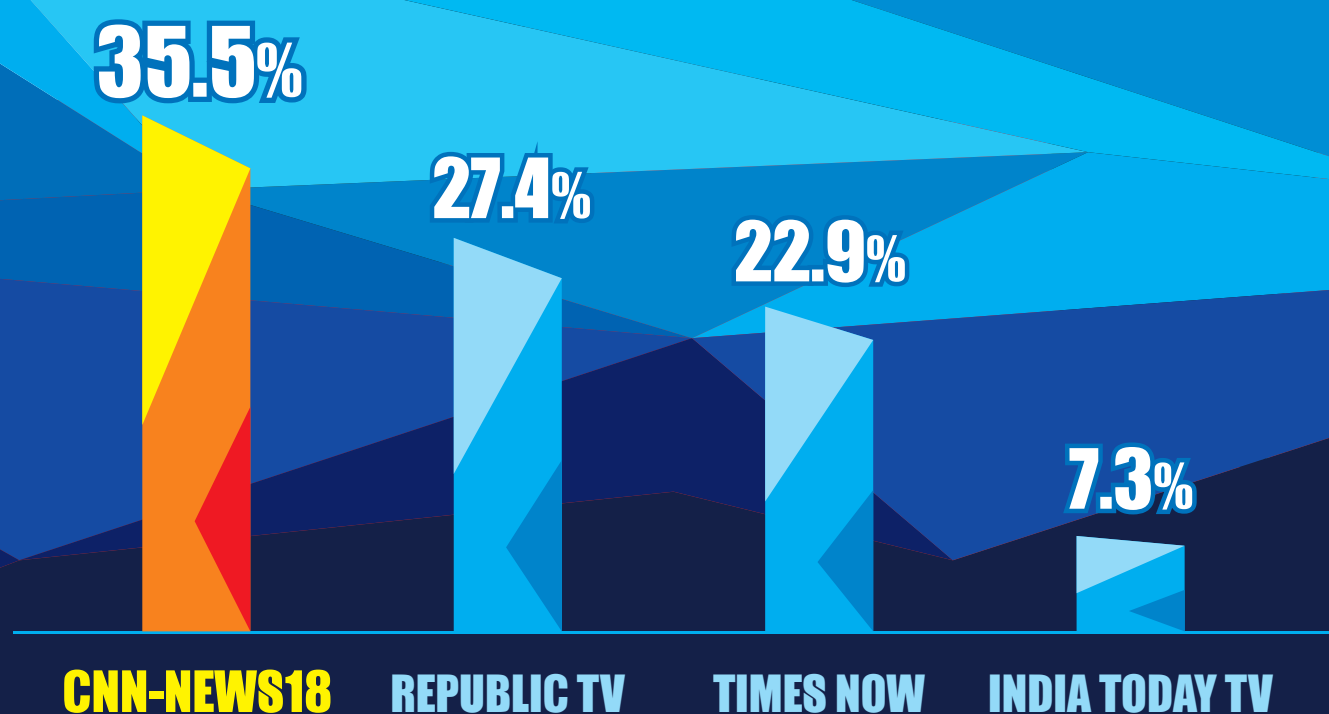


NON-STOP NO.1 FOR 16 WEEKS



THE CONSISTENT LEADER IN ENGLISH GENERAL NEWS CHANNELS



WATCH, FOLLOW AND SHARE

[NEWS18.com](https://www.news18.com)
[YouTube/cnn-news18](https://www.youtube.com/cnn-news18)
[/cnn-news18](https://www.facebook.com/cnn-news18)


Source: BARC India | Mkt: India | TG: 2+ | Period: AVG Wk 16-31'22

Channels considered: CNN-News18, Republic TV, Times Now, India Today Television, Wion, Mirror Now, Times Now World, News X | Market Share

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,SHRISTI D/O.SHASHI RANJAN, ADD-V-031,DLF CAPITAL GREENS, SHIVAJI-MARG MOTINAGAR, WEST DELHI-110015,Changed my name to **SHRISTI RANJAN**,for all,future Purposes. 0040627476-6

I, Nirmala Panday W/o Rajesh Kumar R/o Flats No.283D, Regal, Shipra Suncity Indrapuram Ghaziabad 201014 UP, inform that **Nirmala Panday & Nirmala Pandey** both names are one and same person. 00406274713-1

It is for general information that **I, Munna Choudhary S/o-Ram Nath Choudhary** residing-**H.No.1-147, Vijay Vihar, Phase-2, Rohini,Delhi-85** declare-that name-of my minor-son & my-wife has-been wrongly-written Rishu Kumar & Manisha Devi in my minor-son School-Record.The actual-name of my-minor son & my-wife is **Rishabh Kumar & Pinki Choudhary** respectively which may be amended accordingly. 0040627417-1

It is for general information that **I,Anurag S/O-Jai Prakash,R/o-A-20/5B,Gali Choudhary,Chetram,Maujpur, Delhi-110053,**declare that name-of mine has been wrongly-written as **Anurag Pal** in my-daughter's **Diksha Pal** 10th class record and **D.O.B.Certificate**.The actual-name of mine is **Anurag**, which may be amended accordingly. 0040627477-11

I,hitherto known as **RAJIVR.S/O SHRI.SHOBHA RAM,R/o.Village-Gehlab, Near Bada Mandir,Mohalla Kharia,Tehsil Hathan,Distt Palwal Haryana,**have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **RAJIBR SINGH**. 0040627464-9

I,UZMA JABEEN,D/O SAMAR AHSAN NAQVI,R/O E-1303, AMRAPALI VILLAGE, INDIRAPURAM-GHAZIABAD UP.201014,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **UZMA JABEEN NAQVI**,FOR ALL PURPOSE. 0040627485-1

I,UJJAWAL JHA,S/O PRABHAKAR JHA R/O,HOUSE.No.275,GALI.NO.2,S USHILA GARDEN, MANDOLI,DELHI-110093,have changed my name to **UJJWAL JHA**. 0040627464-5

I,Sweta Tiwary D/o Kamalesh Nath Tiwary, R/o H.No.112,Gali.No.9,Bhikam Colony, Nr,Vikas High-School,Ballabgarh, Faridabad-121004(Haryana)have changed my name to **Sweta Mishra**. 0040627485-3

I,Sreejamol T S W/o,Jitesh Pullickal Krishnan,R/o 165-C, Pocket-E,G T B Enclave,Delhi-110093,have changed my name to **Sreeja Jitesh Naïr**,for all purposes. 0040627485-4

I,Som Dutt Sharma,S/o-Kashmiri Lal Sharma,R/O-HOUSE.No.840, sector-9, Gurgaon,Have changed the name from **Som Datt Sharma** to **Som Dutt Sharma** and shall hereafter be known as **Som Dutt Sharma**. 0040627476-4

I,Shanti Devi,W/o Jeevan Lal R/o-B-28A, New Slum-Qtrs., Paschimpuri, N,Delhi-110063,have changed my name to **Kallo Devi**.LIC Policy-No.330797437. 0040627477-7

I,Satnam Singh S/o,Sukhbir SINGH,R/O B-14,second floor,Fateh Nagar, New Delhi-110018,have changed my name to **Satnam Singh Bamrah**,for all purposes. 0040627476-3

AI,SUNIL KUMAR,S/O MOHINDER SINGH R/O HOUSE.No.53,GALI.NO.1,CHAN DAN PARK, SIRASPUR, DELHI-110042,have changed my name to **SUNIL KUMAR BHARDWAJ**. 0040627464-4

I,SHRUTI TIWARI,D/o Rajendra Prasad Tiwari, HOUSE No.68, SECTOR.38, GURGAON, HARYANA-122018,have changed my name to **SHRUTI RAJENDRA TIWARI**,for all,future Purposes. 0040627464-2

I,SHANWAZ S/O MOHD YUSUF,R/O-17 AARAM PARK SHASHTRI NAGAR DELHI-31,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **MOHD SHANAWAZ** FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040627464-3

I,Pradeep Singh S/o Sukhdev Singh,R/o 681-C,Nayykhand-I, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad,U.P.-201014,have changed my name to **Pradeep Singh Bisht**. 0040627477-6

I,Phool Washa,W/o-Shri R.S. Verma,R/o-C-3/47, Keshav Puram,Delhi-110035,have changed my name to **Phool Washa Verma** and shall hereafter be known as **Phool Washa Verma** for all purposes. 0040627495-2

I,Pallavi Vasan W/O Ajay Malhotra R/O WZ-23-A, Gali.No-08,Krishna Puri,Tilak Nagar,New-Delhi-110018,Have Changed my Name to **Pallavi Malhotra**. 0040627476-1

I,PREET KAUR W/O VIKRAM SINGH,R/O WZ-294, GALINO.2,GURU NANAK NAGAR,TILAK NAGAR,DELHI-110018,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **RAVINDER KAUR**. 0040627477-8

I,Jaspreet Singh Jolly father of **Karman Singh** resident of **BL-17Hari Nagar New Delhi 110064** have changed my son name to **Karman Singh Jolly**

0050202172-2

I,Manju Tiwari,W/o Lakshman Pati Tiwari R/o,House.No.104,Prashant Enclave Gali No.1,Near-Dhruv Public-School Bapolla Najafgarh,New Delhi-110043, declare that **Manjoo Devi** and **Manju Tiwari** are name of the one person having date-of-birth 10.10.1969 instead of-22.11.1965. 0040627485-5

I,Kushal s/o,Lal Bahadur Singh Maurya,R/o,A-501,MSX Alpha Homes,Sec-Alpha-1,Greater-Noida, Gautam Budh,Nagar,UP-201308,have changed my name to **Kushal Maurya**, permanently. 0040627464-10

I,GUPTA RUBI PRABHASHCHANDRA W/O SHIV GUPTA R/O H.NO.70,71, POCKET G-21, SECTOR-7,ROHINI, DELHI-110085,have changed my name to **RUBY GUPTA**. 0040627476-5

I, GULSHAN SHARMA, R/O 1/2804-A, STREET NO-11, RAM NAGAR, DELHI-110032, have changed my minor daughter's name from **ERA SHARMA** to **IRA SHARMA**, for all purposes. 0040627477-9

I,GEORGE MASI,S/O.JALAL MASIH R/O,H.NO.39, WARD.NO-1,ST.JOHNS CHURCH-COMPOUND MEHRAULI, DELHI-110030,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **GEORGE MASIH**. 0040627464-8

I,GAYTHRI CHAWLA W/O LOKESH DHINGRA R/O H.NO.C-66,KIRTI NAGAR, DELHI-110015,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **GAYATRI DHINGRA** FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040627477-10

I,Darshana Kumari W/o Satish kashukh,R/o.B-1/268-S.F. Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-63,have changed my name to **Darshana Kashukh**, permanently 0040627485-2

I,DEEPAK S/O SHYAM SUNDAR R/O 153,GALINO.8, SHIV BAKSH PARK,NANGLOI, DELHI-110041,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **DEEPAK JHA**. 0040627464-7

I,DEEPAK KUMAR GUGNANI S/O OM PARKKASH GUGNANI R/O J-3/45,FIRST-FLOOR, RAJOURI GARDEN,DELHI-110027,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **DEEPAK GUGNANI**. 0040627476-2

I,DHARNI SHARMA D/O KULDEEP SHARMA,R/O H.No.32/57,Bag Rajpur, Agra(UP)have changed my name to **DHAARNI SHARMA**. 0040627477-4

I,Balvinder Singh Khurmi S/o Late shri Shamsher Singh R/o House No.23,Rama park, Kishan Gunj, Delhi-110007, have changed my Name from **Balvinder Singh Khurmi** to **Balvinder Singh** vide affidavit no IN-DL7352888247829U dated 13-Aug.2022 for all purpose. 0040627432-1

I,BALJEET SINGH,S/o Gurnam Singh,R/o,Wz-68, plot.no.59,Ravi Nagar, Tilak-Nagar,West Delhi, Delhi-110018,Have changed my name to **BALJIT SINGH,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSES**. 0040627477-1

I,APARNAA K SHARMA W/O KULDEEP SHARMA,R/O H.No.32/57,Bagh Rajpur, Agra(UP)have changed my name to **APARNA SHARMA**. 0040627477-5

I,ANURUPA (OLD),W/O SANJIV RAM SINGH,R/O 12A/2102 LOTUS BOULEVARD, SECTOR-100, NOIDA HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **ANURUPA BAGCHI SINGH**. 0040627477-2

I,AMIT KUMAR,S/O NARND LAL MEHTA, H.NO-1/1922,MOTI RAM ROAD,MANSAROVER PARK,SHAHADARA,DELHI-110032,Changed my name to **AMIT MEHTA**. 0040627464-6

I,AAJAY SHARMA S/o Om Prakash Sharma,R/o Plot.No.296, Sector-13, Vasundhara,Ghaziabad(UP)ha ve changed my name to **AJAY KUMAR SHARMA**. 0040627477-3

I, Zule Khan,W/o Fakir Mohd R/o 2000, Gali No.5, Raigarh Extension, Delhi-110031,have changed my name to **Zulekha**. 0040627479-3

I, Virender Rathil Alias Virender Singh S/O Ratan Singh, R/o C 41/309 Janta Camp T-Huts Mathura Road Delhi-110001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Virender Kumar**. 0070799754-1

I, Vipin Verma, S/o Satya Prakash, R/o RZ R-109 A, Chanakya Place Part-2, D.K Mohan Garden, West Delhi-110059, have changed my name to **Vipin Prakash Verma**. 0070799762-1

I, Vinod Kumar, S/o Sadhu Ram, R/O-A-64, Noida Public School, Sec-23, G.B. Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name from **Vinod Kumar** to **Vinod Gupta** for all purposes. 0070799783-1

I, Vandana Sharma alias Vandana Alias Vandana Chadha, D/o Prem Paul Chadha, W/o M.D. Sharma, R/o House No-52, Ground Floor, Residency Greens Wood City, Sector-46, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Vandna Sharma**. 0070799770-1

I, Bushra Begum W/O, Mohammad Saleem R/o E-4 2nd Floor Abdul Fazal Enclave Part 1 Jamia Nagar Okhla New Delhi 110025 have changed my name to **Bushra** for all purposes. 0040627473-1

I,hitherto known as **Sumit alias Gaurav,S/o Om Veer** residing at,592, Tahirpur Sarai,Jhilmil,Delhi-110095, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Gaurav**. 0040627476-10

I, Sube Singh Singh, S/o Partab Singh, R/o-A-136, Sector-36, Greater Noida, U.P., have changed my name to **Sube Singh Saini** for all future purposes. 0070799752-1

I, Sonia Kumari D/o Late Sh. Rajender Singh R/o-160-C, left side of community Center, Munirka Village,J.N.U, Vasant Vihar, Delhi-67, have changed my name to **Sonia Rawat** for all future purposes. 0070799748-1

I, Savita Uppal w/o Vijay Kumar Uppal, R/o H.No.734, Sector-13, Urban Estate, Karnal, Haryana-132001 have changed my name to **Sukhwant Uppal**, for all further purposes 0040627450-1

I, Saiyad Mahtab Ahmad, S/o Imtyaz Ahmad, R/o Plot No-666/ Flat No-T-1, Sahibmad Garden Extn-1, Sahibagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201005, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Syed Mahatab Ahmad**. 0070799774-1

I, Ritu Anthwal, W/o Kapil Sharma, R/o-G-14, Jalvayu Vihar, Sect-25, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name after marriage from **Ritu Anthwal** to **Ritu Sharma** for all future purposes. 0070799747-1

I, Rashid Ahemad Qureshi S/o Mohd Jamil Qureshi R/o-160/225, Matya Gate, Mewati Mohalla, Mathura UP have changed my name to **Rasheed Ahmad**. 0070799782-1

I, Puneet Kumar Kakkak S/o Prem Kumar Kakkar R/o-1190, Dr. Mukerjee Nagar, Delhi-110009 have changed my name to **Puneet Kakkar** permanently. 0070799749-1

I, Parmod Kumar S/o Vidya Sagar R/o 99, 2nd-Floor,Bhai Parmanand Colony, Delhi-110009, have changed my name to **Parmod Kumar Dhawan**. 0040627414-1

I, Parbodh Chander Saggi S/o Nand Kishor Saggi, R/o 1001, Dendera Tower, Omaze Nile, Sector-49, South City-II, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Parbodh Chander**. 0070799758-1

I, Nishant Gaba S/O Krishan Lal Gaba, R/o 44, Sector-11, Huda (Phase-1), Panipat, Haryana-132103, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Nishant Gabba**. 0070799772-1

I, Nargish Nagir, W/o Aqail Ahmad, R/o B-145, Thokar No-8, Abul Fazal Enclave Part-2, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, New Friends Colony, Defence Colony, Delhi-110025, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Nargis Nazar**. 0070799756-1

I, Moksh alias Mokesh Ahuja,S/o-Dalip Kumar,R/o-3/46,48, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014,have changed my name,from **Moksh,alias Mokesh Ahuja**,to **Moksh Ahuja**,for all purposes. 0040627479-1

I, Manoj Kumar S/O Sh. Rajvir, R/O A-328, YP Singh Camp, Railway Colony, Tughlakabad, Delhi 110044inform that my name has been mentioned in my LIC policy 118320605 as **Manoj**. I declare that**Manoj** and **Manoj Kumar** is one and same person. 0040627509-1

I, Lily Rakesh Kumar Lal W/o Rakesh Kumar Lal, R/O D-1601, Sunrise Greens, Ahinsa Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 have changed my name to **Lily Lal** for all future purposes. 0040627469-1

I, Lalitha Ramalingam, D/O R. Chandira Sekaran R/O B-5/354-355, First Floor, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085,have Changed my name to **C Lalitha**. 0040627495-1

I, Krishan Kumar Kukreja,S/o-Late Parmanand Kukreja,R/o-B-136,Second Floor,Jangpura-B, New Delhi-110014,have changed my name,from **Krishan Kumar Kukreja**,to **Krishan Kumar Kukreja**,for all purposes. 0040627479-2

I, JAHEER KHAN S/O Ghasee Khan R/o RZ-345, Gali No. 19, Tughlikabad Extn., New Delhi-110019 hereby solemnly declare that **JAHEER KHAN** and **ZAHIR KHAN** is one and same person. 0040627436-1

I, HIMANSHI,D/o Mohar Singh,R/o 11/85,triolkupuri Delhi-110091,Have changed my name to **HIMANSHI SINGH**, for all future Purposes. 0040627464-1

I, Abhinav Tomar R/o RZD1/220/221, Gali No.7, UG-5, Neelkhanth Apartment, Mahavir Enclave, Delhi-110045, have changed my minor daughter's name from **Avantika** to **Avantika Tomar**. 0040627415-1

I,Ruchi Bhardwaj W/O, Yogesh Sharma R/o RZ 102, Block X3, New Roshan Pura Extn. Najafgarh, New Delhi 110043 have changed my name to **Ruchi Sharma** for all purposes. 0040627458-1

I,Jitender Kumar S/o Chandroop R/O C-28B, Near Dichaon Road New Heera Park, Najafgarh Delhi-110043 declare that my correct name is **Jitender** and my Daughter's Name **Disha Malik** and her correct date of birth is **14-Oct-2008**. 0040627421-1

I, Garima Tarun Kumar D/O Late Shri Anand Bhandari R/O Flat No. 701, KT-10, Jaypee Wishtown, 7th Floor, Sector-128, Noida, U.P. 201301, have changed my name to **Garima Bhandari**. 0040624545-4

I, Nicy P. Joseph,W/O Shri BIJI JOSEPH R/O 54-E, POCKET-B-7, MAYUR-VIHAR PHASE-III, DELHI-110096,have changed my name to to **Nicy Bijl**, for all future Purposes. 0040627404-4

I, Garima Bhandari D/O Late Shri Anand Bhandari R/O Flat no. 701, KT-10, Jaypee Wishtown, 7th Floor, Sector-128, Noida, U.P.201304, certify that I have changed the name of my minor daughter from **Aadhya Tarun Kumar** to **Aadhya Kumar** for all future purposes. 0040624545-3

I Rajesh Sharma/ Rajesh Kumar S/o-Shree Krishan R/o-268,Buran Panna, VPO-Khera Kalan,Delhi-82 have changed my name to **Rajesh Kumar Sharma** for all purposes.That **Rajesh Sharma/ Rajesh Kumar & Rajesh Kumar Sharma** is the one and same person. 0040627446-1

I Neha Garg D/o Mr. Suresh Prasad R/o 1-1007, SPS Residency, Vaibhav Khand, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh have changed my name to **Neha Prasad** after getting divorce. Prior to my marriage my name was **Neha Prasad**. 0040627462-9

I Narpat Singh Sodha S/O Shri Ishwar Singh Sodha, employed as -Deputy General Manager (Legal),ONGC Ltd.resident of C-40, ONGC Colony Sector 39, Noida, U.P.have changed my Daughter's namefrom **JAYANANDINI SODHA** to **JAYANANDINI KUMARI SODHA** for all purposes 0040627418-1

LOST & FOUND

I Mohanad Zeyad Saleh S/O Ismar Jabbar R/O Flat No.101, Property No. 204, Charan Singh Complex, Saidulajab, New Delhi-110030 have lost my Original Passport No.A1980205. Finders may contact at above address or Mobile No.8861540512. 0040627409-2

I,Devinder Pal Singh,S/o-Late Pritam Singh,R/o-61/5,Nagar Palika Colony, Pratap Nagar, Chittorgarh Rajasthan,inform that,my original Chain of old ownership paper,regarding of Property No.RZ-9/43,Left Side Part of Khadra No.50,Gali No.12, Tughlakabad Extn,New Delhi-110019(Measuring 75 Sq Yards)has been lost.I found,contact me +91-9599157794. 0040627479-4

MATRIMONIAL

MARRIAGE BUREAU

KRUSHNADEV Matrimonial- As per your expectation with Brides/ Grooms of all Hindu caste/ Divorcees/ Widows. Register:- www.shaadimera.com/ 9004139985, 9004739985. 0070795180-2

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client, Mr. Jeevan Singh S/o Sh. Mahraj Singh, and Mrs. Gurmeet kaur, W/o Mr. Jeevan Singh, both residing of - H. No. 536, Block-K1, Gali No. 18, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110062, severed all relations, debarred & disowned their son Chander Singh & his wife Mrs. Sundi respectively from all his moveable and immovable properties due to their misconduct/misbehaviour. My clients will not be responsible for their acts in future.

Sd/-
TABREZ AHMAD
(Advocate)
Ch. No. 235,
Saket Court New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
General public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Sewanand Sharma S/o Sh. Chiyam Lal, and his wife Smt. Sumati Devi both R/o H.No. 18, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110062, severed all relations, debarred & disowned their son Chander Singh & his wife Mrs. Sundi respectively from all his moveable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with above mentioned Sh. Kuldeep Sharma and his above-mentioned wife will do so at his/her/their own risks and responsibilities and my clients will not be responsible for any act, deed or dealing done by Sh. Kuldeep Sharma and his wife Smt. Sunita.

RAJ YARDHAN UPADHAY ADVOCATE
Chamber No. 307, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, New Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients Sh. Raminder and his wife Smt. Binia R/o J-225, Phase-1, Budh Vihar, Delhi-86 have disowned & debarred their son Mohit alongwith his wife Monika from all their moveable & immovable properties. My clients have ceased all relations with them and anybody dealing with them hereinafter shall do at his own cost and risk and my clients shall not be liable and responsible for the same in any manner whatsoever.

Sd/- **PAWAN KUMAR VERMA**
Enrl. No. D-927/09 Advocate
DELHI HIGH COURT
Ch. No. 1104, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients Sh. Raminder and his wife Smt. Binia R/o J-225, Phase-1, Budh Vihar, Delhi-86 have disowned & debarred their son Mohit alongwith his wife Monika from all their moveable & immovable properties and their daughters, relatives or any other persons shall have NO OBJECTION for the same. If anybody have any objection then file within 15 days from the date of Publication of this Notice at Mobile No.8951234252 and/or E-mail id dpssassociates94@gmail.com.

DEVENORA PAL SINGH
Enrl.No.823/06 Advocate
Office No.64, Plot No.3, Vardhaman Royal Plaza, L.S.C., Gurgaon/India
Delhi-110009, Ph. No.8951234252

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
Head Office, 12, Thambasamy Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 015
Ph. No. (044) - 26426773. Email Id : tncsc.tn@nic.in. CIN : U15137TN1972SGC006157

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

No. : BS6/022831/2022 Dated : 16.08.2022
Short E-Tender No: TNCSC/22-23/ET-26
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites Online electronic tender for the “purchase of 20,000 Metric Tonnes of any one of dal namely **Tur dal (Split – Husked & Fatka)/ Lentil** locally known as **Canadian Yellow Lentil (Split– Husked & Laird No.2)/ Lentil** locally known as **Canadian Yellow Lentil (Whole – Husked & Laird No.2)** as per Agmark specification”

Complete short e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded through <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/prochome/tncsc> and also available in www.tenders.tn.gov.in

The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III

For Registration and further details contact **MSTC LIMITED**, Phone: 25222842/ 25251910/ 25261005. e-Mail : mtscsro@mtscindia.co.in

Last Date and Time for Online Submission : **UPTO 11.00 A.M. on 25.08.2022**

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Smt. Ganli Lakshmi W/O Sh. Ganli Lakshmi Narayana Rao, R/O-1303, Pida Pristiyasundhara layout, Electronic city, Ananth Nagar Bus stop, Kammasaandra, Bengaluru-560100 have lost original possession letter and original relinquishment deeds (Three members) executed by Ganli Rao Srinivas, Kulista & Gaurudha in favour of Mrs. Ganli Lakshmi with respect to Flat No A-20, Plot No 2, Sector 12, Vidya Vihar S.I., Dwarka, New Delhi-110075. FIR to this effect has been lodged with P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi dated 28.08.2022. Any person finding given property document is requested to contact, 9493851014 or requested to send at Flat No A-20, Plot No 2, Sector 12, Vidya Vihar S.I., Dwarka, New Delhi-110075.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large, that the Conveyance Deed of Plot No.16, Sector-12 Market, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110022 is registered vide Registration No.1472 in Book No.1, Vol.No.246 on page 123 to 127 by the Sub Registrar-M, New Delhi-110022 in the name of Late Shri Singh S/o Late Shri Prem Singh, I, Jastar Kumar W/O Late Shri Singh is the legal registered owner of the said property. The original receipt of allotment, Ownership rights and payment receipts issued by the Director of Housing, Ministry of Urban Development in the name of Shri Ajit Singh have been misappropriated. Documents finder may contact at Mobile No. 9871585445 immediately and shall not misuse these papers for any activities against the above free hold property.

Sd/-
Jasbir Kumar W/O Late Shri Ajit Singh
C-308, 3rd Floor, Jangpuri-C-4,
West Delhi, Delhi-110058 Mob-9871585445
Dated 03.08.2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client Mr. Sh. Khem Chander, owner of Property bearing No.5-147 area measuring 270 sq. meters Situated in Pankha Road Residential Scheme, Janakpuri, New Delhi by virtue of Conveyance Deed dated 28.02.2000 executed by The President of India through DDA. That, the last page of Original Perpetual Lease Deed dated 15.02.1972 & Conveyance Deed dated 28.02.2000 containing registration details has been lost. Online F.I.R. has been lodged on 16



UPSC IAS











• (Pre+Mains) •



Batch Starting on **22nd August 2022**

Everyday LIVE Class at 8:00am

StudyIQ IAS.....अब तैयारी हुई Affordable !

Features	StudyIQ IAS	Other Coaching Institutes
 Live Classes	900+ Hours of LIVE teaching by top faculties	₹50,000
 One to One mentorship	To help students in academic and non academic doubts throughout the exam journey	₹20,000
 Gyanvani Sessions	Group mentorship with retired Bureaucrats and Senior Mentors	₹20,000
 Answer Writing Practice	Regular practice to increase marks in Mains and get closer to the desired rank	₹20,000
 Success in Prelims (SIP)	Crash course near Prelims to boost your score	₹20,000
 Prelims Test Series	40+ Tests to crack the iron gate (Prelims stage) of UPSC CSE	₹10,000
 Weekly Revision tests	For benchmarking of students and tracking regular progress	₹10,000
 Handmade Notes	Handmade notes + supplementary notes of Static and Current Affairs for quick revision	₹10,000
 MCQ based learning	To get exam ready for Prelims stage of CSE	₹10,000
 Daily Current Affairs Programme (CAP)	PDF and Videos covering multiple resources relevant for the exam	₹10,000

Use Code | **EXPRESS**

Only
₹18,999

Total Price
~~1,80,000~~

Visit studyiq.com or Download the App 



72-9009-2050

**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO DOWNLOAD THE APP**



UPSC IAS

•(Mains)•



LIVE
Optional Batches



Shashank Tyagi

PSIR

Political Science & International Relations



Use Code | **EXPRESS**

Price ₹11,999
~~₹18000~~

Classes Starting on
18th August 2022 | 1 PM

It is said that Optional determines the destiny of UPSC journey. It is the most important weapon to conquer this exam. To get into the final list, one must ace the optionals.

Features of the Optional Courses



400+ hours of live lectures spread over 5 months



Comprehensive coverage through high quality lecture notes



Hand written notes and hand written model answers



Live answer writing program under the guidance of faculty



Previous Year Questions discussions



PSIR & Geography Current affairs to keep the aspirant updated



Doubt clearing sessions by the faculty



Mains Mentorship Sessions to enhance the marks



Kapil Bhardwaj

Geography

Use Code | **EXPRESS**

Price ₹11,999
~~₹18000~~



Classes Started on
16th August 2022 | 1 PM

Visit studyiq.com or Download the App



72-9009-2050

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO DOWNLOAD THE APP



Convicts in the Bilkis Bano case after their release from Godhra jail. *Express***2002 RAPE AND MURDER**

Her case convicts feted, Bilkis says leave me alone, husband 'numb'

Pardon panel had officials, 2 BJP MLAs

ADITI RAJA
VADODARA, AUGUST 16

FOR SEVERAL MINUTES late on Monday evening, Bilkis Bano could not believe that the 11 convicts had walked free — she first broke into tears and then went silent, her husband Yakub Rasool told *The Indian Express*.

A day later, when contacted by *The Indian Express*, Bilkis said: "Please leave me alone... I have offered duas (prayers) for the soul of my daughter Saleha".

"We have been left numb, shocked and shaken," said Rasool after a Gujarat panel granted remission of sentence to the 11 convicts who were jailed for life in 2008 for gangraping Bilkis and killing 14 of her family members, including her three-year-old

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

**THE EDITORIAL PAGE****JUSTICE FOR BILKIS**

Remission of life sentence to her attackers is a travesty, a betrayal of PM's promise. SC spoke up for her once, it should do so again

PAGE 12

Sport turbulence: FIFA suspends AIFF, court panel for Olympic body

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16

A SUSPENSION from international football, the appointment of a Committee of Administrators (CoA) to run the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and uncertainty over hosting the hockey World Cup. Even as the dust settles over a successful Commonwealth Games campaign, Indian sport has been thrown into turmoil.

Late Monday night, football's world governing body FIFA announced that it had suspended the All India Football Federation (AIFF) "with immediate effect due to flagrant violations of the FIFA Statutes". FIFA cited "undue interference by third party", referring to a Supreme Court-ap-

pointed CoA to run the daily affairs of the AIFF, as the reason for suspending India.

The IOA, too, is staring at a similar fate after the Delhi High Court on Tuesday named another CoA to run the federation. Last month, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) had threatened to suspend the IOA for outside interference in its functioning as well as not conducting its elections in a timely manner.

The IOA is the fifth sports federation, after football, hockey, judo and table tennis, to be placed under a CoA. Former Supreme Court judge, Justice Anil Dave, and ex-chief election commissioner S Y Quraishi are administrators in three of the five CoAs: football, hockey and IOA.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Delhi Police in RTI reply: 80% match in facial recognition is deemed positive ID

PAGE 1
ANCHORSOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

THE DELHI Police, which has used facial recognition technology to identify those accused in major clashes that have taken place in the capital over the past two years, considered a match to be "positive" if there was an accuracy rate of 80 per cent, according to records obtained by digital rights group Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) under the Right To Information (RTI) Act.

The records, shared under two RTI requests and reviewed by *The Indian Express*, throw light for the first time on how the Delhi Police uses facial recognition matches during investigations.

Facial recognition technology

essentially maps, analyses and confirms the identity of a face in a photograph or video, typically using computer-generated filters to transform images into numerical expressions that can be compared. The key parameters include distance between the eyes and that from forehead to chin.

So far, the Delhi Police have used the technology to identify people suspected to have been involved in the 2020 riots, the clashes that broke out at Red Fort in 2021 during the farmers' protest and the Jahangirpuri riots earlier this year.

The RTI records show that the police carries out "empirical investigation" for facial matches that have an accuracy of over 80 per cent before initiating any legal action. But even in cases where the accuracy is less than 80 per cent, the police considered it a "false positive result"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

TARGETED KILLING IN SHOPIAN APPLE ORCHARD

Kashmiri Pandit shot dead in Valley attack, another injured

L-G to NC to PDP, all condemn terror strike; KP organisation says time to leave

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 16

IN ANOTHER targeted killing, militants shot dead a Kashmiri Pandit and injured another in an apple orchard in Shopian in the Valley Tuesday.

Police said Sunil Kumar Bhat died in hospital while Pritambar Kumar was being treated for in-

juries.

The two men were fired upon in Chottipora village of Shopian district. Their assailants fled after the attack and security forces mounted a search operation.

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and leaders of political parties condemned the killing, the third of a Kashmiri Pandit in the Valley since October last year.

The Kashmiri Pandit Sangharsh Samiti (KPSS), an organisation of Pandits who did not leave the Valley in 1990 when a majority of the community fled after being targeted by militants, said the government had "failed" them and asked members of the community to leave the Valley.

Stating that "no Kashmiri Pandit is safe in the Kashmir Valley", KPSS president Sanjay

Tickoo said the "judiciary and government have failed miserably to protect Kashmiri Pandits. As such, KPSS is appealing to all the Kashmiri Pandits to leave Kashmir".

In a statement, police said: "Preliminary investigation revealed that terrorists had fired upon two civilians in an apple orchard at Chotipora area of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



REMEMBERING VAJPAYEE

President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Speaker Om Birla, BJP president J P Nadda, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Amit Shah pay tribute to Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his death anniversary Tuesday. *Praveen Khanna*

7 ITBP personnel dead, 30 injured after Amarnath duty bus falls into riverbed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16The police bus that fell into a riverbed in J&K, Tuesday. *PTI*

cluding two J&K policemen, went off the road and fell into a riverbed near Pahalgam in the Valley.

The incident took place at 9.40 am when the bus, carrying personnel returning from Chandanwadi after Amarnath Yatra security duty, went off the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



As its ship docks in Lanka port, Beijing says: 'This is life'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AS THE Chinese ballistic missile and satellite tracking ship Yuan Wang 5 arrived Tuesday morning at Hambantota port, a strategically important deep sea port in southern Sri Lanka, Tuesday, China said the activities of its vessel will not affect the security of any country and should not be "obstructed" by any "third party" — a reference to India and its security concerns.

Asked about Delhi's concerns and the delay in the visit of the Chinese ship, Qi Zhenhong, Beijing's envoy in Sri Lanka, who was present at the Hambantota port during the ship's arrival, told reporters, "I don't know, you

EXPLAINED
Worry in India, US

EVER SINCE the Chinese took Hambantota port on a 99-year lease in 2017, India and the US have voiced concern that it could harm their interests. Ships of the Yuan Wang class can monitor the lands they pass.

should ask the Indian friends... I don't know. Maybe this is life." Last Saturday, Sri Lanka, which had deferred the visit of the Chinese military vessel

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Sri Lankan port workers hold a Chinese flag as Yuan Wang 5 docks in at Hambantota port Tuesday. *AP/PTI*

Three techies among four dead as truck falls on car

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, AUGUST 16

THREE TECHIES were among four dead after a truck overturned on their car on National Highway 48 near Gurgaon's Bilaspur village late Monday night. The victims worked at multinational companies in Noida and were returning from a trip to Udaipur after the long Independence Day weekend.

The dead were identified as Adarsh Kumar (23) from Meerut; Kummara Poojith (23) from Bengaluru; Muskan Tiwari (24) from Kolkata; and the Innova driver Deepak Kumar (35) from Ghazipur.

They were heading home when a truck travelling on the other side of the road jumped over the divider and fell on their car. "It is suspected that the truck driver slept on the wheel or the brakes failed," said Bilaspur SHO Ajay Kumar.

Two of the victims were alumni of IIT Ropar. "He was a bright student... so many lives cut short," Adarsh's father said.

DETAILED REPORTS
PAGE 9

LIVE/ONLINE Classes Available
www.visionias.in

Heartiest Congratulations to all candidates selected in CSE 2021

8 IN TOP 10 SELECTIONS IN CSE 2021 from various programs of VISION IAS

2 AIR ANKITA AGARWAL (ABHYAAS)	3 AIR GAMINI SINGLA (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES)	4 AIR AISHWARYA VERMA (LAKSHYA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE)	5 AIR UTKARSH DWIVEDI (FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM)	6 AIR YAKSH CHAUDHARY (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE)
7 AIR SAMYAK S JAIN (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE)	8 AIR ISHITA RATHI (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES)	9 AIR PREETAM KUMAR (ALL INDIA TEST SERIES)	1 AIR SHUBHAM KUMAR (FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM) (CSE 2020)	YOU CAN BE NEXT

LIVE / ONLINE Classes Available

Foundation Course GENERAL STUDIES PRELIMS CUM MAINS 2023

DELHI: 30 AUG, 9 AM | 19 AUG, 1 PM | 5 AUG, 9 AM
26 JULY, 1 PM | 17 JULY, 5 PM | 7 JULY, 1 PM

LUCKNOW: 25th Aug | JAIPUR: 16th Aug | 30th July | PUNE: 20th June
HYDERABAD: 8th Aug | CHANDIGARH: 25th Aug | AHMEDABAD: 22nd July

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2023

DELHI: 2 अगस्त, 9 AM | 24 जून, 1 PM | **LUCKNOW:** 7 जुलाई, 9 AM | **JAIPUR:** 16 अगस्त 4 PM

ABHYAAS MAINS 2022 ALL INDIA GS MAINS MOCK TEST (OFFLINE)

All India Percentile | Concrete Feedback & Corrective Measures
Closely aligned to UPSC pattern | Available in ENGLISH | हिन्दी

PAPER DATE	GS-1 & GS-2 27 AUGUST	GS-3 & GS-4 28 AUGUST
------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Register at: www.visionias.in/abhyas

Ahmedabad | Alzawl | Bengaluru | Bhopal | Bhubaneswar | Chandigarh | Chennai | Coimbatore | Dehradun | Delhi | Ghazabad | Gorakhpur | Guwahati | Hyderabad | Imphal | Indore | Itanagar | Jabalpur | Jaipur | Jammu | Jodhpur | Kanpurkochi | Kolkata | Lucknow | Ludhiana | Mumbai | Nagpur | Noida | Patna | Prayagraj | Pune | Raipur | Ranchi | Rohtak | Shimla | Thiruvananthapuram | Varanasi | Vijayawada | Visakhapatnam

DELHI • HEAD OFFICE: Apsara Arcade, Karol Bagh | **CONTACT:** 8468022022, 9019066066
JAIPUR | PUNE | HYDERABAD | AHMEDABAD | LUCKNOW | CHANDIGARH | GUWAHATI

NEXT IAS
BIG LEARNINGS MADE EASY

NEXT IAS Launching PSIR OPTIONAL
(Political Science & International Relations)

by **Piyush Chaubey Sir**

Open Session on 20th Aug, 2022 (4:00 PM)	Offline Batch commencing from 23rd Aug, 2022 (11:30 AM to 2:00 PM)
--	--

Fee : ₹49153 + GST <i>Inaugural discount valid till 22nd Aug, 2022</i>	₹35000 + GST	Admissions Open
---	---------------------	------------------------

New Batches for OTHER OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Offline Classes	Live-Online Classes
------------------------	----------------------------

Anthropology by Sudhir Kumar Sir 16th Aug, 2022 (6:00 PM to 8:30 PM)	Economics by Vibhas Jha Sir 10th Oct, 2022 (3:00 PM to 5:30 PM)
Geography by Alok Ranjan Sir 1st Nov, 2022 (3:00 PM to 5:30 PM)	Sociology by Raj Kumar Rai Sir 1st Nov, 2022 (3:00 PM to 5:30 PM)

Admissions Open

Delhi Centre : 27-B, Pusa Road, Metro Pillar No. 118, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-110060 Ph : 8081300200	Bhopal Centre : Plot No. 46, ZONE - 2, M.P. Nagar, Bhopal - 462011 Ph : 8827664612
--	---

www.nextias.com

GABON

INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

ADVERTORIAL

CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRS MESSAGE



Joséphine Patricia NTYAM-EHYA - Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Gabon in New Delhi, India

GABON'S relations with India first began within the framework of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) after World War II. The relationship grew with economic exchanges. But Indian Former Vice President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu's official visit to Gabon, from May 30 to June 1, 2022, opened a new dimension in the relations. It began with the accession of Gabon to the English-speaking community of the Commonwealth on June 25, 2022, to which India already belongs.

It's my pleasure, as the Representative of President Ali Bongo Ondimba, Head of State, to quote his views on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's choice to admit Gabon as a Member of the Commonwealth during the high-level meeting of Head of States in Kigali, Rwanda on June 24, 2022.

President Ali Bongo Ondimba said, "The two countries share the Commonwealth world-view for how the values and aspirations enshrined in the Charter can fortify their own democracy and enable Gabon to internationally play a greater role for good. We look forward to strengthening our partnerships with India in the Commonwealth community. We are eager to engage on issues such as equal rights, fighting violence against women, making the planet a better place for youth, fighting climate change and promoting democracy, freedom of speech and expression, peace, and security around the world."

The Embassy of the Gabonese Republic, the checkpoint of the partnership, is happy to conduct this project under the guidance of President Ali Bongo Ondimba.

Gabon-India partnership grows stronger

The African country is offering Indians an opportunity to benefit from an open sharing of knowledge and technology, and an ideal atmosphere for their businesses



Gabon President Ali Bongo Ondimba with Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, in New Delhi



Gabon President Ali Bongo Ondimba with Former Vice President of India Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu, in Libreville, Gabon

BILATERAL ties between Gabon and India began with the gaining of independence and the creation of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) post World War II when several nations were getting out of the shackles of European colonialism. Actions of both India and Gabon — in solidarity with each other as young nations to join existing international organisations — inevitably brought them together in their quest for a better future for their peoples and societies.

Geographically, Gabon is at the centre of the African continent, with its western façade surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean. Situated on the West coast of the African continent, Gabon's landscape attracts several tourists and the country aspires to increase investment to use the opportunities presented by the beautiful nation. Gabon's neighbours to the North are Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea and along the eastern flank, the Congo.

Gabon and India have signed a few bilateral agreements, including the protocol for regular diplomatic consultations of understanding between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Gabonese Republic, signed on June 19, 2017.

The Gabon-India partnership is observed through high-level government meetings and international frameworks or events organised as a platform for international engagements.

The President of the Republic, Ali Bongo Ondimba, has visited India thrice. The first was in November 2007 when he held the post of Minister of National Defence. Since his accession to the highest office in 2009 as President and Head of State, he has made two visits, notably in 2015 for the India-Africa summit and in

2018 for the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

During those high-level visits, some conventional meetings and conferences organised by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Exim Bank, FICCI and PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry have led to the positive participative approach by many high-level rank government officers and cabinet ministers of the Government of Gabon.

On the other hand, the high-level visit from the Republic of India's then Vice President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu from May 29 to June 1, 2022, with a strong delegation consisting of ministers, Members of Parliament and businesspersons of the CII considerably enhanced relations. The presence of several multinational companies of Indian origin on Gabonese territory is an important sign of the obvious interest that Gabon arouses for investments from India. Airtel, Oil India Limited, Greenply and Tata Chemicals, to name a few, have been doing good business in Gabon for several decades.

The peaceful political, law and order and economic conditions of Gabon have made

GABON EMBASSY NEW DELHI, INDIA

The peaceful political, law and order and favourable economic conditions of Gabon have made business easy for Indians in the country

stability.

Diplomacy is a privileged means for the achievement of the policies of the Gabonese government, and in that view, the mission of the Charge d'Affaires of Gabon in India is to create a conducive atmosphere, and stimulate meetings and conduct exchanges between Indian investors and members of the Government of Gabon.

Gabonese government officials have a major responsibility to be relevant participants and players to implement the priority projects, as stated in the Transformation Acceleration Plan, named PAT in French. This is to say that, apart from the formal diplomatic mission statement for the period 2021-2023, all the diplomatic personnel must interpret it as the quest for public and private investors to help finance projects in the various sectors in which the Indian businesses already excel nationally and internationally.

The diplomatic staff of Gabon in India em-

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Exports	42.70	36.79	43.34	45.08	55.17
Imports	793.06	105.63	69.46	395.39	456.01
Total Trade	835.76	142.42	112.80	440.46	511.18

*USD in Millions *Period April-February

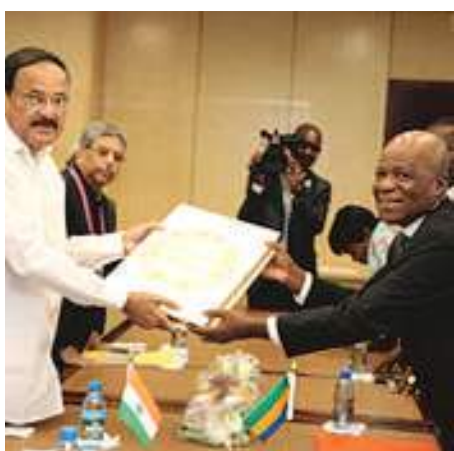
Political ties at their peak after ex-VP's visit to Libreville

India's former Vice President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu visited Gabon in May this year and held several delegation-level talks

THE Republic of Gabon and India have enjoyed uninterrupted bilateral diplomatic ties for more than four decades. The two nations have a history of European colonisation, the shackles of which, the two now-independent nations have been trying to free themselves from since their respective independence from French and British rule. But the commonality doesn't end here.

Gabon, in the central part of the African continent with its West coast on the Atlantic Ocean, is a nation of natural scenic beauty. India, a giant in South Asia and the world's fastest-growing economy, is a land of economic and cultural diversity, offering some take-away to discerning diplomatic partners. Gabon and India have for long enjoyed warm and friendly relations, dating back to even their pre-independence era. This long-standing people-to-people friendship and political ties have resulted in Gabon standing by the side of India in the latter's candidature to many global fora. Gabon is an important partner for India. Gabon was elected in October 2021 at the United Nations Security Council. The two countries are prominent non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. To mark their growing bilateral ties, the political leadership of the two nations have been carrying out regular visits.

The latest was India's former Vice President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu's visit to Gabon on May 30 and June 1. Naidu was accompanied by a high-level delegation including Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar and Members of Parliament Sushil Kumar Modi (Rajya Sabha), Vijay Pal Singh Tomar (Rajya Sabha) and P. Ravindhranath (Lok Sabha). Naidu was the first Indian Vice President to visit Gabon. This was also the first-ever high-level visit from India to Gabon. This visit to Gabon added momentum to India's engagement with Africa and emphasised India's commitment to the African continent. In Gabon, Naidu held delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister of Gabon,



To mark their growing bilateral ties, the political leadership of Gabon and India have been visiting each other's countries

Rose Christiane Ossouka Raponda and called on Gabon's President of Gabon Ali Bongo Ondimba and met with other dignitaries. He also interacted with the business community in Gabon and addressed the Indian diaspora. There have been several visits by Gabon's top political leadership to India prior to Naidu's visit to Libreville, Gabon's capital.

The former Minister for Mining, Oil, Energy and Hydraulic Resources, Richard Auguste Aunouviat, and former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration, Jean Ping, visited India in May 2007. The then Gabon Senior Minister for National Defence and the current President, Ondimba, visited India in November 2007. He held bilateral talks with then Indian Defence Minister AK Anthony and visited the defence training centres and production facilities

in India. Gabon's Minister for Mines, Petroleum and Hydrocarbons Julian Nkoghe Bekale visited India in December 2009 for the second India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference held in New Delhi. Minister of Communications Laure Olga Gondjout visited the country in May 2010 and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the late Paul Bunduku Latha, visited in March 2011 for the 7th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership. Ondimba led an official delegation to the third India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi in October 2015.

India's then Minister of State for Human Resource Development Ram Shankar Katheria visited Libreville in September 2015, as the Special Envoy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to hand over an invitation to President Ondimba for the third India-Africa Forum Summit in Delhi. An eight-member delegation of Gabon, led by the Minister of Petroleum and Hydrocarbons Director Exploration, Mabika Kombila Edgard, attended the 4th India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference held in New Delhi in January 2016. Gabon's Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Crepin Magloire Gwodog visited India in May 2016 to take part in a roadshow organised to attract Indian investments to Gabon. The then Gabon's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pacôme Moubelet-Boubeya, visited New Delhi in June 2017. Later, Gabon Foreign Minister Regis Imongault paid a bilateral visit to India in November 2018 and held detailed discussions with the then Minister of External Affairs, Sushma Swara.

During the 17th CII-Exim Bank Conclave in 2022, the Minister of State, Industry, Pacôme Moubelet-Boubeya, led the participation of Gabon with a Ministerial Delegation comprising Hugues Mbadinga Madiya, Minister of Investment Promotion; Yolande Nyonda, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs; and heads of administrative entities including the National Investment Promotion Agency (ANPI) and Gabon Special Economic Zone (GSEZ).

An attractive investment opportunity for Indian businesses

GABON is a nation that is slightly bigger in area size than the Indian province of Uttar Pradesh. But Gabon's population is as equally small as the state of Nagaland. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the GDP growth of Gabon in the year 2016 stood at 3.20 per cent. But it is fast becoming an attractive investment destination, an opportunity that Indian businesses and investors should not miss. Being a resource-rich African nation, there are opportunities for Indian investors in industries such as wood, cement, steel, scrap recycling, and oil and gas.

Gabon has been wooing Indian investors to its country for several years now, including offering attractive incentives for investments, thus providing a conducive atmosphere for Indian businesses to benefit from the African nation. It has several cities, apart from its capital Libreville, that attract investments, such as Port-Gentil, Franceville and Oyem, Moanda. The country has

rich natural resources such as diamond, gold, petroleum, natural gas, niobium, cement, phosphate rock, manganese, uranium and iron ore — all important minerals and natural resources that can fuel interest in Gabon's investment environment for Indian businesses. Gabon also relies on imports to meet its requirements for tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, seamless, iron, medicaments, meat and edible offal, rice, wheat and meslin. Indian investors can explore opportunities in timber, metallurgy, recycling, civil engineering and construction, pharmaceutical and cosmetics, information technology and communications, and hydrocarbons.

Gabonese agricultural sector includes food crops, rubber, and palm oil. The African country's top four exports are agricultural raw materials, ores and metals, fuels and manufactured goods. The top five export partners in 2016 were the United States, China, Malaysia, Netherlands and Spain. Gabon registered a Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of US\$703.19 million that year, according to the UNCTAD. In consonance with the African continent's move to open up for invest-



ments in the last decade, Gabon is offering attractive opportunities for investors and providing several fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. One of the most important incentives for investors is that Gabon is the most politically and economically stable African nation in a continent that witnesses regular instability.

The country has worked with the Olam International Limited of Singapore and the Africa Finance Corporation to open the Nkok Special Economic Zone (SEZ), which has already attracted several entrepreneurs, both domestic and global,

Nkok SEZ has attracted several entrepreneurs, both domestic and global, to start their businesses there

to start their businesses and production operations there. A report suggested that there were around 100 companies that have a base at the Nkok SEZ, which offers major tax benefits and incentives to industrial investors such as zero per cent tax on land properties, zero per cent tax on income for the first 10 years and 10 per cent for the next five years. In addition, it also allows for 100 per cent repatriation of funds. Investors are allowed 100 per cent exemption from income tax, corporate tax and capital gains tax. Besides, 100 per cent foreign ownership is also permitted. For cost-effective operations, SEZ-based industries are given electricity at subsidised rates and there is no customs duty on the import of plant and machinery or spare parts for industries.

All these factors make Gabon an investor-friendly country in a continent which is otherwise known for its unstable political and economic setup. Gabon aims to build on its political and social stability to become an emerging economy by 2025. It was the highest-ranking nation in Sub-Saharan Africa under the United Nations 2014 Human Development Index.

GABON

INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

ADVERTORIAL

India’s most stable African economic partner

India primarily imports ores, slag and ash, mineral fuels, mineral oils, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes from Gabon

BACKED by substantial growth plans, Gabon aims to invest USD\$21 billion by 2026 in high-quality infrastructure in transport, information and communication technology, housing, education and health sectors. With a growth-oriented leader at the helm, the future for Gabon looks extremely promising. The country is very strategically placing itself as a lucrative destination for investors who can further steer development in the country. President Ali Bongo Ondimba said that Africa is the continent of the future and is full of

opportunities. "It is now for the Africans to ensure that these opportunities are not missed. The youth, who are the future, needs to be active and ambitious."

The country has a small population but abundant natural resources. These factors have contributed to Gabon becoming one of the wealthier African nations in recent years. It shares borders with Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo and Equatorial Guinea. A country with significant areas of protected parkland, Gabon has a tropical climate.

After an eight-year estrangement,



mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes. But the scope for growth is not limited to just these items,

and the opportunities are quite huge, waiting to be tapped. To sum up, India is a high-ranked partner to Gabon, second in its exportations after China.



Gabon returned to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) fold in 2021, which was one of the pledges of good governance presented by President Ondimba's government to its International Monetary Fund (IMF) interlocutors. Indian investments in Gabon reached USD\$1.12 billion in 2021-22. For a decade, Indian investments in Gabon have been diverse and include timber, hydrocarbons, pharmaceuticals production and telecommunications. Gabon Special Eco-

omic Zone (GSEZ) of NKOK, created in 2010, welcomed 50 Indian companies out of the 80 set there. Outside the GSEZ NKOK, Indian businesses are engaged in crude oil extraction, mining exploration and telecommunications.

India's main items of export to Gabon are meat and edible meat offal, plastic and articles thereof, iron and steel, machinery and mechanical appliances, and electrical machinery and equipment. Its main items of import comprised ores, slag and ash,

India is a high-ranked partner to Gabon, second in its export after China



Business-friendly economic policies a boon for investors

The CEMAC investment regulations of 1998 are seen as a game-changer for the country to grow its economy



IN 1998, Gabon introduced an investment code that conforms to the Central African Economic and Monetary Community's (CEMAC) investment regulations and provides the same rights to foreign companies operating in Gabon as to domestic firms. This investment code of Gabon is seen as the game-changer for Gabon to grow its economy, despite the severe challenges that it has faced since its independence in 1960 from French rule. This new investment code has protected domestic and foreign investors from "expropriation" or "nationalisation" by the Gabonese government without appropriate compensation, as determined by an independent third party. Key sectors of Gabon's economy such as mining, forestry, petroleum, agriculture, and tourism have been given specific investment codes. The codes encourage investment through customs and tax incentives. For example, oil and mining companies are exempt from customs duties on imported machinery and equipment specific to their industries making capital investments more affordable.

In 2014, Gabon established the Investment Promotion Agency (ANPI-Gabon) with the assistance of the World Bank with a mission to promote investment and exports, support small and medium enterprises, manage public-private partnerships (PPPs), and help companies establish businesses in Gabon. The ANPI-InvestinGabon is designed to "act as the gateway for investment" to reduce administrative procedures, costs, and waiting periods. Gabonese authorities have made efforts to prioritise investment.

In 2017, the High Council for Investment was established to promote investment and boost the economy. This body provides a platform for dialogue between the public and private sectors, and its main objectives are to improve the economy and create jobs. Gabon President Ali Bongo Ondimba



The SEZ at Nkok provides single-window service to investors and beneficial fiscal incentives, including tax-free operation for 25 years, no customs duties on imported machinery and parts, and 100 per cent repatriation of funds

outlawed the export of unprocessed wood in 2009 to boost Gabon's value-added wood products industry and increase domestic consumption. The Special Economic Zone at Nkok has expanded its mandate to a broader range of businesses to provide a single-window business service to participants and provides new investors with beneficial fiscal incentives, including tax-free operation for 25 years, no customs duties on imported machinery and parts, and 100 per cent repatriation of funds. Gabon's agriculture code of 2008 gives tax and customs incentives to agricultural operators, with a particular focus on Small and Medium Enterprises. Land used for agriculture and farm exploitation is exonerated from fiscal tax.

All imported fertilizers and animal feed are also exempt from customs duties.

Gabon's mineral industry is dominated by the production of manganese and petroleum. In 2020, Gabon was the third largest producer of manganese in the world, with an annual production of 2.8 million metric tons (MT). The oil sector accounted for 80 per cent of exports, 45 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product, and 60 per cent of fiscal revenue. Gabon's wood sector production of lumber represented 870,410 cubic meters (m3) and the production of plywood units increased by almost 27 per cent, to stand at 37,358 m3 during the same period at the end of September 2020. The authorities are counting on the timber industry for the diversification of the country's economy and the mobilisation of budgetary revenues. To support local agricultural production, on June 10, 2021, the Gabonese Council of Ministers adopted a bill for the creation of a National Chamber of Agriculture (CNA). Through this bill, the government wants to force supermarkets and other agri-food companies to obtain supplies from local agricultural producers. The World Bank estimated that the value added in Gabon's agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors to be 6.404 per cent of GDP in 2020.

The 'Last Eden on Earth' offers nature lovers a breath-taking experience

GABON is situated on the western coast of Africa abutting the Atlantic Ocean, showcasing its virgin beaches along the Gulf of Guinea. The world calls Gabon the "Last Eden on Earth", alluding to its scenic beauty as 70 per cent of its geography is covered by forests. Some tourists even challenge others to visit Gabon and see if they agree with their view of Gabon being a heaven on Earth.

Apart from the capital city Libreville, when tourists venture into the interiors of the African nation, they will find themselves in a vast and largely unexplored paradise of white sandy beaches, dense forest, raging rivers and pristine landscape that will keep one spellbound.

In 2003, Gabon decided to protect its natural beauty by declaring 10 per cent of the nation as protected land and 13 national parks were created to conserve this last Eden on Earth. While travelling to Gabon for business or pleasure, it will be good to hire a local travel agency, in view of the facilities and services they offer.



Tourists will find themselves in a vast and largely unexplored paradise of white sandy beaches, dense forest, raging rivers and pristine landscape that will keep one spellbound

Founded in the mid-19th century by freed slaves, Gabon's capital Libreville (meaning Freetown in French) is a modern-day eclectic town. In addition to the markets, it offers visitors a glimpse of its history and culture during visits to the National Museum, the Presidential Palace, the St Michael Church (St Michael Cathedral) and the Musée des Arts et Traditions du Gabon.

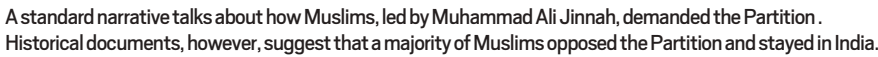


The Loango National Park is the crown jewel of the 13 national parks and offers the best African Safari experience with its lush landscape and fantastic wildlife. With almost 200 km of uninhabited shoreline, Loango is one of the last fully wild coastal areas. The park has forests, lagoons, wetlands, and savannahs. You will find hippopotami, gorillas and elephants walking along the beach, while whales, and dolphins if you go out into the Atlantic Ocean for a cruise. Among the other attractions are the Pongara National Park with forest, mangrove flats, beach, and savannah. Fernan Vaz Lagoon is the highlight of the Ogooué maritime region apart from Gorilla Island, Ivindo National Park Makokou and Kongou Falls.

In June 2021, Norway paid Gabon USD\$17 million for forest protection and the African nation has managed to reduce deforestation and lower carbon emissions in 2016-17. The current eco-tourism projects focus largely on the country's network of national parks. Plans to develop eco-tourism in the parks began to materialise in 2008, following the creation of the National Agency of National Parks (Agence Nationale des Parcs Nationaux, ANPN) in 2007.

In March 2021, the Gabonese government presented the African Ecotourism Safari Project to take advantage of the potential of the country's 13 national parks. The project will contribute to the development of the tourism sector in Gabon, the enhancement of national parks and the promotion of employment while respecting the criteria of sustainable development and profitability. The government implemented a new tourism code passed in February 2019 that provides tax exemptions to foreign tourism investors during the first eight years of operation.





ENTERTAINMENT



Deep Mukherjee joins host Utsa Sarmin to talk about the death of a Dalit boy in Rajasthan after being beaten up by his upper caste teacher for drinking water from his pot.

In 2019, the Supreme Court awarded compensation of Rs 50

In its statement, however,

"Saddened by the loss of lives of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel in a bus accident... My thoughts are with the bereaved families in this hour of grief. My prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," the Vice President said in a Twitter post.

"The need for these impact assessments is necessary because these are extremely new and untested technologies that are being used by law enforcement agencies, which could lead to irreversible effects and damage to a person," IFF's Jain said.

He said the ceremony was at-


SOCIOLOGY

Routledge in association with **DIAS**
organizes **MEET THE AUTHOR** of
Introduction to Sociology: Concepts and Theories
(Routledge, 2022) (With Prior Registration)

ORIENTATION LECTURE: 1 October 2022 (5 PM)
(Collect a copy of the book signed by the
author at a discounted rate)

FOUNDATION COURSE (MAINS 2023)
Starts on 10 October 2022; 2 Demo Classes; Seats: 50
(Discount for SC/ST/OBC/EWS Candidates)

POSTAL COURSE (June 2022 Edition)

 **Aditya Mongra** **DIAS**
26/2, Basement, Near Madonna Hotel, Opp. Unacademy Outlet,
Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-60. Contact: 9996963150. Email: adityadise@gmail.com
Website: www.sociologybyadityamongra.com Facebook Page: Sociology By Aditya Mongra

Contact for Advt. Booking: M/s Friends Publicity Service
(M): 9212665841, 9212008155

9 THE CITY



VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS	6,724
PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL:	588
OXYGEN SUPPORT	183
VENTILATOR SUPPORT	22

DELHI TOTAL CASES	19,85,822	Total	Vacant
		HOSPITAL BEDS	9,416
		ICU BEDS	1,922
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths
Aug 15	1,227	2,130	8
Aug 16	917	1,566	3
Total	6,867*	19,86,739	26,392
*Total active cases in Delhi			

Noida	Aug 15	Aug 16
Cases	124	88
Deaths	0	0
Gurgaon		
Cases	357	284
Deaths	0	0

Returning from weekend trip, 3 techies among 4 dead as truck topples on car on NH-48

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, AUGUST 16

FOUR PERSONS died while two suffered injuries after a truck overturned on their car on national highway (NH) 48 near Gurgaon's Bilaspur late Monday night. Among the victims were techies who worked at multinational companies in Noida, and were returning from Udaipur after a trip over the long weekend, said police.

The incident took place around 1.30 am near Sidhrawali cut on the highway when the Innova, in which four men and two women were travelling, was crushed under a truck carrying sacks of corn, which was going from Delhi to Jaipur. According to police, the truck, which was coming from the opposite direction, crossed the divider on the highway and lost balance before toppling on top of the Innova.

Ajay Kumar, SHO Bilaspur police station, said the circumstances of the accident and how the truck went to the other side of the highway will be clear once the driver is arrested. "It is suspected that the truck driver either slept on the wheel or the brakes failed, due to which he lost balance. An FIR has been registered and our teams have gone to Jaipur to trace him," said the SHO.

An FIR has been registered against the accused under IPC sections 279, 304-A, 336, 337 and 427 at Bilaspur police station, said police. Police said they received



The incident took place around 1.30 am near Sidhrawali cut on the highway. The Innova was crushed under a truck

information from a patrol vehicle, following which several teams rushed for the rescue.

"Four cranes, including two hydra cranes parked about 4 km from the spot, were called in to lift the toppled truck trolley. The main challenge was creating space and to free up the compressed vehicle to rescue people from the mangled remains. All the injured were rushed to a hospital, where four people succumbed to injuries. We were able to rescue a man and a woman and they were taken to a private hospital. The rescue took over two hours," said SHO Kumar.

Police identified the deceased as Deepak Kumar (35) from Ghaziipur; Adarsh Kumar (23) from Meerut; Kummara Poojith (23) from Bengaluru; and Muskan Tiwari (24) from Kolkata. The two injured have been identified as Prerna (22) from Kolkata

and Jasnur Singh from Punjab. Police said Prerna suffered a fracture in her foot, while Singh's condition was stable.

In the police complaint, Jasnur Singh, a software engineer working at an MNC in Noida, stated that he, some of his colleagues and his flatmate had hired a private cab through an acquaintance and gone to Udaipur for a holiday on August 13 night.

"We were returning from Udaipur late Monday night and had taken NH-48 from Jaipur to Delhi. Around 1 am, when we reached near Sidhrawali cut, a truck trolley coming from Delhi to Jaipur road, which was speeding and driving rashly and negligently, hit our car and the trolley toppled over it. We were crushed underneath. Four of my friends were killed... while another friend suffered injuries. I managed to survive," he said.

'Bright student, cleared IIT first try': Accident tears families apart

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, AUGUST 16

TWO OF the four victims of an accident on NH-48, where an Innova was crushed under a truck, were alumni of IIT Ropar and had recently started working at private companies in Noida. Relatives said they knew each other as they worked in the same sector in offices in Noida and had planned a trip to Udaipur since it was a long weekend because of Independence Day.

Police identified the deceased as driver Deepak Kumar (35) from Ghaziipur; Adarsh Kumar (23) from Meerut; Kummara Poojith (23) from Bengaluru; and Muskan Tiwari (24) from Kolkata.

The two injured have been identified as Prerna (22) from Kolkata and Jasnur Singh from Punjab.

In a condolence message on Facebook, IIT Ropar wrote: "We have to share with great sorrow that two of our alumni from 2018 batch, Adarsh Kumar, and Kummara Poojith, passed away in an accident today. The news is indeed more upsetting considering that they had just graduated from the Institute this

May 2022."

Adarsh, a computer science graduate from IIT Ropar, hailed from Meerut and had been staying at a paying guest accommodation in Noida.

His father, Satyendra, an IIT Kharagpur alumnus, said that his son got a campus placement and worked at an investment bank in Bengaluru for a short time before moving to Noida to work at an MNC recently.

"He was a bright student, he cleared IIT exams in first attempt... It is tragic; so many lives cut short," said his father. "We spoke to him around 11.30 last night. We were slightly worried about travelling during night time. He said they will reach Noida by 2 am."

Amit Shahi, Adarsh's uncle, said, "Around 3 am, his mother woke up and thought of checking up on him. When she called his phone, a police officer answered the call and informed the parents of the accident. When they reached here, they got to know that Adarsh is no more."

Police said that Kummara Poojith had completed B.Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Ropar, and he was working as an R&D engineer at an electric design automation com-

pany in Noida for the past two months.

Muskan Tiwari (22), hailing from Bara Bazar in Kolkata, was also working at an MNC in Noida, said her family.

At the mortuary on Tuesday afternoon, her father fainted when he saw her body. Sitting on a bench, when a police officer asked him for a photograph of his daughter for documentation for the autopsy, he took out his phone and opened her picture, kissing it repeatedly before breaking down.

"Her elder sister was getting married in a few months and she had been involved in all the planning," a relative said.

The driver of the car, Deepak, was a resident of sector 70, Noida. His brother, Vinod Kumar, said, "He had been driving for over a decade. He worked as a driver for someone in Noida. He usually did not go for long tours outside the state, but he was asked to take people to Udaipur for two to three days as a favour to the owner's acquaintance."

"He is survived by his wife and a three-year-old child. I spoke to him last evening and he told me that he would be back early morning," said Vinod.

Delhi's food truck policy to be on lines of US, UK

New Delhi: The Delhi government is going to bring out a first-of-its-kind food truck policy along the lines of the United States and United Kingdom, said officials.

Officials said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia held a review meeting with departments concerned, that the food truck policy will be launched in the coming months.

The policy is aimed at streamlining the business and increasing employment opportunities in this sector, said officials. "The government is in the process of final-

ising hotspots where food trucks will be allowed to set up. Food trucks are not new to India but no state in the country has made any such policy," officials added.

"In our roza-gar budget we announced various projects that can foster growth of the economy... Of them, the Delhi shopping festival and food truck policy are two priority projects which will be launched soon. The food truck policy will open avenues for growth of the capital's night-time economy," said Sisodia while reviewing the project. ENS

PWD fails to attract bidders to install LED screens

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AFTER FAILING to attract bidders twice over the last couple of months, the Public Works Department has invited tenders for the installation of 600 LED screens across the capital displaying information about the work and schemes brought in by the AAP government. Officials said only a few companies showed up for bidding and did not meet the terms and conditions.

"We did not get the desired companies for installing and operating these LED screens. It is a big project, so we have floated tenders again and we believe this time bidders will come," said a PWD official.

Through this LED screen project, the AAP government's aim was to inform the public about their schemes and policies including public-oriented information like helpline numbers, Covid updates and protocols, pollution data, social messages, information regarding policies and other relevant details of public interest.

Under the fresh push, the department plans to set up a command control room with various permutations and combinations (individually, cluster or all at a time) of LED screen-wise/location-wise to display information, graphics and films.

The centre will monitor the display round the clock. Officials also said that 86 locations, especially places with heavy footfall, have been identified for the purpose, including Kashmere Gate, ISBTs, T-Junction, Dwarka, Badarpur, Sadar Bazar, and Karol Bagh.

Officials said these LED screens will have in-built video processors and will have auto brightness adjustments. "We also want the same videos and the same content to be displayed across all the 600 screens when they are installed," said an official.

Further, it will be fixed in four models — portrait screen with a unipole structure, landscape screen with a single display, tri-side display and rectangular cluster monitor. Officials said the screens will be installed in three phases.

Can work with central govt for public good, says Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

DELHI CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal Tuesday urged the Centre to keep politics aside and emulate the expertise of the AAP government as well as other progressive state governments to develop schools, hospitals and the entire nation. He also asked the BJP not to call such services 'freebies'.

"I offer the central government to make use of our free education and healthcare schemes; we are ready to work with them for the greater good of the public," said the CM, adding that his only dream in this lifetime is to make India number one in the world.

"This will happen when all citizens become rich. I want to make every poor person rich, and for that, we have to provide free education and health for all children," he said.

Kejriwal said that about 17 crore children across the country



Stressed on schools, hospitals

attend government schools, and many of them are in poor shape with no roofs, broken walls and unhygienic conditions. "We need to construct a large number of schools and improve infrastructure, regularise guest and ad hoc teachers, and provide training to government teachers and send them abroad if needed, so the 17 crore children across the country can get quality education," he said.

"India will only become rich if every citizen becomes rich and powerful. If a carpenter or a

plumber's son gets adequate educational opportunities, he will become a doctor, engineer, or lawyer, and can make his family rich. All developed countries are doing the same, that is why they are rich. Change is possible. All governments of the country along with 130 crore Indians can fix the government schools," he said.

The CM said that 130 crore citizens will skip their meals every day, but will not compromise the education of their children. He also said there is also a need for more hospitals, mohalla clinics, X-ray machines, beds, oxygen and ventilator facilities in the country.

"To provide proper healthcare for free to every person, government hospitals will have to be developed on a large scale all over India. If it is possible in Delhi, it is possible in other parts of the country as well. We observed in Delhi that once you make an investment in building hospitals and install all equipment, it will only take Rs 2.5 lakh crore to provide free health to all," he said.

Three run over by train in Gurgaon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 16

THREE CARPENTERS were killed after being run over by a train on the railway tracks near Garhi Harsaru Monday evening. Police said the men — all hailing from Bijnor in Uttar Pradesh — had gone for a walk on the railway tracks on their day off from work on account of Independence Day.

Police said the deceased have been identified as Saud Ahmed (19), Mohammad Faizan (19) and Mohammad Adil (20). The victims had come to Gurgaon a few years ago, and were working as carpenters at a construction site.

A railway police officer, said, "...A group of five workers decided to go for a stroll on railway tracks on their day off Monday evening. After some time, two from the group returned, while the three victims continued to walk along the tracks." He said they saw an approaching train and jumped across to the other track, where another passenger train was coming from the opposite direction. "While changing the track, they did not notice the second train and were run over. All three died on the spot," he said.

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH
An Institution of National Importance listed in the Schedule VII of the Constitution of India
Advertisement No. 04/2022(T) Dated 06.08.2022

Online Applications, to be filled up at the Careers Portal of the University <https://careers.amuonline.ac.in>, are invited from Indian Nationals (including Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) Cardholders under Section 7A of the Citizenship Act, 1955) for recruitment to various Teaching Posts. Last date for receipt of Online Application Forms is 07.09.2022 up to 11:59 P.M. and the last date for submission of the Hard Copy of the Online filled Application Forms is 22.09.2022. The Hard Copies will not be received after 22.09.2022. The University will not be responsible for the Postal delay.

Detailed Instructions for filling up the employment application forms have been given on Pages 10, 11 and 12 of the above Advertisement.

REGISTRAR

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI
4TH FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI: 110001

Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993.

In the matter of **OA. No. 65/2019**
UNION BANK OF INDIA Vs SHRI BALAJI ELECTRO TRADERS INDIA PVT LTD.
Applicant Defendants

D-1 SHRI BALAJI ELECTRO TRADERS INDIA PVT LTD, THROUGH ITS DIRECTOR
REGD OFFICE AT: H. NO. 190, FIRST FLOOR, BLOCK-B, POCKET-11, SECTOR-7, ROHINI, DELHI-110085

D-2 SH SUSHIL KUMAR, H. NO. 190, FIRST FLOOR, BLOCK-B, POCKET-11, SECTOR-7, ROHINI, DELHI-110085

D-3 H/S PEEYUSH GOYAL, S/O SH GULAB RAI GOYAL
R/O B-117, NEW ASHOK NAGAR, DELHI-110096
ALSO AT: F-304, KRISHNA APRA RESIDENCY, SECTOR-61, NOIDA
ALSO AT: G-24, PLOT NO. 20, VARDHMAN PLAZA, DWARKA, DELHI-110075

D-4 M/S BALAJI ELECTRICALS, THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR SMT BIMLA DEVI
PROPERTY NO. C-107, BLOCK-C, SECTOR-9, NOIDA, G.B. NAGAR, U.P.
ALSO AT: GULAB RAI GOYAL, 579/12, CHANDIGARH ROAD, BARWALA, HISSAR, HARYANA

D-5 M/S BALAJI INDO TRADERS INDIA PVT LTD, THROUGH ITS DIRECTORS
PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS M/S APG ELECTRICAL PVT LTD. PROPERTY NO. 1-31, SECTOR-9, NOIDA, G.B. NAGAR, U.P.
ALSO AT: G-24, PLOT NO. 20, VARDHMAN PLAZA, DWARKA, DELHI-110075

D-6 MRS BIMLA DEVI, W/O SH GULAB RAI GOYAL
A-401, KRISHNA APRA RESIDENCY, SECTOR-61, NOIDA
ALSO AT: 579/12, CHANDIGARH ROAD, BARWALA, HISSAR, HARYANA

D-7 SHARUN GOYAL, S/O SHRI GULAB RAI GOYAL
FLAT NO. A-401, 4TH FLOOR, E-BLOCK, KRISHNA APRA RESIDENCY, SECTOR-61, NOIDA
ALSO AT: B-117, NEW ASHOK NAGAR, DELHI-110096

D-8 MRS RITU GOYAL, W/O SHARUN GOYAL
A-401, KRISHNA APRA RESIDENCY, SECTOR-61, NOIDA
ALSO AT: B-117, NEW ASHOK NAGAR, DELHI-110096

D-9 M/S VISHNU PRIMA ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS
THROUGH ITS PARTNERS SMT NIDHI MANGAL AND SH GULAB RAI GOYAL
C-103, SECTOR-9, NOIDA, U.P.

D-10 SMT SHEELA DEVI, W/O SH MAHAVIR PRASAD, R/O VILLAGE AND POST KHERI
JALAD, TEHSIL NARNAUD, DISTT. HISSAR, HARYANA
ALSO AT: WARD NO. 5, PURANI TEHSIL, RAJGURU MARKET, HISSAR

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal **05.09.2022** at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the **Cisco Webex** application/software;

(ii) **Meeting ID and Password** for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-land Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. drt.gov.in under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at **Ph.No. 23748469**.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 18th day of July 2022.

By Order of the Tribunal

Can increase food price, why charge separately: HC on service charge

SOFIAHSAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

OBSERVING THAT a common man perceives a service charge by a restaurant as a government levy, the Delhi High Court Tuesday said that instead of seeking it separately, an eatery could increase food prices. However, the court has not passed any such direction at this stage, and will hear the matter Thursday.

The division bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad made the observation during the hearing of the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) and Ministry of Consumer Affairs' appeal against the stay ordered on July 20 by a single bench on the guidelines prohibiting hotels and restaurants from adding service charge automatically or by default in the bill.

"That is what a common man perceives. Increase your food price, no problem, because you are entitled to fix a rate for your food but don't levy it separately...", said the court when the counsel representing the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India submitted that nobody thinks of it as a government levy.

Additional Solicitor General Chetan Sharma, representing the CCPA, argued that they were served with the petition challenging the guidelines on July 19, and the order by a single bench was passed a day later.

"It is being made to feel to the consumers as if this is a governmental levy or a governmental tax which it is not. Consumers face embarrassment when they don't pay or are asked to pay, that is the reason hundreds of complaints were received. This [CCPA guideline] is totally consumer friendly," submitted Sharma.

While addressing the counsel representing the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India, Chief Justice Sharma asked about their "right to claim service charge," to which the counsel submitted that the impugned guidelines do not prohibit service charge and "say please add it to the price of food but don't charge separately".

Justice Prasad asked whether a person can be compelled to pay any kind of service charge. "You are the master of your price but you can't then place an additional price that you pay additional charge," he added.

The counsel representing the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) submitted that it is a matter of contract as it is made very clear on the menu card and displayed in restaurants that it will be levied.

However, Chief Justice Sharma asked, "You are talking about a contract. A person who does not know (the) law or an illiterate person goes to a restaurant, you mean to say he will enter into a contract? A person who does not understand law goes for a cup of tea, so he is entering into a contract and he has to pay service charge?"

The counsel representing the NRAI said that here, service charge is not connected to consumers but to employees. However, the court said, "[But] recoverable from consumers? Very much connected with consumers. You are recovering it from consumers".

The counsel then submitted that service charge is an element which goes to those employees "who are back of the house" and is not a substitute for tips. "You increase the salary. We will hear you. Be ready," said the court, while listing the matter for hearing on August 18.

The matter was adjourned as a similar case is expected to come up for a hearing on Thursday. While hearing petitions filed by the NRAI and Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India, Justice Yashwant Varma last month stayed the CCPA guidelines subject to members of the unions ensuring that levying of service charge, in addition to price and taxes, and the obligation of the customer to pay the same "is duly and prominently displayed on the menu or other places".

The Centre and CCPA in the appeal said the guidelines were issued to prevent violation of rights of consumers who were being made to pay service charge by default without allowing them the discretion whether to pay or not.

"PUBLIC NOTICE"
It is for the information of the general public that Sh. Rajinder Singh Sabharwal S/o Sh. Lal Singh P/o H. Nos. 54/1 & 54/2 at Mohalla No. 26, Jalandhar Cantt has given application regarding Mutation in the General Land Register records in respect of House Nos. 54/1 & 54/2 at Mohalla No. 26, Jalandhar Cantt on the land bearing No. 28/3/1908 admeasuring an area 595 Sft. Classified as B-3 land and the nature of holder rights are "Old Grant". As per the General Land Register records maintained by this office, at present the holder of occupancy rights are in the name of Smt. Manjit Kaur W/o Sh. Rajinder Singh Sabharwal. Any person having legal right / title or interest in the said property or any claim or any objection against Mutation in the GLR records in the name of the above said applicant, may file claim or objection to the undersigned against the said Mutation in the GLR records, within 30 days from this publication. If no objection is received within the stipulated period of time, then further necessary action regarding Mutation of the above said applicant in the General Land Register records shall be initiated by this office.

Chief Executive Officer,
Jalandhar Cantt

National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand
(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Education)
Temporary Campus: Govt. IIT, Singpur, Distt. Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand-246174
Website: www.nituk.ac.in, Email: nitukrecruitmentcell@gmail.com

NOTIFICATION

Institute invites online/offline application(s) from the eligible candidates for the filling up of following Teaching/Non-Teaching post(s) and admissions in Ph. D./M.Tech:

Adv. No.6/2022: Professor post(s):

Civil, Computer Science, Electrical, Electronics, Mechanical, Chemistry, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Physics: as per vacancy mentioned in detailed advertisement.

Adv. No.7/2022: Officers post(s): Registrar, Dy. Registrar, Assistant Librarian, Executive Engineer (Civil), Medical Officer.

Adv. No.8/2022: Non-Teaching post(s): Superintendent, SAS Assistant, Junior Engineer (Civil/Electrical), Technical Assistant, Stenographer, Junior Assistant, Technician and Office Attendant.

Adv. No.9/2022: Ph.D. (for odd semester 2022)/M.Tech admission (self-sponsored category). The applicants may refer to the Institute website www.nituk.ac.in for the details of educational qualification, experience, age and last date for submission of online/offline application and other terms & conditions for the filling up of application(s) for the above post(s) and admissions. Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the Institute website. Applicants/incumbents are requested to visit the Institute website regularly.

Ref. No. NITUK/Estt./2022/Adv./039/789 Date: 18/08/2022

I/c. Registrar

EXPRESS
Careers

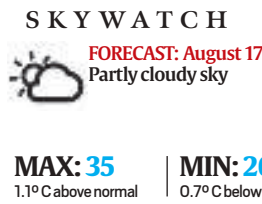
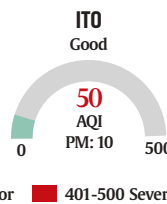
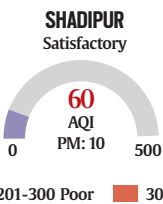
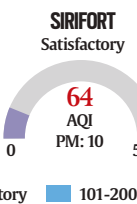
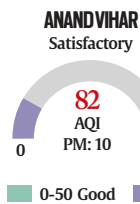
Advertisement No. 93/2022
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of

Director (Personnel)
In
Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. (GRSE)
Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is by 15:00 hours on **03rd October, 2022**
For details login to website <http://www.pesb.gov.in>



New Delhi





BRIEFLY

‘Molestation’
at PG: DCW
seeks action

New Delhi: The Delhi Commission for Women has issued a notice to the Delhi Police regarding an alleged case of molestation of a resident of a paying-guest accommodation in central Delhi by its security guard. DCP (Central) Shweta Chauhan said, “Police rushed to the spot for necessary legal action. However, the woman refused to give a complaint. It is learnt that she vacated the PG on August 14.”

600 Chinese
manjha rolls
seized, 5 held

New Delhi: Five men were arrested Saturday for allegedly possessing and selling nearly 600 rolls of banned Chinese *manjha* at Jafrabad and Bhajanpura. Police said the shopkeepers were identified as Shaukat Ali and Mohammed Daud from Jafrabad and Rupesh Maheshwari, Abhishek Jain and Sanjay Kumar from Bhajanpura.

MCD holds
photo exhibition
on Partition

New Delhi: The MCD has organised a photo exhibition commemorating the tragedy of Partition at Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Civic Centre, MCD Headquarters. It will be open till August 17, a senior MCD official said. **ENS**

250-300 kg of explosives being
placed in Supertech towers every day

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

THE ‘CHARGING’ of the two Supertech towers in Noida, slated for demolition on August 28, is on track to be completed by August 25, according to the team executing the demolition.

‘Charging’ involves loading explosives into the buildings. Of the two towers, charging of Ceyane, the smaller building standing at a height of around 97 metres, is around 80% complete, said Mayur Mehta, project manager, Edifice Engineering, which is carrying out the demolition in collaboration with Jet Demolition, a South Africa-based company. The charging of Apex, second tower with a height of around 103 metres, is 15% complete, he said.

“As per our schedule, charging is to be completed on or before August 25. We are on track to complete it by then,” Mehta said. Plastic explosives are being placed in the building at the rate of around 250 to 300 kg per day. The towers are to be fitted with a



For violation of building norms, the towers are being brought down on a Supreme Court order from last year. *Archive*

total of around 3,700 kg of explosives on select floors, and around 100 workers are at the site, with the charging lasting from around 7 am to 6.30 pm.

In addition to the charging, covering of the adjacent buildings from top to bottom is underway — four buildings of ATS Greens Village and four buildings of Emerald Court are being covered with geotextile fabric to protect them from dust and debris.

Apart from the charging itself, preparation of the towers — breaking up internal and external

walls, drilling holes into the columns for the explosives, and wrapping the columns with geotextile and chain link fencing — was complete by July 25, Mehta said. “We got permission on August 12 (for charging), and we started charging on August 13,” he added. The exact evacuation plan is yet to be given, said Atul Chaturvedi, president of the ATS Greens Village RWA. “Once a meeting is held by Noida Authority to finalise evacuation of residents and timings, that will be shared with residents. Since it

EXPLAINED
Cushion
period

According to a Supreme Court order from last week, “...the date of demolition may be confirmed as August 28 with a ‘bandwidth of seven days’ between August 29 to September 4 to take into account any marginal delay on account of technical reasons or weather conditions.”

is a unique event and we have not seen this earlier, there is some sense of anxiety and we are keeping our fingers crossed that everything goes well,” he said.

Prior to demolition, 736 flats in ATS Greens Village and 650 flats in Emerald Court are to be evacuated, according to the RWAs of the two apartment complexes.

“ATS has four towers within a 50 metre radius of the ones that are to be demolished. I’ve been told the entire ATS complex, of 25

towers and four villas, will have to be vacated. I was also told that vehicles will have to move out. Electricity is likely to be cut during demolition. We have advised residents to cover external units of air conditioners, to protect from dust,” Chaturvedi said.

UBS Teotia, president, RWA, Emerald Court, said they have approached the Noida Authority requesting help with cleaning up the dust that is likely to settle in the surrounding area after demolition. “They have left the evacuation to us, individuals will have to make arrangements,” he said.

Around 50 pillars in the basements of the Emerald Court towers are now being repaired, Teotia said. “Supertech has engaged a contractor to repair. We don’t know if it will be completed by August 25. They are doing it last-minute. Work began on strengthening the pillars about a week back. It should have been done three months back,” he added.

For violation of building norms, the towers are being brought down on a Supreme Court order from last year.

RELATIVE DETAINED

2 women stabbed
to death at Subhash
Park residence

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

A 76-YEAR-OLD woman and her 45-year-old daughter-in-law were stabbed to death inside their house in Northeast Delhi’s Subhash Park Sunday. The women were identified as Dolly Rai and her mother-in-law Vimla Devi. Police detained a relative of the victims Tuesday evening and said it was found during investigation that he had taken a loan from Dolly’s son and could not repay it. “He was being pressured to repay. He was aware of a trip the sons were taking and came after they left the house and killed the women. He robbed the house and locked their pet dog inside a room,” a senior police officer said.

Police said that the bodies were discovered nearly 30 hours later. The family runs a shop selling *puja* items in Chandni Chowk. Dolly was found lying in a pool of blood with injuries on her abdomen and neck, and Vimla Devi was found lying on her bed with stab injuries. The incident took place while they were alone.

Around 4.20 am Tuesday, Dolly’s sons Sarthak (23) and Shashank (25) made a PCR call after they found the women dead.

Sanjay Sain, DCP (Northeast), said: “An enquiry revealed that the sons were in Rishikesh for 2-3 days and returned Tuesday.”

Sarthak and Shashank told police that they tried calling their mother on Sunday but her phone was switched off. “When we came back, the house was locked and mother wasn’t answering her phone. We then took a spare key from the car and opened the door. There was blood everywhere,” said Sarthak.

Around two years ago, Dolly’s husband Alok Rai, the breadwin-



The incident took place while they were alone at home. *Praveen Khanna*

ner of the house, died of cancer. Dolly encouraged her sons to start their own businesses, and they opened a shop. Dolly helped them by doing product packaging at home. Vimla was bedridden and would stay in her room on the first floor.

“The sons left because it was a long weekend and they wanted to visit Rishikesh with friends. We all spoke to Dolly on Saturday. She went to a Covid vaccination camp. I was planning to visit mummy (Vimla). She can’t move around and has difficulty speaking. I’m sure Dolly must have put up a fight. She was brave...,” said Alka, Vimla’s daughter, who stays in Chandigarh.

The family had said earlier in the day that the accused was possibly an acquaintance because their dog was found locked in a room. “Bruno (the dog) would never let anyone enter the house without Dolly’s permission,” said Uma, a family friend.

The house has a surveillance system and the gate can only be opened from the inside. There are two CCTVs — on the ground floor and the second floor. “One CCTV is missing and the other isn’t working,” said Pranita, Vimla’s granddaughter. The family said Rs 3-4 lakh and jewellery are missing. All almirahs were found open.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system
Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S.N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	02221875	ESTI PROTECTION SWITCH WITH CARTRIDGE 130 DEGREE FOR HEATER	367 NOS	09.09.2022
02	02222510	VALVE REGULATED LEAD ACID BATTERY 1100AH, 110 V	218 SET	12.09.2022
03	06225046	M. S. ANGLE-125X85X16MM	100000 KGS	13.09.2022
04	09223085	SYNTHETIC ENAMEL, INTERIOR FINISHING, SMOKE GREY	40290 LTR	14.09.2022
05	06225045	M. S. ANGLE-130X90x10MM	70000 KGS	16.09.2022

NOTE-1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No. 36/2022-2023 Dated: 16.08.2022 2086/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
1st CORRIGENDUM
Tender No. 30-Elect-14-T-22-21-22-E3
Name of Work: Electrical work in connection with provision Centralized Control and Command Center (C-4) at BRSQ Railway Station.
The amendments in above said tender are as under:

Tender No. 30-Elect-14-T-22-21-22-E3	
Earlier published	Amended
Name of work	Electrical work in connection with provision Centralized Control and Command Center (C-4) at BRSQ Railway Station.
Approx cost of the works in:-	Rs. 109.39 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Bid Security	Rs. 2,04,700.00
Date & time of submission of tender	17.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	17.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.

The tender document of above mentioned tender has been modified kindly go through the amended documents available on www.ireps.gov.in and submit your offer accordingly. 2090/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MEGHALAYA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION
No. MIDFC/DP/2022/93/06 Dated Shillong the 16th August, 2022
NOTICE INVITING “REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SELECTION OF AN AGENCY FOR DESIGNING, DEVELOPMENT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WEBSITE FOR MEGHALAYA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION (MIDFC)”

Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (MIDFC) (on behalf of Government of Meghalaya) intends to appoint an agency for Selection of an agency for Designing, Development Operation and Maintenance of Website for Meghalaya Infrastructure Development & Finance Corporation (MIDFC)

Interested Parties are requested to download the Request for proposal (RFP) document from <http://mbda.gov.in/tenders> and submit their RFP in prescribed format complete in all respect shall be submitted in the PDF files. All PDF files shall be either be digitally signed or scanned copy of signed documents. The documents are to be sent to mid_femegh@gmail.com before the Proposal due date and time.

Hard copy of technical proposal shall be submitted on following address: **Chief Operations Officer (C.O.O) Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (MIDFC) House No. LA-56, Lower Nongrim Hills, Shillong East Khasi Hills Meghalaya-793003 (India).**
Last Date for submission of RFP- 20th September, 2022, 15:00Hrs
Phone: +91 8837023352/+7629898737.
For more details please visit <http://www.mbdg.gov.in>

Sd/-
Chief Operations Officer (COO), MIDFC

MIPR No. 801 dt. 16.08.2022

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

NIT No.	16-22-23/WE
GEM Bid No	GEM/2022/B/2434209
Name of Work	Outsourcing of maintenance activities to provide habitable conditions in Sarojini Nagar, Sewa Nagar, Lodhi Colony, Gulabi Bagh, Lalpat Nagar, Nizamuddin, Jangpura Rly colonies in the section of SSEW/HNZM under ADEN/E-III for 18 month.
Approx Cost of work	32810769.62
EMD amount	314983
Completion period of work	1 Years 6 Months
Date and Time for submission of tender and Opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 06.09.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc	Above tender available on website i.e. www.gem.gov.in

128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/16 Dated : 13.08.2022 2085/2022

Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
No. JHS/Commercial/E-Auction/22/13 Date. 12.08.2022
NOTICE INVITING E-AUCTION
On Behalf of The President Of India, The Divisional Railway Manager, (Commercial) Jhansi invites e-auction as per categories given as under:-

Category	Catalogue No	Asset Details	Auction Start	Auction End
Parking	JHS-PARKING 04	Parking Contract for Two wheeler, Four wheeler at different category of Railway stations in Jhansi Division:- NSG-5 TALBAHAT, GHATAMPUR, KALPI, KULPAHAR, NIWARI, RAGUL.	29/08/2022 at 11:30 hrs	29/08/2022 at 12:50 hrs

Note:- Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction Leasing module on IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The Lot-wise details are available therein under the above mentioned catalogue Number. 1061/22 (D)
North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @northcentralrailway @CPRONCR

NORTHERN RAILWAY
1st CORRIGENDUM
The amendments in above said tender are as under:

Tender No. 30-Elect-13-T-2022-23-E3	
Earlier published	Amended
Name of work	A) Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of Johnson make escalators installed at Delhi Main (02 Nos.) & NDLS station (10 Nos) total 12 Nos. for three years. B) Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of Johnson make escalators installed over Delhi Division for three years. C) Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of 02 nos. Johnson make escalators installed at ANVT Railway Station for three years. D) Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of 04 nos. Escalators of Autometer make installed at FOB-2 Ajmeri Gate side & Paharganj side at New Delhi Railway station for three years. E) Round the clock emergency rescue and upkeep of escalators & lifts at NDLS, HN2M & DLI Main railway Station. F) Provision of WEB based real time monitoring system for escalators at DLI(M), HN2M & NDLS stations.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 337.61 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Bid Security	Rs. 318800.00
Date & time of submission of tender	16.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	16.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.

The tender document of above mentioned tender has been modified kindly go through the amended documents available on www.ireps.gov.in and submit your offer accordingly. Tender No. 30-Elect-13-T-2022-23-E3 2093/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MEGHALAYA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION
No. MIDFC/DP/2022/93/05 Dated Shillong the 16th August, 2022
NOTICE INVITING “REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A DIGITAL PLATFORM FOR SUPPORTING INVESTMENT ECOSYSTEM IN MEGHALAYA INCLUDING HOSTING, MAINTENANCE, SUPPORT AND CONTENT MANAGEMENT FOR THE STATE OF MEGHALAYA (SETTING UP OF ONLINE MEGHALAYA STATE INVESTMENT PROMOTION BOARD (MSIPB))”

Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (MIDFC) (on behalf of Government of Meghalaya) intends to appoint an agency for Development of a Digital Platform for Supporting Investment Ecosystem in Meghalaya Including Hosting, Maintenance, Support and Content Management for the State of Meghalaya (setting up of online Meghalaya State Investment Promotion Board (MSIPB)).

Interested Parties are requested to download the Request for proposal (RFP) document from <http://mbda.gov.in/tenders> and submit their RFP in prescribed format complete in all respect shall be submitted in the PDF files. All PDF files shall be either be digitally signed or scanned copy of signed documents. The documents are to be sent to midfemegh@gmail.com before the Proposal due date and time.

Hard copy of technical proposal shall be submitted on following address: **Chief Operations Officer (C.O.O) Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (MIDFC) House No. LA-56, Lower Nongrim Hills, Shillong East Khasi Hills Meghalaya-793003 (India).**
Last Date for submission of RFP- 20th September, 2022, 15:00 Hrs
Phone: +91 8837023352 / +7629898737.
For more details please visit <http://www.mbdg.gov.in>

MIPR No. 800 dt. 16/08/2022 Chief Operations Officer (COO), MIDFC

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Road, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand. Ph No.: +91-651-2225878, e-mail id-pdt.juidco@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Short Tender Notice
NIT No:- JUIDCO/NIT/ Septage/ Chas/Correspondence/2628/494
Date: 16.08.2022
e-Procurement Notice

1	Name of work	Septage Management of Chas Town, Jharkhand - including: A) Procurement of equipments and provision of services for collection and transportation of septage from households; B) Supply, construction, installation, testing and commissioning of septage treatment plant at Chas Town; and C) Operation and maintenance of the above system for 10 years including public outreach activities and collection of user charges from consumers.
2	Estimated cost	Construction (1 yr):- Rs. 1021.77 Lakhs Operation & Maintenance (10 yr):- Rs. 2985.005 Lakhs Total:- Rs. 4006.775 Lakhs
3	Bid Security in Rs. Lakhs	Rs. 40.06 Lakhs
4	Cost of Bid Document	Rs. 25,000.00
5	Time of completion	1 year of construction comprises 9 months of construction and 3 months of defect liability period including one month of trial run and 10 years of O&M post DLP
6	Date of e-publication of tender	17.08.2022 at 16:00 Hrs.
7	Document downloading Start Date	17.08.2022 at 16:00 Hrs.
8	Document downloading End Date	01.09.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
9	Bid submission Start date	17.08.2022 at 16:00 Hrs.
10	Bid submission End date	01.09.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
11	Last day for the submission of Bid Security and cost of bid document	02.09.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
12	Bid opening date (online)	02.09.2022 at 17:30 Hrs.

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd.
PR 275787 Urban Development(22-23)/D

NORTHERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM
Ref: Tender Notice no. 30/2022-2023 dated : 22.07.2022
(I) Tender No. 08195281E due on 24.08.2022 (S. No. 07)
In reference to above tenders, the due date has been extended from 24.08.2022 to 30.08.2022 and description etc has been revised. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. More details is available on website.
The corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in 2087/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
1st CORRIGENDUM
Name of Work : Electrical work in connection with regarding wiring & cable laying work at the Hostel of DTTs Building New Ghaziabad.
The amendments in above said tender are as under:

Tender No. 30-Elect-20-T-2022-23-E3	
Earlier published	Amended
Name of work	Electrical work in connection with regarding wiring & cable laying work at the Hostel of DTTs Building New Ghaziabad.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 17.79 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Bid Security	Rs. 35600.00
Date & time of submission of tender	22.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	22.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.

The tender document of above mentioned tender has been modified kindly go through the amended documents available on www.ireps.gov.in and submit your offer accordingly. Tender No. 30-Elect-20-T-2022-23-E3 2092/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
1st CORRIGENDUM
Tender No. 30-Elect-12-T-2022-23-E3
The amendments in above said tender are as under:

Tender No. 30-Elect-12-T-2022-23-E3	
Earlier published	Amended
Name of work	Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of: A) JOHNSON make lifts installed at NDLS (05 Nos.), DEE (02 Nos.), GZB (02 Nos.), MTC (02 Nos.), HN2M (05 Nos.), PNP (02 Nos.) stations over Delhi division, total 18 Nos. for three years. B) OMEGA make lifts installed at NRCH-03 Nos., TA building-02 Nos., Basant Lane B. No. 242-01 No., P.K. Road officers colony block no. 243/1, 247/1, 248/1, 249/1, 250/1 & 257/1 - 6 Nos and DRM office - 01 No. GM building B. House - 01 No. Retiring room at Delhi Main-02 Nos. (Total 16 Nos.) for three years. C) ESCON make lift installed at DLI Main Hospital, P.K. Road Officers Railway Colony block No. 245/1, 245/2, 246/1, 246/2, 252/1, 252/2, 253/1 & 253/2 New Delhi for three years. D) THYSSENKRUPP make lift installed at P.K. Road Officers Railway Colony block no. 247, 248, 249, 250, 251 & 257 New Delhi for three years. E) OTIS make lift installed over Delhi Division for three years. F) JOHNSON make lifts (08 Nos.) installed at ANVT Railway Station for three years. G) JOHNSON make installed lifts (04 Nos.) installed at CNKP for three years. H) SCHINDLER make installed lifts (02 Nos.) installed at TKJ Railway Officer's Colony for three years.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 234.72 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Bid Security	Rs. 2,67,400.00
Date & time of submission of tender	16.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	16.08.2022, 12:00 Hrs.

The tender document of above mentioned tender has been modified kindly go through the amended documents available on www.ireps.gov.in and submit your offer accordingly. 2091/2022

Serving Customers with a Smile

Govt & Politics



COLLECTING KUDOS

THE PRIME Minister recently lauded the states for cooperative federalism in the fight against Covid-19, and that spirit of cooperative federalism was certainly on display during a key review meeting between the Centre and states governed by opposition parties on Tuesday. During a video conference with state health ministers, it is learnt that Health Ministers from Congress-governed Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh remarked how Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has been working closely with them, without any politics. They also highlighted that by holding these review meetings regularly, Mandaviya has helped Opposition states express their challenges directly to him.

YORKER-LENGTH REPLY

AS BIRTHDAY wishes poured in for Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who turned 54 on Tuesday, one congratulatory tweet, from former India cricketer Munaf Patel, raised curiosity on Twitter. One person asked, "have you changed parties?" Prompt came the response from the lanky pacer, with roots in Gujarat, "I don't have allegiance to any party. I belong to everyone and everyone's mine." Incidentally, after winning in Punjab, from where AAP has nominated former India spinner Harbhajan Singh to Rajya Sabha, the party is trying to make inroads in Gujarat.

SPEAKING OF LAW

SPEAKING AT an Independence Day event organised by Supreme Court Bar Association, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said, "Many people may say Kiren Rijiju doesn't know law. Many people may say I don't have the experience of legal practice or understanding about laws...I feel I have a very clear-cut role to play as a bridge between the judiciary and the executive, and to some extent, Parliament of India. I will continue to play that role." CJI N V Ramana, who spoke next, sought to allay Rijiju's concerns. He said, "More than legal knowledge, your experience, common sense and commitment is important — (and) that you have sufficiently. You will take care and you (will) help the government and the judiciary to uphold the rule of law."

Modi, Macron review bilateral projects, global food challenges

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday reviewed the ongoing bilateral initiatives, including defence collaboration projects and cooperation in civil nuclear energy. During their conversation on phone, they also discussed important geopolitical challenges, including those related to global food security, a statement issued by the PMO said. Modi also conveyed to Macron his solidarity for the ongoing



Emmanuel Macron

France Strategic Partnership has acquired in recent years and agreed to continue working together to expand it to new areas of cooperation, it added. **ENS**

Azad declines post of Congress campaign panel chief in J&K

ARUN SHARMA & MANOJ CG
JAMMU, NEW DELHI, AUG 16

HOURS AFTER he was appointed chairman of the Congress's campaign committee and a member of political affairs committee in the party's Jammu and Kashmir unit, Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday declined both posts, leaving the party red-faced.

Azad, a leader close to him said, felt insulted and humiliated. "He is a member of the political affairs committee headed by (Congress chief) Sonia Gandhi. It is strange to include him in a similar committee in a state (UT) as a member. These are mindless decisions," a leader said.

The development comes on a day the All India Congress Committee (AICC) appointed Vikar Rasool Wani, considered close to Azad, as J&K unit president and Raman Bhalla as working president — it comes days after former J&K unit chief G A Mir quit, following open revolt by Azad loyalists in the Union Territory.

According to a senior Congress leader, appointing Azad as head of the campaign committee of a UT was also insulting. "He had been a minister with four Prime Ministers in five governments; he was Leader of Opposition (in Rajya Sabha) for seven years. A former chief minister, he is in the Congress Working Committee for the last 37 years; has been in charge (of the party) in every



Ghulam Nabi Azad

Congress general secretary K C Venugopal on Tuesday issued the list of new UT officer-bearers. Senior party leader Tariq Hameed Karra — a leader from Kashmir Valley — has been made vice-chairman of the campaign committee, and G M Saroori, an Azad loyalist, its convener.

Karra has also been made chairman of the party's UT political affairs committee, which has, among others, former Union minister Prof Saifuddin Soz as its member. Soz has been made chairman of the manifesto committee and senior advocate M K Bhardwaj its vice-chairman.

Significantly, Vikar Rasool and Raman Bhalla, both former ministers and two-time MLAs from Banihal and Gandhi Nagar Assembly constituencies, respectively, come from Jammu region, and this is the first time in Congress's history in J&K that both its president and working president are from Jammu. The move is expected to step up infighting and widen the wedge between party leaders based in Jammu and those in the Valley.

NITISH RETAINS HOME, TEJASHWI GETS HEALTH

31 Bihar ministers sworn in: 16 of RJD, JDU retains all 11

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 16

BIHAR CHIEF Minister Nitish Kumar on Tuesday expanded his council of ministers by inducting 31 ministers — at 16, more than half of them from ally RJD — and giving representation to all sections of the society.

Of the remaining 15 new ministers, 11 are from Nitish's JD(U), two from the Congress, and one each from former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi's HAM(S) and an Independent MLA.

Governor Phagu Chauhan administered the oath of office to the inductees at the Raj Bhavan. The government, which can have a maximum 36 ministers, now has 33, including the CM and his deputy, Tejashwi Prasad Yadav.

Nitish retained the Home portfolio, and JD(U) also took control of Finance. By entrusting Vijay Kumar Choudhary with the key portfolio, Nitish has marked him out as the most important leader in the party after him at the moment. Bijendra Prasad Yadav, the Yadav face in Nitish's camp, retained the Energy portfolio.

Tejashwi has four key portfolios in Health, Road Construction, Urban Development and Housing, and Rural Works, while elder brother Tej Pratap, Health minister in the previous Grand Alliance government, has been given charge of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



(From right) RJD leader Rabri Devi, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav and HAM-S chief Jitan Ram Manjhi at the swearing-in ceremony in Patna on Tuesday. *PTI*

New and old caste combinations

THE NEW COUNCIL of ministers has a sizeable number of members from Yadav and Muslim communities — RJD's traditional support base — even as the party is trying out a new "MY (Muslim-Yadav)-plus" combination, giving berth to those from non-Yadav OBCs, EBCs and SCs, as well as from upper caste Bhumihar and Rajput communities. The JD(U) stuck to its reliable OBC-EBC-Dalit-upper caste 'rainbow' combination.

For the first time, JD(U) parted with the Education portfolio, which went to RJD's Chandra Shekhar.

The new ministry has three women: Sheela Kumari and

Leshi Singh, both from JD(U), and RJD's Anita Devi.

The RJD included six Yadav ministers: besides Tej Pratap, Surendra Prasad Yadav, Ramanand Yadav, Lalit Yadav,

Chandrashekhar and Jitendra Rai. The party also gave berths to three Muslim leaders: Shahnawaz Alam, son of former MP and top Seemanchal leader Mohammed Taslimuddin; Israil Mansuri, a Pasmamda Muslim from Muzaffarpur; and Shamim Ahmad from Champaran belt.

Among non-Yadav, non-Muslim communities, RJD included former MP Alok Mehta, an OBC Kushwaha leader from Samastipur, and Sameer Mahaseth (Madhubani) who belongs to OBC Vaishya community, which is otherwise considered close to BJP. The two ministers from the SC community are Kumar Sarvjeet from Gaya and Surendra Ram from Saran.

Pilot's jibe at Gehlot over Dalit boy death: 'Something lacking'

DEEPMUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, AUGUST 16

THE FURORE over the death of a nine-year-old Dalit boy in Jalore has further exposed the fault lines in the ruling Congress between Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former deputy CM Sachin Pilot. The Dalit boy, who was beaten up, allegedly for drinking water from a pot meant for his upper-caste teacher, died in an Ahmedabad hospital on August 13.

On Tuesday, Congress leader and former Rajasthan Deputy CM Sachin Pilot visited the victim's family and said cases of atrocities against Dalits were happening "repeatedly" and that "there must be something lacking". "In the future, our brothers and sisters from the Dalit-Adivasi community shouldn't feel that the provisions that we have made for them are weak... Things must be lacking somewhere, that is why such incidents are happening repeatedly," Pilot told the media in Jodhpur before leaving for Jalore.

He also referred to the case of Jitendra Meghwal, a Dalit from the state's Pali district, who was killed earlier this year, allegedly for sporting a moustache. The Gehlot government had faced massive criticism over the Pali incident from the Opposition and Dalit outfits.

Pilot was accompanied by his loyalist MLAs Ved Prakash Solanki and Mukesh Bhakar.

"His teacher beat him and he



Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot

able to achieve this only by making laws and rules, or giving speeches..." said Pilot, adding that there should be no politics over the issue.

Pilot's remarks come a day after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched a veiled attack on Pilot over his frequent remarks that pending political appointments should be carried out and that "workers should be respected and honoured".

"Some of our people... our leaders instigate our workers. 'Workers should be respected and honoured', this has become a jumla. Have you ever respected or honoured workers? Do you even know what respect is, honour is? We know... we became leaders from workers because we were honoured and got respect," Gehlot had said on Monday during an Independence Day event.

Pilot, who was state Congress president for more than six years between 2014 and 2020, has repeatedly said in the past that Congress workers who helped the party come to power should be honoured and respected and should be made stakeholders in the government.

died... what can be sadder than this? We have to send out a message to people from the Dalit community... that we are with them. We won't be able to achieve this only by making laws and rules, or giving speeches..." said Pilot, adding that there should be no politics over the issue.



Rajasthan Congress leader Sachin Pilot with the boy's father in Jalore on Tuesday. *Express*

Under fire, Gehlot gets Cong's Dalit MLAs to rally behind him

HAMZAKHAN
JAIPUR, AUGUST 16

AS RAJASTHAN Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot drew fire from the Opposition as well as a section of his Congress over the death of a nine-year-old Dalit boy from Jalore, a slew of Dalit MLAs from the ruling party came out to back Gehlot, even as they blamed the BJP for "fueling" the row.

Distressed by the Dalit boy's death, Congress MLA from Baran-Atru, Pana Chand Meghwal, had submitted his resignation to Assembly Speaker C P Joshi and the CM on Monday.

In the wake of Pana Chand's resignation, 12 Congress councillors in the Baran Municipal Council also submitted their resignations Tuesday. Echoing the local party MLA's outrage, the councillor from ward number 22, Urvashi Meghwal, told *The*

Indian Express that following her conscience she was submitting her resignation over the boy's death. Her resignation letter stated that "Dalits and the marginalised are being killed simply for drinking water from a pot, or for climbing atop a mare, or even for keeping a moustache. In the name of investigation, the files are sent back and forth to stall the judicial process."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, several Dalit MLAs from the Congress, however, expressed their confidence in the CM.

Babulal, the Congress MLA from Alwar's Kathumar, said that "resignation is not a solution," accusing "upper caste BJP workers and supporters" of allegedly perpetrating caste-related atrocities. The four-time MLA called for a constitutional amendment to impose stricter penalties for "jaatiye nafar" (caste hatred)" and said, "I have been seeing it for decades.



Salman Rushdie. *File*

to the government's position," said a former minister.

With PM Modi very careful about his image abroad, a stern message has gone down the party ranks to not do anything that can catch international attention and "embarrass" him or his government.

For example, the former minister said, many in the BJP as well as

the RSS were keen on commenting on the Chinese military drills near Taiwan, following US Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, but kept mum, keeping the Indian government's delicate balancing act in the region in mind.

Officially, the BJP's stand on Rushdie is that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has already reacted to the attack on him. BJP national media in-charge and Rajya Sabha MP Anil Baluni said the same on the matter.

However, Jaishankar's response at a press conference in Bengaluru last week was evasive. Asked about the attack, he said: "I also read about that... I think, obviously, that is something which the whole world has noted, and any attack like this obviously the

Gear up for aggressive fight in 2024: BJP high command to Bihar unit

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

ON A day when Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expanded his new Cabinet after joining hands with the RJD in Bihar, the BJP central leadership asked its state leaders to gear up for an aggressive fight — Sadak se Sadan — for Mission 2024, during a meeting with the core group members of its Bihar unit at the party headquarters Tuesday.

The Bihar leaders have been asked to take the development — Nitish's exit from the NDA to join hands with the RJD-led Grand Alliance against whom it fought the last Assembly elections — as "an opportunity for the party to emerge as a formidable force", sources said. "We have been asked to put up an aggressive fight — from every corner and every angle. We have to reach out to every section of society," said a leader who was part of the meeting. Sources said the party has decided to strengthen its booth committees in the coming days and there was no discussion on changes in the state unit.

BJP president J P Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh attended the meeting with the Bihar unit leaders. "The new alliance in Bihar is a betrayal with the people and it has given a backdoor entry to Lalu raj. We will have 'Sadak se Sadan' protests... The party will contest the elections under Prime Minister Modi's leadership and



Shah and Nadda at the Bihar core committee meeting.

with the messiah of the poor at the helm, the BJP will win more than 35 seats [Lok Sabha]," BJP Bihar president Sanjay Jaiswal said after the meeting.

Admitting that fighting elections alone in Bihar will be a tough task, party leaders, however, said a robust organisation on the ground will make it easier. "For the BJP, Lok Sabha elections will be very comfortable. Every person in Bihar has seen how dedicated Prime Minister Modi is for their cause. They know that Modiji is also from a backward community and that he is committed to Bihar's development. Every seat the alliance won was because of this trust," Ravi Shankar Prasad, former Union minister and MP from Bihar, told *The Indian Express*.

Earlier in the day, Jaiswal said in the last eight years, the BJP has built individual teams for more than 63,000 of the total 74,000 booths in Bihar. "We have teams for every booth. We are confident that it will help the party to get more than 35 seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, and two-thirds majority in the next Assembly elections," Jaiswal said. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

No ideological compromise with BJP, says Stalin before trip to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, AUGUST 16

THE DMK will not make "even the slightest ideological compromise" with BJP, as there is "no relationship" between the two parties, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said on Tuesday, before he left for the national capital to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Addressing a gathering at an event to mark the 60th birthday of Thol Thirumavalavan, a prominent DMK leader and chief of DMK ally Viduthalaai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK), Stalin, while referring to mention by one of the speakers of his scheduled Delhi visit, said: "Am I going to Delhi for *Kavadiyattam* (a ritual art in South India)? Am I going with folded hands to take instructions from Delhi? No, I am the son of Kalaiginar (as late M Karunanidhi was fondly called by supporters). I am going to Delhi as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to get the necessary schemes for our people from the Union government. The ties between the state and the Union government shouldn't be mistaken as a relationship between DMK and BJP."

Responding to Thirumavalavan's recent remarks that even minor compromises with BJP will dilute the Secular Progressive Alliance's anti-BJP stance in Tamil Nadu, Stalin said: "Stalin will never compromise on values of the Dravidian movement — not even the slightest ideological compromise will be made."

Stalin also said that even minor compromises with BJP will dilute the Secular Progressive Alliance's anti-BJP stance in Tamil Nadu, Stalin said: "Stalin will never compromise on values of the Dravidian movement — not even the slightest ideological compromise will be made."

Stalin also said that even minor compromises with BJP will dilute the Secular Progressive Alliance's anti-BJP stance in Tamil Nadu, Stalin said: "Stalin will never compromise on values of the Dravidian movement — not even the slightest ideological compromise will be made."

Stalin also said that even minor compromises with BJP will dilute the Secular Progressive Alliance's anti-BJP stance in Tamil Nadu, Stalin said: "Stalin will never compromise on values of the Dravidian movement — not even the slightest ideological compromise will be made."

Rushdie has called PM Modi a "highly divisive figure" and also expressed concerns over freedom of expression under BJP regime.

13 THE IDEAS PAGE

Power, a reality check

Failing to fully integrate discom operations in the analysis of state government finances obscures the true picture of loss



ABHISHEK ANAND, NAVNEERAJ SHARMA AND ARVIND SUBRAMANIAN

THE REVAMPED DISTRIBUTION Sector Scheme (RDSS), along with planned changes to the law, are the latest in a series of attempts by the central government to tackle the challenges of the power sector. Power sector reforms are overdue not just for their own sake but also because they are critical to rescuing state government finances.

Excellent recent reports by the RBI and PRS Legislative Research provide lucid analyses of the fiscal situation of the states. Intended probably as a wake-up call, the RBI's report reassured more than it alarmed. To be sure, a few states such as Punjab and Rajasthan had deficits and debt that exceeded the indicative targets set by the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FFC). But overall most states either met both or one of these targets.

These reports highlight the challenges faced by states, owing to the dysfunctionality of the power sector discoms. But failing to fully integrate discom operations in the analysis of state government finances obscures the true picture. When this is done — as we do below — the reality is alarming.

India has made impressive strides in increasing access to the quantity and quality of electricity and in expanding renewable capacity, for which the government deserves credit. But the financial health of the power sector is rapidly deteriorating and flirting with catastrophe.

Figure 1 plots three measures of the estimated losses of the discoms in increasing order of "truth": Headline losses, losses without subsidies and grants, and losses without subsidies and grants and including the arrears of the discoms.

Our estimates suggest that for the fiscal year 2020-21, combined losses of the discoms are Rs 2.1 lakh crore without subsidies and grants which mount to Rs 3.0 lakh crore when arrears are included. These exceed by a factor of 2.7-3.8, respectively, the headline loss of 78,000 crore.

But even these numbers might underestimate the problem. The loss numbers only exclude grants under the UDAY scheme even though there are several other grants. And the numbers only include discom arrears to the power generating companies (GENCOs) but not to others, resulting in overall payables of about Rs 2.4 lakh crore. The true arrears situation will therefore depend on the magnitude, certainty and timing of the discoms getting paid for their receivables, much of which is owed by government actors. The true loss estimate could therefore be greater.

State governments could be staring at losses of 1.5 per cent of GDP just from this one sector. Moreover, as Figure 1 shows, apart from a brief period when headline losses were stabilised in the mid-2010s, true losses have been steadily increasing for over a decade.

The truth is that the whole discom operation — with very few exceptions, notably in Gujarat and in a few urban metropolises — is a giant Ponzi scheme, both perpetrated and back-stopped by state governments.

For over 50 years, costs have never really been covered by revenues, and losses in perpetuity have become a feature, not a bug. Few state government leaders, if any, have even pretended to achieve full cost recovery. The imitative populism that has gripped the states recently makes chronic under-recovery a reality going forward too.

But this Ponzi scheme never sees — is never allowed to see — its disastrous denouement.



BYJU RAVEENDRAN

TWO INTERESTING events happened on the sidelines of a startup conference that I attended recently. I met a woman — a grandmother in her early sixties — who told me excitedly about the online food delivery business that she started a year ago. She had come from Meerut and could not wait to "scale" her "Awadhi chaat" across the world. I also met a 14-year-old girl from Mangalore who was building a "climate intelligence" app to enable farmers to better prepare for extreme weather events. The grandmother and the teenager, put together, captured the spirit of entrepreneurship that is sweeping India. From Meerut to Mangalore, we are building in India for the world.

The relentless rise of entrepreneurial India is a spectacle that is not only astounding developed nations but also inspiring other developing nations to aim higher and build more. Thanks to growing digitisation, the barrier to entry to becoming an entrepreneur in India is really low and getting even lower. It is not surprising that India has jumped nearly 80 ranks

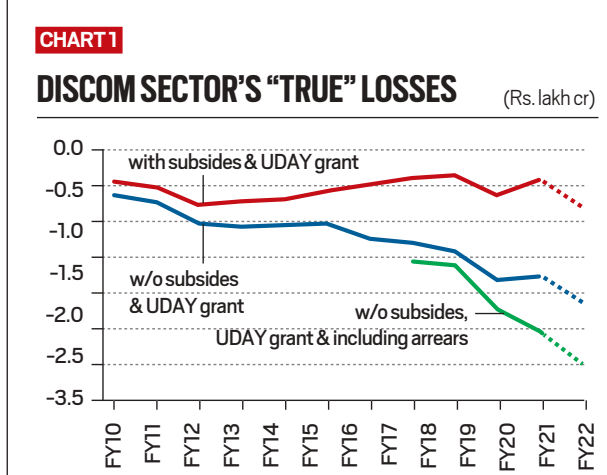
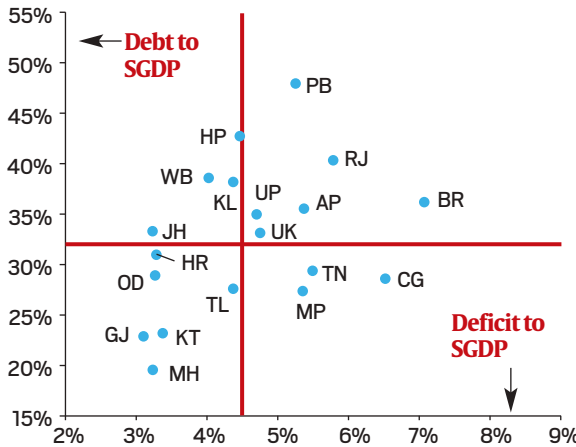


Chart 1: Sources: Performance Report of Power Utilities Report (several editions), Ministry of Power's Praapti portal and responses by MOP in the Rajya Sabha. FY21 figures are authors' estimates based on projecting revenues and costs and incorporating data on subsidies, grants and arrears. Only grants under UDAY and only arrears to GENCOs are included.

Chart 3: Sources: RBI, PFC & REC.

CHART 2 STATE GOVERNMENT DEFICITS AND DEBT IN FISCAL 2020-21 (% OF GSDP)

PANEL A: EXCLUDING DISCOMS



Source: Authors' estimates based on RBI data and Performance Report of Power Utilities Report. Figures exclude northeastern states and J&K. Red lines are indicative targets set by the PFC. Adding arrears (which is a stock) to the deficit (a flow) indicates how much the latter would increase should the government clear all arrears.

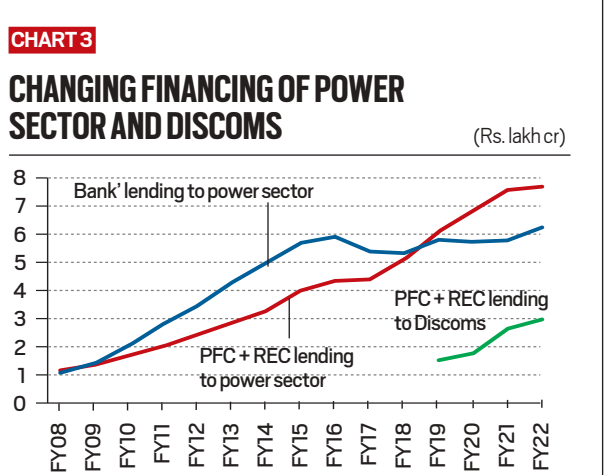
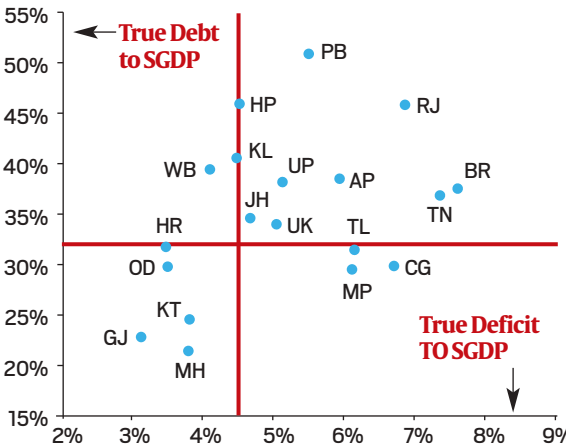


Chart 1: Sources: Performance Report of Power Utilities Report (several editions), Ministry of Power's Praapti portal and responses by MOP in the Rajya Sabha. FY21 figures are authors' estimates based on projecting revenues and costs and incorporating data on subsidies, grants and arrears. Only grants under UDAY and only arrears to GENCOs are included.

Chart 3: Sources: RBI, PFC & REC.

PANEL B: INCLUDING DISCOMS



Source: Authors' estimates based on RBI data and Performance Report of Power Utilities Report. Figures exclude northeastern states and J&K. Red lines are indicative targets set by the PFC. Adding arrears (which is a stock) to the deficit (a flow) indicates how much the latter would increase should the government clear all arrears.

Ritesh Kumar

And there are some truly alarming cases: Not just Punjab and Rajasthan but also Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and to a lesser extent Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It is almost certainly the case that with true deficits and debts being greater, state governments' fiscal sustainability will look much more precarious.

Who then is financing or enabling this Ponzi scheme? Figure 3 provides the surprising answer. Increasingly, the power sector is being financed not by the PSBs but by the two non-bank financial companies, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), which have recently been merged. From 2014 onwards, PFC/REC have lent more to the power sector than PSBs. As of 2021-22, the latter have lent about Rs 6 lakh crore (stagnant since 2014), whereas PFC/REC have lent Rs 7.6 lakh crore, more than doubling within four years from 2017. Moreover, more than one-third of PFC/REC lending is to the discoms. In other words, the next vulnerability in the financial system related to the power sector is PFC/REC.

In sum, the facts presented above illustrate three new realities: The financial problem of discoms is considerably worse than headline numbers indicate; consequently, state government finances are considerably more precarious than even the recent RBI analysis suggests; and the vulnerabilities stemming from the financing of unsustainable discom operations have extended to a new institution, namely PFC/REC.

What are the consequences and possible solutions? We take these up in our next article.

Anand and Sharma are consultants in the private sector. Subramanian is with Brown University and the Center for Global Development

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Washington elites fantasize about crossing China's red line using 'salami slicing' approach, but the existence of 'Taiwan secessionist' regime is the salami that will be eventually cut by history.”
—GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

A workforce less diverse

Muslim presence is declining in public sector and even in the self-employed. They are overrepresented among the unemployed



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT AND MAULIK SAINI

THIS ARTICLE analyses the underrepresentation of Muslims in the public and private sector, state-wise and over more than 10 years. We use the 66th and 68th rounds of the National Sample Survey, called 'Employment and Unemployment', whose data was collected from July 2009 to June 2010 and July 2011 to June 2012. We also use the Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS) of July 2018-June 2019 and July 2019-2020. In each case, the samples are very large — in 2009-10, 122,359 people, in 2011-12, 125,931, in 2018-19, 99,988 and in 2019-20, 100,991.

These surveys examine the composition of the public and private sectors, religion-wise. For the private sector, the category "proprietors" refers to the fact that the persons enumerated are not part of the salaried milieu but "self-employed" (a formula we keep) because if few of them are CEOs, most of them do work that pays less — shopkeepers and artisans for instance.

To make the interpretation more robust, some weightage has been applied. Weight is basically a survey design variable that says approximately how many households in the population surveyed household represents. The weightage associated with one household defines the number of households it represents in the population.

The first two series, the 2009-10 and 2011-12 surveys, have only one public sector variable, while the 2018-19 and 2019-20 surveys account for the bureaucracy and state-owned enterprises. For the sake of comparison between the first two rounds and the later ones, we have bracketed together "bureaucracy" and "state-owned enterprises" and compared these data with the "public sector" category.

There are significant variations between the first two rounds and the last two, even if we see more variations in frequency counts graphs than in weighted graphs — this is because frequency counts represent sample population and weighted data represent total populations. But to minimise the variations, we have calculated average figures for the first two rounds on the one hand and for the second two rounds on the other. As a result, two datasets have been generated by combining four data sets.

The results are telling. While Muslims form 14.2 per cent of the Indian population, their proportion of the public sector employment has stagnated at below 7 per cent (from 6.75 to 6.87 per cent) between 2009-12 and 2018-2020. In contrast, Hindus who constitute 80.2 per cent of India's population comprise about 86 per cent of the public sector. On the other hand, Muslims are over-represented among the self-employed — 16.5 per cent in 2009-12 and 15.5 per cent in 2018-20 per cent, an erosion we see in most states.

In India's largest state, Uttar Pradesh, where Muslims represent 19.26 per cent of

the population, their percentage in the public sector had gone up from 5 per cent in 2010 to 11.5 per cent in 2012, when the Samajwadi Party was in office. But it has dropped to 7 per cent in 2019 and 6.5 per cent in 2020. Muslims are over-represented among the self-employed, simply because they have no other choice but to be on their own. Between 2010 and 2020, their percentage among the "self-employed" remained around 24 per cent. This pattern repeats in Madhya Pradesh as well, where Muslims (6.6 per cent of the population) represented 3 per cent of the public sector's employees in 2009-12 and 4.5 per cent in 2018-20. They represented 10.7 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-12 and 11.7 of this category in 2018-20.

In Rajasthan, Muslims, about 9 per cent of the population as per the 2011 Census, constituted 4.1 to 4.3 per cent of the employees in the public sector. They were over-represented among the self-employed despite some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2018-20. They are over-represented among the self-employed but experienced some erosion in the later years — 13 per cent in 2009-12 to 10.2 per cent in 2018-20. In Delhi, the trends are the same: Muslims, 12.9 per cent of the population, represented only 4 to 5 per cent of the government employees but 14.5 per cent of the self-employed in 2009-2012 and 13.41 per cent of this category in 2

14 EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY

KARNATAKA Man dies while hoisting tricolour

Bengaluru: A 33-year-old software engineer died while hoisting the national flag Sunday in Bengaluru. The deceased, Vishwesh Kumar, went to the second floor to hoist the tricolour as part of Har Ghar Tiranga campaign and fell. Kumar lived on the ground floor with his wife and two year old daughter. Locals rushed him to a hospital where he was declared brought dead. **ENS**

ASSAM Man beheaded over a bet

Tezpur: A man beheaded his fellow villager over a bet on a football match organised on Independence Day, and walked into the police station with the severed head in Assam's Sonitpur district on Monday. Tuniram Madri and Hem Ram bet that one has to pay Rs 500 if his team loses. Ram won but Madri didn't pay, "the officer said, Ram kept on demanding the money and Madri beheaded him. **PTI**

TAMIL NADU Gold worth over Rs 1 crore seized

Chennai: Over two kg of gold worth Rs 1.21 crore was seized from multiple incidents at Chennai airport and a passenger was arrested, the Customs Department said Tuesday. On Monday, sleuths confiscated gold from an individual from Colombo. On August 11, authorities seized gold from a passenger from Kuala Lumpur. The same day, gold was seized from a person from Bahrain., the release said. **PTI**

History-sheeter shot dead outside court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 16

AN UNDERTRIAL in a murder case, who had been brought to Hapur district court for a hearing, was shot dead outside the court campus by a group of assailants on Tuesday morning. Police said Lakhan Singh, 30, had been brought to the district court by Haryana Police; he had been lodged in Faridabad district jail.

Superintendent of Police (Hapur) Deepak Bhuker suspended Station House Officer of Kotwali police station, Somveer Singh, and Kachaheri police outpost in-charge, Sub-Inspector Ramesh Chandra, following the incident. Circle Officer (City) S N Vaibhav Pandey has been removed from his post and attached to Hapur police headquarters, according to the police.

Police suspect a gang rivalry led to Singh's murder. An officer said when Singh came out of the vehicle, unidentified assailants opened fire at him. "As he fell down, assailants ran away," Additional SP, Hapur, Mukesh Chandra Mishra said. Singh was rushed to hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

GOVERNANCE AN EXPRESS SERIES WEST BENGAL

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & ATRI MITRA
GHORAMARA ISLAND
(SUNDERBANS), AUGUST 16

THE COVID-INDUCED lockdowns of 2020 meant that 14-year-old Sheikh Selim, a resident of Ghoramara island in Sunderbans, lost touch with education. His hopes of rejoining school were again crushed in 2021 when the Yaas cyclone wreaked havoc. Both events were financially ruinous for his family and forced Selim and

Opp: Release of convicts 'unprecedented'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AS THE 11 convicted for life in the gangrape of Bilkis Bano, and the murder of seven members of her family, during the 2002 Gujarat riots, walked out of jail on Tuesday, the Congress lashed out at the BJP government. Pointing out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had spoken of women power in his Independence Day speech just hours before the state's remission order came for the 11, Congress leader Pawan Khera asked at a press conference in Delhi whether the PM meant what he said.

Calling the Gujarat government order "unprecedented", the Congress said: "You let off the convicts citing the 14 years spent by them of their sentence, that their conduct in jail was good, and the nature of the crime... If we just consider the nature of the crime, does rape not come in the category that the harshest punishment be given, that any sentence is not enough? And we saw today that those who were let off, they are being felicitated and honoured. Is this Amrit Mahotsav?"

With Tuesday marking the death anniversary of AB Vajpayee, Khera, the chairman of the Congress's Media and Publicity Department, said he wanted to remind Modi again of the Raj Dharma that the former PM had talked about during his visit to Gujarat after the 2002 riots.

PM Modi should clarify if what he said in his Red Fort speech were just words, with no meaning, he said. "Does the PM not mean what he says? Or is it that his own party, its governments have stopped listening to him?... Or does he say one thing to the country and an-

other to his own party's government?" He said that as recently as 2017, the Supreme Court had intervened to ensure Rs 50 lakh relief for Bilkis Bano, adding that this was proof that what had happened with her was wrong.

Other parties such as RJD, AIMIM, BSP, CPM, TMC and the TRS criticised the move.

RJD's Ejaz Ahmad said: "PM Modi made tall statements on Nan Samman and said one should not insult women... but hours later, the Gujarat government allowed convicts of the Bilkis Bano gangrape case to go scot-free."

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi tweeted: "This is BJP's version of Azadi ka Amrit. People who are guilty of a heinous crime have been given freedom. BJP's bias for a religion is such that even brutal rape & hate crimes are forgivable."

TRS leader KT Rama Rao also invoked the PM's Red Fort speech to target him. "Bhashan: Respect Women. Kaam: Release 11 Rapists using Gujarat Govt's power of remission on the same day. Home state of PM leading by example #BilkisBanoCase," he tweeted.

The CPM tweeted: "This is the real face of New India — convicted killers and rapists released. Activist Teesta who fought for justice was jailed."

BSP MP Danish Ali said the contrast between the speech the PM gave at the Red Fort and the Gujarat government's remission order exposed the huge gap between "our words and the spirit of justice". "The world is watching who cares in 'New India'?"

TMC spokesperson Saket Gokhale tweeted that the Gujarat government has released "all 11 monsters who were convicted of this heinous crime" against Bilkis Bano. "Where's the outrage?"



Convicts in the Bilkis Bano case after their release from Godhra jail. *Express*

BILKIS BANO CASE: 11 CONVICTS WALK FREE

Freed, convicts feted, reach home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, AUGUST 16

AFTER BEING granted remission of sentence by a Gujarat government panel, the 11 convicts who were jailed for life in the gangrape of Bilkis Bano and the murder of 14 of her family members, including her three-year-old daughter, during the 2002 Gujarat riots were "reunited with their families" at Singwad village in Limkheda taluka of Dahod district, a relative of one of them said.

As they stepped out of Godhra sub-jail on Monday evening, the convicts were given sweets and garlanded by their relatives. The 11 are:

Radheshyam Shah, Jaswant Nai, Govind Nai, Kesar Vohania, Baka Vohania, Raju Soni, Ramesh Chandana, Shailesh Bhatt, Bipin Joshi, Pradip Modhiya and Mitesh Bhatt. Another convict in the case, Naresh Modhiya, died during the trial.

In Singwad, a nephew of one of the convicts said that "families and neighbours gathered to welcome the men" who sought a "quiet life". "We have nothing to do with anyone... Rebuilding a life and forgetting the trauma will take a long time for all of us," the nephew said.

One of the convicts, Radheshyam Shah, denied the charges against them in the case. "We had been arrested in a case filed in Limkheda during the

communal riots that had broken out after the Sabarmati train carnage. We had been arrested in 2004 when the CBI had investigated the case based on the directions of the Supreme Court and sentenced to life imprisonment. We spent many years at Arthur Road jail and Nashik Road jail in Maharashtra as the case was transferred to Mumbai... Later, we were shifted to our home state and lodged at the Godhra jail," he told reporters.

Shah, who is an advocate, had filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking directions to the Gujarat government to consider their remission. "As per the guidelines and provisions of law, we approached the court to seek remission. We have

been set free by the government... We are very happy to be released from jail," he said.

According to Shah, the convicts suffered "loss and insult" in prison. "In this long incarceration, we have lost many loved ones, suffered difficulties, and even faced insults. Our friend (co-accused) Naresh Modhiya passed away while in prison and it was painful for us. Thereafter, Jaswant (Nai) lost his wife to cancer. Bipin Joshi had a very painful condition in the leg and he struggled in prison. His wife is fighting a battle with cancer. Another convict lost his wife due to kidney failure. Our friends and relatives have helped us a lot and we thank them for it," he said.

Top court to hear Teesta bail plea on Aug 22

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

MUMBAI-BASED activist Teesta Setalvad, arrested in a case of conspiracy and fabrication of evidence related to 2002 Gujarat riots, has approached the Supreme Court seeking bail in the case.

Advocate Aparna Bhat mentioned Setalvad's plea before a bench headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana, who agreed to list it before a bench presided by Justice U U Lalit on August 22.

Setalvad said her appeal was being filed against the final judgment and order dated July 30, passed by the Additional Principal Sessions Judge, City Civil and Sessions Court, Ahmedabad, "refusing to grant bail to the petitioner", and the August 3 order of Gujarat High Court, which had fixed "an extremely long date in a matter which is about personal liberty".

The plea cited the SC ruling in Arnab Goswami case, in which the court underlined the importance of liberty and also judgments where the top court had set a time-line for adjudication of bail applications by high courts. It pointed out that in a 2017 ruling, the SC had said that "high courts are requested to ensure that bail applications filed before them are decided as far as possible within one month and criminal appeals where accused are in custody for more than five years are concluded at the earliest".

Setalvad said, "Both these judgments were not followed in the present case." Explaining her work, the petitioner said she and her husband had left full-time jobs to begin the monthly journal, 'Communalism Combat', in 1993 and that the publication opposed communalism "of all hues" — "communalism in the name of Islam as much as in the name of Hinduism".

Unnao rape: SC to hear transfer plea next week


PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

THE SUPREME COURT on Tuesday agreed to list next week for hearing a plea of the Unnao rape survivor seeking transfer of a criminal case filed by the father of one of the accused in her sexual assault case from a trial court in Uttar Pradesh to Delhi.

A bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices J K Maheshwari and Hima Kohli took note of the submissions of lawyer Vrinda Grover on urgent hearing of fresh plea of the rape survivor. "List next week," the bench said. A Delhi court had in December 2019 sentenced expelled former BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar to imprisonment for remainder of his life for kidnapping and raping the girl in Unnao in 2017 when she was a minor.

A local court at Unnao has recently issued a non-bailable warrant against the survivor on a criminal complaint of alleged cheating and forgery filed by the father of Shubham Singh, one of the accused being tried in the Unnao rape case in a Delhi court.

The transfer plea, filed in the apex court, alleged the "counter judicial proceedings" against the girl have been initiated in the Unnao court with the ulterior motive of propping up a defence in the sexual assault case.

THE CONVICTS AND THEIR ROLES		
		
Ten of the 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano case outside the Godhra jail. <i>Express</i>		
CONVICTED OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND MURDER		
Radheshyam Bhagwandas Shah alias Lala Vakil ■ A practising advocate, purportedly the only lawyer in the village at the time who was also running a bangle shop at Randhikpur village at the time.	Jaswantbhai Chaturbhai Nai, Govind Nai, Naresh Modiya Accused of forcibly stripping and raping the victim. The trial against Modiya was abated as he died. Shailesh Chimanlal Bhatt Victim stated that Shailesh Bhatt snatched her three-year-old daughter Saleha and smashed her on the rocky ground, killing her.	village for around a decade at the time
Kesarbhai Khimabhai Vohania: ■ Witnesses identified him as holding a petrol can in the mob after the Godhra train burning, during the riots at Randhikpur.	Bipinchandra Kanaiyalal Joshi alias Lala Doctor ■ A medical practitioner, the victim's father was his patient.	Bakabhai Khimabhai Vohania ■ Witness accounts had identified him as part of the mob carrying an axe on the day after the Godhra train burning.
Pradip Ramanlal Modhiya: ■ Modhiya was running a shop near a mosque in the village.	Rajubhai Babulal Soni ■ Was running a shop in the	Mitesh Chimanlal Bhatt ■ Brother of Shailesh Bhatt
		Ramesh Rupabhai Chandana ■ One of the two vehicles that had brought the mob of 25-30 persons was identified to be in the name of Ramesh's wife. His wife was also serving as sarpanch after being elected in the Gram Panchayat Election at the time
		-SOHINI GHOSH

In May, SC had asked Gujarat to decide remission of convicts

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

IN MAY this year, the Supreme Court had asked the Gujarat government to decide, within two months, an application filed by one of the men found guilty in the Bilkis Bano gangrape case from 2002 post-Godhra riots. The convict had sought "premature" release from prison, where he had spent more than 14 years following conviction in January 2008.

By an order dated May 13, 2022, a bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Vikram Nath clarified that the government of Gujarat, where the offence was committed, and not Maharashtra, where the trial was shifted "in exceptional cir-

cumstances...for limited purpose for trial and disposal", was the "appropriate government" to decide convict Radheshyam Bhagwandas Shah's prayer for premature release as per applicable remission policy.

The ruling also said that "it has been settled by this Court in" the 2010 ruling in "State of Haryana Vs. Jagdish that the application for grant of premature release will have to be considered on the basis of the policy which stood on the date of conviction". Accordingly, the court said the "policy (for remission) with which the petitioner has to be governed, applicable in the State of Gujarat on the date of conviction, indeed is" the one "dated 9th July 1992".

Eleven convicts serving life

imprisonment in the gangrape case were freed from Godhra sub-jail on Monday after a Gujarat government panel approved their application for remission of sentence, according to senior officials.

Shah had moved SC by way of a writ petition, seeking directions to the Gujarat government to consider his application for premature release under the 1992 policy. He pointed out that Gujarat HC had rejected his prayer on July 17, 2019, on the premise that since the trial has been concluded in Maharashtra, the application for premature release has to be filed in Maharashtra, and not in Gujarat.

In August 2013, Bombay High Court had dismissed another convict Ramesh Rupabhai's plea

for remission taking the opposite view — the Bombay HC said it must be examined and decided as per policy applicable in Gujarat.

Setting aside the Gujarat HC judgment, the SC said, "In our considered view...the crime in the instant case was admittedly committed in Gujarat and ordinarily, the trial was to be concluded in the same State and in terms of Section 432(7) CrPC, the appropriate government in the ordinary course would be Gujarat, but the instant case was transferred in exceptional circumstances by this Court for limited purpose for trial and disposal to the neighbouring State (Maharashtra) by an order dated 6th August, 2004."

The apex court said, "after

conclusion of trial and the prisoner being convicted, [the case] stood transferred to the State where the crime was committed", which remains the "appropriate Government for the purpose of Section 432(7) CrPC".

Section 432 of the Code of Criminal Procedure deals with the power to remit sentences, and clause 7 explains the appropriate government concerned.

"Indisputedly, in the instant case, the crime was committed in Gujarat, which is the appropriate Government competent to examine the application filed for premature release and that is the reason for which the High Court of Bombay in Criminal Writ Petition...filed at the instance of co-accused Ramesh Rupabhai under its Order dated

5th August, 2013 declined his request to consider the application for premature release and left the application to be examined according to the policy applicable in Gujarat..." the top court said.

The SC ruling said that "in the instant case, once the crime was committed in Gujarat, after the trial been concluded and judgment of conviction came to be passed, all further proceedings have to be considered, including remission or premature release, as the case may be, in terms of the policy which is applicable in Gujarat where the crime was committed, and not the State where the trial stands transferred and concluded for exceptional reasons under orders of this Court".



Ghoramar's Panchayat Pathshala. Villagers and panchayat officials help students, who dropped out of school after Covid-19, rediscover their interest in education. *Partha Paul*

of erosion. Migration for work was a common phenomenon here like in the rest of the Sunderbans. After

the lockdown and cyclone, the situation turned from bad to worse. The cyclone destroyed most of the

betel vines and agricultural land on the island," Sagarsaid.

He said the idea for this initiative came from one of the panchayat officials and it was immediately embraced by everyone.

"The local secondary school (Ghoramara Milan Vidyapith) allowed us to use three of their classrooms in the morning before the formal start of school. Initially, the initiative was only for poor students, but now children from all backgrounds are coming to this pathshala," said Sagar.

In one month, the student list has gone from 55 to more than a hundred. The teaching is done by panchayat officials as well as locals, all of whom work for free.

"When schools reopened we went to class 10 in the high school and found that out of 53 registered students, only 22 were present in

class. The students told us that their classmates had decided to discontinue school; some students even left the island to work elsewhere," said Shuvrakanti Jana, panchayat sahayak of Ghoramara GP. "Many students complained that they have lost touch with studies. It was then that the idea of the pathshala came to us."

"We realised that only giving free tuition is not enough to stop dropouts. We needed to create a process by which children would again develop an interest in their studies. So we use storytelling and awareness campaigns," said Jana.

But running this initiative is not easy for panchayat officials.

"My home is in Nadia district. It is far away. Therefore, like some of my colleagues, I stay in a room of the panchayat office itself. Early morning, we teach and then get

started with panchayat's work from 10 am. It is hectic but we are doing something for the children," said Debashish Dhali, who works as panchayat secretary.

The pathshala currently has 10 teachers. Four of them are panchayat employees and others are locals. The panchayat employees teach during the week, while the locals take over in the weekends.

The gram panchayat has 956 families with a population of 4,366. Prashanta Jana, 42, of Ghoramara, who is among those who teach, said: "I have been working as a para-teacher in Ghoramara Milan Vidyapith for the last 16 years. When the panchayat pradhan asked me to join here, I agreed. Even though there is no pay, I like the concept"

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

7 arrested for lynching labourer on suspicion of theft in Rajasthan

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, AUGUST 16

SEVEN PEOPLE were arrested by Alwar police on Tuesday for beating up a 43-year-old man to death on suspicion of theft on Sunday. Victim Chiranjil Lal, 43, a labourer-cum-vegetable vendor, died at a Jaipur hospital on Monday.

In his complaint files at Govindgarh police station, Lal's son Yogesh, 25, said at 4:30am on August 14, his father was relieving himself in the fields when a tractor followed by an SUV and a pick-up truck came to the fields. While the tractor thief allegedly ran away after ditching the tractor, the 15-20 men in two vehicles — an SUV, and a pick-up truck, who were searching for the tractor — turned up there. The occupants of the vehicles attacked my father with sticks, Yogesh stated in the complaint. "When I and my uncles Harish and Shival

ran out upon hearing the noise, we saw one Vikram Khan and others, who left upon seeing us," Yogesh said. Lal was taken to Govindgarh hospital, which referred him to Alwar, and from there, he was referred to Jaipur, where he died at SMS Hospital.

Alwar SP Tejaswani Gautam said Vikram Khan's tractor had been stolen and he, along with his relatives, was searching for it. "Vikram got to know that his tractor is in a particular village. So, when he reached there with his relatives, he did find the tractor, but the thief had managed to run away. Spotting Chiranjil Lal, the men assumed him to be the thief and assaulted him." Apart from Vikram Khan, police arrested Asad Khan, Syabu, Sahun, Taleem, Kaasam and Pola for murder.

Demanding justice, hundreds of angry locals, including some associated with right wing organisations, disrupted vehicular traffic in Alwar on Tuesday morning,

UP: Now, CM's nod mandatory before transfer of govt staff

LALMANI VERMA
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 16

DAYS AFTER a controversy erupted over alleged anomalies in transfers of officers in the Public Works Department (PWD), health department and Jal Shakti, the UP government on Tuesday decided that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's approval would be mandatory in transfer of any government employee henceforth.

Chief Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra issued an order to this effect on Tuesday. In the order, Mishra made a reference to an earlier order issued on June 15 that was regarding the transfer policy of government officials and employees in 2022-23.

The order issued on Tuesday said after the end of the transfer period as per the annual transfer policy for 2022-23, approval of the CM would be required for all types of transfers of personnel of groups A, B and C and D.

According to the annual transfer policy issued on June 15, the transfer period ended on June 30. In that policy, it was mentioned that all transfers at the level of government, heads of departments, division and district level must be completed by June 30 in the transfer session 2022-23.

It added that after the end of the transfer period, transfer of personnel of Group A would be permitted after approval of the CM through the minister of the department concerned.

However, transfers of personnel of Group B, C and D were allowed to be done "in inevitable circumstances with the approval of the minister of the department concerned."

"With the order issued on Tuesday, the CM has taken the



UP CM Yogi Adityanath

authority to take a decision on the transfer of government officer and employee - right from an IAS officer to a peon posted in any department. Also, the order is a setback for the ministers of the state Cabinet and they will not be able to approve transfer employees of groups B, C and D henceforth," said an official in the department of appointment and personnel.

The Adityanath-led government had to repeatedly face embarrassment over allegations of anomalies in transfers on different departments last month.

In July, UP's PWD Minister Jitin Prasada had come under a cloud in the wake of removal of his Officer on Special Duty (OSD) Anil Kumar Pandey and suspension (by CM Adityanath) of five senior PWD officials over their alleged involvement in transfers in lieu of money.

In the same month, Minister of State for Jal Shakti Dinesh Khatic sent his resignation to Governor Anandiben Patel and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, alleging anomalies in transfers and that he was facing discrimination because he was a Dalit.

An official in the department of appointment and personnel said, "All due transfers were to be done by June 30. Now if there will be any genuine proposal for transfer of any government employee, it can be done only after approval from the CM office. The decision will filter unnecessary proposals for transfers."

OFFICIALS SAY JURISDICTION DOUBTS DELAYED RESCUE

Injured wild tusker finally gets help in TN

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 16

AN INJURED elephant stranded in a waterbody near Coimbatore finally received help on Monday night, officials said, after long hours of delay as Tamil Nadu forest officials tried to clear doubts over the area's jurisdiction.

The 8-year-old tusker was spotted Monday morning by officials of the Tamil Nadu forest department near the banks of

Kodungarai Pallam, an interstate stream that snakes through the forests of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The area falls near Anaikatti, a prominent elephant corridor in the region that is split between the two states.

A video of the elephant circulated in WhatsApp groups showed it trying to drink water but spitting it out, which worried experts who said it suggested the animal had mouth injuries.

However, nobody helped or treated the elephant for the

Bengal: 4 undertrials die in 10 days, kin allege torture in jail

ATRI MITRA
GHUTIARI SHARIF, BARUIPUR, AUGUST 16

WHEN JIAUL Naskar (40) talked to his wife Mahrufa Bibi on phone from the Baruiপুর Central Correctional Home in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district on July 28, he told her that he would call her the next day.

But she got no call from her husband for the next five days till she was informed by the jail authorities on August 2 that Jiaul had died the previous night. And Jiaul's is not just the only such case.

In less than 10 days, three more undertrials — Abdul Rajjak Dewan of Kurali, Akbar Khan alias Khokan Khan of Fakir Para and Saidul Munshi of Santoshpur from the district — died in judicial custody at the Baruiপুর Central Correctional Home (jail). The four men were picked up by police in separate cases on charges of preparing to commit dacoity in the last week of July. Their families have alleged custodial torture, raising doubt over the stated cause of their death.

Mahrufa Bibi (35) has not been able to come to terms with



Relatives of undertrial Jiaul Naskar at their residence in South 24 Parganas district. Partha Paul

the claim that her husband met with natural death.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* at her home in Ghutiari Sharif, Mahrufa alleged, "My husband told me that he was beaten mercilessly at the police station and in the jail. His body was full of injury marks. Therefore, we demand a fair inquiry and the culprits should be identified soon."

After Jiaul's family filed a complaint alleging foul play, South 24 Parganas District Magistrate Sumit Gupta gave Rs 5 lakh compensation each to the families and assured a government job besides a probe by the

CID into the allegations.

Mahrufa said, "We were informed that CM Mamata Banerjee talked to the DM and instructed him to give us the compensation besides ordering a CID inquiry. We are happy that she stood with us." The family, however, is in no mood to withdraw the FIR against jail administration. Baruiপুর police station in-charge Soumyadip Roy said, "Since the matter is sub judice, we can not say anything. All I can say is that they were arrested on the allegations of preparing for dacoity. When they were sent to jail, they were fit. We have med-



FLOOD SITUATION IN CHHATTISGARH: A partially submerged area in the state's Bastar district on Tuesday. The state government has warned of floods after heavy rainfall caused rivers, dams and reservoirs to swell, posing risk of inundation to many areas. *PTI*

ODISHA: NAVEEN KEEN ON 'ZERO CASUALTY'

Mahanadi flood situation grim: govt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 16

ODISHA CHIEF Minister Naveen Patnaik Tuesday asked officers concerned to ensure "zero casualty" as the state combats floods in the Mahanadi river system with a number of villages in eight districts already inundated, officials said.

The next 48 to 72 hours are critical for the Mahanadi delta region as the state faces the first flood of the season, the special relief commissioner P K Jena told reporters. "The flood situation in the Mahanadi river system is grim. The next 48 to 72 hours are critical for the state as about 12 lakh cusec flood water will flow at Mundali

barrage near Cuttack and the water level in other connecting rivers will remain at about 10 lakh cusec," Jena said after Patnaik reviewed the situation.

The water level in different gauge points will, however, fall after the peak situation passed in the next 48 hours, he said.

The flood situation in the Mahanadi river system turned grim after the water level in Hirakud reservoir crossed 626 feet against the full reservoir level of 630 feet by 12 noon, Jena said.

There is a major breach on Mahanadi river embankment in coastal Jagatsinghpur district and several on embankments of small rivers.

While putting collectors of 10 districts on high alert, Patnaik di-

rected evacuation of people living in low-lying areas and from places inundated by the flood water.

Nine teams each of NDRF and Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force have been deployed in vulnerable places, while 44 teams of the fire service have been engaged in relief and rescue operations.

The government has authorized district collectors to close schools and educational institutions in the flood hit areas and to undertake evacuation of people from all the vulnerable pockets.

Putting collectors of 10 districts on high alert, Patnaik directed for evacuation of people living in low lying areas and places inundated by the flood water.

ical reports of their fitness."

Sohana Bibi, wife of Abdul Rajjak Dewan, a resident of Kurali village in the district, said he used to work in Jharkhand and Bihar. "He sold chick mats there. He came home for a few days. He was to leave for work in a week. On July 25 evening, the cops took him to the police station. He was fine till he was sent to jail the next day. The same day, he called me and asked to transfer Rs 2,000 to a number via an app. I went to the jail the next day to give him food. But on July 30, police informed us that he was not well. When we went to the police station we were told that he died in hospital."

An official of the state correctional administration department said they have ordered a magisterial inquiry in the matter. "It is the standard protocol. A departmental probe has ruled out foul play in this," DM Gupta did not respond to phone calls and text messages.

Jail Minister Akhil Giri said, "We already ordered a magisterial inquiry as per rules. If any foul play comes out in the investigation, we will take stern action against the culprits."

J&K admin bans 7 news portals for peddling fake news in Ramban

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, AUGUST 16

IN ITS first major crackdown on digital media, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday banned operations of seven local news portals operating in Ramban district for "peddling fake news and maligning the image of government".

The banned news portals include United News Urdu run by one Latief Raza of Sangaldan; VD News (Charanjit Bali, Ukhral); News Verse India (Mubashir Nazir, Ukhral); Current News of India (Zulfqar Bhat, Sangaldan); News Bureau of India (Sajad Ramyal, Maligam Pogal); Today News Line (Parvez Bhat, Rajgarh); and CHRT News, Sangaldan (Credentials not known).

The ban order was issued by Ramban DM Musarat Islam, exercising powers vested in him under Sec 144 of the CrPC, pointing out that "any person associated with the above fake news portals shall be immediately booked under the extant rules governing the subject, if found operating in the district and peddling fake news".

The DM has also asked the Ramban SSP to implement the ban order in letter and spirit and the District Information Officer to "maintain vigil on the operations of any more fake news portals".



नोएडा के अन्तर्गत निम्न कार्यों हेतु ई-निविदायें ई-पोर्टल etender.up.nic.in पर निविदा खुलने की दिनांक को 12.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश की स्थिति में ई-निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस में खोली जायेगी।

1. अल्प कालीन निविदा संख्या टी-24/2022-23 : विद्युत 400 के 0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड, ग्रेटर नोएडा के अन्तर्गत 220 KV D/C Yeida, Sec-24 (220 KV S/S)-M/s Vivo Mobile Pvt Ltd Transmission Life के निर्माण का कार्य। घरोहर राशि ₹0 2,00,000/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क ₹0 7,080/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 01.09.2022। अनुमानित लागत :- ₹0 195.00 लाख। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग उसी दिन निर्धारित समय पर सार्वजनिक रूप से खोला जायेगा एवं भाग द्वितीय (प्राइजबिड) खुलने की तिथि तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। ई-निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताये अस्वीकार/विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउनलोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में कृपया etender.up.nic.in पर लॉग ऑन करें। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण मंडल उ०प्र०पा०ट्रा०का०लि०, 400 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र, पाली, ग्रेटर नोएडा।

राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाये। पत्रांक:- 1499. वि०पा०म०/ग्रे०नो०/टी-24/22-23 दिनांक :- 16.08.2022

WESTERN RAILWAY-VADODARA DIVISION
OPEN 'E' TENDER NOTICE
OUTSOURCING OF MAINTENANCE OF PSI
Tender No. EL/TRD/Tender/22-23/01
Tenders for and on behalf of The President of India are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical Tr.D) Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390004 for the following works. **Sr. No. 1 Tender No. & Name of Work: EL/TRD/Tender/22-23/01**
Outsourcing of maintenance of the PSI (Power Supply Installation) assets and other Auxiliary activities in Surat - Gerapur, Vadodara - Godhra, Godhra - Anand & Anand - Khambhat sections of Vadodara division. **Approximate cost of the work (in ₹) : 3,30,72,950/- Earnest Money to be deposited (in ₹) : 3,15,400/-** Cost of Tender document and completion period : Free of cost. Completion period **24 months.** **Tender scheduled on:** Tender closing date 12.09.2022 and time of Closing at 15.00 hrs. on the same date. **Web page particulars and notice for location where complete details can be seen & address of the office and clarification:** Website @ www.ireps.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical Tr.D) Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390004. (EL/TRD/Tender/22-23/01 dtd. 12.08.2022) **Like us on:** [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

Army Public School, Birpur, Garhi Cantt Dehradun (Co-education, English Medium Senior Secondary School Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi, Affiliation No - 3530215) www.apsbirpur.edn.in

Tender Notice: 021/APSB **NOTICE INVITING TENDER** dt 16 Aug 2022

1. On behalf of Chairman of the school tenders are invited from the high quality Printing Press/supplier for the printing/ supply of stores as mentioned below:-

Job 1	Job 2	Job 3
Procurement of Desk and Chair (Single Seater) for class room	Interactive Flat Panel/65" BenQ with OPS Core i5 processor-8GB RAM, Primary storage 256 GB SSD, Wi-Fi, DOS, 3 years warranty, wireless keyboard and mouse complete with delivery and installation	CCTV Camera with complete accessories and installation charge. Vendor may physically visit the site before submitting the quotation.
Last date & Time of Bid submission 25 Aug 2022 at 1300 hr.		Date & time of opening of Technical bid on 26 Aug 2022 followed by commercial bid.

2. Technical specification can be collected from APS Birpur on 18 Aug 2022 onwards and tender documents including technical & financial bids duly mentioned & sealed in two separate envelopes will be submitted to the School Office stating the name of Job between 1000 hrs to 1500 hrs on all working days on or before 25 Aug 2022 at 1300 hrs. Opening of technical bids will be carried out on 26 Aug 2022, followed by commercial bid opening.

MANAGEMENT APS, BIRPUR

Selection of V-Cs: Draft of Bill to give govt more say gets Kerala Cabinet nod

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 16

THE KERALA Cabinet on Tuesday approved the draft of a Bill that will give the government an upper hand in the selection of vice-chancellors of state universities. The draft legislation will be introduced in the Assembly in the next session.

Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, the ex-officio chancellor of all the state varsities, has hit back at the government move saying he will not allow "any violation of norms". Tuesday's Cabinet decision comes in the wake of the tussle between the Left Democratic Front government and Khan, who has alleged "political pressure" to re-appoint Professor Gopinath Ravindran as the V-C of Kannur University despite the Raj Bhavan having notified a search committee to look for a new V-C.

The committee, as per the current norms, comprises three members nominated by the Governor, the UGC and the university, respectively. The Bill seeks to raise this number to five.

The draft legislation has proposed two additional members in the panel who will be nominated by the government. One of them will be the vice-chairman of the state's Higher Education



Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan (left) and Governor Arif Mohammed Khan

Council and the other an eminent person in the education sector, the draft proposes.

The vice-chairman of the State's Higher Education Council will also be the convener of the five-member panel, the draft Bill proposes. Referring to the Bill, Khan said: "Whatever they (govt) want to do, I am not going to join the issue. But as long as powers are with me, I will not allow any violation of law or norms."

Former Opposition leader and Congress legislator, Ramesh Chennithala accused the government of bearing "a hidden agenda". "CPI(M) wants to bring all (state) universities under the party's control. This will kill the autonomy of the universities. Already, the syndicates and senators of the universities are controlled by the CPI(M), which is keen to illegally nominate relatives of party leaders in universities. The Bill should be withdrawn," he said.

Jalgaon honour killing: Woman's mother among five more held

SAGARRAJPUT
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16

THE MOTHER of a 20-year-old woman, who along with her male friend, were killed allegedly by her relatives last week in Jalgaon for being in a relationship, was arrested Monday for reportedly being the main conspirator behind the crime.

Earlier, police had taken into custody five people, including the deceased woman's 17-year-old brother, who allegedly shot the

22-year-old man from a different caste last Friday. The woman was strangled to death later.

"It was on the mother's directions that the five people took the couple to an isolated spot at Varad road and shot dead Rakesh Sanjay Rajput and subsequently, strangled the woman," police said. Police added that four others — including three family members and a friend — have also been arrested for their alleged role in the crime. Police said the four were involved in destroying evidence.

Corrigendum
Army Public School Kapurthala
Reference our add for Selection of teaching and non teaching staff published in Indian Express, The Tribune and Times of India on 09 July 2022. It is informed that due to administrative reasons interview for the post of Librarian at Sr. no. 6 has been postponed till further orders. **Sd/-xxxx Principal**

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH
CORRIGENDUM
Ref : E-Tender Notice No. P/IEP/22-23/02
Following change is made:-
1. The tender item is at Sr. No.03 Laser System (Laser Lithotripsy) due on 16.08.2022 has been withdrawn due to technical reasons.
All other details will remain the same.
PROFESSOR IN-CHARGE (EP)

PDPM Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design & Manufacturing Jabalpur
(An Institute of National Importance established by an Act of Parliament)
Dumna Airport Road, P.O. Khamarla, Jabalpur-482005
Admission Notice for M.Tech/M.Des Programme (SPOT ROUND)
Institute invites applications for **SPOT ROUND** admission to M.Tech/M.Des (Regular/ Part Time) programme for the session 2022-23. Spot round at institute will be conducted for eligible candidates by submitting online applications from **18-21 August 2022 (11:59 PM)**. Eligibility criteria and other relevant information is available on the Institute website www.iiitdmj.ac.in
Joint Registrar (Academic)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
1st Corrigendum
Tender No. 30-Elect-21-T-2022-23-E3
Name of Work: Electrical work in connection with provision of air conditioners with other allied works in traffic account office building New Delhi. The amendments in above said tender are as under:
Tender No. 30-Elect-21-T-2022-23-E3
Earlier published Amended
Name of Work Electrical work in connection with provision of air conditioners with other allied works in traffic account office building New Delhi
Approx cost of the works in Rs. 50.84 lacs
Address of the office Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Bid Security Rs.101700.00
Date & time of submission of tender 24.08.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender 24.08.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Cancelled due to administrative reason
The tender document of above mentioned tender has been modified kindly go through the amended documents available on www.ireps.gov.in and submit your offer accordingly. 2089/2022
Serving Customers With A Smile

HARYANA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Bays No. 33-36, Sector-4, Panchkula-134109
Telephone No. 0172-2582531; Fax No. 0172-2572359
Website: <http://herc.gov.in>, E-mail ID: herc-chd@nic.in

CIRCULAR
Dated: 16.08.2022
No. 2174
HERC invites applications for Seven (07) posts (04 General, 01 BC(A) and 02 (EWS) of Peons on temporary basis for HERC office. For qualification/pay scale, please see HERC Officers and Employees Conditions of Service Regulations, 2022 <https://www.egazetteharyana.gov.in/Gazette/Ordinary/2022/9-2022/12995.pdf>. and www.herc.gov.in. Applications giving complete details of qualification and experience alongwith documentary evidence should reach this Commission by 31.08.2022 upto 05.00 P.M. The age limit as on 31.08.2022 shall be as per above HERC Regulations. The recruitment for the above posts will be made by conducting a test, if large number of applications are received. The syllabus, number of questions, total marks, date, time and venue of the said recruitment test will be announced later.
Sd/- Secretary HERC, Panchkula.
11900/HRV

16 EXPRESS NETWORK

Talaq-e-hasan practice not so improper, says SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday said it was of the prima facie view that the practice of talaq-e-hasan followed by Muslim men for divorce by saying 'talaq' to the wife once a month for three months, is "not so improper".

A bench presided by Justice SK Kaul also asked the woman petitioner, who said her husband gave her "unilateral extra-judicial talaq" through a lawyer when her father refused to give more dowry, whether she is willing to explore the option of divorce by mutual consent if the question of 'meher' is taken care of.

"We have also put to learned senior counsel whether in view of the allegation of respondent of irretrievable breakdown of marriage, would the petitioner be willing for a settlement by process of divorce by mutual consent on amounts being paid over and above the meher fixed. In fact, we have brought to their notice that dissolution of marriage is also possible without the intervention of the court through 'mubarat'," the bench also comprising Justice M

M Sundresh said in its order.

Senior Advocate Pinky Anand, appearing for the petitioner, said she will take instructions following which the court adjourned the matter to August 29.

The petition by Benazeer Heena, a journalist, said she was married as per Islamic rituals on December 25, 2020, and a male child born out of the wedlock. Heena alleged that she was tortured by her husband and his family members over dowry, forcing her to return to her parents in December 2021. She added that though she filed a complaint with the Delhi Commission for Women and also lodged an FIR on April 5, 2022, police said that talaq-e-hasan "is permitted under the Shariah" law.

Heena contended that all extra-judicial forms of talaq, including talaq-e-hasan are "arbitrary and irrational and contrary to Articles 14, 15, 21, 25 (of the Constitution) and international conventions on civil human rights". She said that the practice "is neither harmonious with the modern principles of human rights, nor an integral part of Islamic faith. Many Islamic nations have restricted such practices,

while it continues to vex the Indian society in general and Muslim women "like her in particular". The petitioner urged the court to declare it void and unconstitutional. The plea also sought a direction to the Centre to frame guidelines for "gender neutral, religion neutral, uniform grounds of divorce and uniform procedure of divorce" for all.

The bench quizzed the petitioner whether she had disclosed the fact that she had also approached the Delhi High Court. Justice Kaul pointed out that the petitioner had sought deferment of proceedings before the HC and got it listed on October 7 stating that something was pending before the Supreme Court. Advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, who also appeared for the petitioner, said they had approached the SC in April.

Justice Kaul then remarked that this is not triple talaq and that "prima facie, this (talaq-e-hasan) is not so improper". The bench said if two people cannot live together, the court grants divorce on the ground of irretrievable breakdown of marriage, and asked whether the petitioner is open to divorce by mutual consent if 'meher' is taken care of.



Fishermen and locals stage a protest against Adani Group's port development project at Vizhinjam, Tuesday. *PTI*

RS 7,500-CRORE VIZHINJAM SEAPORT

Kerala: fishermen begin sit-in protest at Adani project site

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
AUGUST 16

FISHERMEN OPPOSING Adani Group's Rs 7,500-crore under-construction Vizhinjam international seaport firm up their stand on Tuesday as hundreds of them laid a siege to the main entrance of the project site.

Fishermen, under the leadership of Catholic archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram, have been opposing the project, alleging that it has triggered massive sea erosion, leading to loss of livelihood and dwelling area. The Church has stepped in to lead the agitation as fishermen belong to the Latin Catholic community.

Starting from Tuesday, the fishermen under the archdiocese have decided to go for a round-the-clock sit-in at the main gate of the Adani Ports and SEZ Pvt Ltd till August 31.

Archdiocese Vicar-General Fr Eugene H Pereira said the project will spell doom for the fishermen community in the coastal belt of Southern Kerala. "Over the years, fishermen have been deprived of

the coast in the guise of development. Fishermen are fighting for their survival. Both ruling and opposition fronts have shady dealings with the Adani group. The government should hear our voice and address this matter of livelihood and survival," he said.

The priest said 300 fishermen families lodged in shelters don't have basic facilities. "Since the construction of the port began in 2015, about 50 acres of seashore have been reclaimed. The rehabilitation has remained on paper. The port construction should be suspended and a scientific study should be held to know the fall-out of the project," he said.

Kerala Ports Minister Ahamed Devarkovil said the government is ready for talks with the protesters. "External elements are behind the agitation, not the people of Vizhinjam. The sea erosion is not only due to the construction of the port; changing climatic conditions are also contributing to the crisis. However, we are ready for talks with the agitators," he said.

Repeated attempts to reach Adani Group for a comment went futile.

ELGAAR PARISHAD CASE

ED to probe Gadling's link to 'Maoist money during demonetisation'

CHANDAN HAYGUNDE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

SURENDRA GADLING, one of the accused in the Elgaar Parishad case, will now be questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for his alleged role in funding the activities of banned CPI (Maoist), officials said, adding that the interrogations are likely to begin Wednesday.

This is the first time that the ED is initiating investigations into the Elgaar Parishad case which, so far, has been investigated by the NIA and the Pune City Police for alleged terror plots and conspiracies by the CPI (Maoist) to destabilise national security.

Claiming that Gadling was involved in the collection and dis-



Surendra Gadling

bursement of Maoist funds for "violent activities", the ED will record his statement in Talaja Central Jail between August 17 and 19, sources said, adding that properties in the name of Gadling and his wife are also under ED scanner.

Elgaar Parishad was an event held in Pune on December 31, 2017, a day ahead of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Koregaon Bhima, during which violent clashes had taken place. One person had died and several

others had been injured in the clashes.

Pune police had said speeches made at the Elgaar Parishad event are among the factors that played a role in inciting violence the following day, and had arrested several people alleged to have helped in organising the event on charges of having links with the banned CPI (Maoist). The investigation later expanded to probe the wider network of Naxal sympathisers and their role in funding and helping CPI (Maoist). Two years later, the investigations were taken over by the NIA.

Gadling, a Nagpur-based lawyer, was among the first to be arrested by the Pune City Police in June 2018. Later, many more high-profile arrests, including those of Sudha Bharadwaj,

Gautam Navlakha and P Varavara Rao, were made in this case.

Last week, the ED received the go-ahead from the special NIA court in Mumbai to record Gadling's statement in connection with a money laundering case it had filed against him and "other accused" in March last year. The ED has mostly relied on the documents procured by the Pune City Police, which link Gadling to funding activities of the CPI (Maoist). Gadling has denied these allegations. The documents claim to show that Gadling had received large sums of money during the demonetisation drive, and had facilitated 'hawala' transactions with a 'CC comrade', a reference to some high functionary of the CPI (Maoist).

'Vulgar' songs played at IIT-BHU after flag hoisting, probe ordered

Lucknow: An inquiry panel has been set up at IIT-BHU after a video of some students dancing to "objectionable" songs after the flag-hoisting ceremony on Independence Day surfaced on social media.

The alleged incident happened at the institute's Gymkhana ground where the flag hoisting happened at 9:30 am on Monday after which some students played "objectionable" [Bhojpuri] songs.

IIT-BHU Registrar Rajan Srivastava said, "We came to know of some objectionable behaviour through media. We have constituted an internal committee to look into the allegations."

The committee will submit a report to the director within two weeks. **ENS**

UP clears plan to replace jail manual from British era

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 16

IN A major step towards prison reforms, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet on Tuesday cleared a proposal to replace Uttar Pradesh Prison Manual [1941] of pre-Independence era, with the Uttar Pradesh Prison Manual 2022.

According to sources, the new manual would ensure a well-equipped armed force along with state-of-the-art anti-riot equipment at prisons, apart from better grooming, food and health facilities for inmates as well as allowing children to live inside jails with their mothers till the age of 6.

The UP Jail Manual 2022 proposes creche, proper education, medical, vaccination for children aged between three years to six years of age living with women prisoners in jail. It also proposes admission of such children from the ages four to six to any educational institute outside the jail after obtaining their mother's consent.

A provision has also been made to provide sanitary napkins to women prisoners and special medical facilities to pregnant prisoners.

In case of death of any blood relative or spouse of the prisoner, arrangement has been made to allow "antim darshan". A deputy jailor level officer in each prison will be designated as prison welfare officer who, along with the superintendent and jailor, will be responsible for ensuring smooth implementation of welfare, care and rehabilitation programmes. Minister of State for Prisons, Dharamveer Prajapati informed that unlike in the past, when prisons were defined with the kind of town that they were in, now the prisons would be categorised based on the strength of the prisoner. Adding that some of the provisions of the previous manual that were "outdated", such as those on imprisonment of prisoners from royal family, prisoners from Nepal, Bhutan, Kashmir etc, would not be in the new manual.

POLICE EXAM SCAM

Court rejects bail plea of cop who headed recruitment cell

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, AUGUST 16

A SESSIONS court in Bengaluru on Tuesday rejected the bail plea of senior Karnataka State Police officer Amrit Paul, who was arrested for his involvement in the police recruitment scam, stating that the officer "prima facie had not carried out his responsibility for conducting a fair recruitment process for selection of the police sub-inspectors in Karnataka state, who are responsible for maintaining law and order in the state".

The sessions court has also referred to a recent Karnataka HC judgement which called the police recruitment scam "an act of terror on society" while rejecting the bail claim of Amrit Paul, 56, an IPS officer of the rank of Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), who headed the police recruitment cell from 2019-22.

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

Paul was arrested on July 4 allegedly for facilitating a scam in a recruitment exam held in October 2021 to select 545 police SIs out of 54,287 candidates. As many as 30 candidates in Bengaluru are alleged to have paid between Rs 30 lakh to Rs 85 lakh to middlemen for selection as sub-inspectors by rigging their answer-sheets in an exam. Based on a statement given by a former DSP in the recruitment cell, Shanta Kumar, the CID alleged during court hearings that Paul received Rs 5 crore as kickbacks for facilitating the scam.



CCTV grab of the IED being planted under the vehicle. *Express*

They recovered the IED and its forensic investigation is being done."

Dilbag Singh said, "Due to the timely sighting of the bomb by the boy, who came to wash the car, the explosion was averted. The bomb disposal squad has taken possession of the IED."

No arrests have been made so far, a police official said,

adding the persons who planted the explosive are yet to be identified. It is also not clear whether this is a case of personal enmity or whether it was a conspiracy to create an atmosphere of fear, the official added. An FIR has been registered.

Police said investigation was underway to trace the men who planted the explosive material.

MINISTER'S AUDIO CLIP ROW

Comments made in specific context, everything all right in govt, says CM Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, AUGUST 16

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday

sought to underplay the comments purportedly made by a senior minister in his Cabinet that the "government is non-functional and merely managing things", saying that it was made in a specific context to the cooperative sector. He said that "everything else is all right" in the government.

"He has said it in a different context. I have spoken to him. There is no need to misunderstand. Three months ago, he made the comments with respect to something in the co-operative department. The remark was restricted to this alone and every-



Basavaraj Bommai

thing else is alright," Bommai told reporters on Tuesday.

A controversy erupted when an audio recording linked to Law Minister J C Madhuswamy surfaced wherein he purportedly is saying that there is no functioning government in the state. The audio clip of a conversation between the Madhuswamy and social worker Bhaskar also indicated differences among ministers.

The audio clip was posted on social media by the Karnataka unit of the Congress party in which the social worker is heard complaining of officials of the VSSN Co-operative Bank demanding Rs 1,300

completed a "Beta phase" over the past six months, taking 20 carefully-vetted young fellows on board and pairing them with grandpals from Mumbai.

Over the next few months, Naidu plans to expand the project within Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Bangalore. Goodfellows will also offer travel companionship to senior citizens who hesitate to take trips.

At the launch, Tata said, "I salute this effort that gives one's time to make another person's happiness more secure, without expecting anything in return. I salute the fellows who are doing this, but don't have to do it; a

Designed to connect the fellows to senior citizens as youth companions, and recreate the bond between grandparents and grandchildren, Goodfellow will do whatever a grandchild would do, according to Naidu.

"Whether it is accompanying the seniors for grocery shopping or doctors' appointments, outings and walks, teaching them how to use various technology, or sharing a conversation over tea, our fellows are there for it all," he added.

While the programme was formally launched at the hands of Ratan Tata in Cuff Parade in south Mumbai on Monday, Goodfellows has successfully



Ratan Tata at the launch in Mumbai, Tuesday. *Ganesh Shirsekhar*

appointment one afternoon, and she later introduced me to a new-age pastry shop, where we had a

small snack and returned home. I may just become a regular member of it now," Dutta said.

Start-up backed by Ratan Tata to empower senior citizens

EESHANPRIYAMS
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16


VISITING A bakery, coffee shop or movie theatre seemed like a far-fetched idea for 74-year-old Prithwis Datta, who lives alone in Mumbai. However, over the last six months, these outings have become a part of his life, thanks to a "grandpal", who got introduced to him through Goodfellows, a start-up that helps senior citizens find empathetic young companions.

Based on the idea of making grandpals by nurturing fulfilling friendships between young grad-

uates and senior citizens – through a fellowship aimed at providing meaningful companionship to senior citizens who live alone – the Goodfellows start-up was launched in Mumbai on Monday by Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons.

The start-up has been founded by Shantanu Naidu, a close mentee of Tata and a general manager in his office. Tata has even provided seed capital for the start-up.

"No one should have to go to a doctor alone. Company gives you the security of sharing that experience with someone. My grandpal and I visited the doctor for my



Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, (Patiala)
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact Number: 96461-17609, 96461-17732)

03/ FE&T/GHTP/FM-2A-1

Dated: 05.08.2022

SE/FE&T, Guru Hargobind Thermal Plant, Lehra Mohabbat, invites E-tender for: Transportation of 1000 KL Light Diesel Oil (LDO) from Mathura Depot of M/s BPCL/ HPCL/IOCL to GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat.
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 05.08.2022 from 17.00 Hrs. onwards.
NOTE: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in.

GHTP-43/22

16350/Pb



NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
Tender Notice No. AGC-ELG-T-13-2022-23 Date: 13-08-2022
E - Tendering Tender Notice

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) N.C. Railway, Agra on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on line only (E-Tendering) for the following works.

Sr.No.	Tender No.	AGC-ELG-T-13-2022-23
1.	Name of work with its location & completion Period	Provision of 03 Nos Passengers lifts at Agra Division. Completion period 12 Months
2.	Approx. Cost of the work	₹15233666.07

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.iimps.gov.in Tenders can only be submitted through web portal www.iimps.gov.in up to 16:00 hrs. on 07-09-2022.

1065/22(DG)

North central railways @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ northcentralrailway@ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPNCR@ncr.indianrailways.gov.in




GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF Department	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE Department	MODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R PANIPAT	BRINGING TO DESIGN SECTION OF JOINDHAN KHURD DRAIN FROM RD 6200-11500 FOR SEPARATION OF DRAIN FROM VILLAGE POND & ABAQI AND TO PROTECT THE CROPS/LAND FROM WASTER WATER IN VILLAGE ISRANA + 5 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 29.08.2022	596 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9466159501 xenpwsdv@yahoo.in
2	PWD B&R FARIDABAD	CONSTRUCTION OF 3 NOS HELIPAD FOR LANDING OF HELICOPTER OF HONBLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA SHRI NARENDRA MODI ON THE EVE OF INAUGURATION OF AMRITA HOSPITAL IN SECTOR 66 FARIDABAD DISTRICT ON DATED 24.08.2022	12.08.2022 17.08.2022	24.66 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9911723767 pws-edpl-faridabad@hry.nic.in
3	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF GENERAL CHLOPHI, PHALL ROOM AT VILLAGE PLASRA BLOCK MORNI DISTRICT PANCHKULA + 15 OTHER WORKS	16.08.2022 30.08.2022	68.77 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
4	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF STREET/ RASTA VILLAGE TINKAR, BLOCK MORNI DISTRICT PANCHKULA	16.08.2022 23.08.2022	5.12 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
5	PANCHAYATI RAJ REWARI	CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT WORK DISTT. REWARI	17.08.2022 30.08.2022	100.52 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416421261 prexeeng.rwr@hry.nic.in
6	PANCHAYATI RAJ AMBALA	VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN VILLAGE BHUKHARI, BAROLI KALAN BLOCK HARANGARH DISTT. AMBALA+ 6 OTHER WORKS	12.08.2022 26.08.2022	103.57 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01712551368 prexeeng.amb@hry.nic.in
7	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF ONE STOP CENTRE DOUBLE STOREY SECTOR-16, PANCHKULA	16.08.2022 23.08.2022	5.29 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
8	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF VETRY. DISPENSARY AT VILLAGE MORNI BHOU JASVAL, BLOCK MORNI, DISTRICT PANCHKULA	19.08.2022 02.09.2022	9.27 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
9	PANCHAYATI RAJ SONPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF DRAIN BOTH SIDE OF MAIN ROAD FROM LAHERI TO GANJUR AT VILLAGE LAHERI KHURD & 113 NOS OTHERS WORKS IN DISTT. SONPAT (RE-TENDER)	16.08.2022 22.08.2022	18.59 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416431006 prexeeng.srp@gmail.com
10	PANCHAYATI RAJ KARNAUL	1 WORK CONST. OF BIVALL IN FRACHIN WALA KHA IN VILLAGE PANGHALA AND 10 OTHER WORKS	10.08.2022 27.08.2022	158.81 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813825200 prexeeng.kf@hry.nic.in
11	PANCHAYATI RAJ PALWAL	1 NO OF WORK MANAGEMENT & TREATMENT OF GRAY WATER UNDER SBM G PHASE-II AT VILLAGE BEHROLA BLOCK HODAL DISTT PALWAL	16.08.2022 23.08.2022	36.74 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8168399369 prexeeng.pwl@hry.nic.in
12	PANCHAYATI RAJ HISAR	RE TENDER FOR CONST. OF WALA FROM HOUSE OF KARMUR SON OF PULLU TO CHANAD WALA POND AT VILLAGE BHATOL JATAN BLOCK HANSI 2 + 14 OTHER WORKS	16.08.2022 05.09.2022	3.75 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416498853 prexeeng.shr@hry.nic.in
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ SIRSA	CONST. OF R/WALL OF MID POND AT VILLAGE GUDIA KHERRA BLOCK NUCHORTA, DISTRICT SIRSA AND 5 NOS OTHER WORKS	28.07.2022 19.08.2022	46.37 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-247479 prexeeng.srs@hry.nic.in
14	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA REWARI	REQUIREMENT OF ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTS AND CONTINGENCY ITEMS FOR PUMP HOUSES + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 22.08.2022	EMD 11900/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274268963 xenmedh@yahoo.com
15	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF 100 NOS. OF PIEZOMETERS WITH PLATFORM AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS IN HARYANA UNDER NHP FOR GROUND WATER MONITORING PHASE-III	13.08.2022 12.09.2022	EMD 474759/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01732560080 xen.nhp@gmail.com
16	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF 100 NOS. OF PIEZOMETERS WITH PLATFORM AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS IN HARYANA UNDER NHP FOR GROUND WATER MONITORING PHASE-II	13.08.2022 12.09.2022	EMD 467221/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01722560080 xen.nhp@gmail.com
17	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA REWARI	DEWATERING OF FIELD AREA OF SURAH-PUR VILLAGE THROUGH 600 MM DIA PIPELINE THROUGH PUMPING INTO RATTANTHAL LINK CHANNEL AT RD 3.600-L	CLOSING DATE 22.08.2022	3.01 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9255636363 xenwsdwmr1@gmail.com
18	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA REWARI	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PUMP HOUSE AT K.M. 14.750-L OF JIN CANAL AND RENOVATION OF PUMP HOUSE AT K.M. 0.000 OF JATUSANA DRAIN + 2 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 22.08.2022	67.01 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9255636363 xenwsdwmr1@gmail.com
19	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA HISAR	PROVIDING AND FINEING GATE AND GEARING AT HEAD OF SINALI DITCH DISTY. AT RD 50000, KISHANGARH SUB BRANCH +1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 24.08.2022	123.15 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662230030 xenwsdwmr1@gmail.com
20	FORESTS DEPARTMENT HARYANA JIND	P&F 1PB BLOCK IN CAMPUS OF DFO RESIDENCE AT JIND DISTRICT	11.08.2022 22.08.2022	4.07 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01661259458 dfojind2006@rediffmail.com
21	HEALTH DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANIPAT	FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINES, CONSUMABLES AND LABORATORY ITEMS FOR ALL HEALTH INSTITUTES IN DISTRICT PANIPAT	17.08.2022 04.09.2022	EMD 50000/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01802630275 dpanpat@gmail.com
22	HEALTH DEPARTMENT HARYANA BHALLAR	TENDER FOR E RICKSHAW HIRING	13.08.2022 26.08.2022	EMD 30000/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7015997456 DAMUHAJUR@GMAIL.COM

11896/HRY

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



THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD., SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812, 66

Notice Inviting Tender

www.verka.coop

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

Sr. No	Name of the Work	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tenders	Last Date & Time for Submission of e-tenders	Date & Time for opening of e-tenders
1	E-Tenders are invited for sale of the unserviceable material on Annual Rate Contract basis.	Annual	Verka Ludhiana Dairy Ph. 0161-5203300, 5203381, 5203305, 5203324, 5203338, 5203350, 5203353.	500/-	50,000/-	24.08.2022	05.09.2022 up to 12.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 09.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
2	E-Tenders are invited for sale of the unserviceable material for One Time basis.	One Time basis	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	24.08.2022	05.09.2022 up to 12.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:30 AM Financial bid 09.09.2022 at 11:30 AM
3	Job Contract for packing of milk, lassi, dahi in pouches and cleaning of trays	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	100,000/-	20.08.2022 from 10.00 AM	05.09.2022 up to 01.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 13.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
4	Supply of Veterinary Medicines at Verka Ludhiana Dairy.	Annual Rate Contract.	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	20.08.2022 from 11:00 AM	05.09.2022 up to 01.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 13.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
5	Job Contract for operation and maintenance of pouch filling machines and tray washer including coding on pouches.	Annual Rate Contract.	-do-	500/-	100,000/-	20.08.2022 from 10.00 AM	05.09.2022 up to 01.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:30 AM Financial bid 13.09.2022 at 11:30 AM
6	Grooves 62.5 KVA Silent Gen Set 3 Phase with STD Panel	01 Pc	Verka Patiala Dairy Ph. 94170-29281, 94170-29018	100/-	200,000/-	22.08.2022	12.09.2022 up to 12.00 PM	Technical bid 06.09.2022 at 11:00 AM Financial bid 13.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
7	e-Tender for Hiring of Vehicles (3.0 MT, 5.0 MT, 8.0 MT and 15.0 MT) for supplying of Milk Products in the Punjab and Other states	01	Verka Amritsar Dairy Ph. 73555-48163, 73555-99892	-	50,000/- each tender	20.08.2022 from 11:00 AM	05.09.2022 up to 04.00 PM	06.09.2022 at 12:00 PM
8	Loading/Unloading of Verka milk & milk products corrugated boxes, sugar bags.	01.10.2022 to 30.09.2023 (one year)	Verka Mega Dairy, Bassi Pathana, Distt. Ferozgarh Sahib. Ph. 97818-26333	1000/-	10,000/-	22.08.2022 from 02.00 PM	02.09.2022 up to 11.59 AM	Technical bid 02.09.2022 at 02.00 PM
9	Repair & Modification of Milk Siles (Cap: 60 KL) as per technical specifications as bid down in tender document.	04 Nos.	Verka Jalandhar Dairy Ph. 73555-58749, 73556-01750	500/-	100,000/-	22.08.2022 from 03.00 PM	05.09.2022 up to 2.00 PM	06.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
10	Hiring of Seven Seater AC Car Bolero Color White Model 2020	01 No.	Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Bhatian (Khanna) Ph No. 01628-521450	200/-	5,000/-	18.08.2022 from 01:00 PM	29.08.2022 up to 12.30 PM	29.08.2022 at 2:00 PM

For SPP, Bassi Pathana

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in. Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Incharge (Purchase)

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM
THE INDIAN EXPRESS, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

HIMACHAL PRADESH COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT (HIMCOSTE)
Block 34, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9
0177- 2622490 Fax: 2620998, website: himcoste.hp.gov.in
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Request for Proposal (RFP) are invited for Operation, Management and Maintenance of the Centre for Science Learning and Creativity (CSLC) at Shimla, H. P. from Science Museums/Science Centres/ Universities recognized by University Grants Commission/ societies/ agencies, working in the field of science promotion with such entities registered under the applicable law of India. Interested Bidders may submit their Bid to HIMCOSTE on or before September 19, 2022, upto 4:00 P.M. IST. The terms and conditions along with a detailed RFP document are available on our official website www.himcoste.hp.gov.in. Interested Bidders are invited to attend the pre-bid meeting which shall be held on August 31, 2022 at 11.00 A.M. IST in the office of Member Secretary HIMCOSTE. For further updates, please visit website periodically as all updates shall be posted on website only.

0378/HP

JOINT MEMBER SECRETARY



1X660MW PANKI EXTENSION PROJECT, PANKI, KANPUR
UTTAR PRADESH RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.

E-Tender Notice
Bids are hereby invited for all mentioned E-Tenders. Details of Tender Notice as well as Total quantity of work, Tender Specifications, Other terms & conditions available on our Web Site: www.uprvnl.org/ e-tender portal www.etender.up.nic.in. Tendering authority reserves the right to cancel any or all e-bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any, shall be uploaded on the E-Tender website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time.

1. E-Tender – ET-02/PTEP/SE(CIVIL)/CCD-III/2022-2023,
Work of maintenance of parks in officers colony, GM office and hospital at PTEP, Panki. **Estimated Cost: 9,74,000.00,**
Tender Fee: 590.00, Earnest Money: 19,500/-, O P E N I N G DATE OF E-TENDER: 05.09.2022
website: www.uprvnl.org EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
पत्रांक : 21 / 1x660MW पानकी विस्तार / मुद्राशिम / सीपीएनडी / विद्युत पानकी 11.08.2022
"SAVE ELECTRICITY FOR THE NATION"



Department of Tourism
Old Secretariat, Patna-800015
Email - directortourismbihar@gmail.com
Tel: +91 0612 2217045
SHORT TENDER NOTICE

APPOINTMENT OF AGENCY TO MANAGE BIHAR TOURISM FOOD COUNTER AT CENTRAL VISTA AVENUE, NEW DELHI

NIT. No: TDRT/50020/04-2022/13


1 DOT invites bids from eligible experienced appointment of agency to manage Bihar Tourism food counter at Central Vista Avenue.

2	Place & Date of Pre-bid meeting	Date: 23.08.2022 Time 3.00 PM, Directorate of Tourism, Old Secretariat, Patna-800015
3	Last date and time for receipt of bids	Date 30.08.2022; 3:00 PM
4	Time and Date of opening of technical bids	Date: 30.08.2022, 4.00 PM
5	Time and Date of financial bids	To be Communicated later on
6	Period of bids validity	90 days
7	Officer inviting bids	Director Tourism, Department of Tourism
8	The details related to payment, eligibility criteria and evaluation process can be seen in the tender document. The tender documents can be obtained through website: tourism.bihar.gov.in	
9	All the information/corrigendum/addendum related to the project shall be published on the website tourism.bihar.gov.in	
11	The Authority shall have the right to reject the bid partially or fully without assigning any reason whatsoever.	
12	For any information, Contact- Sri Ranjan Kumar, Assistant Director, Mobile No. +918544402431	

PR. No. 6640 (Tourism) 2022-23

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

Assistant Director
Directorate of Tourism



भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान कोलकाता
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata
(An Autonomous Institute under MoE, Government of India)
Mohanpur - 741 246

Ref.No.: IISER-K/Rectt. NT-01/2022/Admn Date: 04/08/2022
(Apply online on or before 17.00 Hrs of 15-09-2022)
APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER, SENIOR SCIENTIFIC OFFICER AND JUNIOR ASSISTANT

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH KOLKATA is a premier autonomous Institution under the Ministry of Education, Government of India, to promote quality science education and research in basic sciences.

The Institute invites online applications from Indian nationals for the following positions:

Sl. No.	Name of Post	Pay Matrix Level / Initial Basic Pay	No. of Post	Category
1.	Chief Scientific Officer	13	01 Post	UR
2.	Senior Scientific Officer	11	01 Post	UR
3.	Junior Assistant	3	02 Post	UR - 1 SC - 1

For further details, please visit institute website <http://apply.iiserkol.ac.in/jobs>. The last date for submission of **ONLINE APPLICATIONS** is 15.09.2022, 17:00 Hrs. The last date of receipt of the printed copy of **signed ONLINE APPLICATION FORM** along with enclosures is on or before 30.09.2022, 17:00 Hrs.

The Chairman
Selection Committee
IISER Kolkata



भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
(One of the largest container handling companies in the world)
CONCOR Annex, NSIC MDSP Building, 3rd Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi - 110020

TENDER NOTICE (E-Tendering Mode Only)
Online E-Bids are invited for e-tender-cum-reverse auction for Handling & Terminal Transportation of containers at CRT Maliya; and Road Transportation of domestic containers ex CRT, Maliya, (Gujrat) for 02 years through e-tendering mode.

Tender No.	CON/Area-II/H&T-RTO/MALB/2022
Estimated Cost	Rs.9,69,91,500/- (including GST) for 02 years
Date of Sale (On Line)	From 17/08/2022 at 15:00 hrs. to 31/08/2022 (upto 16:00 hrs.)
Last Date & Time of submission	On 01/09/2022 upto 15:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening	On 01/09/2022 at 15:30 hrs.

For eligibility criteria and other details please log onto www.concorindia.com or eprocure.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL. Bidders are requested to visit the websites regularly. CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. For complete details logon to www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL.

Executive Director /Area-II



ODISHA FARM MACHINERY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (OFMRDC)
L-67
ODISHA SATYANAGAR, BHUBANESWAR-751007,
Phone No.0674-2571860, Fax No.0674-2572710,
Email:ofmrdc.dag@nic.in

Notice . No.DE/Agri/ . 1465
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed tenders are invited in two bid system i.e. Technical bid & Financial bid from reputed registered Manufacturers / MSME Units for supply of small size Rubber Roll Sheller-cum-Polisher(3HP) listed in the Annexure-III to different WSHGs of different districts in the State of Odisha State as detailed in the following table:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Machinery / Implements	Approximate value (in Rs.)	Cost of tender documents (In Rs.) Bank Draft No./ Date (Non refundable)
1.	Small size Rubber Roll Sheller-cum-Polisher(3 HP) (Single phase A.C.)	366 lakhs	Rs.10000/-

The tender documents may be downloaded from the website of Government of Odisha (www.odisha.gov.in) / (<https://agrisnetodisha.ori.nic.in>) from 16.08.2022 to 15.09.2022. The cost of tender paper cost of Rs.10000/- in shape of Bank Draft drawn in favour of "Development Engineer, OFMRDC, Bhubaneswar" payable at Bhubaneswar must be submitted along with technical bid while submitting the tender documents. The tender papers may be sent through **registered post/ speed post** only addressed to the Development Engineer OFMRDC, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar. The last date of receipt of the tender is **22.09.2022 upto 5.30 PM**. The tenders shall be opened on next working day i.e. on **23.09.2022 at 3.00 PM** in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives. Any clarification may be obtained from the Office of the Development Engineer (Phone: 0674-2571860, Mobile No.9778312631) on working days upto from 16.08.2022 to 15.09.2022) during office hours between 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. The undersigned reserves the right to cancel any or all tenders without assigning any reason and without incurring any liabilities thereof. The undersigned also reserves the right to relax any clauses as in technical & financial bids.

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture-cum-Ex-Officio- Addition Secretary to Govt.&FE Deptt.
OIPR: 0105/11/0006/2223



New Delhi





@ieExplained

#ExpressExplained

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

F-INSAS, Nipun, LCA: new defence systems in *atmanirbhar* push

**SUSHANT KULKARNI
& SAURABH KAPOOR**
PUNE, NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

A DAY after a made-in-India howitzer gun, the ATAGS, was used for the first time for the 21-gun salute during the Independence Day ceremony, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday handed over several new defence systems, including the F-INSAS, the Nipun mines, the Landing Craft Assault (LCA), to the Indian Army.

The F-INSAS project

F-INSAS, or the Future Infantry Soldier As A System, is an infantry modernisation programme aimed at increasing the operational capability of the soldier.

As part of the project, soldiers are being equipped with modern systems that are lightweight, all-weather-all-terrain, cost-effective, and low maintenance.

The full gear of the F-INSAS system includes an AK-203 assault rifle, which is a Russian-origin, gas-operated, magazine-fed, select-fire weapon. It has a range of 300 metre, and is being built in Korwa near Amethi in a Russia-India joint venture. A contract for over 6 lakh AK-203 rifles was signed in December last year between the Ministry of Defence and the Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited (IRRPPL).

On the weaponry front, the F-INSAS also includes a multi-mode hand grenade. In defensive mode, these grenades are to be hurled when the thrower has a cover, while the target is in the open and can be harmed by fragmentation. In offensive mode, the grenades do not fragment, and the adversary is harmed by the blast or is stunned. The weapon kit also has a multi-purpose knife for close-quarters combat.

Apart from this, the F-INSAS provides soldiers with ballistic helmets and ballistic goggles for protection against small projectiles



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Army Chief General Manoj Pande with an F-INSAS equipped soldier in New Delhi on Tuesday. *PTI*

and fragments, along with a bullet-proof vest. The helmet and the bullet-proof jacket are capable of protecting the soldier against 9 mm bullets and AK-47 ammunition. For

target acquisition, the soldier gets a rifle-mounted holographic sight for fast and accurate aiming with a 200-metre range.

The helmet has a mounted night-vision device for operating in low light, and the option of installing a thermal imager that can convert infrared energy from objects into thermal images.

It also comes with a hands-free, secured communications set for real-time exchange of information with the command post and fellow soldiers.

Most importantly, all these items have been sourced from Defence Public Sector Undertakings, and private Indian industries. They have been indigenously designed by the Indian entities, including the DRDO and the ordnance factories ecosystem.

The F-INSAS vision

Conceived in the 2000s, F-INSAS is one among many soldier modernisation programmes across the world. The US has Land

Warrior, while the UK has FIST (Future Integrated Soldier Technology). According to estimates, over 20 armies around the world are following such programmes. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed F-INSAS in sync with the targets of the Army's Infantry Soldier Modernisation Programme.

According to DRDO scientists, similar programmes from the US, France, Germany and Israel were studied for the Indian project, the quality requirements for which were set by the Army. Officials added that research and development efforts are still on to finetune the F-INSAS for all types of conflict scenarios and terrains.

Nipun mines

Nipun mines are indigenously designed and developed anti-personnel mines, termed as 'soft target blast munition' by the DRDO. These mines are meant to act as the first line of defence against infiltrators and

enemy infantry. They have been developed with the efforts of Armament Research and Development Establishment, a Pune-based DRDO facility, and Indian industry.

Anti-personnel mines are meant to be used against humans as against anti-tank mines that are aimed at heavy vehicles. They are smaller in size, and can be deployed in large numbers. The Army has said that Nipun is more effective than the existing anti-personnel mine in its arsenal.

The LCA

The Landing Craft Assault (LCA) is meant to serve as a replacement for the boats with limited capabilities currently in use in the Pangong Tso lake.

The LCA, which has been indigenously developed by Goa-based Aquarius ShipYard Ltd, is said to have better launch, speed and capacity to operate across water obstacles in eastern Ladakh. Similar vessels are already in operation in the Indian Navy.

Corneas bioengineered from pig collagen can restore sight, study finds



New surgical method was used by the researchers on study subjects in India and Iran, where there is a scarcity of donated corneas. *Getty Images*

DAMAGE TO the cornea — the clear, outermost layer of the eye — is one of the leading causes of blindness across the world, leaving approximately 12.7 million people blind, and particularly affecting those in poorer countries where there is a scarcity of donated human corneas.

For the first time, researchers in Sweden have been able to create a successful alternative — bioengineered cornea implants made of collagen derived from pig skin. The implant was used to successfully restore the vision of 20 people in India and Iran, most of whom were blind due to keratoconus, a disease that leads to thinning of the cornea. The findings were published in the journal *Nature Biotechnology* on August 11.

Researchers claim that there is a severe shortage of corneas, with only one available for 70 patients. Logistical and storage difficulties, along with expensive surgical equipment, further burden those living in low- and middle-income countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

As a substitute for human corneas, the researchers utilised medical-grade collagen derived from pig skin, a byproduct of the food industry that is already used in medical devices for glaucoma surgery. This is not only cheaper and easier to access than donated corneas, but requires a less

invasive procedure and can be stored for a significantly longer period — up to two years, the study notes.

The researchers developed a minimally invasive method without the use of stitches, where a small incision is made in the patient's eye, and the implant is inserted over the existing cornea. This can be done with high-precision lasers or by using readily available surgical instruments.

This new method was used by surgeons in India and Iran, where there is a lack of donated corneas. Not only was the procedure safe for all 20 participants, the researchers found that 2 years after the operation, none of the patients were blind anymore. Furthermore, 3 of the Indian participants who had earlier been blind, had perfect (20/20) vision after operation.

The researchers said they want their method to be affordable for everyone.

"The results show that it is possible to develop a biomaterial that meets all the criteria for being used as human implants, which can be mass-produced and stored up to two years and thereby reach even more people with vision problems," said Neil Lagali, Professor of Experimental Ophthalmology at Sweden's Linköping University, one of the researchers behind the study.

SOURCE: NATURE BIOTECHNOLOGY



VAJIRAM & RAVI
INSTITUTE FOR IAS EXAMINATION

Online & Classroom Programmes

• General Studies • Optional Subjects • CSAT

9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110060, Ph: 011-41007500;
www.vajiramandravi.com | Email: online@vajiramandravi.com

Milk prices rise, but Bengaluru continues to pay the least — here's why

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AMUL ON TUESDAY announced an across-the-board Rs 2 per litre hike in the prices of its toned and full-cream milk.

The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets its dairy products under the Amul brand, said that the new prices would be effective from August 17 in all markets where Amul milk is sold.

Also on August 16, Mother Dairy announced that it is increasing the price of milk by Rs 2 per litre in Delhi-NCR from August 17 to factor in the rise in procurement and other input costs.

City with least expensive milk

The least expensive milk is not in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and their surrounding areas, where GCMMF raised

the maximum retail price of its Amul toned and full-cream milk by Rs 2 to Rs 52 and Rs 62 respectively. It is not in Chennai and Hyderabad either, where local dairy cooperatives (known by their 'Aavin' and 'Vijaya' brands, respectively) market toned milk at Rs 40 and Rs 52 per litre, and full-cream milk at Rs 48 and Rs 66 per litre respectively.

Overall, milk costs more in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata than in Chennai, although not as much as in Hyderabad. This has not been changed after the hike in milk prices.

The city where milk is the least expensive in India is Bengaluru, where consumers get 'Nandini' (the brand of the Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation or KMF) toned and full-cream milk for Rs 38 and Rs 46 per litre respectively.

Why Bengaluru is cheapest

It has to do with a Karnataka scheme that was launched by former CM B S

MORE INCENTIVE, MORE MILK

	Co-op Milk Procurement*	Producer Incentive**
2007-08	30.25	
2008-09	32.53	99.33
2009-10	35.77	222.51
2010-11	37.59	294.45
2011-12	42.84	334.78
2012-13	49.06	329.36
2013-14	51.53	776.98
2014-15	58.61	798.90
2015-16	64.88	1,015.67
2016-17	65.51	994.05
2017-18	70.81	1,157.28
2018-19	74.80	1,460.19
2019-20	75.61	1,260.82
2020-21	78.73	1,185.88
2021-22	81.66	1,190.00

*Average in lakh kg per day; **In Rs crore
Source: KMF and Karnataka government budget documents

Yediyurappa, and was continued by subsequent regimes.

In 2008, the BJP started giving a Rs 2-per-litre incentive to farmers for the milk they supplied to the KMF-affiliated dairy unions, over and above the latter's procurement price.

The Congress government, in 2013, doubled the incentive to farmers — and raised it further to Rs 5 per litre in 2016.

In 2019, when Yediyurappa returned, the incentive was raised to Rs 6 per litre.

The scheme's impact can be seen in the table on the left. In 2007-08, before its launch, the KMF unions procured an average 30.25 lakh kg per day (LKPD) of milk. By 2018-19, when spending on the scheme crossed Rs 1,460 crore, this had gone up nearly 2.5 times to 74.80 LKPD.

Procurement has continued to rise, even with a slashing of outlay. KMF's average milk procurement, at 81.66 LKPD in 2021-

22, was next only to the GCMMF's 263.66 LKPD, making it the country's second largest dairy concern.

While the price incentive gave a huge stimulus to dairying in Karnataka, KMF's milk sales haven't kept pace. The cooperative does not have the processing infrastructure or marketing network of Amul.

KMF's website shows its average sale volumes, inclusive of curd and UHT (ultra-heat treated/long-life) milk, at 49.7 lakh litres per day in 2021-22. That was well below its procurement of 81.7 LKPD.

A perverse outcome of KMF's inability to absorb the surplus milk collected by its unions is that an incentive for rural producers has ended up delivering a freebie to relatively prosperous urban folk.

Therefore, while Karnataka's dairy farmers may be getting an extra Rs 6 per litre for the milk they supply, Bengaluru's consumers are benefiting more — they are pay-

ing Rs 14/ litre less for toned milk than customers in Delhi or Mumbai.

Although a subsidy for producers should ideally remain just that, the price incentive has seemingly resulted in overproduction in this case.

Dumping of surplus

One big problem, especially highlighted by dairies in other states of the country, is the "dumping" of surplus milk by KMF. 'Nandini' toned milk is, for instance, being retailed in Hyderabad at Rs 45 per litre and standardised milk at Rs 48 — as against the corresponding Rs 52-56 per litre range of Telangana's 'Vijaya' cooperative. The Rs 6-per-litre producer subsidy is basically leading to the KMF unions procuring far in excess of what can be absorbed within Karnataka.

**LONGER VERSION ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM**



Bilkis Bano casts her vote in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. *Bhupendra Rana*

(b) Whether there is a chance of the crime being repeated in future;

(c) Whether the convict has lost the potentiality to commit crime;

(d) Whether any purpose is being served in keeping the convict in prison; and

(e) Socio-economic conditions of the convict's family.

Jail manuals contain rules that allow certain days of remission in every month for good behaviour of convicts. For those serving fixed sentences, the remission days are accounted for while releasing the convict. However, convicts serving life sentences are entitled to seek remission only after serving a minimum of 14 years. This rule has often led to uncertainty on whether a "life sentence" means 14 years or a sentence unto death, prompting courts in recent times to clarify that "life means the remainder of one's life".

Data from Prison Statistics, 2020 show that 61% of convicts in jail are serving life sentences.

The Bilkis case convict

Bilkis Bano case convict Radheshyam Shah moved the Supreme Court this year after he had completed 15 years and four months of his life term awarded by a CBI court in Mumbai.

In an order dated May 13, 2022, a Bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Vikram Nath asked the Gujarat government to consider Shah's application for premature release "within a period of two months", as per the state's 1992 remission policy. (*See next section*)

Gujarat was the "appropriate government" to decide on questions like remission or premature release because it was there that "the crime was committed and not the State where the trial stands transferred and concluded for exceptional reasons under the orders of this Court", the SC said.

The top court had transferred the trial to Maharashtra after Bilkis Bano faced death threats in Gujarat. Radheshyam Shah had moved the SC by way of a writ petition seeking directions to the Gujarat government to consider his application for premature release under the 1992 policy. He argued that Gujarat HC had rejected his prayer on July 17, 2019 on the premise that since the trial had been concluded in Maharashtra, the application for premature release must also be filed in Maharashtra, and not Gujarat.

Gujarat's remission policy

The remission policy that was notified in 1992 — and which was in force at the time of the crime and conviction — permitted prisoners to apply for remission "on the basis that life imprisonment is an arbitrary or notional figure of twenty years of imprisonment".

This policy was invalidated by the SC in November 2012. The court said: "Before actually exercising the power of remission under Section 432 of the CrPC the appropriate Government must obtain the opinion (with reasons) of the presiding judge of the convicting or confirming Court. Remission can, therefore, be given only on a case-by-case basis and not in a wholesale manner."

Following the SC order and instructions issued subsequently by the Union Home Ministry to all states and Union Territories, the Gujarat government formulated a fresh policy in 2014. This contained an annexure listing cases where remission could not be granted — among them were those in which the prisoners were convicted for a crime that was investigated by an agency under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (CBI, which was in the investigating agency in the Bilkis case), and prisoners convicted for murder with rape or gangrape.

Applicability to Bilkis case

Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Raj Kumar told *The Indian Express* that the 1992 policy, under which the convict (Shah) had sought remission, did not have the restrictions that were prescribed in the 2014 policy. He also said that the order of the CBI court passed in 2008 did not bar the convicts from applying for remission.

"One of the convicts had moved the SC to seek remission as per the 1992 policy of the state government, which did not have the annexure excluding certain categories of convicts from applying for remission — rather than the 2014 resolution that is currently in place — as the order was delivered in 2008," Raj Kumar said.

Kumar also said: "...The process of remission is not the domain of the judiciary but of the executive, that is the government. Based on the eligibility, prisoners are granted remission after recommendation of the Jail Advisory Committee... The power has been given to the government under the CrPC Section 432 just like convicts on death row can apply for clemency before state Governors or President of India... Among the parameters considered in this case are age, nature of crime, behaviour in prison, and so on... The convicts in this particular case were also considered keeping in mind all the factors, since they had completed 14 years of the life term."

What happens now

Advocate Shobha Gupta, who represented Bilkis Bano at the Supreme Court earlier, said that the legal remedy available to Bilkis now would be to challenge the government's order allowing early release of the 11 convicts, either in the High Court or in the Supreme Court.

"It can be challenged like any other government order, seeking that the government order be quashed and set aside. However, it is up to her (Bilkis) on whether she wants to exercise this remedy," Gupta told *The Indian Express*.

The Supreme Court had ordered a compensation of Rs 50 lakh for Bilkis in 2019.

(WITH ENS, NEW DELHI)



GOLD

₹52,347



RUPEE

₹79.65/USD



OIL

₹95.58



SILVER

₹58,277

SECTOR WATCH
AUTO TECHFour-wheeler EV
foray: What does
Ola Electric planSOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16BHAVISH AGGARWAL
Founder & CEO, Ola PTI file

AFTER BUILDING an electric two-wheeler ecosystem, Softbank-backed Ola Electric has set its sights on entering the four-wheeler electric vehicle (EV) segment. The company's founder and CEO Bhavish Aggarwal said that the car is expected to debut in 2024 and claimed that it will have a range of around 500 km on a single charge. He also said that Ola plans to develop two vehicle platforms and six different cars, all of which will be manufactured from its giga factory in Tamil Nadu after it has been expanded.

EXPLAINED

plant in India. Aggarwal responded, saying: "Thanks, but no thanks". Tesla's entry into India has been on hold since 2019 as the country wants it to first set up a manufacturing facility in India.

What are Ola's battery manufacturing plans?

Last month, Ola said that it had signed an agreement under the Centre's production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme to manufacture batteries in India.

The company said it is the only Indian electric mobility company selected by the government under the Rs 80,000-crore cell PLI scheme, receiving a maximum capacity of 20 gigawatt hour (GWh) for its bid in March.

Aggarwal showed a battery module on screen and claimed that it is made from cells developed indigenously by Ola Electric; a first for any Indian vehicle OEM.

"We missed the semiconductor, solar, electronic and other manufacturing revolutions. But everyone around the world is still getting started with electric cells and batteries. If we invest now and at scale, we can lead the market," he said.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

INCREMENTAL CREDIT GROWTH TO MSMEs ON AN UPSWING

Construction, food MSMEs
fuel post-Covid credit riseMIHIR MISHRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AMONG MICRO, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), those involved in food products and construction materials, as well as the ones involved in investments in technology are driving the post-Covid credit growth in the sector.

Lenders to MSMEs say e-commerce was strong even during the pandemic, and retail and food services picked up about a year back.

"Companies that have seen an increase in borrowing in terms of percentage of total disbursement include food products, which has seen an uptick in borrowing from around 14 per cent in FY19 and FY20 to nearly 20 per cent in FY21 and FY22. During the same period, the construction materials industry has shown increased credit demand, going from around 4 per cent of the pie to over 7 per cent," said Hardika Shah, founder & CEO,

LENDING TO E-COMMERCE REMAINS STRONG

■ Lenders to MSMEs say e-commerce was strong even during Covid, and retail and food services picked up about a year back

■ The MSME sector was one of the worst hit during the pandemic and the resultant lockdowns led to loss of business

Kinara Capital, in an email.

The MSME sector was one of the worst hit during the pandemic and the resultant lockdowns led to loss of business.

"We have seen a strong pickup in demand for credit over the past 12 months across these categories. In terms of gradation, while e-commerce continued to be strong through the course of pandemic, retail and food services sectors picked up about 12 months back, and travel has seen a strong revival over the past 6-9 months," Alok Mittal, managing director, Indifi Technologies Pvt Ltd, said.

The State Bank of India's (SBI) Ecowrap report released in July also echoed the trend, stating

that incremental credit to the MSME sector has been on an upswing. "Around 74 per cent of such is purely because of the credit guarantee scheme, and the remaining 26 per cent is because of other schemes including the definitional change in the MSME sector. In terms of overall credit growth, the ECLG scheme has contributed 15 per cent of the expansion," read the report.

The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) was unveiled as part of the comprehensive package announced by the government in March 2020 to aid the MSME sector in view of the economic distress caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the Ecowrap re-

port, around Rs 2.36 lakh crore has been disbursed to MSMEs under the ECLGS. However, it is not just the pandemic; the sector is also suffering from delayed payments. Data from Bengaluru-based non-profit Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME), data analytics company Dun & Bradstreet, and Omidyar Network show that delayed payments to the MSME sector have increased to Rs 10.7 lakh crore till the end of 2021.

About 81 per cent of the total amount is owed to small and micro enterprises (SMEs) — Rs 4.29 lakh crore to small enterprises and Rs 4.44 lakh crore to micro enterprises. Mittal, however, says that the demand for credit, beyond March 2021, is to fund growth. "The demand for credit has not been driven by desperation of funds, but by the growth opportunities available to these businesses. Also, given the sharp uptick in digitisation during the pandemic period, more of that demand is getting channelled to digital lenders," Mittal said.

'Losses from crypto hacks
surged 60% in Jan-Jul'

Fueled by a surge in funds stolen from DeFi protocols, losses due to cryptocurrency hacks jumped nearly 60% during January-July to \$1.9 billion, as per Chainalysis



\$1.2 BILLION: FUNDS STOLEN FROM HACKING IN JANUARY-JULY LAST YEAR, AS PER A BLOG POST BY THE BLOCKCHAIN ANALYSIS COMPANY

Decentralised finance (DeFi) applications, many of which run on the Ethereum blockchain, are financial platforms that enable crypto-denominated lending outside of traditional banks

MAJOR HACKS REPORTED IN FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST:
■ \$190-million hacking of cross-chain bridge Nomad
■ \$5-million hacking of several Solana wallets

Scammers may impersonate legitimate businesses and offer fraudulent crypto coins or tokens

'Bad actors' affiliated with North Korea, especially elite hacking units like Lazarus Group, were responsible for much of the funds stolen from DeFi protocols

DeFi protocols are uniquely vulnerable to hacking, according to Chainalysis, as their open source code can be studied ad nauseum by cybercriminals looking for exploits and it's possible that protocols' incentives to reach the market and grow quickly lead to lapses in security best practices

Source: Chainalysis/Reuters

BRIEFLY

Oil at 6-mth low

New York: Oil fell over 2% to their lowest since before Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February, with Brent fell \$2.27, or 2.4%, down at \$92.83 and WTI by \$2.31, or 2.6%, at \$87.10. **REUTERS**

SBI, start-ups

Bengaluru: State Bank of India (SBI) launched its first 'state-of-the-art' dedicated branch for start-ups at Koramangala, Bengaluru.

Bajaj Hindusthan

New Delhi: SBI filed an insolvency petition against the country's largest sugar firm Bajaj Hindusthan Sugar Ltd.

HZL stake sale

New Delhi: ICICI Securities, Axis Capital and Citigroup Global Markets are among 5 investment bankers chosen to manage sale of the Centre's 29.53% residual stake in Hindustan Zinc Ltd. **PTI**

Teleperformance

Gurgaon: BPO management provider Teleperformance plans to deepen its digitally integrated business services, with incoming CEO Anish Mukherjee focussing on high-growth revenue strategies and increasing the company's nationwide footprint.

BHARAT font

New Delhi: A team of typographers at Everest and Rediffusion Design Studios, led by Virendra Tivrekar, have created a commemorative font, called BHARAT. It was launched in Mumbai by Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra, in presence of Rediffusion MD Sandeep Goyal and joint president Kalyani Srivastava. **ENS**

My bond with seniors behind
Goodfellows: Shantanu Naidu

ENTREPRENEUR SHANTANU NAIDU, general manager in the office of Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of Tata Sons, has founded Goodfellows — a start-up that provides meaningful companionship to seniors through the fellows, their 'grandpals'. Naidu spoke to EESHANPRIYA MS about the inspiration for Goodfellows, and its aim. Edited excerpts:

What inspired the idea of Goodfellows?

My personal experience has been the inspiration. If there is a room full of people my age, and another full of grandmothers, I naturally gravitate toward the other room. My personal bond with seniors led to this idea. That [bond] peaked with Mr Tata in my life.

SUBSCRIPTION-BASED

■ The senior citizens will have to take subscription and while the first month of subscription is free of charge, Goodfellows will charge a nominal monthly fee thereafter. Fellows have option of taking up internships for either three months, six months, or nine months, and they get paid a nominal fee

What services do you provide through Goodfellows?

Grandpals behave the way grandkids would. We do not say this is a checklist of what all we

can do. The average pattern that has emerged from Beta phase is 3-4 hours of interaction on alternate days, because seniors also want to maintain their own routines, their own lives and privacy, which is very important to this demographic.

What backgrounds do fellows come from?

There are film makers, engineers, arts students. Surprisingly, this is not restricted to fields that make caregivers [social workers, nurses]. That is the point, even after you have completed a considerably heavy degree, such as engineering, or medicine, millennials are looking for something that gives them fulfilment.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

INCIDENT OCCURRED AT AROUND 6,000 FT
'Slats failure' alert delays
Bangkok-Delhi AI flightPRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

AN AIR India-operated Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft returned to Bangkok on Tuesday shortly after its take-off, after the plane's system sent out a "slats failure" warning, according to sources.

Flight AI333, destined for Delhi, had climbed to around 6,000 feet after taking off at 1.28 pm local time — an hour after its scheduled time.

"The pilots saw a slats failure warning and decided to turn the aircraft back to Bangkok. The aircraft was checked by the maintenance crew in Bangkok and was cleared to fly to Delhi. It departed at 5.03pm local time, and reached Delhi at 7.25 pm IST," one source said.

An Air India spokesperson refused to comment. The

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is looking into the incident.

The airline recently faced another technical snag with its Dreamliner plane. Last month, a 787 plane with around 260 people on board suffered cabin depressurisation, while flying from Dubai to Kochi. The aircraft was cruising at 37,000 feet when the incident took place, with oxygen masks being deployed after some of the passengers began suffering nosebleeds.

In Tuesday's incident, the warning message pertained to the aircraft's slats. As per Skybrary, slats are extendable, high lift devices on the leading edge of the wings of some fixed wing aircraft.

Their purpose is to increase lift during low speed operations such as takeoff, initial climb, approach and landing.

GIC, Capital
buy KKR stake
in Max HealthRAJESH KURUP
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16

SINGAPORE'S SOVEREIGN wealth fund GIC and US financial services company Capital Group were among others to buy global investment firm KKR's entire 27.54 per cent stake in Max Healthcare Institute. Several domestic institutional investors were also part of the block deal, which was struck on Tuesday.

US private equity major KKR, which was the largest shareholder, exited the New-Delhi based hospital chain for about Rs 9,290 crore. Max Healthcare's shares soared as high as 12 per cent intra-day and closed up 9.72 per cent at Rs 396.70. KKR, which held the stake through an affiliate firm Kayak Investments Holding, sold its entire 267 million shares. Sources said the sale was at Rs 353 a share. **FE**

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
Navara Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
CONCOR Annex, NSIC MDBP Building, 5th Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

Online open e-tender in Two bid system is invited for the supply of 10467 nos. Intermediate Twist Locks for double stack / double decker container train at various terminals of CONCOR.

Tender No.	CONIA-IIT/TL/2022 dated 17.08.2022
Name of Supply	Supply of 10467 nos. Intermediate Twist Locks Semi-Automatic / Automatic for double stack/double decker container train at various terminals of CONCOR as per RDSO's specifications.
Estimated Cost	Rs. 1.84,77,186 (Inclusive of GST as applicable)
Delivery Schedule	240 days (As per Section-IV)
Cost of tender Document	Rs. 1000/- inclusive of GST through e-payment
Tender Processing Fee	Rs. 4720/- inclusive of GST through e-payment
Date of Sale of Tender (online)	From 17.08.2022 after 11.00 hrs. to 07.09.2022 upto 13.00 hrs.
Last Date & Time of tender submission of bid	On or before 07.09.2022 upto 18.00 hrs.
Date & Time of opening of bid	On 08.09.2022 at 12.00 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience etc., please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com/CCL only. Further, Corrigendum/ Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com/CCL and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager/Technical/Area-II, Phone no.: 011-41222530

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT ENGINEERING WING

(Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd Floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560 023) (Phone: 080-29557023)
E-mail: cekhdsrp@gmail.com)

No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-2/AE-5/Savanuru-Ayush/TND/2022-23/1179 Date: 12-08-2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible Class-I contractors registered in KPWD in two tender document system in e-procurement for the following work.

Description of work: Construction of Govt. Ayurveda Medical College & Hospital at Savanuru Taluk in Haveri District. **Approximate Amount put to tender:** 3500 Lakhs. **Earnest Money Deposit:** 35 Lakhs. **Stipulated period for Completion (including monsoon) :** 18 Months

Calendar of Events: 1) Last date for receipt of tenders : 30.08.2022 upto 16.00 hrs. 2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) : 02.09.2022 at 11.30 hrs.

The tender details can be downloaded from the e-Procurement platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and Earnest Money Deposit and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: 1. All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2. Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer,
HFWD, Engineering Wing,
Bengaluru.

Amul, Mother Dairy
hike milk prices ₹2/LSANDIP DAS
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 16

An Amul milk tanker in Anand, Gujarat. File

IN VIEW of rise in feed cost, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) — also referred to as Amul — and Mother Dairy, on Tuesday announced a hike in milk price of all variants by Rs 2 a litre. The new prices will be effective from Wednesday.

"The hike of Rs 2 per litre will translate into a 4 per cent increase in maximum retail price which is lower than the average food inflation," GCMMF said. Both Amul and Mother Dairy supply around 65 per cent of the daily milk demand of around 12 million litres in Delhi-NCR. The new prices would be applicable where Amul and Mother Dairy sell milk in pouches.

Starting Wednesday, a pouch of full cream milk will cost Rs 61 per litre while the toned milk will cost Rs 51 a litre. The price of double toned milk will rise to Rs 45 per litre. Cow milk price has been hiked to Rs 53 per litre.

The new price hike is expected to push up inflation in the

coming months. In July, inflation in milk and milk products was 5.84 per cent and they have a weightage of 6.61 per cent in the consumer price index.

"Cattle feed cost has increased by more than 50 per cent in the last six months, besides other costs of production. We have passed on a portion of the rise in the cost of production of milk to consumers," RS Sodhi, MD, GCMMF said. He said feed cost consisting of dry and green fodder and concentrate constitute about 70 per cent of the total cost of production of milk. **FE**

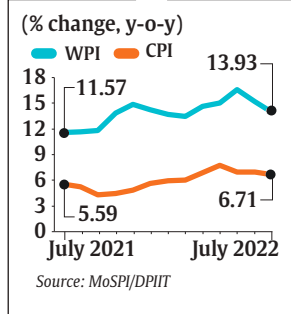
July: WPI inflation eases
to 5-month low at 13.93%

New Delhi: The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation eased to a five-month low of 13.93 per cent in July on easing prices of food articles and manufactured products.

The WPI-based inflation softened for the second consecutive month in July, raising hopes of further decline in wholesale prices in the months to come.

It was, however, in double-digits for the 16th consecutive month beginning April last year.

The WPI inflation, after scaling a record high of 15.88 per cent in May, declined to 15.18 per



cent in June. It was 13.43 per cent in February. It was 11.57 per cent in July last year. **PTI**

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Tender Notice No.05/2022-23/SE(P-III)/EE(PD-IV)/DB/ Dt:13-08-2022

- 1.Number of Works : 03 (Three)
- 2.Value of works (ECV) : Rs.159.28 Lakhs
- 3.Down loading Starting Date : 13-08-2022 @ 10.00 PM
- 4.Down loading End Date : 29-08-2022 @ 3.00 PM
- 5.Last date for Submission of bid : 29-08-2022 @ 5.00 PM

Note: Further details at <http://www.apereprocurement.gov.in>
O/o the Executive Engineer (PD-IV) Division For Commissioner GVMC

Office of Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory
(Neharu Nagar, RPA Road, Jaipur. Ph. 0141-2301584, Fax 0141-2301859)
E-Mail director.fsl@rajasthan.gov.in

File No: न-10 (34) केबलर /BFC/ 2022-23/4359 **Date:** 08.08.2022

E-Bid Invitation Notice-08 /2022-23

Bids for State Forensic Science Laboratory, Jaipur Rs. 190.75 lakh of Scientific, Furniture Fixture, I.T., etc. Instruments procurement are invited from interested bidders up to 01.09.2022.

The particulars of Instruments for the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state.

UBN No. FSL2223GLOB00027, UBN No. FSL2223GLOB00028, UBN No. FSL2223GLOB00029, UBN No. FSL2223GLOB00030, UBN No. FSL2223GLOB00031

Sd/-
Head of the Office
State Forensic Science Laboratory, Jaipur

DIPR/C/10536/2022

OFFICE OF MEMBER SECRETARY, RAJASTHAN MEDICARE RELIEF SOCIETY SUPER SPECIALITY HOSPITAL, UDAIPUR

No./RMRS/2022-23/e-tender/ Dated: 3.8.22
NIB No. MCU2223A0031

Tender No. 07/2022

Following Bids at Member Secretary, RMRS, Super Speciality Hospital, Udaipur are invited from interested bidder.

Rate contract of drugs, medicine, injectables etc	(MCU2223GLRC00060)
---	--------------------

Other particular of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> of the state.

Sd/-
Member Secretary
Rajasthan Medicare Relief Society, SSH, Udaipur

DIPR/C/10502/2022

STATE INSTITUTE OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT

R-03 TITILAGARH ROAD, BALANGIR-767001 (ODISHA)
Website-www.sihmbalangir.org, odishatourism.gov.in

No. 6625/TSM. Dated: - 12.08.22
TCT-TSP-MISC-0087-2022

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the post of Principal on Direct Recruitment basis.

Number of Post: 01 (one) (Unreserved)

Details with regard to the essential qualifications, age, application format and other terms & conditions, etc., please visit our website www.sihmbalangir.org & odishatourism.gov.in

Applications with complete Biodata, along with attested copies of testimonials must reach to the Institute on or before **16.09.2022 up to 5.30 p.m.**

Candidates already employed in Govt./Autonomous organisation should apply through proper channel.

The candidates are required to superscript "Application for the Post of Principal" on the top of the envelope which contains the application form and other required documents.

The competent authority reserves the rights to cancel/republish the advertisement or cancel/postpone the process of recruitment at any point of time without assigning any reason. Only eligible, short listed candidates will be called for interview after a screening process.

Sd/-
Administrator
SIHM, Balangir

OIPR- 37001/11/0005/2223

20 THE WORLD

TOPOF THE WORLD



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi

IRAN

Written reply in nuclear deal talks submitted

Dubai: Iran said Tuesday it submitted a “written response” to what has been described as a final roadmap to restore its tattered nuclear deal with world powers. Iran’s state-run IRNA news agency offered no details on the substance of its response, but suggested that Tehran still wouldn’t take the EU-mediated proposal, despite warnings. “The differences are on three issues, in which the US has expressed its verbal flexibility in two cases, but it should be included in the text,” the report said. Meanwhile, an EU spokesperson said on Tuesday that it is assessing Iran’s response to what the bloc has called its “final” proposal to save a 2015 nuclear deal, and consulting with the US. **AGENCIES**

US

‘India, US did most to fight Covid-19’

Washington: India and the US have done more than any other nation in the fight global against Covid-19, Dr Ashish Jha, the White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator, said. “I can’t think of two nations that have done more to vaccinate and protect their own populations, and to donate and support and vaccinate and protect the world than India and the United States,” Jha said in his remarks at a reception hosted by India’s Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, at the India House to celebrate 75th anniversary of Independence. **PTI**

UK

Heathrow extends passenger cap until Oct-end

London: London’s Heathrow Airport has extended its ongoing flight restrictions and cap on passenger numbers until October 29, amid staff shortages and pressure on services at one of the world’s busiest airports. In July, a daily cap on passengers travelling through the airport was set at 100,000 and was due to end on September 11. However, on Monday the airport announced that this would now remain in place until the end of October, hitting a particularly busy half-term school break period for families in the UK. **PTI**

EPISODE AN ACT OF SABOTAGE: MOSCOW

Blasts hit Russian arms depot in Crimea, Ukraine hints at likely role

2,000 evacuated as power line, rail tracks damaged

THE NEW YORK TIMES
ODESA, AUGUST 16

EXPLOSIONS ROCKED a Russian ammunition depot on the occupied Crimean Peninsula on Tuesday morning, delivering another blow to Moscow’s forces a week after blasts at a Russian air base in the same region destroyed several fighter jets.

A senior Ukrainian official said an elite Ukrainian military unit operating behind enemy lines was responsible for the blasts. Russia’s Defence Ministry said the episode was an “act of sabotage,” according to the Russian state news agency RIA Novosti.

Although Ukraine’s leaders did not publicly claim responsibility, an adviser to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy confirmed that the explosions had occurred.

The adviser, Mykhailo Podolyak, also appeared to hint at Ukrainian involvement. “A reminder: Crimea of normal country is about the Black Sea, mountains, recreation and tourism, but Crimea occupied by Russians is about warehouses explosions and high risk of death for invaders and thieves. Demilitarization in action,” he wrote on Twitter.

And although he did not confirm Ukraine’s involvement, Andriy Yermak, the head of the presidential office in Ukraine,



Smoke rising above an area in the Dzhankoi district of Crimea on Tuesday. Reuters

said on the Telegram that the country’s armed forces would continue the “demilitarisation” of Crimea and other captured territories until they achieved “the complete deoccupation of Ukrainian territories.”

At least two civilians were wounded in the blasts in the northern peninsula, and as many as 2,000 were evacuated from the area around the weapons depot, the Kremlin-installed head of Crimea, Sergei Aksyonov, said on Telegram. The explosions occurred at a temporary ammunition storage site near a military base, he said. The ammunition continued exploding after initial blast. “At the moment detonations are continuing,” Aksyonov said.

The Russian Defence Ministry said that there were no serious casualties and that the explosions damaged power lines, railroad tracks and homes.

Slamming US ‘hegemony,’ Putin predicts end of ‘unipolar’ world

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MOSCOW, AUGUST 16

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin accused the US of trying to encourage extended hostilities in Ukraine as part of what he described Tuesday as its alleged efforts to maintain global hegemony.

Addressing a security conference attended by military officials from Africa, Asia and Latin America, Putin reaffirmed his long-held claim that he sent troops into Ukraine in response to Washington turning the country into an “anti-Russia” bulwark.

“They need conflicts to retain their hegemony,” Putin charged. “That’s why they have turned the Ukrainian people into cannon fodder. The situation in Ukraine shows that the US is trying to drag the conflict out, and it acts in exactly the same way trying to fuel conflicts in Asia, Africa and Latin America.”

Putin also drew parallels between the US backing Ukraine and a recent visit to Taiwan by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, charging that both were part of an alleged American attempt to foment global instability.

Putin said, “Western globalist elites” were trying “to shift the blame for their own failures to Russia and China,” adding that “no matter how hard the beneficiaries of the current globalist model try to cling to it, it’s doomed.” “The era of the unipolar world order is nearing its end,” he added.

Kenya’s Odinga challenges President election result, says it’s null and void

REUTERS
NAIROBI, KISUMU, AUGUST 16

KENYAN OPPOSITION leader Raila Odinga rejected as “null and void” the result of an August 9 presidential election he was declared to have lost, adding on Tuesday that Kenya’s democracy faces a long legal crisis.

His first comments on the result came shortly after four of the seven election commissioners said they stood by their decision a day earlier to disown the outcome of the presidential poll, saying the final tallying process had been “opaque.” “Our view is that the figures announced by (electoral commission chairman Wafula) Chebukati are null and



Kenyan presidential candidate Raila Odinga (centre) at his campaign headquarters in Nairobi on Tuesday. AP

void and must be quashed by court of law,” Odinga said. “What we saw yesterday was a trav-

esty,” he said. “Let no one take the law into their own hands.” Chebukati declared current

HE TRASHED DEMOCRACY: AUSTRALIAN PM

Ex-PM Morrison took on extra powers in secret

ASSOCIATED PRESS
CANBERRA, AUGUST 16

AUSTRALIAN PRIME Minister Anthony Albanese on Tuesday accused his predecessor Scott Morrison of “trashing democracy” after revealing that while Morrison was in power, he took on five ministerial roles without the knowledge of most other lawmakers or the public.

Albanese said Morrison had been operating in secret, keeping the Australian people in the dark



Scott Morrison held five ministries

and misleading Parliament over who was in charge of what portfolios. “This has been government by deception,” Albanese said.

Adding to revelations first detailed over the weekend by News Corp. media, Albanese said that between March 2020 and May

2021, Morrison was appointed minister of health, finance, home affairs, treasury and industry — moves which appeared to have given Morrison equal powers to the ministers already appointed to those positions.

Speaking on Sydney radio station 2GB, Morrison defended taking on the extra portfolios, saying they were a safeguard during the coronavirus pandemic and that he would have made the appointments public had he needed to use the powers involved. “Sometimes we forget

what was happening two years ago and the situation we were dealing with. It was an unconventional time and an unprecedented time,” Morrison told the radio station.

In a more detailed account published on Facebook, Morrison wrote that the gas project off the New South Wales coast was the only matter he got directly involved with and that “I believe I made the right decision in the national interest.” Morrison said “for any offense to my colleagues, I apologise.”

deputy president William Ruto the winner on Monday with 50.49% of the vote against Odinga’s 48.5%. Minutes earlier, his deputy Juliana Cherera had told media at a separate location that she and three other commissioners disowned the results.

Speaking for the group on Tuesday, Cherera said the results that gave Ruto a wafer-thin victory were erroneously aggregated and accused Chebukati of over-ruling their questions on the final tally.

Odinga broadcast the dissenting commission members’ own news conference at his own venue before taking the stage.

In his speech, he urged his supporters to maintain peace and not to take the law into their own hands.

deputy president William Ruto the winner on Monday with 50.49% of the vote against Odinga’s 48.5%. Minutes earlier, his deputy Juliana Cherera had told media at a separate location that she and three other commissioners disowned the results.

Speaking for the group on Tuesday, Cherera said the results that gave Ruto a wafer-thin victory were erroneously aggregated and accused Chebukati of over-ruling their questions on the final tally.

Odinga broadcast the dissenting commission members’ own news conference at his own venue before taking the stage.

In his speech, he urged his supporters to maintain peace and not to take the law into their own hands.

deputy president William Ruto the winner on Monday with 50.49% of the vote against Odinga’s 48.5%. Minutes earlier, his deputy Juliana Cherera had told media at a separate location that she and three other commissioners disowned the results.

Speaking for the group on Tuesday, Cherera said the results that gave Ruto a wafer-thin victory were erroneously aggregated and accused Chebukati of over-ruling their questions on the final tally.

Odinga broadcast the dissenting commission members’ own news conference at his own venue before taking the stage.

In his speech, he urged his supporters to maintain peace and not to take the law into their own hands.

deputy president William Ruto the winner on Monday with 50.49% of the vote against Odinga’s 48.5%. Minutes earlier, his deputy Juliana Cherera had told media at a separate location that she and three other commissioners disowned the results.

Speaking for the group on Tuesday, Cherera said the results that gave Ruto a wafer-thin victory were erroneously aggregated and accused Chebukati of over-ruling their questions on the final tally.

Trump’s biggest Republican critic stares at poll loss

Cheyenne: Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, a leader in the Republican resistance to former President Donald Trump, is fighting to save her seat in the US House on Tuesday as voters weigh in on the direction of the GOP. Cheney’s team is bracing for a loss against a Trump-backed challenger in the state in which he won by largest of margins during 2020 campaign.

Win or lose, the 56-year-old daughter of a vice-president is vowing to remain in national politics as she contemplates a 2024 presidential bid. But in the short term, Cheney is facing a dire threat from Republican opponent Harriet Hageman.

“I’m still hopeful that the polling numbers are wrong,” said Landon Brown, a Wyoming state representative. “It’ll be a crying shame really if she does lose. It shows just how much of a stranglehold that Trump has on the Republican Party.” **AP**

TO BOOST BIRTH RATE

China to discourage abortions

REUTERS
HONG KONG, AUGUST 16

CHINA WILL discourage abortions and take steps to make fertility treatment more accessible as part of efforts to boost one of the world’s lowest birth rates, its National Health Authority said on Tuesday.

Support measures from taxation and insurance to education and housing would be improved and implemented, with local governments encouraged to boost infant care services and family friendly workplaces, according to guidelines published on the authority’s website.

The authority said it would carry out reproductive health promotion to enhance public awareness while “preventing unintended pregnancy and reducing abortions that are not medically necessary.”

China’s fertility rate of 1.16 in 2021 was far below the 2.1 OECD standard for a stable population and among the lowest in the world. The guidelines come as China’s uncompromising “zero-Covid” policy of curbing outbreaks with strict controls on people’s lives may have caused profound damage on their desire to have children, demographers say. The authority said it would guide local governments to gradually include assisted reproductive technology in its national medical system.

‘PROVIDING ACCESS TO FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS FUNDAMENTAL TO EQUALITY AND DIGNITY’

To end period poverty: Scotland first in the world to make products free

REMY TUMIN
AUGUST 16

PERIOD PRODUCTS are now free to anyone in Scotland who needs them, nearly two years after the country’s Parliament approved a landmark piece of legislation.

The initiative makes Scotland the first country in the world to provide free sanitary products, part of a global effort to end “period poverty” — or a lack of access to tampons or sanitary pads because of prohibitively high costs.

Monica Lennon, the lawmaker who submitted the draft proposal for the Period Products Act in 2020, tweeted that

Scotland might be “the first but won’t be the last” country to provide free period products.

“We are witnessing a massive culture change, where period stigma is no longer being tolerated,” Lennon said in an email to *The New York Times*. “There’s more emphasis on menstrual well-being and a renewed focus on tackling medical misogyny.”

Northern Ireland is considering a similar measure, and New Zealand and Seoul offer free menstrual products in schools. “It gives me hope that we won’t be the last country to put access to free period products on the statute books,” Lennon said.

Shona Robison, Scotland’s social justice secretary, echoed Lennon. “Providing access to free period products is fundamental to equality and dignity, and removes the financial barriers to accessing them,” she said in a statement. As the cost of living is rising and many are making difficult choices, she added, “We never want anyone to be in a position where they cannot access period products.”

The 2020 legislation in Scotland came on the heels of an earlier law that provided free access to tampons and sanitary pads in schools, colleges, universities and other public buildings. Now every council in Scotland is required to consult with local



Period products will be available at libraries, swimming pools, public gyms, community buildings, among other places. Reuters

communities to determine the best access point for menstrual products. In her email, Lennon said that period products would be available at libraries, swimming pools, public gyms, community buildings, town halls, pharmacies and doctors offices.

People can find the nearest location with free period products through a mobile app called PickupMyPeriod. The app allows users to filter which products are available and how to find them at the location. Home delivery is also available.

When the bill was drafted, Lennon and the bill’s other writers said they kept in mind challenges to menstruation for those

experiencing poverty, homelessness, abusive relationships and health conditions.

The coronavirus pandemic only compounded those issues, according to a 2020 study by the nonprofit Plan International UK. The group found that almost a third of girls and women age 14 to 21 had problems that year with either being able to afford or gain access to sanitary products during the first national lockdown.

In the US, a 2021 study by George Mason University showed that 14 per cent of women attending college experienced period poverty in 2020. The study found that Latina and Black women were disproportionately affected.

Seventeen states and Washington, DC, have passed laws that require free access to period products for students, according to Alliance for Period Supplies, an advocacy group. A broader push to repeal state sales taxes applied to menstrual products like pads and cups, often called the tampon tax, has proceeded in fits and starts. Those in favour of repealing the tax argue that necessities like tampons and pads should be tax-exempt, while others argue that states need the revenue. At least 32 states have introduced measures to eliminate the tax and 13 have so far succeeded. **NYT**

From MVP to Most Injured Player

Washington Sundar set to miss tour to Zimbabwe after suffering from an injury again, this time in England

SANDIP G
AUGUST 16

WASHINGTON SUNDAR had just begun to enjoy life in Lancashire. The wickets were piling on; in four games, he nabbed 11 at an average of 25, healthy numbers for someone considered a part-time spinner in first-class cricket. Last week, he produced arguably the ball of the month when an off-break of his spun devilishly from outside off-stump to sneak through the defences of Kent's Jordon Cox. The runs — he is self-admittedly a batsman who can bowl — too had started to flow. He struck an instant chord with the Old Trafford faithful — he is sociable and chatty, engages the fans as well as junior cricketers.

The English summer became sunnier when he was picked for India's fly-by-night ODI series in Zimbabwe. And then, inevitably, his summer of content, turned dark. He hurt his left shoulder when attempting to block a boundary-bound ball during a match against Worcestershire in the Royal England Cup, five days before his flight to Harare. Though the injury is not too severe to keep him out of cricket for a long time, the 22-year-old lost another comeback avenue, another shot at emphasising his explosive talents.

It has been the curse of Washington. Every time he seems to nail a spot in the team, in all formats, every time he unzips another dimension of his game, every time the pundits cast him as the next big player from the country, he courts one injury or the other. Before the tour to England last year, a Mohammed Siraj short ball during a net session fractured his finger. Six months later, just before the tour to South Africa, he got infected with Covid-19. As soon as he recovered and was readying for the encounters against Sri Lanka, he pulled a hamstring. Then during the IPL, he injured his finger again. And now the shoulder injury that has jeopardised his Zimbabwe tour. It has been 15 months of injuries and rehabs, of treatment tables and painkillers, with a bit of serious cricket squeezed in.

The lengthy list of injuries meant he has not batted in a Test innings after his 96 not out against England at Motera in 2021, not featured in a T20I since the one against England at the same venue in the same year, missed the World Cup where his skills would have been priceless, and could figure in just three 50-over games against the West Indies in a rare injury-free spell.

Immense potential

In a cruel twist to his career, he has moved from being the Most Valuable Player, according to former India head coach Ravi Shastri, to the Most Injured Player in the span of one-



Washington Sundar has not batted in a Test Innings since Motera in 2021 and not featured in a T20I since the one against England in the same year and venue. *File*

and-a-half years. The promise he holds is immense — if he could improve his bowling by a notch, he could evolve into a genuine all-rounder in Tests; if he could step up his batting, he could be a sterling all-rounder in white-ball cricket. As it is, he is a batting all-rounder in Tests and bowling all-rounder in 50- and 20-over cricket.

He has yet to play a head-turning knock in white-ball cricket, but in his few red-ball outings, he has furnished ample proof of his composure and adaptability. In Brisbane, he tamed the bouncing ball without any obvious discomfort; in Chennai and Ahmedabad, he conquered the spinning ball without breaking a sweat. His numbers in white-ball cricket are humble, but the talent is obvious. "He has the ability and he belongs at this level and he can go a long way. If he could focus on his bowling, India could have a very good number six for all conditions," Shastri had once observed.

There are arguably better batsmen in the country, but none, alas, can bowl. Washington can, and it's this dimension that makes his stock skyrocket. One of India's

glaring cracks over the last decade — one that has arguably stood between them being world-class yet not World Cup-winning class — has been the absence of a batsman who could bowl spin. Once upon a time, India had plenty — Virender Sehwag, Yuvraj Singh, Sachin Tendulkar and even Suresh Raina at times for instance, or Shastri himself and Kris Srikkanth in the preceding era. At their best, they have won games, and often filled in for a specialist bowler who was enduring a bad day. Washington's bowling is more multidimensional than all these names — he is thrifter, could take the new ball, is familiar to Powerplay tunes, can bowl in the middle overs as well as at the death. A T20 economy rate of 6.91 is worth gold in this day and age. Thrift is not his only currency — he picks wickets, mostly with the bounce he generates with his height and over-spin. There is understated subtlety — he has various release points and cleverly changes his pace. He turns the odd ball. Some stop at batsmen, most skid on.

Should his batting in white-ball cricket too come of age — he is 22 after all — he could

The English summer became sunnier when he was picked for India's fly-by-night ODI series in Zimbabwe. And then, inevitably, his summer of content, turned dark. He hurt his left shoulder when attempting to block a boundary-bound ball.

be the real deal. He would bring immense flexibility to the playing eleven. On a spin-friendly track, he affords India to pick three spinners without compromising on the batting or the pace-bowling department. On a seaming deck, his presence ensures that the spin dimension is not weakened at the expense of an extra seamer. To pick an extra batsman, or an extra bowler, Washington provides the flexibility to alter the team's permutations according to the conditions. He and a fully-fit Hardik Pandya would make the batting as well as the bowling line-up longer, the twin axes that keeps the team's balance intact. Add his on-field acrobatics and you get a valuable modern-day white-ball utility package. More so as the 50-over World Cup at home is just a year away and Ravindra Jadeja's consistency in white-ball cricket has been waning.

Focus on fitness

Washington could be what his mentor Shastri was to his team for a decade — a player for any role, any condition, any situation. "Better than me," was Shastri's answer when asked about whether he sees a bit of him in Washington. "I think Washy has far more natural ability than I had and should bat at No. 4 for his state in every format," he had said.

But the appreciation comes with a caveat, a most significant one. "I think it is up to him really to do the hard yards on fitness. No excuse. He can't depend on X, Y, Z. He has to look at himself in the mirror and say I want to work hard and I want to be the leading all-rounder in Indian cricket over the next three years. And he can do it. Easy," Shastri had remarked on ESPNcricinfo's TimeOut.

As much as working on his fitness, Washington needs to be careful of not injuring himself. Hurting a finger when batting at the nets owes to clumsy judgment; injuring the shoulder when diving stems from poor diving technique; spinners tearing hamstrings betrays a lack of fitness. It is the time, like Shastri had said, "to look in the mirror" and "work hard." So that he can see more sunny days on the field than bleary days in rehabs.

Stokes wants Eng to stick to their guns over 'Bazball'

REUTERS
AUGUST 16

England test captain Ben Stokes says he hopes his team has retained their "venom" ahead of the start of the three-match series against South Africa which begins at Lord's on Wednesday.

There has been a lot of chatter about England's attacking style of play, nicknamed 'Bazball' because of new coach Brendon McCullum, that swept them to four wins in a row in June-July, each time successfully chasing over 275 to win against New Zealand and India.

South Africa skipper Dean Elgar suggested England's all-out attack with the bat was unsustainable and would eventually see them fail, but Stokes says the die has been cast and they will not waiver from their plans.

"The opposition seem to be doing a lot of the talking at the moment about it," Stokes told reporters on Tuesday. "We just concentrate on what we do. We've got a style of play, they've got a style of play."

"At the end of the day, it's bat against ball and whoever plays best over a test match is most likely to win."

"For me, it's just about reiterating the points that we were making at the start of the summer — our mindset, attitude and everything like that — about how we go out and play our cricket."

Most of the England test squad have been playing white ball formats since their last victory over India in early July and Stokes hopes they can quickly slip back into gear in the longer format.

"It has felt like we've been a really long time away from each other — obviously there has been a lot of different cricket, different formats played — so there is a real excitement for me to get back in there, see everybody, and reminding everybody about what we've achieved and sticking to our guns," he said.

"It's about making sure that five-week period doesn't mean we've lost our venom. It would be easy to have so long away to almost forget the place we managed to find ourselves in."

Stokes confirmed wicketkeeper Ben Foakes will return to the starting XI in the only change from the side that defeated India. He missed that test with concussion.

Proteas wait on Rabada

South Africa are hopeful key fast bowler Kagiso Rabada will be fit for the first test.

Rabada is a huge figure in the South African seam attack and his loss would be a massive blow as he battles back from an ankle problem sustained in the Twenty20 International series between the sides late last month.

"I think he's very close to being fully fit for this test. He's had a really good few days, so it's looking pretty good for us," Elgar told reporters on Tuesday, adding they had yet to finalise their batting line-up either.

The major question is who will replace injured middle-order batter Temba Bavuma in the top five, with the latter having been one of South Africa's most consistent performers over the last 12 months.

Sarel Erwee will likely open with Elgar and Keegan Petersen bat at number three, with the experienced duo of Aiden Markram and Rassie van der Dussen tipped to take the two remaining top five places ahead of Ryan Rickelton and Khaya Zondo.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Kyle Verreynne will slot in at six, allowing the tourists to play an all-rounder who will bat at seven.

"I think purely because we've lost that experience factor (of Bavuma) we are more inclined on going with the experience we have within our batters," Elgar said.

"It is up to the coach and the selectors, but from my side I would lean more to having the experience."

South Africa sit on top of the ICC World Test Championship table but with series to come in England and Australia, have a tough task staying there. Elgar is confident they can.

"I didn't take this job (of captain) thinking we were just going to be mid-table. It's always been my goal and my ambition (to be the top test team in the world)," he said.

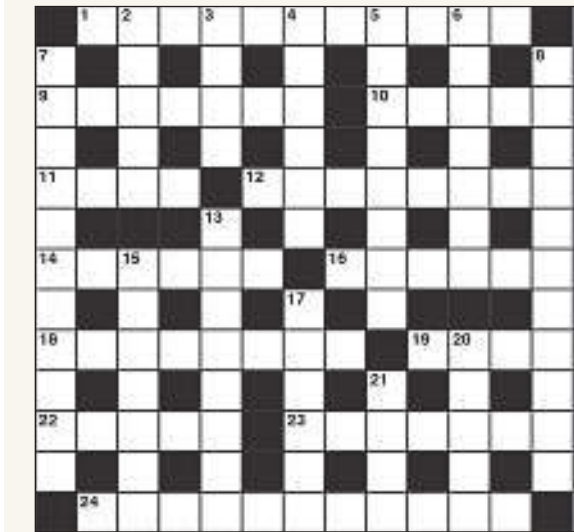
"I have experienced us being world number one twice and I know that feeling, but I know there's a journey and hard work to get there."

"I want the young guys to experience that and I still want to experience that again before I turn the chapter (and retire)."



Ben Stokes (top) confirmed that wicketkeeper Ben Foakes will make his return to the squad. *File*

CROSSWORD 4822



- ACROSS**
1 English swell makes the French dame a lady (11)
9 Goldsmith turns to grab fee (7)
10 Animal fur I am after (5)
11 He's monstrous and so backward (4)
12 Unimportant persons found after well-planned murders (8)
14 Catch parent out (6)
16 Make something known concerning calf meat (6)
18 Listen repeatedly for a sign of approval (4,4)
19 Travel, making for Abraham's birthplace (4)
22 Naturally it rings the lagoon (5)
23 Ends an interim arrangement (7)
24 A charge made upon income? (8,3)
- DOWN**
2 It dies at the end of three months (5)
3 Wrong despite being soundly instructed (4)
4 Before this time in the past (6)
5 A quick check as soon as the matter's settled (8)
6 Girl given Chinese food wanting more (7)
7 Crazy way to score a goal at soccer (3,4,4)
8 Residential form of transport (6,5)
13 Single-minded man? (8)
15 A long time out in town getting a dress (3,4)
17 Vehicle with heavyweight container (6)
20 Nothing shocking for a girl (5)
21 Bird from southern Europe (4)

Solutions Crossword 4821: Across: 1 Siesta, 4 Ambulate, 9 Inrush, 10 Eggshell, 12 Elan, 13 Offer, 14 Pays, 17 Take the field, 20 Empty protest, 23 Even, 24 Jolly, 25 Dour, 28 No charge, 29 Blonde, 30 Toll gate, 31 Intern. Down: 1 Stiletto, 2 Earmarks, 3 Toss, 5 Magnetic pole, 6 Ursa, 7 Ape man, 8 Enlist, 11 Afterthought, 15 Items, 16 Floor, 18 Denounce, 19 Sturgeon, 21 Peanut, 22 Pencil, 26 Bang, 27 Alan.

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.

No one owns life, but anyone who can pick up a _____ owns death. - William S. Burroughs (6,3)

TTAIR
[] [] [] [] [] []

CLMUPY
[] [] [] [] [] []

AEXNN
[] [] [] [] [] []

ADLYFG
[] [] [] [] [] []

ANSWER: No one owns life, but anyone who can pick up a trying man owns death. - William S. Burroughs

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



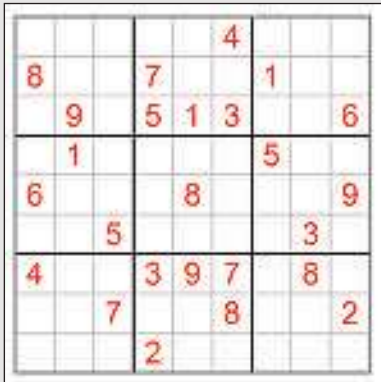
MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4929

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 4928



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Temper at home may well fray, but there's no reason why you should be responsible. Don't let other people pin the blame on you, as they are all too prone to do at times like this. But don't be so impatient that you plant the seeds of future troubles.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
I am sorry my stars for the week are tending to the gloomy side, but I'm the messenger. However, the real problems could be that you worry too much, even when there's nothing to worry about. The good news today is that at least you can now talk to people about what must be done next.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Each and every planetary movement is exerting a subtle effect on your entire consciousness. Mars, for example, is pulling the carpet from under your feet. Saturn is encouraging you to pause for thought. It's therefore time to give controversial projects a break.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You're in quite a strong situation for once. Current planetary influences strengthen your position; a useful factor considering the generally petulant and combative state of the heavens. There is no reason to expect other people to share your beliefs, by the way.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Venus advocates domestic entertaining and family harmony, but Pluto has other ideas. Watch any tendency to push people to the limit, or to stretch yourself too far for that matter. It will only be possible to go to extremes if you take the necessary safeguards.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
It's an idealistic moment, one when everything centres on your most deeply-held principles. And to continue one Virgoan theme, it is extremely likely that you're going to get involved in a worthwhile charitable activity. I can see many of you rattling those collecting tins.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
You can spare a little extra time for work and other worldly ambitions at the moment. Play your cards right over the next forty-eight hours and cash rewards could be your ultimate prize. Take each step as it comes, and pause to think again as soon as you feel that doubts are emerging.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
Although you appear to be caught in the crossfire at the moment, you may bring agreement to troubled quarters. No doubt you are annoyed by others' tendency to disagree, but there's no urgency for you to get involved. Neither is there any reason to clear up other people's mess.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
Everything that I've said about your financial situation should now be coming to a head. Today is the perfect time to deal with money, whether you're shifting millions of pounds from one continent to another, or merely after a bargain at the corner shop.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Do take notice of what partners have to say today. Even if they are apparently not making sense, their assorted statements will be relevant to the somewhat strained mood of the times. Next week should be more relaxed. Until then, keep an eye on upward children.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Although you appear to have gone way over the top lately, there is a case to be made for partners to be grateful. After all, others should thank you for shaking them up and making them look at their lives anew. As it happens, it's also a perfect moment for keeping fit.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
You seem to be caught up in a complex and emotionally disturbing situation, but the good point is that the stars are on your side. You might even enjoy the prospect of getting to know someone closer. They, for their part, could be charmed by your seductive wiles.

London: Carlos Alcaraz will lead Spain against Novak Djokovic's Serbia next month in the Davis Cup group stage after Rafael Nadal wasn't named to the Spanish team on Monday. Nadal is set to return to competition at this week's hard-court tournament in Cincinnati after an abdominal injury caused the 22-time Grand Slam champion to pull out of Wimbledon ahead of the semifinals. **AP**

BRIEFLY

Durand Cup opener: Mohammedan beat FC Goa 3-1

Kolkata: Kolkata giants Mohammedan SC kicked off their Durand Cup campaign with a stunning 3-1 come-from-behind win over defending champions FC Goa here on Tuesday. FC Goa drew the first blood when young midfielder Muhammad Nebil struck from a counter attack to give his side an early lead. The Black Panthers had to wait until the second half to find an equaliser when in the 49th minute 29-year-old Manipur forward Pritam Singh drew parity off a delightful cross from winger Sheikh Faiaz. Egged on by a boisterous home support, Mohammedan SC brought in midfielder Faslu Rahman in the 78th minute of the game, and the 27-year-old gave headed the ball into the net and earned MSC the all-important just six minutes later.. **PTI**

Pragg beats Firouzja in FTX Crypto Cup

Miami: Teenage Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa on Tuesday opened his campaign in the FTX Crypto Cup, the American finale of Champions Chess Tour, with a 2.5-1.5 win over the world's top junior player Alireza Firouzja. The 17-year-old, who was part of the bronze medal-winning India 'B' team at the recent chess Olympiad in Mamallapuram near Chennai, opened with a win in the first of the four-game match. He lost the second game before winning the third and drawing the fourth to beat Firouzja in the first round match on Tuesday. The Indian GM faces Dutch No.1 Anish Giri in the second round. **PTI**

Nunez sent off as Liverpool draw 1-1

Liverpool: Two glaring misses then a red card for a reckless headbutt. It was a home debut to forget for Liverpool's big off-season signing, Darwin Nunez. Fortunately for the Reds, another South American came to the rescue at Anfield as a dazzling individual goal by Luis Diaz salvaged a 1-1 draw against Crystal Palace in the Premier League on Monday. In his first competitive start for Liverpool, Nunez lost control after jostling with Joachim Andersen off the ball and thrust his head into the face of the Palace defender, with referee Paul Tierney watching on close by in the 57th minute. The red card was immediately brandished. **AP**

Cincinnati: Murray edges Wawrinka

London: Britain's Andy Murray got the better of Stan Wawrinka 7-6(3), 5-7, 7-5 in a clash of former Grand Slam winners to advance at the Cincinnati Open on Monday, the last tune-up before the US Open kicks off in New York from Aug. 29. France's Tiafoe was unable to break Matteo Berrettini's serve but the American showed grit in the tiebreakers to beat last year's Wimbledon runner-up 7-6(3), 4-6, 7-6(5) in the opening round of the ATP Masters event. Next up for Murray is fellow Briton and ninth seed Cameron Norrie, who beat Holger Rune 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-4. **REUTERS**

Football in Supreme Court

Apex court to hear AIFF case on Wednesday; Gokulam Kerala first to bear the brunt of suspension as club barred from AFC tourney

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16

WITH HER tersely-worded letter to the All India Football Federation, FIFA secretary-general Fatma Samoura has, in essence, put the ball in the Supreme Court.

Samoura, in her two-page note to acting secretary general of the AIFF Sunando Dhar, made it clear that FIFA will lift its suspension, imposed on August 15, only after the 'repeal of the CoA mandate in full' and once the AIFF administration is 'fully in charge' of its daily affairs. These are the only conditions laid down by world football's governing body to bring the AIFF back into its fold.

All eyes, thus, are now on the Supreme Court bench led by Justice DY Chandrachud, which will hear the case on Wednesday. It was the Supreme Court that had appointed the three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to run the day-to-day affairs of the AIFF on May 18. The decision was taken due to a logjam in finalising the federation's constitution and the inability to conduct elections. In her letter, a copy of which is available with The Indian Express, Samoura said the Bureau of FIFA Council decided on '14 August 2022 to suspend the AIFF with immediate effect due to flagrant violations of the FIFA Statutes'. The decision was made public late on August 15.

Samoura said FIFA had been following the developments within the AIFF since May 18, the day when the CoA was appointed. A joint delegation of FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation subsequently travelled to India, where timelines were agreed to form the constitution and hold fresh elections. Samoura, however, said there had been 'serious deviations' from the roadmap.

"...it was confirmed that the AIFF had been ordered to hold elections (i) prior to the adoption of a new constitution, as the finalization of the latter would take more time; (ii) for an interim mandate of three months, until the new constitution was finalised; (iii) based on the national sports code...; and (iv) with the defined electoral college reshuffled in order to include players, in addition, the Bureau understood that the CoA would still play a role within the aforesaid interim mandate," Samoura wrote in her letter.

This, the FIFA secretary-general said, 'constituted undue interference by a third party'. "Furthermore, the Bureau decided that the lifting of the suspension be subject to the following conditions being satisfied: Repeal of the CoA mandate in full; the AIFF administration to be fully in charge of the AIFF's daily affairs," the letter noted.

Samoura said that upon lifting the suspension, the AIFF constitution will have to be 'revised in accordance with the requirements of FIFA and AFC' without 'interference from any third party'. She added that the fresh elections will be held based on the 'pre-existing membership structure of AIFF (i.e. state associations only).

This means that FIFA will not accept the decision taken by the CoA to include former India internationals in the voters' list for the AIFF elections. In its draft constitution, the CoA had given players a 50 percent representation in AIFF's executive committee as co-opted members, as against 25 percent recommended by FIFA. The move was opposed by state officials.

Door open for U-17 WC

The impact of a prolonged suspension could be profound on Indian football. Samoura, in the letter, added that the suspension means that the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, scheduled to be held from October 11-30, will 'no

longer be held as planned'.

However, in its media statement, FIFA kept the door open for the tournament to still be held in India and said they hoped for a 'positive outcome'. "FIFA is assessing the next steps with regard to the tournament and will refer the matter to the Bureau of the Council if and when necessary," the statement said. "FIFA is in constant constructive contact with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in India and is hopeful that a positive outcome to the case may still be achieved."

As things stand, however, Samoura added that the AIFF 'loses all its membership rights as of 14 August 2022 until further notice.' "AIFF representative and club teams are therefore no longer entitled to take part in international competitions until the suspension is lifted. This also means that neither the AIFF nor any of its members or officials may benefit from any development programmes, courses or training from FIFA and/or the AFC," Samoura explained.

The suspension also means Indian clubs will no longer be able to sign foreign players, apart from the ones already on their roster.

Gokulam Kerala barred

The most immediate impact of the suspension was felt by Indian Women's League champions Gokulam Kerala. The domestic heavyweights are currently in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and were set to travel to Qarshi, where they were scheduled to take part in the AFC Women's Club Championship.

However, on Tuesday evening the club was told by the AFC that they are no longer eligible to take part in the competition. A letter stating the same was sent by the continental body to the AIFF as well. The team is still in Tashkent and an official said they are likely to be given further directions by the AFC on Wednesday.

The competition gets underway on August 20 but Gokulam Kerala will begin their campaign on August 23 against the home team, Sogdiana.

FIFA has written to all its member associations, reminding them not to enter any 'sporting contact with AIFF' and its teams while it is suspended. This means ISL teams, who had planned pre-season friendly matches against foreign sides will no longer be able to do so.

Senior Indian football officials expressed hope that the suspension will not last long. But a lot will depend on the Supreme Court hearing on Wednesday.

FIFA's decision unfortunate: CoA

New Delhi: The Committee of Administrators (CoA) on Tuesday said it was 'surprised' at FIFA's 'unfortunate' decision to ban the All India Football Federation despite closing in on a consensus on matters concerning the elections and structure of constitution.

"The CoA is surprised that the FIFA decision has come when extensive discussions were going on for the past few days between all stakeholders, including FIFA-AFC, AIFF, CoA, and the Sports Ministry as per the Order of the Supreme Court," the CoA said in a statement.

"While the CoA was committed to implement the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order regarding the elections of the AIFF, passed on August 3, 2022, it was also in constant dialogue with all stakeholders." **PTI**



If the FIFA U-17 WC is staged elsewhere, it would put doubts over India's participation since the country was a part of it on the virtue of being the host and not by merit. *AIFF*

Delhi HC appoints CoA to take over IOA and orders federations to accept Sports Code

Players to have minimum 25% representation, age & tenure restrictions on officials, disfranchisement of State Olympic Associations

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, AUGUST 16

REFERRING TO its direction to the government in 2013, where it had observed that State Olympic Associations (SOAs) have 'no worthwhile role or history of having added to sports development in the country for half a century', the Delhi High Court on Tuesday said the state bodies will no longer play any role in the functioning of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).

In its judgment that could have a far-reaching impact on the governance of Indian sport, a Delhi High Court bench comprising Justice Najmi Waziri and Justice Manmohan said there 'should be no SOAs' going forward. "However, should the IOA insist on having them, the SOAs shall have no votes in the IOA nor will their members be elected to the IOA EC or discharge any position of authority or control, nor will the SOAs be funded, patronized or supported in any manner by the Government," the judgment read.

This was one of the several decisions taken by the court; a verdict that petitioner Rahul Mehra described as 'landmark'. The court has directed that the IOA elections must be held within the next 16 weeks. It has also ordered that players must have a minimum 25 percent representation in the general body and executive committee of the IOA.

The judgment also added that the age and tenure restrictions will be applicable to all officials and not just the president, secretary and treasurer. While the maximum tenure of an official can be a maximum of three terms, that is 12 years, including a cool-off period, the upper limit for age is kept at 70 years. The current IOA Constitution, the court noted, 'permits a person to hold offices for 20 years without undergoing a cooling-off period.'

A person against whom criminal charges are framed should not be allowed to be a member of the executive committee and the general body, the court added.

The bench also named a three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) to run the day-to-day affairs of the IOA along with three former players as 'consultants'.

The three administrators named to run the IOA are Justice Anil Dave, former Supreme Court judge, ex-chief election commissioner SY Quraishi and former secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Vikas Swaroop. Each of them will receive an honorarium of Rs 3 lakh per month.

The consultant sportspersons, who will be paid Rs 1.5 lakh each, include Olympic gold

medallist Abhinav Bindra, world championship medallist Anju Bobby George and Olympian Bombayla Devi.

The IOA officials have warned that this could lead to a suspension from the International Olympic Committee (IOC), who could perceive this as outside interference. In fact, the IOC had already threatened to suspend the IOA last month, citing the same reason.

In his remarks, Justice Manmohan clarified the 'intent' of their judgment is to 'improve the ecosystem and bring about structural reforms and is not directed against a particular individual or sports federation'.

"Further, those who mismanage the sports bodies and those who have converted the sports bodies into their personal fiefdoms, dare the Government / Authorities and Courts that if they try to democratize the sport association and remove the mis-management, the country would suffer de-recognition and the Indian sportsmen would not be able to participate under the country's flag in the immediate future. In fact, the respondents have tried their best to brand the 'problem solver' (i.e. the Court/Government) as the 'problem'," Justice Manmohan noted.

WHAT THE COURT ORDERED

1. PLAYERS MUST have a minimum 25 percent representation in IOA's general body as well as executive committee along with voting rights;
2. AGE AND tenure restrictions shall be applicable to all officials and not just the president, secretary and treasurer. Maximum tenure of three terms, i.e. 12 years, with a cooling-off period with an age cap of 70 years.
3. THE ELECTORAL College of the IOA shall

- consist of only National Sports Federations that govern Olympic sports. State Olympic Associations will no longer have any voting rights.
4. PERSONS AGAINST whom criminal charges have been framed will not be eligible to be a part of the federation.
 5. ALL FEDERATIONS must comply with the Sports Code, failing which they shall not receive funding or enjoy any benefits from the government.

Veteran cricket administrator Choudhary no more

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, AUGUST 16

Being a former policeman by profession, maybe there was no surprise that World War II was one of **Amitabh Choudhary's** favourite subjects. During informal conversations, he drew martial analogies frequently to give thrusts to his assertions. Once, during the Committee of Administrators' (CoA) regime in the BCCI, hit by a letter from the court-appointed committee, he called up this correspondent to inform that his reply would be no-holds-barred. "Operation Barbarossa will hit them (CoA)," he had said.



Veteran cricket administrator Choudhary, 58, passed away on Tuesday morning from a heart attack. He was the man who built Jharkhand cricket, presiding over it as state association chief for more than a decade. He shifted Jharkhand cricket's headquarters from Jamshepur to Ranchi. MS Dhoni's rise as a cricketer contributed to it. But it was an administrative job and Choudhary led from the front. A world-class cricket arena was built under his watch and one end of the stadium was named after him.

"This is unthinkable. He was a great leader, our guardian, although after stepping down as

the JSCA president, he wasn't there in any official capacity. This is an irreplaceable void as far as Jharkhand cricket is concerned. It feels like we have lost everything," former Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) president Nafees Akhtar told *The Indian Express*.

Choudhary rose to become BCCI joint secretary and during a period of upheaval, as the cricket board went under the CoA to implement the Lodha reforms, he worked as the Board's acting secretary. Initially, he was on good terms with the CoA members, much to the chagrin of a lot of BCCI old hands. Gradually, though, cracks started to develop, as the CoA felt that Choudhary wasn't doing enough to implement its instructions.

Choudhary was the Indian team manager in Zimbabwe in 2005-06, a tour that marked the beginning of the Sourav Ganguly-Greg Chappell fallout. Later, working under the CoA in the BCCI, he faced tougher administrative challenges. He also had to deal with the Virat Kohli-Anil Kumble saga that saw the latter's acrimonious exit as India coach.

Choudhary was ecstatic when India won a legal battle over Pakistan in the ICC over alleged non-adherence to bilateral cricket commitments. He was the BCCI's representative at the world body.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AUGUST 16

DOES CRISTIANO Ronaldo eat his lunch alone in the canteen at the Manchester United's training centre at Carrington? The report at *The Athletic* claims sources have told the portal that Ronaldo's disenchantment with the club, which was thrashed 0-4 by Brentford, is constantly escalating. It has been reported that he has sought transfer but hasn't got his way as yet.

The Times reported on Tuesday that ten Hag, who had reportedly resisted Ronaldo's transfer requests, is now open to selling the legendary footballer in the transfer window.

With just two weeks of the summer window left, it remains to be seen if the move eventuates.

"The Athletic has been told of days when he eats lunch alone in the canteen at Carrington, and he has been seen flapping his arms about in training and attempting to argue against the high-pressing approach favoured by the new manager," reported the *Athletic*.

Post the shambolic loss to Brenford, the manager Ten Hag had cancelled the customary day off next day, and had the players train. In particular, he made them run. It's been reported that the coaching staff were let down by the stat that United's players ran a distance of 95.6 km as compared to Brentford's 109.4 km. In the session next day, that involved



Cristiano Ronaldo reportedly eats lunch alone in the canteen. *Reuters*

even those players who didn't start on Saturday's game, were made to run.

It has been reported that the 37-year old wants to leave the club he rejoined last summer because he wants to play in the Champions League. Manchester United, who finished sixth in May, will play in the Europa League this season.

It has also been reported that Ronaldo is yet to attract a serious proposal from a Champions League-qualified club. Ronaldo

scored 24 all-competitions goals last season for United, 14 more than the next.

United's position is complicated by the need not simply to secure a replacement for a player who scored 13 more Premier League goals than anyone else in last season's squad, but also to add additional strike power to a debilitated attack, reports Sunday Times.

The club must also simultaneously attempt to fend off Paris Saint-Germain's aggressive courtship of Marcus Rashford.

United are in talks with Atletico Madrid over their Brazilian striker Matheus Cunha. It is believed that the 23-year-old, who joined the Spanish club from Hertha Berlin in 2021, would command a fee in the region of €50 million (about €42 million). However, there is no indication that Ronaldo would be part of any deal for Cunha.

While allowing Ronaldo to switch clubs for the second consecutive summer would open up room on United's wage bill, the 37-year-old's commercial value is such a transfer would have ramifications for a balance sheet already damaged by last season's failure to qualify for the Champions League. The Times understands that additional contributions from sponsors helped finance Ronaldo's return from Juventus for an initial transfer fee of €15 million (about €12.6 million).

Ronaldo's representatives have held discussions with a number of leading clubs in order to find the record breaking forward a new employer with initial interest expressed by both the new ownership group at Chelsea and Bayern Munich. Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone impressed Ronaldo with his eagerness to work with him, and the Spanish club are open to using individuals such as Alvaro Morata or Antoine Griezmann to facilitate a deal. Any move to Atletico would be unpopular with their supporters, however, given that Ronaldo is the all-time leading goalscorer for rivals Real Madrid. Napoli have discussed utilising Italy's favourable tax laws to bring the forward back to Serie A.