



“ शौर्य और कौशल, जवान और किसान, प्राचीन संस्कृति और नव तकनीक की संगम स्थली हरियाणा के निवासियों को राज्य के स्थापना दिवस की बहुत-बहुत बधाई। विकास की राह पर निरंतर अग्रसर यह प्रदेश आगे भी देश की समृद्धि में अपना अमूल्य योगदान देता रहे। ”
- नरेन्द्र मोदी



देशोऽस्ति हरियाणाख्यः पृथिव्यां स्वर्गसन्निभः*
(हरियाणा नाम का एक देश (प्रदेश) है जो इस धरती पर स्वर्ग के समान है।)

**Greetings
on the**

58th

Haryana Day
November 1, 2023

*दिल्ली के निकट सारवान गांव से मिले विक्रमी संवत् 1385 के शिलालेख से उद्धृत

Haryana at the Forefront

- Highest annual income limit for BPL families – **Rs. 1.80 lakh**
- Maximum monthly social security pension – **Rs. 2,750**
- Highest per capita income among major states – **Rs. 2,96,685**
- Highest cash rewards to sportsperson up to **Rs. 6 crore**
- Highest per capita daily milk availability – **1081 grams**
- The highest number of solar water pumps under PM-KUSUM Yojana – **56,263**
- Highest daily wage under MGNREGA – **Rs.357**
- 24x7 electricity** available in 86% of villages
- Har Ghar Nal Se Jal- **Clean drinking water** to all 30.96 lakh rural households
- Ownership rights** within Lal Dora of villages
- 50% participation** of women in Panchayats
- The first state in the country with **educated Panchayats**
- Procurement of **14 crops** at MSP
- First state to provide **Bhavantar Bharpayee** of crops
- The first **kerosene-free** state in the country
- The first state to implement **Online Transfer Policy** for employees
- First in implementing **e-ticketing** in public transportation
- Women police stations, cyber police stations** and **cyber desks** in every district
- The country's first **AYUSH** University and **Skill** University
- Every district connected with **National Highway**
- Leading state in **per capita GST** collection among major states
- Distribution of **5.50 lakh free tablets** to students of government schools
- Benefits of **397 schemes to 45 lakh families** through **Parivar Pehchan Patra** within the comfort of home
- Offices of world's **400 Fortune companies** located in Haryana

THE WORLD

FROM 1.3% A MONTH AGO

LANKA'S KEY INFLATION RISES TO 1.5% IN OCT

Sri Lanka's key inflation rate rose to 1.5% in October from 1.3% a month ago, statistics department said Tuesday. Food prices fell 5.2% in October after declining 5.2% in September, from a year earlier. Prices for non-food items climbed to 4.9% in October after rising 4.7% in September. **REUTERS**

TOP OF THE WORLD



Gui Haichao carried out of the capsule after it landed on Tuesday. **AP**

CHINA

Three astronauts return after six months on China space station

Beijing: Three Chinese astronauts returned to Earth on Tuesday morning after six months aboard China's orbiting space station. Jing Haipeng, Zhu Yangzhu and Gui Haichao emerged in good health from the return capsule near the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on the edge of the Gobi Desert, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The station's new three-person crew arrived to the Tiangong station last week. The station is essentially complete, so the new crew will conduct scientific experiments and maintain equipment. **REUTERS**

INDONESIA

59 arrested over 'plot to disrupt 2024 elections'

Jakarta: Indonesia's elite counterterrorism police squad arrested at least 59 suspected militants in recent weeks in a nationwide crackdown as country gears up for elections in 2024, police said Tuesday. The arrests were made in eight provinces since October 2, including 27 suspects held Friday. Those arrested believed to have links to banned extremist groups who were allegedly plotting to disrupt next year's polls, he said. Siregar said arrested suspects said during interrogation "they have planned action to attack security forces to thwart or disrupt next year's election." **AP**

BANGLADESH

Two killed, over a dozen injured in anti-govt protest

Dhaka: Two people were killed and dozens injured in clashes in Bangladesh on Tuesday between anti-government protesters and police on the first day of a three-day protest to push for the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The main opposition party Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) called for the blockade of roads for three days in response to clashes between party supporters and police on Sunday in which one policeman was killed and more than 100 people were injured. **REUTERS**

AFGHANISTAN

UN experts call Taliban to free 2 rights defenders

Kabul: UN experts Tuesday demanded the Taliban immediately release two women rights defenders who have been in detention for over a month with no reason given for their arrest. UN experts, including the special rapporteur on Afghanistan, Richard Bennett, described the release of Neda Parwan and Zholia Parsi and their family members as an urgent matter. They have not been granted legal representation, charged with a crime or brought before a court. "We are increasingly concerned about their physical and mental wellbeing," the experts said. **AP**

DEMOLISHED HOME OF HAMAS LEADER, struck over 300 targets inside tunnels: Israel

OVER 900 CHILDREN MISSING IN GAZA, some believed to be under rubble: UNICEF

Israel attacks Hamas in tunnels, Gazans say 50 killed in air strike

Move after Bibi dismissed calls for ceasefire to ease humanitarian crisis in Gaza

NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI & EMILY ROSE
GAZA, JERUSALEM, OCTOBER 31

PALESTINIAN HEALTH officials said at least 50 Palestinians were killed when Israeli air strikes hit a densely populated refugee camp in north Gaza on Tuesday, as Israeli ground forces battled Hamas gunmen based in a sprawling tunnel network.

Officials at Gaza's Indonesian Hospital said over 50 Palestinians were killed and 150 wounded when tons of aerial explosives struck residential dwellings in the heart of the Jabalia refugee camp in urbanised north Gaza.

As the battle inside the tiny Hamas-ruled Palestinian territory intensified, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed international calls for a halt to the fighting.

The tunnels are a prime objective for Israel as it expands ground operations inside Gaza to wipe out Hamas, which rules Gaza, following its deadly surprise attack on southern Israel three weeks ago. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

"Over the last day, combined IDF (Israel Defence Forces) struck approximately 300 targets, including anti-tank missile and rocket launch posts below shafts, as well as military compounds inside underground tunnels belonging to the Hamas terrorist organization," the Israeli military said in a statement.

Militants responded with anti-tank missiles and machine gun fire, it added.

"The soldiers killed terrorists and directed air forces to real-time strikes on targets and terror infrastructure," the Israeli military said.

Israeli troops destroyed the family home of Saleh al-Arouri, the exiled commander of Hamas forces in the occupied West Bank.

The militants also fired at two Israeli tanks and bulldozers in



A child looks on as mourners attend funeral of Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes, in Khan Younis on Tuesday. **Reuters**

DEATH, DESTRUCTION

ISRAEL	PALESTINE
TOTAL DEAD	TOTAL DEAD
1,400+	8,525
Struck over 300 targets in Hamas tunnels, says Israel.	219 people were killed over past day: Gaza Ministry.
TOTAL INJURED	TOTAL INJURED
5,400+	20,000+
940 Gaza children still missing under the rubble.	The dead include 3,542 kids and 2,187 women.

northwest Gaza, al-Qassam said. In the northeast, they "liquidated" an Israeli unit which was ambushed as it entered a building.

Netanyahu said Monday Israel would not agree to a cessation of hostilities and would press ahead with its plans to wipe out Hamas.

Meanwhile, UNICEF said some 940 kids reported missing in Gaza, while some thought to be stuck under rubble. **REUTERS**

Protest at US Congress hearing as Austin, Blinken seek Israel aid

PATRICIA ZENGERLE & PHIL STEWART
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 31

TWO OF President Joe Biden's top advisers asked US lawmakers to provide billions more dollars to Israel on Tuesday at a congressional hearing interrupted repeatedly by protesters denouncing American officials for backing what they called "genocide" against Palestinians in Gaza.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin testified to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Biden's request for \$106 billion to fund ambitious plans for Ukraine, Israel and US border security.

Arguing that supporting US partners is vital to national security, Biden requested \$61.4 billion for Ukraine, about half of which would be spent in United States to replenish weapons stocks drained by previous support for Kyiv.



Anti-war protesters behind US Secretary of State Antony Blinken at Capitol Hill in Washington. **Reuters**

China's regional efforts in Asia.

As the hearing began, a line of anti-war protesters raised red-stained hands in the air.

Capitol police later removed them from the room after shouted slogans including, "Ceasefire now!" "Protect the children of Gaza!" and "Stop funding genocide."

Blinken did not respond to the protesters, but when he was asked later about the possibility of a ceasefire, he said that would "simply consolidate what Hamas has been able to do and... potentially repeat what it did another day." A pause for humanitarian reasons can be considered, he said.

The path forward for Biden's latest funding plan looks uncertain. Democrats solidly back Biden's strategy of combining Ukraine aid with support for Israel, as do many Republicans in both the Senate and House of Representatives.

BRIEFLY

War spilling into Syria, adding to unrest: UN envoy

THE ISRAEL-HAMAS war is spilling into Syria, fueled by growing instability, violence and a lack of progress toward a political solution to 12-year conflict, the United Nations special envoy for the country Geir Pedersen said. He told the Security Council that on top of violence from the local conflict, Syrians now face "a terrifying prospect of a potential wider escalation" after the October 7 attacks. "Spillover into Syria is not just a risk; it has already begun," the UN envoy for Syria said. **AP**

Israel backtracks on refusing to give entry visas to UN officials

ISRAELI OFFICIALS are going back on their promised refusal to grant entry visas to UN officials. Martin Griffiths, the head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, tweeted Monday that he was in Israel — less than a week after Israel's UN ambassador said it had "refused" to grant Griffiths a visa. Israeli officials had expressed outrage over comments last Wednesday by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that the deadly October 7 attack by Hamas militants "did not happen in a vacuum." **AP**

WHO warns of public health disaster in Gaza

A "PUBLIC health catastrophe" is imminent in Gaza, the World Health Organization said Tuesday, amid overcrowding, mass displacement and damage to infrastructure. WHO spokesperson Christian Lindmeier warned of the risk of civilian deaths not directly linked to Israeli bombardment. "It's an imminent public health catastrophe that looms with mass displacement, the overcrowding, the damage to water and sanitation infrastructure," Lindmeier said. **REUTERS**

Yemen's Houthis say fired missiles, drones at Israel

MAHA EL DAHAN
DUBAI, OCTOBER 31

YEMEN'S HOUTHIS have waded into the Israel-Hamas war raging more than 1,000 miles from their seat of power in Sanaa, declaring on Tuesday they had fired drones and missiles at Israel in attacks that highlight the regional risks of the conflict.

Part of an "Axis of Resistance" backed by Iran, the Houthis have rallied behind the Palestinians since Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, opening a new front for a movement that has waged war for eight years with a Saudi-led coalition in the Gulf.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said the group had launched a "large number" of ballistic missiles towards Israel, and there would be more "to help the Palestinians to victory".

Saree said it was the Houthis' third attack on Israel since the start of the conflict, appearing to confirm they were behind a drone attack on October 28 that resulted in blasts in Egypt and was blamed by Israel on Houthis, and an October 19 event in which the US navy intercepted three missiles.

Israeli National Security Adviser said the attacks were intolerable, but declined to elaborate when asked how Israel might respond. **REUTERS**

IN SUPREME COURT, CASES FROM CALIFORNIA, MICHIGAN ASSESS ISSUE OF FREE SPEECH RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

US weighs if public officials can block critics on social media

JOHN KRUZEL & ANDREW CHUNG
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 31

THE US Supreme Court Tuesday waded into the issue of free speech rights in the digital age during arguments in cases from California and Michigan involving whether public officials may legally block others on social media, a function often used on these platforms to stifle critics.

Lower courts reached different conclusions in the two cases, reflecting the legal uncertainty over whether such social media activity is bound by the US Constitution's First Amendment limits on the government's abil-

ity to restrict speech. Supreme Court arguments were ongoing.

The justices are tasked with deciding whether the public officials engaged in a "state action" in blocking critics from social media accounts or were merely acting in their personal capacity. The First Amendment constrains government actors but not private individuals.

The first case involves two public school board trustees from Poway, California who appealed a lower court's ruling in favor of parents who sued them after being blocked from the personal accounts of the officials on X, called Twitter at the time, and Facebook, which is owned by Meta Platforms.

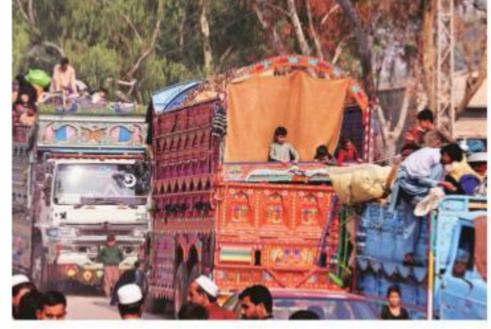
The second case involves a Michigan man's appeal after a lower court rejected lawsuit challenging a Port Huron city official who blocked him on Facebook.

Questions posed by the justices suggested they were struggling to determine the circumstances under which a social media account should be considered personal or official. Some signaled doubt that personal accounts that are heavily used for government business should be considered personal, allowing their owners to block members of the public at will.

Conservative Justice Samuel Alito told an attorney defending the Poway school board officials that his argument would allow a



The Authority of Law statue outside the US Supreme Court. The justices are deciding if the officials engaged in a 'state action' in blocking critics or were acting in personal capacity. **Reuters**



Children wait for registration at a UNHCR voluntary repatriation centre in Peshawar to return to Afghanistan. **AP**

Afghans head to Pakistan border as deportation deadline looms

RIAZ KHAN & ABDUL SATTAR
PESHAWAR, OCTOBER 31

LARGE NUMBERS of Afghans crammed into trucks and buses in Pakistan on Tuesday, heading to the border to return home ahead of the expiration of a Pakistani government deadline for those who are in the country illegally to leave or face deportation.

The deadline is part of a new anti-migrant crackdown that targets all undocumented or unregistered foreigners, according to Islamabad. But it mostly affects Afghans, who make up the bulk of migrants in Pakistan.

The expulsion campaign has drawn widespread criticism from UN agencies, rights groups and the Taliban-led administration in Afghanistan.

Pakistani officials warn that people who are in the country illegally face arrest and deportation after October 31.

UN agencies say there are more than 2 million undocumented Afghans in Pakistan, at least 600,000 of whom fled after the Taliban takeover in 2021. Human Right Watch on

EXPLAINED

Pak, Taliban in a tussle

ALTHOUGH THE government insists it isn't targeting Afghans, the campaign comes amid strained relations between Pakistan and the Taliban rulers next door. Islamabad accuses Kabul of turning a blind eye to Taliban-allied militants who find shelter in Afghanistan, from where they go back and forth across the two countries' shared 2,611-km border to stage attacks in Pakistan. The Taliban deny the accusations.

Tuesday accused Pakistan of resorting to "threats, abuse, and detention to coerce Afghan asylum seekers without legal status" to return to Afghanistan.

The New York-based watchdog appealed for authorities to drop the deadline and work with the UN refugee agency to register those without papers. **AP**

On Paris Metro, woman shot by police after she yells 'you are going to die'

REUTERS
PARIS, OCTOBER 31

PARIS POLICE shot and critically wounded a woman wearing a hijab who was behaving in a threatening manner and shouted "Allahu Akbar" and "You're all going to die" in a metro station on Tuesday morning, Paris police chief Laurent Nunez said.

France is on its highest state of alert after the October 13 murder of a schoolteacher in a suspected Islamist attack, which officials have linked to what they called a "Jihadist atmosphere" linked to the Israel-Gaza war.

The fully-veiled woman was shot at the Bibliotheque Francois-Mitterrand station. Commuters had reported her "uttering aggressive, Jihadist comments," government spokesman Olivier Veran said earlier.

When police arrived, "they pulled the woman aside and first

asked her to calm down but also to show her hands to show they presented no danger," he added. "What happened then was that...officers had no option but to open fire on this woman given the danger of the situation."

The fire service, which provided emergency care for woman, said she was shot in the abdomen. She was transferred to a hospital where she was getting treatment, police chief Nunez said, adding that her life was in danger.

Nunez said the woman's identity was yet to be confirmed but that she could be the same person who in 2021 threatened urban patrols of the counter-terrorism Sentinelle operation and had been put in a psychiatric ward over mental health issues.

The woman turned out not to be in possession of explosives at the time she was shot, Nunez said.

The metro station, on the RER C line, was evacuated after the incident, police said.

KHARGE TO OWAISI, AKHILESH TO MOITRA: 'BEING TARGETED'

Several in Opp allege snooping after Apple phone alert, Govt rejects charge

Violation of our rights: Yechury, Chaturvedi write to PM; Tharoor for changes in IT Act



Opposition leaders who got the notification; (clockwise) Priyanka Chaturvedi, Mahua Moitra, Akhilesh Yadav, Mallikarjun Kharge, Sitaram Yechury, Asaduddin Owaisi

Vaishnav: Will probe, info by Apple vague, have asked them to join investigation

SUKALP SHARMA & AGGAM WALIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

AFTER OPPOSITION politicians and journalists claimed they received threat notifications from Apple saying it believed their iPhones are being targeted by "state-sponsored" attackers, Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said Tuesday that the government will investigate the matter.

"The Government of Bharat takes its role of protecting the privacy and security of all citizens very seriously and will investigate to get to the bottom of these notifications. In light of such information and widespread speculation, we have also



Vaishnav: Take role of protecting privacy of citizens seriously

asked Apple to join the investigation with real, accurate information on the alleged state sponsored attacks," Vaishnav said in a series of posts on X.

His colleague, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on NDTV that Cabinet Minister Piyush Goyal had also received a threat notification from Apple.

Vaishnav also posted that much of the information

Bombay HC takes suo motu notice of rising pollution, asks BMC, state, Centre to explain

Everyday and everywhere, quality of air is deteriorating: Chief Justice

EXPRESS IMPACT

OMKAR GOKHALE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

THE BOMBAY HIGH Court Tuesday took suo motu cognisance of news reports including the 'Death by Breath' series of *The Indian Express* on deteriorating air quality in and around Mumbai and the lack of action by public authorities including the city's civic body Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation.

A two-judge bench led by Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya issued notices to the state and Union governments, the BMC, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, and the Central Pollution Control Board, and sought their response. It said it will also include other municipal corporations around Mumbai and pass comprehensive directions as an interim measure on November 6.

The other judge in the bench is Justice Arif S Doctor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



The first report of *The Indian Express* series dated October 20

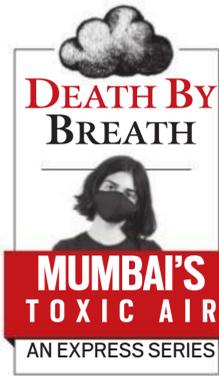
No fireworks in Mumbai & Delhi matches, quality of air a concern: BCCI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

ON THE day the Bombay High Court took note of Mumbai's worsening air quality and initiated suo motu proceedings, the Indian cricket board announced that there won't be any fireworks display during the World Cup matches in Mumbai and Delhi since it "can add to the pollution level".

While India plays South Africa at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Thursday, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka will

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Poll bonds anonymous since Govt protecting the citizen's right to privacy, SG tells SC

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

SOLICITOR GENERAL Tushar Mehta Tuesday told the Supreme Court, which began hearing the constitutional challenge against the electoral bonds scheme, that political affiliation forms the "inner core of a person's private life" which the State is protecting through the poll bonds.

"Political self-expression, either through voting or donations to one's preferred party or candidate lies at the heart of the zone of privacy which the government is constitutionally obligated to respect," Mehta stated in a 123-page note submitted to the Court. "It is submitted that given the

sensitivity involved in expression of one's political affiliation, there certainly lies a legitimate state interest in protecting the same and in providing reassurance to citizens that lawful expressions of such political affiliation would remain protected and the person concerned would have their privacy respected," he stated.

Mehta cited the 2017 landmark ruling *KS Puttaswamy v Union of India* in which the Supreme Court upheld the right

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POLL BONDS MEANT TO ENRICH PARTY: PETITIONER TO SC
PAGE 8



THE CAMPAIGN FINALE

PM Narendra Modi puts soil into the Amrit Kalash at Kartavya Path in New Delhi on Tuesday. The event marked the culmination of the 'Meri Maati, Mera Desh' campaign. *Tashi Tobgyal* PAGE 7

President terminates services of Major with Strategic Forces unit for security breach

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 31

IN AN order issued last month, President Droupadi Murmu terminated the services of an Army Major who was posted with a unit of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC), after an Army investigation found he had compromised national security.

The SFC is responsible for operational and administrative control of the country's strategic and tactical nuclear assets. The Major was posted with an SFC unit in North India.

Citing exercise of powers conferred by Section 18 of the Army Act, 1950, read with Article 310 of The Constitution of India and of all other powers enabling in this behalf, the President, on September 15, ordered that the services of the Major be terminated with immediate effect.

The order was promulgated earlier this month.

On March 5 last year, the Army had set up a board of officers to carry out an initial investigation into the Major's likely involvement in suspicious activities, social media violations, security related concerns, sharing/leakage of classified information with unauthorised persons, suspicious financial transactions and espionage activities. The board was authorised to seize the Major's digital assets.

According to sources, the investigation found several lapses on the part of the Major which compromised national security. Breaching security protocol, he allegedly kept a copy of confidential documents on his electronic devices, and was reportedly in touch with a Pakistani

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Manipur cop killed, police suspect sniper; convoy draws fire, 3 injured

JIMMY LEIVON
IMPHAL, OCTOBER 31

THE FRAGILE peace in Manipur was broken on Tuesday as suspected militants shot dead a sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) in the state's Moreh town, along the border with Myanmar. In the evening, a large number of state forces along with a column of Assam Rifles, which had left Imphal for Moreh, came under attack. The combined team, led by an IG, DIG, and two SP rank officers, came under fire at two locations along the Indo-Myanmar Road, leaving at least three police personnel injured.

Police sources said the SDPO was shot around 9.45 am while he was overseeing the construction of a helipad, jointly taken up by the state force and the BSF. He received a bullet in his abdomen and was evacuated to a clinic, but succumbed to injuries around 10.15 am. Police suspect he was shot from a long distance by a sniper.

The SDPO, Chingtham Anand Kumar, a Meitei resident of Haobam Marak Chingtham Leikai in Imphal West district, is survived by his wife and four children. Kumar has in the past been involved in several counter-insurgency operations, for which he received the police gallantry

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Alleging a plot to arrest Kejriwal, AAP goes into a huddle on what if J&K policeman shot dead near home by militants, third attack in three days

MALLICA JOSHI & JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

ALLEGING A BJP conspiracy to arrest Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is learnt to have reached out to a few of its trusted MLAs and advisors for suggestions on a likely replacement, if the need arises.

Kejriwal has been summoned for questioning by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday in connection with the

excise policy case.

On Tuesday, party leaders, including ministers Gopal Rai, Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj, Dilip Pandey and Sandeep Pathak alleged that the BJP wants to get Kejriwal arrested to "destroy" the AAP.

"A conspiracy has been underway to eliminate the AAP government since it came to power, and now BJP leaders are preparing for Arvind Kejriwal's arrest through the ED. BJP leaders have been shouting since Monday that since the Supreme

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 31

A POLICEMAN was shot dead in a militant attack in north Kashmir Tuesday evening, police said, a day after militants gunned down a migrant worker in south Kashmir.

Tuesday's attack came on the day R R Swain took charge as the new DGP of the Union Territory. It was the third targeted attack in the Valley in the last three days

— another policeman was shot at in Srinagar Sunday.

Police said militants fired at Head Constable Ghulam Mohammad Dar (56) near his residence at Wailoo Kralpora village of Tangmarg in Baramulla district Tuesday evening.

Dar was shot multiple times from point blank range, police said. He was taken to the Sub District Hospital at Tangmarg, but succumbed to injuries.

"We pay our rich tributes to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PAGE 1 ANCHOR

'Nothing worse in this world than the silence of the audience'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

"MY JOB was created so that kings could be humanised for their subjects and big stars could be seen as fallible. Don't be mad at me because I have pointed out the cracks (in society). Japanese people fill gold in the cracks and make it beautiful. That's what we are doing here," said comedian Vir Das while talking about rules of stand-up comedy and the role it plays.

About the audience getting offended by comedians, Das said, "We are like this big joint family having dinner together. Someone is going to hate the *bhindi* and somebody may want *channa*. What I love about my art

form is that we can fundamentally disagree about it and laugh about it at the same time."

Das along with actors Shefali Shah and Jim Sarbh was the chief guest at *The Indian Express Adda*, which was moderated by Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, in Mumbai on Monday evening.

The three artists have been nominated for the International Emmy Awards 2023 to be presented in New York on November 20. Shah has been nominated for her performance as top cop Vartika Chaturvedi in the second season of Netflix's *Delhi Crime* (2022). For Sarbh, it was his performance as Dr Homi Bhabha on the SonyLIV show



Actors Jim Sarbh, Shefali Shah and Vir Das, who have been nominated for the International Emmy Awards 2023, at the Express Adda in Mumbai on Monday. *Narendra Vaskar*

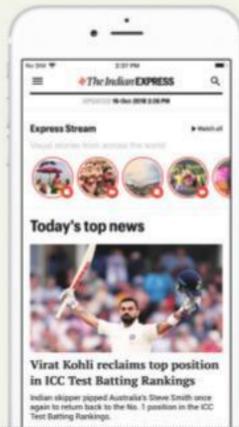
Rocket Boys Season 2 (2023) that won him his Emmy nomination, and for Vir Das, it was his Netflix special, *Landing* (2022).

Speaking about shows based on real-life stories and personalities, Shah said, "One thing that occurred to not just me but all the people involved in *Delhi Crime Season 1* was that when you are creating a show based on a real-life incident, you need immense sensitivity. When Richie Mehta (writer and director of the show) met me for the first time, he categorically said that we are not going into the rape (incident). There's enough damage done there. Our show was more about what happened in the next five days after the incident." The actor became a house-

hold name in the '90s with popular television serials such as *Hasratein* (1997), *Kabhie Kabhie* (1997) and *Raahin* (1999) as well as won critical acclaim with movies such as *Satya* (1998), *Monsoon Wedding* (2001) and *Gandhi, My Father* (2007).

Sarbh, who plays the role of legendary scientist Homi Bhabha in *Rocket Boys*, said, "We haven't had to use the atom bomb or nuclear bomb. (If we did) it would change everything, including how we looked at Homi Bhabha... I really did think about that a lot when *Delhi Crime Season 1* came out — what does it mean to take a tragedy and turn it into a hit show? It's a very odd juxtaposition."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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THAT URGE TO NAP AFTER LUNCH? IT'S STRONGER FOR WOMEN AND THERE'S A REASON WHY

The Girl Nap, if you will, has many reasons behind its occurrence. Experts indicate a tangled web at play here. Let us understand how.

TECH X WORTH LESS THAN HALF WHAT MUSK PAID X has lost more than half its valuation since Musk took over

UPSC SPECIALS Scan the QR code and get 'the express edge' in your civil services preparation with our UPSC specials

EXPRESS AUDIO Death by Breath: How bad air is choking Mumbai Even though Delhi might be the centre of attention when it comes to air pollution, Mumbai has been witnessing a steady decline in its air quality. It experiences air quality much worse than national capital

FROM PAGE ONE Several in Opp allege snooping after Apple alert

iPhone associated with your Apple ID. These attackers are likely targeting you individually because of who you are or what you do. If your device is compromised by a state-sponsored attacker, they may be able to remotely access your sensitive data, communications, or even the camera and microphone.

"While it's possible this is a false alarm, please take this warning seriously," it added. The Opposition reacted sharply with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi - he said "all the people" in his office had received the warning - claiming they were all being targeted for questioning the government over its alleged patronage to the industrial group owned by Gautam Adani. "We are not going to get

cowed down. We are fighters," Gandhi told a press conference at the AICC headquarters in New Delhi. "Like the old Indian story in which a king's life was in a caged parrot... That is exactly what is going on here... We have understood that the soul is there in the parrot and now we are attacking the soul. That is why all this is going on," he said. CPM general secretary Yechury and Sena (UBT)'s Chaturvedi wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling it a "violation of fundamental rights". "What is the point in them (government) ordering a probe? Let them answer first whether they have actually bought the Pegasus (spyware) or not. The Supreme Court committee had

said that they refused to cooperate. So what does it mean? All these point towards something fishy going on," Yechury said. TMC's Mahua Moitra, who has been summoned by the Ethics Committee to respond to cash-for-query allegations against her, said she was writing to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to "protect Opposition MPs" and summon Home Ministry officials over the "our phones/emails being hacked". AAP's Chaddha said he got a warning "about a potential state-sponsored spyware attack on my phone". Alleging "snooping" months before general elections, Chaddha said, "This notification is reminiscent of the Pegasus spyware scandal which also had targeted many

• Vaishnav: Will probe, info by Apple vague

provided by Apple "on this issue seems vague and non-specific in nature." "Apple states these notifications maybe based on information which is 'incomplete or imperfect'. It also states that some Apple threat notifications maybe false alarms or some attacks are not detected. Apple has also claimed that Apple IDs are securely encrypted on devices, making it extremely difficult to access or identify them without the user's explicit permission. This encryption safeguards the user's Apple ID and ensures that it remains private and protected," Vaishnav said. As per screenshots shared by many in the list, the notification from Apple said: "Apple believes you are being targeted by state-sponsored attackers who are trying to remotely compromise the iPhone associated with your Apple ID. These attackers are likely

targeting you individually because of who you are or what you do. If your device is compromised by a state-sponsored attacker, they may be able to remotely access your sensitive data, communications, or even the camera and microphone." "While it's possible this is a false alarm, please take this warning seriously," it added. According to Apple, the threat notifications are designed to "inform and assist" users who may have been targeted by state-sponsored attackers. "State-sponsored attackers are very well-funded and sophisticated, and their attacks evolve over time," Apple says. Since November 2021, Apple has sent threat notifications to individuals in 150 countries. Internet Freedom Foundation's (IFF) founding director Apar Gupta termed the timing of these threat notifications as "alarming", given Assembly elec-

tions in five states and the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. "Public cynicism or judicial stupor should not preclude us from demanding an independent, transparent technical analysis and clear disclosures from the Government of India regarding its spyware purchases and deployments. This issue strikes at the heart of Indian democracy," Gupta said in a post on X. In 2021, an international investigative journalism initiative reported that phones of a number of Indians, including some politicians, public officials, journalists, lawyers, and activists, among others, were infected by the Pegasus spyware. In August 2022, the apex court had said that the committee found no "conclusive evidence" of the use of Pegasus on 29 phones that it examined, while also noting that the Central government did not cooperate in the investigation.

• Major sacked

Intelligence operative via social media chats. The board also probed the Major's links with a WhatsApp group called "Patiala Peg", some of whose members were part of an espionage investigation earlier. The Major was reportedly called as a witness in the Court of Inquiry held against these officers. In July 2022, The Indian Express had reported that four Army officers who were part of the WhatsApp group, of the rank of Colonel and Lt Colonel, had filed a petition in the Supreme Court alleging that their right to privacy under the Constitution had been violated by military authorities who seized their cell-phones for an espionage investigation and then suspended three of them on grounds of morality. While two of the suspended officers were posted in the Directorate of Military Intelligence at the Army Headquarters in New Delhi, the third was an instructor at Defence Services Staff College in Wellington. The fourth officer was posted in Mumbai. It was suspected that the WhatsApp group had been infiltrated by a Pakistani Intelligence operative, triggering a probe into whether classified military information had been leaked. While no espionage links of any of these officers were found in the subsequent investigation by the Army, three of them were suspended for violating the Army's cyber security policy, their petition said. Meanwhile, the Army is learnt to have issued a show-cause notice to a Brigadier and a Lt Colonel for administrative/disciplinary action for violation of its social media policies and being part of a WhatsApp group where objectionable content was shared.

• 'Nothing worse than the silence of the audience'

The actor, who has been part of a number of projects based on real-life stories, said, "Maybe people are realising that there are good stories out there in India that have not been looked at." Das, who has dabbled in various formats including stand-up comedy, theatre, and movies, is currently touring with 'Mind Fool'. He noted how the audience has made comedians humble. "Earlier, comedians were like, 'Here are my jokes, if you are offended, I am off to the next

city." Now, the comedians have to be humble about the fact that "the audience has a voice", he said. "There is nothing worse in this world than the silence of the audience." When asked whether he identifies as an Indian or as a global citizen, Das said: "I am a citizen of India. Every fabric of my being identifies as Indian. But that doesn't mean that I identify with your version of India. There are too many versions of India for me to identify just one of them." Previous guests at the Adda

include Union Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar, Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Health Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs and Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri, oncologist and author Siddhartha Mukherjee, Union Minister of Railways, Electronics & IT and Communications Ashwini Vaishnav, filmmaker Karan Johar and actor Kareena Kapoor.

• Alleging a plot to arrest Kejriwal, AAP goes into a huddle on what if

Court has rejected Manish Sisodia's bail application. Arvind Kejriwal will be arrested," Rai said. For AAP, finding a leader to temporarily replace Kejriwal is not going to be easy. With its former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh in jail in the same case and former health minister Satyendar Jain on bail in a different matter relating to money laundering, its pick of leaders is limited. This is not the first time that the party has had to go into a huddle, fearing the CM's arrest. According to party sources, when Kejriwal was called for questioning by the CBI in April, the names of senior leaders like Gopal Rai and Sanjay Singh were discussed. Party sources said Rai is among the names being dis-

cussed this time too, along with senior party leaders Ram Niwas Goel and Atishi. "The final decision lies solely with the CM. There are many considerations that need to be taken into account. Before he goes for questioning, some of these things need to be ironed out," said a senior party leader. Rai was part of the India Against Corruption movement and has been a part of AAP since the party was founded in 2012. He is the Delhi state convener and a member of AAP's Political Affairs Committee. Goel, a former BJP MLA who joined AAP in 2014, is the Delhi Assembly Speaker. Atishi has the most portfolios in the Delhi Cabinet at present. According to sources, the party is also discussing the mobilisation of ground support in case Kejriwal is arrested on Thursday.

While governance in Delhi is not an immediate problem since Kejriwal, as Chief Minister, does not hold any portfolio, the more pressing concern, sources said, was to keep the AAP's flock together. The party has 62 MLAs in a 70-member Assembly. While several of its MLAs are serving their third term (since 2013) there are a few new entrants - some from the BJP and Congress. "The challenge is to find someone who is acceptable to MLAs and who can exert a degree of authority, because if the CM is arrested, it is going to be the biggest challenge that the AAP will have faced so far. It needs to keep the MLAs united. The ideal choice would be someone who has been with the party since the beginning and is trusted by the top leadership. An experienced hand, who

understands the ins and outs of Delhi politics, is also crucial," said a party source. There is also the matter of appointing a party chief, for the time being. Kejriwal has been the AAP's national convener since its inception in 2012. Moreover, the party is also contesting the coming Assembly polls in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, where its campaigns are being overseen by Rajya Sabha MP and national general secretary Sandeep Pathak and national secretary Pankaj Gupta. "At the national level, the responsibilities were delegated even as the Opposition alliance talks were underway. The macro vision for the party in the states is clear and we can continue working on those lines," said a senior party leader.

ED files chargesheet against Goyal; names wife, 4 other firms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) on Tuesday submitted its prosecution complaint (chargesheet) against Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal, who was arrested in September, for alleged money laundering of a loan given to the airline.

The agency is learnt to have also named Goyal's wife Anita and four other companies in the chargesheet. The ED's case was filed on the basis of an FIR filed by CBI in May on a complaint given by Canara Bank in November 2022, alleging that the loan amount given for operational work of the airline company was used for personal expenses. The bank's complaint is based on a forensic audit by an external audit company for the period between 2011-2019. While the Canara Bank loan was declared a non-performing asset (NPA) in 2019, the ED claims that the loan amount to the tune of Rs 538 crore is nothing but proceeds of crime which have been diverted and siphoned off. A con-



Naresh Goyal is lodged in Mumbai Central Jail. File

ED's case was filed on basis of an FIR by CBI in May on a complaint by Canara Bank in 2022

sortium of banks had given loans to Jet Airways (India) Ltd for its operation work. According to the bank's complaint, Jet Airways was dealing with Canara Bank since 2005, and all exposures were under the State Bank of India-led consortium agreement. When Goyal's companies began defaulting on

repayment of loans availed from the consortium, the bank called in a forensic auditor to scrutinise all transactions and documentations processed between April 1, 2011 and June 19, 2019.

On the basis of the CBI FIR, an Enforcement Case Information Report was filed by ED on May 10, 2023 under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Goyal is currently lodged in Mumbai Central Prison, popularly known as Arthur Road jail. He was produced before the special court on Monday via video-conference.

The ED has also claimed that Goyal had diverted company funds by appointing his family members in the company and paying salaries of a company floated by his daughter. The agency had referred to an audit report claiming that in the garb of professional and consultancy fees, dubious expenses to the tune of Rs 1,000 crore were booked, personal expenses of Goyal and his family members were booked in the company, and unaccounted transactions have been credited to overseas accounts of the promoters.

• SG to SC on electoral bonds

to privacy as a fundamental right to argue that the State is protecting this right of the person making a donation to a political party through electoral bonds.

"The electoral affiliation of any person is part of the 'zone of privacy' where the person concerned can claim a right against unwarranted intrusion. The right of the buyer to purchase bonds without having to disclose his preference of political party is in furtherance of his right to privacy, which has been recognized as a fundamental right," he said. Mehta argued that this right of the donor has to be balanced against the ordinary citizen's fundamental right to know which is also part of free speech. "Without prejudice, the right of a citizen to know how politi-

cal parties are being funded must be balanced against the right of persons to maintain privacy of their political affiliations. It is submitted that no right can be absolute and unqualified and the right to know is no different," he stated. Defending the anonymity of donors in the poll bonds scheme, Mehta said that the right to privacy encompasses a bundle of rights including the right to protect identity and anonymity. "Anonymity is where an individual seeks freedom from identification, even when and despite being in a public space," he said.

Attorney General R Venkataramani has told the Supreme Court that the citizen's right to know is subject to reasonable restrictions. A joint action committee comprising representatives of different civil society organisations and locals was also formed, which adopted a charter of demands, including sufficient deployment of state forces in Moreh by November 5. Demands also include resettling the displaced Meitei community at Moreh; boycotting the post-harvest Kut festival of the Chin-Kuki-Mizo people which falls on Wednesday; and announcing a statewide shutdown on the day of the festival. The JAC said the body will not be claimed by the family if the demands are not met by the government. Tuesday's cabinet also approved declaring a Kuki-Zo organization, the World Kuki-Zo Intellectual Council (WKZIC), unlawful under section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. A state government statement referred to a press release by the WKZIC on October 24 that allegedly urged violence.

• Manipur police officer killed

medal. His family said he had been posted in Moreh for the last two years.

Calling it a "cold-blooded killing", Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh assured that the perpetrators would be brought to justice. "His dedication to serve and protect the people will always be remembered," he said. An emergency meeting of the state Cabinet was also held at the Chief Minister's Office, where the law and order situation was discussed. The Cabinet approved an ex-gratia of Rs 50 lakh as compensation for his family as well as a government job for the next-of-kin. The Cabinet also directed a joint operation in Moreh and adjoining areas to nab the culprits, for which additional forces from the capital Imphal were sent. It was also decided that no illegal armed personnel shall be permitted in or around Moreh, considering its strategic position under India's Act East Policy.

• Bombay HC takes suo motu notice of rising pollution

Citing news reports, Chief Justice Upadhyaya said, "Air Quality Index (AQI) is indicating that every day and everywhere, the air quality is deteriorating and not a single area in Mumbai is remaining (without deteriorating air quality)." The bench said it will hear the suo motu petition on November 6.

The Court's suo motu petition came just when it was scheduled to hear a public interest litigation (PIL) on worsening pollution by three city residents Amar Tike, Anand Jha, and Sanjay Surve. The PIL was mentioned before the Court for urgent hearing on Monday, and the CJI had scheduled it for the next day.

The Express Series, with the first report published on October 20, has focused so far on three critical aspects - construction dust and lack of safeguards, garbage dumping and burning in open, and absence of public health advisories - and how these had an adverse impact on the health con-

ditions of people, especially children, in the city. The series of 'Death by Breath' reports highlighted the scale of the challenge, the glaring gaps between authorities' intention and implementation, and the imperative for public policy attention and action. The PIL filed by the city-based activists seeks directions from the Bombay High Court to the state government and the BMC to curb air pollution in the city and to take immediate steps to enhance the green cover through the plantation of fast-growing trees in public places. The PIL filed through advocate Prashant Pandey referred to The Indian Express reports including "Mumbai holds its breath, alarm bells ring but no one's listening" published on October 20, and claimed that the air pollution was adversely affecting residents of the city including the children. The PIL also sought direction from the High Court to authorities

to enquire into the working of the Garden and Trees Department of the BMC over the last 10 years and sought details of budget allocations made to it in the last 10 years and the funds utilised to plant new trees in that period. The petitioners, who run a campaign called 'Dream Mumbai a Forest' to enhance green surroundings in the city, said the people including children are falling ill and developing lung infections owing to extreme pollution and claimed "serious health crisis is looming over the city and its suburbs". The PIL, referring to a March 17 report by The Indian Express, 'Mumbai Climate Action Plan: City lost 2,028 hectares of urban tree cover in 5 years, says study', sought direction from the Court to the BMC commissioner and the state government to allocate resources for "immediate plantation of fast-growing plants and trees to increase the green cover of Mumbai".

• No fireworks at WC matches in Mumbai & Delhi, says BCCI

meet at the Feroz Shah Kotla in Delhi next Monday.

BCCI secretary Jay Shah, responding to a query by The Indian Express, said, "I took up the matter formally with the ICC and there won't be any fireworks display in Mumbai and Delhi, which can add to the pollution level. The Board is committed to combating environmental issues and will always place the interest of our fans and stakeholders at the forefront." Shah said the Indian board was sensitive to environmental concerns. "The BCCI acknowledges the urgent concern surrounding air quality in both Mumbai and New Delhi. While we strive to host the ICC World Cup in a manner befitting the celebration of cricket, we

remain steadfast in our commitment to prioritising the health and safety of all our stakeholders," he said. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data, the overall AQI reading in Mumbai Tuesday was a "moderate" 172 with Bandra Kurla Complex touching an alarming high of 260. In Delhi, the air quality this October has been the worst since 2020. A senior BCCI official said by making Mumbai and Delhi fireworks-free, the cricket board was making a strong statement. "This is more of a public interest statement that will increase the environmental awareness among citizens. This was a way of setting an example and bringing a significant societal change," the official said.

• J&K cop killed

the martyr and stand by his family at this critical juncture. The area has been cordoned off. Search operation going on," the J&K Police said in a post on social media. Police sources said Dar was posted in Srinagar and is survived by seven daughters. Before Srinagar, he was posted in Pulwama. On Sunday evening, militants had fired at a police officer from point blank range when he was playing cricket at Srinagar's Eidgah ground. The officer was critically injured in the attack. On Monday, a labourer from Uttar Pradesh was killed in Pulwama. He too was shot from point blank range when he had gone to buy groceries. PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti and NC chief Omar Abdullah condemned the attacks.

Pak hands over mortal remains of Gujarat fisherman at Wagah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE RAJKOT, OCTOBER 31

AROUND THREE weeks after Gujarat fisherman Bhuptabhai Vala died at a jail in Karachi, the Pakistan government handed his mortal remains over to Indian authorities at Wagah border in Punjab on Tuesday. Officials of state fisheries department said that arrangements were being made to bring his body to his native village in Gir Somnath district. "Pakistan handed over mortal remains of the fisherman between 4 pm and 5 pm on Tuesday. Required paper work is

being done in Amritsar to fly the fisherman's body to Gujarat and eventually hand it over to his family members," an official from the fisheries department said. Vala's mortal remains are likely to be handed over to his kin on Wednesday. Vala, a fisherman from Dudana village in Kodinar taluka of Gir Somnath, had died at Landi jail in Karachi on October 9 after complaints of breathlessness. Balu Socha, president of Samudra Shramik Sangh - a Kodinar-based NGO - working for welfare of fishermen, had said.

The 55-year-old fisherman was apprehended by Pakistan Marine Security Agency while he and other fishermen were fishing on board Raj Trishul, a trawler registered in Porbandar, on December 12, 2021. News of Vala's death was received on September 18, a day after the last rites of another fisherman from Gir Somnath district, Jagdish Mangal Bamaniya, were performed in his village of Nanavada at Kodinar taluka. Bamaniya had died at a jail in Karachi on August 6 while awaiting his repatriation. His mortal remains were handed over to his family after 42 days.



കേരളീയം
Keraleeyam



Information & Public Relations
Department
Government of Kerala



KERALA RISING

Kerala. The state known for its progressive policies, setting benchmarks in human development and values. Its forward-thinking approach in health, education, and equitable development, strengthened by a people-first strategy, has allowed it to script success stories time and again. Today, on Kerala Formation Day, we unveil Keraleeyam, a week-long festival celebrating all that makes Kerala the distinguished state it is.

Kerala's forward-thinking stance on health, education, and equitable growth has laid the foundation for its development journey. This long-term vision was steered by strategic plans and a commitment to its people.

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- India's first Digital University
- India's first Graphene Centre
- India's first Digital Science Park
- India's first Water Metro

GOOD HEALTH, SUPERIOR HEALTHCARE

- Lowest infant and maternal mortality rates
- Higher chances of infants growing up healthy
- Premier access to quality, affordable healthcare

EDUCATION FOR ALL, FOR BETTER PROSPECTS

- Most children in Kerala attend school, continue their education, and advance to college
- Kerala boasts the highest percentage of women with over 10 years of schooling
- Lowest percentage of illiterate females found in Kerala

LEADING WAGES IN INDIA

- Kerala is home to the largest urban population percentage
- Workers in rural Kerala receive the highest daily wage rates across India (non-agricultural & agricultural sectors)

Kerala has not rested on its laurels after topping the key development indices; it is actively laying the groundwork to remain the leader for generations to come through a fresh set of visionary policies and initiatives. It aspires to be among the safest, happiest, healthiest, and most sought-after places to live in India and across the globe.

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- Ensuring land ownership to all
- Keeping Kerala poverty-free by uplifting 64,000 families identified as extremely poor
- Home delivery of rations to those unable to visit ration shops
- 3,23,894 houses for the homeless through Life Mission

BOOSTING THE PUBLIC SECTOR'S EARNINGS

- Over 30 PSUs are in profit, generating an impressive annual turnover of ₹4000 crores

USING TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE LIVES BETTER

- K-FON gives every home internet and helps the government work smoothly
- Online services for most government tasks
- E-Health lets people book hospital visits online and talk to doctors over the phone. Everyone has their own health record.
- Mediseep gives health insurance to all people who work for the State Government

EDUCATION TAKES FLIGHT

- School curriculum modernised for the digital age
- The 'Wings' initiative aids the underprivileged in pursuing commercial pilot licenses and civil service training

POWERING AHEAD, ELECTRIFYING KERALA

- Striving for a Kerala free from power cuts
- Introducing a 100 MW Hydro Electric Power Project at Pallivasal, the largest in 15 years
- Transitioning towards electric vehicles with a forward-looking approach

WOMEN EMPOWERED KERALA

- No. 1 in women's safety and empowerment
- ₹425 crores was allocated last year to reduce unemployment among women. This initiative provided job opportunities to 33,755 women directly and 84,387 women indirectly.
- An amount of ₹165.5 crores was disbursed to 11,866 women through the Kerala State Women's Development Corporation
- Launched Pink Police for women's safety & Women and Child Development Department for welfare activities
- Kudumbashree: Increased linkage loan from ₹12,000 crores to ₹26,188 crores

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF KERALA TOURISM

- Kerala was listed as one of the 52 must visit places in the world by The New York Times
- Won four national awards including 'Hall of Fame' for comprehensive developments in the Tourism sector

BUILDING TOMORROW'S KERALA

- Water Metro | Mountain Highway | Coastal Highway
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Inauguration:
Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan
Hon. Chief Minister

Date: 1st November 2023,
10.00 am

Venue: Central Stadium,
Thiruvananthapuram.

**Air India
urination case:
Delhi HC seeks
airline stand on
plea by accused**

MALVIKA PRASAD
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE DELHI High Court Tuesday sought Air India's stand in a plea by Shankar Mishra, an accused in the Air India urination case, against an order passed by an appellate committee declining his request for supply of certain documents. Mishra was accused of urinating on a woman co-passenger in an inebriated condition on board an Air India flight between New York and Delhi last November.

On January 31, Mishra was granted bail after remaining in judicial custody for 26 days.

Appearing for Mishra, senior advocate Devadatt Kamat told a single-judge bench of Justice Subramonium Prasad that his client lost his job.

The HC issued notice to Air India, granting them time to file their reply and listed the plea for hearing on January 19, 2024.

The plea filed by advocate Kaustubh Anshuraj challenges a September 15 order of the appellate committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation to the extent that it declined Mishra's request for supply of documents. It seeks a direction to Air India to supply the documents sought by Mishra which would enable him to effectively defend himself in the inquiry.

The plea submits that the non-supply of documents has resulted in gross violation of Mishra's fundamental rights.

The plea further claims that the documents, which include the statement of the cabin crew/pilot, have a material bearing on the outcome of the inquiry proceedings and thus should have been supplied to Mishra.

AAP SEES A PLOT, BJP CALLS IT THE FINAL STEP

Summons to CM sparks AAP, BJP war of words

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

A DAY after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) summoned Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday for questioning in relation to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy case, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Tuesday alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is planning to get the CM arrested as "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scared of losing the upcoming polls".

The BJP, on its part, welcomed the ED's summons issued to Kejriwal and termed the development "the final step" in his alleged "corruption saga".

Several senior leaders including Atishi, Gopal Rai, Saurabh Bharadwaj, Dilip Pandey and others came together to support the AAP convenor and alleged that the party had heard from its sources that the "ED was going to arrest the CM after questioning".

Targeting the PM, Atishi alleged, "Modi ji is so scared of Kejriwal that he is conspiring and misusing the CBI-ED to get him arrested on November 2 after his questioning. The BJP and PM want to crush the AAP, that is why all AAP leaders are being arrested and sent to jail one by one in false and fabricated cases."

She alleged that the "investigating agency does not have any evidence against the AAP national convenor and is merely acting on the directions of the BJP".

Adding that the BJP has been targeting the AAP ever since it formed the government in 2015,



Earlier, in April, Kejriwal was questioned by the CBI in connection with its case on the excise policy. Archive

Atishi said the BJP using the CBI and ED won't be limited to Kejriwal alone.

"Every leader in the INDIA Alliance will be caught in its web (The AAP is part of the alliance). After Kejriwal, Hemant Soren will go to jail because the BJP lost to him in Jharkhand. Then Tejashwi Yadav, Pinarayi Vijayan, and MK Stalin will go to jail because the BJP will lose to them in Bihar, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu," she said.

Meanwhile, Bharadwaj said the BJP fears Kejriwal's popularity and honesty: "That is why its intentions are to imprison all the key leaders of AAP and end the party."

Delhi convenor Gopal Rai also said the BJP was planning to get Kejriwal arrested because polls are coming.

"If it were only about the alcohol policy, there wouldn't have been CBI raids at the CM's office before and the Shunglu Committee wouldn't have scrutinised every single file. They made attempts to break AAP

during the MCD polls..."

AAP leaders also said that they were not afraid of going to jail. "We will fight till our last breath. Every time an attempt is made to end AAP, it will emerge stronger with double force," they said.

Hitting out the AAP, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva alleged that the CM was the mastermind of the "liquor scam". "In a democratic state like India, no party can destroy another party, it is the people of the country who decide the fortune of political parties... AAP leaders know they have lost their connect with the people," Sachdeva alleged.

"AAP leaders have themselves been saying Kejriwal will soon be arrested to try and create political sympathy for him but they should understand that after the exposure of the liquor and bungalow scams... the people of Delhi understand the true colours of the AAP and have no sympathy for Kejriwal," he added.

Delhi's GST collection up by 17% in first 6 months this yr as compared to last fiscal

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

DELHI'S GST collection has seen a nearly 17% growth in the first six months of this fiscal year as compared to last year.

According to data shared by the Delhi government, from April 1 to September 30, the city has collected a revenue of around Rs 19,000 crore. In the same period last year, it collected around Rs 16,300 crore.

Data also shows that collection was good in April, May and July where it crossed the Rs 3,000-crore mark. In August and September, GST collection came down slightly in comparison to July but it was still higher than the last fiscal. (see box)

Data also shows that in the

GST & VAT COLLECTION (In Rs thousand crore)

Month	2023-24	2022-23
April	3,886	3,167
May	3,079	2,466
June	2,865	2,843
July	3,388	2,512
August	2,883	2,546
September	2,998	2,797

first quarter, the city recorded a jump of 15% jump in comparison to last year. GST collection in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2022-23 was Rs 6,985.05 crore, while this year it increased to Rs 8,028.91 crore.

In the second quarter, Delhi collected Rs 9,269 crore this year, while it was Rs 7,855 crore last

year.

However, revenue from luxury, entertainment and betting tax has dipped by half this year as compared to last year. Data shows that from April 1 to August 31, 2022, the revenue was 0.26 crore and had dipped to Rs 0.13 crore this year.

"These taxes are levied on

MCD nod to regularise 5k sanitation workers

SAMAN HUSAIN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE MUNICIPAL Corporation of Delhi, in its House session Tuesday, approved a proposal to regularise 5,000 safai karamcharis (sanitation workers) of the erstwhile East Delhi Municipal Corporation, fulfilling a key promise made during the civic polls.

Announcing the AAP-led MCD's decision on 'X', Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Today, the Aam Aadmi Party has passed a proposal to regularise 5000 sanitation workers in the Delhi Municipal Corporation. We have fulfilled the promise we made. Congratulations to all sanitation workers and their families who will receive this wonderful Diwali gift. Work diligently to serve the people of Delhi, and together, we will make Delhi a



Tuesday's session saw protests by the opposition. Amit Mehra

clean, beautiful city."

During the discussion that lasted 12 minutes, the Assembly considered 58 agenda items, of which 54 proposals were approved. "The opposition disrupted proceedings and created a ruckus even before the commencement of the meeting. Despite this, public friendly proposals have been passed," MCD

Mayor Shelly Oberoi said in a statement to the press after the assembly was adjourned.

"The government unanimously passed important proposals. We regularised 5,000 sanitation workers and about 3,100 dengue breeding checkers have been promoted as multi-tasking staff," she added.

Meanwhile, Leader of

mostly movies and events like fashion shows etc and also cricket matches. This year, not many events and matches were held in Delhi. However, it is a very small component, so it does not affect the overall target. If you see the data, collection has increased," said a senior government official.

In July, while announcing the first quarter of GST collection, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said "Governments often say that they don't have money to build good schools and hospitals. But our government in Delhi has shown that honest governance leads to increased revenue. This is how we will have money to build more schools, hospitals, and infrastructure for the people of Delhi."

Opposition in the MCD, Raja Iqbal Singh, alleged the AAP passed all proposals without following legal procedures. "This time, 51 topics were included in the agenda and most projects needed a grant of more than Rs 5 crore... the commissioner can't grant permission for projects over Rs 5 crore but agendas worth Rs 1,500 crore were passed today. These need to be passed through the standing committee first," he said.

The 18-member standing committee manages the MCD, with functions such as providing financial approval to projects over Rs 5 lakh and finalising policies. Its formation is delayed due to an ongoing court case over its re-election.

Responding to Singh's allegations, Oberoi said these decisions will be taken further after the committee is formed.

केनरा बैंक **Canara Bank**
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Govt. of India Undertaking

सिंडिकेट Syndicate

RECOVERY & LEGAL SECTION, CIRCLE OFFICE,
3rd Floor, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna - 800001, Ph. : 0612-2320180, Email : npacopat@canarabank.com

PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / hypothecated / Pledged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Canara Bank** will be sold on **"As is where is,"** **As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 17.11.2023.** Details are as under :

Sl. No.	Name / Add. Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) /EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt./A/c No./ IFS Code
1	Bhagwanpur II Branch Muzaffarpur Mob: 8102915970	Borrower- Maa Steel Enterprises Prop.- Surendra Kumar Jaiswal Baiariya Near Dharam Kanta P.O.- Mit P.S.- Brahampura, Pin - 843113, M.n.o. - 9931166270, Muzaffarpur Proprietor/ Mortgagee - Surendra Kr Jaiswal S/o Yamuna Prasad, Sahu Colony, Pathan Toli, P.O. - Damodarpur, Pin- 843113, M.n.o.- 9931166270, Muzaffarpur Guarantor- Manoranjan Pd Jaiswal S/o- Yamuna Prasad Vill- Damodarpur, P.S.- Kanti, Pin- 843146	Rs. 23,56,817.19 as on 05.07.2023 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting in the name of Mr. Surendra Kr Jaiswal, S/o Yamuna Prasad Residential Land, Khata / Plot No - 406, Khesara No -138, Area-2.0 Decimals. At- Damodarpur, Pathan Toli, Thana No 396, Anchal-Kanti, Muzaffarpur-843113 Boundary- North- Chanda Devi, South- Road, East- Rajesh Sah, West - Nij Manmohar	Rs. 23,09,238/- Rs. 2,30,923.80 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0017491
2	Bhagwanpur II Branch Mob: 8102915970	Borrower/s- M/s Om Enterprises, Prop.- Chandan Kumar Ward No.-21 Near Masjid, Garib Asthan Road, Chhata Bazar, Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842001 Proprietor / Mortgagee- Chandan Kumar S/o- Raj Kumar Sah Ward No.-21, Near Masjid, Garib Asthan Road, Chhata Bazar Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842001 Guarantor- Mrs Bharti Kumari W/o- Rajiv Kumar Ward No-21, Chata Bazar, Sabjibag, P.s- Town Muzaffarpur, Hpo- Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842001	Rs. 19,88,057.80 as on 24.03.2023 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Mr Chandan Kumar S/o- Sri Raj Kumar Sah Survey No.- 4878 (Old), Thana No.- 411, Ward No.41(new) 13 (Survey), Sri.No.34, Sarvekshan No.- 169 (Ansh) Area- 1.67 Decimal Boundaries:- North: Self Lakhadhari, South: Dilip Tiwari, East: 10 ft. wide RCC Road, West : Kalawati Devi Location- Mohalla- Kanhuali Bishundutt, Kalibari Road, P.S.-Mithanpura, Thana No. 411 , Dist. Muzaffarpur-842001	Rs. 20,75,000/- Rs. - 2,07,500/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0017491
3	Bhagwanpur II Branch Muzaffarpur Mob: 8102915970	Borrower/Mortgagee Smt. Geeta Singh W/o-Satyendra Kumar Singh Old Zero Mile Chowk, Sahbajpur Salem, Muzaffarpur- 842004, Phone- 8409772516. Co-Borrower- Gautam Kumar W/o- Satyendra Kumar Singh Old Zero Mile Chowk, Sahbajpur Salem, Muzaffarpur-842004	Rs. 10,02,209.95 as on 02.05.2023 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that Part and Parcel of The Property Consisting in the name of Smt. Geeta Singh W/o- Satyendra Kumar Singh R.S Khata No- 24, Khesra No- 295, Area -1.4 Decimal Boundaries: North: 10 Feet Wide Sadak, South: Ramsewak Ram, East: Meena Devi, West: Manhar Singh Vagerah Location- Mohalla- Sahbajpur Salem, P.s- Ahiyapur, Thana No.- 663, Anchal- Mushari, Dist.- Muzaffarpur	Rs. 21,46,850/- Rs. - 2,14,685/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0017491
4	Raxaul Branch Raxaul- 845305. Mob: 8210998510	Borrower/s- M/s Sudhanshu General Store Prop.- Sri Sudhanshu Pandey, Block Road, Chhota Pareua, Kaurihar Chowk, Ward No.-18, PO- Raxaul Dist.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305 Proprietor- Sri Sudhanshu Pandey Block Road, Chhota Pareua, Kaurihar Chowk, Ward No.-18, PO- Raxaul Dist.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305 Guarantor- Umakant Pandey S/o Sukdev Pandey Block Rd., Chhota Pareua, Kaurihar Chowk, Ward No. 18, PO - Raxaul Dist.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305 Mortgagee/s- Nagina Pandey W/o- Sri Umakant Pandey, Block Road, Chhota Pareua, Kaurihar Chowk, Ward No.-18, PO- Raxaul, Dist.- East Champaran, Bihar-845305	Rs. 84,48,379 as on 12.07.2023 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Nagina Pandey W/o- Sri Umakant Pandey Khata No- 15, Survey No- 884, Area- 3.5 Dhur Boundaries:- North: Nursery, South: Niz Hal Baider East : Madan Mishra & Janardan Mishra, West: Umashankar Raut Khata No- 15 Survey No- 884, Area- 3.5 Dhur Boundaries:- North: Niz Hal Baider, South : Road, East : Madan Mishra & Janardan Mishra West: Umashankar Raut Location- At- Mauza- Dhangarhua, Tola- Chota Pareua, Ward No.-18, P.S No-10, Anchal- Raxaul, Dist.- East Champaran.	Rs. 46,00,000/- Rs. 4,60,000/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB002316
5	Raxaul Branch Mob: 8210998510	Borrower/s- New Style Handloom Prop.- Aniket Kumar Meena Bazar, East Champaran, Raxaul-845305 Phone - 8986254288 Proprietor / Mortgagee- Mr. Aniket Kumar S/o Motilal Chaurasia Meena Bazar, East Champaran, Raxaul - 845305, Phone- 8986254288 Guarantor/s- Motilal Chaurasia S/o- Sonarpatti, Meena Bazar, East Champaran, Raxaul- 845305, Phone-8986254288	Rs. 81,64,855.93 as on 12.07.2023 + interest & Other Cost thereon till realization	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Mr. Aniket Kumar S/o Motilal Chaurasia Khata No- 148 Survey No- 15/2, Area- 16 Dhur Boundaries:- North: Niz Mokir, South: Road 06 Feet, East: Road 10 Feet, West: Little Flower Khesra 150. Location- At- Sunderpur Baswaria Tola, P.s.- Raxaul, P.S No.-07, Anchal- Raxaul, Tauzi No-951, District- East Champaran	Rs. 50,27,580/- Rs. - 5,02,758/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB002316
6	Samastipur II Branch Mob.: 8102916782	M/s Gurujee Enterprises Prop. Shri Shailesh Kumar Prasad S/o- Shri Umesh Prasad Pandey, Chaita North Via Ujjarpur, Samastipur- 848132	Rs. 8,79,000/- as on 06.04.2022 +interest & Other Cost thereon till realisation	Property Situated at Mauza- Hasanpursaqma @ chaita, P.S.- Angarghat, Anchal- Ujjarpur, District- Samastipur, Thana No-225, Khata No- 2316(old), Khesra No.- 1508(old) Area- 2 Kattha. Boundary : North - Nij Mokiran, South - Akhileshwar Pandey, East - Sadak, West- Harekrishan Pandey & Ramchandra Pandey	Rs. 12,81,000/- Rs. 1,29,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 209272434 IFSC Code - CNRB0017535

Last Date of EMD 14.11.2023 For Detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in www.canarabank.com

Authorised Officer (Canara Bank)

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGC025867/2358, Victoria Cross Vijaya Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001, Telephone: (0135)-2763672-76, Fax : (0135)-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)
Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for following as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Tender Specification No.	Tender Qty.	Estimated Cost (in ₹)	Average Yearly Turn Over of Preceding Three Financial Year i.e. 2020-2021, 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (in ₹)	Last Date & time of online request for Tender and Submission of tender in online & offline mode	Date of opening of bid Part-I in online and offline mode
1	8.5 Meter Long PCC Pole	CCP-I/48/2023-2024	50,000 Nos.	16,54,95,000.00	24,82,43,000.00	33,09,900.00	29,500.00	21.11.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.11.2023 at 15:30 Hrs.
2	ACSR Weasel Conductor	CCP-I/49/2023-2024	6,000 Km	15,64,63,380.00	23,46,96,000.00	31,30,000.00	29,500.00	21.11.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.11.2023 at 15:45 Hrs.
3	ACSR Rabbit Conductor	CCP-I/50/2023-2024	3,000 Km	13,05,48,540.00	19,58,23,000.00	26,11,000.00	29,500.00	21.11.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.11.2023 at 16:00 Hrs.
4	ACSR Dog Conductor	CCP-I/51/2023-2024	1,200 Km	10,71,53,196.00	16,07,30,000.00	21,44,000.00	29,500.00	21.11.2023 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.11.2023 at 16:15 Hrs.

E-tender Specification No. CCP-I/42 to 47/2023-2024 invited by this office, Last Date & time of online request for Tender and Submission of tender in online & Offline mode may be read as 20.11.2023 upto 11:00. Other terms & conditions will remain same as per original tender notice.
For further details, please visit the website www.uktenders.gov.in.
No. :- 525/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2
Date:- 30.10.2023

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CORPORATE (C&P-I)

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use LED Bulb, Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912)
"Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 18001804185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

GOVT. OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (ROADS), ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3.

No. CE/PMGSY/363/2017-18/22

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer, PWD (Border Roads), Assam on behalf of Governor of Assam invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Balance Work of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, PMGSY, Batch-III, for the year 2017-18, for **2 no. of roads (6.366 km) in 2 no. of packages** in the district of Kamrup Rural with an estimated cost of **Rs. 124.78 Lakhs (Approx, excluding GST)** including Routine Maintenance for five years from approved and eligible contractors registered with Assam Public Works Department (Roads) or contractors registered with other State/Central Government Departments, institutions, Undertaking and Authorities.

Details may be seen at website <http://pmgsytendersassam.gov.in/> from 04.11.2023, 10:00 hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
PWD (Border Roads) Assam,
Chandmari, Guwahati-3.

JANASANYOG/CF/3294/23/01/NOV/23

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

केनरा बैंक **Canara Bank**
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Govt. of India Undertaking

सिंडिकेट Syndicate

Regional Office : A.P.Colony, Gaya
BRANCH: BARGAON

POSSESSION NOTICE [Section 13(4)] (For Immovable Property)

Whereas:
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **15th July 2023** calling upon the borrower **Smt. Vina Devi W/O Ramesh Prasad Verma jointly with Sri Vikash Kumar** both are resident of Silao Ambedkarnagar, PO+P.S- Silao, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar, 803117 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.10,39,377.46** (Rupees Ten lakhs thirty nine thousands three hundreds seventy seven and paise forty six only) and interest there on within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **27th Oct 2023**.
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for an amount **Rs. 10,66,009.46** [Rupees Ten Lakhs sixty six thousands nine and paise forty six only] and interest there on.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that part and parcel of the property in the name of **Smt. Vina Devi W/O Ramesh Prasad Verma, R/O Silao Ambedkarnagar, PO+PS : Silao, Nalanda, Bihar-803117, Land and Under construction Building** situated at Mauza: Silao, Khata No- 28, Plot No- 2730, Thana No- 420, Acquired Vide Deed No 3246 dated 27.07.2023, Registered in Book No- 1, Volume no- 39, Page No: 522 To 528 having area of 871 Sq. Ft. **Boundary: North : Uma Prakash, South : Kapil Choudhary, East : Janardan Prasad, West : Pannalal.**

DATE: 27/10/2023
PLACE: BARGAON BRANCH

Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे

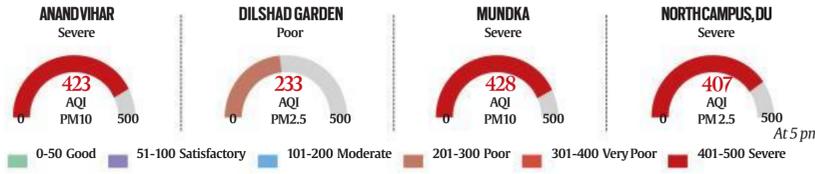
ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना

पत्र सं- WB-74-W/O/Works/NIT/X
दिनांक- 30.10.2023

मंडल रेल प्रबंधक, डी.जी.नियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनों में निविदा प्राप्त करायें के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।
ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 130. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Provision of FOB 12 M wide at Barmer, Degana, Merla Road, Balotra, Nokha, Ram Devra, Jalor, Sujangarh, Didwana, Nagaur, Gotan, Ren, Marwar Bhnimal & Phalodi Stations over IR tracks to provide end to end connectivity under Amrit Bharat station Scheme over Jodhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: ₹ 86,76,77,556.40. ब्याने की राशि रुपये: ₹ 44,88,400.00. निविदा सूचना संख्या 130 of 2023-24 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने को तिथि 23.11.2023 को 15 बजे तक है। वेबसाइट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है- www.iरेps.gov.in 1139-AK/23

(संकेत) (NWR/Railways पर फ़ोन करें)

5 THE CITY



SKYWATCH
FORECAST: November 1
Clear sky. Mist/shallow fog in the morning.
AQI forecast: Likely to be very poor

MAX: 32 | **MIN: 16**
0.1°C above normal | 0.1°C below normal

COUNTING 2020 OUT, AVERAGE AQI FOR FIRST 10 MONTHS HAS IMPROVED SINCE 2018

Barring a blip in 6 yrs, city air cleanest for Jan-Oct

JITHUL NARAYANAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

EVEN THOUGH Delhi's air quality this October was the worst since 2020, the city's air has overall been cleaner so far this year. According to the Centre's Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), Delhi's average AQI between January and October was 172, which is the best since 2018, barring 2020. (See box)

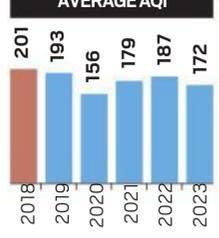
The AQI in the city, however, has been dipping for the past week, with Tuesday seeing the highest AQI recorded this season so far at 359. According to CAQM, the average wind speed during October this year is low.

"Amount of rainfall and wind speed significantly affect AQI and play a major role in dispersing pollutants/emissions. Effective dispersion is still required for acceptable air quality, even in a scenario where total amount of emissions from all of the region's major sources is managed or decreased. October 2023 had periods of complete 'still' weather as well as comparatively slower average wind speeds," it said.

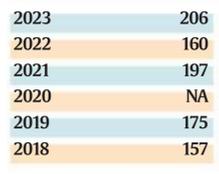
It, however, said overall particulate matter concentration reduced between 2017 and 2023, adding that the city has not had to implement measures under stage 3 of Graded Response Action Plan, which in previous years was invoked in the last week of October.

WHAT DATA SHOWS

FROM JAN TO OCT, A LOOK AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL'S AIR QUALITY



GOOD TO MODERATE DAYS (AQI BELOW 200)



DAILY AVERAGE PM 2.5 CONCENTRATION

2023:	75 µg/m ³
2017-2022 (barring 2020):	81-95 µg/m ³

DAILY AVERAGE PM 10 CONCENTRATION

2023:	173 µg/m ³
2017-2022 (barring 2020):	182-220 µg/m ³

AVERAGE AQI IN OCTOBER

Year	Average AQI
2022	210
2023	219

Overall particulate matter concentration reduced between 2017 and 2023, said the CAQM. Archive

'Efforts to curb pollution are not seen on ground'

SC seeks affidavits from Delhi, NCR states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GHAZIABAD, OCTOBER 31

NOTING THAT efforts to reduce air pollution in the national capital were not reflecting on the ground, the Supreme Court Tuesday directed the Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan governments to file affidavits listing the steps taken by them to prevent this.

A three-judge bench presided by Justice S K Kaul gave the states a week's time to file their responses.

The bench, also comprising Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and P K Mishra, said this after the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas said in a status report that stubble burning in neighbouring states — one of the main reasons for air pollution in Delhi — had come down.

The report pointed out that "following frequent reviews and daily monitoring of fire counts as per the Standard Protocol developed by ISRO for the Commission, number of events of paddy stubble burning" had decreased "between September 15 and October 24 during 2022 and 2023 respectively".

While Punjab recorded 5,617 stubble-burning incidents during the period in 2022, there were only 2,306 such incidents for the same period in 2023, a reduction of approximately 58.9%.

Haryana had 1,360 fires in 2022 compared to 813 in 2023, a decrease of approximately 40.2%.

The Commission said this "reveals as of now, there is a significant reduction in stubble-burning events in Punjab and Haryana". The report added that "with persistent field level efforts and targeted policy initiatives in the short/ medium/ long term, it is expected that instances of paddy stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana & NCR areas of UP will see gradual but marked improvement, year on year, with a consequent improvement in the air quality of Delhi-NCR during paddy harvesting season".

The bench, however, said statistics can sometimes be deceptive and rued that the air pollution problem was persisting year after year. Referring to news reports on the continuing incidents of stubble burning incidents, Justice Kaul said, "The point is on ground reality. What is happening? Whatever happens, the air quality does not improve".

He observed that till a "couple of decades back, this was the best time in Delhi". The bench said in its order, "The report has been filed on behalf of the Commission for Air Quality Management... (It) is comprehensive, but problem of air quality still persists. One of the issues flagged is crop burning... We call upon states of Punjab, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan and Delhi to file affidavits in a week..."



SUVs, bikes with 2,500 staff: Fire dept preps for Diwali

ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

FIRE TENDERS at 23 vulnerable locations, motorcycles and SUVs with 2,500 personnel stationed on ground to douse fires in narrow lanes: The Delhi Fire Services has hashed out a plan to ensure a quick response to any possible fires this Diwali.

Senior fire officers told *The Indian Express* that from 5 pm on October 11 till around midnight on October 12, a total of 23 fire tender units will be stationed at crucial locations that have seen fire incidents in the past such as Tilak Nagar, Lajpat Nagar Central Market, South Extension, Sangam Vihar, Mehrauli, Sonia Vihar, among other spots.

A senior fire officer said these spots have been identified based on an analysis of yearly fire-related calls every Diwali.

Officers said that motorcycles

with compact backpack-sized equipment with water mist technology will be deployed in areas with narrow lanes such as Ambedkar Nagar, Bhikaji Cama Place, and JR Road in Paharganj.

Said an officer, "SUVs with state-of-the-art basic firefighting equipment and GPS-enabled automatic vehicle tracking systems, such as Tata Innova and Mahindra Xylo, will also be deployed with fire-fighting equipment. Two-three fire personnel will be present in each vehicle... A vehicle each will also be deployed at locations such as Connaught Circus, Safdarjung, Shankar Road, Laxmi Nagar, Janakpur, Pawiwan and CBD Shahdara."

DFS Chief Atul Garg said, "We have put together a tentative plan for Diwali arrangements as the city receives several fire calls during that period, a lot of them arising from bursting firecrackers. The city received a total of 201 fire

calls last Diwali, a rise from 152 fire calls responded to in 2021."

Out of the fire calls received last year, 13 were related to bursting firecrackers and 21 to burning garbage.

A senior officer said, "Since people set up different types of lights, it results in a heavy load on the electricity meters and there are chances of short circuits and subsequent fire mishaps. Bursting crackers also pose a hazard as there are chances of inflammable material catching fire. DFS bikes and vehicles will also patrol the areas... fire personnel are also trained yearly on how to handle fires during Diwali and be on their feet for any calls."

Garg said depending on the type of fire call received, they will use the equipment already procured by them earlier this year such as mini robots, sky lifts, and telescopic rescue poles, among others.

'Paint yes on wall if you will pay us': Sacked employee sends a threat letter to GK businessman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

AMID PREPARATIONS for his daughter's wedding, a businessman in South Delhi's Greater Kailash II allegedly received an ominous letter from a masked man that put a dent in the festivities — it demanded Rs 10-Rs 50 lakh and threatened to kill him and hurt his family if he didn't pay up.

Police later apprehended two suspects in the case — one of them used to work as a driver for the businessman before he was fired for misbehaviour.

The incident took place last week. The family lives in M Block, GK II, where they received a threat letter on Thursday. The businessman, who is also an exporter, told police that a masked man came to his house and handed the security guard a letter.

"The accused told the guard to give the letter to the house owner. The letter stated that the accused would kill the businessman if he didn't give them money and threatened to hurt the family. They asked him to

Police apprehended two suspects in the case — one of them used to work as a driver for the businessman before he was fired for misbehaviour

paint 'yes' on the wall of the house to assure them about the payment," said a senior police officer, adding that the businessman was busy with his daughter's wedding celebrations, slated for October 28-29, when the letter came.

Police said an investigation was conducted and they spotted the "masked man" walking around the area. Police believe he was conducting a reconnaissance and deciding when to approach the guard.

"Initially, we had no clues. The man came on foot and was later seen leaving on a bicycle that was parked a few metres away. We looked at CCTVs along several routes to ascertain where the accused went. It was later that we found that he was accompanied by another person," added the police officer.

Teams were sent to the location and police identified the two suspects.

One of them had been hired by the family to drive around relatives during the wedding. He was asked to leave a few days ago, said police.

Once identified, police said they conducted several raids around Delhi and Noida, and the duo were caught on Tuesday.

Questioning revealed that the person who had been hired as a driver 15 days ago was later fired. Seeing the wedding preparation, he decided to extort the family and he got his associate to deliver the letter, said police.

"He was sure he would get the money as he had mentioned personal details in the letter and assumed he had scared the family. They were planning to take Rs 10-50 lakh cash from them," said another officer.

The officer declined to divulge more details about the accused and said a formal arrest would be made after further questioning.

THE PLAN

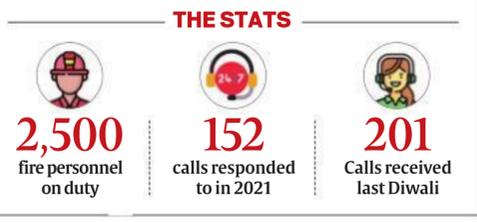
23 locations identified for deployment of fire tender units. These include locations that have seen fire incidents in the past such as Tilak Nagar, Lajpat Nagar Central Market, South Ex, Sangam Vihar, Mehrauli

SUVs with state-of-the-art firefighting equipment to be deployed

Motorcycles with compact backpack-sized equipment with water mist technology to tackle fires in narrow lanes



Staff are trained on handling fires during Diwali. Archive



Umar Khalid's plea challenging UAPA: SC issues notice to Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE SUPREME Court Tuesday sought the Centre's reply on UAPA accused Umar Khalid's plea challenging some of the provisions of the anti-terror law.

Issuing notice, a bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M Trivedi also decided to hear his bail plea in connection with the February 2020 Northeast Delhi communal riots along with his petition challenging the UAPA provisions as "they have overlapping implications".

Khalid had approached the SC after the Delhi High Court in October last year upheld a trial

court order denying him bail in the case.

On Tuesday, the SC pointed out that there were also a few other petitions too on the subject and fixed November 22 for hearing them all.

The top court had clubbed his bail petition with the plea against UAPA earlier and fixed them for hearing on November 1. But with the fresh plea coming up today, the court after issuing notice decided to take up all of them together in November.

"We are listing the writ petition along with the special leave petition for bail because they have overlapping implications. Other connected matters also will be taken up with these since

they are also challenges against Sections 15(1)(a) and 18 of the UAPA", the bench said.

Khalid was arrested in September 2020 in connection with the Northeast Delhi riots that left 53 dead and hundreds injured. He was charged with the UAPA and the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984.

In March 2022, the trial court rejected his bail plea. Upholding this on October 18, 2022, the Delhi HC said Khalid was in constant touch with other co-accused and the allegations against him were prima facie true. It also said that his actions prima facie qualified as a "terrorist act" under UAPA.

Woman dies after house catches fire

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

A 50-YEAR-OLD woman died after sustaining burn injuries as a fire broke out inside her house in Southwest Delhi's Palam village early Tuesday, officers said.

DCP (Southwest) Manoj C said at 2.36 am, they received a PCR call regarding a major fire inside a house at Palam Village after neighbours spotted smoke. A police team rushed to the spot and found four people in an injured state — Pappu (52), Renu (50), Mohit (25), and Shivam (23). Officers said the family was asleep when the fire broke out and smoke spread throughout the house.

They were rushed to a hospital while two fire tenders reached the spot to douse the flames. The woman, Renu, was declared dead on arrival at AIIMS Trauma Centre. The others are undergoing treatment at Safdarjung Hospital with minor burn injuries.

Police said the crime and FSL teams inspected the spot and inquest proceedings under Section 174 of CrPC are underway. Officers said the family had been living on rent at the house for several years now.

Scuffle between ret'd IAS officer, couple over taking dog in lift

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, OCTOBER 31

A SCUFFLE broke out between a retired IAS officer and a couple inside the lift of a housing society in Noida over the latter taking their dog inside the elevator on Monday evening.

According to police, the incident took place at Parx Laureate Society in Noida Sector 108 around 6 pm.

"A woman resident of the society and her minor daughter along with their pet dog were inside the lift. When the lift reached the ground floor, and an elderly couple, including a former IAS officer, wanted to get in but he objected to the pet dog being in the same lift," a police officer said.

A purported video of the incident, which has gone viral on social media, shows the altercation between the woman and the retired bureaucrat, who slaps the woman after she tries to snatch his phone.

Following the altercation, the woman's husband is seen beating up the retired officer.



The incident took place at Parx Laureate Society in Noida Sector 108. Express

Some residents of the society as well as a security guard are seen intervening even as the scuffle continues.

ACP (Noida) Rajneesh Verma said they received a PCR call on Monday evening regarding the incident and a police team was rushed to the spot.

"The parties settled the dispute amongst themselves in a society meeting and no complaint was received... No injuries were sustained by either party and everything is under control," said ACP Verma. (with PTI inputs)

Boy dies after gate falls on him: NHRC issues notice to DDA, top cop

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

A DAY after a minor boy died when a heavy iron gate fell on him at a DDA colony in Outer Delhi, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) issued a notice to the Delhi Chief Secretary, DDA Vice-Chairman, and the Delhi Police Commissioner on the incident.

In a statement, the NHRC said it has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports that a five-year-old boy died after a damaged entry gate fell on him at the DDA colony in Siraspur. The body said that according to reports, the boy's family members and residents claimed they had complained several times to the Residents' Welfare Association and the DDA about the broken gate but no action was taken.

Said the statement, "The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, amount to grave violation of 'Right to Life' of the victim. Accordingly, it has issued notices to the Vice-Chairman, Delhi Development Authority (DDA); the Chief Secretary, Delhi government; and the Police Commissioner, calling for detailed reports on the matter within four weeks."

It added that authorities are directed to inform the Commission if any relief has been granted to the aggrieved family besides action taken against officials responsible for not acting on complaints regarding the damaged gate.

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PROFESSOR:
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ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR:
B.Tech. CSE (02), ECE (01), Civil (02), Mechanical (03), Mathematics (01), Physics (01), BBA (03), BCA (03)
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:
B.Tech. CSE (04), ECE (01), Civil (03), Mechanical (03) Mathematics (01), Physics (01), Chemistry (01), English (01), BBA (08), BCA (08)
NON - TEACHING STAFF
Librarian (01), Assistant Library (02), Registrar (01), Technical Assistant (02), Lab Attendant (04), Office Assistant-cum Accountant (02), Library Attendant (01), Clerk (03), Computer Operator (01), Peon (03), Safai Karam Chari (04)
Qualification / pay scales / experience criteria / conditions as per norms of AICTE / UGC / Maharshi Dayanand, University Rohtak, Haryana.
Interested candidates may apply within 21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement i.e. 21.11.2023 in the prescribed format available in the office of college as well as college website along with all testimonials through registered post/Speed post to the Chairman, Board of Governor, Akido College of Engineering, Sahpur Bupania Road, Village Lowa Khurd, Bahadurgarh 124507 (Haryana).
A copy of application along with all testimonials also to be submitted before last date to Dean College Development Council, M.D. University, Rohtak.
Email: akidomdu@gmail.com
Website: www.ace.edu.in
Contact No.: 9958613335
Note: Application not received at both the places will not be considered.
Chairman

6 DECISION 2023

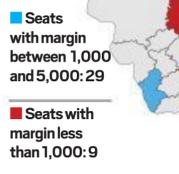
CHHATTISGARH • MADHYA PRADESH • MIZORAM • RAJASTHAN • TELANGANA

ELECTION IN NUMBERS

71,011

The highest winning margin in MP in 2018 as BJP's Ramesh Mendola defeated Congress's Mohan Singh Sengar in Indore-2

RAJASTHAN'S NARROW CONTESTS



2018 Cong-BJP gap in Rajasthan: 27; seats won narrowly: 38

DEEP MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 31

WHEN THE Congress returned to power in Rajasthan in the 2018 Assembly elections, it had 27 MLAs more than the BJP's 73. The Congress won 99 seats, adding Ramgarh when the election for the seat was held after a month, taking its tally to 100. But there were 38 Assembly seats — 11 more than the difference in tally between the Congress and BJP — where the victory margin of winners from either party was less than 5,000 votes, a reflection of the close contest and how it could have gone either way. In 9 Assembly seats in 2018, the victory margin was less than a 1,000 votes. These included Asind seat in Bhilwara, where Jabbar Singh Sankhala of the BJP defeated Manish Mewara of the Congress by just 154 votes; Pilibanga seat that was won by the BJP by only 278 votes; Khetri seat, won by sen-

ior Congress leader Jitendra Singh by 957 votes; and Fatehpur and Pokaran, where Congress MLAs Hakam Ali Khan and Shale Mohammad won by 860 and 872 votes, respectively. Mohammad went on to become the Minority Affairs Minister in the Ashok Gehlot Cabinet. Among the narrow-margin winners was senior BJP MLA and current Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Rajendra Rathore, who won from Churu by just 1,850 votes. The other constituencies where the victory margin was less than 5,000 votes were Surajgarh, Mandawa, Danta Ramgarh, Khandela, Shahpura, Chomu, Phulera, Malviya Nagar, Chaksu, Tijara, Behror, Nadbai, Bandikui, Beawar, Masuda, Makrana, Marwar Junction, Bhopalgarh, Pachpadra, Siwana, Chohtan, Raniwara, Gogunda, Vallabh Nagar, Sagwara, Ghatol, Begun, Bhim, Bundi, Sangod, Chhabra and Khanpur.

RAJASTHAN: 61 IN LATEST CONG LISTS

Most candidates for Opp-held seats, two Gehlot critics out

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 31

THE CONGRESS on Tuesday declared two more lists with 61 candidates in total for the Assembly elections, mainly announcing its nominees for seats held by opposition MLAs. The party accommodated some MLAs and dropped some, including two critics of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. Of the 61 constituencies, 39 are those where the sitting MLA is from Opposition parties, including 34 held by the BJP. Of the remaining 22, the party has retained the incumbent Congress MLA or the Independent supporting the party in 14 seats and dropped seven MLAs. One other seat was vacant. With the fresh announcements, the number of candidates announced by the Congress goes up to 156 of the total of 200 Assembly seats. Among the notable names who have been announced is

Cabinet Minister for Minority Affairs Shale Mohammad, who has been retained from his Pokaran seat in Jaisalmer. Manvendra Singh, son of former Defence Minister Jaswant Singh, has been fielded from Siwana in Barmer, currently held by BJP's Hameer Singh Bhayal. The party's national spokesperson Gourav Vallabh has been fielded from Udaipur. The seat has been vacant ever since Gulab Chand Kataria was appointed Assam Governor in February. The Congress has dropped six sitting legislators, including two bitter critics of CM Gehlot. SC Commission chairman Khiladi Lal Bairwa, who was among the most outspoken Pilot camp MLAs, has been replaced in Baredi with Sanjay Kumar Jatav. Bharat Singh Kundanpur, who was known over the last five years for writing scathing letters to CM Gehlot on various issues, has also been replaced with Bhanu Pratap Singh in Sangod.

LEADER IN FOCUS

After long stint away, is Raman Singh battle ready?

Facing a tough fight, BJP has turned back to its ex-CM in Chhattisgarh. But he seems a little disconcerted at this sudden return to spotlight.

VIKAS PATHAK
RAJNANDGAON, OCTOBER 31

FORMER CHHATTISGARH chief minister Raman Singh is known to start his day after 11 am, but this Sunday, he makes an exception. He leaves his residence in Rajnandgaon, from where he is contesting the coming Assembly elections, at 10.30 am to watch Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat at Sindhu Bhawan, which is run by the local Sindhi community.

After the PM's radio show is over, a long queue of notables of the Sindhi community forms to garland Singh at a hall on the first floor. A stoic Raman Singh stands straight, mechanically bowing his head to be garlanded, then removing the garlands and placing them on a table in a heap. Later, he presents shawls to those present, again without a hint of an expression.

The longest-serving CM of Chhattisgarh, who spent three terms in power from 2003 to 2018, only to disappear from public sight after the 2018 trouncing, seems a little disconcerted at this sudden return to spotlight. Struggling to come up with a face in its own ranks to take on Congress CM Bhupesh Baghel, the BJP has dropped hints of turning back to Singh.

The fadeout of the past five years had been abrupt for Singh, 71, given his popularity while in power, earning him the fond moniker of "chaaur wale baba" for supplying cheap rice to the poor at Rs 2-3 a kg. On a recent late-night flight from Raipur to Delhi, passengers struggled to place Singh as he stood mobbed by journalists, and was received by NSG commandos. Told that this was Singh, a passenger's eyes widened: "The *poorva mukhya-mantri* (the former CM)?"

Singh's perceptible lack of enthusiasm is striking given that Rajnandgaon is set to vote in less than a week, one of 20 Assembly seats slotted for Chhattisgarh's first phase polling on November



Raman Singh in Rajnandgaon last week. X/@drmansingh

VOTE SHARES IN RAJNANDGAON		
Party	2013	2018
BJP	58.45%	51.69%
Congress	34.30%	40.83%

Source: Election Commission

7. The constituency known for its rich Marwari and Sindhi community is Singh's bastion, won thrice by him. At Sindhu Bhawan, the BJP leader patiently, but impressively, fields questions from the local TV media, only seeming ruffled once when asked for an exclusive byte. But he quickly regains his composure.

This time, Singh is facing the Congress's Girish Devangan, who is chairman of Chhattisgarh Mining Corporation and known in party circles as a friend of CM Baghel. Devangan belongs to the OBC weaving community, which has a significant presence in Rajnandgaon. While Devangan's candidature fits with the Congress's caste pitch, the BJP is

fighting accusations of having ignored the community in its list. Devangan has been on the Enforcement Directorate's (ED's) radar over the coal mines scam. The limelight that has followed the Congress's ticket to him may come to his rescue if the ED swoops down now.

Yet, very few think Devangan poses any challenge to Singh. Speaking to *The Indian Express* after the engagement at Sindhu Bhawan, Singh raises the BJP's corruption charges against the Congress, claiming that the amount is in the range of Rs 15,000 crore, but doesn't refer to Devangan. To many, it is a sign that Singh doesn't want to be pigeonholed as a local leader, and has his eyes on the state as a whole.

On the Congress's pitch for a caste census, Singh asks why the party and CM Baghel had raised it now, after decades in power. "When they are in power, they don't remember caste census. When the model code of conduct comes into play, they start talking big. It should be done on a scientific basis and we will do something later," he says.

On Baghel's claim that the

Congress is fostering a distinctive "Chhattisgarhia identity", Singh says it was under former BJP prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee that the state had been carved out of Madhya Pradesh. The Congress claims are hollow, he says, giving the example of the three nominated to the Rajya Sabha from the state recently. "The Congress could not find a single Chhattisgarhia. They found one person from Bihar, one from Karnataka and one from UP. This is Bhupesh's love for Chhattisgarh."

At Sindhu Bhawan, a group of people approaches Singh about a train that now leaves Raipur at about 5 am, making daily travel difficult. The Congress has been raising changes in train schedules and cancellations in the state. Singh looks carefully at their complaint, then hands it to his staff to forward it to the authorities.

As the young men and women touch his feet before leaving, Singh barely registers the same.

As his convoy leaves after the meet-and-greet lasting around half-an-hour, a local comments on the "good" done by Singh, particularly the well-kept road in Rajnandgaon. "The commute is easy. Dr Saheb (Singh is a homeopathic doctor) made a good road as CM," he says.

But, do they want him to take over again? "Nahin. Achha kaam kiye par bahot saal ho gaya inko (No. He did good work but he was in power for very long)," says a bystander.

So, if Singh seems detached, the sentiment appears matched by the public, who don't hold any hard feelings but no nostalgia either. There is little or no discussion about him in the villages and towns here, unless people are asked specifically about the BJP leader.

Asked the million-dollar CM question, Singh says, "The decision on chief ministership will be taken after the elections, by the party legislators. The BJP is not going into the polls with a chief ministerial face."

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KEY PLAYERS

THE TOP FIVE BJP FACES IN RAJASTHAN, SOME NOT IN FRAY

NOTA IN POLLS: AS BAGHEL SAYS SCRAP IT, A LOOK AT ITS 10-YEAR RUN

NUMBER SPEAK

RICHEST SITTING MLAS IN THE FIVE STATES

Average assets — Chhattisgarh: Rs 10.5 cr, MP: Rs 10.8 cr, Mizoram: Rs 4.8 cr, Rajasthan: Rs 7.5 cr, Telangana: Rs 13.6 cr

TS Singh Deo (INC)
₹500 cr
CHHATTISGARH

Sanjay Satyendra Pathak (BJP)
₹226.2 cr
MADHYA PRADESH

Robert Romawia Royte (MNF)
₹44.8 cr
MIZORAM

Parasram Mordia (INC)
₹172.8 cr
RAJASTHAN

Marri Janardhan Reddy (BRS)
₹161.3 cr
TELANGANA

Source: ADR, Election Commission

I HEREBY DECLARE



SHIVRAJSINGH CHOUHAN, 64
Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, contesting from Budhni for BJP

MOVABLE ASSETS (including of spouse)
₹2.2 CRORE
(₹ 1.31 crore in 2018)

LIABILITIES
₹ 68.72 LAKH
(₹ 1.1 crore in 2018)

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
₹ 6.43 CRORE
including agricultural, commercial and residential properties
(₹ 6.36 crore in 2018)

SOURCE OF INCOME
CM salary and agriculture

EDUCATION:
MA from Hamidiya College Bhopal University

Azhar the trigger, Cong sees more exits in Telangana

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 31

THE TICKET to former India captain Mohammed Azharuddin from the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency in Hyderabad by the Congress in Telangana has spurred a fresh round of exits from the party.

On Tuesday, two Congress leaders, including its former Jubilee Hills MLA who hoped to contest from the seat again, P Vishnuvardhan Reddy, joined the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). While originally from Hyderabad, Azharuddin has never contested an election from Telangana, and won his only election from Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Vishnuvardhan's sister Vijaya Reddy had got the Congress ticket from Khairatabad.

The other senior leader to cross sides was Nagam Janardhan Reddy, a former minister in united Andhra Pradesh from 1995 to 2004 and a five-time MLA from Nagarkurnool. Sources said he was hopeful for a ticket from somewhere in Mahbubnagar district, and was sent feelers by the BRS after he couldn't manage one.

On Monday, supporters of several Congress leaders who were denied tickets also staged demonstrations at party offices.

BRS supremo and Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao was present to welcome Vishnuvardhan and Nagam Janardhan into the party.



Mohammad Azharuddin (extreme right) with Priyanka and Rahul Gandhi (centre) at a party campaign event. File

The switch to the BRS is happening despite the party already declaring candidates for 116 of the 119 Assembly seats. Those crossing over might be doing so in an-

icipation of post-election MLC seats and other nominated posts. Earlier, after the Congress announced its first list too, leaders had left over denial of

tickets, including former MLA E Shekhar (who wanted a ticket from Jadcherla) and ex-state president Ponnala Lakshmiiah (after being denied a ticket from Jangaon).

Sources said several other Congress leaders might join them, with names of ticket seekers G Vengal Rao (aspirant from Kukatpally), Venkat Reddy (Parkal) J Raghava Reddy (Warangal), C Krishna Reddy (Munugode), M Saraswati (Asifabad), and Subhash Reddy (Yellareddy), doing the rounds.

Angry over the Congress nominating Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy from Munugode, hours after he quit the BJP and returned to the Congress, the supporters of Krishna Reddy tore

posters and pelted stones at the local party office. Similar reports also came from other places.

The Congress announced its first list of 55 candidates on October 15 and its second list of 45 on October 27. There is a lot of jostling for the remaining 19 seats, with Left parties too seeking their share.

Telangana PCC chief A Revanth Reddy said the candidates were selected based on their winability and not out of any other consideration, as being alleged by some aspirants.

However, Subhash Reddy, who might defect too, and Erra Shekar, who left earlier, have claimed that no survey was undertaken by the PCC to grade the ticket aspirants.

VIEW FROM THE GROUND

With promise of 'new system', a party out to end MNF-Cong duopoly

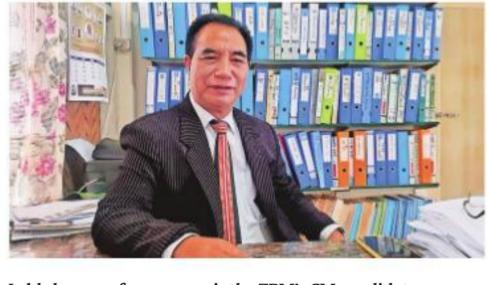
The Zoram People's Movement has fielded several young candidates, including a gospel singer and an ex-footballer

SUKRITA BARUAH
AIZAWL, OCTOBER 31

ONE EVENING last week, all 40 candidates fielded by the Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) gathered at the Dawrpui community hall in Aizawl to take a collective oath. They promised to stay away from corruption if elected. With polling a week away, this new political formation is heading into this election with confidence, a set of fresh candidates, and support from some influential quarters. On the stage at the oath-taking ceremony were a set of party

"elders" such as former Chief Secretary Lalfal Zuala, retired IAS officer Rinsanga, and retired Mizoram University professor Thangchungnunga. These leaders, while lending their weight to the party, are not its electoral faces. "Our party is supposed to be an alternative to the 'grand old party' system currently existing in Mizoram. So, there are many young faces too. Four of the candidates are below 40. Sixteen are aged 40 to 60. 50% of the candidates are below 50 years old," said the party's Aizawl West-I candidate T B C Lalvenchunga, who is 41 years old. Among its young candidates

are some celebrities. The party's candidate from Dampa is popular gospel singer Vanlalsailova, its South Tuipui candidate is former international footballer Jeje Lalpekhlua, and its Aizawl West-II candidate is All India Football Federation (AIFF) executive member Lalnghinglova Hmar, popularly known as Tetea Hmar. The sense of a fresh beginning that has attracted young candidates like him is exactly what the party is pitching to its voters, holding up the promise of a "new system" after more than three decades of rule by the Congress and the Mizo National Front (MNF) that have taken



Lalduhoma, a former cop, is the ZPM's CM candidate. Express

turns in power since the state was created in 1986.

The rise of ZPM So far, the ZPM has been riding high on a string of successes.

It started as a common platform of six small regional parties and civil society groups in 2017. It was yet to be recognised as a party during the last Assembly election. So, there were 38

Independent candidates in the fray backed by this common platform, of whom eight went on to become MLAs, making it the second-largest presence in the Assembly. In 2019, the ZPM became a recognised party and two years later it made an even stronger statement when its founder, and now chief ministerial candidate, Lalduhoma won the Serchhip Assembly by-election after he was disqualified from the Assembly for "defecting" to the ZPM after being elected as an Independent. The ZPM's next major victory was when it won all 11 seats in the municipal council of Lunglei, Mizoram's second-largest town, this April. It also won all seven seats in by-elections to the Zemabawk local

council the same month, a victory that the party has been claiming is more symbolic because the area comes under Chief Minister Zoramthanga's Aizawl East I constituency. This cemented the ZPM's position as a viable third front in Mizoram politics after decades of bipolar contest. The primary pillar of the "new system" that the party promises is a Minimum Support Price for four local produce: ginger, turmeric, chilli, and broomgrass. In an interview with *The Indian Express*, Lalduhoma, a former IPS officer, claimed that the party would introduce the "new system" through "administrative reforms, land reforms, economic reforms". Its political opponents downplay the party's run of

successes, calling it a "hotch-potch" of different entities grappling with pushes and pulls between the different parts that make up its whole. "It's just a group which changed its name from something else a few years ago. They are disorganised, with discord between the different groups. If they don't win this election, they will perish," said MNF general secretary Harvey Lalrinliana. While Congress workers and leaders make similar arguments, alleging that the ZPM, like the MNF, is likely to tie up with the BJP, Mizoram Congress president Lalsawta suggested he was not opposed to an alliance with the party. "It can be considered in the future, but never the MNF," he said.

MARATHA QUOTA STIR: INTERNET SERVICES SUSPENDED IN JALNA DISTRICT

Will bring attempt to murder charge: Fadnavis

Jarange Patil says 'go ahead', blames BJP for violence

ALOK DESHPANDE & VALLABH OZARKAR
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

A DAY after the agitation for Maratha reservation turned violent with houses of politicians and offices being torched, the Maharashtra government on Tuesday hardened its stand by announcing to invoke attempt to murder charges against those who resorted to arson, even as activist Manoj Jarange Patil blamed the ruling party for the violence and challenged the government to "go ahead" with filing FIRs.

Internet services have been suspended in Jalna district by an order of the local administration as a precautionary measure to stop spread of rumours related to violence and arson, an official said.

After a cabinet meeting, Deputy Chief Minister and state Home Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that those involved in torching the house of an elected representative will face case under Section 307 (attempting to commit murder) of the Indian Penal Code. It means no possibil-



Protesters on Pune-Bengaluru highway, Tuesday. Arul Horizon

ity of withdrawal of the case at a later stage.

"The government has taken a serious note of the violence. Yesterday in Beed, some people burned down houses of elected representatives, targeted the establishments belonging to a particular community. There will be action. We have the video footage of setting house on fire while people were inside. Around 50-55 people have been identified and rest will be identified soon. All these will face charges under section 307 of the IPC," said Fadnavis.

Interacting with reporters in Antarwali-Saraati, Jarange Patil

retorted to Fadnavis's announcement, saying, "We don't know who burnt the properties. They must have been your own people... BJP is being finished in every state because of people like him (Fadnavis), who keep indulging in such idle talk."

Asking Fadnavis to "go ahead" with filing attempt to murder cases, Patil said, "Since you have taken a decision that will cause unrest in Maharashtra, do whatever you want to do..."

"If the government fails to make an announcement for holding a special session (of the state legislature), I will stop taking wa-

ter from tomorrow (Wednesday) evening... After that whatever happens, the government will be responsible, not the community," warned Patil.

After speaking to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for over 25 minutes on phone, Manoj Jarange Patil demanded that the state government convene a special assembly session to announce reservation for Marathas and give a blanket Kunbi caste certificate to all Marathas in the state. "We will not accept half-hearted reservation. The government should provide reservation to all Marathas," Patil told the CM.

In Kolhapur, police beefed up security at the residences of political leaders. Nanded district SP Shrikrishna Kokate sustained injury in stone pelting during a demonstration staged by Maratha quota protesters in Kushnora area on Tuesday evening, an official said. Kokate appealed to the agitators to maintain peace but stones were hurled at him and he sustained injury to his hand, the official said. In Latur, quota supporters took out a candle light march. In Beed, the situation was peaceful during the day. Services of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation buses have been stopped completely in five districts — Parbhani, Dharsiv, Latur, Jalna and Nanded.

All-party meet today, no invite to Uddhav

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

THE STATE government called an all-party meeting Wednesday in an attempt to form a consensus on the ongoing agitation seeking reservation for the Maratha community.

In the Cabinet meeting held Tuesday, the government, however, decided to not discuss the Opposition's demand to call for a special session of the state legislature to deliberate on the issue.

The state government has invited NCP chief Sharad Pawar, along with two descendents of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj — Udayanraje Bhosle (BJP's Rajya Sabha MP) and Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje (Swarajya Sanghata). All senior Congress leaders from the state have been invited to the meeting.

However, the government has not invited former chief minister and Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray.

Leaders of Opposition in both the legislative Assembly and council — Vijay Wadettiwar and

CALL PARLIAMENT SESSION: UDDHAV

Mumbai: Sena UBT president Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday demanded that the Centre must resolve the issue of Maratha reservation by calling a special session of Parliament as he urged all Union ministers from Maharashtra to draw the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the issue. ENS

Ambadas Danve — have been invited. According to sources, all parties have supported extending reservation to Marathas but have said that it cannot be given by reducing OBC reservation.

The ruling NCP ministers, MLAs and leaders held a meeting at the residence of Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, who is unlikely to attend the all-party meet as he is down with dengue.

Ruling Shiv Sena, too, held its meeting on Tuesday night.



TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu with family members outside central prison in Rajamahendravaram on Tuesday. P77

Naidu walks out of jail for four weeks on medical grounds

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 31

TELUGU DESAM Party (TDP) chief and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu walked out of the Rajamahendravaram Central Jail on Tuesday after the High Court granted him conditional bail till November 28 on health grounds. Naidu has been asked not to speak with the media or indulge in political activities. Naidu remained in judicial custody for 53 days since his arrest on September 9. His main bail petition has been posted for hearing on November 10.

Naidu's wife Bhuvanewari, son Lokesh, Hindupur MLA and actor N Balakrishna, dozens of TDP leaders, and a large number of supporters welcomed Naidu outside the jail. The Andhra Pradesh HC granted Naidu interim bail for four weeks in the alleged Andhra Pradesh Skill Development Corporation scam on medical grounds — for a cataract surgery and a thorough medical checkup as advised by a team of doctors.

Naidu's son Nara Lokesh Naidu and party's state president K Atchennaaidu said that it was unlikely that Naidu, 73, would speak with the TDP's senior leadership soon as he is expected to be hospitalised for a few days. TDP leaders are hoping to speak with him in private about the situation in Telangana where party's chief Kasani Gyaneswar resigned over party's decision not to contest in the November 30 Assembly elections.

The TDP released a statement on behalf of Naidu who briefly addressed party leaders and workers after stepping out of jail. "To all Telugu people worldwide who have shown their solidarity and extended their support, I extend my heartfelt thanks," he said.

On Wednesday, Naidu and his wife will leave for Tirumala. They will have darshan at the Lord Venkateswara temple on Thursday morning and will leave for Hyderabad from Tirupati airport.

After arriving at Hyderabad, Naidu will get admitted to AIG Hospital for the surgery and the check-up.



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



ALLAYING FEARS

BJP national president JP Nadda had to face the resentment of NDA's smaller allies recently during a meeting in Thiruvananthapuram. The leaders, especially those from the Christian community, asked Nadda to take immediate measures to allay the fears of the community if the BJP wants to make any inroads in Kerala. They didn't mince words to say that the incidents in Manipur and the government's response have antagonised the Christian community in the state. Nadda who tried to explain that the Manipur violence was actually a clash between two ethnic groups did not cut much ice with them, according to sources. Nadda finally had to promise that he would ensure that steps are taken to allay the fears of the community.

METAL & SOIL

A LITTLE over a decade ago, as the Gujarat CM, Narendra Modi had started a campaign for crowdsourcing scrap iron from peasants, which was melted and used for carving the Statue of Unity at Kevadia, dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. On Tuesday, to mark the birth anniversary of Patel, Modi — as the country's Prime Minister — laid the foundation stone for Amrit Vatika at New Delhi's India Gate, where soil crowdsourced from over 6-lakh villages of India will be used.

BACK TO GOA

THE GOVERNMENT has named filmmaker Shekhar Kapur as the Chairman of the coming International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa. Last year, Israeli filmmaker Nadav Lapid, as the jury head at IFFI-Goa, had created a controversy by describing "The Kashmir Files" movie "vulgar" and "propaganda" at the closing ceremony. Other members on the jury this time include Spanish cinematographer José Luis Alcaine, French filmmaker Jerome Paillard and Catherine Dussart, and Australian film producer Helen Leake.

MoS Chandrasekhar booked over Kerala blasts remarks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
OCTOBER 31

A DAY AFTER caustic exchange of words with Kerala Chief Minister, the Kochi police Tuesday filed a case against Union Minister of state for electronics and information technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar for allegedly making provocative comments on social media following IED blasts at a convention centre in Kochi's Kalamassery on Sunday that left three dead, including a 12-year-old girl.

Based on a complaint from Kochi city police cyber cell, a non-bailable case was filed against him under IPC sections 153 and 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of har-



Booked on charge of promoting enmity

mony) and under the Kerala Police Act section 120 (o).

The accused in the FIR has been identified as "Rajeev Chandrasekhar Facebook profile name." It said the accused had made provocative comments against the backdrop of the blasts such as "Palestine terrorist group Hamas and spread it through videos and text messages with an intention of creating communal hatred towards a section and shatter harmony in the state."

After the blasts, Chandrasekhar had posted on Facebook, "The price of appeasement politics of Cong and CPM will always be borne by innocents of all communities - That is what

history has taught us. Brazen appeasement politics - shameless even by Cong/CPM/UPA/INDIA alliance standards to invite Terrorist Hamas to spread hate & call for 'Jihad' in Kerala. This is the height of irresponsible madness politics. Enough! You can't keep snakes in your backyard and expect them only to bite your neighbors. You know, eventually those snakes are going to turn on whoever has them in the backyard' - Hilary Rodham Clinton."

Reacting to Chandrasekhar's remarks, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the minister was "spitting venom". On Monday, both leaders were embroiled in a war of words. Chandrasekhar had said, "He (Pinarayi Vijayan) is a liar. If not having links with the SDPI, PFI and Hamas is the qualification for being called communal, I am proud to say that nobody in BJP has any links to SDPI, PFI and Hamas," he said.

ADITIRAJA

EKTA NAGAR, OCTOBER 31

WARNING PEOPLE against the "mindset of appeasement", Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday urged the country to unite in the Lok Sabha elections next year and ensure that it is not "taken back to the days of bomb blasts in crowded places". He said those with this "mindset" even knock on the doors of courts to "save terrorists".

Addressing a gathering near the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas to mark the 148th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Modi said India has "done away with symbols of slavery and the mindset" in the last nine years of NDA government at the Centre.

Recalling the "stringent" measures invoked for internal security during Patel's tenure as Home Minister, Modi said, "In the last nine years, internal security has been challenged from many quarters but our security forces are working hard and enemies of our country have not been successful in their intentions..."

"People have not forgotten those years when one had doubts on going to crowded public places during festivals or financial hubs... people have seen destruction after bomb blasts... they have also seen the inertia of the previous governments during investigations at that time... You do not have to take the country back to that era," he said. "You have to stop it with your capacity... Those who are attacking the unity of this country, we have to identify them and be wary of them."

"In our development journey, the biggest roadblock is the poli-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Rashtriya Ekta Diwas parade, in Kevadia, Gujarat, on Tuesday. P77

tics of appeasement. Those resorting to appeasement can never see the horror of terror and its monstrosity. Those involved in appeasement are not hesitating before standing with the enemies of humanity. They display indifference during investigations of terror activities and escape from showing strictness against anti-national forces," the Prime Minister said.

"The mindset of appeasement is so dangerous that they even reach courts to save terrorists," he said. Targeting the opposition INDIA bloc without naming it, he said, "There are elections coming up in (some parts of) the country...

and next year, there is the Lok Sabha election... There is a big political pot in the country which cannot see constructive politics. Unfortunately, they are resorting to such tactics that are against the country and society for their vested interest. They are people who will keep their vested interests higher even if the unity of the country breaks. Therefore, your (citizens) role has become very important."

He cited the replacement of the Indian Penal Code with the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, the Navy's new ensign that did away with the George's Cross as examples of ending "symbols of slavery".

PM launches 'MY Bharat' platform for youth

UPASIKA SINGHAL
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Amrit Vatika and Amrit Mahotsav Memorial and launched the Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) platform, designed for the country's youth, at an event marking the culmination of the "Meri Maati Mera Desh" campaign's Amrit Kalash Yatra at Kartavya Path in New Delhi Tuesday, coinciding with the closing ceremony of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Addressing the gathering, Modi recalled how the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav was initiated in March 2021, inspired by the Dandi March. "Just as the Dandi March saw increasing participation from the people, the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav witnessed such massive public engagement that it created a new chapter in our history."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Today, at the culmination of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, marks the beginning of Amrit-kaal."

Modi said the MY Bharat platform will play a pivotal role in nation-building in the 21st century. He lauded the collective strength of Indian youth and praised the 'Meri Maati, Mera Desh' as an example of how the youth can organise and achieve their goals. Modi also mentioned the upcoming Amrit Vatika, which will be created with saplings from across the country. He said that this is not the first time the country has come together to contribute soil for a purpose and cited the "Jan, Janani, Janmabhoomi" artwork in the New Parliament Building, crafted by 75 women artists using soil from all states.

GOVT. OF BIHAR
BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD
I.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.
UNDER GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING
(UGMAC)-2023 for MBBS / BDS in Govt. Medical / Dental Colleges and Private Medical / Dental Colleges of Bihar
Adv. No.- BCECEB(UGMAC)-2023/24 Dated 31.10.2023 Website : bceceboard.bihar.gov.in
Notice for UGMAC-2023 Stray Vacancy Round Online Counselling
In continuation to the advertisement no.-BCECEB(UGMAC)-2023/16 & 2023/17 dated 09.10.2023, Rank Card of all eligible candidates who have filled their online registration form successfully and paid the registration fee as well as security deposit in between 11.10.2023 to 13.10.2023 have been uploaded on Board's website in the light of MCC's revised schedule. Candidates are advised to download their Rank Card of UGMAC-2023 by clicking the link "Rank Card of Stray Vacancy Round Counselling of UGMAC-2023" by submitting their UGMAC ID and Date of Birth.
After downloading the rank card, candidates have to do choice filling for online counselling. For online choice filling, all eligible candidates are required to click on link "Online Counselling Portal of UGMAC-2023".
2. Important dates for Stray Vacancy Round Counselling of UGMAC-2023 ;
i. Publication of merit list on Board's website : 31.10.2023
ii. Seat matrix posting on website : Already uploaded
iii. Starting date of online registration-cum-choice filling for seat allotment : 01.11.2023
iv. Last date of online registration-cum-choice filling for seat allotment and locking : 03.11.2023
v. Provisional seat allotment order publication : 05.11.2023
vi. Downloading of allotment order : 05.11.2023 to 07.11.2023
vii. Document Verification/Admission : 06.11.2023 to 07.11.2023
Related Advertisement No.-BCECEB(UGMAC)-2023/21 dated 31.10.2023 which can be seen / downloaded from the Board's website: bceceboard.bihar.gov.in
Controller of Examination

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
A-11, Sector-24, Noida - 201301
(CIN-L74899DL1974GOI007417)
Phone : 0120-2412294, 2412445, Fax: 0120-2412397
Advertisement No.: 02 (NFL)/2023 Dated: 01.11.2023
Engagement of Management Trainees in NFL-2023
Online applications are invited from energetic, young & qualified Indian Nationals for recruitment to following positions in NFL:
Sl. No. Post Name Total Vacancies Category Wise Vacancies
UR SC ST OBC (NCL) EWS PwBD ExSM
1 Management Trainee (Marketing) 60 25 10 06 13 06 03 -
2 Management Trainee (F&A) 10 06 01 - 02 01 - -
3 Management Trainee (Law) 04 03 - - 01 - - -
Detailed advertisement shall be available on NFL website: www.nationalfertilizers.com → Careers → Recruitment in NFL → Engagement of Management Trainees in NFL-2023 from 01/11/2023. Online application portal shall be available from 02/11/2023 to 01/12/2023. Last date of submission of Online Application will be 01/12/2023. Any corrigendum/addendum /errata/update for this recruitment shall be published only on the NFL's website.
GM (HR-Pers.)
@NFL_Kisan | @nationalfertilizers | National Fertilizers Limited

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
A-11, Sector-24, Noida - 201301
(CIN-L74899DL1974GOI007417)
Phone : 0120-2412294, 2412445, Fax: 0120-2412397
Advertisement No.: 03(NFL)/2023 Dated: 01.11.2023
Recruitment of Accounts Assistant in NFL
Online applications are invited from energetic, young & qualified Indian Nationals for recruitment to following positions in NFL:
Sl. No. Post Name Total Vacancies Category Wise Vacancies
UR SC ST OBC (NCL) EWS PwBD ExSM
NANGAL UNIT
1 Accounts Assistant 01 01 - - - - - -
BATHINDA UNIT
1 Accounts Assistant 01 - 01 - - - - - -
MARKETING DIVISION
1 Accounts Assistant 05 04 01 - - - 01 -
CORPORATE OFFICE
1 Accounts Assistant 05 03 - 01 01 - - -
VIJAIPUR UNIT
1 Accounts Assistant 03 03 - - - - - -
Detailed advertisement shall be available on NFL website: www.nationalfertilizers.com → Careers → Recruitment in NFL → Recruitment of Accounts Assistant in NFL from 01/11/2023. Online application portal shall be available from 02/11/2023 to 01/12/2023. Last date of submission of Online Application will be 01/12/2023. Any corrigendum/addendum /errata/update for this recruitment shall be published only on the NFL's website.
GM (HR-Pers.)
@NFL_Kisan | @nationalfertilizers | National Fertilizers Limited

8 EXPRESS NETWORK

HC permits Mahua to drop media houses from lawsuit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

TRINAMOOL CONGRESS MP Mahua Moitra informed the Delhi High Court Tuesday that she seeks to delete as parties several media houses from her lawsuit against publishing of alleged defamatory content against her related to the cash-for-query allegations.

Moitra's counsel also submitted before a single judge bench of Justice Sachin Datta that he was not pressing any interim relief in the matter Tuesday and that the lawsuit would only continue against two defendants — BJP MP Nishikant Dubey and lawyer Jai Anant Dehadrai.

The high court thereafter permitted Moitra to file an amended memo of parties and carry out appropriate changes in the pleadings in the lawsuit. The matter has been listed next on December 5.

Advocate Abhimanyu Bhandari, appearing for Dubey, submitted that Moitra has committed perjury as after denying the allegations she had subsequently accepted sharing her login credentials with a businessman.

In her lawsuit, Moitra has sought permanent injunction against Dubey, Dehadrai, social media platform X, Google, YouTube and 15 media houses, to restrain them from making, publishing, circulating alleged defamatory, false and malicious statements against her. She has also sought damages of Rs 2 crore and public apology from Dubey and Dehadrai in three English, Hindi and Bengali newspapers each.

Among the various reliefs sought in the interim application, Moitra has sought an ex-parte ad-interim injunction against the defendants and removal of the allegedly defamatory content posted against her on social media until the disposal of the suit. Dubey has accused Moitra of taking bribes from a businessman to ask questions in Parliament, urging Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to constitute an inquiry committee to look into the charges against her.

Man kills mother, daughter in J&K

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 31

A 30-YEAR old man allegedly killed his mother and minor daughter with a sharp weapon on Tuesday in Bishnah area near Jammu. Identified as Jagdev Singh alias Michael of Morchapur village in Bishnah, police said the accused fled on a red and black motorcycle after the incident.

A family dispute was stated to be the cause of provocation. According to a senior police officer, the accused man's wife had gone to her parent's house following an argument with him a fortnight ago. Quoting construction workers at the accused person's home, police said he had an altercation with his mother over some issue and in a fit of rage, attacked her with a sharp weapon and later his daughter.

SUPREME COURT HEARS PLEAS AGAINST 'ANONYMOUS' POLITICAL DONATIONS

Poll bonds meant to enrich party, no accountability: Petitioners

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

QUESTIONING THE alleged anonymity provided to corporate funding through the electoral bonds route, petitioners, who had challenged the 2018 scheme, on Tuesday told the Supreme Court that it's a "very dangerous trend in democracy... if the voice of the corporate sector drowns the voices of citizens" and that "there are grounds to believe that money is being given through bonds as kickbacks" for favours extended by those in power.

Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Congress leader Jaya Thakur, told a five-judge Constitution bench presided by CJI D Y Chandrachud that though the nomenclature suggests that electoral bonds are meant for elections, "there is nothing in the scheme which connects the donation made to the participation in the electoral process. It's a means for political parties to be enriched".

"Suppose I make a donation of Rs 10 crores to a political party through electoral bonds. That political party can actually give it to a

mainstream media channel and say you propagate my ideology or give a present to someone... There is zero spending requirement... It has nothing to do with only elections... This is not money for electoral participation but for enriching the party. There is no accountability," he sought to explain.

The senior counsel told the bench, also comprising Justices Sanjeev Khanna, B R Gavai, J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra: "I can understand the corporate sector being told that we impose a cess like education cess. With that cess you have capital. And capital you distribute in accordance with representation in Lok Sabha. So, everyone has the same amount. This isn't that."

Sibal argued that "the nature of the scheme protects those who have committed a crime". Referring to Section 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act, he said that under the provision, public servants can be prosecuted for accepting or agreeing to accept gratification for a favour. But under the electoral bond scheme, "you give a donation. No questions asked. You get a favour. You cannot correlate

one with the other. And I can't prosecute", he said, adding, "this is a scheme to protect criminals from being prosecuted."

He also submitted that the amendments made to the Companies Act, which make it unnecessary for the corporates to disclose how they contributed to each political party but only have to disclose the total amount allotted for buying electoral bonds, are violative of shareholder rights.

"So what is being done in this process is that you are through the electoral bond process, not informing the shareholder as to how his money is going to be spent... It's a very serious issue," said Sibal.

"While names of citizens who contribute more than Rs 20,000 in cash are disclosed, that of the corporate sector through electoral bonds is not. So, is the corporate sector being granted a privilege of anonymity over the citizen?", he said, adding, "how is the corporate more privileged than a citizen who is at the heart of the Constitution of India?"

Interjecting, the CJI said "we are not here on the challenge to the legality of a law providing for

corporate donations per se. Wider issue is not that for the reason that because Section 293 (of Companies Act) already allows that... The broader philosophical perspective of allowing corporate donation as it leads to quid pro quo... In that sense, the moment we accepted Section 293, our society legitimised corporate quid pro quo. There is an element of quid pro quo the moment you have a corporate funding. The large public limited company who makes a donation doesn't give it for charity".

Advocate Prashant Bhushan appearing for Association for Democratic Reforms said the scheme "defeats the people's right to be informed about the source of funding of political parties... which is a fundamental right under article 19(1)(a)...". He said "the anonymity promotes corruption" and that there are grounds to believe that money is being given through bonds as kickbacks. He added that whether it is at the Centre or states, it is the ruling parties that receive the lion's share of the funding.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

BOND FUNDING	
₹9,208.23 cr	
Total value of electoral bonds sold from 2017-18 to 2021-22	
BJP	₹5,271.97 cr
Congress	₹952.29 cr
TMC	₹767.88 cr
BJD	₹622 cr
DMK	₹431.50 cr
NCP	₹51.15 cr
AAP	₹48.83 cr*
JD (U)	₹24.4 cr

* Electoral bond / electoral trust contribution
Source: RTI from SBI records and parties' annual account statements to EC

BJP bagged 57% bond funding, Congress 10%

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

IN THE five years since the electoral bonds scheme was introduced, more than half, or 57%, of the funds extended through bonds have gone to the BJP. The party, as per its declarations to the EC, received Rs 5,271.97 crore via bonds between 2017-2022. The Congress was a distant second at Rs 952.29 crore (10 per cent). The EC is yet to publish the annual reports of parties for the financial year 2022-2023.

In the period between 2017-2018 and 2021-2022, electoral bonds worth Rs 9,208.23 crore were sold, according to State Bank of India data obtained by *The Indian Express* through RTI.

An analysis of the annual audited account statements submitted by the parties to the EC puts the worth of the contributions via bonds to the BJP at Rs 5,271.97 crore, from 2017-2018 till 2021-2022. Regional parties in power in states are also big recipients of electoral bonds funds, with the Trinamool Congress that has been in government in West Bengal since 2011 declaring contributions worth Rs 767.88 crore over the years, putting it third after the BJP and Congress.

UP govt to take over land given to Azam Khan trust

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 31



Cabinet says decision taken as trust flouted norms

IN A setback for senior SP leader Azam Khan, who heads the Maulana Mohd Ali Jauhar Trust in Rampur, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Tuesday cleared a proposal to take back 41,181 square feet of land given to the Trust through two government orders in September 2006 and February 2007.

While the government said the decision was taken because the Trust flouted the allotment conditions and used the land for housing an office of a political party instead of educational purposes, Samajwadi Party president and Leader of Opposition Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the BJP government made the move over "vendetta" mainly because Azam Khan is a "Muslim and a Samajwadi Party leader".

The land parcels were given on lease for 30 years on an annual payment of Rs 100.

Cabinet Minister Suresh Khanna said, "In Rampur district, 41,181 sq ft of land of the Murtaza

Uchhattar Madhyamik Vidyalaya was given to the Maulana Mohd Ali Jauhar Trust. It was found that the conditions of allotment were flouted in this case. The land was given on lease for extension of the university but it was found that an office of a political party was being run from there. Thus, the land will be taken back from the Trust."

He added, "The offices of the District Inspector of Schools and the Basic Education Office are also located in the same building. Thus, the Cabinet has approved the cancellation of land and building [lease] given to Mohd Ali Jauhar trust and after taking it back, its possession would be given to the Uttar Pradesh secondary education department."

The decision has been taken on the basis of a report of a four-member inquiry committee that was formed by the DM, Rampur.

SC upholds conviction of 3 Gujarat cops in assault case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, OCTOBER 31

THE SUPREME COURT on Monday upheld the conviction of police sub-inspector Balvant Sonara and two constables in connection to a 2004 case of assaulting and torturing a man at Bhesan village in Junagadh, giving the three convicts three weeks to surrender.

While delivering its judgment on Monday, the division bench of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice SVN Bhatti trashed a special leave petition filed by Sonara and constables Ramesh Pansuriya and Ramji Mayatra.

"We are not inclined to interfere with the impugned judgment and hence, the special leave petition is dismissed. Interim order

dated 25.09.2023 passed by this court is vacated. The petitioners will surrender within three weeks. In case they do not, police will take appropriate action in accordance with law," the SC ruled. The order was made available on Tuesday.

The three policemen had moved the Supreme Court after the Gujarat HC, on August 28, upheld their conviction by a trial court in Bhesan. Shivanish Pandya, advocate of Dinesh Limbani — elder brother of victim Himmat Limbani — said the three policemen argued they had been put on trial without due sanction from the Gujarat government under CrPC Section 197 and the original complainant, Himmat, had died during pendency of the matter and so, its impact on evidence should be assessed.

Ahead of elections, SBI sold Rs 1,148 cr in bonds

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

IN THE run-up to the Assembly elections in five states in November, the State Bank of India sold a total of Rs 1,148.38 crore in electoral bonds in October, with the highest amount of sales at its Hyderabad branch (33 per cent), according to a Right to Information reply Tuesday.

The 28th tranche of electoral bonds went on sale from October 4 to 14, while the EC announced the poll schedule for the five Assembly elections on October 9. As per SBI data, its Hyderabad branch sold Rs 377.63 crore of EBs, which was about 33 per cent of the total, but when it came time for encashing, political parties re-

2,012 INDIVIDUAL EBs SOLD	
TOP FIVE SBI BRANCHES FOR SALES	
Hyderabad	₹377.63 cr
Kolkata	₹225.28 cr
Mumbai	₹177.90 cr
New Delhi	₹130.68 cr
Chennai	₹95.50 cr
TOP FIVE SBI BRANCHES FOR ENCASHING	
New Delhi	₹800.96 cr
Kolkata	₹171.28 cr
Hyderabad	₹83.63 cr
Mumbai	₹39 cr
Patna	₹25 cr

deemed only Rs 83.63 crore (7 per cent) in the Telangana capital. In its reply to the RTI query by transparency campaigner Commodore

Lokesh K Batra (retired), SBI said 25 political parties had opened accounts for redeeming EBs.

For sales, the top branches af-

ter Hyderabad were Kolkata (Rs 255.28 crore), Mumbai (Rs 177.90 crore), New Delhi (Rs 130.68 crore) and Chennai (Rs 95.50 crore). The SBI's New Delhi branch, where national parties are expected to have their accounts, saw the overwhelming majority of all EBs encashed (Rs 800 crore or 70 per cent). The Kolkata (Rs 171.28 crore), Hyderabad, Mumbai (Rs 39 crore) and Patna (25 crore) branches were among the top five for encashing.

Though EBs are available in denominations of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore each, the largest denomination remains the most popular. In the latest tranche, SBI sold 2,012 individual EBs, of which more than half (1,095) were of Rs 1 crore denomination.

Country to experience warm days in November, says IMD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 31

IT WILL be a warm November over most parts of the country, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in its monthly forecast issued Tuesday.

This except Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, some areas in the west and northeast India, where the western disturbances could trigger rainfall or snowfall activities could keep the temperatures under check, this month.

Both the maximum and minimum temperatures over the country are expected to remain on the higher side of normal for most days of November. Such warm conditions may not be particularly good for the upcoming rabi sea-

son. While some southern regions experience the start of winter season, over most other parts of the country, winter onset is realised later. 'Moderate' El Nino conditions — the warmer than usual sea surface temperature over the equatorial Pacific Ocean — continue to prevail.

"Models suggest that El Nino will last till early March, next year," Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, director general, IMD, said. October, too, had ended up being warmer than usual as very little rainfall was realised over mainland India. The country experienced a 32 per cent rainfall deficit.

There were four low pressure systems developed in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, combined, but these did not largely bring rainfall over the country, the IMD officials said. Two cyclones,

Tej and Hamoon, developed in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, respectively, during mid-October. Their subsequent movement away from the Indian coasts also had a role in poor rainfall last month.

Besides, there was prolonged prevalence of anticyclonic circulations, which acted as a ridge, the IMD said. As a result, the wind patterns too turned out of favour for any rainfall over most parts of the country, except extreme northern plains, where recent streams of western disturbances caused light rainfall and snowfall. While the Northeast monsoon is turning active over the southern peninsula, rainfall over rest of the country will be normal and range between 77-123 per cent of the Long Period Average of 297mm (1971 - 2020 record), the IMD officials said.

Road accidents up by 12% to 4.6 lakh from last year, 19 deaths/hour: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE NUMBER of road accidents in India went up by an alarming 12 per cent to over 4.6 lakh in 2022, resulting in deaths of 19 persons every hour, according to a report by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).

The report showed that 53 road accidents take place every hour in the country. "A total of 4,61,312 road accidents have been reported by states and Union Territories (UTs) during the calendar year 2022, which claimed 1,68,491 lives and caused injuries to 4,43,366 persons.

"This marks an increase of 11.9 per cent in accidents, 9.4 per cent



in fatalities, and 15.3 per cent in injuries compared to the previous year," the report titled "Road accidents in India - 2022" said. As per the report, for the fourth consecutive year in 2022, fatal road accident victims largely constituted young people in the productive age groups.

"Young adults in the age group of 18-45 years accounted for 66.5 per cent of victims during 2022," the report said, adding that people in the working age group of 18-60 years constitute 83.4 per cent of total road accident fatalities. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari

has set a target to reduce the number of accidents in the country and the resulting deaths by half by 2024. In 2022, a total of 1,68,491 road accident fatalities were reported by states/UTs, which is higher than the 2021 reported figure of 1,53,972.

As per the report, of the 4.6 lakh accidents recorded in the country in 2022, 1,51,997 (32.9 per cent) took place on national highways, including expressways, 1,06,682 (23.1 per cent) on state highways and the remaining 2,02,633 (43.9 per cent) on other roads. "Of the total of 1,68,491 fatalities reported in 2022, 61,038 (36.2 per cent) were on national highways, 41,012 (24.3 per cent) were on state highways and 66,441 (39.4 per cent) were on other roads," it added.

SENIOR TMC LEADER SAYS INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE GO HAND-IN-HAND IN BENGAL, SINGUR WAS VICTORY FOR FARMERS

Mamata govt hopes Singur award to Tata won't overshadow business meet

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & ATRI MITRA
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 31

THE AWARD of ₹765.78 crore compensation to Tata Motors over the scrapped Singur Nano plant, by an arbitral tribunal, could not have come at a worse time for the Trinamool Congress government, which is gearing up for a Global Business Summit next month. The Opposition, which has renewed its corruption campaign against the Mamata Banerjee government after the arrest of another minister over a scam, has found a new handle to beat the TMC with.

It was the TMC's sustained campaign against land acquisition for the Nano plant that had eventually forced the Tatas to pull out. While the agitation had also propelled the TMC to power,

felling the Left Front government, it now dogs the ruling party's bid to shrug off an anti-industry image. The Bengal Global Business Summit is to be held in Kolkata from November 21-22. Mamata recently went on a much-publicised 10-day visit to Spain and Dubai as part of preparations for it.

The arbitration proceedings had been between Tata Motors and West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd, with the company seeking relief for loss of capital investments due to the scrapped plant. The amount of ₹765.78 crore is to be paid to the Tatas with 11% per annum interest going back to September 1, 2016 "till actual recovery thereof". Besides, the Tatas are entitled to get ₹1 crore towards the cost of the proceedings.

A senior TMC leader said: "Our leader (Mamata) has made

SINGUR RECAP

- May 18, 2006:** Tata Motors announces a Nano factory in Singur, 997.5 acres of land is acquired for it
- July 18, 2006:** TMC leader Mamata Banerjee sows paddy near the project site as a symbolic protest
- Jan 21, 2007:** Tata Motors starts construction at the site
- Dec 28, 2007:** Mamata ends her fast
- Aug 28, 2008:** Mamata starts a dharna near the Nano site
- Dec 3, 2007:** Mamata starts an indefinite hunger strike in Kolkata
- Oct 3, 2008:** Tata Motors decides to move out of Singur
- May 20, 2011:** Mamata leads TMC to power, becomes CM
- June 14, 2011:** Singur Land Rehabilitation and Development Bill passed in the Assembly
- Aug 31, 2016:** SC orders that land be returned to farmers

Explained: TMC govt plans next move

TMC LEADERS say the award to the Tatas will have little effect on the summit. At the same time, according to Finance Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya, the state government is considering approaching courts against the award by the tribunal.

It is clear that agriculture and industry go hand in hand in Bengal. Singur was our victory and a win for farmers, with land returned to them. As far as the new development (the Tata Motors claim) is concerned, there are legal avenues. We will pursue those."

BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari has called the ruling a "landmark" one. "Mamata Banerjee destroyed the prospects of Bengal's industrialization. Generations of job seekers were denied employment close to home. The land returned to farmers cannot be used for agricultural purposes now. She turned gold into ashes," he posted on X Monday. Adhikari, the Leader of the Opposition, added that the order "doesn't just rub salt into Bengal's industrial tragedy... but also pegs back the State's frail economic condition further into a dark endless tunnel", accusing Mamata of doing this for her own selfish interests.

BJP state chief Sukanta Majumdar said: "When the Tatas left, they said they were leaving Bengal for one M (Mamata) and going to Gujarat for another M (Narendra Modi). The latter became the PM of the country, and the former destroyed Bengal." CPI(M) state secretary Md Salim also attacked the Mamata government, saying the state was "paying for the arrogance and destructive politics" of the TMC.

Tata Motors had announced the setting up of the Nano factory on May 18, 2006, with the Left Front government facilitating 997.5 acres of land in Singur for it. In December 2007, Mamata sat on a 26-day hunger strike as part of the agitation against the land acquisition. On October 3, 2008, Tata Motors announced it was taking the project out of Bengal.

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court ordered that land be returned to the farmers from whom it had been acquired. Apart from Singur, the TMC had led a land agitation in Nandigram while in the Opposition. The Singur agitation was included in the state history textbooks by TMC.

ROHINI NAYYAR PRIZE

Social worker's contribution in Bastar recognised with award

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE SECOND Rohini Nayyar Prize for outstanding contribution to rural development was presented to Deenanath Rajput, an engineer-turned-social worker, for his work on empowering tribal women in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.

The prize was presented in memory of late economist-administrator Dr Rohini Nayyar. It came with a trophy, a citation and cash prize of Rs 10 lakh.

The prize was presented by chief guest NK Singh, Chairman,

Fifteenth Finance Commission. The jury that selected the winner of the award were Dr. Ashok Khosla of Development Alternatives, Dr. Rajesh Tandon of Participatory Research in Asia, Renana Jhabvala of the Self-Employed Women's Association and Professor Seeta Prabhu. Dr Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, JNU was also present at the event.

N K Singh recounted contributions made by Dr Rohini Nayyar. "How would Rohini have questioned the way in which important aspects of rural development institutions evolved? Unfortunately, many remain

fragile with financial viability eluding them," Singh said.

Dr. Deepak Nayyar said, "We have received applications from all over the country. We are greatly impressed by the quality of work being undertaken across rural India that is making a real difference to people's lives."

Speaking about his work, Deenanath Rajput said he started his journey with three people in his team, which has now increased to 52.

Rajput's work has included providing agricultural extension services to women farmers and building cold storage infrastructure.

FIR against Anil Antony for promoting religious enmity

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 31

KERALA POLICE on Tuesday registered a non-bailable case against BJP national secretary Anil K Antony in connection with sharing a post on X (formerly Twitter).

Kasaragod Cyber Police booked the BJP spokesperson under section 153 A of IPC, which deals with promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion.

The police had suo motu registered the case on October 28 and Anil was arraigned as the accused on Tuesday.

The case stemmed from a post on X on October 27 when Antony



The BJP leader had shared a sensitive video on X.

shared a video of women crating a ruckus on a bus. He shared the post with the comment "this is the brand of secularism that the INDI Alliance led by Congress and CPI(M) want to bring to the national mainstream. No bus ride in North Kerala without a burqa."

His comment drew criticism. The video showed college students, mostly Muslim girls, protesting on a bus. A woman without a burqa is then seen picking an argument with their apparently over their actions.

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

ALL DOCTORS in the country will receive a unique identification number on the National Medical Register that is likely to be rolled out by the end of next year.

The register will be a dynamic one where doctors can keep updating details of their qualifications, fellowships, and other courses. This centralised repository will allow people to check the credentials of their doctor, said Dr Yogendra Malik from the Ethics and Medical Registration Board under the country's apex medical regulator.

A pilot for the assessment

system has already been conducted in eight colleges across the country - four private and four government. The National Medical Commission (NMC) is now in the process of consulting assessors and other stakeholders to finalise the process.

"The unique ID will be like a bank account where all information about doctors will be stored. Different stakeholders like boards under NMC, institutions employing the doctors, or medical colleges where they go for further education, and people will have different levels of access to the data as per the need," Malik said. Those in the know of the matter said an IT platform with verified information will make it easy for

colleges and employers to check credentials of doctors.

The National Medical Commission will run a pilot to test the IT platform in the next six months, Malik added.

The new register will allow doctors to seek licences to practise in multiple states. The data from state medical councils was used to create the current Indian Medical Register that will be replaced by this new register.

It will contain details such as the registration number, date of registration, place of work, medical qualifications, speciality, university where the qualifications were obtained, and the year of passing. The registration has to be updated every five years.

EXPRESSIONS

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY GURAJADA VIZIANAGARAM, VIZIANAGARAM-535003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Professor positions for Regular vacancies (Employment Notification No. 4/JNTU-GV/2023 Dt. 31.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Associate Professor positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Notification No.2/Sri Krishnadevaraya University/Associate Professor/BC Backlog & Regular/2023, 30.10.2023)

SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM (Women's University), TIRUPATI-517502. Recruitment notification for Assistant Professors (Regular Vacancies) (Notification No.2/SPMVVT/Estt./Assistant Professor (Regular)/2023, 30.10.2023)

SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM (Women's University), TIRUPATI-517502. Recruitment notification for Assistant Professors (Regular Vacancies) (Notification No.3/SPMVVT/Estt./Assistant Professor (Regular)/2023, 30.10.2023)

VIKRAMA SIMHAPURI UNIVERSITY NELLORE - 524 324. Limited Recruitment Notification for SC/ST Backlog Vacancies (Employment Notification No. 1/VSU/Backlog/SC/ST/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Assistant Professor positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Notification No.2/Sri Krishnadevaraya University/Assistant Professor/BC Backlog & Regular/2023, 30.10.2023)

SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM (Women's University), TIRUPATI-517502. Recruitment notification for Professors (Notification No.4/SPMVVT/Estt./Professor/2023, dated 30.10.2023)

SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM (Women's University), TIRUPATI-517502. Limited Recruitment notification for SC/ST Backlog Vacancies (Notification No.1/SPMVVT/Estt./Backlog/SC/ST/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Professor positions for Regular Vacancies (Notification No.4/Sri Krishnadevaraya University / Professor/2023, 30.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Assistant Professor positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Notification No.2/Sri Krishnadevaraya University/Assistant Professor/BC Backlog & Regular/2023, 30.10.2023)

SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY Tirupati. Recruitment notification for Associate Professors (BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies) (Notification No.3/ SVUE/ II (2)/Associate Professors/BC Backlog & Regular/2023, dated 30.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment Notification for Assistant Professors (Regular) (Notification No.2/DU/Assistant Professor/Regular/2023, Dt.30.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Limited Recruitment Notification for SC/ST Backlog Vacancies (Notification No.1/Sri Krishnadevaraya University/Backlog/SC&ST/2023, Date:30.10.2023)

Dr. ABDUL HAQ URDU UNIVERSITY (A State University Established by Govt. A.P.) KURNOOL-518 002, A.P., INDIA. Recruitment Notification (Employment Notification No. 2/DAHU/Assoc. Prof./Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY Tirupati. Recruitment notification for Assistant Professors for BC Backlog and Regular vacancies (Employment Notification No.2/SVUE/II(2)/Associate Professors/BC Backlog & Regular/2023 Dt.30.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment Notification for Professors in various academic departments. (Notification No. 4/DU/Professor/Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

SRI KRISHNADEVARAYA UNIVERSITY ANANTHAPURAMU - 515 003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Limited Recruitment Notification for SC/ST Backlog Vacancies (Notification No.1/Sri Krishnadevaraya University/Backlog/SC&ST/2023, Date:30.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment Notification for Associate Professors (Regular and BC backlog positions) (Notification No.3/DU/Associate Professor/Backlog BC & Regular/2023 Dt.30.10.2023)

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY GURAJADA VIZIANAGARAM, VIZIANAGARAM-535003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Associate Professor Positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Employment Notification No. 2/JNTU-GV/2023 Dt.31.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment notification for Professors in various academic departments. (Notification No. 4/DU/Professor/Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

VIKRAMA SIMHAPURI UNIVERSITY NELLORE - 524 324. Recruitment notification for Professor positions for Regular vacancies (Employment Notification No. 4/SU/Professor/Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment Notification for Associate Professors (Regular and BC backlog positions) (Notification No.3/DU/Associate Professor/Backlog BC & Regular/2023 Dt.30.10.2023)

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY GURAJADA VIZIANAGARAM, VIZIANAGARAM-535003, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA. Recruitment notification for Associate Professor Positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Employment Notification No. 2/JNTU-GV/2023 Dt.31.10.2023)

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DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment notification for Professors in various academic departments. (Notification No. 4/DU/Professor/Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

राष्ट्रीय कोशिका विज्ञान केंद्र NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CELL SCIENCE Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Ganeshkhind, Pune 411007. NOTICE INVITING TENDER

VIKRAMA SIMHAPURI UNIVERSITY NELLORE - 524 324. Recruitment notification for Associate Professor positions for BC Backlog and Regular Vacancies (Employment Notification No. 3/VSU/Associate Professor/BC Backlog & Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)

SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY Tirupati. Recruitment notification for Professor positions for Regular vacancies (Employment Notification No. 4/SVUE/II(2)/Professors/2023 Dt.30.10.2023)

DRavidIAN UNIVERSITY Srinivasavanam, Kuppam-517 426. Recruitment notification for Professors in various academic departments. (Notification No. 4/DU/Professor/Regular/2023 Dt. 30.10.2023)



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

In the interest of all

Israel must pay heed to the
UN's call for a cease-fire



CHINMAYA R GHAREKHAN

LOOK BEYOND QUOTA

Issues framed by Maratha agitation require expanding opportunities and economic pie — not increasing reservation

THE RESURGENCE OF the Maratha community's agitation for reservation — and the disturbing violent turn it has taken — frames fundamental social, political and legal challenges for the ruling coalition and Maharashtra's polity as a whole. The attacks on the homes of legislators and the vandalising of public property by the protesters only shrink the space for dialogue. It turns a vexed political issue into one that is about law and order. The hunger strike by the Maratha Kranti Morcha (MKM) leader Manoj Jarange Patil puts a clock on a resolution: However, the MKM leadership too must realise that such brinkmanship is not conducive to a durable solution. The "banning" of party leaders from certain areas and meetings does not bode well. Beyond the current moment, the Maratha agitation raises a question that has haunted many states: Are quotas the only way to address demands for development?

The Maharashtra government has gone down the reservation road before, only to come up against a legal wall. The 2018 Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) Act, which provided the Maratha community reservation in public education and employment was struck down by a five-judge constitutional bench of the Supreme Court in 2021. First, the Court refused to breach the 50 per cent ceiling for reservation prescribed in Indra Sawhney. It also found that data collected by the Justice Gaikwad Commission to prove the "educational and economic backwardness" of the Maratha community, in fact, "proves that the Marathas are not socially and educationally backward". The SEBC Act was a response to a long movement, which gained momentum in 2016. It provided for a separate quota for the community since their inclusion among OBCs would upturn the social apocalyptic. The issues raised by the Court — and the delicate contours of the politics of reservation — remain as salient today.

Across states — Jats in Haryana and Patidars in Gujarat, for example — "dominant" communities are demanding reservation. While they do have significant political influence and, often wield economic power in a rural land-based economy, that has not always translated to income and educational capital. Take the Marathas. According to the Indian Human Development Survey, the poorest 40 per cent of the community got less than 13 per cent of the total income of the Marathas as of 2011-12. In the same period, only 8.1 per cent of people from the community had an undergraduate degree. Even today, there are large numbers of individuals within dominant communities who are unable to fulfil their aspirations. Reservation, however, is meant to address a lack of representation and backwardness at the community level. The way forward lies in looking beyond quotas: The economic and education pie must become larger for all Indians. Skill development in partnership with industry is a sure-fire way to raise incomes. There is also room for development and policy interventions by the state that can help the community without relying on quotas alone. But, for that to happen, the current politics of brinkmanship must give way to a good-faith dialogue.

EVERY DROP COUNTS

UN report on groundwater extraction drives home the need for demand side management, responsible use of aquifers

A REPORT PUBLISHED, last week, by United Nations University has warned that 27 of the 31 aquifers in the country are depleting faster than they can be replenished. The alarm bells have been ringing for at least a decade. In 2016, the Mihir Shah Committee argued that there is little "understanding of river systems or their interconnections with the health of catchment areas or groundwater". Several other reports, including those commissioned by the Niti Aayog and the Central Water Commission, have underlined the poor state of the country's aquifers. Conversations in the wake of these studies pushed the Union Jal Shakti Ministry to initiate the Atal Bhujal Yojana in 78 water-stressed districts. The programme, which commenced in 2020, aims to bring about behavioural changes at the community level in seven states. It's a welcome initiative and Ministry data does show that groundwater extraction for irrigation, domestic and industrial uses came down by about 6 billion cubic metres in 2022 from 2020. However, the gravity of the crisis is such that much more is required from the Centre and the states.

India pumps up the most groundwater globally — more than China and the US combined. According to the Central Ground Water Board, about 70 per cent of the water used in the country is from groundwater sources. The emphasis on the use of tubewells and borewells played an important role in ensuring food security. But as the Shah Committee pointed out, there has been little emphasis on institutional innovations in the water sector. The link between power subsidies and the falling water table in states such as Punjab has been long apparent. Yet, addressing demand-side management remains a complex problem. The UN report shows that 78 per cent of the wells in the state are overexploited.

In recent years, researchers have joined the dots between groundwater extraction and the climate crisis. The problem could become acute in the country's southwest, where aquifers of hard rock already impose limits on recharging. Hotter temperatures could leave less moisture to soak in the soil and replenish groundwater sources. In recent years, the Centre has been trying to promote less thirsty crops like millets and the use of efficient watering techniques. But because borewells and tubewells are covered structures, people don't realise the gravity of the crisis till it's too late. The use of technologies that allow people to monitor the water available in their borewells could be the first step to nudge them to manage aquifers responsibly. These could be the catalyst for bringing about behavioural changes.

UNCLE PERCY

Sri Lanka's superfan was loved by cricketers around the world

PERCY ABEYSEKARA, POPULARLY known as Uncle Percy, Sri Lanka's most famous cricket cheerleader died on Monday aged 87. He was perhaps the Subcontinent's most famous Superfan, even more popular than Pakistan's Chacha Cricket. A public relations executive, Percy's presence on the sidelines of matches around the world made him a friend of cricketers and cricketers. When he was unwell, during the recently concluded Asia Cup in Sri Lanka, Indian captain Rohit Sharma visited him at his home. Once when security personnel in Australia were hauling him away for running on to the playing arena, Adam Gilchrist and Ricky Ponting stepped in. Percy would often wave his large Sri Lankan flag and accompany the departing batsmen from inside the arena to the pavilion.

Perhaps the most charming story of his influence was his relationship with Mohammad Azharuddin. It was 1985. Azhar, fresh from his three Test hundreds in his debut series at home against England, went to Sri Lanka. Percy felt the youngster seemed sensitive enough to try a trick. Just before Azhar walked into bat, Percy acted as if he was casting a spell and told Azhar he would be out the third ball. And, Azhar got out. He failed in the series. Years later, Azhar made a phone call through a journalist and said "Percy, I will never forget you, Remember we are friends now". Percy would never tire of telling this story.

Percy's popularity predated the TV explosion. In 1983 before the World Cup in England, Sri Lanka cricket board president and a powerful politician Gemini Dissanayake penned a letter to the UK high commissioner requesting a visa for Percy. A few years back, he told this newspaper, "Till I can walk, I will be at stadiums cheering the boys and waving the Sri Lankan flag." He did exactly that — a life soaked in cricket.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the United Nation has adopted a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, allowing for the release of hostages and delivery of aid to Gaza. In the past, the highest priority for Israel has been the return of their nationals from captivity. Even the return of the dead bodies of their soldiers or civilians was important for them. Israel has scores of their soldiers and civilians in Hamas custody. Nevertheless, currently, its priority seems to be to "eliminate" Hamas.

Israel has absolutely refused to agree to any kind of cease-fire as it fears that Hamas will exploit the cease-fire to regroup, rearm and relaunch missiles and rockets into Israel. Who can say that the Israeli apprehension is unjustified? As of now, Israel is launching fierce aerial bombardments, indiscriminately killing civilians, and destroying whatever infrastructure exists in Gaza, in the expectation that at some stage, the bombings would have inflicted so much damage, pummeled Hamas infrastructure such as tunnels and other platforms so thoroughly, reduced their morale to such an extent, that the Israeli Defence Forces would hardly face any opposition.

The North-South divide, which became apparent after Russia's failed invasion of Ukraine, has become further pronounced due to the developments in the Middle East. Most nations of the Global South, while condemning Hamas' attack on October 7, are in sympathy with what the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in the Security Council on October 24. He reminded the international community of the context in which Hamas had acted. He made it clear that he condemned Hamas' ruthless attack on Israel. At the same time, he brought up the story of occupation, the siege of Gaza for years, and the denial of the right to self-determination to the Palestinian people. We, in the Global South, are being bombarded by Western, which is mainly American, narratives about the events in the Middle East. We do not have access to other aspects of the conflict, though plenty of material is available for

those wishing to go deeper into the situation. Guterres deserves to be complimented for setting the record straight; he has earned the respect of the vast majority of the international community.

It is interesting to note that of the 193-member UN General Assembly, 14 countries, including the United States, voted against the Jordan-drafted resolution calling for immediate and sustained truce. The 44 abstentions include Canada, Germany, Japan, UK and India. The US veto is understandable. The US wants to leave Israel free to "finish" the job of "eliminating" Hamas, irrespective of how long it might take and how many lives might be lost.

All wars end. This one will, too. When and how, it is too early to guess. Israel will keep fighting and bombarding until it achieves its stated goal, unachievable as it is. At some time, it might unilaterally declare that it has succeeded in wiping out Hamas, and claim victory. What happens after Hamas has been "eliminated"? For sure, Israel would not want to reoccupy the Gaza Strip, it would be a death trap for them. Much as the ordinary people of Gaza might want to get rid of Hamas rule, they would be even more resentful of Israelis in Gaza. Hand over Gaza to Egypt to administer it for some time? "No, thank you" would be Egypt's response. Invite the Palestine Authority (PA), based in Ramallah in the West Bank, to return to Gaza and restore the authority which they had lost in 2006? (It is pertinent to recall that Hamas had fairly and squarely won a democratic election in 2006, but it was not recognised by the democratic West.) This would seem to be the only practicable solution. PA President Mahmoud Abbas might be tempted to welcome it. On paper at least, the Palestinian movement would have unified. However, he is unpopular in the West Bank for corruption and for collaborating with Israel. He will lose all credibility among his people. It would be something like what happened in Afghanistan in 1979 when Babrak Karmal came on a Soviet tank and assumed the presidency — he received no support from

the people or internationally.

But even that would not reassure the people of Israel about their security. The "international community" keeps talking of a two-state solution, like a mantra. But the same international community knows, or ought to know, that the two-state solution is a chimaera. A state, to become a state, must have land. Where is the land for a future Palestinian state? The West Bank is heavily populated by Israeli settlers, by some accounts more than 700,000 of them, who will never return to Israel. Whatever land is left is like Swiss cheese, dotted with innumerable settlements. The current Prime Minister will never agree to a Palestinian state, however truncated. He had opposed the Oslo Accords which envisaged a future Palestinian state.

Just as the British dumped the Palestine issue on the United Nations in 1947, this time too, the matter will have to be dealt with by the UN. After the Anglo-French-Israeli attack on Egypt following President Nasser's nationalisation of the Suez canal in 1956, a UN peacekeeping force, called UNEF-United Nations Emergency Force, was deployed to keep peace between Egypt and Israel. In the same manner, a UN peacekeeping force can be deployed along the Israeli-Gaza border, with an effective and implementable mandate to monitor all movements of people and supplies. This can only be done with Israel's consent. Israel, at present, is most unhappy with the United Nations, but it should remember that it owes its birth to the same United Nations. The establishment and deployment of a peacekeeping force will be the responsibility of the Security Council where Israel's staunch ally, the US, wields enormous power and influence and will go to any length to fully protect Israel's interests.

The writer was India's Permanent Representative to the UN. He was appointed by the UN Secretary General as a special envoy to the Middle East peace process from 1993 to 1999 and was India's special envoy to the Middle East from 2005 to 2009



BADRI NARAYAN

THE TEMPLE CARD

Ram temple could help BJP consolidate Hindu vote, counter INDIA's caste narrative

THE RAM JANMABHOOMI issue, which brought about a transformative shift in Indian politics in the 1990s, will see a culmination of sorts on January 22, 2024. According to multiple reports, the idol of Lord Rama will be installed at the temple on that day. It will reportedly be a huge function, with thousands of religious leaders, from 136 Sanatana traditions, in attendance. This event is going to have a long-term impact on politics and society.

The inauguration is taking place just a few months before the 2024 parliamentary elections. In all likelihood, the ruling party and government will try to take the symbol and message of the temple — through social media and more traditional means — across the length and breadth of the country. Recently, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat asked the people of India to organise celebrations at temples near their homes. This is an indication that the RSS and affiliated organisations such as the Vishwa Hindu Parishad may work hard to transform the occasion into a "jan utsav" — an attempt, most likely, to make the inauguration a moment to revive memories among the majority community and infuse them with pride.

It is necessary to understand the section of the public that has emerged as the "Hindu" electorate, and the influence of

events such as the Ram Janmabhoomi temple inauguration on their socio-political behaviour. In fact, the inauguration is far from an isolated event. Rather, it is part of a series of actions over at least three decades, which has produced a political consciousness. And, as we have seen many times over the years, "Ram memory" has proved its immense mobilisational potential, beyond and across caste and community lines, and contributed in making the BJP the dominant national force.

As we know, there are plans to build temples to other Hindu deities in this complex, such as Shiva, Ganesha, Hanuman, etc, as well as saints and deities related to the Ramayan narrative traditions such as Sabari, Jatayu, Valmiki who are revered by various marginalised groups. So, the inauguration could also mark an inclusive narrative through religious symbolism, which has huge political potential.

The temple will politically benefit the BJP in three ways: First, the party will try to showcase that it has "resolved" the long conflict between religious communities around the site and fulfilled the promise made in many of its manifestos. Second, it will add to the PM's political capital and the narrative that "Modi fulfils promises". Finally, by showcasing Hindu pride, the temple may lead to more cohesive voting

from the community in the general elections.

Opposition parties like Congress, Samajwadi Party, NCP and TMC may be compelled to come up with new ways to negotiate this rejuvenation of Hindutva identity. Could this mean an opposition narrative around what is colloquially called "soft Hindutva"? The caste survey-based reservation politics on which these parties seem to be relying may weaken due to the consolidation in the wake of the temple inauguration. This may also lead to a situation in which the "Hindu" public reacts against ongoing attacks on Sanatana Dharma by a few political groups like the DMK and certain neo-Buddhist sects.

So, in this way the inauguration of the Ram Janmabhoomi temple as an event and discourse is going to give a symbolic fillip to the politics of the BJP, and help it combat caste identity-based politics, which the Opposition alliance INDIA is aiming to develop as major resource for mobilisation in the coming parliamentary election. It will make PM Narendra Modi more influential in the hearts and minds of the masses, which may benefit BJP politically.

The writer is professor, Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad. Views are personal

NOVEMBER 1, 1983, FORTY YEARS AGO

PRICE VARIATIONS

FINANCE MINISTER PRANAB Mukherjee said that the price situation was causing concern as the seasonal decline was comparatively weak and the price variations in the month of October were "erratic" with the rate of inflation just crossing double-digit figures. He, however, expected the prices to decline from November. The finance minister said that the budgetary situation so far was comfortable.

PUNJAB ISSUE

THE AKALIS AND the government appear to have hardened their attitudes on the Punjab

situation and indications are that there may not be any move to soften their stands, at least for another two weeks. The moderate Akalis, who have been planning a joint campaign in Punjab for communal harmony and effective steps to convince non-Sikhs in Punjab about their motives, feel completely demoralised.

TURKEY DEATH TOLL

THE DEATH TOLL in the Turkish earthquake climbed to almost 1000 with more than 25,000 people homeless in the freezing rain and 40 mountain villages still cut off by landslides. Rescue workers in Erzurum feared

more might still be buried in the rubble. Officials in the provincial governor's office said that nearly 980 bodies were recovered by the afternoon.

INDIA'S MIRAGE PLANES

INDIA WILL GET the first batch of Mirage 2000 multi-role combat aircraft by September next year according to Avions Marcel Dassault, the builders of the aircraft. All the 40 aircraft including three twin-seated trainers would have been delivered to India by end of 1986, a company spokesman told Indian newsmen visiting the Mirage production facilities in France.



11 THE IDEAS PAGE

Where Alan Turing started it

London Summit on safe use of AI is likely to lay out important markers for the unfolding global discourse on its regulation. As an active contributor, India will have to find its own voice on the issue



THE LONDON SUMMIT this week on the safe use of Artificial Intelligence could be an important first step towards the global governance of a technology that offers much promise and unprecedented danger.

Convened by the British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Wednesday and Thursday at Bletchley Park outside London, the summit will have the US Vice President Kamala Harris and several other world leaders in attendance. Many top honchos of the technology companies are expected to join them. The participation has been limited to about 100 people to facilitate serious and intensive discussion.

Part of Sunak's motivation, critics allege, is to shore up his standing as a global leader amid the certain prospects, as of now at least, that he will preside over the defeat of the Conservative Party in the next general elections. Whatever his personal political interest might be, Sunak is certainly trying to claim a leadership role for Britain in the global governance of AI.

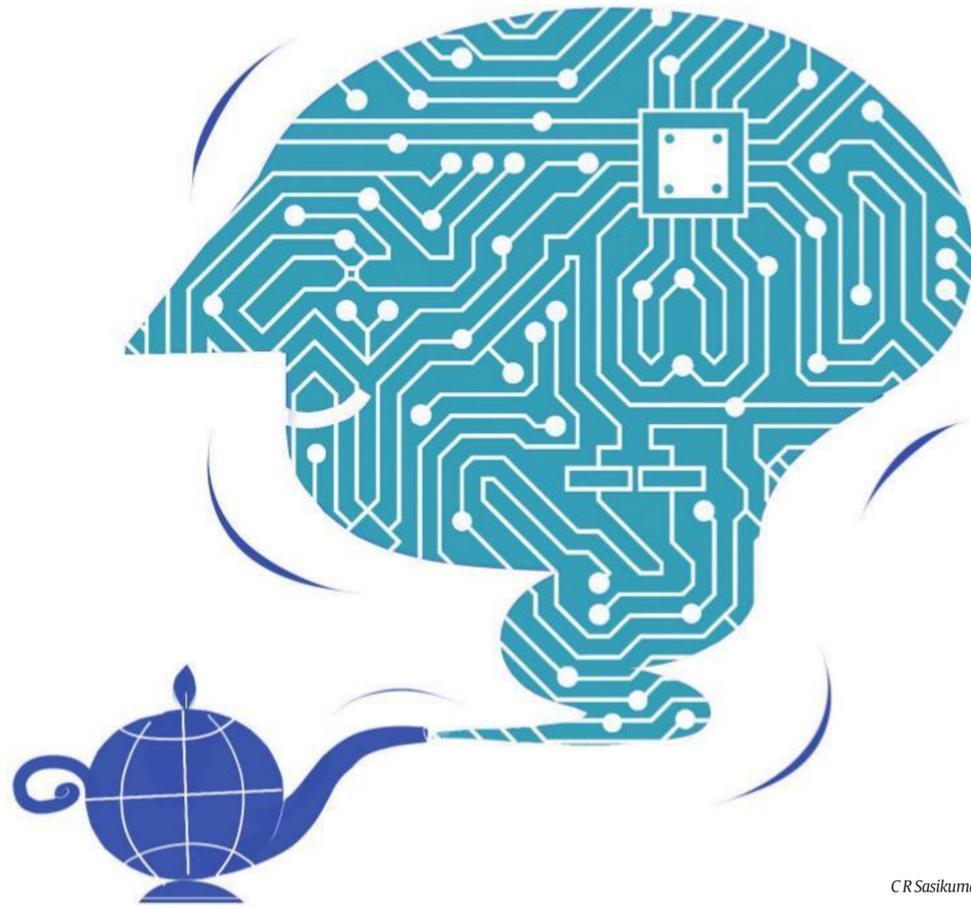
In the run-up to the summit, Sunak has talked about his plans to make Britain "not just the intellectual home, but the geographical home of global AI safety regulation". This is part of Sunak's ambition to make Britain a "technology superpower". Sceptics might discount Sunak's rhetoric, but Britain remains one of the world's leading technological powers.

In convening the summit at Bletchley Park, Sunak is also reminding the world of AI's origins in Britain. It was at Bletchley Park that early research on AI was pioneered by Alan Turing, who is widely considered as the "father of AI". Turing and his team of mathematicians had helped crack "Enigma", a German code during World War II, giving the Allies a huge advantage in their military operations. Although the United States and China are the leading powers in AI development today, Britain has retained its place as one of the major hubs of AI development in the world.

The London AI summit comes amid steps by various governments to address the challenges of governing AI. Earlier this week, the US President Joe Biden issued an executive order to ensure that "America leads the way in seizing the promise and managing the risks of artificial intelligence (AI)". It establishes "new standards for AI safety and security, protects Americans' privacy, advances equity and civil rights, stands up for consumers and workers, promotes innovation and competition, advances American leadership around the world, and more."

The EU, meanwhile, is discussing the promulgation of what could be the world's first comprehensive framework for regulation. It will define rules to govern the development and use of AI across the European Union. It will involve the setting up of a European Board for Artificial Intelligence to audit and administer the new rules.

Last month, China outlined a broad set of principles for international cooperation and global governance of AI. Beijing called for an increase in the "voice of developing countries in global AI governance, and ensure equal rights, equal opportunities, and equal rules for all countries in AI development and governance." China also expressed support for UN discussions on establishing an "international institution to govern AI, and to coordinate efforts to address major issues concerning international AI development, security, and governance."



CR Sasikumar

dress major issues concerning international AI development, security, and governance."

Last week also saw the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres establish an advisory body to examine the risks, opportunities and international governance of AI. He believes AI "could supercharge climate action and the efforts to achieve the sustainable development goals" that the world has set for itself.

He underlined the importance of AI "being harnessed responsibly and made accessible to all". He pointed out that the AI expertise today is concentrated in a handful of companies and countries which he warned could "deepen global inequalities and turn digital divides into chasms."

The agenda of the London summit though is more modest and narrowly focused. Its essence is to ensure the safe use of AI technologies to facilitate their widespread beneficial use. As Sunak put it last week, "AI will bring new knowledge, new opportunities for economic growth, new advances in human capability, and the chance to solve problems we once thought beyond us. But it also brings new dangers and new fears."

A discussion paper released by the British government last week talked of some of those dangers from AI—ranging from the spread of disinformation to the diffusion of knowledge to assemble chemical and biological weapons.

"The responsible thing for me to do is to address those fears head-on," Sunak added, "giving you the peace of mind that we will keep you safe, while making sure you and your children have all the opportunities for a better future that AI can bring."

At the summit, Sunak is expected to announce the setting up of an AI Safety Research Institute that will "carefully examine, evaluate and test new types of AI so that we understand what each new model is capable of"

Last month, China outlined a broad set of principles for international cooperation and global governance of AI. Beijing called for an increase in the 'voice of developing countries in global AI governance, and ensure equal rights, equal opportunities, and equal rules for all countries in AI development and governance.' China also expressed support for UN discussions on establishing an 'international institution to govern AI, and to coordinate efforts to address major issues concerning international AI development, security, and governance.'

and the kind of risks it might present.

Even the modest agenda of the London summit will have to navigate multiple fault lines in achieving concrete results. Sunak's focus on safety is to overcome the long-standing faultline between regulation and promotion. While many civil society groups demand outright ban on the development of AI or impose a moratorium, the companies rushing to invest in AI would want to prevent over-regulation that will kill innovation.

There is also a division over how to define "frontier AI" that the London summit is focused on. Critics say the focus on doomsday scenarios tend to mask the immediate challenges, such as algorithmic bias, that the current generation of AI technologies present.

One of the issues that the London summit is discussing is the establishment of an international register of frontier AI models that will allow governments to assess the risks involved. This is unlikely to pass muster with private companies.

That brings us to one of the core challenges of regulating AI. In the past, frontier technology development, in nuclear and space, was led by governments. Today, AI development outside China is with large digital corporations.

Whether it comes up with specific answers or not, the London Summit is likely to lay out some important markers for the unfolding global discourse on AI regulation. India, which played a key role in the 20th century discussions on regulating advanced technologies, will have to find its own voice on AI governance. With one major difference — this time India is a contributor to the global development of AI.

The writer is a senior fellow at the Asia Society Policy Institute in Delhi and a contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Yet the bravery of the common citizen marching in support of justice for Palestine and demanding an end to the slaughter, needs to be saluted, while the global elite's shameful inaction on the Gazan massacre deserves nothing but opprobrium."
— DAWN, PAKISTAN

For a future perfect Kerala

Each challenge is a responsibility as the state strides ahead, offering an alternative economic, political and social model for the country



KERALA'S CREDENTIALS AS a development model and an abode of peace and communal harmony need no repetition. In a world buffeted by conflicts and constant attempts to sow seeds of hatred, Kerala today stands out as a beacon state where secular, democratic ideals hold unquestioned sway.

On Kerala Piravi (state formation) Day on November 1, we take stock of the distance we have covered and the many paths towards progress that we are yet to traverse. And, there is a reason: We are at an inflection point in our collective history in India, and Kerala has an alternative economic, political and social model that we, in the secular democratic space, seek to create and sustain in the country as whole.

Kerala has already shed some of the tags that vested interests had attached to it in the past — that it is an investor-unfriendly state and has little to show for productive output or the needed resource mobilisation to trigger growth. Kerala has shattered all such myths by consistently improving its performance in production, resource mobilisation, technology absorption and productivity.

But, at each step, Kerala is confronted with heavy odds — especially in the matter of financial transfers from the Centre and the calculated attempts to strangle the state fiscally by reducing its borrowing limit drastically. The state is currently faced with a serious fiscal liquidity stress due to the reduction in annual borrowing limit, by as much as Rs 8,000 crore, stoppage of GST compensation, resulting in a loss of around Rs 10,000-12,000 crore, reduction in revenue deficit grant during the current fiscal by around Rs 8,400 crore, as compared to last year, and reduction in the inter-se distribution from the divisible pool during the 15th Finance Commission (1.92 per cent) compared to 10th Finance Commission (3.875 per cent).

The decision to include resources raised by the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) for the state's much-needed infrastructure development within its borrowing limit has not only put the state's finances in jeopardy, but has also dealt a blow to its infrastructure growth.

For us, every challenge is also an opportunity. Thus, we have focused our attention on fiscal consolidation through augmentation of our own revenues and rationalisation of expenditure. We have succeeded in limiting the fiscal deficit to well below 3 per cent of GSDP in 2022-23 and revenue deficit as a proportion of GSDP to 0.9 per cent. We have done this without wavering in our commitment to provide succour to the very needy in society.

We could, simultaneously, raise our tax revenue by 22.4 per cent during 2021-22 and 23.4 per cent during 2022-23. This growth rate in the state's own tax revenue ranks as the third-highest among all states. Only two states, Maharashtra (25.6 per

cent) and Gujarat (28.4 per cent), which have a strong manufacturing base, outperformed Kerala in this respect. Kerala has also witnessed a sharp increase in Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue with an average monthly revenue of Rs 3,000 crore now. The monthly GST revenue was just Rs 1,700 crore in 2017-18, the year in which GST was rolled out, and the current figures mark a remarkable 76 per cent increase in monthly GST revenue.

Kerala's strength lay in the fact that it has always been a knowledge society, founded on a high literacy rate, universal primary education, high Human Development Indices (HDIs), inclusivity in all walks of life and a broad spread of physical and digital learning infrastructure — with a firm commitment to protect and nurture secular values and an objective and scientific understanding of history.

Today, Kerala is forging ahead to become a fully digitally-empowered knowledge economy that is ready to take on the latest challenges in teaching, learning and research in new technologies and their application in diverse fields. We have already entered into tie-ups with nations, cities and global institutions to lift the quality of higher education and healthcare.

These are, thus, transformative days for Kerala. We have succeeded in building on our strengths, particularly in areas such as education, healthcare and local governance, and shedding quite a few shibboleths to embrace the demands of the changing times in areas such as infrastructure development and investment promotion.

In the IT sector, for instance, the government is contemplating establishing private IT parks, establishing four IT corridors in the coming five years and creating co-working spaces in small towns, providing them with the assistance currently being given to IT startups.

Kerala would now rather look at each challenge as a responsibility. Prime among these is the responsibility to keep the state an oasis of free speech and expression, a space where everyone gets to articulate their views, live their lives and go about producing goods and offering services absolutely free from any oppressive diktat — religious or political.

Kerala has refused to allow divisive communal and religious agenda to strike roots and the government has been proactive in nipping any such attempt in the bud. The state has also welcomed with open arms students who wished to leave their trouble-torn hometowns in other parts of the country to live and study in colleges and universities in Kerala.

Now it is time to celebrate the many positives in the true Kerala story and we welcome all who are interested in experiencing first-hand what Kerala is really all about, to be in Thiruvananthapuram in the first week of November to be part of Keraleeyam, a week-long showcase of the many advantages that the state has to offer to all those who are in search of ideal spaces for business, investment, leisure and scientific, cultural, creative pursuits. Our plan is to make this an annual event so that we can facilitate new interactions, cooperation and convergence.

The writer is Chief Minister of Kerala

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NO END IN SIGHT

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'On the brink' (IE, October 31). Israel, while continuing its ground offensive against Hamas in Gaza, is refusing to listen to voices of sanity. It has vowed to finish Hamas, but that is easier said than done. On the contrary, with no let up in its action against Hamas, leading to mounting civilian deaths, Israel has shown the same insensitivity towards innocent human lives as Hamas had. Consequently, Israel is fast losing sympathy in the eyes of the world, antagonising Arab nations, and Muslims in general.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

CHANDLER'S MAGIC

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The one without Chandler' (IE, October 31). The tragic news of Matthew Perry's death is disheartening for a whole generation of Friends fans. It exposed many to the American way of life. But Perry's demise also brings to the fore the dark side of fame which often overshadows an individual's personal life. The deaths of Kurt Cobain, Heath Ledger and other celebrities remind us of the pertinent issues of substance abuse and mental health, of which, Perry was quite vocal publicly. Matthew Perry and Chandler Bing will always stay in our hearts.

Sagar Borade, Thane

CURBING POLLUTION

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'To clear the air' (IE, October 31). Cooperative federalism in the domain of administration, coordinated policy formulation and implementation, and additional central grants for smog towers, EV buses etc are necessary to deal with pollution. There must be a change in the public attitude as well. An effective step in this direction would be to impose the technique of nudging as in Switzerland where the average electricity bills are in the public domain for people to compare their individual usage and be aware.

Yashank Mathankar, Betul

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'On the brink' (IE, October 31). Advisories have no place in deep-seated conflicts. UN's cautionary words that "even war has rules" seem to be falling on deaf ears. During war, both the warring parties have their own narratives, and no suggestions are neutral. However, the UN should realise that it was formed not to preach but to take action to put an end to carnage. UN has peacekeeping forces on command not only to stop civil wars but also to check and put an end to such kinds of historical conflicts as well — as these very often flare up and engulf thousands of innocent lives.

Devendra Awasthi, Lucknow

The writer teaches film studies at Ashoka University and has co-edited ReFocus: The Films of Zoya Akhtar. Views are personal

Small acts of care

'Kaala Paani' asks what it means to be human in a world spinning out of control



AAKSHI MAGAZINE

AT ANY OTHER time, Netflix's *Kaala Paani* would have been science fiction. In a post-Covid world, it appears contemporary, inspired by immediate events. Set in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the year 2027, the world of the series has already battled Covid and is now grappling with a similar disease — LHF-27. The waterborne disease is resistant to antibiotics and its sudden, ominous onset catches people by surprise, eventually leading to death. The talk of lockdowns, screening tests, and wearing masks to work is routine. More than these obvious references though, this feels like a pandemic show because it remembers.

Memory is flaky. You remember things you never thought you would. You forget things that seemed so urgent at one point. The seven-part series, written by Biswapati Sarkar and directed by Sameer Saxena and Amit Golani, remembers the dominant feeling of uncertainty the pandemic left many of us with, and how death had become so every day. The first episode itself cuts short the life of a character who we assumed

would be the show's main crusader. This becomes a pattern. The fact that many of the characters never get a chance to live a full life seems like a familiar memory from Covid times. Many of them we have gotten to know, most of them also seem to be the ones doing good — the committed activist, the responsible mother, the helpful ex-nurse. It seems unfair. Death is random and illogical. Fictional characters are usually protected from this transient nature of life.

The ones who do survive do not do so because they are more responsible than the others. It is just luck, often privilege, and eventually, as the series goes on to emphasise, survival of the fittest. The ambitious themes that the series tackles include a reference to the unequal power struggles at the heart of the development of civilisation as we know it. It is the Orakas (a fictionalised tribal group) who understand the natural world intimately enough to know how to live with it in harmony. They are the only ones who are safe from a virus that is itself a product of capitalist greed, and yet, they are the ones whose

very existence is precarious and sacrificable in such a society.

In some ways then, the series asks what it means to be human and live in this world when things seem out of our control. Each character shows us that there are multiple, contradictory and conflicting answers to this question. As the threat of the virus grows, one of its main protagonists, Lieutenant Governor Qadri, has to make a decision: Should he choose to sacrifice the lives of a few to save the lives of many others? In these dilemmas, *Kaala Paani* reminds us that the answers that have won are not always the correct ones. For, if taking care only of our own interests is how previous generations have survived, then perhaps we have to go against that very nature to retain our humanity.

A short dialogue exchange at the beginning stayed with me. The young Jyotsna, who will grow up to be one of the many characters grappling with this question, tells her school friend that she is interested in being a nurse, not a doctor. It is the "care in health-

care" that always interests her. Because we never watch innocently, always informed by our context, I could not help but think of the many acts of care we observe in the videos that Palestinians are sharing on social media every day. These videos record the unimaginable cruelty and violence currently being unleashed on them by the Israeli state machinery, to which all of us are now witness. Death is every day again and there is no virus to blame it on. And yet in these videos, we see people taking the time to take care of each other. A paramedic soothes a child, a journalist plays with a baby, someone thanks god for showing mercy, a group gently rescues a cat stuck under rubble. Like in the show, as in life, people who believe in these small acts of care may or may not survive. But they are the only ones who hold out any hope. As poet Rafeef Ziadah said, they teach us life.

The writer teaches film studies at Ashoka University and has co-edited ReFocus: The Films of Zoya Akhtar. Views are personal

Indians can travel to Thailand without visa from Nov 10 to May 10

REUTERS NEW DELHI, BANGKOK, OCTOBER 31

INDIANS CAN travel to Thailand without a visa from November 10, 2023 to May 10, 2024, a person can stay for up to 30 days...

India is one of the major tourism sources for Thailand.

Indians can travel to Thailand without visa during the period from November 10, 2023 to May 10, 2024...

Thailand in September scrapped visa requirements for Chinese tourists, the country's top pre-pandemic tourism market with 11 million of the record 39 million arrivals in 2019.

January to October 29, there were 22 million visitors to Thailand, generating 927.5 billion baht (\$25.67 billion), according to the latest government data.

"Arrivals from India and Taiwan can enter Thailand for 30 days," Thailand government spokesperson Chai Wacharonke said.

India has been Thailand's fourth largest source market for tourism so far this year with about 1.2 million arrivals after Malaysia, China and South Korea.

Thailand is targeting about 28 million arrivals this year, with the new government hoping the travel sector can offset continued weak exports that have constrained economic growth.

-WITHPTIINPUTS

FAMILY SAYS RECEIVED RANSOM LETTER

'Kidnapped' Kanpur teen's body found; ex-tutor, her partner

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 31

THE BODY of a 17-year-old boy, the son of a prominent businessman, was found on Tuesday at the house of his former tuition teacher's partner in Kanpur, police said.

The teacher, 25-year-old Rachita Vats, used to give private tuition to the victim between 2019 and 2021, police said.

Police said Prabhath allegedly killed the victim on suspicion that he was having an affair with Rachita. After killing the victim, Prabhath wrote a ransom letter seeking Rs 30 lakh from the victim's family to make his disappearance seem like a kidnapping.



(Clockwise top left) Accused Rachita Vats, Prabhath Shukla and Shiv Gupta

Police later identified the man who entered the room with the victim as Prabhath. "Police raided the room (on Tuesday) and found the body of the victim lying on the floor. It is confirmed that after 5.15 pm (on Monday), no person entered the room where the body was found," Tiwari said.

Police suspect the victim was strangled. The body has been sent for postmortem and the report is awaited.

By 7.30 pm on Monday, the family called him as he did not return from his coaching classes. Finding his phone switched off, the family also called his friends and coaching class teachers to find out his whereabouts, but without any success.

Ankita Verma, the SHO of Raipurwa police station, said the ransom letter was sent to make it appear that the victim was kidnapped for ransom.

An uncle of the victim said Rachita used to visit their house even after she stopped giving tuition classes to the 17-year-old.

BENGAL RATION 'SCAM' PROBE

Back in ED custody, TMC minister may be confronted with aides

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, OCTOBER 31

OFFICIALS OF the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday morning began questioning arrested TMC minister Jyoti Priya Mallick in connection with the alleged irregularities in the public distribution system, a day after he was discharged from a private hospital in Kolkata.

Mallick, 66, who was the Food and Supplies Minister from 2011 to 2021, was arrested by the ED in the wee hours of Friday following a marathon search at several premises linked to him. The court has granted the ED 10-day custody of Mallick, who at present holds the Forest Department portfolio. Soon after he was sent to ED custody last Friday, Mallick had fainted in the court and was admitted to a hospital.



Mallick was discharged from hospital on Monday

the state Food and Supplies Minister," said an ED official.

The ED also summoned Abhijit Das, the former chartered accountant (CA) of Mallick and his current office staffer Amit Dey at the agency's CGO Complex office in Kolkata on Tuesday. Sources said that Mallick would be questioned in front of Amit Dey and Abhijit Das.

ED sources had told The Indian Express that money received as kickbacks from the ration scam was allegedly laundered by the minister through three shell companies - Shree Hanuman Realcon Pvt Ltd, Gracious Innovative Pvt Ltd, and Gracious Creation Pvt Ltd. Sources also claimed that they recovered a "maroon diary" from the Howrah residence of Abhijit Das that has the details of date-wise receipts and cash payments.

3 infiltration bids in 10 days in J&K

BASHAARAT MASOOD SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 31

THE KASHMIR Valley has seen three infiltration attempts by militants in less than 10 days this month, with the latest one on Sunday morning, when security forces killed a militant who was trying to cross into Kupwara.

These attempts, coming after a calm spring and summer on the Line of Control, indicate militants are desperate to sneak into Kashmir from across the border before winter sets in, officials said.

"As the winter sets in, it snows heavily along the Line of Control, shutting down infiltration routes for four to five months. At places on the LoC, it snows as much as 15-20 feet, and this makes it virtually impossible for militants to infiltrate into the Valley," the officer said.

Air quality: SC seeks response from 5 states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

NOTING THAT efforts to reduce air pollution in the national capital were not reflecting on the ground, the Supreme Court Tuesday directed the Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan governments to file affidavits in one week, listing the preventive measures taken by them.

A three-judge bench, presided by Justice S K Kaul and also comprising Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and PK Mishra, said that statistics can be deceptive after a status report by the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas showed that stubble burning in neighbouring states - one of the main reasons for air pollution in Delhi - had come down.

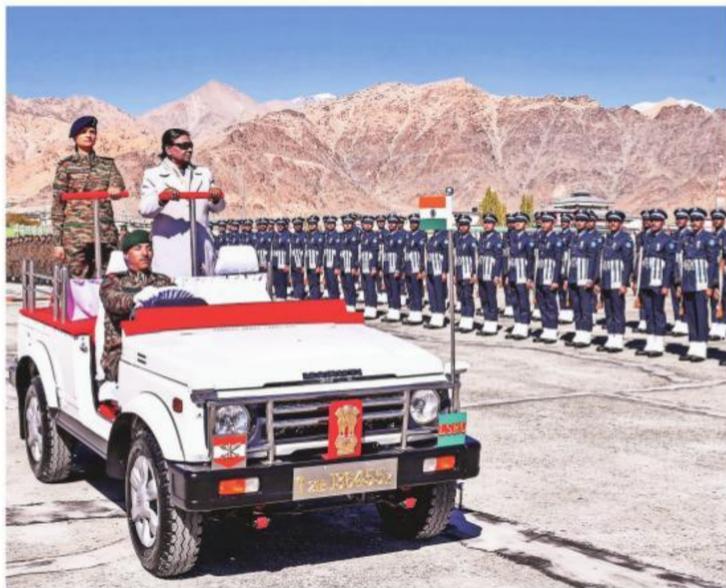
The report pointed out that "following frequent reviews and daily monitoring of the fire counts as per the Standard Protocol developed by ISRO for the commis-

sion, the number of events of paddy stubble burning" had decreased "between September 15 and October 24 during 2022 and 2023 respectively".

Punjab recorded 5,617 stubble burning incidents during 2022, while in 2023 there were 2,306 incidents, a reduction of around 58.9 per cent. Haryana had 1,360 fires in 2022 compared to 813 in 2023, a decline of around 40.2 per cent. The commission said "this reveals there is significant reduction in stubble burning events in Punjab and Haryana".

The report added that "with persistent field-level efforts and targeted policy initiatives, it is expected that instances of paddy stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana & NCR areas of UP will see gradual but marked improvement, year-on-year, with a consequent improvement in the air quality of Delhi-NCR during the paddy harvesting season".

However, the bench lamented that the air pollution problem was persisting year after year.



PRESIDENT IN LADAKH

President Droupadi Murmu inspects a Guard of Honour upon her arrival in Leh, Tuesday. PTI

Delhi liquor scam: ED raids AAP's Mohali MLA

JAGDEEP SINGH DEEP MOHALI, OCTOBER 31

AAM AADMI Party MLA Kulwant Singh, whose premises were searched Tuesday by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), reportedly as part of its ongoing probe into a money laundering case linked to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam, was among the early investors who foresaw a potential realty boom in

Mohali, and made the most out of it.

In early morning raids, the ED searched the residence and office of the 61-year-old MLA from the Mohali Assembly constituency. Singh is among one of the richest MLAs in Punjab with declared assets worth over Rs 238 crore.

Singh was in Delhi since Monday and reached his Sector-71 residence around 3 pm when the ED raid was still going on.

Southern peninsular India sees 6th driest October in 123 years; 60% less rainfall

ANJALI MARAR BENGALURU, OCTOBER 31

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) Tuesday said that the southern peninsular India experienced the sixth driest October in 123 years.

The region - comprising Kerala, Mahe, south interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Karaikal, Puducherry, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam and Rayalaseema - received only 74.9 mm rainfall in October, which was over 60 per cent below normal.

The southern peninsular India, during October, sees rainfall from both the retreating Southwest monsoon and the in-coming Northeast monsoon. But this year, the region remained dry for nearly 25 days of October, the IMD officials said.

One of the major contributors for this poor rainfall was the timing of the Northeast monsoon coinciding with other oceanic factors. While the Northeast monsoon onset happened on October 21, the active Bay of Bengal and a cyclogenesis around the same time influenced the monsoon onset.

"This year, the commencement of the Northeast monsoon coincided with the genesis of the

cyclone Hamoon, which crossed the Bangladesh coast. As a result, most of the moisture was dragged away from the southern peninsular India. So much so that it even altered the wind flow pattern. Thus, it was a weak Northeast monsoon onset," explained Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, director general, IMD.

According to the IMD, the October rainfall, as on October 31, was - coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam (18 mm, -90 per cent), Rayalaseema (12.7 mm, -90 per cent), Tamil Nadu, Karaikal and Puducherry (98.5 mm, -43 per cent), south interior Karnataka (64.5mm, -53 per cent) and Kerala (311 mm, 1 per cent).

"During El Nino years and the positive IOD phase, there is less rainfall over northern Tamil Nadu and adjoining areas. Whereas, the

southern most areas of Tamil Nadu and Kerala receive good rainfall in October," he said.

Despite a slow start, the Northeast monsoon has picked up during the past two days. During this active phase, widespread good rainfall is predicted over Kerala and Tamil Nadu during the week ahead, the IMD has forecast.

"A fresh rainfall spell will affect these states during November 3-5," the IMD official said. The rainfall forecast for November, too, for this region is promising. The Long Period Average (LPA) of rainfall for south peninsular India during November (based on 1971 to 2020) is about 118.69 mm.

(ANJALI MARAR WORKS AT RAMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU.)

Office of the Custodian of Enemy Property for India. Request for Panelment. Custodian of Enemy Property for India (CEPI) invites offers from the professionals / Companies working as Financial Consultants / Valuers for panelment of Financial Consultants / Valuers for sites Pan India.

Expression of Interest. Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India invites Expression of Interest from interested applicants for "Empowerment of agencies for Multimedia creative services" for Department of Rural Development.

भारतीय खाद्य निगम FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA. इ-निविदा सूचना. भारतीय खाद्य निगम, हरियाणा क्षेत्र दो साल की अवधि के लिए हरियाणा क्षेत्र के विभिन्न केंद्रों से नियुक्ति हेतु निविदा और परिवहन ठेकेदारों एवं सड़क परिवहन ठेकेदारों की नियुक्ति के लिए

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION. General public is hereby informed that one unidentified dead body of male, Namely: Unknown, S/O: Unknown, R/O: Unknown, Age: about 45-50 years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: blue chekdar shirt and gray color pant, who was found at KM pole No.07/17- UP line near Rampura under pass, Delhi.

Govt. of Bihar. Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. TENDER NOTICE INVITING PROPOSAL FROM CONSULTANT FOR PREPARATION OF DPR FOR SEWERAGE NETWORK SCHEME IN DIFFERENT TOWNS OF BIHAR. Group-1: Darbhanga Nagar Nigam, Samastipur Nagar Nigam, Madhubani Nagar Nigam, Saharsa Nagar Parishad, Khagaria Nagar Parishad, Bettiah Nagar Nigam, Gopalganj Nagar Parishad, Bagaha Nagar Parishad, Chhapra Nagar Nigam, Kishanganj Nagar Parishad, Katihar Nagar Nigam, Ara Nagar Nigam, Danapur Nizamat Nagar Parishad, Motihari, Daudnagar.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM. Sr. No., NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH., OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO., NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM, WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH., NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL.

GOVT. OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (ROADS), ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3. No. CE/STBR/II/32/2023-24/5 CORRIGENDUM. In partial modification of the Short Notice Inviting Tender published vide this office no. No. CE/STBR/II/32/2023-24/4, Date:17-10-2023, the paragraph "The Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3, invites Bid on behalf of the Governor of Assam from eligible contractors registered with Assam PWD (Roads) shall be read as "The Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3, invites Bid on behalf of the Governor of Assam from eligible contractors registered with Assam PWD (Roads) or registered in Central Govt./any State Government/ Semi Govt. Organization / Central or State Public Sector Undertakings. The contractor who is not registered with Assam PWD (Roads) will have to apply for registration within three month's time period from the award of contract" and the total amount of "Rs.5554.81 Lakh" shall be read as "Rs.5652.91 Lakh" for the work "Construction of ROB at LC Gate No. ST-5 at Km-8/2-3 on R.K. Choudhury-M.G. Road under Construction of ROBS on 50:50 Cost Sharing Basis". Other terms and conditions shall remain same.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.PC.) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Naresh Kumar, S/o Bhale Ram, R/o Village & Post Office Panchi Jattan, Gannaur, Sonapat, Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Case FIR No. 248/2016 dated 07.05.2016 U/S 33 Delhi Excise Act PS Timarpur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Naresh Kumar can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Naresh Kumar has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Naresh Kumar of FIR No. 248/2016 dated 07.05.2016 U/S 33 Delhi Excise Act PS Timarpur, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 06.12.2023.

By Order Apoorv Gupta Metropolitan Magistrate-02, (Central District) Room No. 26, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/12425/N/2023

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male Namely: Unknown S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown was found dead at Platform No. 2, Nangloi Railway Station, Delhi in the area of P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi on 30.10.2023. In this regard a case has been lodged vide FIR/DD No. 09A U/s 174 Cr.P.C. dated 30.10.2023 at P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- Age: About 45-50 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'8", Face: Oval, Complexion: Shallow, Hair: Black-white hair and small beard-mustack, ID Mark: A tattoo of Krishan on right hand, Built: Medium, Wearing: White colour kurta and lower. If any one having any information about this dead male please inform undersigned.

SHO P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi DP/12474/RLY/2023 Ph: 011-28711697, 8750871308

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR Mail ID: scpwdbalangir@gmail.com e-Procurement Notice BID IDENTIFICATION No: CCE(R&B) BGR/33/2023-24 Letter No. 5904 / Dtd. 30.10.2023

The Chief Construction Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate composite bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for the construction of works detailed in the table below under "B" & "A" Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/Class registered with Central Government/MESJ Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

- 1. Nature of Work : Building Work
2. No. of tender : Building Work -04 Nos
3. Tender Cost : Rs. 10,00,000
4. Class of Contractor : "B" & "A"
5. Date & Time of sale & Receipt of Bids : From Dt. 03.11.2023, 10.00 A.M. to Dt. 17.11.2023 up to 05.00 P.M.
6. Date of opening Bid : Dt. 18.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M.
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: http://tendersodisha.gov.in. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir OIPR-3413/11/0034/2324

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER GURDWARA ELECTION HARYANA GROUND FLOOR, PLOT NO.9 DHL SQUARE, SECTOR 22, PANCHKULA Tele:0172-4004268 Email:gurdwaraelectionhry@gmail.com Web: https://gurdwaraelectionshry.in

Public Notice All Sikhs residing in the State of Haryana are hereby informed that last date for registration of names for preparation of electoral roll for the election of Haryana sikh Gurdwaras Management committee has been extended from 31.10.2023 to 15.11.2023. It is also informed that the person who has already applied for registration of his/her name is also required to submit his self-declaration and they are advised to submit their self declaration to authorised official by 15.11.2023. In addition, any Sikh who fulfils the requisite qualification and has not yet been registered is advised to get his/her name registered immediately through Patwari in rural area and Secretary of Municipality in urban area. Application forms are available with the Patwari and Secretary of Municipality or it can be downloaded free of cost from the official website of this office i.e. https://gurdwaraelectionhry.in.

JUSTICE H.S. BHALLA Commissioner, Gurdwara Elections, Haryana

PROFECTUS CAPITAL PRIVATE LIMITED Registered and Corporate Office address: B/17, 4th Floor, Art Guild House, Behind Phoenix Marketcity Mall, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Kuria (West), Mumbai, 400070. Branch: 7-E, 5th Floor, DRI Building, Swami Ramirthi Nagar, Rani Jhansi Road, Jhandewalan Extension, Central Delhi - 110055.

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) Appendix-IV (rules 8(1)) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Profectus Capital Private Limited., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 28th August, 2023 calling upon the below mentioned Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagees to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs. 82,94,443.00/- (Rupees Eighty Two Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Three Only) outstanding as on 24.08.2023 granted under Loan account No. PPSFGUR0005906 and PSFTGUR0007661 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Details of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Mortgagees ("Borrowers") Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower / Mortgagee/Guarantor 1. Shree Charan Singh Welfare Society, 2. Kiran Sharma, 3. Deepplata Devi, 4. Krishna Devi, 5. Rakesh Kumar, Address/s : L-155, Block - L, Shastri Nagar, Ashokvihar, Saraswati Vihar, North West Delhi - 110052.

Other address are as mentioned in the said Demand Notice dated 28th August, 2023 The aforesaid Borrowers having failed to repay the aforesaid amounts, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the Immovable properties described in the Schedule herein ("Immovable Property") below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 28th day of October, 2023.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY All that piece and parcel of Land measuring 08K-0M, comprised in Khwat no. 281, Khtoni no.365, kitta 27 Rakha, Killa No. 52/22/2, 49/2, 54/23/2, 49/3, 115K-02M, 1. Suresh Kumar (102/2302 Share), out of total land 05K-02M, 2. Smt. Namita, 3. Smt. Sunil Devi, 4. Smt. Sumittra (1/40 Share) out of total land 02K-18M, i.e. Total land 08K-00M, situated at waka moja Atayal, Teh. Sampala, Distt. Rohtak.

Mr. Kuldeep Kumar Authorised Officer For Profectus Capital Private Limited Date : 01/11/2023 Place : Delhi

ONLINE TENDERING Project Implementation Unit, Gandhinagar (Health & Family Welfare Dept.) NOTICE PIU - 112/2023-24 Online tenders for Health Care facilities Civil works of Various District Gujarat as below are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Project Implementation Unit, Near College Dome, GMERS Hospital campus, Gotri, Vadodra-390021, Ph. 0265-2422993. The further details of tender is available on mprocure.com website.

Table with 4 columns: Sr. No., Name of Work, Est. Cost in Lacs (Rs.), (1) Tender Fee, (2) EMD (Rs.), Approved Regst. Class, Time Limit in Months, ID No. Row 1: New Construction of Spine, Kidney and Ophthalmic Hospital with central OPD building at SSG Hospital Campus, Vadodra. Est. Cost: 21858.99. Tender Fee: (1) Rs.30,000/- (2) Rs.21859000/-.

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM Ref: Tender Notice No. 58/2023-2024 Dated 06.10.2023 S. No. 02 Tender Number 77236027 Opening date 01.11.2023. In reference to above tender, Clause No. 9.0 (e) of Invitation and Instructions to Tenderers document has been modified. Opening date of tender has also been extended from 01.11.2023 to 16.11.2023. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. The corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in. Note: This is the First Corrigendum in above referred tender. Date: 31.10.2023 3399/23

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Registered Office- Indian Kayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266 Branch Office- UUnit No. 710 A | 7th Floor | Corporate Park | B-109 | Sanjay Place | Agra -282002. APPENDIX IV [See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002] Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a demand notice dated 18-08-2023 calling upon the borrowers Bhudev Swaroop Sharma, Aasan Devi, mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 17,73,124.49/- (Rupees Seventeen Lac Seventy Three Thousand One Hundred Twenty Four and Forty Nine Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना पत्र सं- WB-74-W-O/Works/NIT/X दिनांक- 30.10.2023 मंडल रेल प्रबंधक, इन्जीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनों में निविदा निम्न कार्य के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मंडल रेल प्रबंधक, इन्जीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनों में निविदा निम्न कार्य के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 122. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Repairs to existing failed Glued joints in situ by making G-3 (L) type glued joints as per RDSO drawing for 52kg/60 Kg rails with all fittings etc. in the jurisdiction of ADEN/LINE of Godhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 30,36,302.14. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 60,700.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 123. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Repairs to existing failed Glued joints in situ by making G-3 (L) type glued joints as per RDSO drawing for 52kg/60 Kg rails with all fittings etc. in the jurisdiction of ADEN/JSM of Jodhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 30,15,505.55. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 60,300.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 124. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Construction Two numbers Type V officer bungalow at Jodhpur in the section of ADEN/HQ. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 1,49,59,999.31. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 2,24,800.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 125. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Maintenance of newly commissioned doubling track with Sathin Road to Raikabagh in the jurisdiction of DEN/Central. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 2,98,73,278.10. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 2,99,400.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 126. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Special repair work of railway quarters, water supply, over head tank, sewer line in PIPAR ROAD to JODHPUR including Head quarter section repair & construction of Boundary wall in Rai-ka-Bagh - Banar section etc. under ADEN/HQ/JU. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 6,99,99,996.39. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 5,00,000.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 127. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Miscellaneous track work in the jurisdiction of ADEN/Barmer. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 1,54,72,605.65. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 2,27,400.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 128. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Reconditioning of worn out CMS Crossing, by using Robotic Welding Machine in the section of DUK-SMR-BLDI & SMR(ex) - MBF section under Sr. DEN/West sub division of Jodhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 13,66,341.00. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 27,300.00. ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 2023-24: 129. कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Construction of 5 & T rooms for interlocking of L.C. No. 236(DUK-DOR), 241(DOR-AJT), 15(MKS-RAWA), 90(MBNL-KOF) & 296(BLT-TWL) in the Jurisdiction of DEN/West of Jodhpur Division.. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: रु. 97,29,723.89. बयाने की राशि रुपये: रु. 1,94,600.00. निविदा सूचना संख्या 124 to 128 of 2023-24 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 20.11.2023 को 15 बजे तक है। तथा 122, 123 & 129 of 2023-24 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 21.11.2023 को 15 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है - www.ireps.gov.in 1138-AK/23

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, CHANDIGARH (DRT 2) 1st Floor, SCO 33-34-35 Sector - 17A, Chandigarh (Additional space allotted on 3rd & 4th Floor also)

Case No.: MA No 163 of 2023 in OA No. 131 of 2018 Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993. LAXMI VILAS BANK V/S M/S MAHESH TIMBER AND OTHERS

- TO, 4. Shri Deepak Singhal Son of Shri Babu Ram Singla R/o H. No. 38, Daya Nand Vihar, Delhi, (Personal Guarantor) 5. Shri Babu Ram Singla Son of Shri Molu Ram R/o H. No. 38, Daya Nand Vihar, Delhi. 6. Smt. Lakshmi Singla Wife of Shri Babu Ram Singla R/o H. No. 38, Daya Nand Vihar, Delhi. 7. Shri Naresh Kumar Son of Shri Jagat Ram R/o House No. E-419, Yojna Vihar, Delhi. 8. Sh. Harish Singla Son of Shri Babu Ram Singla R/o H. No. -38, Daya Nand Vihar Delhi. 10. M/s Gugnani Bulcon Private Limited, through its Director Shri Harish Singla, Registered Office - 63-A, Pocket - B, Mayur Vihar, Phase II Delhi.

WHEREAS, MA 163 of 2023 in OA/131/2018 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on 30/09/2023. WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/Notice on the said Applicant under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 228191892.77/- (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed). In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:- 1. To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted; 2. To disclose particulars of properties of assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application; 3. You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties. 4. You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal; 5. You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank of financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before REGISTRAR on 11/12/2023 at 10:30 A.M., failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this date: 06/10/2023.

Government of Maharashtra PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, PARBHANI e-Tender Notice No. 28 of 2023-2024 Online Tender (e-Tender) in B-1 for 08 works are invited by the Executive Engineer, P. W. Division, Parbhani (Phone No. 02452-222708) on Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System https://maharashtra.etender.in/ from registered contractors in appropriate class with Public Works Department of Maharashtra State. The details can be viewed and download online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-Tendering portal https://mahatenders.gov.in OR www.mahapwd.com NOTE: For further changes in this notice, please check above website. (Sd/-) Executive Engineer for Public Works Division, PARBHANI (dgjpr/2023-2024/4545)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE By E Mail:-Despatch E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in Ph-No-06782260318 Balia, Balasore "e" Procurement Notice for Bridge Work Identification No.-Online Tender- Bridge NCB No. 50 of 2023-24 Letter No. 5161 /WE Date. 27.10.2023

Table with 7 columns: Procurement Officer, Bid Identification No., Availability of Tender on line for bidding, Last date and time of seeking Tender Clarification, Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Balasore, Will be initiated later. Row 1: Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore, NCB No.- 50 of 2023-24, 06.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to 20.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M., 20.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M., 22.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M., Will be initiated later.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (See Section 82 Cr.PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Salman, S/o Sh. Maksod Ali R/o Rakesh Ka Makan MLA Wali Gali, Near Bhaiyya Mandir Kanjhawala Road, Bawana, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No.188/16 u/s 33 & 38 Delhi Excise Act, P.S. North Rohini, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Salman cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Salman has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Salman of FIR No.188/16 u/s 33 & 38 Delhi Excise Act, P.S. North Rohini, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 06.12.2023. By Order, Deepali Shrivastava Metropolitan Magistrate (NW) DP/12372/RD/2023 Room No.107, 1st Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR (E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel/Fax:- 0680-2404287) At: Ampaba, PO: Engineering School, Near Income Tax office, Berhampur-760011 E-Mail / E-despatch NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH E-Procurement Bid Identification No. Online Tender/ 73-2023-24/BPR

Table with 6 columns: Identification No., Name of work, No. of Works, Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh), Class of Contractor, Period of Completion. Row 1: Online Tender/ 73-2023-24/ BPR, Road Works under Special Assistant to States Capital Investment (SACI) for the year 2023-24, 01 Nos., Rs. 793.20 Lakhs, "A" Class & "Special" Class as applicable, 11 (Eleven) Calendar Month as provided.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (See Section 82 Cr.PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Rajender S/o Sh. Prem Singh & Jaswant Singh @ Vicky S/o Sh. Hawa Singh, both R/o- VPO Hasanghar, PS Sampla, District Rohtak, Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 417/2015 U/s 419/34 IPC PS Bawana, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Rajender and Jaswant Singh @ Vicky cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Rajender and Jaswant Singh @ Vicky has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Rajender and Jaswant Singh @ Vicky of case FIR No. 417/2015 U/s 419/34 IPC PS Bawana, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 09.01.2024. By Order, Sh. Vinod Joshi Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (North), Court Room No.114, First Floor, DP/11811/ON/2023 (Court Matter) Rohini Court, Delhi.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BOLANGIR e-Procurement Notice 1. Name of work : Construction of Model 120 seated ST Girls Hostel at Govt. SSD High School, Rampur of Algalpur Block in the district of Bolangir for the year 2023-24 2. No. of work : 1 (One) work. 3. Time for completion : 11 (Eleven) calendar months 4. Approximate estimated cost : Rs. 232.78 lakhs 5. Mode of Submission of tender : Tender should be submitted online in www.tendersodisha.gov.in 6. Other details are as follow

Table with 6 columns: Procurement Officer, Bid Identification No., Availability of Tender on line for bidding, Last date and time of seeking tender clarification, Date & time of opening of tender, Will be initiated later on. Row 1: Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Bolangir, BLGR-Online-30/2023-24, 06.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to 20.11.2023 upto 5.00 P.M., 18.11.2023 upto 5.00 P.M., 21.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M., The date will be initiated later on.

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED (A Govt. of India Undertaking) GOHANA ROAD, PANIPAT-132106 NOTICE INVITING TENDER Online bids are invited through e-Tender in CPP portal in Two part Bid system as under:- Sr. No., Tender No., Description of items, Last Date & Time for submission of on-line bid / Opening date & time of tender. Row 1: Tender Id: 2023_NFL_172177_1, Annual Electrical Maintenance contract in NFL, Panipat-Factory & Township- Duration 2 years (2024-2025), 11.12.2023 upto 11:00 Hrs/ 12.12.2023 at 11:30 Hrs

कुटेशन नोटिस

हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन नारनौल में वाहनों की मरम्मत के लिए हार्डवेयर/पैटी आईटम्स/कॉटन क्लोथ इत्यादि की अगले एक वर्ष के लिए खरीद की जानी है। इच्छुक सप्लायर दिनांक 10.11.2023 तक अपनी सीलबंद कुटेशन महाप्रबंधक नारनौल के नाम भेज सकते हैं। जिसके ऊपर स्टोर आईटम्स कुटेशन लिखा होना अनिवार्य है। स्टोर आईटम्स की लिस्ट व अन्य शर्तों के लिए महाप्रबंधक कार्यालय में संपर्क कर सकते हैं। कुटेशन से संबंधित सभी दस्तावेज किसी कार्य दिवस में आ कर 500/- रूपए जमा करवाने उपरान्त महाप्रबंधक हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन कार्यालय से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

हस्ता./-
आदेशानुसार
महाप्रबंधक,
हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन,
नारनौल।

22368/HRV

GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA

Public work Division, Dharashiv

E-tender Notice No. 13/2023-2024

Online tenders invited by the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, dharashiv (Phone No. 02472-222882/83) B-1 from eligible contractors.

Website: <http://mahatenders.gov.in> & www.mahapwd.com

sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division,
Dharashiv

dgjpr 2023-24/4511

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Rahul Chaudhary @ Nitin, S/o Sh. Mahender Singh R/o Village Pondry PS Nai Mandi Chowki District Bulandshahr UP, Also At H.No. A-342, Jaswant Colony Near Krishna Mandir Budh Vihar, Ph-II, Delhi, Also B-127 Vijay Vihar PH-I, Rithala Delhi-85** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Case FIR No.0291/2017 U/s-33(A), 33(B) Delhi Excise Act. P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi. and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Rahul Chaudhary @ Nitin** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rahul Chaudhary @ Nitin** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Rahul Chaudhary @ Nitin** of Case FIR No.0291/2017 U/s-33(A), 33(B) Delhi Excise Act. P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi. is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 02.12.2023

By Order
Ms. Ruby Neeraj Kumar
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
West District Room No.145, 1st Floor
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/12386/CD/2023

शुद्धिपत्रक

GeM निविदा मागविणारी सूचना क्र. ११८
सन २०२३-२४

कार्यालयाचे नाव : चिपळूण नगर परिषद,
ता. चिपळूण, जि. रत्नागिरी

चिपळूण नगर परिषदेकडील GeM निविदा सूचना क्र.: सन २०२३-२४ अन्वये चिपळूण नगर परिषद हद्दीमधील निर्माण होणाऱ्या सुक्या कचऱ्यावर प्रक्रिया करणाऱ्या ३ टन क्षमतेचा गॅसिफायर (Multi Jet High Temperature Updraft Gasifire (Capacity 3 TPD)) पुरविण्याकरिता GeM निविदा प्रणालीद्वारे GeM निविदा मागविण्यात आली आहे. सदर प्रक्रियेस मुदतवाढ देण्यात येत असून त्याचा सविस्तर तपशील खालीलप्रमाणे आहे.

अ.क्र.	निविदा प्रक्रियेचे स्वरूप	दिनांक	वेळ
१.	ऑनलाईन निविदा भरण्याचा समाप्ती कालावधी	०७.११.२०२३	सायं. ०५.०० वाजेपर्यंत
२.	ऑनलाईन निविदा उघडण्याचा टेंकिकल (पाटी) कालावधी	०८.११.२०२३	सायं. ०५.०० वाजता

(टीप: सविस्तर निविदा सूचना <https://www.gem.gov.in/> या वेबसाइटवर पाहण्यास मिळेल.)

दिनांक : ३१.१०.२०२३
स्वाक्षरी/-
प्रशासक तथा मुख्याधिकारी,
चिपळूण नगर परिषद

AXIS FINANCE LIMITED
(CIN U65921MH1995PLC212675)
Axis House, C-2, Wadia International Centre, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 025

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

APPENDIX IV
[See Rule 8(1)]
[As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas,
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Axis Finance Limited (AFL)**, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a **Demand Notice** dated 19.07.2023 calling upon the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)/ Mortgageor(s) (1) **MONIKA TYAGI** (2) **ABHINAV TYAGI** (3) **M/S ABHINAV INDUSTRIES (4) GLOBAL BUSINESS SERVICES** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **INR 36,10,012/- (Rupees Thirty Six Lacs Ten Thousand Twelve Only)** due as on 27.06.2023 with further interest at the contractual rate thereon till the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgageor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgageor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 23rd day of **October** of the year 2023

The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgageor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Axis Finance Limited for an amount of **INR. 36,10,012/- (Rupees Thirty Six Lacs Ten Thousand Twelve Only)** due as on 27-June-2023 and further interest thereon at the contractual rates together with costs, charges, etc. of Axis Finance Ltd until the full payment or realization is full.

The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgageor(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) & sub section (13) of section 13 of the said Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Property details - First charge on All the Piece and Parcel of the Property Bearing Apartment No. 819, 8th floor, Block-B, having super area of 1231 sq. ft. (114.36 sq. mts.), in the group housing complex known as **Banky Bihari Sharnam**, situated at **Raj Nagar Extension, Village Noor Nagar, NH-58, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201017**

Being bounded on the: East: Service Lane, West: Road, North: Other Government Land, South: Building of KDP Group

Date: 23.10.2023
Place: Ghaziabad
Authorized Officer
sd/-
Axis Finance Ltd.



CEREMONY — AMITY UNIVERSITY

Directorate of Innovation & Technology Transfer, Amity University organized a Technology Transfer Agreement Signing Ceremony for transferring its technology, 'Rootonic' to M/S Agriland Biotech Ltd., for the benefit of farmers. "Rootonic" is a magic fungus (Piriformospora indica) that promotes agriculture, horticulture & productivity, discovered by Prof. (Dr.) Ajit Varma, Distinguished Scientist, Amity Institute of Microbial Tech.

EVENT — JAMIA HAMDARD

The DoT, Ministry of Comm., GOI has awarded 5G Use Case Lab to the Deptt. of CS & Engg, SEST, Jamia Hamdard. The inaugural ceremony for Indian Mobile Congress (IMC 2023) & award of 5G Lab to Jamia Hamdard through video conferencing was done by PM Modi. The live video conference was organized at the Convention Centre in the august presence of Prof. (Dr.) M. Afshar Alam, VC.



EVENT — SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY

Major General (rtd) Dr GK Thapalial, the vice chairman of the Swami Vivekanand Subharti University welcomed the noted comedian Anubhav Singh Bassi who was the chief guest at the programme organized by the youth brigade of the University at the auditorium. The Director of the Lokpriya Hospital Dr Rohit Ravindra, the Dy. Chief Medical Officer of the Subharti hospital Dr Krishnamurthy, Deputy Director of the hospital Dr Abhay Shankar Gowda and Dr Shalya Raj remained present throughout the show.

FOUNDER'S DAY — AMITY UNIVERSITY

Amity University UP Noida campus was abuzz with excitement as the 24th Inter Amity Institutions Sports Meet, Sangathan-2023, culminating into Founder's Day celebrations came to an end, amidst loud cheers and thunderous applause. Amity School of Engg & Tech was declared the winner of Sangathan-2023 & Amity Law School got the 2nd prize, while Amity Institute of Psychology & Allied Sciences was awarded the 3rd prize.



COLLABORATION — UPES

Three UPES researchers, in collaboration with bioenergy experts from Russia, have devised an advanced technique to enhance the biodiesel production process from Jatropha (Ratanjot). With an aim to find holistic solutions to pressing global challenges, the research harnesses the power of Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning which will reduce labour expenses & enhance the quality of biofuel. Abhirup Khanna from UPES School of Computer Science, Dr. Sapna Jain, and Dr. Bhawna Lamba from UPES School of Advanced Engineering developed a methodology which utilises AI and machine learning algorithms to predict biodiesel properties and improve the yield and quality of biodiesel.

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (ROADS)
ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3**

No. CE/STBR/RIDF-XXIX/NIT/23/23-24/8

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Re-Bid)

The Chief Engineer, PWD, (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Ghy-3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites Re-Bids online for Roads & Bridge projects in Bagbar & Bokakhat, LAC of Assam from eligible registered Contractors for 2 (two) Nos. of Packages under Mukhya Mantrin Unnato Pakipathi Nirman Achni under RIDF-XXIX of NABARD for 2023-24 for an amount of Rs. 1071.51 Lakhs (approx). Details may be seen at website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also at the office of the undersigned (State Bridge Design Branch) during office hours.

Note: 1. The Scheme is being sanctioned from competent authority. In the event of non-sanction of the Scheme, the bids may be cancelled and no claim what so ever on this account shall be entertained from the bidders.
2. The approximate N.I.T. Value is inclusive of GST, L.C. etc.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
PWD (Roads), Assam,
Chandmari, Guwahati-3

JANASANYOG/CF/3297/23/01-NOV-23

PWD(CHAND)12 X7hPRN(20)

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	SUPPLY AND ERECTION OF POLES AND LIGHTS IN BABRA MOHALLA AND NEARBY AREA TO GULAB REWRI CHOWK FOR BEAUTIFICATION IN MC ROHTAK.	30.10.2023 10.11.2023	24.52 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	xenmrohtak@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	REPAIR AND RENOVATION IN VALMIKI CHOUPAL BOHAR VIL-LAGE WARD NO 9 MC ROHTAK	30.10.2023 10.11.2023	10.46 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	xenmrohtak@gmail.com
3	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	SUPPLY AND ERECTION OF LADDIS ON VARIOUS CHOWKS AND MAIN MARKETS ON OCCASION OF DIWALI FOR BEAUTIFICATION OF CITY	30.10.2023 08.11.2023	13.11 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	xenmrohtak@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	CONST. OF ROAD FROM SONI-PAT ROAD TO SECTOR 1 MARKET AND H.NO. 1460 TO HUDA OFFICE, SECTOR-2, ROHTAK	26.10.2023 30.11.2023	75.70 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	xenmrohtak@gmail.com
5	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK	REPAIR WORK OF C.C. STREETS AND IPB STREETS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WORKS IN WARD 20, M.C. ROHTAK	26.10.2023 10.11.2023	24.79 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	xenmrohtak@gmail.com

22352HRV

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

**GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Yojna Bhawan, Nepal House Campus, Doranda, Ranchi-834002 (Jharkhand)
Memo No.: 250 Budget Ranchi/Date: 30.10.2023
EoI No.:156/Budget
Issue Date: 15.09.2023
PR No.: 307004

Corrigendum-II

All bidders are hereby informed that corrigendum-II is being issued with respect to Date Extension and Section 5.4 (Marking Scheme for Technical Proposal submitted by the Bidder) for the work of "Empanelment of Partner Agency for Providing Coaching Under Eklavya Prashikshan Yojna, 2023". The bidders are advised to consider the same before submission of their bids.

The detailed corrigendum document can be downloaded from the official e-procurement portal of the Government of Jharkhand i.e. <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>.
Sd/-
(George Kumar)
Joint Secretary

PR 310249 Higher Education, Technical Education and Skill Development Department (23-24)_D

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Where a complaint has been made before me that accused **Mubbarik @ Mubbi S/o Sh. Inam R/o- H. No. 261, Islam Mohalla, Village and PS- Uttawar, Tehsil Hathin, Distt- Palwal, Haryana** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 188/2018 U/s 186/353/336/482/34 IPC PS Timarpur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Mubbarik @ Mubbi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Mubbarik @ Mubbi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Mubbarik @ Mubbi** of case FIR No. 188/2018 U/s 186/353/336/482/34 IPC PS Timarpur, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 19.12.2023

By Order
Sh. Apoorv Gupta
Metropolitan Magistrate-02
Central Distt., Room No. 26
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/12201/N/2023 (Court Matter)

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE**

No. IZN/C/e-Auction/2023/06
Date: 30.10.2023

The bids are invited from registered entities on IREPS by Sr.DCM/IZN (ACO) through e-Auction for the Advertising and NFR contracts. The Catalogue has already been published on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in. The details of upcoming e-Auctions of Izzatnagar division is as under-
Category: NFR; Catalogue No.: IZN-NFR-GZ-1-23; Asset Detail: Setting up a Gaming zone at the Izzatnagar and Kathgodam railway station circulating area of the Izzatnagar Division for five years. Auction Start: 06.11.2023 at 11:00:00; Auction End: 06.11.2023 at 11:40:00; Category: Advertising; Catalogue No.: IZN-ADV-OOH-23; Asset Detail: Commercial publicity rights to display advertisement under station area over 8 stations of Izzatnagar Division. Auction Start: 10.11.2023 at 11:00:00; Auction End: 10.11.2023 at 12:40:00; Category: NFR; Catalogue No.: IZN-NFR-PMBJK-1; Asset Detail: To open Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) at Kashipur railway station circulating area and concourse. Auction Start: 14.11.2023 at 12:00:00; Auction End: 14.11.2023 at 12:40:00; 1. Bidders are advised to visit website www.ireps.gov.in for more information related to e-Auction. 2. The bids have been invited through e-Auction Leasing module of IREPS website. 3. All the e-Auction related information as eligibility, scope of work, contract period terms and conditions of contract etc. are available on IREPS. 4. Bidders can participate in e-Auction only as per the date & timing as indicated above. 5. All the prospective bidders are requested to visit website www.ireps.gov.in regularly for any corrigendum related to above e-Auctions. CPROIC-158 S. DCM, Izzatnagar
DO NOT SMOKE BIDI/CIGARETTE IN TRAINS

CORPORATE BRIEFS

EDUCATION

SEMINAR — HINDUZONE

The Hinduzone conducted 'Prerna - Rise Beyond Limits' seminar recently. It featured guests like retired IAS officers Dr. Subramanian Lakshminarayanan, Prabhat Chandra Chaturvedi, and Dr. Hardeep Singh, and IAS mentors Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Dr. Bijendra Jha, Dr. SP Goyal, & Vikas Gupta. The seminar's purpose was to help students find their career paths and achieve their dreams.



LECTURE — ITS DENTAL

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers. Keeping that in mind a programme was organized in the form of a guest lecture on Breast Cancer. The speaker of the program was Dr. Lalita Singhal, MBBS, MD Senior Consultant.



SEMINAR — JAMIA HAMDARD

An International Seminar on Recent Advancements in Chemical and Life Sciences, RACLS-2023 organized by the Department of Chemistry at Jamia Hamdard in collaboration with the Indian Society of Analytical Scientists-Delhi Chapter (ISAS-DC) was a resounding success. The presidential address by Prof. (Dr.) M. Afsar Alam, VC, Jamia Hamdard highlighted the strides made by Jamia Hamdard in the areas of science and technology.



EVENT — AMITY SCHOOL OF FILM & DRAMA

Amity School of Film & Drama (ASFD), Noida campus, organized a play titled "Sita Vanvas", presented by the 2nd & 3rd-yr acting students of ASFD. The play portrays the story of Goddess Sita, wife of Lord Shri Ram from the Uttara Kand in Ramayana, taking the audience deep into the final, heart wrenching moments of the Ramayana. This play has been written by well renowned writer, Shri Agah Hashra Kashmiri.



**झारखण्ड सरकार
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय
102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची**

ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा संख्या:- 319/RII/2023-24/RWD/DEOGHAR दिनांक :- 30.10.2023
मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से पैकेज के रूप में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	आई-टी फिकेशन संख्या/पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में)		कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेंडर कॉल नं.
			अंक में	अक्षर में		
1.	RWD/DEOGHAR/27/SRPKG-03/2022-23	(i) गाजा मोड़ से नोनी सिरसा तक पथ का विशेष मरम्मति कार्य (लं- 2.900 कि०मी०) (ii) देवघर निरखीबाब पी०डब्ल्यू०पी० पथ नवादा से कर्णपुर तक पथ का विशेष मरम्मति कार्य (लं- 2.700 कि०मी०) (iii) पी०डब्ल्यू०पी० पथ लखरौरी से दुयानी घाट तक पथ का विशेष मरम्मति कार्य (लं- 2.600 कि०मी०) (iv) रांगा सिरसा करी पी०डब्ल्यू०पी० पथ धरमपुर से मांडीडीह तक पथ का विशेष मरम्मति कार्य (लं- 2.500 कि०मी०) (v) पी०डब्ल्यू०पी० पथ से सोरमात से सिवमदिर तक पथ का विशेष मरम्मति कार्य (लं- 1.100 कि०मी०)	7,46,27,677.00		सात करोड़ फिवालीस लाख सवाइस हजार छः सौ सवहतर रु० मात्र	09 माह तृतीय

- वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि- 10.11.2023
- ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय- 23.11.2023 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय- 24.11.2023 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन- 834001
- ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं- 0651-2913010

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-19/154/2023-24 Date: 30.10.2023

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383, website : www.kiadb.in

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-I & above (Civil) issued from KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work of Formation of Industrial Layout including construction of 30m wide, 24m wide and 18m wide roads, including asphaltting, RCC side drains, RCC Cross drainage works, RCC pipe line protection work & HDPE water supply pipe line at Sector-2 at Mettikurki Industrial Area, Hiriyrur Taluk, Chitradurga District. (2nd Call)
Last date for submission of bids is: 15.11.2023 upto 04:30 pm.
Applicants may download bidding documents from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal, <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1942/2023-24

Maharashtra State Board of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, Pune
S.R.No.832-A, Final PL No. 178, 179, Near Balchitrawani, Behind Agharkar Research Institute, Bhamburda, Shivajinagar, Pune-411004.
Tel:Chairman (P): STD. (020)-25651751 Secretary (P):25651750 & EPABX- 25705000
Fax : 5665807 & Email: secretary.stateboard@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
Ref: E-TENDER NOTICE -NO. SB./Store-5/BARCODE/4824/2023-24, dated 01/11/2023

E-TENDERS are invited from reputed bidders having experience in similar type of work execution will be eligible for supply of barcode stickers and concealed result data capturing through Barcode System for MSBSHSE, Pune- 411004.

Sr. No.	Description	Required Quantity	Cost of Tender Document (Rs.) (non-refundable)	EMD Amount (Rs.)	Tender Cost Approx. (Rs.)
1.	Supply of barcode stickers and concealed result data capturing through Barcode System	As per the mentioned in tender document	29,500/- (25,000 -tender form fee + 4,500 GST)	10,00,000/-	11,70,00,000 (GST is not Applicable to MSBSHSE)

Tender document download and submission from 01/11/2023 at 11:00 Hrs. to 23/11/2023 till 13:00 Hrs. Pre-bid meeting is scheduled at 07/11/2023 at 15:00 Hrs. and technical bid opening at 24/11/2023 at 13:00 Hrs. to download tender document kindly visit following e-Tendering Website of Government of Maharashtra- <http://mahatenders.gov.in>

Sd/-
Secretary,
MSBSHSE, Pune

EXPLAINED POLICY

Maratha quota: what govt is doing now, what courts have said earlier

OMKAR GOKHALE
 MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

AS MARATHA quota protests intensify in Maharashtra, the state government has formed a panel of three former High Court judges to advise it on the legal battle over the issue in the Supreme Court. The Marathas constitute nearly 33% of the state's population. Attempts to secure reservation for them have gone on for years, and both the Bombay High Court and the Apex Court have weighed in on it.



Activists stage a protest demanding reservation for Marathas, in Karad on Monday. PTI

What is the latest step by the govt?

Taking note of the protests, the state on September 7 formed a five-member committee under Justice (retired) Sandeep K Shinde to study the procedure of giving Kunbi (OBC) certificates to Marathas, based on documents, including revenue records, from the Nizam period. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde later said the five-member committee had so far checked 1.73 crore records, where 11,530 Kunbi records were found. The state Cabinet on Tuesday accepted the first report of the panel. Shinde said for assistance over the state's curative petition in the Apex Court, it has appointed an expert committee of former HC judges Justices (retired) DB Bhosale, MG Gaikwad and Sandeep K Shinde.

What did the Bombay High Court rule in 2019?

In November 2018, the then BJP government in Maharashtra passed a Bill proposing 16% reservation in education and government jobs for the Maratha community. This was challenged in court. In June 2019, the Bombay High Court upheld the constitutional validity of the Maratha quota. However, it reduced the reservation to 12% in education and 13% in jobs, as recommended by the Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission (MSBCC). The HC said that while the reservation ceiling should not exceed 50%, in exceptional circumstances and extraordinary situations, this limit can be crossed if quantifiable data reflecting backwardness is made available.

What did the HC rely on?

The High Court relied heavily on findings of the MSBCC. The Committee surveyed about 45,000 families, from two villages each in 355 talukas that had more than 50% Maratha population. The November 2015 report found the Maratha community to be socially, economically and educationally backward. In social backwardness, the Commission found that around 76.86% of Maratha families are engaged in agriculture and agricultural labour for their livelihood and nearly 70% reside in *kachha* dwellings, while only 35-39% have personal tap water connections. In educational backwardness, it found that 13.42% of Marathas are illiterate, 35.31% primary educated, 43.79% HSC and SSC pass, 6.71% undergraduates and postgraduates and 0.77% are technically and professionally qualified.

Why did the SC strike down the Maratha quota?

In May 2021, a five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court quashed the quota, as it took the total reservation in the state above the 50% ceiling set by the court in its 1992 Indra Sawhney (Mandal) judgment. It said there was no extraordinary circumstance to cross the 50% mark, adding Marathas were a "dominant forward class and are in the main stream of National life". The quota had been challenged in the Supreme Court by lawyer Jaishri Laxmanrao Patil and others. In April this year, the SC turned down the state's review plea.

What a 'normal' monsoon hides

This is the eighth year in a row that monsoon rainfall in India has been broadly in the normal range. But behind this figure lie sharp regional as well as daily variations. Climate change is one reason behind this

EXPLAINED CLIMATE CHANGE



AMITABH SINHA

THE MONSOON season this year ended with 94 per cent overall rainfall, making it the eighth year in succession that the seasonal rainfall has been broadly in the normal range. This makes it seem as though monsoon rainfall in the country has been remarkably consistent in recent years. But that is far from being the case, as is evident from common experience too. There have been large variations in the distribution of rainfall, in spatial as well as temporal terms. While some days produced very heavy rainfall, prolonged periods went extremely dry. Similarly, a majority of the districts received very little rainfall during most of the season. This rainfall variability only seems to be increasing, possibly because of climate change.

Rarely normal

At the district level, rainfall has been highly erratic. During the four-month monsoon period, there have been very few instances of districts receiving normal daily rainfall. A new analysis by Climate Trends, a research organisation, found that districts getting normal daily rainfall was an extremely rare occurrence. Out of the nearly 85,000 district rain-days — 121 days of rainfall for each of the 718 districts — only 6 per cent were found to be normal. In contrast, over 60 per cent of the daily district wise rainfall showed deficits of over 60 per cent, or no rain at all on days when rains were expected. The analysis also showed that large excess days — days on which districts received 60 per cent or more than normal rainfall — were the next most frequent instances. "It is understood that normal rainfall data has been averaged out over several years and cannot be expected to indicate the consistency of rainfall, but the relatively minuscule number of 'normal' rainfall days experienced by India's 718 districts does reflect a reality of being swung between extremes," the analysis said.

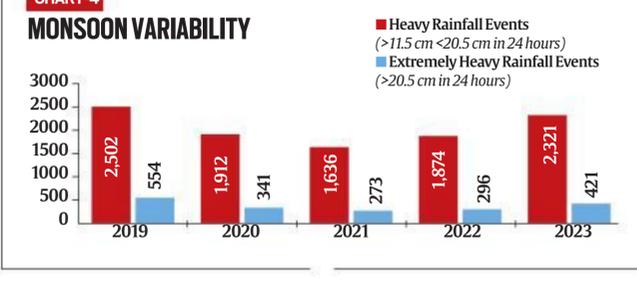
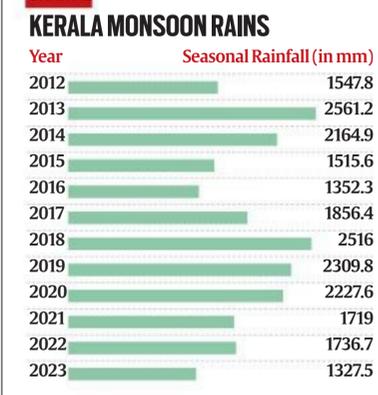
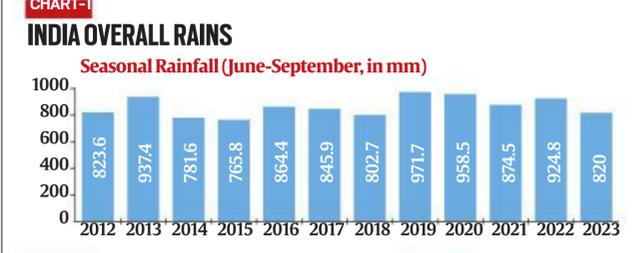
The season also produced the second largest number of extreme rainfall events in the past five years, which compensated for the deficit on the dry days and brought in an illusion of normalcy (see table).

Dry North-East, drying Kerala

Even at the regional level, rainfall showed large variations. Northwest and central parts of the country received more than 100 per cent rains during the season, while eastern



Kerala is one of the rainiest states in the country, but this year it finished with the largest deficit, of 34 per cent. Archive



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Apple alert triggered by patterns of state-sponsored attack

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

SEVERAL TOP opposition leaders and a few journalists have reported receiving a notification from Apple about "state-sponsored attackers who are remotely trying to compromise" their iPhones. The notification says the attackers are likely targeting these individuals because of who they are or what they do, and advises them on how to protect themselves, including activating the 'Lockdown Mode' feature on their iPhones. Apple has been sending out these automated notifications since late 2021, whenever it suspects some activity resembles a state-sponsored attack. It has so far notified individuals in 150 countries.

Who are these "state-sponsored attackers" that Apple refers to?

Following the allegations, Apple said in a statement on Tuesday that it "does not attribute the threat notifications to any specific state-sponsored attacker". In a note issued earlier, and again on Tuesday, the tech giant said: "State-sponsored attackers are very well-funded and sophisticated, and their attacks evolve over time. Detecting such attacks relies on threat intelligence signals that are often imperfect and incomplete. It's possible that some Apple threat notifications may be false alarms, or that some attacks are not detected."

Attackers backed by governments go after specific individuals and their devices, based on their identity or activities. Such attacks are very different from the ones carried out by regular cybercriminals, who usually target a large number of users for financial gain. According to Apple, state-sponsored

attacks are often short-lived, and are designed to evade detection and exploit vulnerabilities that may not be known to the public.

So, what is this threat notification that Apple issues?

Apple's threat notifications are a way of alerting and helping users who may have been targeted by state-sponsored attackers. As a response to these attacks, the company has developed a system that can spot activity that matches certain patterns. When an attack is detected, a "Threat Notification" is sent by email and iMessage to the email addresses and phone numbers that are linked to the affected user's Apple ID. The notification that some politicians and others received was likely triggered by this system. In its note issued earlier, Apple had said: "We are unable to provide information about what causes us to issue threat notifications, as that may help state-sponsored attackers adapt their behaviour to evade detection in the future."

What does Apple advise users should do when an attack is detected?

The notifications are accompanied by Apple's threat notifications are a way of alerting and helping users who may have been targeted by state-sponsored attackers. Its system can spot activity that matches certain patterns. When an attack is detected, a notification is sent automatically to the user

advice on some extra steps that users can take to protect their devices and safeguard their privacy. Some of the general security tips that Apple recommends are updating to the latest software versions, setting a passcode, enabling two-factor authentication, and using a strong password for the Apple ID.

It also recommends that users should download apps only from the App Store, use a different password for each online account, and avoid clicking on links or attachments from unknown sources. Apple also suggests that users activate the Lockdown Mode, which is a feature introduced in its latest software updates to specifically protect against rare and sophisticated cyber attacks such as these.

And what exactly is the Lockdown Mode, and how can it be turned on?

When you activate Lockdown Mode, your device will enter into a state of high security, where many usual functions will be restricted or disabled. For example, you won't be able to send or receive attachments, links, or link previews in messages, to prevent attackers from accessing your personal information. Lockdown Mode is only available on devices that run iOS 16 or later, iPadOS 16 or later, watchOS 10 or later and macOS Ventura or later. Apple says that such attacks are rare and target only specific individuals, but if you ever feel that your device or data are in danger, you can turn on Lockdown Mode by going to Settings, then Privacy & Security, then Lockdown Mode, and toggling it on. Anyone who receives a threat notification from Apple should take it seriously and follow the steps that Apple recommends to secure their device and account.

EXPLAINED TECH, LAW

Recalling Pegasus, when Israeli-made spyware was used to 'target phones'

KHADIJA KHAN
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

LEADERS FROM several opposition parties on Tuesday said they had received a "threat notification" from Apple, alerting them to a "potential state-sponsored spyware attack" on their iPhones. AAP leader Raghav Chadha compared the alleged state-backed attack to the Pegasus malware attack targeting activists and politicians in several countries that was reported two years ago. "This notification is reminiscent of the Pegasus spyware scandal which also had targeted many voices that are critical of the BJP," he said.

Pegasus case recall

In July 2021, a global collaborative investigative project reported that a spyware called Pegasus, developed by an Israeli cybersecurity company called NSO Group, may have been used to target mobile phones of individuals in several countries, including India. The central government repeatedly rejected the conclusions of the global media investigation, and condemned what it claimed was the alleged undermining of national security by the opposition. However, it also refused to supply any facts — and never explicitly denied the use of Pegasus. The Supreme Court agreed to hear the

case, underlining the right to privacy of citizens, and freedom of the press including the right of journalists to ensure protection of their sources. The court also said there are limits to the state's use of "national security" as an alibi to block disclosure of facts related to a citizen's rights. The government had refused to even file a detailed affidavit on the issue. On October 27, 2021, a three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court led by then Chief Justice of India (CJI) N V Ramana appointed an Expert Committee headed by Justice R V Raveendran (retired) to look into the Pegasus allegations, "taking into account the public importance and the alleged scope and nature of the large-scale violation of the fundamental rights of the citizens of the country".

Committee and mandate

The court framed seven terms of reference for the committee, which were essentially facts that needed to be ascertained to decide the issue. These included determining who procured Pegasus, whether the petitioners were indeed targeted by the use of the malware, and what laws justified the use of spyware such as Pegasus against Indian citizens. The court also asked the committee to make recommendations on a legal and policy framework on cyber security to ensure the right to privacy of citizens was protected. The committee was initially expected to submit its report in eight weeks. The technical committee comprised three members: Dr Naveen Kumar

Chaudhary, dean of National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar, Dr Prabaharan P, professor at Kerala's Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, and Dr Ashwin Anil Gurnast, Institute Chair Associate Professor at IIT-Bombay. Justice Raveendran was asked to supervise the working of the technical committee, assisted by two other experts: Alok Joshi, a former chief of R&AW, and Dr Sundeep Oberoi, global head of cybersecurity services at TCS.

Findings of Committee

On August 25, 2022, the top court examined the report and found that the committee had examined 29 phones, but had not found conclusive evidence for the use of Pegasus in any of them — even though some malware was found. "...Five of the 29 phones may have had some infection due to a malware or due to poor cyber hygiene and data available is limited and hence inconclusive to determine," the CJ said, citing the expert committee's report. The court noted that the Centre "has not cooperated" with the panel. The committee's report was in three parts. Portions of the first two parts were read out by then CJI Ramana in open court but the third part — which contained the report of the supervising judge, remained in sealed cover. The court listed the case for further hearing after four weeks. But no hearing has taken place since then. **LONGER VERSION** indianexpress.com/explained

16 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, Goverdhan Singh, S/O Ram Khiladi R/O L-1/47, Gali No-8, Sangam-Vihar, Hamdard-Nagar, South Delhi-110062, declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly-written as Gordhan Singh and Sh. Ram Khilari in my service record. The actual name of mine and my father are Goverdhan Singh and Ram Khiladi. 0040696271-10

I, Surinder, S/O Purn Chand, R/O NE-111, Third-Floor, Vishnu Garden, Delhi 110018, have changed my name to Surinder Kumar, for all purposes. 0040696335-3

I, Shakila Begum, W/o Manzoor Elahi, R/o H.No-943, Lambi Gali, Mohalla Kishan Ganj, Teliwara Azad Market Delhi-110006, have changed My Name To Shakila Manzur For Future. 0040696353-2

I, Sarabjeet Kaur, W/O Jaspinder Singh, R/O 586, C-Block, Manjinder Park, Gali No-7, Adarsh Nagar Delhi-110033, Have Changed my Name to SARBJIT KAUR. 0040696271-9

I, SANJAY KUKREJA S/O Sh. Kashmiri Lal R/O 15/54, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Sanjay Kumar. 0040696335-6

I, Rukhsana W/o Mohd Ibrahim, Address-VPO Ghasera Mewat, nuh Haryana-122107, have changed my name to Ruksana 0040696347-1

I, Rovins Francis Verma@Rovins Francis, S/O G.L.Verma, H.No.C-826, 3rd-Floor, Arjun Nagar, Kotla-Mubarakpur, New Delhi-110003, That I have changed my name to Mrityunjaya, for all future purposes. 0040696271-6

I, Rajeev Salhotra, S/o-Late Shri Heera Lal Salhotra, R/O B10a, Sai Kunj, Phase-III, New Palam-Vihar, Gurgaon. (Haryana)-122017, have changed my name to RAJEEV KUMAR SALHOTRA. 0040696266-9

I, Rajbir Singh S/o-Dharamvir Singh, R/O A-11, Block-A, Rajiv-Nagar, Begumpur, Delhi 86, have changed my son's name Chirag to Chirag Sheoran. 0040696266-10

I, RENU W/o Sh. Sanjay Kumar, R/O 15/54, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Renu Kukreja. 0040696335-5

I, RACHNA, W/O LALIT KUMAR BAJAJ, R/O A-78, LONI ROAD INDRAPURI-EXTN. LONI DEHAT, LONI GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201102, changed my name to RACHNA BAJAJ, for all purposes. 0040696335-7

I, PARAMJIT KAUR W/O BALINDER SINGH R/O HNO.B-1044, SHASTRI NAGAR, DELHI-110052, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PARAMJEET KAUR. 0040696347-2

I, PANKAJ KUMAR, S/O Inder Kumar R/O-MALIBU TOWN CD-4 CEDAR DRIVE PARK HOSPITAL SEC-47, GURGAON HARYANA-122001, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PANKAJ ARORA. 0040696335-2

I, Nikhil S/o-Ashok Kumar Gupta, R/O WZ 5A/13, Vishnu-Park, Chand-Nagar, New Delhi, have changed my minor daughter's name, from Nitya Gupta to Avni Gupta, for all future purposes. 0040696271-3

I, Nikhil S/o-Ashok Kumar Gupta, R/O WZ 5A/13, Vishnu-Park, Chand-Nagar, New Delhi, have changed my minor daughter's name, from Nitya Gupta to Avni Gupta, for all future purposes. 0040696266-1

I, Narbir Singh, S/o-Dharam Pal Singh, R/O-2, Gali, No-54 N, 1st 60, Foota Road, Block-E-3, Molarband Extn Badarpur, New Delhi-110044, Have Change My Name To Narvir Singh, For All Purpose. 0040696353-1

I, NEHA SONI, W/O DEEPAK SONI R/O G-4/92 TOP-FLOOR, SEC-11, ROHINI DELHI-110085, HAVE CHANGED MY NEME TO NEHA. 0040696271-4

I, Munawar Khan, S/O sukhtar Ahmed, R/O H.N.D, 155, Gali, no.9, 11 wazirabad Village Delhi 110084, have changed my name to Munahar Khan. 0040696266-4

I, Flavita Poobalarayee Joseph Rajan, W/O VITAL JOSEPH RAJAN, R/O, H-438, H-BLOCK, PHASE-6, STREET, NO-8, AYA NAGAR, NEW-DELHI-110047, have changed my name to FLAVITA JOSEPH RAJAN. 0040696266-8

I, Kiss Me S/O Shri Narendar R/O L-474, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110083, have changed my name to Kush for future all purposes. 0040696349-1

I, FAIZ AMEEN, S/O. MOHD ISHTIAQ R/O. 3240 PHATAK TELIYAN TURKMAN GATE, DELHI-6, DECLARE THAT IN MY CLASS-X CERTIFICATE MY-FATHER'S NAME IS WRONGLY-WRITTEN AS MOHD ISTIYAQ WHEREAS CORRECT-NAME IS MOHD ISHTIAQ. 0040696266-3

I, Dinesh Singh S/o Jagdish Singh, R/o Village-Madana Khurd, Madana Khurd(12), Jhajjar(HR.), 124102, have changed my name to Dinesh Kumar, for all purposes. 0040696266-6

I, Dharamveer Chowdhary, S/O-Om Prakash Chowdhary, R/O, 1B, Tower-11, Fairway-West, M3M Golf Estate, Sec-65, Badshahpur, Gurugram(HR.), have changed my minor son's name, from Yuvv Raaj Chowdhary to Yuvraj Chowdhary. 0040696335-4

I, Deepak Kumar, S/o Shambhu Chaudhary R/o.Khasra.No.20/4, GF, Street.No.06, Main postaroad, Svaroop-Nagar extn., Ibadpur, Delhi-42, have changed my name to Deepak Chaudhary. 0040696271-1

I, DEEPIKA KUMAR, W/O-ABHINAV KUMAR, R/O C-902, SUPERTECH RAMESHWAR ORCHID KAUSHAMBI GHAZIABAD, UP-201010, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM DEEPIKA KUMAR TO DEEPIKA ABHINAV KUMAR, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040696266-2

I, BABLI MUKHERJEE, W/O SOMNATH MUKHOPADHYAY, R/O, A-1/219A, KESHAV PURAM, DELHI-110035, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM BABLI MUKHERJEE TO BABLI MUKHOPADHYAY, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040696266-5

I, AMIT S/O Mehar Singh, R/O, H.No.345, Village-Badli (72), Jhajjar (Haryana)-124105, have changed my name to Amit Gulia, for all purposes. 0040696266-7

I, SHALINI SINGH D/O PRATAP SINGH R/O F-100, 3RD-FLOOR, DEEP VIHAR PANSALI, DELHI-110042, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHALINI. 0040696345-1

I, Ajay Kumar S/O Ashok Kumar R/O B-07 Ramgarh, Gali-06, Jahangir-puri Delhi-110033, inform that my name Ajay Kumar and Ajay is same and one person. 0040696271-2

I, Afsar Abbas, S/O-Akbar Abbas, R/O, E-57 Thokar, no-6 Shaheen-Bagh Abul-Fazal Enclave part-2 Okhla, New-Delhi-110025, have changed my minor Daughter's name (DOB-13/01/2008) From Zoyaa Abedi Abedi to Zoya Abedi, permanently. 0040696271-5

I, ASHU SINGH W/O ASHUTOSH SINGH R/O HNO.B-13, GALINO.6, TOMAR-COLONY, KAMALPUR MAJRA, BURARI, DELHI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ASHU DEVI. 0040696347-3

I, Vikas Negi, S/O-Shri.Fateh singh Negi, Address-85, Nanak pura moti-bagh Delhi-110021, have changed my name to vikas. 0040696271-7

I, Sanjeev Thakur S/O Girja Nand Verma R/O H-68, Sant Nagar Extn. Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to SANJEEV 0040696244-1

I, Sachin Bhatt S/O Ishwar Dass, R/O House No-386, Gali No-02, Block-B, Baba Colony, Burari, Delhi-110084, Declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Sachin Sharma and Ishwar Dass Sharma in my Driving Licence No-DL0120100061602 and Passport No-L7731655. The actual name of Mine and My Father are Sachin Bhatt and Ishwar Dass, which may be amended accordingly. 0070871223-1

I, Romika Solanki Parihar W/o Gajendra Singh Parihar R/O A-65, Sector-50, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301 have changed my name to ROMIKA SOLANKI for all future purposes. 0070871236-1

I, RAJEEV Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Dashrath Singh R/o Vill-Samsuddinpur Post-Dehari, P.S.-Sarpataha, Tehsil-Shahganj, Distt-Jaunpur, UP 223103 permanently 0040696349-2

I, Najmunnisa D/o Md. Rafiq R/O C/5, Bhalswa Resettlement Colony, Delhi, Siras Pur, North West Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Najmun Nisha for all future purposes. 0040696286-1

I, Gurpreet Bhullar S/O Kuldeep Singh, R/O 2/208, Second-Floor, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027, Have Changed my Name To Gurpreet Singh. 0040696271-8

I, Meenu W/o Himanshu Sharma R/o: Mohalla-Subash Park Nurmahal, Tehsil-Phillaur District-Jalandhar, Punjab-144039 Have Changed My Name to Meenu Sharma for All Purposes. 0070871315-1

I, Kishan Singh S/o Sh. Bodai Ram R/O A118 Sector 46, Noida 201303 do hereby declare that my name in LIC Policy No. 115245321 mentioned as Kishan Chand but my correct name is Kishan Singh. I undertake that Kishan Chand and Kishan Singh is one and same person 0040696285-1

I, Hakumat S/o Bhure Khan R/O 700, Barauli Basdevpur, Bulandshahr, UP have changed my name to Hakumat. 0070871266-1

I, Dheeraj S/o Anil Sharma R/O Village Sikhera, Muzaffarnagar, UP have changed my name to Dheeraj Sharma. 0070871261-1

I, Pooja Chawla W/o Kshitij Chawla R/O B1/11A, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi have changed my name to Deepthi Chawla. 0070871249-1

I, Bhawna Dhawan D/O Satish Kumar, R/O 6/23 A, 2 ND Floor Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-110018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nancy Dhawan 0070871222-1

I, Amit Kumar Verma S/O B M Verma, R/O ADD- A-10/13, Chetram Gali No-1, Near Reliance Fresh Outlet, Maujpur, North East, Delhi-110053, I have changed the name of my minor Son Manas Kumar Verma aged about 16 Years and He shall hereafter be known as Manas Verma 0070871226-1

I, Shakuntala Devi, W/O Satish R/O RZ-34, Z-Block Premnagar, Najafgarh, Delhi-11 0043 have changed my name to Shakuntla for all future purposes 0070871252-1

I, Satish Sharma S/o Late Sh. Amar Nath Sharma R/O E-102, Express Zeneth, Sector-77, Noida, District Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P.-201301 have changed my name to Satish Kumar Sharma for all purposes. 0040696236-1

I, Saqib Ismail S/o Mohammad Ismail R/O House No.2324, Katra Alam Baig, Gali Katra Alam Baig, Ballimaran, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to M Saqib Ismail for all purposes. 0040696236-4

I, Rekha Rani D/o Sh. Shyam Sunder W/O Sh. Gagan Kumar R/O H.No.127, 1st Floor, Vivekanand Puri, Near Sarai Rohilla Police Station, Gulabi Bagh, North Delhi, Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Rekha Gupta for all purposes. 0040696236-3

I, Poonam alias Poonam Verma D/o Late Sh. Ram Prakash W/o Sh. Sanjeev Verma R/O B-5/143, Safdarjung Enclave, South West Delhi, Delhi-110029 have changed my name to Poonam Verma for all purposes. 0040696236-2

I, Pinky Rani W/o Late Parmod Kumar R/O H.No.11/12, 2nd Floor, A-2, 11/12, Budh Vihar, Near Park, Budh Vihar, Pooth Kalan Ph-1, Budh Vihar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to Pinky for all purposes. 0040696236-5

I, Gopi Rani D/o Dharam Pal Bajaj R/O H-8, Near Green Park Market, Green Park Main, Green Park, South West Delhi-110016, have changed my name to Gopi Bajaj 0070871322-1

I, Awesh S/o Ashok Bansal R/O 163 Gagan Vihar Extension, Delhi-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO Awesh Kumar Bansal for all future purposes. 0070871231-1

I, Ashish Kumar S/o Balwan Singh Negi R/O Village Skiba, Post office Ribba, Tehsil Moorang, Skiba (48/4), Kinnar, Himachal Pradesh-172116, have changed my name to Ashish Bisht for all future purposes 0070871330-1

I CHANCHAL, Spouse of ANIL KUMAR, resident of L-243, Jalvayu Vihar, Sector-25, NOIDA-201301 have changed my name from CHANCHAL to CHANCHAL RANI vide affidavit dated 30/10/2023 at NOIDA. 0040696238-1

I, Suman Kumari W/O Shri Nagender Kumar, U/P O/B-6/242, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Suman Sah for all purposes. 0040696349-2

I, MANOJ KUMAR, S/O.MANGAT RAM, ADD-E-57B, GALI, NO-6, SOUTH ANARKALI KRISHNA NAGAR, SHAHDARA, DELHI 110051, changed my name to MANOJ KUMAR MEHTA, for all future purposes. 0040696335-1

I, Lucky Kumar S/O, Surender Kumar R/O 22/2 Lal Bahdur Sadan, Gole Market, new Delhi have changed my name to Lucky for all purposes 0040696324-1

I, PARMAJIT KAUR W/O 246937 RANK EX CPL, LATE CHATTER SINGH H/No. 291, PASCHIM VIHAREXTN DELHI-110063 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PARAMJIT KAUR VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATE 31.10.23 BEFORE DELHI. 0070871229-1

LOST & FOUND
Original Share Certificate of Property 41, Cottage-Enclave, A4-Block, Paschim-Vihar, New Delhi-110063, has been actually lost. Finder contact- Smt. Meenakshi Sawhney, R/o-41, Cottage Sawhney, R/o-41, Cottage Enclave, A4-Paschim-Vihar, New Delhi-110063, Mob. 9971884126. 0040696335-10

PUBLIC NOTICE
"Public in general, is hereby informed that my client Sh. Gucharan Kumar s/o Lt. Sh. Sunder Dass and his wife Smt. Savita R/o S-221/48 Gali no 2 Vishnu Garden New Delhi-18, have severed all their relations and connection with their son Sh. Karan Kumar and his wife Shabnam Naze D/o Shamim Ahmad debarred them from all their movable and immovable properties as they have proved to be most disrespectful, Disobedient, misbehavior and harmful toward my clients. My clients and their family member shall not be Responsible for their activities". Sd/- Kamal Jeet Singh (Advocate) Office: 3118, First Floor, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all that my clients Sh. Bir Singh S/O Late Sh. Bansra Ram and his wife Smt. Anita both R/O H. No. 189A, Suraj Colony Laxmapur, North-West, New Delhi-110040, do hereby debar and disown their son namely Manish and his wife Smt. Neha from all their movable and immovable properties and severed all their relations with them due to their disrespectful behavior towards my clients. My clients will not be responsible for their any act(s) or deed(s) in future. If anybody deals with them they will be responsible themselves. Sd/- PARMESH KUMAR En. No. 0/1169/07 Advocate Ch. No. 1507, 15th Floor, Lawyers Chamber, Rohini Court, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public in general hereby informed that my client Smt. Manisha Gaurav is Purchasing Freehold Property Bearing No.B-81, Entire Second Floor, Lajpat Nagar-II New Delhi which is owned by Sh. Parag Sharma S/O Sh. Bijender Sharma & Smt. Sitweta Rakheja Sharma W/o Sh. Parag Sharma by virtue of Sale Deed duly registered as Doc No. 0889 dated 28.11.2018. That my client is availing housing loan for purchasing the said floor from SBI RACPS C. Extn New Delhi. That the original Mortgagor Deeds i.e. Original Lease Deed in favour of Rawel Singh vide Doc No.8111 dated 15.11.1962, Original Substitution Letter dated 12.12.1977 in favour of Sh. Harinder Singh & Original Conveyance Deed executed by L & DO in favour of Sh. Harinder Singh vide Doc No. 1935 dated 07.03.1995 is not available for verification or not traceable. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm/ company, Bank, financial institution having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents mentioned above otherwise and/or objection thereof, he/she/they may lodge/notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof within 15 days from the day of publication, failing which the title shall be deemed to be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, flaw and impediment. Sd/- NIRMAL KUMAR Advocate No. 599, Patiala House Court, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to the general public that my clients Sh. Ghansai Bhusan S/O Late Shri Kalyan Singh and his wife Smt. Raj Baia W/O Shri Bharat Prakash Singh R/O U-19, Budh Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110086, have discovered and disowned their son Sh. Akshay Kumar and daughter-in-law Sanju, from their all movable and immovable property/documents whatsoever/ wherever situated and severed all their connections with them and whoever dealing with them shall be doing so all his own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be held responsible/liable for their acts and responsibilities. Sd/- SK GUPTA (Advocate) En. No. D-1048/08

PUBLIC NOTICE
Original Share Certificate of Property No. 1485, Punjab Bagh, New Delhi-110026, through its Adversely represented Owner, Raninder Nath S/o Late Mr. Mahi Rao 1485, West Punjab Bagh, New Delhi-110026 has been lodged the following General Power of Attorney in respect of Property built on Plot No.14, Road No.63, Punjab Bagh, New Delhi-110026, New Delhi in the area of Village Baska Gurgaon, Delhi, measuring 6533 sq.yds. (i.e. 529.53 sq.mt.), the details of the same as under :- (A) GPA regd.with document No.13188, Add. Book No./V. Volume No.791 on pages 120-126 regd. on 05.09.1998 regd. in the office of Sub Registrar, East. Counter, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi executed by Shri. Trilok Nath Gauraha S/o Late K.R. Gauraha in favour of M/S SHANVS FIBRES AND CHEMICALS PVT.LTD. in respect of Basement and Staircase Floor of above Property. (B) GPA regd. with document No.13188, Add. Book No./V. Volume No.791 on pages 137-142 regd. on 05.09.1998 regd. in the office of Sub Registrar, East. Counter, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi executed by Shri. Trilok Nath Gauraha s/o Late Shri K.R. Gauraha in favour of M/S SPRO BALAJI MOTORS RELEASE CO. PRIVATE LIMITED in respect of Entire First Floor of above noted property. The above general power of attorney has been registered on 13.12.2023 while it was taken for its zeros at center Market, West Punjab Bagh, New Delhi-110026. In this connection NCR/Complaint has been lodged with P.S. Crime Branch Delhi, LR No.114802/2023 dt. 27.10.2023. General Public is hereby advised not to carry any transaction on the basis of aforesaid misused documents. If anybody found doing misdeed with such documents, the person will be prosecuted under various sections of Indian Penal Code and will be liable to pay all citizens that if anybody found those above said General Power of Attorney, kindly return these documents & contact me within 15 days of publication of this notice. J.C. TRISHA (Adv.) N-4, Civil Side, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-56. 9212782320

PUBLIC NOTICE
All concerned are hereby informed through this Public Notice that my clients Sh. Ashok Kumar Arora, S/o Sh. Pyare Lal and Smt. Kamlesh Arora, W/o Sh. Ashok Arora, and their daughter in law Smt. Shikha from their all movable and immovable property. He is living separately from my clients. His is living with my client Mrs. Kamlesh Arora, 221/212, Kamal Vihar, Kanti Pur, Barari-10084. My clients shall not be held responsible for any of their acts, deed and things in whatsoever in any form. Sd/- Saman Yadav Advocate T-806, CFS, 1st Floor, Saket, Connaught Place Market, Opp. Defence Colony, Delhi-43

PUBLIC NOTICE
All concerned are hereby informed through this Public Notice that my clients Sh. Surender Kumar Gupta S/O Late Sh. Tara Chand and Smt. Manita Kansal W/O Sh. Surender Kumar Gupta, both R/O S-73, Vijay Vihar, Ullam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have severed all their relations from their son Shri Sumit Kansal and his wife Smt. Vaisali Chauhan, both presently residing at H.No. 129, Ground Floor Pocket-C3, Sector-11, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 and have debarred them from getting any shares from all their movable and immovable properties. Thus Shri Sumit Kansal or his wife has no right, title or interest in the moveable and immovable properties of my clients. Anybody dealing with them shall do so at his own risks, costs and responsibilities. My clients shall not be responsible for any of their acts in this regard. Pradeep Kumar (Advocate) Ch.No.665, Western wing, Tis Hazari, ND-54

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my client Mr. Rakesh Kumar is the intending purchaser of 1/2 undivided share in Property bearing Mustaf No. 61 Kila Nosa 13/1(1-14) and 13/2 Mln(1-6) i.e. 112 Sq yards in revenue estate of Mehrauli, New Delhi and has already hand over bayana of above said property to Mr. Randhir Kumar Yadav. Any claim or oppositions to the said Property must be lodged within 15 days from the date of this publication, failing which the same shall be deemed that there are no claims or oppositions and my client shall complete any transactions. Claims or oppositions received after the said 15 days shall not be binding on my client. Please contact to Gagandeep Singh, Adv. within 15 days from the date of Publication of this notice. Sd/- Gagandeep Singh, Advocate 202 Narain Complex, Sarita Vihar New Delhi-110078

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that I, Shashi Bhushan Tiwari, Son of Shri Bankey Lal Tiwari, resident of L-6, Ashirwad Kunj, J-377, Khirki Extension, near Krishna Temple, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017. All the original documents i.e. (1) Conveyance Deed executed in favor of me by Delhi Development Authority; (2) Demand-cum-Allotment Letter issued by DDA in my favor; (3) Possession by DDA in my favor & (4) Possession Slip issued by DDA in my favor with respect to the property bearing LIG Flat No.20, Fourth Floor, Sector-34, Pocket-3, Block-F9, Rohini, Delhi-110023 and bearing File No. L355(9075)15DDA/AR have been lost and misplaced. I am the absolute owner and in possession of the aforesaid mentioned property. An NCR/ LR No.670073/ 2023 dated 18.07.2023 on this effect has been lodged with Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/ contact at above said address & phone no. 9899973383 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director/ Assistant Director (LIG/H) Helping, 2nd Floor, D-Block, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023.

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GOLD	USD RATE	OIL	SILVER
₹62,050	₹83.25	\$89.65	₹75,500

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of October 30

India's Russian oil imports slip in Oct, Saudi supply rebounds from Sept low

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

CRUDE OIL IMPORTS: TOP 3 SUPPLIERS
Oil Import Volumes (million bpd)

SUPPLIER	SEP	OCT	CHANGE (%)
Russia	1.78	1.57	(-12)
Iraq	0.934	0.935	0.1
Saudi Arabia	0.484	0.797	64.7
Overall oil imports	4.16	4.5	8.1

Source: Kpler

INDIA'S OIL imports from Russia averaged 1.57 million barrels per day (million bpd) in October, down from 1.78 million bpd in September, as per Kpler data. India's overall oil imports for the month, however, rose 8.1 per cent sequentially to 4.5 million bpd, mainly on the back of higher imports from Riyadh.

Russian crude accounted for nearly 35 per cent of India's oil imports in October, followed by Iraq with 21 per cent, and Saudi Arabia with an 18 per cent share.

In October, oil imports from Saudi Arabia jumped nearly 65 per cent month-on-month to 796,659 bpd. In September, volumes from Riyadh had slumped, largely due to price advantage of competing crude oil grades from other countries and maintenance shutdown at a few units. Analysts

had viewed the unusually low volumes of Saudi Arabian oil imports in September as temporary, and predicted a strong rebound in October. As for supplies from Iraq, oil import volumes in October were nearly flat month-on-month at around 9,35,000 bpd.

RIL, which has been among the top Indian buyers of Russian crude since the Russia-Ukraine war broke out in February last year, scaled back its offtake of Moscow's oil in October as its Jamnagar refinery complex was

undergoing a partial maintenance shutdown. RIL imported around 230,000 bpd of Russian crude during the month, down 24.3 per cent from September volumes, as per Kpler data. RIL's overall oil imports in October stood at 968,384 bpd, the lowest in 13 months. However, with the company's units now out of maintenance, Russian oil imports are likely to rise in November.

"Russia slipped back some 200,000 bpd after its 1.78 million

bpd reading in September, mostly on the back of weaker buying from Reliance and several cargoes slipping into early November instead of late October. In the first three days of November alone, there are 10 tankers to be discharged into Indian ports, carrying 11 million barrels. In view of this, we expect November imports from Russia to come in around 1.8 million bpd again," Kpler's lead crude analyst Viktor Katona said.

In October, Nayara Energy Ltd (NEL) emerged as the largest Indian buyer of Russian crude, slightly surpassing state-owned Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOC), which has consistently been the largest Indian offtaker of Russian oil for a few months now. NEL, which is partly owned by Russian oil major Rosneft, imported 306,807 bpd of Russian oil, while IOC imported 303,944 bpd.

From being a marginal supplier of crude oil to India before

the war in Ukraine, Russia turned into New Delhi's largest source of crude as Moscow started offering deep discounts after Western buyers started shunning its oil. Prior to the war in Ukraine, Iraq was India's largest supplier of crude oil, followed by Saudi Arabia. India is the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil and depends on imports to meet over 85 per cent of its requirement.

According to Katona, apart from a likely increase in oil imports from Russia in November and December, India's overall oil imports are also expected to rise in this high-demand festival season. "We believe the average pace of incoming cargoes would move higher to 4.7 million bpd (from October's 4.5 million bpd), so there's a solid 200,000 bpd upside still in Indian buying, mostly accounting for Reliance's much-anticipated return after autumn maintenance," he said.

2nd quarter GDP number will surprise on upside: Das

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31



Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das

AMID GEOPOLITICAL tensions, India's growth momentum remains strong and the second-quarter gross domestic product (GDP) growth number is expected to surprise on the upside, Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said Tuesday.

The GDP growth figure for July-September quarter will be released November 30 by the National Statistical Office (NSO). GDP growth rose to a four-quarter high of 7.8 per cent in April-June.

"Growth momentum in India continues to be strong. Looking at the momentum of economic activity and looking at a few early data points which have come, I can say that the second quarter GDP number, as and when it is released at the end of November, in all probability, will surprise everyone on the upside," Das said while speaking at a BFSI summit organised by Business Standard.

For fiscal 2024, the RBI has projected the GDP growth at 6.5 per cent, with Q2 at 6.5 per cent.

Economists have raised worries over the escalating Israel-Hamas conflict, as it could hurt global growth and push energy prices up. "New flashpoints are developing and new geopolitical conflict points are developing. So, geopolitics, I think, today poses the biggest risk for growth not just for India, but for the world as a whole," the governor said.

He said when the Russia-Ukraine war began, it immediately led to the financial market volatility and also, to some extent, pulled down global growth. "So far as India is concerned, even with all geopolitical risks, I can say with confidence that

India is better placed compared to other countries to deal with such risky or such potentially risky situations," Das said.

On India's inclusion in the JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Index, Das said the move is a kind of a "vote of confidence about the Indian economy and the Indian financial market".

The RBI governor, however, said the index inclusion is a double-edged sword — it leads to inflows but passive funds can pull out money if the weightage goes down. Das assured that the RBI has a track record of handling large scale inflows and outflows.

On cryptocurrency, the RBI governor said that it is a very serious threat to financial stability for all countries, especially for emerging market economies.

Speaking on the attrition in private banks, Das said the RBI, as a part of its supervision, is looking into the rate of attrition, which is seen to be high in certain private sector lenders.

"We have asked them (private banks) to look at it (higher attrition). Every bank, at the end of the day, has to build up its core team, which should really grow with the bank over the years," he said.

The governor's comments come as certain private sector banks have witnessed a rise in attrition.

Key infra sector growth slows down to 4-mth low of 8.1% in Sept

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

INDIA'S EIGHT core industries' growth fell to a four-month low of 8.1% in September from a 14-month high of 12.5% in August, primarily due to a sharp decline in the growth in production of electricity, crude oil and refinery products, according to data released by the government on Tuesday.

Sequentially, the production of the eight core sectors fell 4.8% in September, the steepest decline in five months.

Experts expect September's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) to also print in single digits. The eight core industries comprise about 40% of the IIP.

Typically, core sector production in September reduces as compared to August. But a 4.8% decline is the second highest recorded in the last 11 years. In September 2019, the core sector output had fallen 6.1% month-on-month.

In September, rainfall in India was 13% above the benchmark, and the rains have contributed to slowing of activity in many core industries, except fertilisers.

However, among seven of the eight core sectors which recorded a slowdown in output growth in September as compared to August, only crude oil production observed a year-on-year contraction of 0.4% during the month.

Fiscal deficit widens to 39% of full-year target in Apr-Sept

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

WITH A sharp pickup in capital expenditure and elevated subsidy spend on fertilisers, the Union government's fiscal deficit during April-September widened to ₹7,02 lakh crore or 39.3 per cent of the full-year target of ₹1,78,7 lakh crore compared with ₹6,43 lakh crore in April-August. The government's fiscal position got support from a pickup in direct tax revenues, especially corporate tax collections, which rose by 26.6 per cent year-on-year in September, reflecting the payment of the second instalment of advance tax, data released by the Controller General of Accounts on Tuesday showed.

Capital expenditure continued to surge, with the government reaching 49 per cent or ₹4.9 lakh crore during April-September, the first of the half of the financial year, out of its overall Budget target of ₹10 lakh crore for 2023-24. At ₹1,17 lakh crore in September, it is the highest-ever monthly spending by the government on account of capital expenditure in the current fiscal.

While interest payments rose to ₹1.17 lakh crore in September, an increase of 19.1 per cent year-on-year and 72.6 per cent month-on-month, overall revenue deficit turned into revenue surplus for the second month in a row.

The Centre's fiscal deficit was also lower than the year-ago period for the second month in a row at ₹59,035 crore in

September. A pickup in revenues supported the government's fiscal arithmetic. Total tax receipts recorded a growth of 9.3 per cent in September, with income tax collections rising 15.6 per cent to ₹91,247 crore in September.

Despite concerns about rise in borrowing costs with an increase in yields on government securities and possibility of strain on public expenditure amid global uncertainties, Centre is confident of meeting its stated fiscal deficit target of 5.9 per cent of the GDP for the current fiscal. The government had budgeted ₹10 lakh crore target for capital expenditure for the current fiscal, an increase of 36 per cent over the previous financial year.

Economists said even though there might be slippages on the disinvestment front, the government's fiscal position looks comfortable. "The fiscal position of the Central Government has been fairly comfortable during the first half of the current fiscal despite economic headwinds. Gross direct tax collection recovered in August and September after lagging in the first four months of FY24. Centre's non-tax collections have been better than anticipated, supported by higher than budgeted RBI dividend transfer. On the revenue front, while we foresee slippage on the disinvestment front, we remain optimistic about meeting the targeted revenue receipts supported by buoyancy in tax as well as non-tax collections," Rajani Sinha, Chief Economist, CareEdge Ratings said.

Global gold demand drops in Q3, but India a bright spot

Global gold demand slipped in the third quarter as central bank buying fell short of last yr's record levels & consumption by jewellers declined, the World Gold Council (WGC) said



Centre to hold off on ITC stake sale for next few yrs

PRASANTA SAHU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE CENTRE has decided not to disinvest its prized holding in ITC, the country's largest cigarette-to-hotel conglomerate, for the next few years for "strategic reasons", sources told FE. The stake is held through the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI).

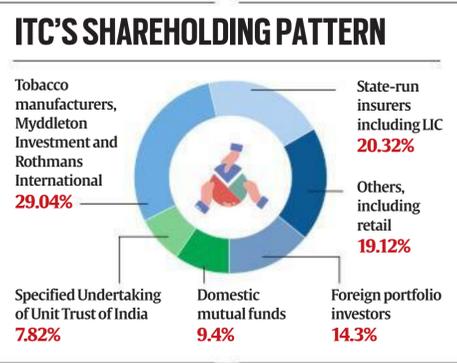
The 7.87% SUUTI equity in ITC at the current market price is worth ₹42,000 crore. The value of this stake has increased by nearly a quarter in the past eleven months, and more than doubled in less than two years.

The performance of the publicly-held stock has been due to ITC's splendid financial results recently and the demerger of its hotel business.

"The government is holding ITC strategically. At a certain stage in the long run, it will exit in small tranches," an official said. "But, not this year, not even in the immediate future," the official added.

The Centre is getting around ₹1,000 crore dividend annually from ITC for its 7.87% stake, which is higher than what it could get from the proposed privatisation of a few small state-run companies.

"The stock is doing well be-



cause of the demerger. The Centre's wealth is increasing," the official said, adding that the potential is also good going forward.

Even though a small stake sale in ITC would fetch the Centre a decent amount of revenue to meet its disinvestment revenue target of ₹51,000 crore for FY24, the government having no such plan indicates it's comfortable with the fiscal position due to the higher-than-expected growth in tax and non-tax revenues.

The Centre has sold off the bulk of its shares held via SUUTI in Axis Bank and L&T in recent years.

On August 14, the board of ITC approved the demerger of its hotel business, with an indicative timeline of listing the new

entity in about 15 months' time.

In February 2017, the government sold a 2% stake from SUUTI's holding in ITC to mobilise about ₹6,700 crore. Thereafter, it hasn't reduced much stake in the company.

No stake sale in ITC after 2017 could be due to the likely demerger of the conglomerate into several distinct entities that could help the government realise more value for its stake.

ITC does not have a promoter and its shares are held by a wide gamut of public shareholders. ITC will hold a 40% stake in the demerged hotel entity, and existing ITC shareholders, including the government, will hold the remaining 60%. FE

CENTRE HIKES WINDFALL TAX ON CRUDE, CUTS LEVY ON DIESEL EXPORTS

New Delhi: The government Tuesday increased the windfall profit tax on crude oil produced in the country and reduced the levy on exports of diesel. The tax, levied in the form of Special Additional Excise Duty or SAED, on domestically produced crude oil was increased to ₹9,800 per tonne from ₹9,050 a tonne, according to an official notification.

SAED on the export of diesel was reduced to ₹2 per litre from ₹4 a litre and on jet fuel or ATF to nil from ₹1, the notification said. SAED on export of petrol will continue to be zero. The new tax rates will come into effect from Wednesday. PTI

IOC HI net profit tops its best-ever annual earning

New Delhi: Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) Tuesday reported a return to profitability with a net profit of ₹12,967.32 crore in the three months to September 30 — over half of its best-ever annual profit in just one quarter. This came on the back of a boost in refining and marketing margin. In July-September 2022, it incurred a loss of ₹272.35 crore. It posted record earnings of ₹26,717.76 crore in April-September, more than the ₹24,184 crore record net profit the company posted in 2021-22.

A freeze on petrol and diesel price revision despite a fall in input crude prices helped recover losses incurred when rates were high last year. PTI

Bharti Airtel Q2 profit falls on one-time charge

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

OWING TO a one-time tax provisioning charge, Bharti Airtel on Tuesday missed estimates on the net profit front during the July-September quarter. The company saw a 17% quarter-on-quarter fall in its net profit to ₹s 1,341 crore against Bloomberg estimate of ₹s 3,205 crore.

Bharti booked an exceptional item of ₹s 1,570 crore, towards tax provisioning, including interest charge, as a result of the recent Supreme Court order treating licence fee since July 1999 as capital expenditure.

The company said the Supreme Court decision has resulted in an additional tax provision of ₹s 226 crore primarily

due to change in effective tax rate on account of adoption of new tax regime. "The interest charge of ₹s 1,350 crore on the above matter has been presented as an exceptional item. Additionally, exceptional item includes a charge of ₹s 220 crore on account of re-assessment of regulatory levies," it said.

Even in the absence of exceptional item, Airtel's consolidated net profit at ₹s 2,959 crore was below estimates, on account of weak performance by the Africa business due to foreign exchange headwinds.

Fall in revenues of Africa business, also affect the consolidated revenues of Airtel, which also missed estimates and fell over 1% sequentially to ₹s 37,044 crore. Bloomberg had estimated revenues at ₹s 38,097 crore. FE

EPFO trustee board meets

New Delhi: The Central Board of Trustees of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in its meeting on Tuesday discussed the progress made on the higher pension option for its subscribers so far along with the draft annual report detailing financials of 2022-23.

"Total number of beneficiaries and financial implications will

depend upon the number of such eligible employees who will submit applications for validation of option/joint options in line with the Supreme Court judgement of November 2022. After scrutiny of applications for validation of option/joint options, actuarial analysis will be done from the actuary to ascertain the financial implications," an official said. ENS

HEALTH OF RURAL INSTITUTIONS FRAGILE: N K SINGH

New Delhi: The 15th Finance Commission Chairman N K Singh Tuesday said the health of rural development institutions, like panchayat raj, remain fragile with financial viability elud-

ing them. Singh said the ability of the institutions for projectisation and viability of technical assistance for project preparation remain mired in technical incompetence. PTI

CEOs of Air India and Akasa joust over poaching of pilots

REUTERS
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE CHIEF executives of Air India and Akasa Air have privately exchanged barbs over the poaching of pilots, with the latter accusing its bigger rival of rule violations, provoking a reply that collusion to curb job switching can breach competition law.

The exchange, detailed in a Sept. 21 letter seen by Reuters, spotlights growing competition in India's aviation market, as a strong rebound in air travel after the pandemic, coupled with a flurry of orders for new aircraft,

lead to a shortage of pilots.

The rare verbal and written confrontations between the airlines' chief executives were detailed in the letter, sent by Campbell Wilson of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group conglomerate, to Vinay Dube of low-cost airline Akasa.

It followed a telephone call between them and a missive Dube had sent expressing his concerns to the Tata Group.

The Sept. 21 letter shows Air India pushed back after Akasa accused it of contravening government policies that mandate a notice period of six to 12 months for pilots, rules that



Air India CEO Campbell Wilson; Akasa CEO Vinay Dube

Indian pilots' groups are challenging in court.

Wilson told his counterpart the government rules were "not currently enforceable", adding that Akasa itself had "previously

engaged in the same actions" by poaching pilots from Tata Group's budget carrier, Air India Express, and other airlines.

"It was a little surprising to us that Akasa now found the prac-

tice objectionable," Wilson wrote in the letter, which Reuters is reporting for the first time.

Akasa did not comment on its communication with Air India, but said the issue of pilot exits was "now behind us... we are squarely back in growth mode".

Air India declined to comment and the two chief executives did not respond to requests for comment.

The dispute comes at the time of a hiring spree by Air India, with its arm, Air India Express, seeking to more than triple its fleet to 170 over five years.

In recent weeks, Akasa has lost about a tenth of its 450 pilots, who left without serving out notice periods, some to join Air India Express.

In September, Akasa said it feared a shutdown and sued some pilots, as well as the aviation watchdog, for not coming to its aid, in lawsuits still pending in the courts.

In his letter, Wilson added that he had "cautioned" Dube during their telephone call that asking a competitor to collude in curbing employees' rights to switch employers "could be construed as potentially a contravention of competition law".

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : E-Tender No 179/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN
AMRUT-2.0- Cochin Corporation- Construction of GLSR-15LL & OHSR-15LL capacity, Supply and Erection of Pumpssets, interconnection works at Perumanoor pump house and allied works- General Civil Work. **EMD : ₹s. 00,00,00/-** Tender fee: **₹s. 19,518**, Last Date for submitting Tender : 14-11-2023 03:00 pm Phone : 0484-2360645, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Kochi

KWA-JB-GL-6-1461-2023-24

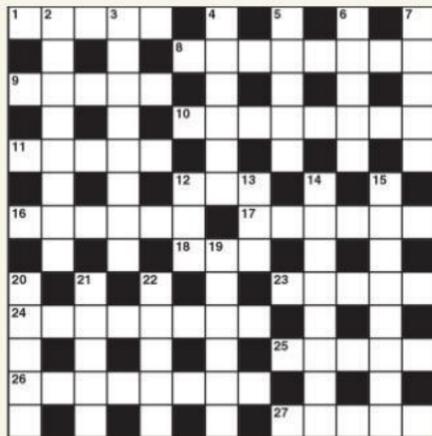
Bank of India BOI

Head Office, Information Technology Department, Bank of India Star House-3, PNB-BOI Tower C-29, G Block, IT Department, 10th Floor, BKC, Bandra East, Mumbai 400051. E-mail: Headoffice@bankofindia.co.in

RFP for Procurement, Integration and Annual Maintenance Support of Network Devices at Bank's Data Centre (DC), Disaster Recovery Site (DR), Colocation DC Site and Colocation DR Site RFP Ref No: BOI/HO/IT/Coro-Network/RFP- 01/2023 Dated 27/10/2023

The captioned RFP is available on Bank's corporate website www.bankofindia.co.in under "Tender" section since 27/10/2023. Subsequent changes if any, will henceforth be uploaded only on the website. The last date of submission: 17/11/2023

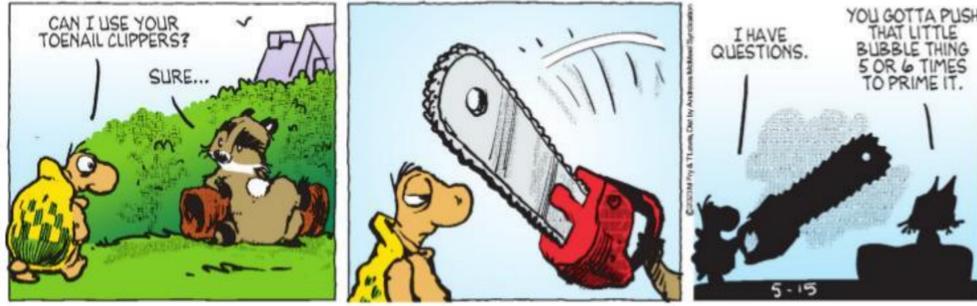
CROSSWORD 5197



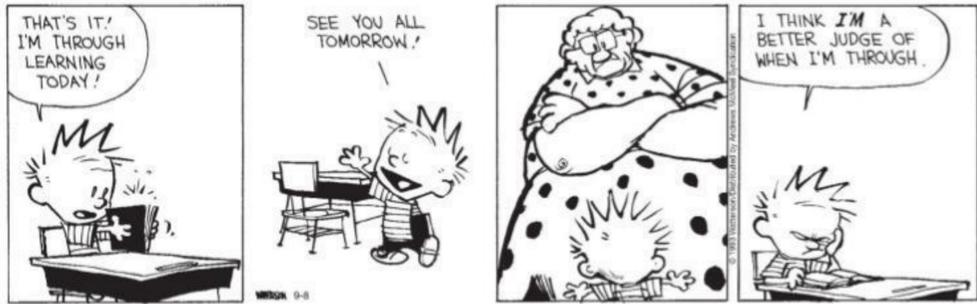
- ACROSS**
- Stout novelist and comedian (5)
 - A golfer upset about pro's first game (8)
 - Climb and balance (5)
 - Meal done, ordered a drink (8)
 - Game fellow (5)
 - Happy to be back from Italy again (3)
 - Heartless manager replaced by a European (6)
 - Itches to change the rules of conduct (6)
 - A badly run vessel (3)
 - Bird goes after note that is low and throaty (5)
 - There's no end to these pets (4,4)
 - Wet ring perhaps left to dry (5)
 - Impact he made in strong terms (8)
 - Stop being mean (5)
- DOWN**
- Didn't refuse; that's normal (8)
 - Barrels found around ancient dumps (8)
 - Unorthodox Easter saint (6)
 - In the article a publicist gives upfront coverage (5)
 - Examination essay? (5)
 - Looked, started to go back then went ahead (5)
 - Animal found in growing numbers (3)
 - A great desire to make money (3)
 - Partly bum a fuel that draws well (8)
 - They jeer at consumers (8)
 - Sell about a litre (6)
 - Worker encountered me coming up first (5)
 - Breaks up bridges (5)
 - Throw away a fight? (5)

Solutions Crossword 5196 Across: 1 Donkeywork, 6 Blow, 10 Curve, 11 Ladyloves, 12 Holyards, 13 Nery, 15 Indium, 17 Patella, 19 Hundred, 21 Minecart, 22 Doubt, 24 Rallier, 27 Existence, 28 Comet, 29 Sung, 30 Determined Down: 1 Dice, 2 Narration, 3 Enemy, 4 Wolfarm, 5 Rides up, 7 Lover, 8 Wisly-washy, 9 Plankton, 14 Nightdress, 16 Initate, 18 Liverymen, 20 Derange, 21 Naveite, 23 Union, 25 Locum, 26 Stud

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Like everyone else, you must now wait and see what the next few days' lunar disturbances bring forth in the way of emotional upheaval. One consideration is the likelihood that children are about to demand more of your time. Yet you may be able to put them, and other younger relations, off until next week.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

It's not often that your professional stars are quite so stunning. Is there any way you can prolong your pursuit of a treasured ambition? You're so anxious to keep on the go that even the best sort of break now is one that keeps you reasonably active.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Mercury's relationship with your sign is always favourable, the inevitable result currently being a series of hopeful family encounters and domestic arrangements. You may be strangely reluctant to leave home over the next few days. But, then, why should you?

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Friendships are well-starred, but financial affairs must take first place. When all is said and done, there is no point in making social arrangements if you are unable to pay your way. On the other hand, discussions should have a deliciously positive outcome.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You are now in a three-day period of cosmic turbulence. There is no astrological law in operation at times such as these, so it is up to you to maintain a positive outlook and play your hand with skill. Professionally, you'll be ready to seek out fresh responsibilities.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The same message will have to be repeated for a few days, which is that most of what is important will either take place behind the scenes or lend itself to misinterpretation. Steer clear of ill-intentioned people spreading false and baseless rumours.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

A link between money matters and domestic affairs could mean good news for the home buyer or seller, although it may be another few weeks before the planets are best aligned from the professional point of view. Until then, just begin to gather the information you need.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

There does seem to be a great deal going on at work, even though this might not be the most suitable timing as far as you, or a partner, are concerned. Your best bet now is to bring difficult affairs to a rapid, perhaps ruthless, conclusion. There is now no stopping you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

You may have one or two complaints, today. Perhaps you're not happy with a legal hassle, or you may be inclined to find fault with travel plans. Stick to your principles out of the best of motives, not out of sheer awkwardness. After all, when you're right, you can just make your point, pure and simple.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

For once you're not the centre of attention. Yet you can strike a public pose by making acts of extraordinary and surprising generosity. It is time for you to foot the bill. You see, a generous gesture could persuade partners that your feelings are perfectly genuine.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Making the most of stormy astrological influences can be compared with surfing. The goal is to hold your position on the wave, staying just one step ahead of the deluge. You know you can do it. One word of advice, if you're weighing up new options, consider as many as possible.

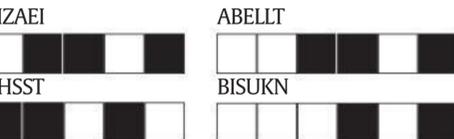
PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

There is plenty of enjoyable social activity available to take your mind off irritations at work. Today's stars may be stressful, but tomorrow's will also be a tad tense, so do try and lighten the atmosphere. I don't think anyone else is going to do it for you.

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 quiz.

Bore, n.: A person who ___ when you wish him to ___. - Ambrose Bierce (5,_,6)



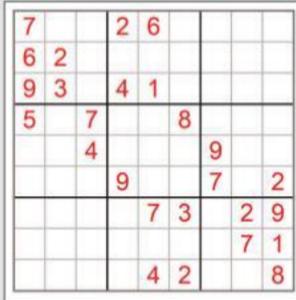
SOLUTION: MAIZE, STASH, BALLET, BUSKIN
Answer: A person who talks when you wish him to listen - Ambrose Bierce

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.

SUDOKU 5368

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 5367



MoA — EIL

In line with its vision of venturing into emerging Green Business sectors, EIL inked a MoA with NTPC recently. As per the MoA framework, EIL will engage with NTPC to carry out collaborative work in the domain of Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage, Green Fuel, Green Chemicals including Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia, Green Fertilizers, Bio-Fuels, Decarbonization, Waste Handling, Water, Ash, etc.

MoU — THDCIL

In a significant milestone, THDCIL, Roorkee have come together to embark on a collaborative journey in advancing research & development endeavors in the realms of Science, Engineering, & Technology. The MoU signed outlines the commitment of both institutions to engage in a wide array of research activities, encompassing domains such as Energy Conservation.



AWARENESS & CYBER CRIME — SBI

Directorate of Education, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in collaboration with SBI organized a Financial Literacy Awareness & Cyber Crime Prevention Program at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi recently. The program was graced by H Gupta (Dir, D/o Education, GNCT of Delhi), KK Awasia (CGM, SBI, New Delhi Circle), D Virmani (IAS), N Dwivedi (GM, Network-1, SBI, New Delhi Circle).

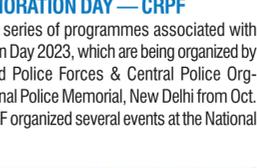
POLICE COMMEMORATION DAY — CISF

In continuation of the Police Commemoration Day celebrated on 21.10.2023 at National Police Memorial, Chanakyaपुरi, New Delhi and ongoing Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav, a commemorative event was organized by CISF at National Police Memorial, Chanakyaपुरi, New Delhi recently to pay tributes to the bravehearts of CISF who laid down their lives in the service of the nation and to felicitate their families.



POLICE COMMEMORATION DAY — CRPF

In continuation of the series of programmes associated with Police Commemoration Day 2023, which are being organized by all the Central Armed Police Forces & Central Police Organizations at the National Police Memorial, New Delhi from Oct. 21 to Oct. 31, the CRPF organized several events at the National Police Memorial.



ANNUAL FORUM — PAFI

At the 10th Annual Forum of the Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI), India's Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs & Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, while addressing the dignitaries said, "India will be a USD 4 trillion economy by the end of yr & a USD 10 trillion by 2030." He emphasized on three points: Availability, Affordability and sustainability for the active growth of our Country.



KAVI SAMMELAN — DELHI TOURISM

Delhi Tourism, in collaboration with the Department of Arts, Culture & Languages, Delhi Government, has organised three-days Kavi Sammelan from 27th to 29th Oct. 2023 at Satyagraha Mandap, Gandhi Darshan, near Rajghat, Delhi. This three-days Kavi Sammelan was inaugurated by Saurabh Bhardwaj, Minister of Tourism, Government of Delhi.



MAKEOVER — MUTHOOT GROUP

The Muthoot Group has branded Jaipur's largest metro "Railway Station" giving it an eye-catching & highly appealing makeover. Jaipur commuters using the Railway Station metro as well as the busy Hasan Pura flyover cannot miss this landmark branding done by The Muthoot Group in collaboration with Jaipur Metro Rail Corporation.



CORPORATE BRIEFS



HANDEDOVER — REC

REC Power Development & Consultancy Ltd. handed over the project-specific SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle), formed for the construction of Transmission Project viz., "Ramgarh II Transmission Ltd. to PGCIL on 26th Oct. 2023. The selection of M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. was carried out through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding carried out by RECPDCL for the selection of a Transmission Service Provider in line with the Standard Bidding Documents and Guidelines thereof as notified by the Ministry of Power, GOI. The SPV work is associated with the ambitious 500 GW RE plan of the GOI. The work involves the implementation of a 765/400kV & 2x500 MVA 400/220 kV pooling station at Ramgarh along with 765kV D/c line (Ramgarh PS to Bhadla-3 PS) in state of Rajasthan. The project for implementation is targeted in 18 months. After implementation, it would help in the evacuation of RE power from Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) in the state of Rajasthan.

REVOLUTIONIZES WATER — ONGC

Mehsana MP Shardaben Patel with ONGC Mehnsana Asset Manager Sudip Gupta in response to the pressing issue of water scarcity in North Gujarat, Energy Maharashtra ONGC has successfully executed a groundbreaking project to make potable water from waste water released by its Effluent Treatment Plants. This successful pilot not only ensures the availability of clean water for industrial and agricultural purposes but also marks a significant milestone in the preservation of vital water resources in the water-starved region. With water scarcity emerging as a growing concern in North Gujarat, ONGC made this commendable effort to turn the tide in favor of the local community. The ONGC facility at the North Santhal ETP is now capable of producing an impressive 500 cubic meters of treated water per day, equivalent to five lakh liters, suitable for consumption.



AGM — VRKRW

VRKRW organised its 12th AGM recently at its RAILKUNJ, Sector-3, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad premises along with all the members. SK Chopra, president, initiated the AGM with all executive members and also organised the elections process according to the UP Society Act. The new office bearers are being appointed with full support. The executive members and owners of the society discussed many issues in detail. In AGM meeting few accomplishments has been discussed during 2022-23. Also, few important decisions taken and laid down few works to be undertaken during 2023-24.



LAUNCH — BSES

Nestled in amidst South Delhi's Sangam Vihar, BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. has launched "Anokha Dhaga", a unique handloom 'training' unit. Outfitted with a diverse range of spinning equipment, from the traditional Khadis, Tana-Bana & Charkhas, this initiative underscores our dedication to promoting self-sufficiency among our communities, especially the women from the underprivileged backgrounds. The trainees won't just learn the intricate craft of creating exquisite bed sheets, suits, scarves, and stoles; they will also gain an in-depth understanding of the entire value chain—from selecting the yarn, mastering handloom techniques overseeing production to grasping the intricacies of marketing connections. Upon completing their training, these budding artisans will be ready to establish enduring livelihoods, thereby strengthening the community's economic foundation.



NTPC India's largest integrated power utility - NTPC Ltd., with a present group installed capacity of almost 74 GW, declared unaudited financial results for Quarter and Half-Year ending on 30 th Sept. on 28 th Oct. 2023. NTPC Group generated 212 Billion Units in H1 FY24 as compared to 204 Billion Units in H1 FY23. NTPC's standalone gross generation in H1 FY24 is 179 Billion Units as compared to 176 Billion Units in the corresponding previous period. NTPC Coal stations achieved a Plant Load Factor of 76.62% as against the National Average of 68.75 % during H1 FY24. On standalone basis, the Total Income of NTPC for H1 FY24 is Rs. 81,199 crore as against the corresponding previous period total income of Rs. 82,537 cr. Profit After Tax for H1 FY24 is Rs. 7,951 crore as against Rs. 7,048 cr in H1 FY23, registering an increase of 13%. This increase is largely attributable to capacity addition and higher station availability. On consolidated basis, the Total Income of the group for H1 FY24 is Rs. 88,775 cr as against the corresponding previous period total income of Rs. 88,242 cr.

NBCC conducted 21st auction for the sale of commercial space in the World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi. The Company has sold a total unsold commercial inventory of 3.91 lakh sq. ft. (approx.) having sale value of Rs. 1557.51 cr, out of which 2.97 lakh sq. ft. area having sale value of Rs. 1183.7 cr has been sold to private entities. This is the highest sale realisation in a single auction since launch of WTC, New Delhi in 2017. Further, as on date, the company has sold a total unsold commercial inventory of 21.7 lakh sq.ft. through open e-auction having sale value of Rs. 8751.61 cr. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GOI has appointed NBCC, a Navratna, GOI Enterprise, as implementing agency for redevelopment of Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi. NBCC is authorized to market the commercial space on freehold basis.

PNB Net Profit Increased to Rs. 1756 Cr during Q2 FY'24, with YoY growth of 327.14%. Operating Profit was at Rs. 6,216 Cr during Q2 FY'24 grew by 11.67% on YoY basis. Net Interest Income increased by 20% YoY to Rs. 9,923 Cr in Q2 FY24. Global NIM improved by 11 bps on YoY basis to 3.11% in Q2 FY24 from 3.00% in Q2 FY'23. GNPA ratio improved by 352 bps on YoY basis to 6.96% as on Sept. '23 from 10.48% as on Sept. '22. NPNA ratio improved by 233 bps on YoY basis to 1.47% as on Sept. '23. Provision Coverage Ratio (including TFWO) improved by 795 bps on YoY basis to 91.91% as on Sept. '23 from 83.96% as on Sept. '22. Credit Cost declined by 45 bps on YoY basis to 1.31% in Q2 FY'24. Global Business increased by 11.26% on YoY basis to Rs. 22,51,631 Cr as on Sept. '23 as against Rs. 20,23,713 Cr as on Sept. '22. Global deposits grew by 9.75% on YoY basis to Rs. 13,09,910 Cr as on Sept. '23. Global Advances grew by 13.43% on YoY basis to Rs. 9,41,721 Cr as on Sept. '23. RAM share improved by 218 bps on YoY basis to 55.63% as on Sept. '23.

OIL Reportedly, miscreants have completely cut and stole the entire X-Mass tree above the adapter of OIL's well no. NHK-67 at Gazal Basti near Dulaijan leading to uncontrolled flow of well fluids, mainly water, from the well head. The incident was reported at around 9:30 pm on 19 th Oct. 2023. OIL has lodged an FIR with the local Police and informed the District Administration Authority. Located within a depleted reservoir in Bordubi area, the well was in shut in condition since 2016. The Crisis Management Team of Oil India Ltd. has been mobilised, while the Fire Tenders have been stationed at site and necessary measures are being taken up on an emergent basis to cap the well. An on-site task force is coordinating the activities on ground so as to control the water flow, cap and restore the well in close coordination with local authority.

CEREMONY — NAGAR NIGAM GHAZIABAD

Nagar Nigam Ghaziabad organised cultural programmes on occasion of Valmiki Jayanti. On this occasion Mayor, Commissioner & other staff members of Nagar Nigam Ghaziabad were present to witness the ceremony.





Zaman's power-packed comeback

Left-handed opener smashes 81 off 74 balls as Pak chase down 205 in 32.3 overs to stay alive and show Tigers the door

SANDIPG

KOLKATA, OCTOBER 31

WHEN THE cameras panned to his face after he perished 19 runs short of a century, one could see Fakhar Zaman grit his teeth in anger and look dejectedly at the turf. But once he got through the fleeting pain of missing the three-figure mark, a content smile spread on his face. The left-handed opener soaked in the appreciation directed at him and warmly shook hands with his teammates, who could finally smile, after ending a four-match winless streak.

"In normal circumstances I would have gone for the hundred, but here we were looking to win the game in 28-30 overs," Zaman would later say.

The thumping of Bangladesh could turn out to be inadequate, as Pakistan's fate hinges on the fortunes of other teams. All they could do now is keep accumulating points and improve their net run rate. The chase of 205 was completed in 32.3 overs, enough to put them fifth on the table, though their next two opponents, New Zealand and England, would be more arduous than Bangladesh, who are in dire need of a reset.

But Pakistan would rather be optimists and hope they could muster the wins and fate would smile on them. "There are lots of ifs and buts, but we are doing whatever we can from this situation," Zaman said.

A big reason they could afford to smile was Zaman himself, playing just his second game of the tournament. But he has the habit of popping up whenever his team needs him. Hark back to his hundred in the 2017 Champions Trophy final, the last ICC silverware Pakistan has lifted. Or the hundred he compiled against England at the previous World Cup, or the back-to-back centuries in South Africa, or being the only double centurion in this format for his country.

Yet, Zaman often goes unnoticed and unsung, still the first to fall in a churn, still the first to be overlooked and scapegoated. That his ODI career has not quite soared, that this is only his 80th 50-over international game, that he was shunned despite an average of 44 and having scored a hat-trick of centuries early this year against New Zealand, is a mystery.

However, rather than wallowing over his non-inclusion, first due to a minor injury and then due to falling form, he sweated it out in the nets. "The more time you spend in a country, the better you get. Though I was not playing, I spent a lot of time batting in the nets and getting used to the conditions," he said. And when opportunity beckoned, Zaman latched on to it with both hands and made a stirring comeback.

He himself has stopped counting the comebacks he has made in his career. "All I look to do is to make my chance count. I consider myself lucky to have played some games for my country," he once told The Dawn. He had long burnt his dream of playing cricket when he joined the Navy in 2007 as a 17-year-old. But little did he then know that his dream would only get closer. A chance meeting with Nazim Khan, the coach of Pakistan Naval Cricket Academy, would change his life forever.

Hard work brings rewards

To get the nod of his superiors was not easy — and a complicated clause was inserted in Zaman's contract that he would be retired as a sailor if he failed in cricket. He nursed little confusion, and put in the hard yards in the nets. He would linger on after practice, honing the shots he wanted to play. "My best friend was the bowling machine. I would face balls upto 95 miles an hour," he once said. "It's the only way I can develop because I am not very gifted."

Zaman is in the Aamir Sohail-Ijaz Ahmed belligerent mould rather than the graceful block of Saeed Anwar and Babar Azam. But it is his power and personality that Pakistan had missed in their winless run. Invariably, it was he who injected the impetus at the start, thus setting the chase rolling against Bangladesh. He took on the aggressor's role. "I was talking to (opening partner) Abdullah (Shafique) that I'll see off the first four overs and then hit sixes re-

SCORECARD

BANGLADESH vs PAKISTAN
EDEN GARDENS, KOLKATA

Toss: Bangladesh, elected to bat

BANGLADESH

T Hasan lbw b Afridi	0 (5b)
Liton Das c Salman b Ahmed	45 (64b, 6x4)
N Shanto c U Mir b Afridi	4 (3b, 1x4)
M Rahim c Rizwan b Rauf	5 (8b, 1x4)
Mahmudullah b Afridi	56 (70b, 6x4, 1x6)
Shakib Al Hasan c Salman b Rauf	43 (64b, 4x4)
T Hridoy c Ahmed b Mir	7 (3b, 1x6)
M Miraz b M Wasim	25 (30b, 1x4, 1x6)
Taskin Ahmed b M Wasim	6 (13b)
Mustafizur Rahman b M Wasim	3 (7b)
Shoriful Islam not out	1 (4b)
Extras (lb 4, w 5)	9
Total 45.1 Ov (RR: 4.51)	204

■ FoW: 1-0 (Tanzid Hasan, 0.5 ov), 2-6 (Najmul Hossain Shanto, 2.4 ov), 3-23 (Mushfiqur Rahim, 5.6 ov), 4-102 (Liton Das, 20.5 ov), 5-130 (Mahmudullah, 30.4 ov), 6-140 (Towhid Hridoy, 31.3 ov), 7-185 (Shakib Al Hasan, 39.3 ov), 8-200 (Mehidy Hasan Miraz, 43.1 ov), 9-201 (Taskin Ahmed, 43.3 ov), 10-204 (Mustafizur Rahman, 45.1 ov)

■ Bowling: Shaheen Afridi 9-1-23-3, Iftekhar Ahmed 10-0-44-1, Haris Rauf 8-0-36-2, Mohammad Wasim Jr 8.1-1-31-3, Usama Mir 10-0-66-1

PAKISTAN

A Shafique lbw Miraz	68 (69b, 9x4, 2x6)
F Zaman c Hridoy b Miraz	81 (74b, 3x4, 7x6)
B Azam c Mahmudullah b Miraz	9 (16b, 1x4)
M Rizwan not out	26 (21b, 4x4)
I Ahmed not out	17 (15b, 2x4)
Extras (lb 2, w 2)	4
Total 32.3 Ov (RR: 6.30)	205/3
■ FoW: 1-128 (Abdullah Shafique, 21.1 ov), 2-160 (Babar Azam, 25.4 ov), 3-169 (Fakhar Zaman, 27.3 ov)	
■ Bowling: Taskin Ahmed 6-1-36-0, Shoriful Islam 4-1-25-0, Mehidy Hasan Miraz 9-0-60-3, Mustafizur Rahman 7-0-47-0, Shakib Al Hasan 5.3-0-30-0, Najmul Hossain Shanto 1-0-5-0	

gardless of how the pitch will play because I know I can and I know my role," he said.

His start was sedate, as is his wont. The first 10 balls yielded only three runs. But Zaman didn't panic; instead swung Taskin Ahmed for a massive six over square-leg that shut out the noise among the Bangladesh supporters. The stroke typified Zaman, all power and calculated aggression. His strokes are hit with such power that they fly flat off the blade. Whereas Shafique waited for the loose balls, Zaman fetched boundaries off good balls too. He premeditates but often achieves the desired results.

The arrival of spinners lit up his eyes, and in the wink of an eyelid, he was slog-sweeping and shimmying down the track to them. Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz once beat him in the air, but Zaman still creamed him over mid-wicket in a display of pure power. Shoriful Islam bore the brunt of his fury — he scythed the left-armed through cover before in a rare act of sophistry, he upper-cut him. With Bangladesh pacers unable to generate good pace, their spinners struggling for turn, Zaman ran amok. He would end the night with seven sixes.

In just this game, he has hit more sixes (7) than Babar Azam, Mohammed Rizwan, Saud Shakeel and Imam-ul-Haq (who incidentally has not hit one yet) combined. His preference for the legside is evident — 56 came through this area, of which 45 came in the arc between long-on and deep square-leg. The slog was his most profitable six-giving shot (three out of seven).

It's his power-game that had made several former players wonder about his non-inclusion. Ravi Shastri would say on air: "It is surprising that Fakhar Zaman did not play in all the games. He is a match-winner and has a double-century in One-Day Internationals. Zaman can demoralise the rival team with his batting." He did demoralise Bangladesh and reinforced his own virtues. Though he missed out on a hundred, he did put a smile on the face of his teammates.



Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman smashed 7 sixes and 4 fours en route his 74-ball 81 against Bangladesh on Tuesday. Partha Paul

Afridi, the speedster, leader illuminates Eden Gardens

SANDIPG

OCTOBER 31, KOLKATA

THE EYES of Eden Gardens always stopped at Shaheen Shah Afridi. His long limbs and blue eyes, his genial smile and the quiff the breeze could not ruffle. The crowd watched him, as though he had cast a spell on them. Babar Azam searched for him, whenever he needed a moment of inspiration, or a suggestion. His colleagues reached out towards him, if they needed a note of advice or help; the fielders would scream his name, whenever the ball ventured into the deep. Even the Bangladesh batsmen peered at him, to see whether he was warming up. He met the gaze, demands and needs of all.

It was the evening where Afridi took on at least half a dozen guises — leader, lead-bowler, talisman, old-ball intimidator, new-ball virtuoso and hope-giver. His bowling set-up the day, his aura and leadership the match. He showed he is not just a natural speedster, but a natural leader too, perhaps the concoction that could help Pakistan stagger through the dark days. There is both the physical as well as metaphorical presence, an air of calm authority. His conversations on the ground are concise, but those around him, even if they be more experienced, just keep nodding to him. His fast-bowling accomplice Haris Rauf once threw light on the qualities that make Afridi: "He is much younger than me, but far more matured and sensible than I am. He has an extremely smart brain, and is obviously the leader of Pakistan's bowling attack."

He is no novice in leading men. Under him, Lahore Qalandars not only won their maiden PSL title, but also defended it. His coach at Qalandars Aaqib Javed has vehemently pushed for Afridi captaining his country's T20 team. "The way he carries the team and his style of working has been great for Qalandars. If someone can amp up Pakistan cricket and take it in the right direction, that is Afridi," he



Shaheen Shah Afridi claimed impressive figures of 3-23 in the nine overs he bowled on Tuesday. AP

told Cricket Pakistan.

All that could wait, as Pakistan wanted their premier bowler to produce a stirring performance to preserve their narrow semifinal hopes. He not just answered the call, but whipped up his finest performance of the series. Pakistan wanted early wickets — he produced two with his first 10 balls. Pakistan wanted one in the middle overs — he provided them too. Pakistan bowlers wanted someone to guide them — Afridi showed them the way. The match flowed in the tempo he set, and his colleagues bowled in the path he charted for them. He attacked the stumps more, so did Rauf and Mohammed Wasim. He extracted reverse — and soon did Rauf and Co.

But all of these little things that embellish his persona was lost in the thrill and the-atre of his bowling. There is not a more joyous celebrator of a wicket. Watch him spin and soar after he knocks out Mahmudullah

with a corker.

He leapt and roared, turned himself around with a cute pirouette upon landing, blew a kiss skywards and posed with his arms spread out like the massive wings of an airplane. At this moment, the only figure you saw among the thousands in the stands was Afridi and the only voice was his. As if he was the only one that mattered — and at that moment, he was perhaps the only one that mattered after all.

The crowd sank into silence. They were in a fleeting world between seeing and believing, before they gathered their memory and began to replay the ball in their minds, from whichever angle they had watched it, before they stretched their necks towards the giant screen at the ground.

The first impression could be that the ball was not as magical as they had first seen, thought or imagined. It's in the third, slow-motioned viewing that the beauty of the ball unfolds. This was not a ball from nowhere, a sudden burst of magic. Mahmudullah was forewarned. When a left-arm quick, and as proficient as Afridi, begins to bowl from around the stumps, his designs are crystal clear. He would look to angle in off a length; he would look to shape the ball away or make it hold off the line. The ball was not reverse-swinging, Afridi was not cranking up the speed gun either. So the Bangladesh batsman, the finest of them in this tournament, knew his intentions. Yet, he was helpless. This is what Afridi does — you need not always produce the unbelievable or the unrepeatable, but still you produce wickets, moments, and fear.

The wicket had the imprints of his mastery over his craft rather than his fondness to produce magic. He was unable to curl the ball

into him, so he went wide off the crease to exaggerate the inward angle. He did not purchase extravagant away-seam movement with the semi-old ball, but subtle margins suffice. The angle sucked Mahmudullah's eyes and body to the leg-side, before the ball, at the last possible moment, deviated away, almost reluctantly. The batsman falling over enhanced the drama.

The movements were beautifully minimalistic. The ball swung a trifle when it landed, and then it moved away a fraction, almost a decimal. Such movements confound batsmen more than prodigious deviations. The left-

Afridi showed he is not just a natural speedster, but a natural leader too, perhaps the concoction that could help Pakistan stagger through the dark days.

armed's away-swinger from around the wickets is as devastating a ball as the in-swinging to the right-hander from over the stumps. The angle invariably makes the batsman play at the ball. As does the length.

The crowd slumped into a nostalgia trip, braving the jammer-induced data lethargy to fish out the footage of Wasim Akram stupefying Allan Lamb with a similar ball. A similar ball indeed, but with vicious inward curve and expansive away movement. But this was the crowd's Afridi moment. For the remainder of the game, they watched him as though he had them in a trance. In a bit, he would start reversing the ball. He produced arguably his finest ball of the game — a devilishly curling in-swinging that hammered into Shakib Al Hasan's toes before he somehow stubbed it to safety. He then took one away from him, which again he managed to negotiate.

How he failed to collect another five-wicket haul is still a mystery. But the piece of statistics would hardly bother him or his team, because it was the day he was their talisman, leader and much more. It was a day the eyes stopped at him.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Iyer gears up for Sri Lanka clash by pulling bouncers into the stands

SRIRAM VEERA

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

NOT LONG after he had faced the bowlers in the nets close to the centre pitch at the Wankhede Stadium on Tuesday, Shreyas Iyer took strike in the nets pitched on the other side to face the throw-down specialist. This session was exclusively about tackling bouncers. The mechanical side-arm throw wasn't used but the balls were repeatedly flung short with the left-arm.

Iyer had two sessions against the bouncers — one at the far end with left-arm thrower Nuwan Seneviratne and later at the nets closer to the main pitch, with head coach Rahul Dravid joining in with the throws. Iyer's approaches at the two nets were contrasting.

Before one gets to how Iyer tackled the bouncers, let's rewind to his quote from earlier this year about the short-ball issue: "If I can leave or keep it down, I definitely won't have a problem".

However, in this World Cup, he has certainly not tried to leave them. On occasions he has tried to keep them down, but hasn't quite been able to roll his wrists over the ball and ride the bounce. Resultantly, in the game against New Zealand he holed out in the deep. Against England, he tried to pull a ball which wasn't that short, and miscued it straight up. And so on a warm late Tuesday afternoon, Iyer seemed to be working on a different method first.

At the far net against the left-arm thrower, he didn't try to keep the ball down, didn't bother to roll his wrists. Instead, he went for the sixes. He kept pulling the ball up and over the net on the left side and it repeatedly soared into the stands — the net was at the far end from the centre pitch, and hence closer to the stands.

Every now and then, the left-arm throw specialist from Sri Lanka would walk across for a chat with Iyer. He would proceed to wallop the ball in the air again, clearly looking to hit it up and over, rather than keep it down. This would happen repeatedly.



Shreyas Iyer had two sessions against bouncers — one at the far end with left-arm thrower Nuwan Seneviratne and later at the nets closer to the main pitch. PTI

In this WC, on occasions he has tried to keep the bouncers down, he hasn't quite been able to roll his wrists over the ball and ride the bounce.

Second half

Then came the second net and the second approach.

This time the thrower hurled the ball from around the stumps and banged it short below chest high but outside the off-stump. In the first nets, the balls were from over the wicket.

Since the balls weren't bounced that high and, more importantly, were outside the off-stump, Shreyas would swivel and hit the ball into the side-net. In the first session, in the other net, he was consciously clearing the net on the legside — going up and over them and into the stands. Not here, as he was fetch-

ing the ball from outside off-stump. One such back-of-length short ball outside off had consumed him against England.

Dravid, who wasn't there in the first bouncer session, joined here, throwing a few balls with the mechanical side-arm. Unlike the Sri Lankan, though, Dravid mostly hurled the ball really full for the off-drives.

Once at least, Dravid shadow-practiced a few pulls. It wasn't a demonstration to the batsman as he was doing it on his own when Iyer was facing the other bowlers. Dravid's wrists were riding the imaginary bounce rather nicely.

After more than an hour of batting just against the short ball, not counting his time against regular bowlers, long after all the other batsmen had left the scene, Iyer finally winded down and flopped himself in the plastic chairs under the umbrellas behind the nets. Dravid joined him shortly, and led an animated chat with his left hand doing myriad gestures. Fifteen minutes later, Iyer got up, donned his sunglasses, and both walked back to the dressing room.

South Africa's bugbear: C for chase

Despite recent win against Pakistan, Proteas carry scars of falling short when batting second in crucial World Cup games over the years

SHIVANI NAIK
PUNE, OCTOBER 31

THERE'S A five-letter word starting with 'c' that merges the destinies of South Africa and New Zealand in World Cup cricket.

It is not as viciously spat out, or unimaginatively uttered, or unoriginal as 'choke'.

But it arches over the entirety of their bat and ball 50 over World Cup history.

The word is 'chase', and the two sides meeting in Pune on Wednesday uniquely mirror each other, with New Zealand a few paces ahead of the South Africans in how the chase race has panned out.

South Africans botched their modest run-chase against Netherlands a few days back. They have stuttered against the mighty Australians famously in 1999, and stumbled forgettably against minnows Bangladesh in 2007. So the defeat to the Dutch in the middle of some serious run-loots and 400-plus scores, evoked a wry shake of the head as if to say, "That's just them."

Poor run chases look like anomalies in most of their World Cup campaigns, until suddenly they are the coup de grace. 1992 to Duckworth & Lewis and England, 1996 to West Indies, 1999 to Australia, 2003 to Sri Lanka and 2011 to New Zealand.

But excitingly for this edition, the Proteas arrived in Pune to face their sweet-smiling nemesis New Zealand who tripped them up in both 2011 and 2015 Knockouts, on the back of a 1-wicket thrilling chase against Pakistan in Chennai.

Keshav Maharaj's roar alongside Tabraiz Shamsi's dogged defense, set alight this World Cup edition. It was merely a league match against a Pakistan in shambles, and ought to never have been a desperate last-wicket scramble. Still, the roar showed what going past the line meant to the Saffers.

The country's most shocking loss when chasing against New Zealand in World Cups came in 2011, when Daniel Vettori exerted a spin-strangle on a wicked Dhaka wicket to squeeze the batting life out of a vaunted SA top 6 of Amla, Smith, Kallis, AB deVilliers, Duminy and Faf, and Jacob Oram landed the knockout punches with 4 wickets.

It was Jacques Kallis' most unfluent 75 deliveries faced. And though it pales in memory to the Donald Harakiri of 1999, a mixup runout that claimed AB de Villiers, ended hopes of one of the strongest Cup teams SA ever fielded.

New Zealand are haunted by no such Halloweens of cricket batting.

Against South Africa in World Cups alone, where they have won 6 of their 8 faceoffs since 1992, 5 have been successful run-chases. Things got tight in the 2015 Auckland semifinals, when they won by 4 wickets, off the penultimate ball. The victory margin was ditto in a group game of 2019 though this time, the Kiwis won with 3 balls remaining, steered by a calm Kane Williamson ton despite Chris Morris triggering collapses at 4/80 and 5/137 while chasing 242.

They even tied a Super Over target of 15 last time and were thrown a technicality to deny them the World Cup, Jimmy Neesham was back to doing his thing last week, bringing them within 5 runs of a mammoth target of 388 at Dharamshala against Australia.

Captain Tom Latham, whose father Rod made 60 the first time that the Kiwis slashed down the Saffer target in 1992, speaking on match-eve, gave an insight into just how little these narrow losses sting a team like New Zealand not racked by chasing nightmares.

"It was fantastic how our batters put us in a position to win a game chasing almost 400. We were just one shot away from winning so we'll put these learnings into tomorrow's game" he would say. Latham said the team had recognized fairly early on that it was a good pitch, and set about in pursuit of 389. "We'll look at the positives."

What New Zealand chase, not unlike South Africa, is their first World Cup trophy in cricket. The Proteas misses and their eluding success in World Cups has evoked everything from liting laments to bawling ballads.

New Zealand came closer than the Saffers, and were dealt brutal blows especially Martin Crowe's men in 1992 and Brendon McCullum's crew in 2015. The 2019



South Africa's Aiden Markram tries to control a football as Heinrich Klaasen (L) and Quinton de Kock look on in Pune on Tuesday. PTI

SA'S RUN CHASES GONE WRONG LEADING TO EXITS

YEAR	STAGE	VS	VENUE	MARGIN
1992	semifinals	England	Sydney	19 runs
1996	quarterfinals	West Indies	Karachi	19 runs
1999	semifinals	Australia	Birmingham	match tied
2003	group league	Sri Lanka	Durban	match tied
2011	quarterfinal	New Zealand	Dhaka	49 runs



New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson catches while wearing a brace for his fractured thumb. PTI

finish will struggle to summon a coherent closure. Yet, New Zealand plod on, without dramatics or poetry, without riffing off Greek tragedies. There are other semifinals misses too, that don't even make the list of heart-breaking losses though it would've equally hurt the personnel. They just get up after every loss, dust themselves off, and turn up at the next edition.

Latham, a second-generation World Cup chaser, took over the baton from not just his father, but stepping in as captain carries the same optimism that renders the Australia loss to a pointer in lessons learnt.

Kane Williamson who batted for 30-odd deliveries outside the NZ nets in Pune, has perfected the comeback — be it from ridiculous World Cup rules or a busted knee or a freakish thumb injury, which he described as "turning fat and colourful very fast after it was struck."

Kiwi cricket wears its heartbreaks and bone-shatters lightly.

Destiny's reward

New Zealand chase destiny's reward for the years of consistency and excellence in their cricket. Unlike South Africa whose outstanding talents like Hansie Cronje, Allan Donald, Lance Klusener, Kallis, AB deVilliers, Dale Steyn, Faf Du Plessis and Graeme Smith were burdened with pressure of winning the World Cups and perhaps caved under it, New Zealand have always been an unassuming unit without celebrity or stardom.

Like Rod Latham who was support cast to Greatbatch in 1992, a dozen others have contributed to their win record against Saffers in World Cups — SA haven't won since 1999. While Stephen Fleming and Williamson have captain's tons in run chases, the heroes are as varied as Nathan Astle who went after Donald in 2003, Craig McMillan who took out the middle order in 2007 and chased calmly, Jacob Oram in 2011, Corey Anderson and Grant Elliot in 2015 and Colin de Grandhomme whose 60 off 47 got them the last 100 in 2019. In this, they live the All Blacks mantra of shared responsibility.

Latham spoke of All Blacks highlighting NZ's racial diversity as much as Springboks did theirs at the Rugby World Cup. But from that losing ABs final on Saturday, the Black Caps gleaned out their lessons. "It was unfortunate to end on the wrong side, but they taught us to scrap all the way to the end, fight hard till deep in the back end of the game," he said.

Perhaps because the two are so similar in the brand of cricket they play, knowing they'll always be in the shadow of adored rugby teams until they nail down a World Cup of their own, their matches have been so even. There's rarely an edge to their rivalry, plentiful of mutual respect, and maybe a shared annoyance of Australia, boisterous with its five World Cups.

'Tough times have brought Proteas closer'

SHIVANI NAIK
PUNE, OCTOBER 31

RASSIE VAN der Dussen has always been known as a wise guy with the bandwidth to comprehend and articulate on South Africa's unique racial divisions and the arduous journey undertaken to correct those wrongs in sport. But on the eve of the clash against New Zealand, the Saffer sage stepped into the shoes of long-suffering fans of the cricket team, when asked about how the team deals with constant reminders of past defeats.

Like how they've not beaten New Zealand in a World Cup since 1999. And the savage criticism that comes its way after defeats like the one against the Netherlands.

"You just have to acknowledge it, accept it. After the loss to the Dutch, we took a lot of flak from back home and the media. You have to accept that friends and people at home are scarred by previous performances. The criticism comes from a place of hurt," Van der Dussen would say.

The team gets bombarded with clips of past losses, like a bad movie being replayed, but chooses to stay stoic over it. "We haven't lived some of those losses, so they aren't applicable to us. It's part of our history, but not a part of us," he explained the squad's coping mechanism.

Van der Dussen also reckoned that this is a tighter Proteas unit than previous teams, the bonding a result of having come through together in challenging times.

"There's definitely something different about this squad because of the situations we faced. Like Covid, Black Lives Matter and various political stories that forced us to build together as a team. We are tight off the field. Know each other intimately. And as a group playing together for a long time, there are always real connections formed between any two members of the team," he said. The tough times have formed thick bonds between Quinton de Kock and Kagiso Rabada, himself and Reeza Hendricks. "It has been hard to deal with a lot of controversies but it brought us together."

The Proteas batting mainstay accepted

that the chase against Pakistan in the previous game was less than ideal, the team scrapping home after a nervous 10th-wicket partnership between spinners Keshav Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi.

"We're not happy with how we batted collectively in the Pakistan game. The positive we take from it is how we didn't play our best, but still won. We are very clear on where we went wrong."

While the Saffers have gone close to or beyond 400 in a bunch of games, their chasing game is seen as a concern. "We have a 'blueprint' for batting in the first innings. And the challenge is to emulate it when batting second. We didn't manage it against the Netherlands and followed it only in stages against Pakistan. Once or twice we didn't get it right, but we've actually chased pretty well in the last 24 months," Van der Dussen stressed.

Winning inspiration

From the World Cup-winning Springboks and their one-point semifinal win over England, the Proteas had picked their take-away.

"It was pretty scrappy but they got over the line," he said. The team had stayed up till 2.30 am to watch the three one-point wins in the quarters, semis and finals.

One of the most refreshing aspects of both the Springboks and Proteas teams, of late, has been their fronting up to the reality of a fractured society and racial tensions in South Africa, and how sport was pushing back.

"Coming from a very divided background of 70-100 years where mindsets are very entrenched in communities, Springboks and sport have shown what can be achieved when you get things right and are willing to put differences aside. Springboks show good things happen to good people. They have a hunger for success and humility too."

The Proteas are friends with some from the Bokks squad.

"We tell ourselves we are no different (from the Springboks). Yes, we've not won a World Cup. But when we do, it'll be an honour to be spoken of in the same sentence."

Pakistan need helping hand from India, Afghanistan

Pakistan managed to live another day, courtesy a seven-wicket win over Bangladesh which kept their semifinals still alive. Bangladesh were knocked out of contention. Here is a look at how their semifinals prospects are placed.

Where are they now?

Their third win, which ended their four-game losing streak, helped them to jump past Afghanistan into the fifth spot. They have six points now, same as Afghanistan, who have a game in hand. They are set to play New Zealand and England, which are must-win games.

Is their fate in their own hands?

With just two more matches remaining and 10 being the maximum points they can get to, Pakistan need help from elsewhere to make it to the last-four.

First up, pray for India to win

Yes, come Thursday, the whole of Pakistan would be cheering for India who take on Sri Lanka. If India wins, it will eliminate Sri Lanka, which means one less competition to fend off.

Hope Afghanistan win just one

If Afghanistan win all of their three matches, then even two wins will not be enough for Pakistan to go through. So apart from winning both their remaining matches against New Zealand and England, they need Afghanistan to win only one of their three remaining matches against the Netherlands, Australia and South Africa, which will keep them to 8 points. If Afghanistan win two and have 10 points on board, then it could come down to net run-rate.

Will that suffice?

No. They need more help, especially from teams placed at No 2, 3 & 4 in the points table. South Africa (10) need one more win to make the semifinals, while New Zealand (8) and Australia (8) need two more to go through without any hassle. Among these teams, Pakistan are set to play New Zealand, who they must beat at all costs. And with South Africa and New Zealand playing each other, Pakistan would ideally want the former to win it and also hope the Kiwis lose to Sri Lanka. If NZ win one of the two against South Africa or Sri Lanka then they will end with 10 points and come down to NRR.

Can anyone else help them?

Of course, if South Africa don't win any of their remaining matches, they will also end up with 10 points, which Pakistan can match. Then even Australia, who are finding form, can also end up with 10 points. With matches against England, Afghanistan and Bangladesh coming up, the road is slightly easy for them. From Pakistan's point of view, they need Australia to beat Afghanistan and lose to England and Bangladesh, which will keep them at 10 points, bringing NRR into consideration.

VENKATA KRISHNA B

STANDINGS

	M	W	L	T	Pts	NRR
Ind	6	6	0	0	12	+1.405
SA	6	5	1	0	10	+2.032
NZ	6	4	2	0	8	+1.232
Aus	6	4	2	0	8	+0.970
Pak	7	3	4	0	6	-0.024
Afg	6	3	3	0	6	-0.718
SL	6	2	4	0	4	-0.275
Ned	6	2	4	0	4	-1.277
Ban	7	1	6	0	2	-1.446
Eng	6	1	5	0	2	-1.652

ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY

VINAYAKK MOHANARANGAN
RANCHI, OCTOBER 31

AT HALF-TIME, Japan's coach Jude Menezes — an Indian Olympian — called the group-stage match against the hosts an arm-wrestle duel. It was an entertaining encounter between teams with perfect records at the Asian Champions Trophy here. In the end, India just about managed to muscle their way past to make it four wins out of four.

Navneet Kaur (31) put India ahead and then Kana Urata (37) brought Japan back into the match with a ferocious drag flick. With both sides pushing hard, the winner eventually came from Sangita Kumari (47) after Deepika won and took a series of Penalty Corners to eventually bring the arm down in India's favour.

Somewhere in the third quarter, when there was a bit of a lull in the atmosphere, there was a loud yell of "Deepika" from India coach Janneke Schopman that echoed around

the venue. Until then, the 19-year-old forward was having a mixed day. There were some bright moments, but she got a yellow card in the third quarter during which Japan scored the equaliser. When she got back on the pitch, her pressing didn't please Schopman.

But at the start of the fourth quarter, she picked up the slack and it was a strong physical piece-play from her that earned India a Penalty Corner. Her series of drag flicks that followed were also on point and Sangita eventually got the touch for the match-winning goal.

After the game, coach Schopman spoke about Deepika. "She is a very talented young player but someone she needs to learn and work hard. Today Van (Vandana Kataria), playing her 300th match, continues to lead by example, she never slacks off. Deepika can learn a lot in that respect. She was a little bit lazy when I yelled, then got a little bit nervous while defending. But she is a really good drag flicker and I was really happy for her when we got the goal," she said.



Navneet Kaur (in pic) scored the opener, while Sangita Kumari was also on the scoresheet as India beat Japan 2-1 to maintain all-win record. Hockey India

Perhaps what would concern coach Janneke Schopman despite another impressive win is India's inability to make sustained spells of pressure count.

If Deepika is a young player who turned her night around, India's other goalscorer — and player of the match — Navneet showed a dimension to her game that Schopman would want to see more of. The India No 25 has emerged as arguably the best attacking outfield player in this Indian squad in the recent past, her dribbling and passing often standing out as world-class. One could even make a strong case for her being one of the best in the world for stick skills.

But she is not always a prolific goalscorer, and the 27-year-old found the moment to

show it is an area she could contribute as well. After a cagey start, India dominated the second quarter and came out for the second half on the front foot too. Salima Tete — once again deployed centrally — held the ball well at the edge of the circle and passed the ball through a group of defenders. In that split second, Navneet found herself in space and had no hesitation in taking a clear shot at goal.

"She needs to get into good positions," Schopman said. "In the last couple of games she has been the feeder for many of our players to score, she is a very good connecting player. She's so good that sometimes she keeps the ball too long, but she is actually growing a lot as a leader too. We discussed it specifically at half time that we need to keep a bit narrow, and Salima-Neha-Navneet have to connect with shorter passes into space. It's always fun when a little thing works out that way."

Perhaps what would concern Schopman despite another impressive win is India's inability to make sustained spells of pressure count.