Modi stance, and with the latter on the ascendant, saw very little space for himself in the NDA. However, Nitish's confidence — resting on his image of being Bihar's vikas purush — had been busted. From winning 20 seats as part of the NDA in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, the JD(U) had been reduced to 2 in 2014.

The animosity towards Modi, plus the realisation that the JD(U) vote bank needed an extra hand to go over the majority mark, was the reason that prompted Nitish to tie up with Lalu Prasad and the RJD.

Together, the Mahagathbandhan, including the Congress and Left, won 178 seats out of 243 in the Bihar Assembly. The BJP, despite the all-out campaign by Modi, could get only 53 seats, down from its 2010 tally of 91.

The lesson Nitish drew was that, in Bihar at least, social combinations and permutations carried more weight in elections than a high-pitched personality-driven campaign, even if laced with patriotism and Hindutva.

What pushed the Mahagathbandhan apart were the pulls and pressures from the RJD on the government, especially in trans-



Rabri Devi greets Nitish Kumar in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

fiers of police officers and lower bureaucracy. Lalu, then in better health, also took keen interest in matters of governance. The RJD leader's constant reference to Nitish as his "chhote bhai (younger brother)" is also believed to have rankled the JD(U) leader who saw himself as having entered the big league. Eventually, CBI raids on Lalu's residence in the IRC TC case gave Nitish a plausible cause, and he snapped ties with the RJD over "corruption". By mid-2017, he returned to the NDA.

All in all, while the Mahagathbandhan 2022 might prove an administrative minefield again, Nitish is hoping that the RJD will shoulder as much of the blame for this in elections to follow. With 79 MLAs, the RJD is, after all, the largest party in the Assembly. Lalu is out of the picture due to failing health, and Tejashwi has matured from his years in politics.

Sources said Nitish and Tejashwi are now in step with each other's plans. The younger leader is apparently looking to take over sooner rather than later, as Nitish finally makes that national jump. In statements across the board, there were ample indications of the same on Tuesday.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Mood swings among comma, question mark, exclamation mark

SANTOSH SINGH

PATNA, AUGUST 9

ON TUESDAY afternoon, as people across the country sat up, trying to figure the big picture of Nitish Kumar's decision to part ways with NDA, it was business as usual at the BJP office at Bir Chand Patel Path, in the heart of Patna. Inside, functionaries of BJP's various wings were at work, although keeping a keen eye on the fast-changing political developments.

There seemed no element of surprise in what Nitish had just done — "*woh kisi ke nahi ho sakte hain* (he cannot be trusted)," said one party functionary — and the common refrain seemed to be one of "good riddance". Most people at the office said the party's state unit had long wanted to come out of Nitish's shadow.

In one corner, the Tricolour was being distributed to party workers in preparation for the "Har Ghar Tiranga" programme. No visibly anxious faces were around. In fact, some of them congratulated each other. If there was one regret, it was that some state ministers from BJP, including Syed Shah Nawaz Husaain (industry) and Nitin Mabin (road construction), were "doing very well".

Just over 2 km ahead, the excitement was palpable outside Lalu Prasad's residence at 10, Circular Road — Nitish stays close by at 7, Circular Road. There was a huge gathering of SUVs and cars, parked on either side of the road, and traffic snarl was visible. Supporters shouted slogans to hail Lalu, Nitish and Tejashwi. The lane had come alive after five years.

However, the CM's residence at 1, Anne Marg did not have the same level of excitement after Nitish had pulled out of the NDA in 2013, and the Grand Alliance in 2017. Several non-supporters passing by wondered why Nitish did what he did, and why he does that so often.

CM gave many signs of getting close to Tejashwi

SANTOSH SINGH

PATNA, AUGUST 9

THREE YEARS after a bitter parting of ways between JD(U) and RJD, something seemed to have changed after 2020 Assembly election results. Those watching the Vidhan Sabha saw a somewhat different, less mocking Chief Minister in Nitish Kumar and a relatively mellowed, less attacking Leader of Opposition in Tejashwi Prasad Yadav.

The first sign of a camaraderie was seen when the Bihar CM led a 10-party delegation last year to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi to demand a nationwide caste census. Tejashwi was by his side when Nitish addressed the media in New Delhi; at the media meet, Nitish let Tejashwi speak on caste census.

A clearer signal of bonhomie was spotted when Nitish received Tejashwi very warmly during an iftaar earlier this year.

Another sign came when JD(U) did not react critically following recent CBI raids at Lalu Prasad's residence in the job-for-land case; nor did the party react to Lalu aide Bhola Yadav's arrest in the case last fortnight. In 2017, Nitish had snapped ties with RJD following raids.

Last month, when the PM came to Patna to attend the closing ceremony of Bihar Assembly centenary celebrations, the CM made sure that the Leader of Opposition got to share the dais with Modi — a far cry from the time when Nitish had denied Tejashwi the same opportunity when Modi came during 'Prakash Parv' at Patna's Gandhi Maidan in January 2017.

As Tejashwi said today: "Chacha and bhatija can fight, but they will coexist."

'Nitish Kumar's ultimate aim is to finish the RJD'

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

What would you say about Nitish Kumar's move today?

The BJP has been talking about industrial development, people's welfare and new schemes. Development with dignity for people has been the theme we were talking about. But for the last three or four months, he (Nitish) was talking with Tejashwi Yadav. He went and attended the iftaar programme of Tejashwi. But the most interesting part was, he was always asking us what happened to the cases against RJD leaders.... Now with Bhola Yadav (Lalu Prasad's former aide) arrested, and evidence against the family, Nitish thought it was the right time to destroy RJD.

He thinks once the leadership is gone, RJD voters will come to JD(U). His ultimate aim is to finish RJD.

What's next for BJP?

The BJP will win most seats in 2024 Lok Sabha polls. In 2025 (Assembly polls), we will form a government on our own.

But did Nitish Kumar not play a role in bringing in Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) votes to NDA?

The NDA was initially not doing great in Mithila and Magadh region (where EBC votes are crucial). But things became brighter only after Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on an extensive poll campaign. He used to address multiple rallies each day — that brought NDA the victory. It was a mandate for Narendra Modi.

How difficult is it going to be for BJP, without any alliance now in Bihar?

Bihar is one state where BJP had difficulty in forming the government on its own. (But) Narendra Modi's popularity is beyond any caste equations. His goodwill transcends caste differences.... Next time, we will definitely form a government.



THE EXPRESS

INTERVIEW

WITH

SANJAY JAISWAL

BJP'S BIHAR UNIT

PRESIDENT

Do you see a possibility of Nitish Kumar becoming the leader of the Opposition pitches against Modi?

How can a leader who cannot even (win) one-third seats in his state on his own be pitched against Narendra Modi? He has become a habitual Paltu Ram (turncoat) — Lalu Prasad had coined that word, (and) he was right...he (Nitish) keeps jumping from one alliance to another.

Does BJP have a face to pitch against Nitish Kumar in next polls?

BJP is a karyakarta-based party and our party does not fight elections

with one leader. Once the election is won, our Parliamentary board picks the leader. There are many leaders in Bihar BJP better than Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav.

Some of your party leaders said it's a good riddance. Why?

We helped Nitish Kumar when he had only six seats in 1998. When he had 33 and we had 67 seats, we put him at the top. In 2005, too, when we won more seats, we put him as the Chief Minister. His party was not ready to make him CM (but) BJP leaders like Pramod Mahajan, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley pitched him for the post.

FULL INTERVIEW ON
www.indianexpress.com

All eyes on House Speaker who had frequent run-ins with CM, RJD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, PATNA, AUGUST 9

WITH the game of numbers set to begin in Bihar, the one man whose actions will be most closely watched is Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha. The BJP MLA — who has had run-ins with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in the past — has already given one sign of what might be coming when, amidst much raised eyebrows, he was reported to be Covid positive when the JD(U) and RJD made their first moves on Monday, only to report Covid-negative within 24 hours as the dice appeared to have been rolled.

Then, on Monday night, following his fast-track recovery from Covid, one of the first people Sinha met was members of the Ethics Committee of the Assembly, headed by BJP leader Ram Narayan Mandal. While Mandal declined to divulge details, sources in the BJP said the report was about an incident of March 2021, when RJD MLAs had held the Speaker "hostage" and police had to be called to the Assembly. Sources said the report indicts about 18 MLAs.

As per procedure, these MLAs will receive a notice on the advice of the Speaker, who may decide further action, and even order disqualification. With 79 MLAs, the RJD is the single-largest party in the Assembly. Any change in numbers will, of course, have repercussions on which government takes over.

The incident dates back to March 23, 2021, when the Assembly had passed the Special Armed Police Act, giving more powers to police to search people, without a warrant, and make arrests, amid protests by Opposition MLAs. RJD MLAs had rushed to Speaker Sinha's chair, torn papers and laid siege to his chambers, virtually holding him hostage inside. Police had to be called in, to remove the protesting MLAs, with many of them dragged and carried out on stretchers.

In the latest instance of tension between them, Nitish had taken exception to Sinha omitting his name in the invitations sent out to mark anniversary celebrations of the Bihar Vidhan Sabha. As per JD(U) sources, that was one of the triggers for Nitish to end his alliance with the BJP.

However, before that too, the Assembly was witness to an unusual showdown between the usually calm Chief Minister and the Speaker. On March 14, a heated exchange took place between the two on whether a matter being probed by the government, which had also been referred to a privilege committee, could be raised on the floor of the House time and again.

Following the altercation with Nitish, Sinha had excused himself from the Chair, with the CM later meeting him for a reconciliation. The next day, the Speaker had said the "*kaala adhyaya* (dark chapter)" must be forgotten. However, Sinha has often rubbed own party leaders the wrong way. In March 2021, Deputy CM Tarkishore Prasad had accused the Chair of extending patronage to Tejashwi, the Leader of Opposition. Sinha reacted, saying: "Those who resolve to act in a transparent manner, can't keep all happy."

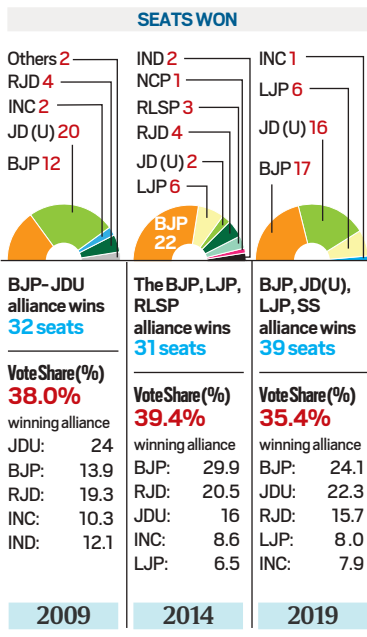
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BIHAR: TOGETHER AND APART, WHERE THE PARTIES STAND

As election results have shown over the years, alliances matter in Bihar's politics divided by caste and class. As JD(U) turns the clock back five years, and poll discussions look forward to 2024, a look at how the parties have fared electorally in the last few years:

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

Total number of seats: 40

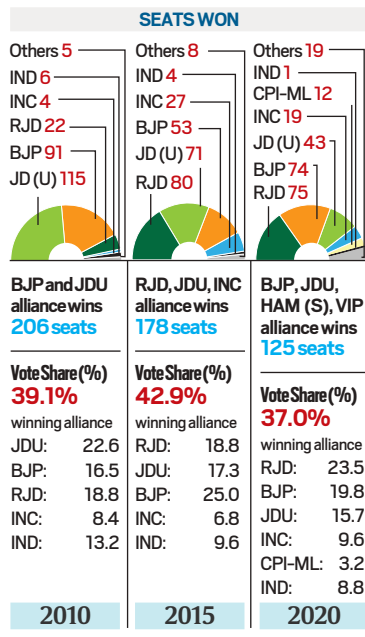


RLSP: Rashtriya Lok Samata Party; SS: Shiv Sena; VIP: Vikas sheel Insaan Party
Source: Indivotes database

2009 2014 2019

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Total number of seats: 243



INDIAN EXPRESS

COMPILED: VIDHATRI RAO MENNENI

2010 2015 2020

Nitish's break-up driven by desire to run for PM: Chirag

SOURAV ROY BARMAN

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

LOK JANSHAKTI Party (Ram Vilas) chief Chirag Paswan on Tuesday alleged Nitish Kumar's decision to snap ties with the BJP in Bihar was driven "solely" by his "selfish desire" to run for PM in 2024.

Chirag, whom Nitish has accused of conspiring with the BJP to weaken the JD(U), also defended the saffron party saying it did "all it could" to keep the Bihar coalition alive. He also demanded fresh elections in the state.

"I have said this time and again... nothing matters more to Nitish Kumar than his personal ambitions. Now he is hoping to be the Opposition camp's PM candidate in 2024... that has guided his latest move also," Chirag told a press conference in Delhi.

Without naming either the RJD or the Congress, Chirag also had a word of caution for JD(U)'s new allies in the state.

"I want to tell the parties which are now joining hands with Nitish Kumar (to form government) that very soon, he will betray them as well and ruin their future. *Wo kisi ka saga nahi hai* (he is loyal to none)," he said.

The LJP leader further alleged that Nitish had waited to make the move until the NDA declared its candidate for the Vice President polls on August 6, hoping that would be him.

On Nitish's accusations that Chirag's decision to walk out of the NDA ahead of the



Chirag Paswan had called for fresh elections in the state

2020 Assembly polls had cost the JD(U), Chirag said: "I take it as a compliment... I am surprised to hear that JD(U) says it was humiliated (by the BJP). The leader of the party which was number three in terms of seats was made the CM of Bihar. Is this humiliation? BJP agreed to whatever Nitish wanted as a CM. The BJP compromised with its policies, from CAA to caste census, just to support him, which I opposed."

Meanwhile, Chirag, who had attended the NDA's meeting on the Presidential Polls in July but denied suggestions he was again joining the coalition appeared less dismissive of the idea on Tuesday.

"How does it matter whether I am with the BJP or my uncle? I decided to go alone in 2020. And in any case, decisions on alliances are taken before polls," he said, referring to Rashtriya Lok Janshakti chief Pashupati Kumar Paras, who took away five of six MPs elected from the undivided LJP in 2019.

While Paras is now a Union minister, Chirag is the sole member of his faction.

OPP TARGETS BJP: 'WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN'

"In March 2020, Modi Sarkar postponed Covid lockdown to engineer fall of Kamal Nath govt in Madhya Pradesh. Now, it cuts short the Parliament session knowing its coalition govt in Bihar is going. What goes up must come down!"

JAIRAM RAMESH,

CONGRESS

"They are getting a taste of their own medicine after what they did in Maharashtra."

SITARAM YECHURY

CPI (M)

"Bihar politics. Another big reason why PM @narendramodi and @AmitShah ran away and SHUT DOWN #Parliament Monsoon Session FOUR DAYS EARLY."

DEREK O'BRIEN,

TRINAMOL CONGRESS

"... today, the day when slogan of 'Bharat chhoro' was given against British. If the slogan of 'BJP bhagao' is coming from Bihar... in other states also, parties will stand against BJP."

AKHILESH YADAV,

SAMAJWADI PARTY

Behind BJP's U-turn on Sanjay Rathod for minister: Need for a Vidarbha face

ZEESHAN SHAIKH
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9



MLAs Sanjay Rathod and Abdul Sattar (right) take oath as ministers at Raj Bhavan on Tuesday. Amit Chakravarty

Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar interacts with Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis during the oath-taking ceremony at Raj Bhavan on Tuesday. *Amit Chakravarty*

the representation of small parties and the Independents and that the government would not run without them. He said he has been promised a place in the next Cabinet expansion in September. "I was promised that I will get a ministry but it looks like there were some issues. I have been promised that I will get it in the next expansion," he said. Yadra-vakar, who was minister of state in the MVA government, said, "I don't know why a ministry was not

Speaking to reporters in Pune, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis said women will get appropriate representation in the Cabinet. "The objection that there is no woman minister in the newly formed Cabinet will be addressed soon. Women will get appropri-

Kadu, a minister in the earlier MVA government, said there must

Opposition parties slammed the government over induction of controversial ministers and non-inclusion of woman legislators in the Cabinet. "I am happy that many of our former colleagues are now part of the new Cabinet. But it also proves that

allegations made by the BJP against them earlier were baseless," said Leader of Opposition and NCP leader Ajit Pawar. He said women played an important role in development of Maharashtra. "It is extremely sad that no woman was part of the

WITH ENS, PUNE

The BJP had held a series of rallies when the Uddhav Thackeray-led NCP government was in power, demanding Rathod's expulsion from then chief minister's office. The government, over alleged links with the suicide of a 22-year-old woman in Pune. The protests had forced Rathod to step down as minister. Rathod was then appointed Forest Minister, becoming the first minister of the MVA to resign.

The four-term MLA from Digras in Yavatmal district, Rathod, 50, was the only Sena minister from the Vidarbha region in the MVA government. He was also a minister in the previous BJP-Sena government led by Devendra Fadnavis, as Minister of

Rathod has a reputation for

EXPLAINED **E** being an aggressive leader with a large following among his Banjar community, helping him climb the ladder up to district president to minister.

Rathod had run into a controversy after a resident of Parli Vajjanath in Beed district, Pooja Chavan, had died on February 8 after reportedly jumping off the balcony of a flat in Pune's

Hadapsar area. Soon after her death, photos and audio clips had surfaced purportedly linking Rathod to it. Though Chavan's family had not pressed any charges and no FIR was filed, the BJP protested, saying police were under pressure.

State BJP president Chandrkant Patil, who was on

Tuesday sworn in as minister, accused CM Uddhav Thackeray of trying to protect Rathod.

With the BJP hitting the streets, threatening 20,000 rallies against “criminalisation of politics” under the MVA government, Rathod had resigned on February 28, reportedly after he was nudged by CM Uddhav.

As questions were raised about Rathod's induction in the new ministry, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said: "Police has conducted an investigation into the allegations levelled against Rathod. Nothing was found against him and they have given him a clean chit."

However, Maharashtra BJP vice-president Chitra Wagh, who was at the forefront of the protests against Rathod, said she was dis-

appointed at his becoming a minister. "It is unfortunate that former minister Sanjay Rathod, who caused the death of Pooja Chavan, has been given the post. I will continue my fight against him," Wagh said after the swearing-in.

The induction of three-time MLA from Sillod in Aurangabad, Abdul Sattar, has also raised eyebrows after the names of two of his daughters appeared among the list of candidates who were debarred by the Maharashtra State Council of Exams for their alleged involvement in the teacher eligibility test scam. Their names cropped up a day before the cabinet expansion.

Shinde reportedly assured Sattar of a ministerial berth while urging Shiv Sena MLAs to rebel against Thackeray, which means that in spite of the allegations, Sattar found a place in the cabinet. He is the lone Muslim face in the state cabinet.

Sattar won the 2019 elections on a Sena ticket. He, however, started his political career with the Congress, winning for the first time in the 2009 Assembly polls. He was a minister of state in the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government as well as the Congress-NCP government.



WITH NITISH Kumar's JD(U) snapping its ties with the BJP and walking out of the NDA, there is a question mark on the continuation of Harivansh as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Harivansh is an MP from the JD(U). So, will he step down or continue in his post and do a Samnath Chatterjee on his party? Chatterjee had refused to step down as the Lok Sabha Speaker in 2008 after the CPM and the Left bloc withdrew outside support to the UPA-I government. The CPM, of which Chatterjee was an MP, had asked him to resign but he did not oblige saying as Speaker he does not represent any political party in the discharge of his duties and functions, and that his election to the high office was unanimous as all political parties proposed his name. The CPM expelled him days later.

UNION HEALTH Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya takes meetings of senior officers mostly on a Monday or a Tuesday. In the weekly meeting, which at times continue for over three hours, a range of topics are discussed with precise action points and timelines set. Mandaviya has now introduced a dashboard called 'Epitome' through which he monitors the progress and timelines in real time.

IN APRIL, the Department of School Education and Literacy had reached out to various ministries seeking inputs on the ongoing exercise to revise the country's school curriculum. Now, the scope of consultations has been expanded further, with suggestions also being sought from the Election Commission of India, Defence Research and Development Organisation and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, among others. On Tuesday, the Education Ministry held a meeting on this issue with representatives from these organisations.

Kejriwal: AAP will be a national party if one more state recognises

Adjournment before schedule on MPs' request: Pralhad Joshi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

AFTER RECEIVING state party status in Goa, Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday that the "Broom" party will soon become a "national" party. The Election Commission of India (ECI) declared AAP a state party in Goa, after reviewing its performance in the February Assembly polls.

Congratulating party workers, Kejriwal posted a communication the party received from the Election Commission and said, "After Delhi and Punjab, AAP is now a state recognised party in Goa too. If we get recognised in one more state, we will officially be declared a national party."

He further added, "I congratulate each and every volunteer for their hard work. I thank the people for reposing faith in AAP."

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
Minister Pralhad Joshi on Tuesday said the Monsoon session of Parliament was adjourned two days ahead of schedule and not four, and the decision was taken after requests from MPs, including from the Opposition.

After the Congress described the session as "highly disappointing", Joshi posted a series of tweets saying the Opposition's agenda was only disruption and boycott. "Monsoon Session was not adjourned 4 days in advance, but only 2 days ahead of schedule. This decision was taken on the request of MPs including those from Opposition," Joshi said. He said the Opposition could have raised any issue through calling attention, Rule 377, Zero Hour and Question Hour.

CBC 33120/15/0001/2223

New Delhi

"IMPORTANT"

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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL EDUCATION, ASSAM
SIXMILE, KHANAPARA, GUWAHATI-22,

No. DME/PMU/138/2021/16491

Recruitment of Project Management Specialist (PMS) position for setting up of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at Directorate of Medical Education, Assam for the JICA funded “Assam Health System Strengthening Project”

In continuation of this Directorate Advertisement No. DME/PMU/138/2021/11191, Dated: 18/05/2022, Director of Medical Education on behalf of Project Director, JICA Health Project invites applications to fill up the following position on contractual basis for a period of 11 (eleven) months initially.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of vacancy
1	Project Management Specialist (PMS)	1 (one) position

Filled up application form along with all necessary documents should reach the office of Director of Medical Education, Assam, Sixmile, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 on or before **18th August, 2022**. No applications shall be received after the last date of submission.

The detailed advertisement along with the application form are uploaded in our official website <https://dme.assam.gov.in>

The Candidates, who have applied and shortlisted vide Notice No. DME/PMU/138/2021/15827, Dated 28-07-2022 need not apply again.
Janasanyog/D/10198/22
Director of Medical Education, Assam

adani
Electricity

ADANI ELECTRICITY MUMBAI LIMITED
Registered Office: Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,
Near Vaishno Devi Circle, S. G. Highway,
Khodiyar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 382421, India.
Website: www.adanielectricity.com
CIN: U74999GJ2008PLC107256

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Date: 10.08.2022

NIT No.	Brief Works Descriptions	Estimated Cost (Rs. Lacs)	Cost of EMD (Rs. Lacs)	Prebid Meeting Date	Due Date & Time of Submissions	Date & Time of Bid Opening
AEML/MD/2022-23/28	Supply, Supervision, Testing and Commissioning of assorted type of 11kV RMU's with FRTU and Testing and Commissioning of FRTU with Control Center	500.0	5.0	18.08.2022 11.30 hrs	29.08.2022 16.00 hrs	30.08.2022 16.00 hrs
AEML/MD/2022-23/29	Supply of Assorted sizes of Theft Proof Pillars	345.2	2.0	20.08.2022 11.30 hrs	29.08.2022 16.00 hrs	30.08.2022 16.00 hrs
AEML/MD/2022-23/30	Services for HT/LT Surveillance, Safeguarding and Asset Care activities	688.1	2.0	18.08.2022 11.30 hrs	29.08.2022 16.00 hrs	30.08.2022 16.00 hrs
AEML/MD/2022-23/31	Construction of Compound Wall on various Receiving Plots	95.0	1.0	20.08.2022 11.30 hrs	29.08.2022 16.00 hrs	30.08.2022 16.00 hrs

All Materials & Services will be as per Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited specifications / BOQ. All Prebid Meeting will be done electronically / telephonically due to Covid19 restrictions.

For details in respect of Service/ Material, Qualifying Requirement , Terms & Conditions, Services / Submission of Tender Documents, etc, Please visit our website:- www.adanielectricity.com -> Open Tenders. The Tender document will be available on above link by 10th August 2022

Tenderer must submit their bids online / electronic submission. Vendor should keep in touch with website www.adanielectricity.com for any corrigendum / Amendments; no separate information regarding Corrigendum will be published on newspapers.

Date: 10.08.2022

Central Procurement Group

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਬੈਂਕ
...बुरोसे का प्रतीक।
punjab national bank
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Recovery Center- Circle Sastra, Sector-4, BHEL, Haridwar, Phone No.: 01334-234445

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

LAST DATE & TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD (Earnest Money) AND DOCUMENTS 29.08.2022 UPTO 05.00 PM.

Sale of Immovable Property mortgaged to Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) & Rule (9) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **constructive/ physical/symbolic** possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of dues due to the Bank/Secured creditor from the respective borrower(s), and Guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Sl. No.	Name of The Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (Mortgagers of Property (ies))	Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002	Reserve Price	DATE & TIME OF AUCTION	Details of The Encumbrances Known To The Secured Creditors
	Name of the Account		Outstanding Amount as on	EMD		
	Name & Addresses of The Borrower/Guarantor		Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act. 2002	Last Date of deposit of EMD		
			Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical /Constructive	Bid Increase Amount		
This notice is also be treated as 15 days statutory notice to under Rule 8(6) & Rule (9) Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002						
1.	BRANCH: IIT ROORKEE Borrower : M/s Panther Healthcare Pvt Ltd, Mr Azam Ali Khan (Director), Mr Sachin Kumar Singhal (Director), Mr Shahrulkh Khan (Director), Mr Manoj Kumar Singhal (Director) Add.1: B-29 Tagore Road Adarsh Nagar Delhi - 110033. Add.2: Khata No 230 & 231 Khasra No 317 & 318, Village Madhopur Hazratpur Bhagwanpur Tehsil Roorkee Haridwar. Add.3: 9/11, 12 Nicholson Road Kashmiri Gate New Delhi, M/s Hayat Health Care Pvt Ltd C/o Fakre Alam Khan, 52 Pathanpura Civil Lines Roorkee- 247667. Mr Azam Ali Khan WZ-419A, Village Madipur New Delhi. Mr Sachin Kumar Singhal, A F-11 Shiva Enclave Pachim Vihar West Delhi-110063. Mr Shahrulkh Khan S/o Mr Ameer Azam Khasra No 318, Add:1. Village Madhopur Hazratpur Saliyar Dehradun Road Tehsil Roorkee Haridwar. Add.2. 824 Garhi Mohd Hayat Khan, C-12/120 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110053.	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Khasra no 317 (measuring 0.415 Hect) & 318 (measuring 0.413 hect, Khata No 230 & 231, situated at Village Madhopur Hazratpur, Pargana Bhagwanpur, Tehsil Roorkee, District Haridwar. Bounded as follows: North: Nali & Chak, South: Nali After that factory of M/s Hope remedies Pvt Ltd, East: Agriculture Land of other, West: Road, after that factory M/s Adapt care. Property registered at Sub- Registrar Roorkee in Bahi no 1, Zild No 3556, Page no 217 to 228 on serial No 10829 Dated 18.08.2014. Lease deed executed between M/s Hayat Healthcare Pvt Ltd through authorized signatory Mr. Hayat Khan & M/s Panther Healthcare Pvt Ltd. Through authorized signatory Mr. Shahrulkh Khan and registered in sub registrar Roorkee in Bahi No 1, zild 3633, page no 21-42 on serial no 1658 dated 04.03.2015 Owner of Property: M/s Hayat Healthcare Pvt Ltd.	30.07.2021	Rs. 310.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 1,38,47,451.65 with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.05.2021		Rs. 31.00 Lakh		
		24.02.2022 (Symbolic Possession)		Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
2.	BRANCH: BSM CHOWK, ROORKEE Borrower : M/s Tyagi Associates, Prop: Sudhir Kumar S/o Sh Jagat Singh Tyagi Malviya chowk Roorkee Haridwar. Sh. Sudhir Kumar S/o Sh Jagat Singh Tyagi, Add: Malviya chowk Roorkee Haridwar. Add.2. H No 1 Village & Po Tanishpur Roorkee, Haridwar. Babli Saini W/o Mr Sudhir Kumar, Add: Malviya chowk Roorkee Haridwar. Add.2. Village & Po Tanishpur Haridwar. M/s Kartik Associates, Prop: Kartik Tyagi H No 1 Village & Po Tanishpur Roorkee, Haridwar. Kartik Tyagi, H No 1 Village & Po Tanishpur Roorkee Haridwar. Smt Babli Tyagi, H No 1 Village & Po Tanishpur Roorkee Haridwar. M/s Balaji Associates, Malviya Chowk Roorkee Karnataka Bank Building BSM Chowk Roorkee Haridwar.	All that property having Nagar Nigam House Tax No.1424 (1) area measuring 134.75Sqmt i.e. 145 Sqft situated in Mohalla Malviya Chowk Ganeshpur Roorkee within limits of Nagar Nigam Roorkee District Haridwar. Bounded & Butted as under: East: Shop of Ravi Shanker, side measuring 50ft, West: House & Shop of Rajendra Dhiman, Side measuring 50ft, North: Property of Rajendra Dhiman, Side measuring 29ft, South: Dehradun Road, Side Measuring 29ft. Registered at Sub Registrar Roorkee at Bahi no 1 Zild No 4688 Pages 341-366 at Serial No 2186 executed on 03.04.2018 in favour of Smt Babli W/o Sh Sudhir Tyagi. Above property is Mortgaged with following accounts of PNB: 1. M/s Balaji Associates Proprietor: Smt Babli Tyagi 2. M/s Kartik Associates Proprietor	24.06.2021	Rs. 312.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 1,11,84,739.02 with further interest and other charges w.e.f 01.05.2021		Rs. 31.20 Lakh		
		13.09.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
3.	Branch: SIDCUL Haridwar Borrower: M/s Hope Metal Aids(Partnership firm) (Partners), Smt Mamta Devi W/o Sh Jasveer Singh, Sh Aryan S/o Sh Jasveer Singh Khasra No 736, Village Manakpur Adampur, Bhagwanpur Haridwar 247661. Sh Aryan S/o Sh Jasveer Singh, (Partner), Khasra No 736, Village Manakpur Adampur, Bhagwanpur Haridwar 247661. Smt Mamta Devi W/o Sh Jasveer Singh, (Partner), Khasra No 736, Village Manakpur Adampur, Bhagwanpur Haridwar 247661. Sh Jasveer Singh S/or Karta Ram, (Partner), Khasra No 736, Village Manakpur Adampur, Bhagwanpur Haridwar 247661	An Industrial plot land area 0.2732 Hect i.e. 2732 Sqmt Khata No 578, Khasra No 738, Bounded in east- Land of Sh Biram, West- Land of Sh Sukhrampal, North- Way 15ft wide and land of Goverdhan, South- Rest Land of Doner Sh Jasveer . Situated at Village Manakpur Adampur, Pargana & Tehsil Bhagwanpur District Haridwar. Gift Deed registered at Book No 1 Zild No 3807 at Pages 1-18 at Sr no 8438 on 21.09.2017 at Sub registrar Roorkee –II executed in favor of Smt Mamta Devi W/o Sh Jasveer.	15.10.2018	Rs. 87.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 80,48,436.76 with interest & other Charges w.e.f 01.10.2018		Rs. 8.70 Lakh		
		04.11.2019 (Physical Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
4	Branch: Roorkee Civil Lines Borrower : 1. M/s Rana Alloys, Add-1:-Rana Rolling Mill Pvt Ltd, Rana Chowk, By Pass, Meerut Road Muzaffar Nagar UP. Add-2: Village Gagnoli Tehsil Laksar Haridwar, 2. Sh Quamrurama Rana, S/o Liakat Ali Rana, 3. Sh Shahzama Rana, 4. Shazez Rana, 5. Smt Razia W/o Amzad Tank, 6. Smt Shaista Badar W/o Mohd Shahid, Add- 2-6: New Rana House Meerut Road Muzaffar Nagar UP, 7. Sh Mool Chand Agarwal, Add.: 223, Kayasth wara Dal Mandi Muzaffarnagar. 8. Sh Sahin Choudhary, Add:- G-304 Windals House Society, Curzon road Dehradun	All that factory Land & Building situated at a) Land measuring 32470 sqmt comprised in Khata no 185, khasra no 266 at Mauza Gangnoli Tehsil Laksar District Haridwar, owned by M/s Rana Alloy Vide Sale deed no 3315, 3988 & 4843 executed on 20.08.2009, 07.10.2009 & 15.12.2009 respectively. b) Land measuring 6300 sqmt comprised in Khasra No 262 situated at Mauza Gangnoli Tehsil Laksar District Haridwar Owned by M/s Rana Alloy vide sale deed no 468 dated 30.01.2010. c) Land measuring area 12080 Sqmt comprised in Khata no 74, Khasra No 263 situated at Mauza Gangnoli Tehsil Laksar District Haridwar Owned by M/s Rana Alloy vide sale deed no 4218 & 4219 dated 10.08.2010.	24.02.2012	Rs. 10.00 Crore	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 7900.21 Lakh with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.01.2012		Rs. 100.00 Lakh		
		24.09.2012 (Physical Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
5	Branch: Roorkee Civil Lines Borrower : 1. M/s Rana udyog, 2. Mr Zakir Ali Rana S/o Lt Mr Liyakat Ali Rana, 3. Mr Saddam Rana S/o Mr Zakir Ali Rana, 4. Mr Shahin Rana S/o Mr Zakir Ali Rana, 5. Km Sufiya Rana D/o Mr Zakir Ali Rana, 6. Qumrurama Rana S/o Lt Sh Liakat Ali Rana, all Address 786/3 New Rana House, Meerut Road Muzaffar Nagar, UP.	1. Factory Land & Building on Plot area 22575 Sqmt bearing Khasra No 1 Khata No 67, Situated at Village Dahiyakee, Roorkee Haridwar, 2. Property bearing Khata No 63 Khasra No 87/1, area 0.0010 Hectare, Situated at Village Dahiyakee, Roorkee Haridwar, 3. Property bearing Khata No 63 Khasra No 87/1 area 0.4760 Hectare situated at Dahiyakee, Roorkee Haridwar.	11.11.2011	Rs. 5.85 Crore	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 4753.63 Lakh with further interest and other expenses		Rs. 58.50 Lakh		
		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
		11.06.2012 (Physical Possession)		Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
6	Branch: Roshnabad Haridwar Borrower : 1. M/s. R K K Trading Pvt Ltd, (through its directors Sh Rohit Kumar & Smt Radhika) Gali No A-6 Tehri Vishpatti Ranipur Haridwar, 2. Sh. Rohit Kumar S/o Sh Samay Singh, Gali No A-6 Tehri Vishpatti Ranipur Haridwar, 3. Smt. Radhika W/o Sh Rohit Kumar, Gali No A-6 Tehri Vishpatti Ranipur Haridwar	Property No. 1: A residential property bearing Khasra No 350/2/1 area measuring 3470sqft or 322.49 Sq. mt. Situated at Village Rawli Mehdood Pargana Jwalapur Tehsil & District Haridwar. Boundaries: East: Property of Rakesh Kumar, Side measuring 122ft, West:Remaining Part, Side measuring 122ft, North:Property of other, Side measuring 28.4ft, South: 20ft Wide Road, Side measuring 28.4ft, Owner: Sh Rohit Kumar S/o Sh Samay Singh, 2. Property bearing Khata No 164, Khasra No 72 m with area measuring 7350 Sq.ft. situated at Village Mukarabpur Pargana & Tehsil Roorkee District Haridwar. East- Side measuring 111.36 Ft, West- Side measuring 111.36 Ft, North- Side measuring 66 Ft, South- Side measuring 66 Ft.	28.04.2021	Property No. 1: Rs. 43.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 1,06,49,154.42 with futher interest & other charges w.e.f 01.04.2021		Rs. 4.30 Lakh		
		23.09.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 lakhs		
				Property No. 2: B) Rs. 34.70 Lakh		
				Rs. 3.50 Lakh		
				29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 lakhs		
				Property-1 Rs. 79.00 Lakh		
				Rs. 7.90 Lakh		
7	Branch: Civil Line, Roorkee Borrower: 1. Ultranchal Concrete Pvt Ltd, Directors Mr Sanyam Mittal & Ms Stuti Mittal, Regd Office: S-5B Vishwas Park, Dwarka Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110075, Factory Add: Khata No 85, Khasra No 310, Village Raipur Industrial Area Bhagwanpur, Roorkee- 247667, Director: 1. Mr Sanyam Mittal S/o Mr Arvind Kumar Mittal, 2. Ms Stuti Mittal D/o Mr Arvind Kumar Mittal, both R/o 76 Hydell Colony Road Opposite Block Division Office Ramnagar Roorkee-247667, Guarantor Mr Arvind Kumar Mittal, R/o 76 Hydell Colony Road Opposite Block Division Office Ramnagar Roorkee-247667	Property 2 : Industrial property at Khata No 85, Khasra no 310 area 0.0841 Hect i.e. 841sqmt from total area 0.8805 Hectare situated at Village Raipur Industrial area, Pargana Bhagwanpur, Tehsil Roorkee District Haridwar. Property registered at Sub Registrar Roorkee bahi No 1, Zild no 269 Page 27-66 at serial No 11682 dated 23.10.2007. Property 1 : All that property bearing Khasra no 148 Situated at Village Sunhera Roorkee Pargana & Tehsil Bhagwanpur area measuring 1170sqft or 108.736sq mt. Property registered at Sub Registrar Roorkee Bahi No 1, Zild No 1327 Pages 97-120 at Serial No 2233 dated 14.05.2018. Boundaries : East: Way 15ft wide, Side measuring 20ft, West: Property of Hydell, Side measuring 20 ft, North: Plot of Mrs Minakshi Sharma, side measuring 59 ft, South: Property of Hydell, side measuring 58 ft.	26.04.2021	Property-1 Rs. 79.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 1,94,81,986.20 with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.04.2021		Rs. 7.90 Lakh		
		30.07.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
				Property-2 Rs. 28.00 Lakh		
				Rs. 2.80 Lakh		
				29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
8	Branch: B T Ganj Roorkee Borrower: 1. M/s Mohd Islam Prop: Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, Muqarabpur Piran Kaliyar, Roorkee Haridwar - 247667. 2. Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, House No 399, Mohalla South, Roorkee Haridwar - 247667. 3. Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, Noor Jahan Kisan Filing Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, House No 423, Sati Mohalla Roorkee Haridwar - 247667	All that property Bearing Khata No 164, Khasra No 72 m with area measuring 7350 Sq.ft. situated at Village Mukarabpur Pargana & Tehsil Roorkee District Haridwar. East- Side measuring 111.36 Ft, West- Side measuring 111.36 Ft, North- Side measuring 66 Ft, South- Side measuring 66 Ft.	18.09.2021	Rs. 138.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 1,36,31,763.53 with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.05.2021		Rs. 13.80 Lakh		
		23.12.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
9	Branch: B T Ganj Roorkee Borrower: 1. M/s Noor Jahan Kisan Filing Station, Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed Muqarabpur Piran Kaliyar Roorkee Haridwar- 247667. 2. Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, House No 399, Mohalla Soth, Roorkee Haridwar - 247667. 3. Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, Noor Jahan Kisan Filing Station Piran Kaliyar, Mukarabpur Roorkee Haridwar - 247667. 4. Mohd Islam S/o Haji Zamil Ahmed, House No 423, Sati Mohalla, Roorkee Haridwar- 247667. 5. Smt Zulfana Khatoun D/o Haji Sharafat Ali, House No 423, Sati Mohalla Roorkee Haridwar - 247667.	All that south facing Residential property bearing Nagar nigam House Tax Old No 324/2 & New No 423, having Khasra No 331 M, total area measuring 1497.22 Sqft i.e. 139.14 Sqmt, covered area of ground floor is 1313.59 Sqft and covered area of first floor is 392.93 Sqft. Total covered area is 1706.52 Sqft. Situated at Mohalla Sati Roorkee (within limits of Nagar Nigam Roorkee), Pargana & Tehsil Roorkee District Haridwar. Bounded & Butted as under: East: Property of other Side measuring 49 feet2 inch, West: Property of Daud Side measuring 49 feet 10 inch, North: House of Mehtaab, Side Measuring 30.25 feet South: 18 Feet Wide Road, Side measuring 30.25 feet.	18.09.2021	Rs. 54.00 Lakh	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 88,33,883.78 with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.05.2021		Rs. 5.40 Lakh		
		23.12.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
10	Branch: Civil Lines, Roorkee Borrower: 1. Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh Shyam Singh, Add.1: 42, Civil Lines, Roorkee 247667, Haridwar. Add.2: H no 423, 35 Civil Lines Roorkee, Haridwar, 2. Smt Seema Chaudhary W/o Sh Ashok Chaudhary (Co-Borrower), H no 423, 35 Civil Lines Roorkee, Haridwar, 3. Sh Shekhar Chaudhary S/o Sh Ashok Chaudhary (Co-Borrower), H no 423, 35 Civil Lines Roorkee Haridwar, 4. Sh Shubham Chaudhary S/o Sh Ashok Chaudhary (Co Borrower), H no 423, 35 Civil Lines Roorkee Haridwar. 5. Sh. Rajendra Kumar S/o Sh Shyam Singh (Guarantor), H no 423, 35 Civil Lines Roorkee Haridwar.	Property 1: A residential property bearing Nagar Nigam house tax no 1364/25, area measuring 2560 sqft or 237.83 sqmt, total covered area 200sqft situated at Purani LIC building Jadugar road 42 Civil lines Roorkee Pargana Tehsil Roorkee District haridwar, East: Jadugar Road, Side measuring 26ft 8 inch, West: Property of Satpal Palta, side measuring 26ft 8inch, North: Property of subhash, Side measuring 95ft 3inch, South: Property of Jain Sahab, side measuring 96ft 9 inch, Property registered at Sub-Registrar Roorkee at Bahi No 1 Zild No 1554, Pages 31-60 at serial No 7254 executed on 01.09.2012 Owner of property: Sh Ashok Kumar & Rajendra Kumar both s/o Sh Shyam Singh. Property 2: All that property bearing Khasra No 127 with area measuring 1210 sqmt total covered area 97.58 sqmt remaining part is open situated at Village Khanjarpur Pargana Tehsil Roorkee District Haridwar. Bounded & Butted as under: East: Property of Murtaja & Mustafa, side measuring 55ft, West: 70ft Wide Road, side measuring 55ft, North: Property of Usman, side measuring 236.70ft, South: Property of Mehdood, side measuring 236.70ft. Property registered at sub-registrar Roorkee at Bahi No 1 Zild No 988 pages 299-312 at serial No 2125 executed on 22.05.2017. Owner of property : Sh Ashok Kumar S/o Sh Shyam Singh.	24.04.2021	Property No. 1.	30.08.2022 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known
		Rs. 3,99,02,328.68 with further interest and other expenses w.e.f. 01.04.2021		Rs. 188.00 Lakh		
		13.09.2021 (Symbolic Possession)		Rs. 18.80 Lakh		
				29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		
				Property No. 2.		
				Rs. 172.00 Lakh		
				Rs. 17.20 Lakh		
				29.08.2022 up to 5 PM		
				Rs. 0.50 Lakh		

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

STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) & RULE (9) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Date: 09.08.2022

Place: Haridwar

Authorised Officer

Advertisement No: 92/2022

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of

Director (Technical)
in
Numaligarh Refinery Limited

Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is
by 15:00 hours on 29-09-2022.

For details login to website
<http://www.pesb.gov.in>

आईआरईएल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड
IREL (India) Limited
(formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited)
(A Govt. of India Undertaking - Dept. of Atomic Energy)
CIN:U1500MH1950GOI1008187
Rare Earths Division, Kochi, Kerala, email purchase-red@irel.co.in
An ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001 Company

TENDER NOTICE
IREL (India) Limited, Rare Earths Division invites tender for the following item job description:

Description	Availability of tenders in the website
Civil-ARC-Repair & Painting work	05.08.2022 14.00 Hrs. Closing date: 22.08.2022
Civil-ARC-Maintenance works	10.08.2022 14.00 Hrs.
Utility- Operation & Maintenance	11.08.2022 14.00 Hrs.
Electrical-Operation & Maintenance of sub-station	12.08.2022 14.00 Hrs.
ARC-Supply of Hydrochloric Acid	16.08.2022 14.00 Hrs.
ARC-Supply of Cautic Soda Lye	17.08.2022 14.00 Hrs.

Bidders may download the tender documents from websites <http://bit.ly/mstcirell>, <http://bit.ly/gppirell> <http://www.irel.co.in/tender-information>

Any corrigendum/extension to the above tenders shall be hosted in the above websites only.
Date: 10.08.2022 GM & Head, RED
Davp-48129/12/0027/2223

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
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Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER
CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No.	CON/EIN/PNT/VIEW/2022/66350
Name of Work	Development of container staking area

SHAURYA CHAKRA AWARDEE MURDER

Man who supplied weapons to shooters among three held

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
TARN TARAN, CHANDIGARH,
AUGUST 9

THE PUNJAB Police Tuesday arrested three persons, including a key accused in the murder case of Shaurya Chakra awardee Balwinder Singh Sandhu, from Tarn Taran.

Those arrested have been identified as Gurwinder Singh alias Baba, who played a pivotal role in Sandhu's killing, and his two aides — Sandeep Singh alias Kala and Gurpreet Singh alias Randhawa.

One hand-grenade, one RDX-IED (improvised explosive device), two .30 bore pistols along with magazines and 13 live cartridges, 635 grams of heroin, 100 of grams opium, Rs 36.90 lakh cash and a car were seized from their possession, a senior police officer said.

Sandhu was shot dead by unidentified assailants in Tarn Taran in October 2020. He was awarded Shaurya Chakra in 1993 for fighting Khalistani militancy in Punjab.

Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said Gurwinder Singh, who is a proclaimed offender, had provided weapons to shooters.

The DGP said a probe revealed that Gurwinder Singh is a close associate of notorious gangsters Sukhpreet Singh alias Harry Chatha and Sukhmeetaal Singh alias Sukh Bikhariwal — a prime suspect in Sandhu's murder case.

Preliminary investigations indicated that the seized explosives and arms and ammunition were to be used to disrupt peace and harmony and create terror in Punjab on or around Independence Day, the DGP said.

IGP, Ferozepur Range, Jaskaran Singh said following reliable inputs that Gurwinder Singh, along with Sandeep Singh, is on the way to Khadoor Sahib, the Tarn Taran police intercepted a car in which both were travelling and arrested them. Two pistols with loaded magazines, 635 grams of heroin, 100 grams of opium and Rs 3.90 lakh drug money were seized from the car, he said.

Following disclosures of Singh, police also recovered one hand grenade, one RDX-IED and Rs 33 lakh drug money from a location pinpointed in the area of Batala, the IGP said.

Preliminary probe suggest the recovered explosives, arms and drugs were smuggled via drones from Pakistan, he added.

June 3 violence: Kanpur cops file chargesheet, 47 named as accused

MANISH SAHU
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 9

THE SPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT), formed to probe the violence took place during June 3 protests in Kanpur against the controversial remarks on the Prophet made by a former BJP spokesperson, has filed chargesheet in the case against 47 persons including prime accused Hayat Zafar Hashmi and businessmen Mukhtar Ahmad Baba and Haji Wasi. This is the first chargesheet filed in connection with June 3 violence in Kanpur.

In all, three FIRs were filed at Beckanganj police station in connection with June 3 violence. Among the total 47 persons chargesheeted in the case, around 20 were found to be involved in conspiracy.

"All 47 accused including Hayat Zafar, Mukhtar Baba and Haji Wasi are lodged in jail. We will soon file chargesheet in remaining two FIRs," said joint commissioner, Kanpur, Anand Prakash Tiwari.

He added that each accused is chargesheet for his role in violence which SIT found during investigation.

The police arrested a total of 61 people in connection with the June 3 violence.



NDRF team carries out rescue operation. *Express*

Kapurthala: Toddler falls into drain, rescue ops on

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
JALANDHAR, AUGUST 9

A RESCUE operation is underway to find and rescue a two-and-a-half-year-old boy trapped inside a drain in which he fell on Tuesday afternoon. The incident took place in the Shalimar Garden area of Kapurthala city, police said.

The rescue operation, led by a team of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), was on at the time of this report going to the print with district administration saying it will not be called off till the child is located.

As per the officials, the incident took place when the boy, identified as Dehaan, along with his five-year-old sister was crossing the drain covered by concrete slabs. The boy reportedly slipped

through a gap between the slabs and was trapped in the 10-foot-deep drain. Officials said that the boy was stuck somewhere near the T-Point of the drain, which is choked with garbage.

As he fell, his sister raised an alarm following which people from surrounding areas gathered to locate the child. The child's mother also jumped into the drain to save her child but failed to find him. The wailing woman was forcibly pulled out of the drain by the locals.

In the evening, Kapurthala DC Vishesh Sarangal requisitioned a 29-member team of NDRF from Bathinda for carrying out the rescue operation.

Officials said the boy and his family originally hail from Bihar and live in the jhuggis near the Shalimar Garden area.

Inter-ministerial Secretaries to finalise calendar for G20 meetings on August 17

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

DAYS AFTER Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged states to develop a mass movement around G-20 of which India is scheduled to assume presidency from December 1 this year, the top government officials have swung into action to finalise and freeze the calendar of the G-20 meetings to be held in Delhi and several other cities across the country.

According to sources, India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant has called an inter-ministerial meeting of around 20 Secretaries on August 17. The meeting is expected to be attended by Secretaries from the key ministries and departments, officials from Lok Sabha Secretariat, and Comptroller and Auditor General, sources said.

The sources said that among the Secretaries who have been asked to attend the meeting are — Ajay Seth (Economic Affairs), S Radha Chauhan (DoPT), Manoj Ahuja (Agriculture), Govind Mohan (Culture), Alkesh Kumar Sharma (Electronics and IT), Kamal Kishore (NDMA), Sunil



G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant urged Secretaries to attend it personally.

Barthwal (Labour), Leena Nandan (Environment), K Sanjay Murthy (Higher Education), Alok Kumar (Power), Rajesh Bhushan (Health), BVR Subramanyam (Commerce), Arvind Singh (Tourism), Indevvar Pandey (Women and Child Development), Anurag Jain (DPIIT), Dr Srivari Chandrasekhar (Science & Technology), S Somnath (Space), Manoj Joshi (Housing & Urban Affairs), and Sanjay Kumar (Youth Affairs).

These Secretaries are heading separate working groups on issues ranging from anti-corruption to agriculture, and from culture to digital economy, sources said.

With less than four months remaining for India to assume the G-20 Presidency, finalising the G-20 meeting calendar spread across 53 cities is of critical importance to ensure logistics arrangements such as venues, hotel rooms, and detailed programme of each meeting, said a source.

The source said, the G-20 Sherpa has desired that the calendar should be "fully finalised" on or before August 17, 2022.

The move is significant as the Prime Minister had urged the Chief Ministers to develop a mass movement around the G-20 at a meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council last week.

"The PM said we should develop a mass movement around G20," said a statement issued by the NITI Aayog after the meeting on Sunday. "The PM also spoke about India's G20 Presidency in 2023 and called it a unique opportunity to show the world that India is not just Delhi—it is every state and Union Territory of the country," the statement said.

"This will allow us to identify the best talent available in the country. He also said there should be a dedicated team for G20 in the states to derive the maximum possible benefit from this initiative," the statement said.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who gave a presentation to NITI Governing Council on the upcoming G-20 meeting, said that the presidency presents a "great opportunity and a great responsibility".

9 APPLICANTS BARRED IN 2 YEARS: NGO

Blacklisted, Gujarat RTI applicant to move HC

SOHINI GHOSH
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 9

THE GUJARAT Information Commission (GIC) has blacklisted and barred at least nine applicants in the last two years from filing applications under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, according to an analysis by an NGO, Mahiti Adhikar Gujarat Pahal (MAGP).

One of the applicants barred, Manoj Kumar Sarapadadiya (47), who was blacklisted for lifetime by a 2020 order, has now decided to move the Gujarat High Court.

The GIC had ordered that Sarapadadiya could not seek information under RTI Act from any officer of any department in the state for lifetime, citing that information sought by him is not on par with the objective of RTI Act.

Sarapadadiya said he filed nearly 150 RTIs between 2016 and 2018 only with GSRTC, "pertaining to corruption at multiple levels", although the state information commissioner's order notes that he has filed nearly 170 RTIs and 140 first appeals.

"I also filed several complaints within the department and various authorities in this period on ongoing corruption within the department based on information provided under RTI, but no tangible action has been taken till date," he said.

A former bus conductor with Gujarat State Road Transport Corporation, Sarapadadiya, a res-

ident of Amreli, was dismissed from service following a departmental inquiry in 2017 on allegations of ticket misappropriation. Currently unemployed, he said, "Along with some others who now stand blacklisted by information commissioner's orders, I plan to approach the Gujarat High Court..."

A Central Information Commission (CIC) official on condition of anonymity said, "It is correct that there is indeed no direct provision in the Act to penalise applicants but in my experience, we see applicants coming with a motive of taking revenge, or to blackmail some officer in the name of public interest. It (RTI) is not a platform to settle scores..." Blacklisting is not new and the CIC, too, did it twice in the last five to six years."

To cite one instance, MAGP's analysis shows that Information Commissioner K M Adhvaryu ordered that all educational institutes run by Sarva Vidyalay Kadi and District Education Officer of Gandhinagar should "not give any information" to now-blacklisted applicant Amita Mishra — "now or in future".

As analysed by MAGP, while rejecting information, PIOs cited reasons such as an applicant repeatedly asking for the same information being "habitual of putting false allegations", applicants not having paid electricity bills, an applicant taking "revenge" for an institute taking action against applicant for misconduct, etc.

MAHARASHTRA WAKF BOARD CASE

AG writes to SC on change of counsel, attempts to prevent him from appearing

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

ATTORNEY GENERAL K K Venugopal has written to the Supreme Court Secretary General, registering his protest against the "sudden change" of the special



KK Venugopal

counsel in a case concerning the Maharashtra State Wakf Board, and alleging attempts to prevent him from appearing in the case.

"...It seems that whoever is behind the events that have transpired, whether it is the beneficiaries of the transfer or anyone else, is bent upon ensuring that AG does not argue this case," he said in his August 8 letter, seeking adjournment citing ill health. The AG had earlier written to the SC Registrar over the developments in the case that involves an appeal against a 2011 Bombay HC order which held that the state Wakf Board was illegally constituted and permitted the transfer of land to various beneficiaries by the Charity Commissioner.

The letter said that on July 14, following a mentioning by Senior Advocate Harish Salve, who raised the question, "is every case where a charitable be set up by Muslim be only a Wakf or can the general law of charity outside a Wakf be applicable", the matter was listed for hearing. On July 30, Advocate Javed Sheikh was orally informed about his removal as special counsel in the matter, the AG said, adding "this was indeed shocking as no reason was given for this sudden change". On August 1, Sheikh got the letter cancelling his appointment.

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SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgager(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the **Punjab National Bank**, Secured Creditor from the respective Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgager(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS						
Lot No.	Name of the Branch Name of the Account Name & addresses of the Borrower/ Guarantors Mortgager	Name of Owner	A) Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFESI ACT 2002 B) Outstanding Amount C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFESI ACT 2002 D) Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/ Constructive	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (Mortgagers of Property(ies))	A) Reserve Price (Rs. in Lacs) B) EMD (Last date of submitting KYC for depositing EMD) C) Bid Increase Amount	Date/ Time of E-Auction Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors
1.	BRANCH: MORCHA ROAD, PATNA (2916) Sri Sanjay Kumar, S/o. Sri Baijnath Choudhary, Sri Baijnath Choudhary S/o. Sri Kalpu Choudhary and Smt. Pratima Devi W/o. Sri Baijnath Choudhary A/c No.1775300520003	Sri Baijnath Choudhary S/o. Sri Kalpu Choudhary	A) 15.01.2022 B) ₹ 10,76,717/- plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 30.04.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of Land and Building situated at Mouza: Kumharar, Thana: Sultanpuri, Present Thana: Agamkuan, Avar Registry Office: Patna City, Sadar Registry Office and Distt.: Patna, Tauzi No. 189, Present Tauzi-Bihar Sarkar, Thana No. 12, Khata No. 352, Survey Khesra Plot No. 1257(p), Jamabandi No. 2169/1, Jamindar Bihar Sarkar, Area-1 Katha (1361 sqft.) vide Sale Deed No. 1743 Dated 31.05.2001 pertaining to Sri Baijnath Choudhary S/o Sri Kalpu Choudhary, Boudry:- North: Smt. Anandi Devi, South: Niz Lekhyakarini, Part Khesra plot No. 1257, East: 5 feet Niz Common Rasta, West- Sri Gulien Yadav.	A) ₹ 57.40 Lakh B) ₹ 5.74 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 5,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
2.	BRANCH: PATLIPUTRA COLONY UBI, PATNA (99120) M/s Priyanka Feeds Prop.- Smt. Priyanka Srivastava W/o Sri Ritesh Khare A/c No. 0991210031985	Smt. Priyanka Srivastava D/o Sri Kameshwar Prasad Srivastava	A) 15.01.2022 B) ₹ 17,92,343/- plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 21.04.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of Flat No. 202 at 2nd Floor along with car parking and proportionate portion in land situated at " RADHA SADAN " at Mohalla-Danapur Chitrakut Nagar, Survey Mouza- Danapur Sahzadpur, Thana, Avar Registry Office- Danapur, Distt. Registry Office and Distt- Patna, Revenue Thana No.- 21, Touzi No.- 5400, Khata No.- 223, Survey Plot No.- 637, super built up area- 1215 sqft. vide Sale Deed No.- 13526 dated 13.12.2016 pertaining to Smt. Priyanka Srivastava D/o Sri Kameshwar Pd Srivastava, Boundary of Flat:- North- Flat No. 201, South- Open Space of Apartment, East- Open Space of Apartment, West- Open Space of Apartment, Boundary of Apartment-North- Sahayak Sarak, South- Sri Ram Prit Singh and Others, East- Part Plot No. 637, West- Smt. Chandrakanta Devi Part Plot No. 637.	A) ₹ 41.14 Lakh B) ₹ 4.114 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 5,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
3.	BRANCH: Morcha Road, Patna (2916) M/s Awadh Bakery Prop.- Sri Awadh Kishore Mishra S/o Sri Ram Dayal Mishra A/c No. 291600SG0000060	Smt. Radhika Devi W/o Sri Ram Dayal Mishra	A) 30.06.2021 B) ₹ 19,23,526/- plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 16.09.2021 D) Symbolic	EM of Land and Building situated at Mouza: Simli Muradpur, Patnacity, Thana: Malsalami, Sub Registry office: Patnacity, Sadar Registry and Distt.: Patna, Tauzi: Bihar Sarkar, Thana No. 38, Khata No-904, CS Khesra No. 2167(p), Area- 3.1/8 Demised Sale Deed No. 80 Dated 12.01.2000, Pertaining to Smt. Radhika Devi W/o Sri Ram Dayal Mishra, Boundary:- North- Common Rasta Badau adastral Survey Keshra No. 2169, South- Sri Ram Prasad Yadav Part of Said Plot, East- Niz Lekhyakarigan no 1 and 2, part of said Plot, West- Sri Jai Dayal Mishra, part of said Plot.	A) ₹ 27.65 Lakh B) ₹ 2.765 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 2,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
4.	BRANCH: SME, Patna (3891) M/s. Bihar Spunj Pipe Pvt. Ltd. (Director:- 1. Sri Raj Kumar Chouhan, 2. Smt. Anjana Devi) A/c No. 3891008700001612 3891008700001676 38910087000016396	Sri Raj Kumar Chouhan S/o. Sri Sanichar Mahto	A) 18.06.2021 B) ₹ 4,13,18,950.66 plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 04.05.2022 D) Symbolic	Simple Mortgage of Land situated at Mouza- Shahjadpur Anderkila, Rev Thana No- 177, Survey Ward No.- 08, Anchal / SRO- Hajipur, PS-Town Hajipur, Distt/DSR Vaishali, Khata No 518, 254(N) / 554(O), Khesra No- 574, 573(N)/716(O), Total Area 6 Katha 18.50 Dhur, 4 Katha 12 Dhur + 2 Katha 6.50 Dhur) vide simple Mortgage Deed No- 6689 dated 20.09.2014, Boundary of Area- 4 Katha 12 Dhur:- North- Public Road, South- Niz Vender, East- Railway Hata, West- Niz Vender, Boundary of Area- 2 Katha 6.50 Dhur:- North- Raj Kr Chouhan, South- Laxmi Singh and Others, East- Railway, West- Ram Chandra Singh and Kabristan.	A) ₹ 120.15 Lakh B) ₹ 12.015 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 10,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
5.	BRANCH: MORCHA ROAD, PATNA (2916) M/s. Sakshi Enterprises, Prop.-: Sri Kundan Kumar Jain. A/c No. 29160087000004841	Smt. Rekha Devi Jain W/o. Sri Ravindra Kumar Jain	A) 29.06.2020 B) ₹ 15,91,792.66 plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 15.02.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of land and Building situated at Mohalla- Tathagat Nagar, Patnacity, Thana- Malsalami, Sub Registry Office Patnacity, Sadar Registry office and Distt- Patna, Circle No- 226, Holding No- 33/37 (P), Badahu Holding No- 39/31 (p), Present Holding No- 39B/31, Ward No- 71/56/37/32, Sheet No.- 282, Thana Code- 471, Municipal Survey Plot No- 693(p), Volumn No.- 229, CD no-46/year2011, Pages From- 387 to 400, Book No- 1, Area- 12 Dhur 9.50 Durki (1.9492 Decimal) vide Sale Deed No-12773 dated-24-06-2011 pertaining to Smt. Rekha devi Jain W/o Ravindra Kumar Jain, Bounded as - North - Gali Corporation, Municipal Survey Plot No-695, South- Koli Badahu Sri Jaggu Paswan, East- Sri Rajesh Kumar Jaisawal, part of said plot and Koli badahu Sri Jaggu Paswan, West- Sri Braj Kishore Jaisawal, Part of said Plot and Koli.	A) ₹ 22.00 Lakh B) ₹ 2.20 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 2,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
6.	BRANCH: HANUMAN NAGAR, PATNA (154410) M/s. Om Shakti Enterprises (Prop. Vivek Anand S/o. Sri Prem Chandra Verma) A/c No. 15447015002998 15447025003187	Sri Kameshwar Prasad S/o. Sri Ram Bilash Prasad	A) 19.04.2021 B) ₹ 71,68,540.56 plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 27.02.2020 D) Symbolic	Land & Building situated at Mauza -Ranipur, Thana- Khajekalan, Sub Registry Office- Patnacity, sadar Registry Office - Bankipur, Distt- Ratna, Under PRDA, Thana No- 19, Tauzi No- 15/3, Khata No- 305, Khesra No- 2620(p), Area-1 katha 5 Dhur vide Sale Deed No- 3995 dated 09-11-2001, Boundary:- North- Heirs of Kishun Gope, South- Wide Road of PWD, East- Anil Kumar Miljumble No Plot Hazza, West- Miljumble Plot Hazza Hal Khariad Diger.	A) ₹ 100.00 Lakh B) ₹ 10.00 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 10,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A
7.	BRANCH: FATUHA, PATNA (7178) M/s. Jai Maa Tara Enterprises, (Prop.- Smt. Kaushalya Devi) A/c No. 7178008700000293	Sri Ram Narayan Singh S/o. Late Shiv Nandan Singh & Sri Dharamvir Prasad S/o. Sri Ram Narayan Singh	A) 20.11.2019 B) ₹ 29,75,875.40 plus upto date interest and other charges. C) 12.03.2021 D) Symbolic	Land & Building situated at Mauza -Govindput Kurtha, Thana- Fatuha ,Sub Registry- Patnacity, Sadar Registry- Bankipur, Patna, Dist- Patna, Tauzi - Bihar Sarkar, Thana no.- 16, Khata no.-125, Part Khesra no.- 213(P), 1. Area- 13 Dhur covered by sale deed no-229 dated 04.02.2006 in the name of Sri Ram Narayan Singh S/o, Late Shiv Nandan Singh, Boundary:- North- Rasta, South- Part of Niz which is purchased by Dharamvir Prasad, East- Part Plot of Sita Devi, West- Bangali Gope & Others, 2. Area- 13 Dhur covered by sale deed no- 230 dated 04.02.2006 in the name of Sri.Dharamvir Prasad S/o, Sri Ram Narain Singh, Boundary:- North- Niz Plot(p) Which is Purchased by Ram Narain singh, South- Road Niz Raj Kishore Mahto, East- Part Plot of Sita Devi, West- Banali Gope & Others	A) ₹ 30.70 Lakh B) ₹ 3.07 Lakh (22.08.2022) C) ₹ 2,00,000/-	25.08.2022 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM N/A

1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:

2. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHAT EVER THERE IS BASIS."

3. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.

4. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website <https://www.msctcecommerce.com> on or on the date as mention in the table here in above.

5. For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.lenders.gov.in, www.msctcecommerce.com, <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>

Date : 08.08.2022

Place : Patna

(Authorised Officer)
Punjab National Bank

EdCIL (India) Limited
(A "MINI RATNA" Category - I CPSE, GOVT. OF INDIA)
EdCIL House, 18A, Sector - 16A, NOIDA - 201301 (U.P.)
Tel.: 0120-4156001-02, 4154003 & 2970206-207 Fax No.-0120-2970209
E-mail: edcilsupport@edcil.co.in

Invitation for Bids

EdCIL (India) Limited, A Mini Ratna Category-I CPSE, Govt. of India invites Bids from eligible bidders for the following work:

S.No.	NIT No.	Name of the Tender
1.	EdCIL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022/AS	Empandment of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during PAN India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCIL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edcilindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/EdCIL> and Central Public Procurement Portal. Any further information shall be published on the referred website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

ICICI Bank
ICICI Limited

The below mentioned borrowers have been issued notice to pay off their outstanding amount towards the facility against gold ornaments ("Facility") availed by them from ICICI Bank Limited ("ICICI Bank"). We are constrained to conduct an E-Auction of pledged gold ornaments on **Aug 20, 2022** as they have failed to repay the dues. ICICI Bank has the authority to remove auction/cancel the E-Auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online - <https://jewel-auction.procuretiger.com> between 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. For detailed Terms and conditions, please click into given website. In case of deceased borrower, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs.

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name
748005000227	Dharmendra Kumar	133905003978	Sandeep Kumar	752105000591	Aayush Kumar
Branch Name: Aurangabad- M.G. Road		133905003986	Dharmendra Kumar	Branch Name: Nawada	
132505002582	Priva Ranjan Kumar	133905003995	Ratnes Kumar	133205002908	Ranjit Kumar
Branch Name: Barh		Branch Name: Khagaul (Nagar Parishad)		Branch Name: Patna - Ashiana Nagar	
230405001164	Gulshan Kumar	747905000286	Nirmala Devi	194305000925	Ranjan Kr Singh
230405001168	Gulshan Kumar	181005002021	Manoj Kumar	Branch Name: Patna - Bhoonath Road	
Branch Name: Begusarai		Branch Name: Kishanganj		238205000186	Alaka Kumari
043005004360	Shivesh Samdarsini	747905000286	Nirmala Devi	Branch Name: Patna - Kumharar	

THE WORLD

TOPOF THE WORLD



Issey Miyake was fighting cancer. AP

JAPAN Famed fashion designer Issey Miyake dies

Tokyo: Issey Miyake, who built one of Japan's biggest fashion brands and was known for his boldly sculpted, signature pleated pieces, has died. He was 84. Miyake died August 5 of liver cancer, Miyake Design Office said Tuesday. Miyake defined an era in Japan's modern history, reaching stardom in the 1970s among a generation of designers and artists who reached global fame by defining a Japanese vision that was unique from the West. Miyake's origami-like pleats transformed usually crass polyester into chic. He also used computer technology in weaving to create apparel. His down-to-earth clothing was meant to celebrate the human body regardless of race, build, size or age. **AP**

RUSSIA Moscow launches Iranian satellite

Moscow: A Russian rocket on Tuesday successfully launched an Iranian satellite into orbit. The Soyuz rocket lifted off as scheduled at 8.52am Moscow time Tuesday from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan. About nine minutes after the launch, it placed the Iranian satellite, Khayyam, into orbit. Iran has said the satellite fitted with high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control. **AP**

CHINA New zoonotic virus infects 35 people

Beijing: A new type of animal-derived Henipavirus has so far infected 35 people in Shandong and Henan provinces of China, official media reported on Tuesday. The new type of Henipavirus was found in throat swab samples from febrile patients in eastern China. The infected people have symptoms, including fever, fatigue, cough, anorexia, myalgia, and nausea. **PTI**

PAKISTAN Four soldiers killed in suicide bombing

Peshawar/Islamabad: At least four Pakistani soldiers were killed and seven other people injured in a suicide attack in North Waziristan tribal district of restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the military's media affairs wing said on Tuesday. A rickshaw hit the vehicle of the security forces near Pattasi check post in Mir Ali tehsil region, killing four soldiers and injuring seven, including two civilians, ISPR said. **PTI**

AUSTRALIA NSW to ban Nazi swastika

Sydney: Australia's most populous state took a major step toward banning Nazi symbols on Tuesday when the New South Wales Parliament's lower house passed a bill that would criminalise their display. The bill must pass the upper chamber to become law. Victoria in June became the first in Australia to pass a law banning the public display of Nazi swastikas. **AP**

OVER 23,000 STUDENTS WAITING TO RETURN TO COLLEGES

First batch of Indian students stuck at home will arrive very soon: China

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, AUGUST 9

CHINA ON Tuesday said it has started the process for the return of Indian students stuck back home due to the Covid-19 visa restrictions and the first batch may arrive soon, raising hopes for the thousands of students waiting to rejoin colleges in this country. "We are working intensively for the return of foreign students to China and this process for Indian student's return has begun," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told media briefing when asked about social media posts by some Chinese diplomats about

Imran's top aide held for making 'seditious' remarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, AUGUST 9

A CLOSE aide of Pakistan's former PM Imran Khan was on Tuesday arrested after pulling a private TV channel off air for airing his interview considered as seditious and threatening to national security.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shehbaz Gill, who is also a spokesperson of Khan, participated in an ARY News programme on Monday and criticised the Shehbaz government for trying to pitch Khan against the Army.

A spokesperson of the Islamabad police said Gill has been arrested for "making statements against the state and inciting people to rebellion." Gill had alleged that the government was trying to provoke the lower and middle tier of the Army against the PTI, claiming that the families of such "rank and file" support Khan and his party "which is fuelling rage within the government". Meanwhile, PTI chairman Khan has termed Gill's arrest as an "abduction".

NEPAL BARS ENTRY OF INDIAN TOURISTS AFTER FOUR STUDENTS TEST COVID- POSITIVE

Kathmandu: Nepal has stopped the entry of people coming from India into the country after four Indian tourists tested positive for Covid-19 and were sent back, amid a sharp surge in the number of Covid cases in the Himalayan nation. The four

opening of a new visa policy for all the foreign students soon. "We believe we will see the return of the first batch of Indian students very soon and will continue to pursue it with relevant

Indian tourists had entered Nepal via the Jhulaghat border point in the Baitadi district in Western Nepal. An official said the four students were told to return to India. "We have also ramped up Covid-19 testing on Indians," said Lekhak. **PTI**

work while ensuring the safety against Covid," Wang said. Asked at what stage is the process of the list provided by the Indian Embassy about the Indian students wanting to re-

turn, he said the relevant information will be released soon. China is currently processing the list of hundreds of Indian students wanting to return to the country to rejoin their colleges. Over 23,000 Indian students, mostly studying medicine, are reportedly stuck back home due to Covid visa restrictions. China is also permitting flights from different countries but yet to work out opening of flights between the two countries. The flights between India and China, which were halted at the height of the coronavirus pandemic two years ago, remain suspended. Officials say the two countries are in talks to restore limited flights. **PTI**



KENYA LINES UP TO ELECT ITS PRESIDENT

Maasai people wait in line to cast their votes at a polling station at Niserian Primary School, in Kajiado County, Kenya Tuesday. The top candidates are Raila Odinga and Deputy President William Ruto. Results must be announced within a week. AP

IN ALBUQUERQUE, RACE TO FIND WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE

In New Mexico, 4 killings spark fear in Muslims

ASSOCIATED PRESS
AUGUST 9

FIRST WAS the killing of a Muslim man from Afghanistan late last year. Then came two more slayings in the last two weeks — men from Pakistan who attended the same mosque in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Those deaths were followed Friday by the city's fourth homicide of a Muslim man in nine

months. Together the killings have sent ripples of fear through Islamic communities in New Mexico and beyond and fueled a race to find who was responsible. Authorities on Monday identified the latest victim as they sought help searching for a vehicle believed to be connected to the slayings. The common elements were the victims' race and religion, officials said.

Naeem Hussain was killed Friday night, and the three other

NINE KILLED

RECORD-SETTING RAIN INUNDATES SEOUL

Some of the heaviest rainfall in decades struck the Seoul area overnight, flooding homes, streets and subway stations, and killing at least nine people, South Korean officials said. Nearly 17 inches of rain poured down in southern Seoul between early Monday and early Tuesday, weather officials said. In one district, 54 inches fell in a single hour, breaking an 80-year-old Seoul record.



WITCH HUNT MUST BE STOPPED, HE SAYS

FBI searches Trump's Florida home as part of presidential probe

Search on for official records he removed from White House

REUTERS
PALM BEACH, AUGUST 9

FORMER US President Donald Trump on Tuesday tried to turn the news of an FBI search of his Florida estate to his benefit, citing the investigation in text messages and emails soliciting political donations from his supporters. The unprecedented search of the home of a former president marked a significant escalation of the federal investigation into whether Trump illegally removed records from the White House as he was leaving office in January 2021. Trump tried to paint the search of his Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach as a politically motivated move by President Joe Biden's administration.

"As they watch my endorsed candidates win big victories and see my dominance in all polls, they are trying to stop the Republican Party and me once more," Trump said in a fundraising email on Tuesday. "The lawlessness, political persecution, and witch hunt, must be exposed and stopped."

Trump on Monday an-



Outside Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate. AP

nounced the search of his club in a statement, saying that a "large group of FBI agents" had carried it out. The FBI's headquarters in Washington and its field office in Miami both declined comment. Trump said the estate "is currently under siege, raided, and occupied." He did not say why the raid took place. "After working and cooperating with the relevant Government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home was not necessary or appropriate," Trump said, adding: "They even broke into my safe!"

Lanka to focus on promoting Ramayana trail to Indian tourists: Sanath Jayasuriya

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO, AUGUST 9

SRI LANKA'S newly appointed tourism brand Ambassador and cricket legend Sanath Jayasuriya on Tuesday said his country will concentrate on promoting the Ramayana trail to Indian tourists, as the crisis-hit island nation seeks to boost tourism for economic recovery.



Tourism brand envoy Sanath Jayasuriya

Jayasuriya met India's High Commissioner in Colombo, Gopal Baglay, on Monday.

"Sri Lanka's newly appointed tourism brand Ambassador, cricket legend @Sanath07 met

High Commissioner today. The meeting focused on strengthening ties between the people of India and Sri Lanka and promoting tourism as an instrument for economic recovery," the Indian High Commission tweeted.

Responding to the tweet, Jayasuriya on Tuesday thanked Baglay for agreeing to meet him.

"We will concentrate on promoting the Ramayana trail to the Indian tourists," he tweeted.

Snapchat app introduces first parental controls

THE NEW YORK TIMES
SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 9

SNAPCHAT, the ephemeral messaging app, introduced its first parental controls on Tuesday, as social media platforms face increasing scrutiny for exposing young users to harmful content.

Snap, Snapchat's parent company, said in a blog post that its new tools would let parents see whom their teenagers were friends with on the app and whom they had communicated with in the previous seven days. Parents will also be able to report accounts that their children are friends with if they violate Snapchat's policies. Parents will not be able to see their children's conversations on the app.

Our goal was to create a set of tools designed to reflect the dynamics of real-world relationships and foster collaboration and trust between parents and teens," Snap said in the blog post.

Blasts rock Russian airbase in Crimea, injure five

REUTERS
MOSCOW, AUGUST 9

BLASTS ROCKED a Russian air base near seaside resorts in the annexed Crimean peninsula on Thursday, injuring five people according to local authorities in what Moscow attributed to detonations in ammunition stores.

Local witnesses told *Reuters* they heard at least 12 explosions around 3.20 pm local time from the Saky air base near Novofedorivka on Crimea's western coast. They described a final blast around 30 minutes later as the loudest.

Russia's defence ministry said the "detonation of several aviation ammunition stores" had

caused an explosion, Russian news agencies reported, but that there had been no injuries.

However, the head of Crimea's health department said five people had been injured, including one child, according to the state-run news agency TASS. No comment was immediately available from Ukraine. The Russian governor of

Crimea, Sergei Aksyonov said, "Ambulance crews are working on site ... it is too early to talk about victims."

The defence ministry said there had not been any kind of attack and that no aviation equipment had been damaged. Moscow said further measures were being taken to establish the causes.

POP SINGER AND 'GREASE' STAR, SHE AMASSED 4 RECORDS THAT SOLD OVER TWO MILLION COPIES EACH

Olivia Newton-John, darling of the masses, passes away at 73

JIM FARBER
AUGUST 9

OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, who sang some of the biggest hits of the 1970s and '80s while recasting her image as the virginal girl next door into a spandex-clad vixen—a transformation reflected in miniature by her starring role in "Grease," one of the most popular movie musicals of its era—died on Monday at her ranch in Southern California. She was 73.

The death was announced by her husband, John Easterling. She had lived with a breast cancer diagnosis since 1992 and in 2017 announced that the cancer

had returned and spread. For years she was a prominent advocate for cancer research, starting a foundation in her name to support it and opening a research and wellness center in metropolitan Melbourne, Australia. English-born, she grew up in Australia. Newton-John amassed No. 1 hits, chart-topping albums and four records that sold more than two million copies each. More than anything else, she was likable, even beloved. In the earlier phase of her career, Newton-John beguiled listeners with a high, supple, vibrato-warmed voice that paired amiably with the kind of swooning middle-of-the-road pop that,



Olivia Newton-John at a concert in Hong Kong. Reuters File

in the mid-1970s, often passed for country music.

Her performance on the charts made that blurring clear.

She scored seven Top 10 hits on Billboard's Country chart, two of which became back-to-back overall No. 1 hits in 1974 and '75.

First came "I Honestly Love You," an earnest declaration co-written by Peter Allen and Jeff Barry, followed by "Have You Never Been Mellow," a feather of a song written by the producer of many of her biggest albums, John Farrar.

"I Honestly Love You" also won two of the singer's four Grammys, for record of the year and best female pop vocal performance. The combination of Newton-John's consistently benign music and comely but squeaky-clean image caused many writers to compare her to earlier blond ingénues like Doris Day and Sandra Dee. "Innocent, I'm not," Newton-John told Rolling Stone in 1978. "People still seem to see me as the girl next

door. Doris Day had four husbands," she said, yet she was still viewed as "the virgin."

An entry into movies in 1978 aimed to put the singer's chaste image behind her, starting with "Grease." Her character, Sandy, transformed from a pigtailed square smitten with John Travolta's bad-boy Danny to a gum-smacking bad girl. "Grease" became one of the highest grossing movie musicals ever, besting even "The Sound of Music." Its soundtrack was the second best-selling album of the year, beaten only by the soundtrack for "Saturday Night Fever."

The "Grease" soundtrack spawned two No. 1 hits, both

sung by the co-stars, including the manically lusty "You're the One That I Want" and doo-wop romp "Summer Nights." A ballad Newton-John sang alone, "Hopelessly Devoted to You," earned the film's lone Oscar nomination.

In May 2017, she disclosed that her cancer had returned. She published a memoir, "Don't Stop Believin,'" in 2018. To the end she firmly believed in her audience-friendly approach to music. "It annoys me when people think because it's commercial, it's bad," she told Rolling Stone. "It's completely opposite. If people like it, that's what it's supposed to be." **NYT**

The Indian **EXPRESS**

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

BREAK AND MAKE

In run-up to 2024, it may seem Opposition has added numbers in Bihar but Nitish will need to work harder to stitch a shared story

NITISH KUMAR HAS switched sides yet again. With that quick and easy indictment out of the way, look again, at a complex and bristling story. It's a story about Bihar, a fertile state known for its backwardness, and also for being the crucible for social and political movements that reverberate through the country. It's a story of a leader who played a historic role in braiding the agenda of social justice with the language and infrastructure of development — in Bihar, the cleavage and even outright antagonism between “samajik nyaya” and “vikas” had been the unfortunate left-over of Lalu Prasad's 15-year rule which gave the backward castes a political voice. But the leader who scripted “Nootan Bihar” where “sushasan (good governance)” was given its due place remained, despite his great achievements, afraid to go it alone. And at some point, his asserting and writhing in the alliances he struck with others overshadowed his plateauing governance story. Nitish's latest about-turn, walking out of the alliance with the BJP after walking back into it in 2017, after walking out of it, 17 years on, in 2013, also comes at a time when a larger story is unfolding — in the national Opposition space, to break the prolonged standstill in the time of Modi.

Nitish's resignation as chief minister, his march to Raj Bhawan alongwith Tejashwi Yadav, his staking of claim to form another government, inaugurates a new chapter that is likely to resonate as much outside Bihar as inside it. With the next parliamentary election only two years away, and with Bihar still the north Indian state where the BJP has considerable scope to grow, unlike in next-door UP, where it has all but peaked, what happens in Patna could well be crucial for what happens in Delhi. Nitish's reputation and legacy so far, despite his stop-start equations with the BJP and RJD, and in spite of the signs of his government running of ideas, manifested in the ham-handed enforcement of prohibition, rest on several past laurels — the bicycle scheme for girls, the small initiative that wreaked large change; reservation in Panchayat bodies for women and for Extremely Backward Castes (which had been relegated by the dominant groups among OBCs); the building of roads in a state where travelling time between point A and B depended on hours taken, not distance in km; the improvements in law and order; and, overall, the restoring of the authority of the state. In Nitish raj, the wheels of social justice turned further, included groups that had still remained excluded in Lalu raj, and large sections, especially of the weak and vulnerable, felt touched by the state.

AJD(U)-RJD alliance has taken on the BJP once before — the Mahagathbandhan romped home in the 2015 polls. But the BJP, in Bihar, as elsewhere, is constantly learning, evolving and strategising to conquer. The Modi model is layered and it is making deeper inroads, using social engineering where it must, the delivery scheme where it can, and the powerful idea of Hindutva everywhere. In the run-up to 2024, then, it may seem that the Opposition has added weight in terms of numbers in Bihar. But it will need to work much harder to stitch a shared story that speaks to the people and lifts it off the ground.

MORE THAN MEDALS

At CWG, India's track and field athletes made a mark, women's cricket and hockey teams showed they are on right track

ANOTHER EDITION OF the Commonwealth Games is over, and though some would term it a relic of the past and an anachronism, Birmingham showed it remains relevant. Colonial legacy and history are sensitive subjects — in the UK as well as the erstwhile outposts of the British Empire — and many argue that nations don't need to be reminded that they were once subjugated. But giving a sporting platform for elite athletes to showcase their prowess is a good enough argument for these Games, even if the level of competition in many sports is a few rungs below what is seen at the Olympics, the World Championships or even the continental Games.

For India, the Commonwealth Games give a chance to assess how they are likely to fare when tougher assignments come along. In Birmingham, the performance of India's track and field athletes came as a breath of fresh air. Triple jumper Eldhose Paul and 3,000m steeplechaser Avinash Sable showed they can mix it with the best in the world. The latter took on, and left behind, a few Kenyans, considered the royalty in middle- and long-distance races. Weightlifting, table tennis and badminton were other sports which provided big medal hauls to India. And though, on the mat, the competition was arguably weaker than what is seen in domestic trials, there were other commendable achievements.

At 40, paddler Sharath Kamal continues to mint medals, while a sport previously unknown in India, lawn bowls, also added to the country's gold tally. Boxer Nitu Ghanghas, whose father has been on unpaid leave for three years and is facing a departmental inquiry for long absenteeism to look after his daughter's blooming career, showed the kind of sacrifices needed for sporting glory at the elite level. They didn't necessarily have to win gold to point to a bright future. The women's cricket and hockey teams showed that they are on the right track to be considered one of the best in the world. Any such event is a kaleidoscope of emotions and memories, and one of them that will stay is the bonhomie shared by Pakistani weightlifter Muhammad Nooh Dastgir Butt and India's Gurdeep Singh, both of whom finished on the podium in the 109kg-plus category. The camaraderie and affection they displayed proved that sport can indeed be a vehicle to bring people closer. That's what adds to the relevance of the Commonwealth Games.

SANDY FOREVER

Olivia Newton-John was a singer, Hollywood star and cancer activist. For her fans, though, she'll always be the girl from Grease

WITH HER SWEET singing voice and general air of wholesomeness, Olivia Newton-John was a natural candidate for the status of America's Sweetheart. The UK-born Australian singer and actor, who died in her home in California on Monday at the age of 73 after a long battle with breast cancer, became a global star with her role in the 1978 smash-hit musical *Grease*. Her performance as the goody-two-shoes Sandy who falls in love with the leather-clad Danny as well as her sizzling chemistry with co-star John Travolta, set the template for musicals and romantic comedies for years to come.

Subsequently, she also broke free from her squeaky clean image to someone a little more complicated. In *Grease's* finale, Sandy has a pastel skirt-to-leather pants makeover, which Newton-John carried off-screen when, later that year, she released her album *Totally Hot*. The makeover reached its pinnacle with her bestselling 1981 album *Physical* — the album's eponymous, Grammy-winning track, with an aerobics-inspired video, was banned in some markets for its sexually suggestive lyrics. The transformation that *Grease* helped launch was one of many. Newton-John had first made a name in the early 1970s singing crowd-pleasing pop numbers, followed by a stint as a country music star. She won a country Grammy in 1974.

Post-*Physical*, Newton-John's career was in the doldrums after successive projects failed. In 1992, after a breast cancer diagnosis, her music took a more spiritual turn and she became an activist for cancer awareness, founding the Olivia Newton-John Foundation to fund research. Hers was a life and career of many acts, but for her legions of fans, she will be Sandy forever.

Step back from water's edge



ARUN PRAKASH

India's response to presence of Chinese military vessels in Indian Ocean needs to be more calibrated

REPORTS ABOUT THE impending visit of a Chinese “spy ship”, Yuan Wang-5, to the Sri Lankan port of Hambantota, created a major flutter in the Indian media. Citing the ship's “lethal capabilities” and “aerial reach of more than 750 km”, fears have been expressed that “atomic research centres within Indian borders could be snooped upon”. Reflecting concerns at the “highest levels” in New Delhi, social media fired unkind comments about India's emergency economic assistance to an “ungrateful Sri Lanka”.

Reports that Sri Lanka has asked for a delay in the Chinese ship's arrival may temporarily calm the waters and provide respite for a dispassionate examination of the issue through legal, military and diplomatic lenses. But before that a quick look at the ship's provenance is in order. Yuan Wang is the generic name given to a flotilla of seven to eight ships belonging to the Chinese PLA's Strategic Support Force. These large “survey/research” vessels carry optical, laser, passive-radio and radar devices whose large dish-antennae enable tracking of ballistic-missile trajectories, monitoring of satellite and space vehicle launches, and gathering of technical intelligence.

From the legal perspective, the 1982 UN Convention for Law of the Seas permits unfettered freedom of navigation on the high seas and a foreign warship has as much right to be in the Indian Ocean as a similar Indian vessel would in the South China Sea. Even in the 200-mile exclusive economic zone, there exists the conditional right of “innocent passage” for all vessels, including warships. Entry into foreign ports, especially for warships, has to be with prior consent. But even in wartime, the 1907 Hague Convention permits entry for warships of belligerents into neutral ports for limited durations. Given its cordial diplomatic relations, and its economic dependence on China, there could be no plausible reason for Sri Lanka to deny entry for Yuan Wang 5, especially into Hambantota on which China has a 99-year lease.

Viewed from the security angle, the presence of a research ship like the Yuan Wang 5, bristling with multi-spectral surveillance and eavesdropping devices, in India's vicinity, cer-

tainly calls for vigilance and caution. However, in this age of transparency, regular electronic “snooping” by ships, aircraft and satellites — both friendly and hostile — happens all the time. Our armed forces and other agencies are aware of this, and precautionary policies and procedures relating to electronic emissions and missile-firing trials are in place. One can also be sure that the position and movements of Yuan Wang 5, as long as she is in our waters, will be closely followed by the Indian Navy's maritime domain awareness matrix. Coming to the diplomatic aspect, observers have harked back to the September 2014 visit of a PLA Navy's (PLAN) Type-039, a diesel submarine which had docked in Colombo, to be followed a few weeks later by a port-call by a Type-091 nuclear-powered attack submarine. The Sri Lankan government had then brushed aside India's concerns describing the ship-visits as “usual practice”, while a Chinese communiqué had (with unintended flippancy) stated that the submarines were en route to the Gulf of Aden “for anti-piracy duty”.

Some in India have viewed the forthcoming visit of the Chinese “spy ship” to Hambantota as an infringement of the 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan Accord, which calls upon the two countries not to allow their respective territories to be used for “activities prejudicial to each other's unity, integrity and security”. However, Colombo has often acknowledged that the security and economic interests of both India and Sri Lanka are inextricably interlinked and any deliberate actions that harm Indian interests will eventually rebound on it.

As we await further developments, there is a need to reflect on Sri Lanka's current political meltdown and dire economic crisis. Given its geographic proximity and ethnic connection, India cannot allow Sri Lanka to sink. New Delhi has already rendered substantial help, but with the best of intentions, India has neither the economic wherewithal nor political capital to pull Sri Lanka out of the abyss. Therefore, apart from the IMF, China will have to lend a hand for Sri Lanka's economic recovery. For this to happen, Colombo will need to kowtow to Beijing, and India

must show diplomatic forbearance. Some other issues, germane to this discussion, need to be noted by India's decision-makers.

First, India must face the reality that with its 350-warship strong (and growing) battle force having overtaken the US Navy, China has achieved its ambition of becoming a “maritime Great Power”. China's 2019 Defence White Paper charges the PLA navy with the responsibility of safeguarding Xi Jinping's prized Maritime Silk Road that spans the Indo-Pacific and includes the China-Pakistan economic corridor. The string of ports, created by China, in India's neighbourhood, are meant to undergird this endeavour.

Thus, until India can bolster its economic and maritime power and, perhaps, enforce its version of a “Monroe Doctrine,” it will have to live with frequent PLAN presence in the Indian Ocean. We must also prepare for the day when the Taiwan situation permits China to station an aircraft-carrier battle-group in our waters.

The second issue that deserves our attention is the intense activity of China's space programme, which has planned 50 space-launches for 2022. In mid-April, three Chinese astronauts returned to earth, after spending six months aboard their 11-year-old space-station. In early June 2022, another spacecraft took a team of three astronauts to dock with the under-construction Tiangong-3 space station. During such space activity, survey/research ships need to be positioned for control and tracking as well as rescue tasks in dispersed oceanic locations ranging from mid-Pacific and south Indian Ocean to the coast of Africa. While the actual mission of Yuan Wang 5 is not known, it is just possible that she may be on such a legitimate space-related assignment.

Finally, let us remember that ISRO also has an ambitious manned space programme underway and DRDO is, or will be, undertaking test flights of its Agni series of inter-continental ballistic missiles over distant oceanic stretches. India, too, will seek to deploy “research” vessels in distant waters/ports in days ahead.

The writer is a retired chief of naval staff



RIA SINGH SAWHNEY AND SUGANDHA YADAV

ON JULY 21, a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India delivered a significant order, clarifying that the right to a medical abortion that was available to married women could not be denied to unmarried women. The case highlights a legal anachronism that requires women to get the state's permission to exercise their constitutional right to an abortion. The SC's order granting permission to undergo an abortion was passed in the case of a petitioner who was in a consensual relationship, and whose partner deserted her.

A July 15 order of the Delhi High Court denied the petitioner's right to terminate her pregnancy. The Division Bench held that since she was an unmarried woman whose pregnancy arose out of a consensual relationship, her case was “clearly not covered” by the applicable rules. Rule 3B of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Rules 2003, lays down the categories of women who are eligible for termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks: Survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest; minors; where there is a change of marital status during the ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce); women with physical and mental disabilities, women with pregnancies in humanitarian settings; foetal “malformations” that have a substantial risk of being incompatible with life, or which, if the child is born, may cause it to suffer from a serious physical or mental handicap. The High Court found that the petitioner had not undergone a “change in marital status”.

The SC found that prima facie, the High

A FULLER RIGHT

SC offers hope that right to abortion won't be restricted by a woman's marital status

Court had been too restrictive in its approach, and that the term “change in marital status” should be given a purposive interpretation. It based this finding on the 2021 Amendment to the MTP Act, which no longer restricts itself to an unwanted pregnancy between a “husband” and “wife”, but to a woman and her “partner”, by marriage or not.

The MTP Act 1971, was intended to provide a remedy for the scores of women who faced serious health risks because of unregulated abortions. Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code which continues to be on the books, criminalises anyone, including the woman carrying the pregnancy, who voluntarily causes a miscarriage.

The Court relied on three key judgements: The 2010 *S Khushboo* case, which recognised the legality of live-in relationships and pre-marital sex; the 2009 *Suchita Srivastava* case, which recognised that a woman's right to make reproductive choices is part of the “personal liberty” guaranteed under Article 21 and the 2017 *K S Puttaswamy* case, which reaffirmed that women's right to bodily integrity is part of the fundamental right to privacy. The Court observed: “The statute has recognised the reproductive choice of a woman and her bodily integrity and autonomy. Both these rights embody the notion that a choice must inhere in a woman on whether or not to bear a child. In recognising the right the legislature has not intended to make a distinction between a married and unmarried woman, in her ability to decide on whether or not to bear

the child. These rights, it must be underscored, align with the provisions of Article 21 of the Constitution.”

The SC's order attains significance in contrast to the recent *Dobbs* decision in the US, which sent shockwaves across the world. Constitutional rights are interconnected: Unravel one and the entire edifice of protections could fall apart. As the dissenting verdict in *Dobbs* warned: “... The right Roe and Casey recognised does not stand alone. To the contrary, the Court has linked it for decades to other settled freedoms involving bodily integrity, familial relationships, and procreation. Most obviously, the right to terminate a pregnancy arose straight out of the right to purchase and use contraception. In turn, those rights led, more recently, to rights of same-sex intimacy and marriage. They are all part of the same constitutional fabric, protecting autonomous decision making over the most personal of life decisions...”

As permissive as the Indian legal regime may seem by contrast, a woman is forced to go before a medical board and a Court for a decision that should be between her and her medical practitioner. The case is expected to be heard on August 10 to decide the final interpretation of the provisions in question under the MTP Act. The Court's judgment will prove decisive, whichever way it decides. The order of July 21 is reason to be hopeful.

The writers are advocates practising in New Delhi



AUGUST 10, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

TWO LOK DALS

TWO LOK DALS emerged on the political scene following the formalisation of the fourth and biggest split in Charan Singh's party. The rebels led by Madhu Limaye, George Fernandes, Biju Patnaik, Devi Lai and Kumbha Ram Arya removed Charan Singh as president and elected Karpoori Thakur in his place. They declared themselves the “genuine” Lok Dal. Later at a workers' convention, Fernandes was declared as the general secretary of the party which the convention felt should strive to unite the opposition to build a national alternative to the “authoritarian” Congress (I). The claims and coun-

terclaims of the Singh and Thakur factions could not be immediately verified as they continued to woo each other's supporters.

SOUTH ASIAN UNITY

FOREIGN MINISTERS OF seven South Asian nations will meet in the middle of next year to give a political direction to the evolving concept of South Asian cooperation. The foreign secretaries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives reaffirmed in a joint communique the concept of South Asian regional cooperation. The meeting is likely to take place between May and September 1983.

ASSAM TALKS RESUME

THE TRIPARTITE TALKS on the foreign nationals issue in Assam would resume on August 25, Home Minister R Venkataraman, announced in the Rajya Sabha. He said he was optimistic about a “breakthrough”.

AMITABH ‘SERIOUS’

FILM ACTOR AMITABH Bachchan's condition continued to be “serious” but he did not need respiratory support, a medical bulletin issued by the Beach Candy hospital said. According to some nurses attending to him, Amitabh has been showing signs of recovery.

13 THE IDEAS PAGE

Notes from the House

Old Parliament building is filled with memories of political jousts, wit and warmth. Will they find their way into the new Parliament?



LIZ MATHEW

YESTERDAY AS THE Monsoon Session concluded, a sombre mood dawned on me as I walked out of Parliament House. If the powers that be are to be believed, this session — as stormy as several others in the recent past — will be the last to be held in this magnificent building, 100 years old. The Winter Session in November–December is expected to be held in the new building, which is coming up at a rapid rate, and fast overshadowing the majestic structure designed by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker. But nothing can erase the history created in this edifice.

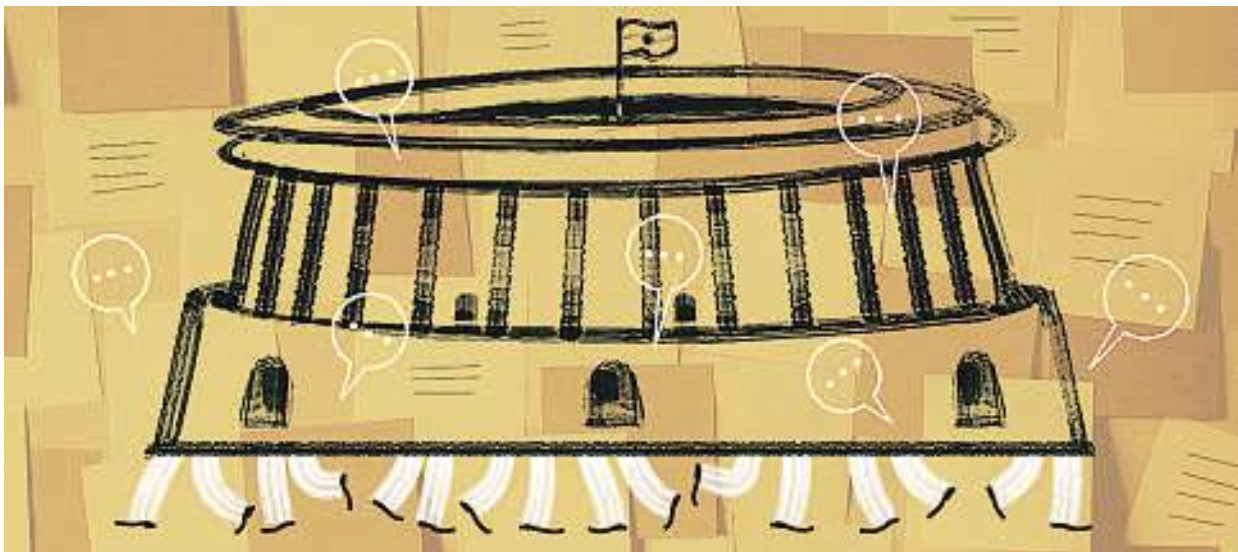
I began my career in journalism in Delhi, literally growing up professionally in Parliament House. Like the 144 pillars in this marvellous piece of architecture, I too witnessed the major political events of the last 25 years in its confines. (The only big event I missed was the 2001 terror attack which happened when I was out of Delhi.)

As I walked out of the premises, I was filled with mixed feelings about the new building. Many share my sentiments. The question that is weighing heavily on everyone's mind is: Will the atmosphere of the Central Hall, the focal point of many a churning in national politics, be replicated in its new address? Some say that in its place there could be a frugal lounge that could deprive members, their immediate families, senior politicians, including chief ministers who visit Delhi, and journalists of the convivial atmosphere that was the signature of the Central Hall.

The BJP in its current avatar does not seem to have an emotional connection with the Central Hall — senior cabinet members rarely visit it. In the past, even prime ministers used to spend time there. This change in political culture, exacerbated by the pandemic and its restrictions, has diminished the ethos and activities of Parliament: The duration of sessions has reduced, and the fourth estate has become almost invisible. Central Hall is a “no entry zone” not just for journalists but for former MPs as well. Senior journalists now get nostalgic about spending hours with politicians, often sipping hot coffee or soup in the Central Hall, where the fans are installed upside down.

I came to Delhi when national politics was undergoing a churning of sorts. The aristocratic politician was giving way to the leader from the grass roots. Speeches in clipped English were being replaced with oratory in Hindi dialects from mofussil centres. But Parliament still brimmed with warmth and camaraderie. The veterans had accepted the leaders emerging from Mandal and Mandir politics.

Despite the intense schisms, one could see members from both sides having a friendly chat over snacks from the Coffee Board-run outlet. At least four ideologies were in full play — the Congress trying to retain its foothold, the socialists raising Mandal politics, the Left still steady under a credible leadership and the BJP. This social space shared by different ideologies was later used by Atal Bihari Vajpayee to stitch a rainbow coalition. As I watched regimes change — from



C R Sasikumar

Vajpayee's 13-day ministry to the uncertain United Front days of H D Deve Gowda and I K Gujral and the relatively stable but eventful decade with Manmohan Singh at the helm of affairs — my experiences at Parliament House also underwent transformations. We used to carry bundles of papers — answers to MPs' questions, panel reports. Now, a paperless Parliament is becoming a reality.

What I miss the most are high quality debates. I have seen and heard Vajpayee, I K Advani, Madhavrao Scindia, Rajesh Pilot, Chandrashekhar, Somnath Chatterjee, Indrajit Gupta, S Jaipal Reddy, George Fernandes, Sitaram Yechury... the list is long. The success and productivity of a Session used to be measured through the depth and width of debates, not just the hours spent on the bench or bills passed. I could get a sense of the nuances of Indian politics by listening to politicians like Pramod Mahajan, K Karunakaran, Arjun Singh, Pranab Mukherjee and Arun Jaitley. Even the transformation of the BJP into a ruling party was best seen on the floor of the House.

I remember Vajpayee leading a group of 161 BJP MPs as a solitary general — the political isolation that the BJP faced was described as “untouchability” by some leaders. In 1996, he faced the inevitable with dignity. I remember his passionate speech: “If breaking up political parties is the only way to form a coalition that stays in power, then I do not want to touch such a coalition with a barge pole”. He ended by saying, “*Adhyaksh mahoday, mein apna tyag patra rashtrapati ko dene jaa raha hun*” (Respected Speaker, I am now leaving to tender my resignation to the President). With debates going on till late evening, all that would keep us awake was the tea, with a drop of milk, served at Panditji's tea point.

During Vajpayee's second stint, the BJP was dependent on the J Jayalalithaa-led AIADMK to stay in office. After 13 months, when Jayalalithaa decided to end the alliance, Vajpayee was unusually peeved. On April 17, 1999, when the screens inside the Lok Sabha showed the tally of the no-confidence motion at 269–270 — he lost the majority by one vote — the House was briefly silent before the Opposition broke into celebrations. But I could sense the sympathy and awe Vajpayee had evoked in many on the other side when he looked at the result and raised his hand to his forehead in a mock salute.

But this Parliament also witnessed the BJP, stunned after losing power in 2004, seemingly in denial about the Congress-led

The BJP in its current avatar does not seem to have an emotional connection with the Central Hall — senior cabinet members rarely visit it. In the past, even prime ministers used to spend time there. This change in political culture, exacerbated by the pandemic and its restrictions, has diminished the ethos and activities of Parliament: The duration of sessions has reduced, and the fourth estate has become almost invisible. The Central Hall is a ‘no entry zone’ not just for journalists but for former MPs as well. Senior journalists now get nostalgic about spending hours with politicians, often sipping hot coffee or soup in the Central Hall, where the fans are installed upside down.

UPA's rise to power. In the initial sessions, its 138 MPs disrupted proceedings. They created uproarious scenes even when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh introduced his cabinet. The UPA years were the last time Parliament saw the Prime Minister in attendance regularly.

The press gallery has its share of amusements. The members speak different languages and wear various outfits — there is no official dress code. Varkkala Radhakrishnan, a former speaker of the Kerala assembly, was a stickler for the rules in the Lower House. He drew tremendous respect from the treasury benches during Vajpayee's time. Once he berated the (then) Union Minister Dasari Narayana Rao for keeping the top buttons of his shirt open while replying to questions.

Then there's former Rajya Sabha MP Vakkachan Mattathil, who was amused when Vajpayee told him in one of the restrooms that “you are lucky to use the facilities with the Prime Minister of India.” If Shashi Tharoor is a social media sensation today for his English vocabulary, Jaipal Reddy was the wordsmith for an earlier generation. Reddy — then in the Janata Dal — took exception to the Vajpayee government's favourable stand in the Supreme Court on allowing puja at the disputed site in Ayodhya. About Vajpayee, he said: “There is a humongous hiatus, a gigantic gap and a gargantuan gulf between his public image and private reality.”

The changes after liberalisation were reflected inside the Parliament complex. From a time when very few MPs had cars — Ambassadors or Fiats — a plethora of imported vehicles now lays siege to the complex.

Today, there is a widening gulf between political parties. The convention — honoured by all political parties — was that the Rajya Sabha would go ahead with debates even if there is conflict or pandemonium in the Lok Sabha.

But this Monsoon Session — presumably the last in this building — was almost a washout!

I have spent more time in this building than at my home in Kerala. The friendships I made in the corridors of power endure. Many of the staff in the building have seen me coming to Parliament since my early 20s — switching jobs, getting married and as the mother of twin girls who are grown up now. This Parliament House has been a constant figure in my life over the last 25 years. I do not know if the old sense of warmth will find its way to the new building.

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WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“[Imran] Khan's relentless vilification of the opposition in language that ill behoves a national leader has contributed much to the polarisation that manifests itself in the vitriol spewed on social media. When such ugliness is unleashed, everyone at some point suffers the fallout.” — **DAWN, PAKISTAN**

Talking to the new voter

Unique digital characteristics of demographic of first-time voters will require creative approaches for political engagement ahead of 2024 elections



SHASHI SHEKHAR VEMPATI

THE RECENTLY released IAMAI Kantar, Internet in India, ICUBE 2021 study has some interesting findings on how the country is fast emerging as one of the world's largest markets for internet-based apps and services. The report was released around the same time India witnessed significant bidding for the 5G spectrum. At the intersection of both of these lies perhaps the world's most unique digital polity of first-time, non-English internet users who think, act and transact “mobile first”. Their numbers will soon reach a billion as India focuses efforts on expanding rural 4G access and high-speed internet. With anywhere between two to eight hours of daily usage, the Indian internet user is the ideal test case for any platform or app-based service looking to tap a global audience. Little wonder that we have witnessed over the years intense efforts to sway the Indian internet user through borderless activism in the name of “saving the internet”, “online free speech”, and “data surveillance”.

With the Narendra Modi-led NDA government withdrawing the earlier proposed Personal Data Protection Bill, the stakes have become even higher for borderless activism seeking to influence how India regulates the internet-based economy.

The reasons for the high stakes in internet regulation in India become apparent when one looks at the demographic shift in the country — the statistics revealed by the IAMAI report also underline this shift. As per the UN's estimates for births in India, the cohort born between 2002 and 2006 is one of the largest, with yearly births having peaked in the country between 2001 and 2002. This makes the cohort of nearly 150 million first-time voters in the 2024 General Elections a sizable and distinct digital constituency. As India's largest cohort that has been “Digital First” from the cradle, this generation of first-time voters has experienced all the significant digital shifts in their formative years. Having been born around the same time as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter, this generation came of age with the touchscreen revolution. Their teen years witnessed an explosive growth in smartphone usage. This is also the generation that had the highest exposure to online education due to Covid-19 vastly increasing their screen time and use of internet tools and services.

While the IAMAI report does not reveal much on the age-wise demographic split of the various kinds of internet users, it was interesting to note that online gaming has nearly five times the number of users relative to those using the internet for online education. Internet-based gaming is the mainstay of this cohort with new-age interactive

platforms such as Twitch and Discord emerging as hubs of their peer groups. The divide with earlier generations of voters is quite stark as this cohort barely reads newspapers or watches conventional television. While YouTube and WhatsApp are most likely their primary sources of news to them, Facebook and Twitter are already legacy social media platforms belonging to an earlier era. Indicators of this inter-generational schism are already visible the world over with older users of services like Instagram unhappy with the shift towards tik-tok style short videos and algorithmic feeds.

The unique digital characteristics of this demographic of first-time voters will require creative approaches for political engagement ahead of the 2024 elections. The Election Commission of India recently announced further liberalisation of the voter registration process with 17-year-olds being able to register a year ahead of being eligible to vote, apart from opening up the voter registration process once every quarter. Creative engagement of this digital-first generation would perhaps require interactive live streaming on platforms like Twitch apart from volunteer engagement efforts through “servers” on Discord. How India approaches digital regulations would be of utmost importance to this cohort. It will necessitate a sustained dialogue on the government's approach to techno-nationalism as a counter to the borderless activism that has sought to skew digital policy debates in India.

India is not alone in its pursuit of techno-nationalism. We are already witnessing a wave of regulatory moves from Indonesia on not just controlling online gaming apps and services but also actively promoting indigenously developed gaming apps. While China requires licences for online games by a dedicated gaming regulator, Indonesia requires formal registration to be compliant with local laws governing what are called “private electronic systems”. From Kenya to Brazil we are also witnessing preemptive actions to insulate the electoral processes of their respective democracies from the spread of viral fake news and disinformation on WhatsApp.

While the 2009 elections saw the advent of blogs in the political debate, the 2014 elections were the first time internet streaming played a significant role in disintermediating broadcast media. The 2019 elections were marked by the extensive role played by social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp. With the unique demographic characteristics of first-time voters, perhaps the 2024 elections will see algorithms and gaming apps and services play an influential role. From securing semi-conductor supply chains to regulating data flows, techno-nationalism is on the political agenda of western democracies and eastern nations alike. Over the next two years as the government seeks to put in place a comprehensive digital regulatory framework governing data, privacy, apps and algorithms, engaging the first digital generation of new voters on techno-nationalism will be crucial at every step.

The writer is former CEO of Prasar Bharati, India's Public Broadcaster

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLITICS & FREEBIES

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Let's debate freebies’ (IE, August 9). In a market economy, income inequality is bound to increase and the schism between the rich and marginalised is bound to widen. That's why we need policies for food security and other social welfare schemes. But at the same time, the rot in politics cannot be denied. We need to therefore make sure that announcements of freebies do not influence election results and also remain vigilant against polarisation of voters on religious grounds.

Dev Athawale, Amaravati

A COMMON GROUND

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Centre with states’ (IE, August 9). The latest engagement between the Centre and states at the seventh meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog is a step in the right direction. Cooperative federalism is a key principle of the NITI Aayog's founding document. The agency has time and again provided guidelines and roadmaps to states. However, the Prime Minister's claim that India's cooperative federalism is a “model for the world” seems far-fetched. The Centre has time and again encroached on the states' domain in the recent past. GST, though a reformative idea and a gradually improving practice, has stripped states of crucial revenues. The alleged weaponisation of central agencies to silence opposition party members has eroded India's democratic fabric. Debates and discussions

on platforms like the Niti Aayog will help the Centre and state understand the concerns of each other.

Dewang Ganesh Thosar, Raigad

ISRO'S TASK

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Air pocket’ (IE, August 9). Isro's record on maiden launches has been less than perfect. The SLV, ASLV and the other reliable workhorse PSLV had bad starts. The immediate task may be to analyse the failure rather than try to fix what Isro has admitted as “unsuitable satellites”. Small satellite launch vehicle operations are lucrative business. Clusters of such satellites are being placed in orbit regularly by private players in the US. But ISRO's goal has to be higher than competing with such entities. It must establish its position as an eminent research institution in the emerging field.

SS Paul, Nadia

WELL DONE INDIA

THIS REFERS TO the report “Shutters lift three gold medals in final flourish, lift India to fourth in CWG tally” (IE, August 9). The Indian contingent deserves kudos for a remarkable showing at the Commonwealth Games. Coming up next year are the Asian Games, which China will be hosting for the third time, and Indians will find the competition much tougher there, especially in the disciplines like wrestling, boxing and badminton.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali



GHANSHYAM TIWARI

“JO PARTY ya parivar nahi balki apne dum par zameen se uththa hai, vo satta-bahattar saal par jakar pradhan mantri banne ka mazboot dawaar ban payega” (the one who rises from the grass roots, not through a family or party, but on his own steam, will, in his seventies, become a strong candidate for prime minister). Nearly 10 years later, I remember these prophetic words by Nitish Kumar, from a dinner event in honour of Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz who was visiting Bihar.

In 2010, Bihar was going in for an election that would set a new template for its politics. Nitish Kumar, then widely credited for building a new grammar of developmental politics, was up for re-election. Chandrababu Naidu's unexpected defeat a few months earlier in Andhra Pradesh was reinforcing the impression that development doesn't win votes. Nitish was set to belie that story. The visible transformation of law and order alongside the beautiful sight in village after village of girls riding cycles to school and the relentless building of roads laid the foundation for the Nitish-led Bihar model. He led the Centre-state public finance dialogue for Bihar with support from his deputy, the BJP's Sushil Modi. To his credit, the then Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, understood the needs of Bihar and respected the mission of Nitish Kumar, even if he was with the NDA. This was a gentleman-statesman era of Indian politics, now fast disappearing.

Why Nitish worries BJP

He has a formidable record on governance, social justice and communal harmony

Nitish Kumar won the 2010 assembly election with a thumping majority. At that time, as a student at Harvard University, I led the Bihar Leadership Project which focused on data analytics, developmental messaging, and systematic monitoring of the campaign. The chief minister invited me to return to Bihar after graduating from Harvard to work with him and I readily accepted. Over the next five years, I was assigned key roles in several ambitious missions such as the Harit Bihar Abhiyan and the Special Category Status for Bihar Campaign. Starting 2012, the race for prime ministership in 2014 became an open contest. Nitish vs Modi and Bihar Model vs Gujarat Model became the most engaging conversation in many parts of the country. In reality, Nitish never cast himself in the race. It was his many successes in governance that put the spotlight on him. He shocked the country by breaking the alliance with the BJP in 2013. Powered by unmatched campaign machinery, the BJP and Narendra Modi bulldozed the Nitish model in 2014 with a thumping victory in Bihar. Taking moral responsibility, Nitish resigned as chief minister and announced Jitan Ram Manjhi as his successor. Seeing an opportunity to vanquish Nitish, the BJP played every trick in the book. Manjhi was the first Eknath Shinde but he would not be the last. By all accounts, RCP Singh has turned out to be the latest missionary for the BJP.

In 2014, when Nitish Kumar resigned as

the CM, I was working as Country Economist for the London School of Economics. I resigned to serve as chief of staff for the ex-CM. In this role, I came face to face with the person behind the image. For example, Nitish moved into a new house that was barely functional — all it had was a telephone. I ordered the modem and a laptop based on the allowance he would get as part of his salary.

The e-commerce delivery person was amused to learn that the ex-CM was ordering such products online. I was able to bring Nitish up-to-speed with platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and digital news. In no time, he was able to see the way the BJP had used social media to replace his narrative of development with false propaganda. He decided to set the record straight by conducting a “Sankalp Yatra” across Bihar, where he would play during his speeches the now popular set of audio bytes of false promises made by Narendra Modi that I had collated for him.

It is a magnificent achievement that Nitish defeated the BJP not only to reclaim the chief ministership from Manjhi but also build an alliance with Lalu Prasad. Together, they routed the BJP in the 2015 elections. An unrelenting BJP struck back to force Nitish to break the alliance in less than a year, much to the disappointment of all who saw him as a self-made leader who could be prime minister. Notwithstanding this, the BJP's anger against

Nitish did not subside. Chirag Paswan became its instrument to deceptively counter Nitish in the 2020 Bihar elections. Once again, the BJP failed to vanquish Nitish Kumar. As the RCP Singh story unfolds, it is clear that the BJP has not given up.

What makes Modi and the BJP nervous about Nitish Kumar? Whether he was an ally or enemy, they made countless deceptive attempts to “finish” Nitish (in the words of a Union minister). Nitish comes from a family of freedom fighters. Unlike Modi, he is neither a multiplier nor a divider of public narratives. His moves are incremental but concrete. Unlike BJP leaders, Nitish is not a religious person. He is a man of wisdom and spirituality. Nitish's most used line is “jo kahte hain, kar ke dikhaate hain (we do what we say)”. He has a socialist lineage and is unaligned to and unhyped by corporate lobbies, not powered by media and social media propaganda, and uncompromising on communal harmony, political decency and the constitutional framework of the country.

At a time when the common man is slipping into poverty, caught in daily debates of communal hatred and anger, and cynical about bullet trains, Nitish Kumar promises a cycle ride of progress with harmony and social justice.

The writer, with the JD(U) from 2010 to 2015, is national spokesperson, Samajwadi Party



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FBI raid on Trump home: the law, the action, the politics

RAGHU MALHOTRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FORMER UNITED STATES President Donald Trump said on Monday that FBI agents had raided his Mar-a-Lago home in Palm Beach, Florida, and had even broke into his personal safe. American media reported the search was part of an investigation into the potential mishandling of presidential documents that Trump had brought to his residence after leaving office in January 2021.

The unprecedented FBI search of a former President's residence comes at a time when the US Department of Justice is putting the heat on Trump in a separate investigation into his alleged attempts to overturn the result of the 2020 presidential election, and his role in the subsequent January 6 attack by his supporters on the US Capitol.

What were the agents looking for?

The FBI had not, until late on Tuesday evening India time, released an official statement detailing the reasons for the search. But the Justice Department has been investigating the former President's handling of White House records, after the US National Archives

stated in February that it had found classified information in 15 boxes of records that it had retrieved from Trump's lawyers.

The New York Times reported that the focus of the search seemed to be on material that Trump had brought to Mar-a-Lago after leaving office. CNN said the agents were seeking to examine the boxes of documents that had been taken from the White House, and to determine where they were kept. CNN quoted the former President's son Eric Trump as telling Fox News that the "the purpose of the raid... (was to) corroborate whether or not Donald Trump had any documents in his possession."

The FBI's investigation might reveal a violation of the Presidential Records Act, which requires all official presidential documents to be preserved.

What is the Presidential Records Act?

In 1978, the US Congress passed the law that made the President's documents that were previously considered to be the officeholder's property, into the property of the US government. According to a Congressional Research Service report cited by The New York Times, the law was introduced after it emerged that President Richard Nixon had



Supporters of former US President Donald Trump and protesters calling for his arrest rally outside Trump Tower in New York, Tuesday. *Reuters*

attempted to destroy White House recordings that documented his response to the Watergate scandal.

The Presidential Records Act requires that all official documents of the President, apart from personal documents like diaries and journals, be given to the US National Archives at the end of the presidential term. The National Archives has the authority to select

which documents need to be preserved, made public, or redacted, The Washington Post reported. Those that are considered suitable are made available to the public 12 years after the President leaves office.

Has Trump violated the law?

The House Oversight Committee, the chief investigative committee of the lower

house of Congress, had earlier said that Trump's handling of documents seemed to constitute a "serious violation" of the law, The NYT had reported in February.

Other than taking classified documents owned by the US government, Trump has also been accused of destroying documents and using his personal cell phone, instead of the White House switchboard, to allegedly conceal his role in the January 6 riot.

On August 8, Axios published photographs of paper flushed down toilets in the White House, allegedly bearing the handwriting of Trump. The pictures are part of a forthcoming book, Confidence Man, by The NYT correspondent Maggie Haberman. She told Axios that White House staff occasionally found wads of paper in the toilet, which was "an extension of Trump's term-long habit of ripping up documents that were supposed to be preserved under the Presidential Records Act".

However, both The NYT and The Washington Post reported that even if he is found guilty of violating the law, there is no real enforcement mechanism in place to punish him. What could instead cause trouble for Trump was a federal law called 18 US Code 2071, reported Vox.

Under this law, anyone who "willfully and unlawfully conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, or destroys, or attempts to do so, or, with intent to do so takes and carries away" federal documents, can be fined or imprisoned for up to three years or both. Such a conviction would put Trump's potential presidential run in 2024 under a cloud.

What are the political ramifications?

In his statement, Trump said the FBI action amounted to "prosecutorial misconduct", and claimed he was being targeted by the Democratic Party so that he is unable to run for President in 2024. FBI Director Christopher Wray, who approved the search, was appointed by Trump in 2017.

Many Republican Party leaders condemned the FBI action as politically motivated, and suggested that they could retaliate against Democrats and enforcement agencies if they came to control Congress after November's midterm elections. Republican House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy vowed to "conduct immediate oversight" of the Justice Department and an investigation against Attorney General Merrick Garland if the party gained control of the House.

EVERYDAY GLOBAL

WHAT IS AGM-88 HARM, THE NEW US MISSILE SUPPLIED TO UKRAINE

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 9

UNITED STATES Under Secretary of Defence for Policy Colin Kahl confirmed Monday (August 8) that Washington has supplied some "anti-radiation missiles" to Ukraine, which could be fired from some Ukrainian Air Force aircraft. The statement has put meat on Russian allegations that an American anti-radar missile, AGM-88 HARM, which is part of NATO's inventory, has been used in the theatre of conflict.



The AGM-88 HARM missile. *Wikimedia Commons*

The weapon

The acronym 'HARM' in the AGM-88 HARM air-to-surface missile stands for High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile. It is a tactical weapon fired from fighter aircraft, and has the capability to detect and home in on radiation emitted by hostile radar stations that have surface-to-air detection capabilities.

The AGM-88 HARM is 14 metres in length, but only 10 inches in diameter. It weighs around 360 kg, and carries a fragmentation-type warhead that is optimised for radar targets. It has an anti-radar homing seeker broadband RF antenna and receiver, and a solid state digital processor. The missile has a range of more than 100 km.

The missile was originally developed by the Dallas-headquartered Texas Instruments, but is now produced by the major American defence contractor Raytheon Corporation. An advanced version of the weapon is manufactured by Dulles, Virginia-based Northrop Grumman. Several NATO aircraft in Europe -- including the Tornado ECR, F-16CM Block 50, and F/A-18-EA-18G -- can fire the AGM-88 HARM missiles.

Use in Ukraine war

For the past several days, Russian social media users have been sharing open-source information on Telegram to the effect that remnants of the AGM-88 HARM have been found near a Russian surface-to-air missile site.

The pictures of the seeming remnants of the missile appeared to show genuine serial numbers, which were traced to AGM-88 HARM by open source intelligence analysts. The statement by the US has now confirmed these deductions.

A CNN report noted that the Russia-Ukraine war is the first in which the weapon has been confirmed to have been used by a military other than the US. The report also said that given Ukraine does not have aircraft known to be compatible with the missile, there is speculation that the missiles may have been fired by NATO aircraft secretly supporting the Ukraine military in combat roles.

Theoretically, however, it may be possible to use the AGM-88 HARM in a limited mode in a Russian-origin aircraft.

Electricity Bill – promise, problems

The government wants to give consumers a choice of multiple power suppliers as is the case with mobile and internet services, apart from making provisions for timely and adequate tariff revisions

MIHIR MISHRA & LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

THE GOVERNMENT Monday tabled the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 in the Lok Sabha, soon after which it was referred to the parliamentary standing committee on energy for wider consultation with stakeholders.

Under the amendments proposed, the government is providing consumers a choice of power suppliers like mobile and internet service providers. It also has a provision for timely and adequate tariff revisions to help state utilities come out of losses and make payments for power in-time.

What does the amendment Bill propose?

For consumers, the Bill, cleared by the Union Cabinet last Wednesday, has proposed to amend Sections 42 and 14 of the Electricity Act, thus, enabling competition in retail distribution of power by offering the customers the option to choose electricity suppliers, just like they can choose telephone or internet service providers. The amended Section 14, the Bill says, will "facilitate the use of distribution networks by all licensees under provisions of non-discriminatory open access", while Section 42 will be amended to "facilitate non-discriminatory open access to the distribution network of a distribution licensee".

The Bill, with the amendment of Section 62 of the Act, makes provision for "mandatory" fixing of minimum as well as maximum tariff ceilings by the "appropriate commission" to avoid predatory pricing by power distribution companies and to protect consumers.

Also, the amendment Bill has several provisions to ensure graded and timely tariff revisions that will help provide state power utilities enough cash to be able to make timely payments to power producers. This move is aimed at addressing the recurrent problem of default by distribution companies in payment to generation companies.

The bill through amendments in Section 166 of the Act also seeks to strengthen payment security mechanisms and give more powers to regulators. "It has become necessary to strengthen the regulatory mechanism,



Union Power Minister R K Singh told the Lok Sabha that the Bill was being sent to a standing committee for wider discussions. *PTI*

AMENDMENTS AND GOVT'S RATIONALE

SECT 8: Facilitate development of hydro sector

SEC 14: Use of distribution networks by all licensees

SEC 26: Strengthening National Load Despatch Centre

SEC 60A (NEW): Power purchase and cross-subsidy management

SEC 62: Fixing of maximum ceiling and minimum tariff

SEC 142: Penalty for noncompliance with the Act

nism, adjudicatory mechanism in the Act and to bring administrative reforms through improved corporate governance of distribution licensees," according to the bill.

Why is it being opposed?

Provisions of the Bill are being opposed by a number of opposition-ruled states. After the Electricity (Amendment) Bill was introduced in the Lower House of Parliament, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted to term the bill "dangerous" and said it "will benefit a few power distribution companies. Kejriwal tweeted, "Electricity Amendment Bill is being brought in Lok Sabha today. This law is very dangerous. With this, instead of improving the power problem in the country, it will become more serious. People's suffering will increase. Only a few companies will benefit. I appeal to the

Centre not to bring this in haste."

The House witnessed unruly scenes with some opposition MPs showing placards, tearing papers and flinging them into air as Power Minister R K Singh introduced the Bill in the Lok Sabha. While opposition parties like the Congress, DMK and the Left parties sought the withdrawal of the Bill, parties considered to be friendly with the BJP, like the YSRCP and the BJD, insisted on wider consultations. Opposing the introduction of the Bill, RSP's N K Premachandran said the provisions of the proposed legislation were against the federal structure.

"It is an accepted Constitutional position that the basic features of the fundamental characters of the Constitution shall not be amended or altered, but the federal fabric of the Constitution of the country is being altered by particular States of the Union of

India not being taken into consideration," he said alleging that the Centre did not consult the states on the Bill. Premachandran said that power as a subject comes under the Concurrent List and it was the "the bounden duty or the mandatory obligation" of the Centre to consult the states. The Concurrent List contains subjects over which both the Union and state legislatures have jurisdiction.

How will these amendments help?

The Bill comes at a time when there is a debate around freebies being offered by political parties that has also, among other things, led to various state power distribution companies (Discoms) not being able to raise enough resources to make timely payments to power generating companies. According to latest government data, Discoms of three states -- Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Telangana -- are have to pay about 57 per cent of the total dues owed to power generating companies, followed by three BJP-ruled states of Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh, who account for another about 26 per cent of the total dues of Rs 114,222 crore owed to power generation companies.

Government data updated till March 31, 2022, reveals that states owe Discoms Rs 62,931 crore for services and another Rs 76,337 as cost of freebies announced by them.

Among the states that have defaulted on payments to Discoms, Telangana leads the chart with a cumulative outstanding of Rs 11,915 crore, followed by Maharashtra at Rs 9,131 crore. BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh leads the pack among states that have not made payments to Discoms for subsidies at Rs 18,946 crore, followed by Madhya Pradesh (Rs 16,240 crore). While the top three together owe Rs 65,041 crores, the next three BJP-ruled states owe

Rs 29,280 crore of the total, according to a PRAPTI (Payment Ratification and Analysis in Power procurement for bringing Transparency in Invoicing of generators) data till July 31, 2022.

Experts recommend that empowering the regulator to be able to take calls on tariff revision and ensuring that the government freebies, even on electricity, should be through direct benefit transfer.

The PESA Act, and the reason behind parties trying to woo tribals in Gujarat

ADITI RAJA
VADODARA, AUGUST 9

AAM AADMI PARTY (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal Sunday (August 7) declared a six-point "guarantee" for tribals in Gujarat's Chhota Udepur district, including the "strict implementation" of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act.

The PESA Act was enacted in 1996 "to provide for the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas". Other than Panchayats, Part IX, comprising Articles 243-243ZT of the Constitution, contains provisions relating to municipalities and cooperative societies.

Under the Act, Scheduled Areas are those referred to in Article 244(1), which says that the provisions of the Fifth Schedule shall apply to the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states other than Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. The Fifth Schedule provides for a range of

special provisions for these areas.

The PESA Act

The PESA Act was enacted to ensure self-governance through Gram Sabhas (village assemblies) for people living in the Scheduled Areas. It recognises the right of tribal communities, who are residents of the Scheduled Areas, to govern themselves through their own systems of self-government.

The Act empowers Gram Sabhas to play a key role in approving development plans and controlling all social sectors. This includes the processes and personnel who implement policies, exercising control over minor (non-timber) forest resources, minor water bodies and minor minerals, among other things.

Ten states -- Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana -- have notified Fifth Schedule areas that cover (partially or fully) several districts in each of these states.



AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal addresses a tribal rally at the APMC market of Bodeli in Chhota Udepur on Sunday. *Bhupendra Rana*

After the PESA Act was enacted, the Union government circulated model PESA Rules. So far, six states have notified these Rules.

PESA in Gujarat

Gujarat notified the State PESA Rules in January 2017, and made them applicable in 4,503 gram sabhas under 2,584 village panchayats in 53 tribal talukas in 14 districts.

This was announced in Chhota Udepur

by then CM Vijay Rupani ahead of the last Assembly polls.

Five years later, current CM, Bhupendra Patel, Tuesday told a rally in Dahod that all tribals had been covered under the Act and empowered under its provisions.

Legal experts, however, say the Act has not been enforced in letter and spirit.

Implementation gaps

In November 2020, Gujarat notified the Statue of Unity Area Development and Tourism Governance Authority (SoUADTGA) to administer villages around the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel statue in Narmada, a tribal district.

This gave SoUADTGA powers to override panchayat decisions.

Simultaneously, the district administration issued an order based on a central notification to declare forest area in 121 Narmada villages of as 'eco-sensitive'. The district revenue department also moved to include 'state government' as the 'second owner' of land in these villages.

After stiff opposition, including from BJP's Bharuch MP Mansukh Vasava, authorities decided to drop the "second owner" mention.

However, the eco-sensitive zone notification remains in force. The SoUADTGA has also taken charge of its command area that includes six tribal villages.

In March this year, the Centre was forced to scrap the Par-Tapi Narmada (PTN) river

linking project as tribals held protests.

Tribal votebank

Gujarat is among the 10 states that have Schedule Areas, and accounts of 8.1% of the ST population. The tribals are concentrated in the eastern districts, along the Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra borders. There are 11 major tribes in Gujarat, the largest being Bhil which is nearly 48% of the state's total tribal population.

The tribals have been a loyal voters of the Congress. In 2017, of the 27 reserved ST seats, the BJP won eight, Congress got 16, and its alliance partner, the Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) bagged two. One Congress rebel won as an Independent. Since then, Congress's three tribal MLAs have joined the BJP. The Independent MLA was disqualified, and BJP won the bypolls in 2021. This time AAP is also targeting this constituency and has allied with the BTP. However, the BJP does not see the implementation of the Act as an election challenge as several Congress states are yet to implement it.

SECTOR WATCH
INSURANCE

Fueled by LIC, new premium income of life insurers up 91%

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

LIFE INSURANCE companies posted an impressive 91 per cent growth in new premium income last month at Rs 39,078.91 crore, data released by insurance regulator Irdai showed.

In July 2021, all the 24 life insurance companies in the country recorded a collective new business — or the first year premium income — of Rs 20,434.72 crore.

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) — the nation's largest life insurer — registered a more than two-fold jump in new business premium income to Rs 29,116.68 crore this July, compared to Rs 12,030.93 crore in the year-ago month, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) data showed.

The remaining 23 insurers in the private sector witnessed an almost 19 per cent increase in their combined new premium income to Rs 9,962.22 crore in July 2022

EXPLAINED
Two-fold rise for LIC

THE FIRST year premium income of LIC, which has a commanding 68.6 per cent share of the Indian life insurance market, grew 142 per cent, which catapulted the sector's overall new business income in July by 91 per cent.

against Rs 8,403.79 crore in the year-ago month.

On a cumulative basis, the first year premium of all the insurers grew by 54 per cent to Rs 1,12,753.43 crore during the April-July period of FY23 as against Rs 73,159.98 crore in the same period of FY22.

For LIC, the cumulative new premium in the first four months of the current fiscal was up by over 62 per cent to Rs 77,317.69 crore.

Premium income of the private players rose by 39 per cent in April-July of FY23 to Rs 35,435.75 crore. **WITHPTI**

COMMERCIAL PAPER, CORPORATE BOND ISSUANCES FALL

'Bonds & loans realignment bumps up credit growth'

SHRITAMA BOSE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

A REALIGNMENT in bank loans and debt market borrowings amid rising bond yields may be bumping up the loan growth figure for the banking system.

Last Friday, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said that bank credit growth has accelerated to 14 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) as on July 15, 2022 against 5.4 per cent a year ago.

However, an analysis by economists at HDFC Bank of data on credit and commercial paper (CP) issuances showed that CP issuances same have fallen 64 per cent y-o-y to Rs 94,599 crore in July 2022 from Rs 2.66 trillion in July 2021.

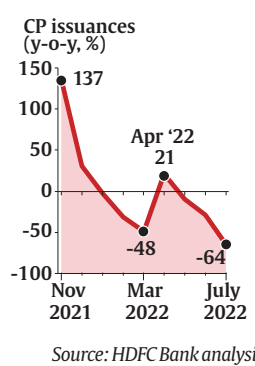
Similarly, corporate bond issuances in Q1FY23 fell 19 per cent to Rs 77,275 crore from Rs 95,303.5 crore in Q1FY22, as per data from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Since banks are major investors in CPs and bonds, the drop in market issuances accom-

SHIFT IN CORPORATE BORROWING STRATEGY

■ An analysis by economists at HDFC Bank of data on credit and commercial paper (CP) issuances showed that CP issuances have fallen 64% y-o-y to ₹94,599 crore in July 2022

■ Similarly, corporate bond issuances in Q1FY23 fell 19% to ₹77,275 crore from ₹95,303.5 crore in Q1FY22, as per data from Sebi



panied by a jump in credit growth implies a rejig in corporate borrowing strategies.

Stripping off the impact of the shift could make loan growth look a tad slower.

Bankers confirmed the trend. Prashant Kumar, managing director and chief executive officer, Yes Bank, said that more than the effect of a lower base, rising yields have driven corporate borrowers to bank loans.

"Last year, corporates were able to raise very cheap funds overseas or from the local markets. Both have become very costly now. So they have to come back to banks," he said.

The trend of deleveraging balance sheets, which was on for the last two years, has also started to reverse, thus supporting loan growth, Kumar added.

State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara said after the bank's Q1 results that the utilisation of sanctioned loans

and working capital limits has started to improve.

"Capacity utilisation in the economy is at about 75 per cent, and we have got a situation where we expect more corporates to be looking at us for availing credit facilities as compared to options available in the past for raising funds from the securities market," he said.

In a report dated August 4, analysts at Jefferies said that in addition to higher demand for working capital, bank credit is being lifted by a contraction in the bond market, where the stock was down 1.5 per cent between March and June, 2022, even as it rose 9 per cent y-o-y.

"Bank credit growth may have peaked here as commodity prices have retraced — metals/oil/wheat down 20-30% from peak and as yields stabilise, corporate bonds will also make a come-back," Jefferies said.

Banks can still retain 11-12 per cent y-o-y growth, led by festive season demand and industries holding large inventories in the wake of geopolitical uncertainties, the report added. **FE**

Talks on trade deal with UK moving at faster pace: Goyal

New Delhi: Negotiations for the proposed free trade agreement between India and the UK is progressing at a faster pace, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. The agreement is aimed at boosting bilateral trade and investments between the two countries. India has signed a trade pact with the UAE in a "record" time and "now our talks with the UK is moving at a faster pace", Goyal said.

In such pacts, two or more countries significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on maximum number of goods traded between them. Besides, they ease norms for promoting trade in goods and investments.

In January, India and the UK formally launched talks for a free trade agreement. They have set the deadline for concluding talks by Diwali. India is also negotiating similar pacts with Canada, European Union (EU) and Israel, he said, adding that several other nations have shown keen interest in negotiating trade agreements with India. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) want to negotiate these pacts, he said.



Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. File

However, he added that the commerce ministry does not have enough resources to simultaneously negotiate free trade pact with more nations. GCC is a union of six countries in the Gulf region, namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. EFTA members are Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Five-nation EAEU comprises Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The minister was speaking at Vyapari Udyami Sammelan here. He asked the domestic traders body to focus on quality of products and work in a unity. Goyal informed that the government is taking steps to reduce compliance burden. **PTI**

Microsoft onboards govt-backed ONDC

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, AUG 9

ONDC (OPEN Network of digital commerce), which is developing a first-of-its-kind open network for digital commerce, on Tuesday said US tech giant Microsoft has onboarded its platform. Microsoft intends to introduce social e-commerce — group buying experience — in the Indian market, it said.

Microsoft, among the three largest tech companies, is the first in its league to announce onboarding efforts with ONDC. This year, it plans to launch a shopping app for Indian consumers

along with their social circle, harnessing the ONDC network to discover the best pricing among retailers and sellers.

ONDC was launched earlier this year by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), with an aim to create an inclusive e-commerce market and enable all kinds of sellers and buyers to leverage digitisation of commerce through its network.

Microsoft's collaboration with ONDC is crucial as it widens the models available on the network, which is aimed at fostering equal opportunities for small, medium, and large buyers as well as sellers. **FE**

'₹457-cr of outflow in gold ETFs in July'

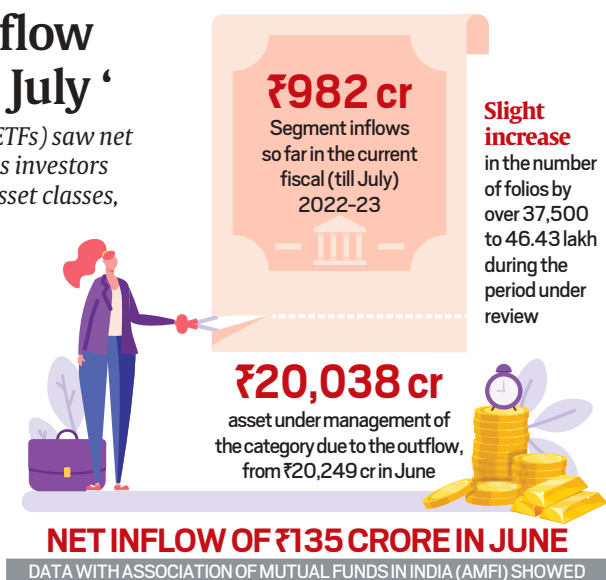
Gold exchange traded funds (ETFs) saw net outflow of ₹457 crore in July as investors parked their money in other asset classes, according to Amfi data

Gold ETFs, which aims to track the domestic physical gold price, are passive investment instruments that are based on gold prices and invest in gold bullion

Significant outflows seem to have risen out of investors' expectations of a rising interest rate cycle leading to a fall in gold prices, thus impacting the net flows into the gold ETFs

Falling rupee is another factor that likely impacted demand and supply dynamics of gold. This trend has been seen globally too

One gold ETF unit is equal to 1 gram of gold and is backed by physical gold of very high purity. They combine the flexibility of stock investment and the simplicity of gold investments



This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as a part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

IT spends in good shape: Infosys CEO

Bengaluru: Infosys is "comfortable" with the higher revenue growth guidance of 14-16 per cent it gave for the full fiscal, as global IT spends are in "good shape" and digital focus of clients is "quite strong", the company's CEO Salil Parekh said on Tuesday. The Infosys top boss told PTI in an interview that India's sec-

ond-largest IT services company sees continued strength in both the United States and European markets, although it is keeping a close watch on the macroeconomic environment as "these are things one has to monitor on a constant basis".

The optimistic commentary from the Infosys management

SALIL PAREKH
CEO, Infosys File

comes even amid talks that the global economy may be facing an increased risk of recession.

Many analysts have flagged higher-than-expected inflation, and some large global tech companies are already pulling back on aggressive hiring plans over concerns of a looming economic slowdown. **PTI**

BRIEFLY

PFRDA chief

New Delhi: The Centre has begun its search for a successor to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Chairman Supratim Bandyopadhyay whose term ends January.

Airtel 5G

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel will start 5G services rollout this month and cover all towns and key rural areas in India by March 2024, said MD and CEO Gopal Vittal.

Scindia, ATF

New Delhi: The Centre will certainly re-evaluate the fare cap in place for domestic airlines once there is a healthier environment in terms of jet fuel prices, said Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. **PTI**

HDFC, NHB nod

New Delhi: Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) said it got National Housing Board's (NHB) no-objection for the proposed merger of the company along with two other entities with HDFC Bank. **ENS**

Biden signs Bill to boost US chips, compete with China

DAVID SHEPARDSON & JEFF MASON
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 9

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden on Tuesday signed a landmark Bill to provide \$52.7 billion in subsidies for semiconductor production and research and to boost efforts to make the United States more competitive with China's science and technology efforts.

"The future is going to be made in America," Biden said, calling the measure "a once-in-a-generation investment in America itself." Biden touted investments that chip companies are making even though it remains unclear when the US Commerce Department will write rules for reviewing grant awards and how long it will take to underwrite projects.

The White House said the bill's passage was spurring new chip investments. It noted that Qualcomm on Monday agreed to buy an additional \$4.2 billion in semiconductor chips from GlobalFoundries' New York factory, bringing its total commitment to \$7.4 billion in purchases



US President Joe Biden before signing into law the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, Tuesday. AP

through 2028.

The White House also touted Micron announcing a \$40 billion investment in memory chip manufacturing, which would boost US market share from 2 per cent to 10 per cent, an investment it said was planned with "anticipated grants" from the chips bill. Progressives argued the bill is a giveaway to profitable chips companies that previously closed US plants, but Biden argued Tuesday "this law is not handing out blank checks to companies." **REUTERS**

RailTel
(A Government of India Undertaking)
CIN No L64202DL2000GOI107905

Tender No- Railtel/ Tender/OT/CO/Mktg/2022-23/Station WI-FI/03 Dt: 10.08.2022

Tender document for Request of Proposal for Selection of business partner for monetization of Station Wi-Fi on captive portal at Railway Stations. Tender Notice & tender document are available on www.railtelindia.com and <https://www.railtel.enivida.com>. Addendum/corrigendum will be uploaded on www.railtelindia.com and <https://www.railtel.enivida.com> website.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR

e-Procurement No. /1869/ Dated: 05.08.2022

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Odisha State Rural Roads Agency invites **Percentage (%)** bids through e-Procurement from eligible class of experienced bidders for construction of roads and CD works including maintenance for 5 years of rural roads under **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana PMGSY-III, Batch-III of 2022-23.**

1. Name of work.	: Construction of road and CD works including five year maintenance under PMGSY-III, Batch-III of 2022-23.
2. Class of Contractor.	: As mentioned in Annexure
3. No of packages.	: 03 Nos of Package
4. Estimated cost	: Varies from Approx Rs. 147.74 to Rs. 443.09 Lakh (Information in DTGN will be Final)
5. Bid submission fee.	: Rs. 10,000/- (Non-Refundable) per set of package
6. Mode of submission of tender.	: Only through online in website. www.pmgstenders.gov.in .
7.	Summary of key dates are provided below:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification on No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From To	Last Date & Time for seeking clarification	Last Date and time of submission of Original documents	Date & Time of opening of tender
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur	PMGSY Online RWCSBP: 14/2022-23	17/08/2022 From 11.00 A.M.	30/08/2022 Up to 05.00 P.M.	26/08/2022 Up to 5.00 P.M.	06/09/2022 By 5.00 PM 02/09/2022 At 11.00 A.M.

*Special conditions 1-EPF registration is mandatory before drawl of agreement. 2-Rate quoted by the contractor shall be excluding GST. 3. Original Bid Security Declaration from, Bid submission fee and original affidavits should be submitted at the O/o Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur Or O/o Executive Engineer Superintending Engineer of Concern Rural Works Division.

*Details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.pmgstenders.gov.in

*Subsequent modification/corrigendum/Addendum if required shall be appeared in the website only.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
OIPR-25091/11/0021/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
KALAHANDI RWS&S DIVISION, BHAWANIPATNA.
INVITATION OF BID THROUGH e - TENDERING
Bid Identification No- 36/SE/RWSS/ 2022-23 /Bpt
Dated- 04.08.2022

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No	Availability of tender online for bidding on office hour only.		Date of opening (Technical Bid)
		From	To	
1	2	3	4	5
Superintending Engineer, Kalahandi RWS&S Division, Bhawanipatna	36/SE/RWSS/ 2022-23 /Bpt Dated- 04.08.2022	17.08.2022 10.00 AM	13.09.2022 05.30 PM	14.09.2022 10.00 AM onwards

Cost of tender paper to be made online payment system. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <http://tenderodisha.gov.in>. The original documents should be scanned and uploaded.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Kalahandi RWS&S Division Bhawanipatna
OIPR- 25005/11/0006/2223

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

OPEN E-TENDER (SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM) INVITATION NOTICE

Name of Work: Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of protection CT of ratio 400-200/1- 1-1A at Kumta and Murdeshwar Traction Substation on Konkarn Railway route in the state of Karnataka. **Notice No: KR/CO/EL/CT/7/3/2022, dt.10.08.2022. Completion Period: Six Months. Estimated Cost: Rs.31,28,156/- excluding GST. EMD : Rs.62,600/-.** Last Date & time for Online Submission Of Tender : 01.09.2022 up to 15.00 Hrs. **Opening of Tender :** On 01.09.2022 at 15.30 Hrs. Amendments / Corrigendum if any, would be hosted on IREPS website only. **Submission of Tender Documents :** Through IREPS. Manual Tender Documents shall not be accepted.

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
KMML
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
(As ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company)
SANKARAMANGALAM, CHAVARA-691583, KOLLAM, KERALA, INDIA.
Phone: +91-476-2651215 to 2651217, Fax: +91-0476-2680101, 2686721
E-mail: contact@kmml.com, URL www.kmml.com

Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal, <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in> or www.kmml.com

No	Tender ID	Items
1	2022_KMML_502239_1	For fabrication and supply of Filter head for Bag Filter
2	2022_KMML_502241_1	For the supply of Plate Inconel
3	2022_KMML_501851_1	For the supply of PTFE Pipe and Fittings
4	2022_KMML_501586_1	For the supply of XLPE insulated steel armoured Aluminum conductor cable
5	2022_KMML_501547_1	For the supply of Hydrocyclone O-401
6	2022_KMML_501573_1	For the supply of 1152MT of Aluminium Tri Hydrate
7	2022_KMML_502004_1	For supply of 87 user license of Microsoft 365 Business Standard (CSP) for annual renewal in The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.

Chavara 09.08.2022 Sd/-GGM(MtIs) for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
Our Products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge, Rutile, Zircon & Silimanite

MAHARASHTRA FILM, STAGE & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)
Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranaagari, Goregaon (E), Mumbai - 400 065.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Maharashtra Film, Stage & Cultural Development Corporation Ltd. (MFSCDCL) is desirous of organizing Mumbai Film Expo during January 2023 (a Film, Media and Entertainment (F, M & E) based trade event). In that regards MFSCDCL invites Request for Proposal from eligible firms for supporting MFSCDCL.

Dates for application	10 th August 2022 to 29 th August 2022 till 5:00 PM.
Site visit	10 th August 2022 to 22 nd August 2022
RFP document is available at	https://mahatenders.gov.in www.filmcitymumbai.org/News & Events
Where to Apply	https://mahatenders.gov.in (under Tourism and Cultural Affairs Dept.)
Contact Person	Mr. Vijay Bhalerao, Chief Administrative Officer and Studio Manager (+91 22 2489 7510 / 2840 1533)

By Order
Managing Director, MFSCDCL

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,Mohd Irfan Alvi alias Irfan Alvi S/o Mohd Yusuf R/o 3746, Khalique Manzil, Churi Walan, Delhi- 110006 have changed my name to Irfan Alvi for all purposes.

I,Aayush Vij alias Arnav Vij S/O, Raj Kumar Vij R/O G-701, Amrapali Platinium, Sector-119, Noida, 201301,Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to Aayush Vij for all purposes.

I, Manoj Kumar Tiwary S/o Bijoy Kumar Tiwari, DoB 20.04.1975, R/o Flat No. C9/206, SRS Residency, Sector-88, Faridabad-121002, Haryana have changed my name and shall hereinafter be Known as Manoj Kumar Tiwari

I,SUSHIL KUMAR S/O RAMESH CHAND R/O-364, POCKET-3,JANTA FLATS, PASCHIM PURI,PUNJABI BAGH,DELHI-110063,have changed my name to SUSHIL.

I,Pramad Arora S/o-Bishamber Lal Arora R/o.H.No.5,Anmol Vatika Choukhandi Road Tilak Nagar,Delhi,have changed my name to Prince Arora.

I,Karan Bisht S/o Dinesh Kumar,R/o B-6/409,F/Nand Nagri North East Delhi-110093,India,have change my name to Karan Bisht to Karan Kumar,for all the,future purposes

I,Avneet Kaur Saini W/o Mishal Phool R/o.13/14-A,B.Tilak Nagar Delhi have changed my name to Avneet Kaur Phool.

It is for general information that I,MOHAMMAD SHUAIB,S/O MOHAMMAD MUNEEB,R/O H.No.1564,Gali Masjid Meer Karoora,Balliamaran,North Delhi,Delhi-110006,declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly-written as MOHD. SHUAIB and RASHIDA in my minor-daughter KOREEN SHUAIB aged-14-years in her School-Records.The actual name of mine and my wife are MOHAMMAD SHUAIB and RASHIDA KHATOON respectively,which may be amended accordingly.

I,Yogesh S/o Harish Kumar R/o.131-C-GH2, Paschim Vihar Delhi-63,Changed my name to Yogesh Uchit,for All Purposes.

I,YOGESH NAGER S/O VIJAY PAL SINGH NAGAR,R/O H-168/22, Sector-Gamma-2, Grater Noida,Gautam Budh Nagar(UP) have changed my name to YOGESH NAGAR.

I,Ishabnam D/o,Amar Singh R/o.52,New Roshanpura, Village Najafgarh, Delhi-43 have changed my name to Soniya for all Purposes.

I,Seema Mehendru/Seema Sekhri,W/o Sanjay Mahendru R/o-362 Ram Nagar Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051,Have changed my name to Seema Mahendru for all purposes.

I,Sarvesh Kumar,S/o-Shri Uday Singh,R/o-C-72,First Floor,Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092,inform that Sarvesh Kumar & Sarvesh Chauhan,both name are same person.My correct name Sarvesh Kumar, for all,future purposes.

I,I,Naaveen Gupta S/o Satish Chander R/o Flat No. 12, Block No. 17, Raj Niwas Marg, Rajpura Road, Civil Lines, North Delhi, Delhi- 110054 have changed the name of my minor daughter Akshara aged 13 years and she shall hereafter be known as Akshara Gupta.

I,SUSHUMTA DEVI,W/O VIRENDRA SINGH,R/O R-44, SECTOR 12,PRATAP VIHAR,GAZIABAD,UP.201009, changed my name to SUSHUMTA DEVI.

I,SUNITA KUMARI,W/O-NAVIN KUMAR SINGH,R/O-FLAT-NO-05151,BLOCK LIMWOOD MAHAGUN WYWOODS,PLOT.NO.-GH-04,SEC-16C,GAUR CITY-2,GREATER NOIDA,GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR,UTTAR PRADESH-201306,have changed my,name from SUNITA SINGH to SUNITA KUMARI,for all future purposes.

I,RajulSolanki Solanki S/o Shiv Singh Solanki,R/o 18/1, Village Nunera,Ward No.02,P.O.Dohla Nunera 204,Daulah, Gurgaon(Haryana)-122103,have changed my name to Raju Solanki.

I,Raghav Mehra,S/o Shri Amber Mehra R/o-M-81,Greater Kailash-II,New Delhi-48 have changed my name to Raghav Raj Mehra,for all purposes.

I,PAWAN S/O DAYANAND SINGH R/O HNO.3030 FREEHOLD,BEHIND POLICE CHOWKI,SECTOR-2,BAHADURGARH, HARYANA-124507,HAVE BEEN CHANGED MY NAME TO PAWAN KUMAR.

I,Sangita Arora,D/o Bishamber Lal Arora R/O.H.No.5,Anmol Vatika Choukhandi Road Tilak-Nagar Delhi, have changed my name to Sangeeta Arora.

I,SAROJ BALA GUPTA,W/O RADHEY LAL GUPTA/R/O HOUSE.NO.1220, SECTOR-6, BAHADURGARH, JHAJJAR, HARYANA-124507, have changed my name to SAROJ RANI GUPTA

I,Rishi Ghildiyal S/o Dharma Nand R/O-67/A, Sec-1, Kamna Vaishali Ghaziabad-201010, have changed my name to Rishi Ballabh for all future purposes.

I,Rajesh Kumar S/o Bhagwan Dass R/o H.No.13-14, Block-B, Pocket-8, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Rajesh Garg.

I,Raj Kumar S/O Yad Ram, R/o Punsika (56), Rewari, Haryana-123101, have changed the name of my minor daughter Baby Two Of Sheetal Kumari aged about 3 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Chavi

I,Inderpreet Singh Bhatia, R/o.Flat.No.1701, Sector-B, Pocket-1, VasantKunj,New Delhi-110070,have changed my Minor-Son name,from Arshnoor Singh to Arshnoor Singh Bhatia,for all,future Purposes.

I,Gurpreet kaur W/o Inder Pal Singh,Pastu R/o H.No.-409,2nd-Floor,Guru Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087, have changed my name to Gurpreet Kaur.

I,Underpreet Singh Bhatia, R/o.Flat.No.1701, Sector-B, Pocket-1, VasantKunj,New Delhi-110070,have changed my Minor-Son name,from Arshnoor Singh to Arshnoor Singh Bhatia,for all,future Purposes.

I,Gulshan Kumar Sachdeva,S/o Chanan Lal Sachdeva,R/o-M-504,Jaipuria Sunrise Greens,12A Ahinsa Khand-1,Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014 U.P.,have changed my name to Gulshan Kumar.

I,Gayitri Mehra W/o Shri Amber Mehra R/o-M-81,Greater Kailash-II,New Delhi-48,have changed my name to Gayatri Mehra,for all purposes.

I,Gajender Kumar Bidhuri S/o Duli Chand R/o 883, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana-121003,have changed my name to Gajendra Kumar Bidhuri.

I,GOVIND DASS S/O LALA RAM BHAI R/O ND-68,1ST-FLOOR,MAURYA ENCLAVE,PITAMPURA,DELHI-110034,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GOBIND DAS.

I,Dinesh Bisht,S/o Ganga Ram,R/o-B-6/409,F/Nand-Nagri,North East Delhi-110093,India,Have change my name Dinesh Bisht to Dinesh Kumar,for all the future purposes

I,Manish Purbia S/O Satyanarayan Purbia, R/o 601/B,Nah Residential Enclave, Pocket-8-5, Dwarka Sector-17, Delhi-110075 have changed the name of my minor Son Aadvik Purbiaacharya aged about 18 Days and He shall hereafter be known as Aadvik Purbia

I,DHARAMVEER,S/O:SATPALR/O-ADD-H.NO.-17/49,THIRD FLOOR,GEETA COLONY, EAST DELHI,DELHI-110031,changed my name to DHARMVEER KAPOOR.

I,Amber Mehra S/o Late Sh. Ashok Mehra R/o-M-81,Greater Kailash-II,New Delhi-48,have changed my name to Amberh Mehra for all purposes.

I,Alok Srivastava,S/o Madan Bihari Lal Srivastava,R/o 19 Nilagiri Sindh Enclave Shaha Ganj Agra,U.P.-282010,have changed my name to Alok Kumar Srivastava.

I,Yash Gupta S/O Manoj Kumar Gupta, R/O G.t. Road, Pakka Talab, Nagar Panchayat, Khaga, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh-121655, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Adarsh Gupta.

I,Vikas S/O Sudershan Lal Mahajan R/O WZ-309, Second Floor, Sri Nagar, Shakur Basti,Delhi Changed Name To Vikas Mahajan.

I,Sudershan Lal S/O Giridhari Lal R/O WZ-309, Second Floor, Sri Nagar, Shakur Basti,Delhi Changed Name To Sudershan Lal Mahajan.

I,Shri Krishan Bindal s/o Satnarain, R/O H-227, Karampura, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to SRIKISHAN.

I,Satish S/o Dilli Chand R/o-H.No.59, Gali.No.4, Hoshiyarpur, Sector-51, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name to Satish Kaushik for all future Purposes.

I,Sarita D/o Uday Vir Singh R/o-19, 4th floor, C-83/84, Hindon Vihar, Sec-49, Noida have changed my name to Sarita Yadav.

I,Deepak Kumar S/o Wajir Singh R/o 273, Pana Bara Titoli, Rokyant, Haryana-124001, that name of mine, my father and my mother has been wrongly written as Deepak, Wazir Singh and Sheela respectively in my Secondary School & Intermediate School Record. The actual name of mine, my father and my mother is Deepak Kumar, Wajir Singh and Shila Devi respectively

I,Rajni Kaur D/o Sh. Kirpal Singh R/o D-42A, DDA Flats, Shivaji Enclave, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore Garden S.O., West Delhi, Delhi- 110027 have changed my name to Shweta Kaur for all purposes.

I,Dawa Tsering S/o Lobsang Choeadak R/o C/O-IBD Near Temple,PO-Mcleod Ganj, Dharamsala, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176219,inform that my father name has been spelling wrongly-written as Lobsang Choeadrk in Identity Certificate Bearing-No.Y0178980.As per my documents correct spelling of my father name is LOBSANG CHOEDAK.

I,Bhruender Singh S/o Sh. Zile Singh R/o House No. 179, V&P.O. Dariyarpur Kalan, Delhi 110039 have inform that in my Son's Karandev Sehrawat School records my name & his mother name has wrongly mentioned as Bhupinder Singh & Rajani instead of Bhupender Singh and Rajni.

I,Avish Khatri R/o Sh. Sukhbir Singh R/o Flat No.58, First Floor, Pocket-13, Sector-A-5, Narela, Delhi- 110040, hereby declare that my father's real name is SUKHBIR SINGH, which wrongly mentioned as SUKHBIR KHATRI in my class X certificate.

I,Anjali Maurya D/o Ram Lagan Maurya R/o 401/2, Gali No. 16A, Jai Vihar, Phase 3A, Harphool Vihar, Baprola, New Delhi-110043 want to inform that my father's name is mentioned in my 10th and 12th school certificates as R.L. Maurya instead of Ram Lagan Maurya. Both are the same person.

I,Amrit Lal S/O Shri Jogi Ram R/O C-13/9, Sector-3 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Amrit Lal Mittal.

I, KM. Payal W/O Ajit Kumar, R/O 3rd Floor, B2 & B3, B Block Phase 1, Aya Nagar, Near Little Genesis Play School, New Delhi 110047, have changed my name to Payal Kumar.

I, Suraj Kumar S/o Krishan Lal R/o H.No-307, Near Gout School, Dhani Jassa Ram, Ram Nagar(84), Sirsa, Haryana-125055, have changed my name to Suraj Kamar

I,Pradeep Kumar Biswas S/O, Bagala Biswas R/O P-13/2, Tarapore Enclave, Vasant Kunj, Nagal Devat Road, Rangpur, New Delhi 110070 have changed my name to Pradeep Biswas for all purposes.

I, Parmod Kumar Garg S/o Vijay Kumar Garg R/O-339C, Ashoka Enclave Main, Sarai Khawaja, Faridabad-121003 have changed my minor daughter's name from Drashti Garg to Drishti Garg.

I,Surender Singh S/o Shri Prem Singh R/o 19/177 Dakshinpur, Extension, South Delhi-110062 have changed my name from SURENDER SINGH BHANDARI to SURENDER SINGH & my son's name AYUSH SINGH to AYUSH SINGH BHANDARI. I will be known as SURENDER SINGH, my son known as AYUSH SINGH BHANDARI for all future purposes.

I,Indu Bala w/o Vikas Kumar Khullar, R/o 3385, Mahindra Park, Rani Bagh, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Indu Khullar

I,Hunny Chandok W/o Jatan Khurana R/O F/8, Pusa Apartments, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi -110089, have changed my name to Honey Khurana after marriage.

I,Gursimar Singh S/o Jagjit Singh R/o E-10A, 1st-Floor, Rajouri Garden, N.Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Gursimar Singh Kharbanda

I,Geeta Chauhan W/o Rajkumar R/o, Heeta No. 188, Village Chhlera, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301 have changed my name to Geeta for all future purposes.

I,Faisal Ahmad S/O Ateeque Ahmad Burney, R/o Hno- 84, Mohalla- Madersa Street, Maman Choki, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh- 203001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Faisal Ahmad Burney.

I,Deepak Verma S/O Bir Bahadur Verma, R/O Type-II/59, Sec-K, Aliganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pardesh - 226024, Declare that Name of My Father has been wrongly written as Veer Bahadur Verma in my Passport No. 25336107 and 10th Class Certificate No. 0832385. The actual name of My Father is Bir Bahadur Verma, which may be amended accordingly.

I,Mamta Malhotra W/o Dhananjay Malhotra, have lost Original Allotment & Possession-Letter,Payment-Receipts of CSP Unit no.1506,DLF Capital Green,Moti Nagar,Delhi: Receipt-No.-GSPCRB1118/00425-Rs.300000/-, GSPCRB0519/00127-Rs.300000/-, GSPCRB0619/00043-Rs.9032/-, GSPCRB0619/00044-Rs.1200000/-, GSPCRB0619/00045-Rs.659/-, GSPCRB1019/00031-Rs.978916/-, GSPCRB1119/00080-Rs.495046/-, Finder-Call:-9818285262.

I,Dhananjay Malhotra S/o Chaman Lal Malhotra, have lost Original Allotment & Possession-Letter, Payment-Receipts of CSP Unit no.1606,DLF Capital Green,Moti Nagar,Delhi: Receipt-No-GSPCRB1118/00426-Rs.300000/-, GSPCRB0519/00126-Rs.2308400/-, GSPCRB0619/00046-Rs.44055/-, GSPCRB0919/00177-Rs.312668/-, Finder-Call:-9818285262.

This is informed public at large that our clients Mr. Ram Shiromani Singh and his wife Mrs. Sarita Singh R/o RZ-C-35, 3rd Floor, Near Gaurat Market, Sagarpur, New Delhi, disown their son namely Sachin Singh and his wife Sapna Singh from all movable and immovable properties and disown all relation with them, due to their act of disobediences and ill treatment.

KARAN KHANNA ADVOCATE Ch.No. 403, Block-11, Delhi High Court, New Delhi, New Delhi-03

This General Public is hereby informed that my client Sh. Abhai Dass Sharma S/o Sh. Nathu Dass R/O M-44, G.S. Apartment, Plot No.38, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085 has been disowned by his son Mayank Sharma and his wife Neha Sharma from his all movable and immovable properties and disown all relations with them, as they them, Any person dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her own risk, my client shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever for any conduct, act or deeds done by them.

MAHESHI RASTOGI (Advocate)

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PARDEEP KUMAR Enrol No. D2498/89 (Advocate) LAYERS BLOCK 28, Janki Pur New Delhi-110058

This is inform to the public at large that Mrs. Vandana Rajni, properly Mr. Virender Singh, acquired No. 112-12-C, Plot No. 118, measuring 65 sq. yds., Kharsa No. 232/1, at Village, New Delhi-110022, died on 20/12/2022 and after her death Mr. Avinash Rajni become the owner of the above said property by virtue of Will, dated 20/12/2022 executed by Mrs. Vandana Rajni and Now Mr. Avinash Rajni is the undisputed owner of above said property. Or 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 co-ownership, housewife or otherwise, is hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, any with all their supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration 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.

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Making of the showstopper, Birmingham’s raging bull

Used during CWG opening ceremony, it took 2.5 tonnes of aluminum and fibreglass, 50 designers, 5 months to create, combining puppetry and software

SHIVANI NAIK
BIRMINGHAM, AUGUST 9

AT THE Birmingham Commonwealth Games, the city’s matador motif The Bull, has assumed iconic status from the Opening Ceremony. It now stands — snorting nostrils plus grappling hook tail and all — at the Centenary Square.

While the original fiery Bull was freed from its metaphorical shackles and calmed down during the ceremony, the actual prop that was used has triggered a campaign to save it from the scrapyard and find a permanent home in Birmingham. The jury is still out.

“Discussions are ongoing about the onward life of this project,” Phil Batty, Director of Ceremonies, Culture and Queen’s Baton Relay, said.

“We are delighted with the public’s response and emotional outpouring for our bull, one of the undisputed stars of our spectacular Opening Ceremony,” Batty said.

“The bull has now journeyed to Centenary Square, standing proudly in the heart of the city as a temporary public installation for the duration of the Games. The public will have the opportunity to get up close to this incredible construction, a cornerstone of the rich cultural programme for Birmingham 2022,” he said.

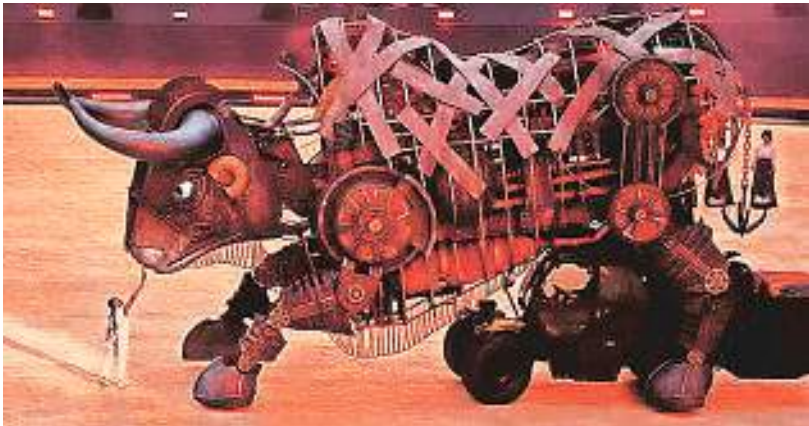
Providing details of the making of the Bull, UK’s SFX major company, Artem, said putting together the 10-metre, self-propelled prop, which combines animatronics and puppetry, started in late January 2022 and took a team of about 50 people to design, build, mechanise and paint over a five-month period.

“It was made at Artem’s workshop. Individual parts were welded, shaped, moulded or soft fabricated in our workshops but once the frame of the bull was mounted on the telehandler (a jeep-like vehicle with a forklift), most of the work continued outside as it was too large to remain inside,” a spokesperson said.

While creative heads fleshed out the story of Birmingham’s history, Artem got down to assembling the piece de resistance.

Made of lightweight aluminium tube, forming a huge space frame, and moulded in fibreglass, the Bull was clad in Plastazote foam shapes to keep the weight to a minimum, just 2.5 tonnes. It was powered by a mounted one-tonne, three-phase generator although the telehandler, or telescopic handler, could lift 10 tonnes. The arm of the telehandler was linked up to the design, helping the Bull bend forward.

The Bull’s legs had four axes of movement,



The bull that assumed iconic status now stands at the Centenary Square. AP

The mothership — an aluminium truss box structure — had everything attached to it for controls with the four legs mounted on the corners and the head plopped onto the central axis.

from hoof joint to hip like a real bull, as it walked, ran, stooped, kneeled, pawed at the ground in anger and reared up most naturally — driven by powerful motors and gearboxes, with the chain drive operated by Artem’s electronics and CAD technicians delivering power to each joint.

Sensors guided the telehandler’s speed as the Bull impressed with remarkable agility and mobility for what was essentially a machine.

What started with old-style pencil sketching assumed the form of a sculptor’s clay maquette model. But as supply chain delays of motors and gearboxes posed a threat, Artem went through three prototypes before being happy with the final structure.

The mothership — an aluminium truss box structure — had everything attached to it for controls with the four legs mounted on the corners and the head plopped onto the central axis.

Aluminium tubes formed the ribs within which were fixed walkways and handrails so that puppeteers and special-effects technicians could access the parts and animate the head to move up/down and left/right with an extending neck.

A dense foam formed the outer skin, and

Victoriana/steampunk dressing — think Jane Austen corsets and coats and Victorian gowns — in industrial material made up the covering. The wheels of the telehandler, weighing 17 tonnes and brought from Europe, were stuffed with foam to prevent it from bouncing. The Bull itself stayed light enough while withstanding the winds that blustered a tad on the day of the opening ceremony. Artem informed that the animation, which brought to life the face and a tail, was crucial to depict Birmingham’s rough journey — a central theme — even as smoke from the body and nostrils, tears of blood, and lighting from within, were the centrepieces of the visual effects. Armed with a KUKA 7-Axis robot arm, as well as 3D printing and lathes and turret mills, the animatronics were achieved through a mix of puppetry and software. Artem is known for its props, atmospherics, prosthetics, models and miniatures, pyrotechnics, mechanical rigs, animatronics and special costumes.

It has worked on several well-known movie projects — “Trigger Point”, “The Man Who Fell To Earth”, “Pennyworth 2”, “Cinderella”, “Peter Rabbit 2”, “The Great”, “DEVs”, “Paddington 2”, “Macbeth”, “T2 Trainspotting”, “The Foreigner”, “Bodyguard” and the Harry Potter franchise’s “Cursed Child”.

But no 3D theatre experience came close to watching a giant bull with luminously alive eyes walking through the Alexander Stadium, and imprinting UK’s second city on the global audience. The messaging signified freedom and not bull-baiting of yore, and that was technology’s biggest victory of the night. The Centenary Square awaits a verdict on the Bull that will outlive the Games.

I didn’t want him to be a mason like me: Arshad Nadeem’s father

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 9

AT THE Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on Sunday, Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem won the javelin throw gold and underlined his status as a world class athlete. With his effort of 90.18 m, Nadeem crossed a barrier that even India’s Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra hasn’t. While Chopra missed these Games because of injury, in the coming days the healthy on-field rivalry between the two friends is expected to intensify — both egging the other to throw the javelin further. Chopra’s best is 89.94 m.

On his way to the gold, Arshad Nadeem broke the record and even pushed the World Championship gold medalist Grenada’s Anderson Peters, who threw 88.64 m, to the second spot.

The town of Mian Channu in Pakistan’s Punjab stayed up late to catch the historic occasion. His father Muhammad Ashraf, a mason by profession, despite the late hour was awake to witness the biggest moment of his son’s career.

Nadeem taking up javelin throw had a lot to do with his father’s passion for Pakistan’s very popular rural sport Nezeabazi — tent pegging. Like most men in the town, Nadeem, after a tiring day’s work, would head to the ground to watch horsemen show their daredevilry. His son too would accompany him. On his father’s insistence, Nadeem would take up Nezeabazi and would train every day. This would make the young boy a regular at the town’s sprawling grounds and expose him to different outdoor sports.

Nadeem would soon switch to playing tape-ball cricket but it was a school athletics event where the tall youngster’s javelin throw talent was identified. Under coach Rasheed Ahmad Saqi that Nadeem would train to throw the spear.

Third eldest of eight siblings, Nadeem’s father would make sure that his sporting son always got his share of milk and ghee. “I used to earn 400-500 per day on contract labour at that time and it was tough to manage things for all the children. But I made sure that Nadeem would get milk and ghee to become a well built youth. I did not want him to work like me and I always wanted him to lead a good life, which he has ensured with his performances,” says the father.

Nadeem had modest goals when he started to pursue javelin throw seriously. Looking for a government job to support his family, he attended the sports quota trials for Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA). There his throw of 55m would catch the attention of five-time Pakistan national champion and former Asian medallist javelin thrower Syed Hussian Bukhari.



Arshad Nadeem won the CWG javelin gold with a throw of 90.18m. AP

Nadeem would be called by the coach for a meeting after the trials. Bukhari, who would train in various grounds in Lahore, would urge the higher authorities at WAPDA to give Nadeem a chance for the sports quota job on his guarantee that the youngster would cross the 60 m mark in two months, a set standard for the javelin throwers in the trials.

“When I first saw Arshad, I was impressed by his strong arms at such a young age and saw a spark in him. Even though he threw 55m in the trials, I was sure that if coached in a proper set up, he would improve only. Joining the hostel meant that he got a good diet. It also improved his training technique. Within two months he crossed 60 m and four months later, at the age of 18 years, he crossed 70 m with a throw of 70.46 m in the Pakistan National Championship in 2015,” shares Bukhari.

While Bukhari would train javelin throwers at almost every available ground in Lahore including the Punjab Athletics Association athletics track near the Gaddafi Stadium, it was Arshad’s bronze medal in Asian Games and Tokyo Olympics participation, which has seen interest in javelin grow in Pakistan.

“I have seen times when I would travel on my motorbike carrying the javelin and going to train near the river bank and ground and people asking me, ‘What sport do you play with these poles?’. At that time, I was friends with Indian champion Ramandeep Singh who would throw in excess of 80 m regularly. I would always dream about a day when Pakistani youth aspire to be a javelin thrower. Arshad and your champion Neeraj

Chopra have helped us achieve the dream,” remembers the coach.

Within three years of crossing the 70 m mark in 2015, Arshad crossed the 80 m mark with a throw of 80.75 m in Asian Games in Jakarta in 2018. The last four years have seen Arshad crossing the 85 m mark four times with a best of 86.38 m throw in Imam Reza Cup in Iran last year.

Bukhari remembers the first time Nadeem and Neeraj competed against each other. “It was in the 2016 South Asian Games in Guwahati that Neeraj and Nadeem competed against each other where Neeraj won the gold and Arshad won the bronze. Later, it was in the Asian Championships in Bhubaneswar in 2017 that they competed together.

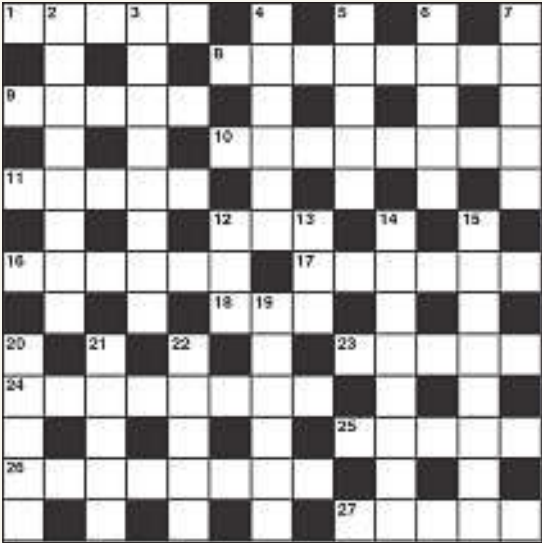
“Javelin throwers in Pakistan as well your country India are well-knitted and each one of us would observe each other. It was the same with Arshad watching Chopra. When Arshad won the bronze medal in Asian Games in Jakarta and Neeraj Chopra congratulated him, he was not only giving him respect as a Pakistani athlete but also as a javelin thrower,” says Bukhari.

“Whatever Neeraj achieved post the junior world gold is due to his sheer hard work and we Pakistanis also appreciate that. When Neeraj topped his respective qualification group in Tokyo and Arshad topped the second qualification group, the talk was about Neeraj versus Arshad. And this also helps in creating more awareness among youth for javelin whether one sees it as a competition or a healthy rivalry.”

While Bukhari remained in Lahore due to a last minute decision by the Pakistan Olympics Association, he hopes the CWG medal will create the same ripple effect in Pakistan as Chopra’s gold medal did in India. “After Arshad’s Asian Games bronze and Tokyo Olympics qualification topping, I can say I get to see 30-40 javelin throwers in almost each training ground in Lahore. In recent months, I have seen youth coming from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and from near the Pakistan-China border areas come to enquire about trials at Lahore. What Neeraj did for India, Arshad’s Olympic participation and today’s record can do the same in Pakistan,” says the coach.

And with his ward now crossing the 90 m mark and Chopra too getting closer to the 90 m, the coach has one desire. “Most of the time, Arshad trains at the Jinnah Stadium in Islamabad and Lahore too, my wish is to see Arshad and Neeraj compete at a packed stadium in Lahore or Islamabad. Neeraj is also like our son. I as a Pakistani promise you that if Neeraj wins, we will shower him the same love we showered on Milkha Singh Ji when he won against Abdul Khaliq in Lahore in 1960. Athletes share a common bond of love for the sports,” says Bukhari.

CROSSWORD 4816



ACROSS

- A point about wood for burning (5)
- Someone called after one? Sam Keane possibly (8)
- Eve is upset by this riddle (5)
- Made case out for literary colleges (8)
- Pest possibly slain in the garden (5)
- Badly in need of medical care (3)
- A refuge from bedlam (6)
- False description of the Tower of Pisa (6)
- Boxer dog? (3)
- Alec’s fresh mount (5)
- Infantry consisting of a thousand bowmen (8)
- Robin Goodfellow’s game (5)
- Don’t allow to come out (8)
- Stone used in constructing an entrance (5)

DOWN

- It’s just about being blond (8)
- It brings about a military rising (8)
- Scrub top of the cooker clean perhaps (6)
- Highly intoxicating (5)
- Game in which Harry is superior to mother (5)
- Is the new bank job in America? (5)
- Mischief-maker is simply without cunning (3)
- Sail in a tug (3)
- Getting supplies is suspended at Christmas (8)
- Hustling around in the daytime (8)
- Run off at outset of disturbance (6)
- Keep silent about mother’s bankruptcy (5)
- Clutches the baggage (5)
- A spell in the Dutch army (5)

Solutions Crossword 4815: Across: 1 Periodical, 6 Clef, 10 Niche, 11 Thumbnaill, 12 Castanet, 13 Ideal, 15 Aligned, 17 Dragon, 19 Ontario, 21 Cresset, 22 India, 24 Trustees, 27 Shapeless, 28 Rebel, 29 Ewan, 30 Esplanades. Down: 1 Pans, 2 Racist, 3 Over, 4 Intoned, 5 Abutted, 7 Leave, 8 Full length, 9 Abdicate, 14 Major issue, 16 Narrates, 18 Oyster bed, 20 Outlets, 21 Counsel, 23 Diana, 25 Turin, 26 Plus.

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.

What you do, the way you think, makes you ____ - Scott Westerfeld (9)

BZAEI



LLPPUU



AEMLT



AELLBF



SOLUTION: BZAEI: BAZIE, METAL, JUTUM, BEALF. What you do, the way you think, makes you beautiful - Scott Westerfeld

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4922

Difficulty Level 5s

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 4921



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

There’s only one conclusion to be drawn from Mercury’s series of celestial connections: you’re on peak form creatively. But where’s your wicked sense of humour? This is still a prosperous period in spite of appearances to the contrary.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Your midweek stars favour lively developments at home. If you’re stuck in a rut, or otherwise bored by routine, try a little lateral thinking. With the right attitude you’ll be able to cut through the mass of emotional dross that’s holding you back.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Loved ones could have problems they simply cannot discuss, so you may have to understand that someone must be left in peace. It would be worth your while seeking the company of people who support your ideas. You see, someone, somewhere, has the advice you need, but you won’t know who unless you search them out.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You should not be at all surprised if loved ones are acting out of character. The fact is that many people just don’t know what they want and it’s quite natural that they should lead you a merry old dance. Mind you, I am quite sure that you can give as good as you get.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

It looks as though one particular arrangement may have to be terminated soon. As yet, you may not be sure what is going on. Indeed, it may be next week before you have all the answers. All you need to know now is that partners are likely to agree to one thing, one day, another, the next.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You’re a fan of justice and you love to do the right thing. What is said or done now may seem terribly unfair. However, please try to understand that, while the planets are inclining you to be rather self-pitying, they are also challenging you to rise above such petty feelings.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

A long-standing relationship is set to receive an important boost. It seems increasingly likely that someone with prestige and status in the community will be entering your life before long. You may even receive an offer which will transform your personal affairs.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Major alterations at work are liable to result from differences of opinion. In a sense it’s not the actual situation that matters, but disagreements about what should be done next. Take your time. After all, nobody has any right to pressurise you until you’re ready.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

I know it’s an old cliché, but there is a difference between the law and justice. You may be a little too hung up on the former, whereas what is really needed is the flexibility and compassion of the latter. That’s why you’re not yet ready to make up your mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Current planetary activity denotes a period of intellectual curiosity. It’s therefore almost inevitable that you will question a number of assumptions. You must allow partners to have their say, otherwise they’ll harbour a grudge until next month.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your wonderfully mischievous sense of humour should be well to the fore over the coming few days. It’s often the most serious people, such as you, who are best able to see the funny side of things. And after all that has happened recently, you just have to laugh.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You will derive long-term benefits from a proposed upheaval, but it seems that there will be little actual change just yet. You are advised to lay the ground carefully before rushing ahead. And, in love, you’ll keep partners fully informed of all your feelings.

CHESS OLYMPIAD

Faltering at the finish line

Women's team had one hand on trophy, but had a nightmarish final day to end third; India B settle for bronze too

SANDIP G
CHENNAI, AUGUST 9

THEIR 'TRYST-WITH-GLORY' moment turned out to be a tryst with heartbreak. When the Indian women's team entered the game hall in the morning, they had one hand on the gold medal. But as the day unfolded — arguably the most crushing of their playing lives — an inspired US plotted a shock defeat, whereby Ukraine snatched the gold medal and they ended up with a bronze. A historic medal, nonetheless, but drenched in tears of grief. A historic medal, but a cruel souvenir of their most painful afternoon.

How differently could it have ended! Sometime later, they would revisit the game and wonder what went wrong or how differently they should have played. Time will heal wounds and they will resign to the cruel denouement of the sporting gods. They did not blunder, rather were outplayed by a team that was nowhere among the title contenders. As Tania Sachdev, painting a stoic face, put it: "We all have bad days. But for us, that moment came on our most important day. The last day."

There was no self-pity, but self-empathy. None would feel that sense of cruel destiny as Tania. She was the anchor steering the wheel to the golden shores, the El Dorado. Until this match, she was on an unbeaten streak and had managed eight points from 10 games. But of all matches, the law of averages caught up with her on the last day and she lost her first game of the campaign. She summed up the game against Carissa Yip: "Nothing worked for me, absolutely nothing. It happens to all players, but unfortunately it happened to me on the most decisive day. We had worked so hard for all these months and reached so close, but to slip on the last day is devastating," she reflected, concealing the pain in a half-smile.

Most days, there would be a saviour to lift them out of the abyss. On Tuesday, there was none. Both R Vaishali and Koneru Humpy were forced into draws by Gulrukhbegi Tokhirjonova and Irina Krush. Bhakti Kulkarni, who had replaced the experienced Harika



The Indian women's team lost to USA 1-3 and settled for bronze.

AICF

Dronavalli who is in an advanced stage of pregnancy, too fumbled against Tatev Abrahamyan. "We missed her (Harika) but we had made a decision to not play her on the final day as her pregnancy was quite advanced," Humpy said.

Humpy has waged several battles and endured dizzying ups and downs herself, but in a defeated tone, she said: "Winning a bronze is indeed historic, but as a sportsperson, I am still grappling with the reality that we failed to win a tournament that we should have. We had beaten most of the teams, drawn against Ukraine, we were cruising midway through the tournament, yet..." She could not finish the sentence. Their Olympiad would remain like that — an unfinished sentence.

More disappointment

But they have comrades in grief. India B could hear the tinkle of gold too when they

were en route defeating eventual champions Uzbekistan on Monday. But D Gukesh — the most tragic of tragic heroes — self-destructed against Nodirbek Abdusattorov. For much of the match, Gukesh was winning, before it came to a drawing position, whereupon his opponent offered a draw. The Indian refused and got beaten. Sometimes, on such monosyllabic words hinge the destiny of men and empires. He felt devastated and shut himself in the room. Then it dawned on him that there was still a match to play, another high-stakes match: "I thought if I am gonna kill myself, I would rather do it tomorrow than today. I will fight for one more day." Admirable was his recovery, though grisly German Vincent Keymer held him to a draw. So was the fate of R Praggnanandhaa at the hands of Rasmus Svane. But the victories of Raunak Sadhwani and Nihal Sarin guaranteed a bronze. However,

it was little consolation for Gukesh, adjudged the player of the tournament for his record-equalling streak of eight wins in eight games.

"Yeah, we won a medal, I won a medal but the bronze would have been a gold, but for the mistake I made. I was very angry at myself, and that hurts me," he said.

But the warm embrace of Viswanathan Anand soothed him. "He told me that it is all part of life and you should get motivation from such incidents. He then recollected some of his own heart-breaking moments and I felt much better," he Gukesh. Nonetheless, there were more positives than negatives in the evaluation. The negative was India A finishing fourth, probably hinting at a transition phase and reality check. For there is a generation of whiz kids snapping at their heels. Gukesh, with his exemplary performance, has leapfrogged the rest to become India No. 2. Praggnanandhaa demonstrated that there is a steeper side to his game. Nihal and Raunak too are teenagers and perhaps the best days of Indian chess are yet to be. The B team was the cynosure of the chess fraternity that had descended in Mahabalipuram over the fortnight. "Hopefully, the gold that we missed here would inspire us for the gold in the next Olympiad," said Gukesh, regathering his defiance.

The women's bronze, when viewed in isolation, would give a fillip for women's chess in the country. Humpy explained: "In India, there are few women players, and this medal would certainly inspire more girls to take up chess professionally. That would be the legacy of our bronze, though it could have been better," she says. Grief still lingered in her tone, but in these moments of heartbreak could lie the seeds of their moments of glory.

RESULTS OF INDIA'S GAMES

MEN: India 'A' drew with USA 2-2; India 'B' beat Germany 3-1; India 'C' drew with Kazakhstan 2-2
WOMEN: India 'A' lost to USA 1-3; India 'B' drew with Slovakia 2-2; India 'C' lost to Kazakhstan 1.5-2/5.

AFRICA TO ANNOUNCE \$100M SUPER LEAGUE

An African Super League is to be announced by Confederation of African Football president Patrice Motsepe with the promise of \$100m in prize money for clubs. The project has been in the pipeline since it was first suggested by FIFA president Gianni Infantino and met with almost none of the outrage that followed a similar attempt in Europe last year. **REUTERS**

Uzbekistan chess: More than just Abdusattorov

SANDIP G

CHENNAI, AUGUST 9

THE INCESSANT focus on Nodirbek Abdusattorov, Uzbekistan's talisman and world rapid champion irritates coach Ivan Sokolov. "I can understand the attention he gets. He is a world champion, a national hero and gives stability on the first board. But this victory has proved that Uzbekistan chess is not just about him. We have more players here and thousands back home," he says.

As though to prove a point, he did not bring Abdusattorov to the press conference room after the gold-sealing win over the Netherlands. Instead, he tagged along Nodirbek Yakubboev, and Jakhongir Vakhidov wearing the traditional doppa, a round skullcap. Yakubboev is only 20 but already rated 2620; Vakhidov is the oldest at 27 and is respected for his sound tactical game. There is also the 16-year-old Javokhir Sindarov, considered one of the most talented youngsters around. "There are these guys too. You can't win a team event on the shoulders of just one guy alone, and we had quality on all five boards. It's a sign that we are a genuine force. We have a history and culture of playing chess that goes a long way back," he says.

Scientific history proves chess existed in the country several centuries ago. During archaeological excavations in Dalvazintepa (Surkhandarya) in 1972, chess pieces of the Kushan period (I-II centuries) were discovered, and in 1977, during a study in Afrosiab (Samarkand), seven chess pieces of the VII-VIII centuries were discovered. Samarkand, a city in Southwestern Uzbekistan used to host annual tournaments as early as the 14th centuries, according to records.

Modern chess history in the country, part of the erstwhile Soviet Union, began with the legendary Georgy Agzamov. Born in a small town of Almalyk in the province of Tashkent, into a family of doctors, he took to professional chess late and became a GM only when he was 30. But he was considered as one of the finest players around and encountered the legendary Mikhail Tal and Tigran Petrosian. Tal was impressed with aggressive style of play and took him along with him for world tours.

A philologist, another passion of his ended his life at the age of 32. While on a tour to Sevastopol, the Crimea, he went for solo hiking, slipped from a cliff and fell between two rocks. There were reports that local tribes murdered him for money, but there was little evidence and only intrigue. But he is widely regarded as the father of modern chess in Uzbekistan. In his memory, the government started the prestigious Tashkent Memorial at the Tashkent Chess Club, the nursery of all Grandmasters from the country.

Several years later sprung Rustam Kasimdzhanov, who won the World Championship in 2004, beating a string of world-class players like Vasily Ivanchuk, Alexander Grischuk, and Veselin Topalov before embarking on a fruitful career as a second to some of the finest ever players. He was a longtime second to Viswanathan Anand, including during the 2008, 2010 and 2012 World Championship matches. He has also trained with World Championship candidates Sergey Karjakin and Fabiano Caruana. Equipped with a strong tactical sense, he was a master at giving philosophic quotes. Like this one: "Playing chess isn't about what you see. Playing chess is about what you can seize from that."

Later he became a chess teacher and most elite players have at some point sought his tutoring or advice. His DVDs on chess openings like 'A World champion's guide to the King's Indian', are quite popular. But as his playing days staggered, leading to a lull in Uzbekistan chess, came along Abdusattorov, who most say has been the single largest influence on Uzbek chess. His Rapid World Championship triumph last year was celebrated as a national holiday. The 17-year-old, the youngest-ever world champion was gifted a two-room apartment and a hefty prize-money.

Another round of celebrations and gifts await them when they land in Tashkent in two days. Sokolov chimes in: "The victory would be the most historic day in Uzbekistan chess. It's our independence day gift to the people of the republic, and hopefully they would inspire thousands of kids to take up the sport. This would capture the imagination." Thousands of children, aspiring to be not only Abdusattorov but also Yakubboev, Vakhidov and Sindarov.

South Africa ex-umpire Koertzen passes away

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AUGUST 9

FORMER INTERNATIONAL umpire Rudi Koertzen was killed in a car crash on Tuesday in South Africa. He was 73.

Koertzen is survived by his wife and four children.

The South African was on his way back home from Cape Town after a weekend of golf when the fatal accident happened. Three others were also killed in the crash early in the morning in Riversdale.

One of the most respected umpires in world cricket from the late 1990s until his retirement in 2010, Koertzen had officiated in nearly 400 international games.

"The world-famous cricket umpire, Rudi Koertzen, and three other people were killed in a head-on collision near Riversdale on Tuesday morning. The 73-year-old Koertzen from Despatch in Nelson Mandela Bay was on his way back home from Cape Town after

a golf weekend," Algoa FM News reported.

The umpire's son, Rudi Koertzen Jr said, "He went on a golf tournament with some of his friends, and they were expected to come back on Monday, but it seems they decided to play another round of golf." Koertzen, who became an umpire in 1981, made his debut as an international umpire in 1992 during India's historic tour of South Africa.

Koertzen was inducted into the ICC's Elite Panel in 2002 and was a part of it for eight years.

During his tenure, he officiated as on-field and TV umpire in as many as 397 games, including 128 Test matches, a record 250 ODIs, and 19 T20 Internationals.

In 1997, Koertzen was appointed as a full-time ICC umpire and was one of the first members of the Elite Panel of ICC Umpires. He was the TV umpire in the 2003 and 2007 ICC World Cup finals and officiated in three men's ODI World Cups.

He had his share of controversies too,



Rudi Koertzen officiated in his final ODI on June 9, 2010 between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka at Harare.

Twitter/JCC

including continuing with the 2007 ODI World Cup final between Sri Lanka and Australia in near darkness due to a wrong interpretation of rule, which forced the ICC to not give him any assignment during the inaugural World T20, which was held in his own country, in 2007.

Serena set to retire after US Open

MATTHEW FUTTERMAN
SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 9

SERENA WILLIAMS, the 23-time Grand Slam champion who has been the face of tennis since winning her first U.S. Open in 1999, said in a magazine article published online Tuesday that she planned to retire from the sport after playing again in the tournament, which begins this month.

Williams, who long ago transcended her sport as a dominant cultural figure, said in an as-told-to cover story for *Vogue* that she has "never liked the word retirement" and preferred the word "evolution" to describe her next steps. "I'm evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me," including working with her venture capital firm and growing her family.

She was not explicit about when she might stop playing but hinted on Instagram that the U.S. Open could be her last tournament. "The countdown has begun," she said. "I'm gonna relish these next few weeks."

Exiting the stage this year at the U.S. Open would be a fitting end to Williams' storied career. She won her first Grand Slam title there, in 1999, when she was just 18, or 23 years ago, a number that matches her career Grand Slam tally. "It feels like the right exclamation point, the right ending," said Pam Shriver, the former player and tennis commentator who was one of the great doubles champions of the 1980s. "It doesn't matter her result, and it's a conclusion that feels a lot better than last year at Wimbledon."

At Wimbledon in 2021, Williams was forced to retire from her first-round match after just a few minutes when she slipped and tore her hamstring. The injury sidelined her



Serena Williams is turning 41 this month and hinted that age was a factor in her decision.

AP

for nearly a year. In fact, Shriver and others thought it was likely that Williams might never officially retire but would instead drift into the existence that she assumed for nearly a year following her teary Wimbledon exit.

This spring, though, Williams said she got the itch to play competitively again. In the *Vogue* story, she stated that Tiger Woods convinced her to commit to training hard for two weeks and see what happened. She did not immediately take his advice but eventually began hitting and signed up for the doubles competition at a Wimbledon tuneup event.

At Wimbledon, she played a spirited three-hour, first-round match, losing to Harmony Tan of France, 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 (7), during which she showed flashes of the power and touch that

I have never liked the word retirement. Maybe the best word to describe what I'm up to is evolution. I'm here to tell you that I'm evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me"

SERENA WILLIAMS
23-TIME GRAND SLAM SINGLES CHAMPION

had once made her nearly unbeatable.

Williams said that she and her husband, Alexis Ohanian, planned to have another child.

"In the last year, Alexis and I have been trying to have another child, and we recently got some information from my doctor that put my mind at ease and made me feel that whenever we're ready, we can add to our family. I definitely don't want to be pregnant again as an athlete. I need to be two feet into tennis or two feet out." Williams' last Slam victory came while she was pregnant during the Australian Open in 2017. "Unfortunately I wasn't ready to win Wimbledon this year," Williams said. "And I don't know if I will be ready to win New York. But I'm going to try. And the lead-up tournaments will be fun."

Williams has won nearly \$100 million in prize money. Williams is second to Margaret Court of Australia in Grand Slam singles championships, a record she had multiple chances to tie and surpass in 2018 and 2019 when she lost four Grand Slam finals without winning a set. However, few in tennis believe that shortcoming should tarnish the legacy that Williams leaves as the greatest female tennis player, and one of the greatest athletes in any sport. **NYT**

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