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MUSIC IS
MY HOBBY:
BOMAN IRANI
11 VIVACITY

Biden takes insurmountable lead

Democrat candidate on cusp of US presidency with gain in Pennsylvania

PTI/AP ■ WASHINGTON

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden on Friday took crucial leads over Donald Trump in the key battleground States of Georgia and Pennsylvania, bringing him on the cusp of a historic victory over the incumbent Republican US President in the closely-fought election.

The focus on Pennsylvania, where Biden led Trump by more than 9,000 votes, and Georgia, where Biden led by more than 1,500, came as Americans entered a third full day after the election without knowing who will lead them for the next four years. The prolonged process added to the anxiety of a nation whose racial and cultural divides were inflamed during the heated campaign. The 77-year-old former Vice President was trailing Trump by more than 50,000 votes in Georgia till Wednesday.

Thousands of requested overseas and military ballots may arrive by the deadline Friday, and there are provisional ballots left to count. Georgia secretary of state Brad Raffensperger said on Friday that there will be a recount given the tight margin.

Biden continued to maintain his small lead in the other two battleground States of Arizona and Nevada. To be declared the winner of the US election, either of the two candidates needs at least 270 of the



Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden waves as he gets into his motorcade on Thursday AP

538 electoral college votes.

As per the latest projections, Biden has 253 electoral college votes and Trump trails behind with 213. But some US media outlets have given 264 votes to Biden and 214 to Trump.

Biden was at his home in Wilmington, Delaware, as the vote count continued and aides said he would address the nation in primetime. Trump remained in the White House residence as more results trickled in, expanding Biden's lead in must-win Pennsylvania. In the West Wing, televisions remained tuned to the news

amid trappings of normalcy, as reporters lined up for coronavirus tests and outdoor crews worked on the North Lawn on a mild, muggy fall day.

Trump's campaign, meanwhile, was quiet — a dramatic difference from the day before, when it held a morning conference call projecting confidence and held a flurry of hastily arranged press conferences announcing litigation in key States.

However, Trump showed no sign of giving up and was back on Twitter around 2:30 a.m. Friday, insisting the "US Supreme Court should

decide!"

In the US election, voters decide State-level contests rather than a single, national one. Each US State gets a certain number of Electoral College votes partly based on the size of the population, with a total of 538 up for grabs.

President Trump at a White House news conference accused the Democrats of massive ballot fraud and alleged that the election was being stolen. He did not offer any evidence to back his claim.

His campaign has filed multiple lawsuits in the States of Pennsylvania, Michigan,

Georgia, and Nevada and has demanded a recount of votes in Wisconsin.

The Biden campaign has denied the allegations.

Several American news channels on Thursday evening cut off the live telecast of Trump's White House news conference as they believed that his allegations of voter fraud were without any evidence. "In America, the vote is sacred. It's how the people of this nation express their will. And it is the will of the voters, no one and not anything else that chooses the President of the United States. So, each ballot must be counted and that's what is going on now. And that's how it should be," Biden said in his address to the media in Delaware on Thursday.

"Democracy is sometimes messy, so sometimes it requires a little patience. But that patience has been rewarded now for more than 240 years with a system of governance that has been the envy of the world. We continue to feel very good about where things stand," he said.

Meanwhile, a senior aide of Donald Trump on Friday said the incumbent President does not have plans to immediately concede the election to Biden.

Reacting to the leads established by Biden, the aide told Fox News that the President's counsellors have been giving him advice in both directions, with some telling Trump that a concession is the correct

thing to do, and others pushing him to continue to fight to ensure the vote was correct and legitimate.

The aide, who was not identified, told Trump's favourite news channel that the President is "simply skeptical."

The aide said, though, that the President "may ultimately concede." "He's just not there yet," the aide added.

Reacting to the Trump aide's remarks that President Trump has no plans to concede the race, Biden spokesperson said, "As we said on July 19th, the American people will decide this election."

"The United States government is perfectly capable of escorting trespassers out of the White House," campaign spokesperson Andrew Bates said in a statement.

Biden currently has a lead of 4.1 million votes in the count nationwide, reflecting a 1.3 per cent swing toward his party from 2016 in the votes counted so far.

But more than 6 million ballots may remain to be counted, many of them in California and New York, which is likely to increase Biden's margin, *The Washington Post* reported.

The shift toward the Democrat in the presidential race was small but consistent across the country. Only eight states and the District of Columbia voted less Democratic than they did four years ago, based on current counts.

Bihar's final phase polls in MY belt

Fate of 1,204 candidates to be sealed today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bihar is going to polls for 3rd and final phase on Saturday for 78 seats spread over 16 districts, many of them considered the stronghold of the RJD-led grand alliance.

The NDA will have to do better than expected to make up for the losses it is feared to have suffered in the first round.

About 2.34 crore voters, spread across 78 Assembly segments of the 243-strong Assembly, will decide the fates of 1,204 candidates, including the Speaker and 12 members of the State Cabinet.

Out of these 78 seats, in the 2015 Assembly elections, the Janata Dal(U) won 24 seats, the RJD 20, the Congress 10, and the BJP 19 seats.

The 16 districts which are going to the polls fall under Seemanchal, Mithilanchal and Koshi regions. All of them have a heavy presence of Yadav and Muslim voters, who form the base of the grand alliance.

Mithilanchal has a good number of Brahmin voters. For the first time in 15 years, the Brahmin votes are understood to have not gone lock, stock, and barrel with the NDA.

The 78 seats also have a



good number of extremely backward caste voters who form the biggest chunk of support for the JD(U). Nitish Kumar has cultivated this section of voters assiduously over the years.

The BJP has gone all out to polarise the voters in this phase in a repeat of the 2015 attempt when the party gave full-page advertisement exhibiting the plight of the "cow mata."

Leading from the front, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his campaign speech said on Tuesday at Forbisganj and Saharsa that "these people don't like to hear Jai Shri Ram. The opponents of Bharat Mata have got united and are seeking votes."

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No breakthrough in 8th round of LAC talks, parleys to continue

India reiterates disengagement has to take place across entire eastern Ladakh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There has not been any breakthrough in the eighth round of talks between India and China though both countries on Friday reaffirmed their resolve to sustain the momentum of dialogue to end the tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) leading to speedy disengagement and de-escalation.

This commitment to persist with the engagement came during the eighth round of Corps Commander-level talks between the two sides at Chushul in Ladakh. The talks began at 9:30 am.

"As expected, there was no immediate breakthrough during the parleys to break the continuing logjam in Ladakh," said an official.

The Indian delegation was led by Lt General PGK Menon while Major General Liu Lin represented the Chinese team. Menon was heading the talks for the first time after taking over as the Leh-based 14 Corps chief in mid-October from Lt General Harinder Singh. He led the previous seven rounds of talks since the face-offs began in early May. Singh is now the Commandant of the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun.

During the current round of talks, India reiterated its stand that disengagement has to take place across the entire eastern Ladakh. It also maintained that there should be no effort to unilaterally change the LAC, sources said.

After the developments on the South Bank of Pangong Tso in August when the Indian Army occupied several dominating features which were lying vacant, China has been pressing for discussing South Bank first and other friction areas later.

As successive rounds of parleys at the military and diplomatic level have failed so

far, India is prepared for a long haul. The Army has shored up its supplies including winter clothing and insulated huts to enable the soldiers to withstand the harsh cold when the temperatures dip below minus 20 degrees. China has also ramped up its military strength for the winter months.

Incidentally, the two sides in a joint statement after the sixth round of talks on September 21 agreed to "stop sending more troops to the frontline" and "refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground." The seventh round took place on October 13. Then, the two sides agreed to sustain the momentum of dialogue and maintain peace and tranquility at the LAC.

Last week, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said the ties between India and China have come under "severe stress" and that the agreements inked by both sides on management of the border must be respected "scrupulously" in their "entirety" to restore normalcy in relations.

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Ensure no smog in Delhi: SC to Centre

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to ensure there is no smog in Delhi as it was informed that the commission on air quality management has started functioning from today.

The pollution problem has to be dealt with by the executive as it has the power, money and resources for this, a bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde observed and posted the pleas related to air pollution in Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) for hearing on December 8.

The Centre on Thursday appointed former Chief Secretary of Delhi MM Kutty as the chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management (AQM) in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta informed the bench, also comprising Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, that the Commission will start functioning from Friday and the government has appointed its members.

"The only thing is that you ensure that there is no



smog in the city. We are not concerned with commission. There are many commissions and many brains are working but just ensure that there is no smog in the city," the bench said.

"We are a court of law. This is a problem which has to be dealt with by the executive. They have the money, the power and the resources for

this. We are not abdicating our responsibility or functions but understand this, we have some limitations," the bench observed after one of the counsel referred to the situation of pollution in Delhi.

Mehta told the bench that the Government is taking all efforts on war footing to deal with the situation.

Senior advocate Vikas

Singh, appearing for petitioner Aditya Dubey who has raised the issue of pollution caused due to stubble burning in neighbouring states of Delhi, said the chairman of the commission is a bureaucrat and it could have been a retired judge of the HC.

"There is no member from the Union health ministry,"

Singh said, adding that pollution is linked to health issues.

The bench said the commission can talk to anybody in the country. Singh contended that there is no classification of offence in the recent ordinance on air pollution and Rs 1 crore fine and five year jail term is a little bit arbitrary.

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Capital's air remains 'severe'

New Delhi: The national Capital's air quality remained "severe" for the second consecutive day on Friday, while Government agencies said it is likely to improve slightly on Saturday.

Experts said while meteorological conditions were "moderately" favourable for dispersion of pollutants, a "very high" number of farm fires in Punjab was the primary reason for the "severe" air quality on Friday.

According to the India Meteorological Department, the maximum wind speed was 10 kilometres per hour on Friday and the minimum temperature 11.2 degrees Celsius. Calm winds and low temperatures trap pollutants close to

the ground, while favourable wind speed helps in their dispersion.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences' air quality monitor, SAFAR, said the share of stubble burning in Delhi's PM2.5 pollution was estimated at 21 per cent on Friday. It was 42 per cent on Thursday, the maximum this season so far.

The city's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) stood at 406. On Thursday, the AQI was 450, the highest since November 15 last year, when it was 458.

The neighbouring cities of Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Noida, Greater Noida and Gurugram also recorded "very poor" to "severe" air quality.

Continued on Page 2

India assures world of help on vaccine

To assist countries enhance cold chain

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to play a key role in fighting coronavirus pandemic, India on Friday assured the world it will use its vaccine production capacity and is prepared to help countries enhance their cold chain and storage capacities for delivery of vaccines.

Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla made this commitment while briefing the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organisations on India's Covid-19 response and vaccine development programme, including international cooperation in this field. "Several countries have been approaching us for receiving vaccine supply. I reiterate our Prime Minister's commitment that India's vaccine production and delivery capacity will be used to help all humanity in fighting this crisis," said Shringla.

He also said India will also help interested countries in enhancing their cold chain and storage capacities for the delivery of vaccines.

As a first step, Shringla said, the Government will take a delegation of ambassadors on a tour of vaccine and diagnostic facilities in Pune to give them a "flavour of India's robust and resilient progress in vaccine development and in the trial process."

On the ongoing endeavour to develop the vaccine, he said India is "on track" in the development and trial of vaccines.

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High PM 2.5 turns Covid more fatal

Air pollution may increase episodes of coughing, thus spreading Covid, adds US study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

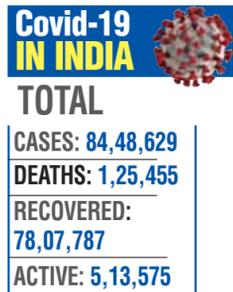
While parts of north India battles alarmingly high levels of air pollution, a new analysis of more than 3,000 counties in the US has suggested that people with long-term exposure to PM 2.5 may be more likely to die from Covid-19. The study underlines the fact that higher air pollution may increase episodes of coughing and sneezing spreading Covid-19 faster.

A team of the US researchers, including Xiao Wu from Harvard University, after

assessing the impact of long-term exposure to air pollution on Covid-19 death rates in 3,089 counties in the US, found that chronic exposure to PM2.5 pollutants — tiny particles in the air that are two-and-a-half microns or less in width — is linked to greater county-level Covid-19 mortality rates.

The Harvard researchers noted that chronic exposure to PM 2.5 might cause overproduction of ACE-2 receptor proteins in the lungs, which the novel coronavirus uses to enter host cells. They believe prolonged exposure to air pollution might also impair people's immune system, compromising their abilities to fight off the novel coronavirus infection.

"Chronic exposure to PM2.5 causes alveolar ACE-2 receptor over expression and impairs host defences. This could cause a more severe form of Covid-19 in ACE-2



depleted lungs, increasing the likelihood of poor outcomes, including death," the Harvard scientists wrote in the study.

STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	17,10,314	44,965	15,62,342
Karnataka	8,41,889	11,347	7,97,204
Andhra Pradesh	8,38,363	6,768	8,09,770
Tamil Nadu	7,39,147	11,299	7,08,846
Uttar Pradesh	4,93,527	7,155	4,63,240
Kerala	4,73,469	1,641	3,88,504
Delhi	4,16,653	6,769	3,71,155
West Bengal	3,97,466	7,177	3,54,732
Odisha	2,98,768	1,446	2,85,174
Telangana	2,47,284	1,366	2,26,646
Bihar	2,20,992	1,129	2,12,911
Assam	2,08,054	934	1,99,455
Rajasthan	2,07,597	1,966	1,89,354
Chhattisgarh	1,96,233	2,360	1,70,760
Haryana	1,78,413	1,880	1,61,176
Gujarat	1,77,598	3,751	1,62,946

But they acknowledged that this is only a hypothesis. The researchers said they were unable to account for individual-level risk factors such as age, race, and smoking status as such data was unavailable.

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CAPSULE

MILITANCY IS DECEPTION: EX-PULWAMA ULTRA

Srinagar: A local militant who surrendered during an encounter in Pulwama district of Jammu & Kashmir on Friday expressed gratitude to police and security forces for giving him another chance to live life and appealed to all ultras to shun the path of militancy, saying it is a "deception".

WITNESS PROTECTION AGAINST MPS/MLAS: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has directed the trial courts to consider granting protection to witnesses in cases against sitting and former lawmakers under Witness Protection Scheme without their making any specific application in this regard.



2 ultras, civilian killed in Kashmir encounter

Srinagar: Two terrorists and one civilian were killed in an encounter at Pampore in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, officials said on Friday. One terrorist surrendered before the security forces. The encounter started on Thursday night in the Lalpora area after security forces laid a cordon-and-search operation on a specific input about the presence of terrorists in that area. "One more terrorist killed (total 2) during Pampore encounter. Incriminating material, including arms and ammunition seized. Search

going on," police said. The security forces earlier in the day said that one terrorist had been killed in an encounter. Earlier on Friday, a civilian injured in the militant attack just before the encounter started on Thursday night succumbed in a hospital. Police said Abid Mir, 22, was injured when militants fired at the search party. He was immediately rushed to the hospital, but succumbed to injuries. The forces had made repeated announcements to ask the holed up militants to surrender. **IANS**

Terrorism is 'deception', says ultra who surrendered during Pulwama encounter

Srinagar: A local militant who surrendered during an encounter in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday expressed gratitude to police and security forces for giving him another chance to live life and appealed to all ultras to shun the path of militancy, saying it is a "deception". Khawar Sultan Mir, a resident of the Drangbal area of Pampore in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, laid down his arms before the security forces during the encounter at Lalpora in Pampore, in which two militants were killed. A civilian also lost his life while another was injured during the exchange of fire. Mir, who had joined the militancy on September 1 this year, surrendered after numerous appeals by the security forces. In a video of the surrender, put on Twitter by police, Mir is seen coming out of a building holding his arms in the air. In another video, he expresses gratitude to police and security forces for offering him to surrender during the gunbattle. "I am thankful to J&K Police and forces, Army, who gave me another chance to live my life. They told me to come out, took me out alive and treated me well. They did not torture me and treated me like their brother. Whatever (arms) I had, I left it there only (at the encounter site)," Mir says in an over-a-minute video clip uploaded by the Kashmir Police on its Twitter handle. He appealed to militants to give up arms, saying the path

of militancy was a "deceit" and a "deception". "I appeal all my brothers that this (militancy) is a deceit, this bloodshed is a lie, a deception...there is nothing in it," he said. Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar described the surrender of the local militant as a success for the security forces. "#Surrender over #Death! #Success of Police & SFs is that they are getting #misguided youth back. This year has been #successful as they are returning, know well that they are being honorably welcomed (sic)," the IGP Kashmir said in a tweet on the Kashmir Zone Police's Twitter handle. In the last few months, several local militants have surrendered before the security forces during live encounters. **Agencies**

Three killed, 21 injured in Bihar road accident

Patna: Three persons were killed and 21 others seriously injured when a vehicle they were returning in after attending a Congress rally overturned in Purnia district, police said on Friday. The group was returning from a public rally of Congress candidate Abdul Jalil Mastan in Amour when the driver lost control over the vehicle around 7.30 pm on Thursday and it overturned. Mohammed Dilshad and Mohammed Abul died on the spot while Mohammed Dilarfaraz succumbed to his injuries in hospital. The 21 persons who sustained critical injuries were battling for their lives in hospital. **IANS**

Hathras victim's family not happy with CBI investigation

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ HATHRAS
The family has objections over the line of investigations taken by the CBI. Victim's family feels that the way the investigation agency is questioning the family indicates that their focus is on honour killing. According to the victim's brother, the CBI officials are questioning the relatives about the victim's character. Also the victim's relatives told that the officials are allegedly putting words into their mouth and are allegedly trying to pin the blame on them. This is the reason why the victim's family is unhappy with the way CBI is doing the investigation.

Rahul's envelope not yet opened even after a month

Hathras: An envelope of former Congress president Rahul Gandhi and general secretary Priyanka Vadra has not yet been opened by the victims of the Bulghadi case. The cheque was said to be worth Rs 10 lakh. The excuse of not opening the envelope even after a month is not digestible. The family members of the victims make an excuse for not getting the time to visit the bank. A girl was attacked on 14 September in Bulghadi, who died on 29 October. On this, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Vadra came to Hathras on October 3 during a ruckus across the country and reached Bulghadi and met the deceased's family members in a closed room for about an hour. **PNS**

K'taka will ban firecrackers during Diwali, says CM

IANS ■ BENGALURU
Karnataka has decided to ban the sales and bursting of firecrackers during Diwali this year in view of the coronavirus pandemic, Chief Minister BS Yeddyurappa said on Friday. "The formal ban order will soon be issued," he said while speaking to reporters on the sidelines of signing of Karnataka's pact with a consortium led by Tata Technologies here. Yeddyurappa said that the state government had discussed the firecracker ban with health experts and thereafter arrived at the decision. Odisha, West Bengal and Rajasthan have already banned the sale and bursting of firecrackers during Diwali. Haryana has cracked

down on the sale of imported firecrackers. State Health and Family Welfare Minister K Sudhakar on Wednesday said that the state was seriously considering the statewide ban on the sale and bursting of firecrackers during the 17-day Diwali festival. The final decision on ban would however be taken only after consultations with Chief Minister BS Yeddyurappa, he had added. Maharashtra too has asked people to avoid bursting of firecrackers this Diwali, though it has not banned them. "Instead, people can light lamps on a big scale and celebrate the festival," the Maharashtra Home Department said on Thursday.

Sharjil Imam's bail hearing on Nov 12 in Sessions Court

Aligarh: The bail process in Aligarh has started in the seditious case filed against the detained JNU student leader Sharjil Imam in Delhi Tihar Jail. After the dismissal of bail from the lower court, a bail application has been filed in the Sessions Court, the hearing for which will be on November 12. During the anti-CAA-NRC protest, a video of Sharjil Imam, who came to address the students at AMU, went viral in which he was stated about the division of the country. He also made similar statements in Delhi and Assam. Separate seditious cases have been filed in Civil Lines, Delhi and Assam. **PNS**

Kerala sees 7,002 new Covid cases

IANS ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Kerala on Friday reported 7,002 new Covid-19 cases after 63,384 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, health officials said. The pattern of new Covid cases continue to remain showing signs of a sort of containment with the test positivity rate hovering around 11 per cent, down from 15 in the past month. In a statement issued here by State Health Minister K.K. Shailaja it said 7,854 turned negative taking the total cured to 3,88,504, while there were 83,208 active cases. 27 Covid deaths was reported taking the toll to 1,640. Across the state 3,07,828 people were under observation which includes 21,148 at hospitals. The state has 636 hotspot areas.

India assures...

From Page 1
"We are exploring the possibility of conducting phase-III trials in a few of our partner countries. We are also looking forward to research collaboration in the field of vaccine development," Shringla said. As regards collaboration, he said India may also opt for joint production of vaccines in some countries. "We have already conducted online training sessions for nearly 90 participants from eight neighbouring countries to develop capacity in clinical trials and clinical practices. Based on demand, we can conduct more such training courses," the Foreign Secretary said. Observing that Covid continued to be a challenge worldwide, with increasing cases every day, Shringla said he returned on Thursday from Europe where a second wave of the pandemic is in evidence. In India, daily case load has reduced to below 50,000 from around a 1,00,000 a few weeks ago, he said. During the past few months, India added production capacity for personal protective equipment, test kits and medicines that is being shared with others, he said. Among other to brief the international community included VK Paul, member (Health) of the Niti Aayog and chairman of the national expert group on vaccine administration of Covid-19, principal scientific adviser K Vijay Raghavan, Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan, department of biotechnology secretary Renu Swarup, department of science and technology secretary Ashutosh Sharma, CSIR director general Shekhar Mande and Abhishek Singh, CEO of the e-governance division of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Bihar's final...

From Page 1
The BJP top leaders, including Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, have been talking about Ram temple construction, Article 370 abolition, triple talaq, CAA in an obvious attempt to polarise the voters. This has not gone down too well with Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Kumar, who slammed Yogi for threatening to throw out the so-called "infiltrators" if the NDA formed a Government in Bihar. Besides, polling will also take place for Valmiki Nagar Lok Sabha seat where a by-election has been necessitated by the death of sitting JD(U) MP Baidyanath Mahato. The JD(U)'s bid to retain the Parliamentary seat by fielding his son Sunil Kumar is facing the primary challenge from Congress candidate Praveesh Kumar Mishra, a journalist-turned-politician. Many of the seats falling in the Kosi-Seemanchal region will be contested between NDA and Grand alliance will be held under the shadow of Owaisi factor given the fact that the AIMIM has fielded candidates in many of the Muslim-dominated seats here and the Hyderabad MP also carried out a hectic campaign. The Kosi-Seemanchal region also happens to be the main area of influence for maverick former MP Pappu Yadav, whose Jan Adhikar Party is determined to make its presence felt and prove a point to the RJD as both draw their support from the State's most populous community the Yadavs. As in the previous two phases, Chirag Paswan's LJP is

also in the fray in a number of seats this time, threatening to play spoilsport for the NDA, especially the JD(U) with its repeated pleas that "every vote cast in favour of the Chief Minister's party will be a loss for Bihar's future". While the NDA looked surefooted till a few months ago, poll pundits have begun to predict "winds of change" and the ruling coalition seems to have taken note as emotional appeals to the voters have emanated from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Kumar. Modi, who attended 12 rallies during the campaign, came out with an open letter addressed to the people of the State on Thursday saying he "needed" Kumar in the State so that the development of Bihar continues unhindered. Kumar, on his part, stunned all by winding up his last election meeting in Purnea district with the remark "this is my last election. And all is well that ends well".

Ensure no smog...

From Page 1
The bench asked whether all offences in the ordinance are non-cognizable. Singh said these are cognizable. The top court told Mehta that there is no grading of offence to which he said he would like to respond to it. "We don't want to advise. These are all knowledgeable people and there are NGO people also," the bench said. Mehta pointed that there are experts from the field besides members from NGOs in the newly created commission and they will all start working from Friday. Singh added that the situation today is almost of a public health emergency and something drastic needs to be done. He said by the time court will reopen after vacation, the current situation may all be over. The bench said that it will keep the matter on reopening after the Diwali vacation. On October 29, the top court was informed by the Centre that it has come out with an ordinance on curbing pollution and it has been promulgated already. The top court had said that it would have to look at the Ordinance before passing any direction in the matter which has raised issues regarding pollution caused due to stubble burning in neighbouring states of Delhi.

The apex court had on October 26 kept in abeyance its earlier order appointing one-man panel of retired apex court judge Justice Madan B Lokur to monitor the steps taken by neighbouring states to prevent stubble burning which is a major cause of pollution in the Delhi-national capital region (NCR). "We would like you to stop using your beautiful cars. Which you won't. We should all go about on bikes -- not motorbikes but bicycles," the CJI had observed. Earlier, the apex court had kept in abeyance its October 16 order appointing one-man panel of Justice (retd) Lokur while considering the Centre's stand that it is coming out with a comprehensive legislation to deal with air pollution, including the aspect of stubble burning. Mehta had told the bench that the Centre has taken a "holistic view" of the matter and the draft of the proposed law on curbing pollution would be submitted in the apex court within four days. In its October 16 order, the top court had directed deployment of National Cadet Corps, National Service Scheme and Bharat Scouts and Guides for assisting in the monitoring of stubble burning in the agricultural fields of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi-NCR, saying all it wants is that "people of Delhi-NCR can breathe fresh air without any pollution".

Assam Police probing 'pro-Pakistan' sloganeering, AIUDF denies charge

IANS ■ GUWAHATI/SILCHAR
With Assam Finance and Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma asserting on Friday that pro-Pakistan sloganeering by some persons at southern Assam's Silchar airport would be probed, police officials in Guwahati and Silchar confirmed that they were investigating the matter. The All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF), which found itself at the centre of the controversy, denied the charge that its supporters shouted such slogans and dubbed it a "cheap tactics of the BJP". Talking to the media, the Minister said that the same set of people earlier also had indulged in similar acts in Assam and had resumed their campaign on religious lines in view of the Assembly elections next year. "I have asked the police to take actions against all those who raised slogans in favour of Pakistan. Law will take its own course," Sarma said in Guwahati. The Minister had tagged with his tweet a video clip that went viral on Friday wherein some persons were allegedly heard raising "Pakistan zindabad" slogan at the Silchar Airport while welcoming All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) President

and Lok Sabha member Badruddin Ajmal who represents Dhubri constituency in Assam. "Look at the brazenness of these fundamentalists anti-national people who are shouting PAKISTAN ZINDABAD while they welcome MP Badruddin Ajmal. This thoroughly exposes @INCIndia which is encouraging such forces by forging an alliance. We shall fight them tooth and nail. Jai Hind," read the post. Ajmal is in Silchar on a four-day visit to do ground work for the Assembly elections expected to be held in April-May 2021. Meanwhile, AIUDF General Secretary Aminul Islam on Friday maintained that party workers had only raised slogans to welcome party chief Badruddin Ajmal and MLA Aziz Khan from South Karimganj seat. "A huge number of people went to the Silchar airport. There may have been persons from the BJP or other groups among the gathering who shouted anti-national slogans. This may be a political conspiracy hatched by the BJP leaders. This issue must be probed," Islam told the media. He said: "When the Congress, AIUDF and other parties are forging a grand alliance before the Assembly elections, certain quarters are trying to thwart the process."

MUMBAI METRO-3 CAR SHED LOCATION ROW

It was BJP-led Govt that planned to shift project to Kanjurmarg: Cong

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI
Amid a vehement opposition by the NDA Government to the Uddhav Thackeray dispensation's decision to relocate the proposed Mumbai Metro-III at Kanjurmarg, the ruling Congress on Friday put the onus of shifting the car shed project from Aarey colony in north Mumbai to Kanjurmarg in north-east Mumbai on the previous BJP-led saffron alliance Government. Less than a fortnight after the Centre joined issue with the Shiv Sena-led MVA government's decision to relocate the car shed project and Kanjurmarg and claimed that the land belonged to it, the Maharashtra Congress made a counter claim that it was the previous BJP-led government that planned to shift the project to Kanjurmarg and the land belonged to the Maharashtra government and that there was no dispute over the land as was being made out by the Opposition BJP now.

"The BJP and the previous Fadnavis government misguided Mumbaiers regarding the issue of the Metro carshed at Aarey. The manner in which the previous Fadnavis government deliberately lied to Mumbaiers is shocking and condemnable," Maharashtra Congress secretary and spokesperson Sachin Sawant said. A major controversy had broken out early this week over a letter written by the Centre's Department of Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) to the state government opposing the location of the car shed project at Kanjurmarg would be "against the interest of the Government of India". The DPIIT had also claimed ownership of the 102-acre land there. It may be recalled that on October 11, Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray had announced that the proposed car shed for the Metro phase-III project would now be located at Kanjurmarg in north-east Mumbai to save forests at Aarey Colony at Goregaon in

north Mumbai, where the was project was initially located. The decision to locate the Mumbai Metro-III car shed was incidentally Uddhav's first major policy initiative taken after assuming the highest office in the state on November 29 last year. He had stayed the work on the construction of a car shed for Metro phase-III at Aarey Colony in the wake of Shiv Sena-supported protests. Lodging a protest with the state government against the move to relocate the car shed project at Kanjurmarg, DPIIT Secretary Guruprasad Mohapatra had said in his letter dated October 15: "The improper and unilateral action of the Mumbai Suburban District Collector and Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority has caused severe loss" to the DPIIT and the Government of India. "I would request you to take necessary steps and to direct the collector to withdraw the orders passed in this regard in order to protect the interests of the Government of

India," Mohapatra had stated in his letter to the state government. However, the Maharashtra government is in no mood to back off from its decision to locate the car shed project at Kanjurmarg. So much so that the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) leaders have slammed the Centre for its efforts to sabotage the Metro-III car shed project and said that notwithstanding the reservations expressed by the Centre about locating the project at Kanjurmarg, they would go ahead with the project. Justifying the MVA government's decision to shift the Mumbai Metro-III car shed to Kanjurmarg, Sawant said the land always belonged to the state government. "The MVA government decided to shift the Metro Car shed to Kanjurmarg two years after the salt department tried to stake claim on the land. However, the salt department could not provide any proof showing that the land does not belong to the state government and belongs to them," Sawant said. "The orders in this regard were given by the District Collector in 2014, Divisional Commissioner in 2015 and even the former Revenue Minister Chandrakant Patil of the BJP in 2018. Also, in the plan submitted by the administration in 2015, it was clearly written that there is no dispute over this 102 acre land," Sawant said. Claiming that it was the Devendra Fadnavis government that wanted the car shed of Metro 3 to be located at Kanjurmarg, Sawant said that the formal decision taken by the current MVA government today was the plan of the Fadnavis government itself. Sawant said that so much so that senior bureaucrat Ashwini Bhide had written a letter dated September 22, 2015 to the Mumbai Suburban District Collector seeking land in Kanjurmarg for Metro Car depot and other works.

High PM 2.5 turns Covid...

From Page 1
"This approach leaves us unable to make conclusions regarding individual-level associations," the scientists said. The Harvard scientists believe further research on how pollution and other factors may exacerbate Covid-19 symptoms and increase mortality risk is essential to guide policies and behaviour related to the pandemic. The findings should come as a warning to the authorities here. For, Delhi's air quality on Thursday dropped to its worst level since December 2019 with farm fires accounting for 42 per cent of its pollution, the maximum this season so far, according to data from central government agencies. During the same time, it also saw 6,715 reported Covid-19 cases, taking the infection tally to over 4.16 lakh. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) had warned last week that Delhi may report nearly 15,000 Covid-19 cases daily in winter because of the prevalence of respiratory illnesses during this season that worsen the symptoms of the disease.

SC stays Allahabad HC order disqualifying Azam Khan son's election from Suar

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed the direction of the Allahabad High Court asking the Election Commission to hold the bypoll in Suar assembly constituency in Uttar Pradesh which fell vacant after the annulment of Abdullah Azam Khan's election. The high court had annulled the election of the son of Samajwadi Party MP Mohammad Azam Khan on the grounds of being under age. Later, the high court also asked the ECI to start the process forthwith for holding by-election in the constituency. A bench comprising Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian said the high court's order "directing the ECI to start the process of holding by-election for Suar assembly constituency is stayed". The apex court is seized of two appeals filed by Abdullah Azam Khan against the high court order in the case. The SP leader has challenged the setting aside of his election as an MLA and the direction to the poll panel for a fresh bypoll for the seat. **PTI**

Capital's...

From Page 1
An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe". PM10 levels in Delhi-NCR stood at 435 microgram per cubic meter (µg/m3) at 6 pm, according to CPCB data. PM10 levels below 100 µg/m3 are considered safe in India. PM10 is particulate matter

with a diameter of 10 micrometers and is inhalable into the lungs. These particles include dust, pollen and mold spores. The levels of PM2.5 - finer particles which can even enter the bloodstream - were 242 µg/m3 at 6 pm. PM2.5 levels up to 60 µg/m3 are considered safe. VK Soni, the head of IMD's environment monitoring research centre, said, "The air quality was in the 'very poor' category on Friday morning. It entered the 'severe' zone again by evening, with a very large number of farm fires over Punjab being the primary reason". He said the boundary layer wind direction was north-northwesterly, favourable for the transport of pollutants from farm fires to Delhi-NCR. The Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi said the farm fire count in Punjab (around 5,100) remained "very high" on Thursday and it is likely to impact the air quality of Delhi-NCR and other parts of northwest India.

Audit of 5 DU colleges reveals Govt funds' misuse: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Friday slammed the Delhi University colleges funded by the Delhi Government as a special audit has revealed serious financial irregularities and violations of UGC norms.

According to Delhi Government officials, salaries of the teachers and staff has not been released, despite these colleges showing a surplus of crores of Sisodia who also hold Education portfolio said that all legal proceedings are being considered on the basis of the audit report. "After receiving complaints of mismanagement of funds, we sanctioned a special audit to examine the fund expenditure of five colleges funded by the Delhi government. Despite their resistance to the audit, it is clear that these colleges have been grossly mismanaging funds, as shown by the report of the audit,"

He further said the special audit, when initiated, was obstructed by the colleges by matters of resisting to show their accounts books to the audit officers. The books were only shown when the High Court intervened, and directed the colleges.

"Two major issues have emerged in the Special Audit: unauthorised payments by the college, and surplus funds being stashed by the colleges," said Sisodia while explaining the extent of mismanagement.

The colleges that were audited on the order of the

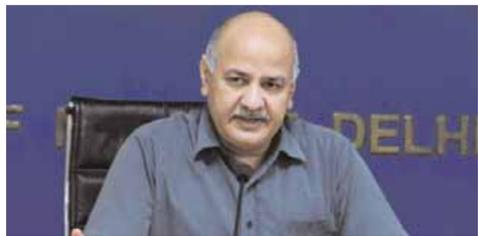
court are Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, Keshav Mahavidyalaya, Shaheed Sukhdev College, Bhagini Nivedita College, and Maharishi Valmiki college. Two colleges, Aditi Mahavidyalaya and Lakshmi Bai College, refused to allow the audit to be carried despite the order.

While reading out the audit report, Sisodia shared the following irregularities. "Despite increasing the funds of these colleges, they kept showing a deficit. After corroboration with the audit report, it is clear these colleges have been in violation of UGC norms, and have been misappropriating the funds."

Multiple irregularities have been brought out by the Special Audit. This includes payment of teaching, and non-teaching staff against the posts that did not have sanction of the Directorate of Higher Education, hiring of security guards/housekeeping staff in violation of GFR, purchase of computers and other hardware without following financial normal, and hiring of cars without following financial norms. Moreover, the record of the attendance of such people was not shown.

The money spent by colleges was unauthorised, without seeking any approval from the Delhi Government as the colleges continued to make illegal payments.

Total unauthorised payments made out by these colleges from 2017 to 2020 - Deen Dayal Upadhyaya



College (49.88 crores), Keshav Mahavidyalaya (29.84 crores), Shaheed Sukhdev College (16.52 crores), Bhagini Nivedita College (17.23 crores), and Maharishi Valmiki college (10.64 crores).

Sisodia also questioned the colleges on violating the pay scale approved by the Ministry of Human Resource Department, UGC, or Delhi Government. According to this, Grantee Institute should not pay its employees higher than those applicable to similar categories of employees in the government. "Paying salaries of Rs 40,000 to security guards is a clear violation of this as standard pay is between 15k-20k," said Sisodia. These inflated salaries imply this was done to hide their own misappropriation.

Similarly, despite receiving the funds from the Delhi government, the colleges continued to stash their surplus funds, Sisodia said at the conference. "The Pattern of Assistance" by which the Delhi Govt makes payment to all the Higher Education Institutions funded by it - including Ambedkar University, DTU, IP University,

and 12 Delhi University colleges - is based on the principle of deficit funding." The gov't, pays these higher education institutions the net deficit between their total expenditure, and their total income.

"Any source of earning, and the total income received by the college from fees has to be declared to Delhi Government. However, these colleges violated this pattern of assistance as large, undeclared incomes in their accounts have been found by the auditors, which were never declared to the Delhi Government," said Sisodia. "This constitutes 'fraud' as these colleges kept taking funding from the government on false premises," he added.

"Despite having these surplus funds, the colleges have failed to pay the salaries of the teachers, and staff, and continued to falsely blame the Delhi government," Sisodia said.

As per the Delhi government's audit, these colleges have these surplus funds available to them as on 31 March 2020 - Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College has 22.44 crores,

DEPUTY CM WRITES TO 3 MAYORS

Non-payment of salaries to teachers in MCD schools disappoints Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has written to all three Mayors of the Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled Municipal Corporations and expressed disappointment over non-payment of salaries to teachers in schools run by the corporations even after the Delhi Government cleared their due share of taxes.

The corporations in the process have caused unprecedented pain to the families of thousands of teachers and lowered the prestige of the national capital in the entire nation at a time when the entire country has united in the fight against Corona, he said in the letter.

"It is clear from your actions that rather than finding a viable resolution of the matter using all administrative

options available to the MCDs, you are only interested in peddling lies and indulging in shameful politics over this issue," he said.

"Over the past many years, not only has the Delhi Government paid MCDs their due share of taxes, but it has paid a large sum over and above as loan. As on 1st April 2020, a total of Rs. 6,008 Cr loan is outstanding over the three MCDs, as per records of the urban development department. This includes Rs. 1977 Cr outstanding from EDMC, Rs. 3243 Cr from NDMC and Rs. 788 Cr from SDMC," he said.

Sisodia further said that even the recent CAG report on State Finances of NCT of Delhi has noted a large amount of unpaid loans to the extent of Rs. 3814.89 Cr are due from the three MCDs to the Delhi Government as on 31st March 2018.

Responding to it, mayor of North Delhi Jai Prakash said that the Delhi Government constituted Delhi Finance commission and accepted its recommendations.

"Now they owe Rs 13500 crore to Corporations. Out of which 6550 crore is of North Delhi municipal corporation as per 3rd, 4th and 5th DFC recommendations. Sisodia must explain when they are releasing our due amount of 13500 crore. He must also explain that they had ever given loans to local bodies since their party came into power. Moreover, while trifurcation we were promised a bailout package by the then Chief Minister of Delhi. Not only this we have to take a lot of funds like road cut repair, charges, property tax etc from the Delhi Government," he said.

unauthorised payments, and have surplus funds, yet continue to allege Delhi Government and ask us for more funds," he said.

Sisodia added that DTU, Ambedkar University, IPU, NSTU are also assisted under the Government's grant rules. "No

Kejriwal lays foundation stone for redevelopment of Rohtak Road

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday laid the foundation stone for the redevelopment of Rohtak Road. The CM said that in many previous projects, the Delhi Government has completed the projects well before time and at a lesser cost, and the time and cost-saving model will be replicated in this project as well.

Speaking at the occasion, Kejriwal said, "It was the request long due from the people living in the area, and the ones traveling via it to get the road reconstructed. Originally constructed in 2011, every road undergoes repair in five years, but it has been nine years since its establishment and the over-usage has led to its damage. I congratulate all Delhiites that this work will now be initiated. In the past, the Delhi Government has completed many projects before time and at a lesser cost. We will try our

best to complete the redevelopment project well before time." The total cost of the redevelopment project is Rs 25 crores, and it will be completed in 6 months.

The redevelopment will be carried out with the use of the latest cold-milling technology, in which the upper layer of the road will be recycled and reused in the redevelopment of the road. The use of the latest technology reduces the cost of any project by 10-15 percent through the reuse of old resources. The road is 13.33 km long, and 200 ft wide. The road was first constructed in 2011 and was to be redeveloped in 2016 by NHAI.

However, the project has now been taken up by the Delhi government due to no sanction of funds by the NHAI. Lack of stipulated maintenance has deteriorated the condition of the road. The shelf life of which was originally 5 years, has now been in use for nine years approximately leading to

the destruction. The strengthening of the road will lead to less water-logging and will resolve the issue of traffic congestion. The new road will ease traffic congestions and will be beneficial for farmers in Haryana.

Delhi Urban Development Minister Satyendra Jain who was also there said, "Today is a very joyous occasion as we have begun work to re-construct the Rohtak road from Zakhira to Delhi border. The stipulated time for reconstruction is six months, but I will try my best to make the road available for use in just four months. There was an increasing demand to strengthen the road owing to potholes. The redevelopment work will ease the travel of the people commuting from Bahadurgarh to Delhi and Delhi to Mundka. I want to congratulate all the four chiefs as they advocated this topic repeatedly which has encouraged us to initiate the work."

Provide quality treated water to farmers, officials told

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Jal Board (DJB) Chairman Satyendra Jain visited the Keshpur 'Sewage Treatment Plant' (STP) on Thursday and instructed officials to provide high quality treated water to farmers through the 30 km irrigation canal network.

Jain said, "We will ensure that 100 per cent treated water is recycled and reused. No treated water from any STP will be released into the drains. The DJB will fulfill Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's vision of considering treated water as a

resource and utilising every drop coming from STPs. Further STPs will be made to generate power through Biogas and solar panels."

Officials were also instructed to take measures including automation of SPS be done because manual pumping is

inefficient and was a major cause of overflow of sewage in the area. Aeration by floating aerators should be provided. "Biogas should be rectified and power should be generated from sludge. Treated water lines should be laid to ordinance forest, jheel lake in paschim vihar and nearby big

parks, green belts and forests," the government said in a statement.

Focusing on the ways to recycle and reuse, zero liquid discharge and ground-water recharge, Delhi Government has always been instrumental supporting techniques that aid environmental causes.

G'gram bar chief promises sitting space, parking facility on court premises

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

Asenior advocate at Gurugram court, became the president of the district bar association on Friday following an election which saw over 2,800 advocates casting their vote in the day. The Gurugram bar is counted as one of the biggest bar across the state bar associations.

Dahima bagged 1,436 out of a total of 2,800 votes to beat his closest rival Vinod Kataria by 457 votes. Apart from Yadav and Kataria, one more candidates were in the fray for the bar president's post.

Rahul Dagar, on the other

hand, won the post of vice-president with 1,061. While Nikesh Raj Yadav became the bar secretary with 1,374 votes. The post of the joint secretary was won by Sandeep Yadav with 1,203 votes.

After the results, Dahima said, his first priority as the bar president would be to make proper seating arrangements for all the advocates on the court complex. Also, proper parking facility for the benefit of both advocates and litigants.

"There are more than 5,500 advocates and there isn't space to set up chambers for newcomer advocates. We will ensure that the advocates get enough space. Besides advocates as well as visitors will get

water facility," he said, adding the work on the new court building was in progress which will be operational by September next year.

Meanwhile, a jubilant Yadav said, our top priority to increase new chambers for lawyers, toilets for women advocates, water and cleanliness in the court premises.

Earlier in the day, a huge rush caused traffic snarls towards Sohna Chowk and the mini secretariat. The court complex is situated between the two. Sources said lack of parking space for advocates and litigants coming to the court and ongoing work on the new court complex added to the chaos.

17 held for duping foreigners by running fake call centre

New Delhi: The Delhi Police has arrested 17 people for allegedly running a fake call centre duping foreign nationals in the name of Microsoft technical support in the National Capital.

The accused have been identified as Sahil Dilavari (27), Sehaj Soin (23), Chaitanya Chugh (25), Yogesh Chopra (22), Nitin Kumar (23), Gurdit Singh (25), Suresh Kumar (31), Naman Arora (23), Sanjoy Pal (23), Dipendra Singh (27), Sudhir Sharma (32), Mayank Tiwari (35), Gaurav Somi (32), Avtar Singh (30), Syrel Sam David (23) Ayush Chaudhary (28) and Umang Manchanda (25).

A total of 2,268 people were duped between October 11, 2019 to November 5, 2020 of USD 1,081,365 (over Rs 8 crore) by them. According to Anshu Roy, the DCP, Cyber Cell Unit (CyPAD) of Delhi Police, police received a complaint that an illegal international call centre was being operated from Rajouri Garden from where unsuspecting people residing in foreign countries are being cheated in the name of providing technical support by Microsoft Inc. SR

Divyang face hardship as CSR fund dries due to Covid

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hit by coronavirus pandemic which has almost dried up the CSR fund, NGOs especially working with disabled children and adults are fighting a different battle.

Festival of light which is round the corner is no different. For most of them, Diwali has been a muted affair this time as there are few buyers for the handicraft decors made by their students for the festivities.

"Every year, various products such as hand-painted diyas, gift boxes, envelopes, diaries, glass gel candles, terracotta diyas, scented tea light candles, and other Diwali decors made by our students

with disabilities were exhibited at various corporate and exhibitions and sold like hot cakes. By selling these handicraft items our school generated some revenue to pay them as well as spend on their education and vocational classes. "But, due to the ongoing outbreak, there are no buyers to purchase our handicraft items," said Mrudul Singh from Delhi-based Ek Koshish Special School for children and adults with disabilities.

The school has put up a sale counter at Shop No 1, 211 Karkardooma in the national capital which was inaugurated by area Counselor Gunjan Gupta in the presence of Gaurav Gupta, President

Rotary veg. ,Radhey Shyam Bansal, Ruchi Jain from Astha Ladies club and local residents. "The aim of having a sale counter in such a place is to motivate local people of the area to purchase the handicraft products and contribute for the society. We have ensured all mandated safety precautions against Covid-19."

Bringing some light to these murkier times, however, are good Samaritan and kind-hearted donors visiting from far areas as well as from the neighbourhood.

For example, in Gurmeet Khanna, an ex-banker and Kanchan Mittal, CEO of Haritika Diamonds and Jewellery, the school has regu-

lar buyers for its products. Says Khanna, "these are tough times for everybody. But we can help bring positivity by purchasing the products made by the adults and kids with disabilities."

Unlike Koshish which has showcased its products on a smaller scale, NGOs like Blind Relief Association has decided not to hold their regular Diwali Mela. On the other hand, the Dastkar 'Festival of Lights' and the Delhi Tourism Diwali Mela has kickstarted from November 1-10 (Kisan Haat, Andheria Modh) and November 4-14 (Dilli Haat Pitampura), respectively, following allgovernment mandated safety precautions.



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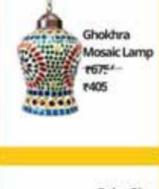
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ANTI-COVID INOCULATION DRIVE

Govt lists primary schools, anganwadis as vaccination sites



India records more single-day Covid recoveries than daily new infections

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's single-day Covid-19 recoveries exceeded daily new infections successively for the last five weeks...

daily new recoveries have exceeded 54,000. "A total of 54,157 Covid-19 patients have recovered and were discharged in a span of 24 hours as against 47,638 new infections being reported during the same period..."



average daily new cases have declined to 46,000 cases. The active cases stand at 5,20,773 as on date and now

comprise only 6.19 per cent of the total COVID-19 caseload, it stated. The recoveries have surged

to 77,65,966 and exceed active cases by 72,45,193 as on date. The national recovery rate has further improved to 92.32 per cent. The ministry said that 80 per cent of the new recovered cases are observed to be concentrated in 10 states and union territories with Maharashtra topping the list at over 11,000 single day recoveries.

more than 10,000 cases followed by Kerala with more than 9,000 cases. Besides, 670 fatalities have been reported in a span of 24 hours. Of these, 10 States and union territories account for nearly 86 per cent. More than 38 per cent of new fatalities reported are from Maharashtra at 256 deaths followed by Delhi with 66 new deaths.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the Covid-19 vaccine likely to be made available early next year, the Government has prepared a blueprint envisaging the use of various primary and secondary schools, anganwadis and panchayat buildings dotted across the country to function as temporary vaccination sites in the anti-coronavirus inoculation drive that would be monitored by the Union health ministry's digital platform.

As per the country's Covid-19 immunisation programme, various digital tools such as QR code certificate and delivery of SMS to vaccine beneficiaries among others will be utilised to make the system efficient and foolproof to keep a track on the beneficiaries. "The vaccination sites will not be limited to just healthcare facilities. Such centres would also be set up in anganwadi centres, schools, panchayat buildings and other such setups as identified by

State Governments," said an official from the Ministry. Currently, the Ministry's existing digital platform eVIN is being used for the UIP which is now being enhanced for Covid-19 vaccine distribution and delivery, through which SMSes would be sent to recipients informing the time, date and venue to get the shots

and digitally connect them and also track them. Each person in the immunisation list would be linked with their Aadhaar cards to avoid duplication and to track beneficiaries. However, in case a person doesn't have an Aadhaar card, a Government photo identity can be used, as per the blueprint.

A QR generated certificate will be produced once a person has been vaccinated and no side effects of the vaccine are reported. Beneficiaries will also be given an opportunity to store their Covid-19 immunisation certificate in Digilocker which is another digital tool devised by the Government.

The coronavirus vaccine, once available, would be distributed under a special COVID-19 inoculation programme, using the processes, technology and network of the existing UIP. States have been asked not to chart separate pathways of procurement. "The Centre will procure the vaccine direct-

ly to make it available to the priority groups through the existing network of states and districts. The vaccine is being planned to be administered to the priority groups free-of-cost," said the official. Presently, facilities of cold chain in over 28,000 locations are being used under the UIP.

Presently the group is engaged with mapping the private sector facilities for augmenting the capacity. Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan had said last month that the Centre estimates to receive and utilise 40-50 crore doses of Covid-19 vaccine covering 20-25 crore people by July next year.

Talks with NSCN-IM in advanced stage to resolve Naga issue: Union Home Secy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Friday said that talks with the NSCN-IM for final settlement of the decades-long Naga issue are in an advanced stage and the Centre is providing all assistance to the North Eastern states to deal with rebel groups. Speaking at the diamond jubilee webinar organised by the National Defence College here, he said the Central Government is in peace negotiations with almost all groups of the North East including the ULFA and the major ones who could have been potentially used by China are holding talks.

LAC flare-up may turn into a larger conflict: Gen Rawat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sounding a note of warning, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat on Friday did not rule out the present tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) flaring up into a "larger conflict" with China even as he asserted that India will never accept a change in the present LAC. His tough talk came on a day when the Corps Commanders of the two countries were holding the eighth round of talks to break the six month logjam at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh. In his address to the prestigious National Defence College (NDC), Rawat said a "larger conflict" with China cannot be ruled out if border confrontations and unprovoked military actions spiralled. "In the overall security calculus: border confrontations, transgressions, unprovoked tactical military actions -- spiralling into a larger conflict therefore cannot be discounted," he said.

First phase of Malabar series of naval exercises ends

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The first phase of the prestigious Malabar series of naval exercises ended on Friday with the navies of India, US, Japan and Australia participating in the drill off Visakhapatnam. Australia is participating in the event for the first time after India invited it despite China's strong objection. It claimed the Quad coalition of the four countries was getting militarised and posed a threat in the Indo-Pacific region.

The present edition of the exercise took place amidst ongoing tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh. The four navies conducted complex drills in the Bay of Bengal off Visakhapatnam for four days starting November 3. Reacting to the latest event, China had said it hoped the endeavour will be conducive to regional peace and stability instead of the contrary. Held annually, this year's Malabar series of exercise will be held in two phases. The second phase will take

place in mid November in the Arabian Sea. The current edition is unique as the Australian Navy is taking part despite China expressing reservations claiming that the Quad countries are trying to militarise the coalition and pose a threat in the Indo-Pacific region. In 2007, Australia was invited for the Malabar event leading to a strong protest by China to India, US, Japan and Australia. Australia was keen to take part in the joint exercise and the US and Japan also favoured its inclusion.

Cong accuses Modi Govt of fake nationalism

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday accused the Modi Government of "fake nationalism" and alleged that it has betrayed the armed forces by "snatching away" the pension of army officers. Congress' chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the Modi Government is deliberately hurting the morale of army officers by "snatching away" their pension and demanded immediate reversal of the decision. "We demand that Prime Minister Modi comes forward and clarifies his stand on the issue and takes back its anti-army decision of October 29," Surjewala said at AICC Press briefing. The Congress general secretary said while the Modi government is habitual of seeking votes on the sacrifice of brave soldiers and on "fake nationalism", it has become the first regime in the country's history to "steal the pension" and alternate career choice of those officers who protect our motherland. "This Diwali, PM Modi exhorted the nation to light a diya for our soldiers, but has ensured darkness in their lives by attempting to reduce their pension by half. If this is not BJP's 'fake nationalism', then what is it," he asked. "The Modi Government's fresh attack on the forces has exposed the anti-army face of the 'fake nationalists'," he alleged.

NEP based on the concepts of equity, quality: Minister

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" on Friday said India's new National Education Policy (NEP) is based on the concepts of equity, quality and accessibility. He also cited the country's "diverse" nature in terms of regional languages to stress the benefits of having primary education in a child's mother tongue. Speaking at the inaugural session of Amity University's two-day conference on "Implementation of National Education Policy 2020 for Transforming India", Pokhriyal said there is awareness and excitement regarding the implementation of the NEP not only in the country but also globally.

Consider witness protection against lawmakers: SC to courts

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has directed the trial courts to consider granting protection to witnesses in cases against sitting and former lawmakers under Witness Protection Scheme without their making any specific application in this regard. A three-judge bench of Justices N V Ramana, Surya Kant and Anirudhha Bose, said the Witness Protection

Scheme, 2018, approved by it should be strictly enforced by the Union, States and Union Territories. "Keeping in mind the vulnerability of the witnesses in such cases, the Trial Courts may consider granting protection under the said to witnesses without their making any specific application in this regard," the bench said. The apex court noted that most witnesses are unwilling to appear before the respec-

potential for escalation. Referring to China's ambitions as an aggressive pursuit of hegemonic interests, the CDS

said the situation along the LAC remained tense amid transgressions and belligerent action by the Chinese.

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Forego profits to capture market: Gadkari to auto makers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Asserting that India has full potential to emerge as a global hub for electric vehicles by 2025, Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday asked automobile manufacturers to reduce costs and forego profits initially to capture market and fuel growth. Promising all support to manufacturers in the initiative aimed at cutting India's huge import costs of crude and arresting pollution, Gadkari expressed confidence that once the market picks up there will not be any looking back. The minister said he is scheduled to make an hour-long presentation on EVs before the Chief Justice of India post-Diwali. "E-mobility is going to be the future mode of economic transport... There is economic viability for manufacturers, but presently they are not in a mood to reduce cost. Reducing cost may result in some losses initially, but will bring great benefits. As a marketing strategy you have to reduce the cost to get numbers," Gadkari said addressing a virtual "Electric Mobility Conference 2020 - The Spark Revolution in India". He also said that India has the potential to become the largest EV producer in the world in the next five years.

Expert panel denies emergency approval for Zydus Cadila's HepC drug as Covid-19 treatment

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Citing limited data and the small size of Phase 2 clinical trials, the top drug regulator's subject expert committee has rejected Zydus Cadila's application for emergency use authorisation for its biological therapy, Pegylated Interferon alpha-2b or 'PegiHepTM' as a treatment of moderate Covid-

19 patients. The company had submitted data from its Phase 2 clinical trial on 40 mild to moderately ill Covid-19 patients. Pegylated Interferon Alfa 2b injection, biological therapy is used for the treatment of Hepatitis B and C. The drug is being seen as a potential treatment option for mild to moderate COVID-19 infection.

ED attaches ₹3-cr assets of ex-PMCH superintendent

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth over ₹3 crore of former Medical Superintendent of Patna Medical College and Hospital in a money laundering case. The ED's attachment order for movable and immovable assets worth ₹3.14 crore under Prevention of Money Laundering Act came in connection with a criminal mis-

conduct and cheating allegedly involving Om Prakash Choudhary, former Medical Superintendent, Patna Medical College and Hospital and others. The attached immovable properties are in the form of plots, flats in Patna, Ghaziabad, Pune and Bangalore. The movable assets are in the form of three four wheelers and balances in bank accounts. The ED initiated investigation under PMLA against Choudhary and others on the basis of FIRs registered by Special Vigilance Unit, Bihar.

4.39 cr bogus ration cards weeded out since 2013

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The ministry of consumer affairs on Friday said about 4.39 crore bogus ration cards have been weeded out since 2013 for rightful targeting of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). New ration cards are regularly issued to genuine and rightfully eligible beneficiaries or households against the deleted ration cards, it said in a statement. These ration cards were cancelled as part of the technology-driven PDS reforms initiated across the country to

modernise the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and to improve transparency and efficiency in operations. This was taken up through digitisation of ration cards/beneficiaries database, Aadhaar seeding, detection of ineligible/bogus ration cards, prevention of duplication of digitised data, updating migration/deaths of beneficiaries during the run-up to the implementation of NFSA.

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004. NOTICE INVITING BID. NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Eng-II/16/2020-21. Bids are invited for works given below in various zones as per details given:-

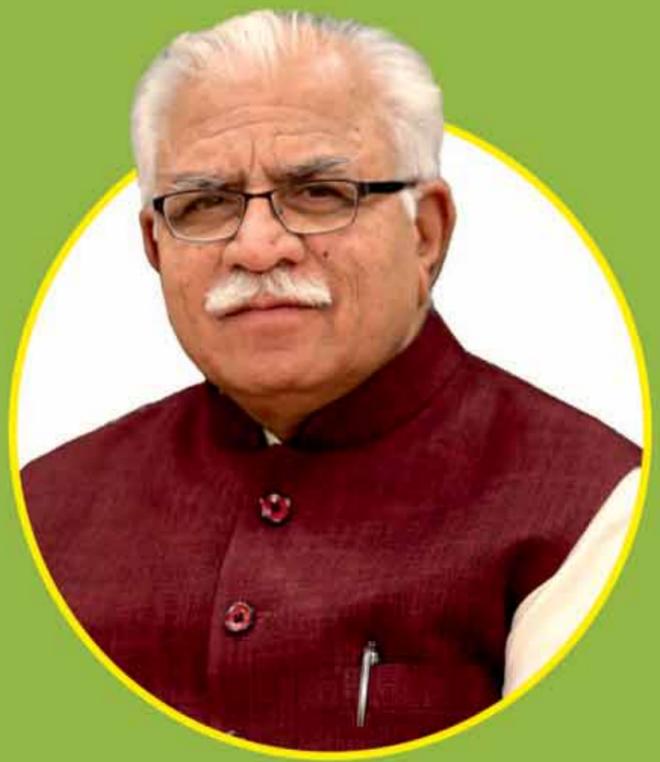
ग्रेटर नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण. सर्वजनिक सूचना. ग्रेटर नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत M/s Maple Realcon Pvt. Ltd. के मुख्यालय - GH-01/SC-01 Sports City Adjoining Sector Techzone-4 ग्रेटर नोएडा पर दिनांक 23.05.2015 को मानचित्र संशोधित (Revised Sanction) हेतु दिनांक 06.10.2020 को आदेशित किया गया है...

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE. Tender notice No. 219-S/IT/MC/06/2020-21. Chief Engineer/TMC, Northern Railway, Headquarters office, Baroda House, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites tenders through E-Procurement system for supply of the following items:

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY. TENDER NOTICE No. 71/2020 dt. 06.11.2020. SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS. e-Procurement Tender Notice. The following Tenders have been floated online. Tenderers are requested to visit the website www.irps.gov.in and submit their offers online.



Haryane Ka Badhiya Haal
Chokha Bitya Pehla Saal



Sh. Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana

We care for Farmers' Welfare

Haryana is the First State of the Country to Purchase Highest Number of Crops on MSP

Agriculture Budget of Rs.5,474.25 Crore set for Financial Year 2020-21 which is **23.92%** more than the Previous Financial Year



Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana

An amount of Rs. 1,816 crore given to farmers in their bank accounts



Government Purchase of Crops at Maximum Prices

First time in the history of Haryana, Government purchased Rabi crops 2019-20 at maximum price Rs.17,000 crore disbursed in the farmers' accounts

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

In the last 6 years an amount of Rs. 2,943 crore disbursed as claim to 12.08 lakh farmers, while amount of Rs.913 crore paid as insurance premium.



Pradhanmantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Low-Cost Electricity Supply

Provision of subsidy of Rs. 6,040 crore on electricity for farmers in 2020-21



Mukhya Mantri Kisan Evam Khetihar Mazdoor Jivan Suraksha Yojana

Compensation amount on death due to Covid-19 raised to Rs.10 lakh



Atal Kisan-Mazdoor Canteen

Canteen started for farmers and labourers in 12 districts to provide them food at concessional rate at Rs. 10 per plate

Reduced Stamp Fee

Stamp fee on farmers' transactions from banks reduced from Rs.2,000 to Rs.100



Meri Fasal- Mera Byora

In Kharif-2020 8.78 lakh farmers registered 48.72 lakh hectare of land



Pragatishil Kisan Samman Yojana

Scheme started for award of Rs.50,000 to Rs. 5 lakh to 108 progressive farmers of the State



Bhawantar Bharpayee Yojana

Under this Scheme, 15 more horticultural crops added, now this scheme includes total 19 horticultural crops

Pashudhan Kisan Credit Card Scheme

Under this scheme, 6 lakh cattle owners registered and credit limit on card is Rs.1.60 lakh, Pashudhan Kisan Credit Cards given to 51,156 cattle owners



Mera Pani- Meri Virasat

Provision of incentive of Rs.7,000 per acre to farmers for promoting less water consuming crops instead of paddy



Relief from Crop Loan Under One Time Settlement scheme, the amount of Rs.1,001 crore waived off till January 2020

Sugarcane price increased up to Rs.340 per quintal, which is highest in the whole country



Goodwill over

Pakistan provokes India, takes over Kartarpur shrine management and disempowers Sikh body



Pakistan and soft diplomacy are highly incompatible. There was little doubt that it was enshrining Kartarpur's iconic value as the resting place of the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak, to further its separatist agenda of indoctrinating and radicalising Sikhs and reviving the Khalistani movement all over again. And for all the sweet talk of cultural contiguity and goodwill by Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, the corridor linking devotees on both sides of the border was intended to be a conduit of the Pakistan Army and Inter-Service Intelligence to refuel militancy in Punjab and give us another security bother. Hence there was a deliberateness of mixed signals, be it in wooing the Sikh community worldwide through its grandstanding of allowing pilgrim access, politicising it and provoking us at the same time. And now Pakistan has unmasked its real intention, by transferring the management of the Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara from a Sikh body to a separate trust. Instead of the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, the shrine's administrative control has now been entrusted to the Evacuee Trust Property Board. This allows Pakistan direct control over its operations. India has called it out over its unilateral move for violating the spirit of shared concern over a faith shrine that matters to people on both sides of the border. By disallowing Sikh leaders to have a say, our neighbour is also running roughshod over the rights of a minority community to pursue faith on its terms, something that Khan accuses India of. But Pakistan, which had initially claimed a high moral ground in facilitating a cross-border traffic to the shrine, is now appropriating it wholly, simply because its intent of using it as a hub of Khalistani extremists has not quite materialised to the extent it wanted. And by making an arbitrary announcement days ahead of the first anniversary of the corridor's inauguration on November 9, Pakistan is sending out a strong message that the days of even posed bonhomie are over. Its angst is understandable considering its failure to globalise the Kashmir issue despite the abrogation of Article 370, its helplessness to stem the West, particularly the US, from gravitating towards India and its inability to convince the Arab world to take a stand against us. Since none of these has materialised and it is strategising its relevance with China and its neo-Islamic ally, Turkey, it doesn't need to posit itself with diplomatic niceties. In fact, with the takeover move, it is making it abundantly clear that there is no scope for peace overtures and that it is back to daggers drawn.

Guru Nanak is not just a Sikh guru in the sub-continent but embodies a consciousness. As scholars have chronicled his travels across Saudi Arabia, Tibet, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, India and Pakistan, he spread what is called a "Nanakpanthi culture." Its practitioners are syncretic groups of people in the Indus plains who follow Guru Nanak's teachings irrespective of them being Sikhs, Hindus and Muslims. As believers, they broke down barriers of faith and cultures and were undiluted even by the Partition in 1947. So the Kartarpur corridor, connecting Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan and Dera Baba Nanak Sahib in India, in that sense, is a symbolic leap of faith in humanity. And probably the antidote that could have helped reconcile the wounds of Partition and been a precursor to some sort of engagement between the two sides. Yet, Pakistan has always been abrasive on Kartarpur, using pictures of Khalistani separatist leaders Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, Maj Gen Shabeg Singh and Amrik Singh Khalsa in its promotional videos on the shrine. The video, which was crafted to highlight the harmony between Sikhs and Muslims, also featured known Indian Sikhs like Navjot Singh Sidhu and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, in a crude attempt to project Khan as welcoming and liberal. In fact, Pakistan has been hell-bent on denying a sense of comfort to us. First, it had issues with the visa-free passage, then it stopped Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) card holders, the implication being that it wanted to address only a section of Sikhs in India. It also restricted the numbers of pilgrims at a time and the days of visit. So the Pakistan Army, without whom Khan wouldn't have been in the chair, has always seen the shrine as its bargaining chip. Though the Pakistani leadership had for years been cool to the Manmohan Singh Government's overtures on Kartarpur, the fact is it had been using it as a neo-axis of Sikh separatism since 2003. The gurdwara had been abandoned till then and served as a cattle shed for villagers. Pakistan even allowed rampant encroachment till it realised its political potential. While announcing the Kartarpur project, it appointed several Khalistani separatists on the committee, much to India's discomfort. Its former Army chief Gen Mirza Aslam Beg openly advised the military and the Government to use the corridor for Khalistan terror and "create trouble for India." The Pakistan Army even got pro-Khalistani supporters to challenge the reorganisation of Kashmir. No matter how hard India may try to make Kartarpur a matter of people-to-people concern, the fact is that Pakistan's initiative on the corridor will never be free of politics. India has to be alert that it doesn't become a hotbed for Khalistani propaganda and meetings in the name of allowing faith congregations. When Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Bajwa stood in Kartarpur, shaking hands with known Khalistani face Gopal Singh Chawla, it was clear he was starting a new front in the proxy war. Question is how aggressively will he push it this time.

Samosa caucus

Indian-American candidates have made their mark in the US election but need to consolidate going forward



In the 60s, Indian immigrants to the US had to face discrimination and have racist slurs like "brownie" thrown at them. Fast forward to 2020 and Indian-origin Americans have become an influential community. They own a third of all Silicon Valley start-ups and two per cent of the Fortune 500 companies of American origin. Their talent pool and skill set have meant that large corporations like Microsoft, Alphabet, Adobe, IBM and MasterCard are led by Indian-American CEOs. That is not to say that they don't face racism anymore but as more of them have entered the political arena to make their relevance felt, and done well, they do have a voice now. To the extent that both the Democrat and the Republican campaigns had initiated several diversity measures to woo the approximately 1.8 million members of the community who have emerged as a critical voting bloc in the battleground States of Florida, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Texas. And to their credit, the Indian-American candidates have made their mark in this presidential election. Not only is part-Indian origin Democrat Kamala Harris waiting to become the Vice-President, four of five Democratic lawmakers, who make up the so-called "Samosa Caucus", have trounced their Republican rivals. Raja Krishnamoorthi, Pramila Jayapal, Roh Khanna and Ami Bera have been re-elected to the House of Representatives. However, Rikina Mehta and Sara Gideon have lost their Senate race from New Jersey and Maine. But with record participation by Indian-Americans, 2020 has been a starting point for empowerment.

Even as we celebrate the victories of Indian-origin politicians in the US, it is high time we realise that most of them do not even relate to the country of their ancestors' origin. Being second or even third-generation US citizens, their focus is on the country they are living in and what good they can do for themselves and their constituencies. Plus, the main contours of the foreign policy of the Biden-Harris administration, should it come to power, vis-a-vis India are expected to be similar as the US believes in strategic continuity of interests it holds dear. Of course, Harris favours a more immigrant-friendly approach. So, having someone with pro-immigrant values in the White House is bound to benefit Indians in some way, even though it will be as beneficial for China. Whoever gets the verdict, this balancing will have to be done if the US wants India as its bulwark in the East.

Forgotten lessons of Azad

Quality education and initiatives like Right to Education Act are fine but they are incomplete without competent and qualified teachers, something he emphasised

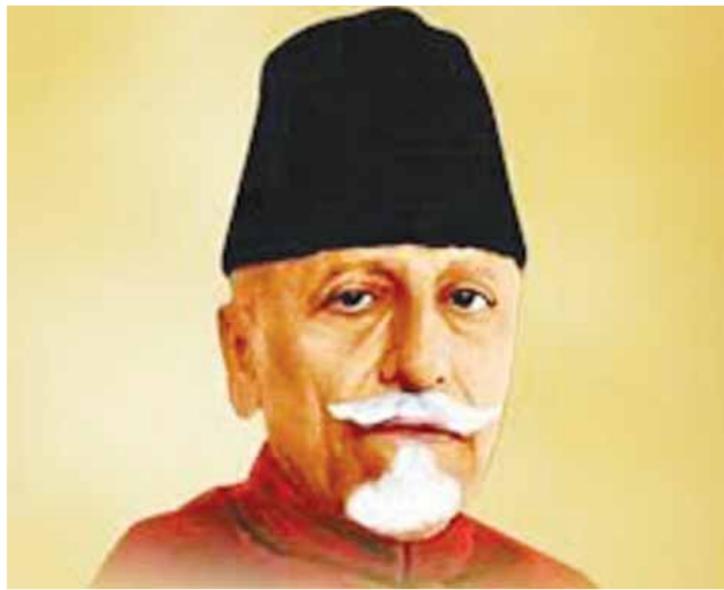


JS RAJPUT

India celebrates its National Education Day on November 11, the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad — a great scholar, freedom fighter, politician and a firm believer in the unity of India — but do we honour his passion and ideals? Azad is also remembered as our first Education Minister. Born in Mecca in 1888, his family moved to Kolkata in 1890. He was self-taught and never went to school. He started teaching at the age of 16 and continued his scholarly pursuits even while in the thick of national politics. He wrote poetry, translated the Quran and even authored several books.

Young Azad was influenced by revolutionaries and was deeply impressed by Sri Aurobindo. In 1908, he visited Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Turkey and was pained to find that while in these countries Muslims were fighting for freedom and democracy, Indian Muslims were favouring the British, keeping away from the nationalist movement. To change the Muslim mindset, he started a journal, *Al-Hilal*, in July 1912. He joined the Indian National Congress and became its president in 1923 at the age of 35. After the two-nation theory and the demand for a separate nation for Muslims gained ground, Azad could envision its conceptual fragility and disastrous future consequences for the nation, particularly for the Muslims. Unfortunately, India was partitioned and even Mahatma Gandhi and Azad had to become a party to it. What followed at the time of the Partition and the near permanency of the India-Pakistan conflict clearly indicate how sound and pragmatic ideas are sometimes lost in the political arena, resulting in unimaginable damage to future generations. Both India and Pakistan are perpetual victims of this scar.

Pakistan — fully submerged in religious orthodoxy and ignorance — inflicted several self-destructive wounds, suffered a couple of humiliating military defeats and was even decimated. It is propagating worldwide terrorism, and ironically, suffering its venomous consequences as well. Azad and Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan are two outstanding luminaries of the freedom struggle, who presented the real — liberal and dynamic — version of Islam before their countrymen. Had the Muslim community paid



heed to them, the world would not have been put under debilitating violence, insecurity and distrust that have engulfed humanity today.

The recent murderous attacks in France have stirred diametrically opposite reactions, indicating how serious the issues of religious bigotry, blind fundamentalism, terrorism and global insecurity are. The only ray of hope lies in education, formal education of the young and simultaneously the education of people in positions of power and decision-making in their "trusteeship role" for the generations ahead.

This year, the National Education Day celebration could very well focus on the role of education in achieving social cohesion and religious harmony. The recently launched National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) has considerable connect with the basic principles of *Buniyadi Talim*, which was proposed by Gandhi in 1937. Delivering the presidential speech at the fourth session of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on January 13, 1948, Azad, the then Education Minister, said: "In connection with the scheme of basic education, the question of religious instruction had cropped up at that time. Two committees of the board pondered over it but they were unable to come to an agreed decision. I should like this question to be reconsidered in the light of the changed circumstances. For our country, this question has a special meaning."

A realistic comprehension of the spirit and intent of *Buniyadi Talim* was indeed missed by those under the influence of "all that was Western and British." To

them, the existing transplanted system was doing fine. So why disturb it? It is only now that the consequences of this approach are before us: Unemployment, poverty, hunger, internal migration, neglect of villages and farmers and much more.

Everyone talks of a lack of moral, ethical and humanistic values. Corruption is a consequence of diminishing emphasis on character-building. Luminaries like Azad had anticipated such concerns. After posing the problem and putting it in the context, Azad articulated its elements: "It is already known to you that the 19th century liberal point of view concerning the imparting of religious education has already lost weight. Even after World War I, a new approach had begun to assert itself and the intellectual revolution brought about in the wake of World War II has given it a decisive shape. At first, it was considered that religions would stand in the way of free intellectual development of a child but now it has been admitted that religious education cannot altogether be dispensed with. If national education was devoid of this element, there would be no appreciation of moral values or moulding of character on human lines. It must be known to you that Russia had to give up its ideology during the last World War. The British Government in England also had to amend its education system in 1944." With a crystal clear comprehension, Azad was convinced that the West felt the need of religious education as without religious influences, people become "over-rationalistic".

In India, we are surrounded by

"over religiosity." How secularism is being interpreted in India leaves much to be desired, clarified and comprehended to bring people of varied religious affiliations to accept the equality of all religions: "Ekam sat viprah Bahudha Vadanti" (There is only one truth, learned ones call it by various names). What Azad articulated in the meeting on education has a global contemporary relevance: "Our present difficulties, unlike those of Europe, are not creations of materialistic zealots but of religious fanatics. If we want to overcome them, the solution lies not in rejecting religious instruction in elementary stages but in imparting sound and healthy religious education under our direct supervision so that misguided credulism may not affect children in their plastic age."

Azad was India's Education Minister for about a decade. His concern on the issue of religious instruction indicates his seriousness on social cohesion, religious unity, integrity of the country, and that all of these depend on the right approach to education in human values and continued insistence on character formation. He was convinced that Indians would like their children to get religious education. If the State refused, they would do so privately. He was concerned that private sources were already working and were entrusting religious education to those teachers "who though literate are not educated. To them, religion means nothing but bigotry." To save the "intellectual life of our country," Azad emphatically warned all concerned not to entrust the imparting of early

religious education to private sources. Further, no national Government could shirk the responsibility of moulding the "growing minds of the nation on the right lines" as it is its primary duty.

Here, Azad offers a global education policy guideline: Imparting quality education and initiatives like Right to Education Act are fine but these remain incomplete without a clear mention that such education shall be provided only by competent and qualified teachers. Further, nothing that distorts the sensitive young minds in any way shall be allowed to permeate the educational endeavour.

Education must be free from vested interests that believe in the supremacy of any single religion, which does not subscribe to the equality of all religions and refuses to introduce transparency in their schools — in approach, content and pedagogy.

It is well-known that schools of certain denominations are not preparing children for a world of peace and tranquility, for acceptance of diversity, for social cohesion and religious unity. And it is not a new phenomenon, as would be clear from Azad's description given over 72 years: "The method of education, too, is such in which there is no scope for a broad and liberal outlook. It is quite plain, then, that the children will not be able to drive out the ideas infused into them in their early stage, whatever modern education may be given to them at a later stage." At this stage, it is a global phenomenon that terrorist and fundamentalist organisations suffer no dearth of highly educated and technically qualified and competent young people.

The implementation of the NEP 2020 has begun in earnest. The growth, progress and development of India would depend on the quality of its education and the level of social cohesion and religious unity, seeds of which are to be sown in its schools, classrooms and playgrounds. The NEP 2020 must equip every Indian to stand up and repeat with full conviction what Azad had declared in 1940: "I am part of this indivisible unity that is Indian nationality. I am indispensable to the noble edifice and without me this splendid structure of India is incomplete. I am an essential element which has gone to build India. I can never surrender this claim."

The great visionary paved the path for every Indian to move ahead and in the process made a singular contribution in the human march towards a world of peace, non-violence and love. (The writer works in education and social cohesion)

SOUNDBITE

The Railways is trying hard to restore train services in Punjab. As per the latest information, blockade at 22 locations is still continuing while farmers have cleared nine locations.



Railway Board Chairman —VK Yadav

In compliance with my constitutional duty, I approved the election law, in preparation for holding early, fair and just elections.



Iraqi President —Barham Salih

It was quite difficult to suddenly stop a very active routine. But at the same time we all realised how important it was to pause everything and take care of ourselves.



Badminton player —PV Sindhu

There is a concern among the people in Uttar Pradesh over the rising electricity bills due to the faulty electricity meters across the State.



Congress Leader —Priyanka Gandhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Will there be change?

Sir — Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden is inching towards 270 electoral votes. It is almost clear now that he does have the popular sentiment with him. And the chances of the incumbent President Donald Trump retaining his job by crying foul in the absence of evidence are looking difficult at the moment. It is true that the election result is not an unequivocal repudiation of Trump's four-year tenure as the President "crowned" with multiple failures. The consolidation of White supremacist votes is writ large on the electoral outcome. The polarisation of the US could not have been starker. If the Trump era were to end, it could mean freedom from the yoke of an oppressively dominant and irrational leadership.

The change of leadership, if it happens, would be regarded as a watershed in the US and world history. The new administration could redeem the country and the world from sliding into a worse state. It could help bolster notions of democracy and human equality, propel progress, heal the rifts between communities and nations and forge inter-

A mature response by Tejashwi

After Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's dismal performance in his last term and people of Bihar looking out for a new face to represent them, an unhappy alliance partner, the BJP, made sure it used the Modi wave to turn the tide. However, from the speeches Prime Minister Narendra Modi made so far in his Bihar election rallies, we can infer that he is not quite capable of raising the standard of electoral discourse. He scarcely displayed the talent to edify the audience, a characteristic unique to a statesman. The one catch-phrase Modi made abundant use of in rally after rally was "jungle raj", an appellation unjustly conferred to the time when Lalu Prasad Yadav was the Chief Minister of Bihar.

Unable to seek votes on the performance of his and Nitish Kumar's coalition Government, he revisited the Lalu era, raked up Pulwama and used empty rhetoric to attack the *Mahagathbandhan*. His mocking characterisation of Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi Yadav as "double yuvraj" elicited a mature response from the up and coming young Bihar leader in his articulation



that Modi as the country's Prime Minister was free to make whatever comments he wanted. Rahul and Tejashwi have sought votes on their promise of jobs, better healthcare, education and women's welfare. And that is what Bihar needs right now.

Bhagwan Thadani Mumbai

Delhi bans crackers

Sir — Amid a surge in the number of Coronavirus cases and high pollution and smog levels, the State Government has finally banned fire crackers. On November 5, even the Delhi High Court expressed displeasure over the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the national Capital and observed that the

city could soon become the "Corona capital of the country."

The same day, the overall Air Quality Index in Delhi was recorded at 333 (very poor category), according to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research. It is crucial to remember that high levels of air pollution can aggravate the health condition of Corona patients.

Delhi and West Bengal have now joined Sikkim, Rajasthan and Odisha, which have also banned firecrackers to combat rising Coronavirus cases. However, this should not be limited to Diwali this year but all festivals. This will reduce the toxic fumes and keep the pollution level down all through the year.

Madhu PV Secunderabad

Repair old ties

Sir — India and Nepal have always shared a unique understanding based on civilisational contiguity. However, the bilateral relations between the two nations are at an all-time low after Kathmandu printed its own map, incorporating disputed areas of Kalapani, Lipulekh and Limpiyadhura. With Indian Army chief Manoj Mukund Naravane having left for a three-day visit to Nepal, it could help reset bilateral ties and even strengthen relations between the two armies.

Krishnansh Somani Ujjain

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Hybrid initiatives need of the hour

Normal economic activities should be regularly combined with conservation so that development is not at the cost of the environment



KOTA SRIRAJ

In the midst of hectic efforts to revive a sluggish economy that has been rendered ineffectual by the pandemic, the focus of a nervous nation is now shifting to a possible threat of a "second wave" of COVID-19 infections. What lends credence to the possibility of a second wave is the fact that the States of Kerala and Delhi have shown a surge in cases during the ongoing festive season. And with the winter creeping in earlier than usual this year, the threat of the outbreak going out of control soon is not one that can be ignored by the citizens, the Government or healthcare authorities. Particularly, Delhi, which has the perennial problem of farm fires from the neighbouring States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab turning it into a veritable gas chamber every winter, cannot afford to ignore alerts. Amid these depressing conditions, India is fighting hard on other fronts too. Be it defending its borders with China, kick-starting the flailing economy or making huge strides in conserving the environment, the country is doing it all. Recently, the Global Himalayan Expedition (GHE), an Indian environmental organisation that leverages tourism and technology to assist remote communities access solar power, won a prestigious UN award for its efforts to combat climate change amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Several conferences and meetings are conducted every year to thwart climate change and its consequences. Ironically, the consequent load on the environment due to hosting these congregations is huge. For instance, the COP24 Conference held in Switzerland last year saw nearly 6,000 attendees. Out of this, a sizeable number was ferried to the venue on private jets, with the number of such trips totalling 1,000. The carbon footprint of the conference was so huge that the organisers pledged to plant six million trees to offset its environmental impact. Embarrassingly, this was not the only controversy generated at the COP24 meet. The lavish, meat-laden menu attracted immense criticism for encouraging carbon emissions associated with the agriculture sector and livestock rearing.

In the background of such luxurious, emission-heavy conferences that are low on productive output, the efforts of organisations such as GHE that work on the ground, without any lavish budgets, is worth appreciating. The prestigious United Nations Global Climate Action Award is a much sought-after recognition that commends productive action to contain climate change. The work of the institutions being considered for the awards is quantified and assessed on a number of parameters. Especially the impact of the action taken by them for managing climate change and helping the indigenous people become more self-reliant in an eco-friendly manner in matters pertaining to their energy and other resource needs.

It is a proud moment for India, as according to the statement issued by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), GHE is one of the world's first outfits to successfully combine tourism and technology in order to bring solar energy to remote communities. The Hindu Kush region alone, for instance, has 16 million people who do not have energy access. A portion of the expedition fee collected from travellers and hikers is used to fund the capital cost of hardware transportation, installation and training for the village-level micro solar grids. These are eventually transferred to the village community and the training enables them to become self-reliant in operations. The GHE till date has successfully been able to electrify 131 villages in three regions of India, directly empowering 60,000 people.

Plus, travellers get a homestay experience with the villagers. This not only enables them to experience the culture and cuisine of the area but helps them appreciate the difficulties faced by the people. Homestays in turn boost the local economy and till now villagers have been able to generate an income of nearly \$1,14,000. This translates into a 45 per cent rise in their household incomes.

Amid the unproductive noise generated by climate change conferences, the actual action to combat global warming, such as the hybrid solution initiated by GHE, needs tremendous encouragement. Normal economic activities should be regularly combined with conservation so that development is not at the cost of the environment but rather complements it.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



TODAY I AM SAYING THIS IN BANKURA THAT, WITH THE BLESSINGS OF BIRSA MUNDA, BJP WILL COME TO POWER WITH AT LEAST 200 SEATS.

—UNION HOME MINISTER
AMIT SHAH

POINT COUNTERPOINT



FROM VIDYASAGAR TO BIRSA MUNDA, HOW MANY TIMES WILL YOU MISUSE BENGAL'S CULTURE AND HERITAGE FOR YOUR POLITICAL PROPAGANDA?

—TRINAMOL CONGRESS MP
NUSRAT JAHAN

A crying shame

US President Donald Trump has striven for weeks to taint postal votes and to impugn the credibility of the American electoral system



AMBROSE EVANS-PRITCHARD

Even as the results of the US presidential election were pouring in and showing the Democrat challenger to Donald Trump, Joe Biden, in the lead, the US President unbelievably made a late-night declaration of victory before he had earned it and concocted a false narrative as an electoral fraud victim. In doing that, Trump denied Biden the consecrating ritual of concession. With this act of Trump, the US' mechanism for handing over power has broken down. There is no constitutional procedure for removing a President who refuses to accept defeat gracefully.

The Founding Fathers of the US assumed and hoped that incumbents would behave with honour, though Thomas Jefferson always feared that a new Caesar might one day overstay his welcome — ironically with one of the Founding Fathers Alexander Hamilton immediately in mind.

President Trump's late-night declaration of victory before he had earned it was an act of political sacrilege. It was also ruthlessly focussed, the opening move of a scorched-Earth strategy long-prepared by his inner circle should he be at risk of losing the vote. His allegation of a giant "fraud on the American people" was not a reckless off-the-cuff remark in the heat of the moment. Leaked tapes from his Election Day Operations team leave no doubt that this gambit was pre-planned, a calculated move to discredit in advance what he knew would be a late surge of Democrat votes as postal ballots are counted.

This "blue shift" syndrome has become a pattern of US elections, and vastly more so this year after 100 million people voted by mail or in advance to avoid the coronavirus bullet.

Trump has striven for weeks to taint postal votes and to impugn the credibility of the US electoral system — breathtaking chutzpah given that he controls the Justice Department and that Republicans dominate the executive machinery of the swing States.

He urged his supporters to vote only in person, aiming to create an even greater cleavage between the party colouring of the two sets of ballots that could then be exploited. This has been his strategy ever since Joe Biden pulled ahead in the opinion polls.

It led to the spectacle that we have all just witnessed: An early Trump lead in several States evaporating later. It is an invitation to conspiracy theories, all assiduously amplified on social media, with militia waiting in the wings.

The situation is dangerous and has nothing in common with Al Gore's demand for a Florida recount 20 years ago. Trump has lost the popular vote and probably the Electoral College vote, too, yet he is pulling out all the stops to subvert the result before this can be confirmed.

A machinery for legal guerrilla warfare has been set in motion across the battleground States and will now cause weeks of havoc. Have markets understood the gravity of what is unfolding? The US' succession process relies on the virtues of Lucius Cincinnatus. "Our Constitution does not secure the peaceful transition of power, but rather presupposes it," says Amherst law professor Lawrence Douglas.

He says there are design flaws in the architecture of the Twelfth Amendment and in the Electoral Count Act of 1887 that make easy prey for an abusive President. States are not obliged to



“THE SITUATION IS DANGEROUS AND HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH AL GORE'S DEMAND FOR A FLORIDA RECOUNT 20 YEARS AGO. TRUMP HAS LOST THE POPULAR VOTE AND PROBABLY THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTE TOO, YET HE IS PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO SUBVERT THE RESULT BEFORE THIS CAN BE CONFIRMED”

follow the outcome of the popular election when they allocate their vote in the Electoral College though they always do in practice. If doubts can be sown about the validity of the election — or if enough street disorder can be rustled up — the State Legislatures have the constitutional power to appoint anybody they want.

As it happens, these bodies are mostly controlled by the Republicans in swing States. So what will Trump's allies in the Pennsylvania General Assembly do if the Democrats win, given that he already alleges a stolen election? At what point do they tell their party leader that enough is enough?

It comes down to whether judges often appointed by Trump are willing to strike down votes because the ballots arrived late — though posted in time — or had a slightly smudged postmark, and whether the Republican six-three majority on the Supreme Court will validate such suppression. I doubt that they will, but upon this question may now hang the fate of the republic.

At the least, Washington faces weeks of paralysis and legal fights until the "safe harbour" deadline for the Electoral College votes on December 8, and before the new Congress validates the presidential count on January 6. This chaos will happen in the middle of an escalating pandemic.

Nothing like it has been seen since the four-month Interregnum in 1932, the Winter War, when Herbert Hoover denounced Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal as a "march on Moscow" and sought to sabotage his reflation policy in advance by tightening the Gold Standard. Confidence in the banking system collapsed during the hiatus. It was the clos-

est that the US came to a political breakdown during the Great Depression. It was also the moment when Japan invaded China, and Hitler took Berlin, and the world suddenly changed.

What might Chinese President Xi Jinping do to Taiwan while Trump is distracted with his army of lawyers and the US is tearing itself apart? The autocrats will surely relish the spectacle of a US President behaving as they do. It is the ultimate propaganda coup.

Whatever happens over the coming weeks, the Blue Wave has spluttered out. The Democrats have failed to capture the Senate. They may even have lost seats in the House. Their mandate for a radical leftward turn has evaporated.

It has long been an article of faith among Democrats that "demographics are destiny", and that the party's ethnic and sectarian coalition must eventually prevail by force of numbers. But this election has been a wake-up call. There has been revulsion against identity politics and corrosive segmentation, and above all against the "cancel culture" of the Antifa statue-smashers.

The Democrats lost ground to Latinos in Florida and South Texas, despite the "Wall." This may shock some but it should be no surprise given the business ethic of Latino immigrants, their Catholicism, and their family ties to countries with Trumpian caudillo traditions.

Markets must now confront the Washington gridlock and diminished fiscal stimulus, already reflected in the plummeting yields on 10-year Treasuries, but not so far on Wall Street.

For a brief moment, Bidenomics had us all in thrall. It looked as if there might

be a \$7.9 trillion Keynesian blitz to "run the economy hot." The strategy was consciously modelled on Roosevelt's wartime expansion from 1941 to 1945. It aimed to leap-frog supply-side constraints and achieve a virtuous circle of productivity growth, this time relying on the war against carbon as the catalyst instead of military-industrial mobilisation against fascism.

Biden will not be able to push these vaulting plans through Congress even if he does make it into the White House. The green deal is largely still-born. His front-loaded \$1.7 trillion Gosplan for 500 million solar panels, 60,000 wind turbines, and the like, will be torn to pieces by the Senate.

The equity markets had come to salivate over the exorbitant sums. Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan and Moody's all concluded that Bidenomics would turbocharge economic growth. They will now have to settle for thinner gruel. The planned \$2 trillion of pandemic aid to cover furloughs and insolvent States is for the birds. It is not clear what skinny version will emerge from a lame-duck Congress in this political climate. Don't expect it soon.

All told, the markets face a harsher economic winter. The V-shaped rebound has faded. Investors must instead navigate the second dip of an enveloping "W" without much help from Washington.

Nor is it obvious that a Democratic White House eager to regulate and a Republican Senate less inclined to spend will do much for the animal dynamism of American capitalism. Bet on bipartisan comity and a business boom if you wish. I am fetching my tin helmet.

(Courtesy: The Telegraph)

Wasteful expenditure has become national character

Course correction is imperative to stop the country from slipping into a deeper crisis



SHIVAJI SARKAR

The Indian economy has the capability to grow at the rate of nine per cent with extreme favourable policies and around seven per cent with constraints. But growth in some sectors in September and contraction in others have raised doubts over sustainability. The narrative that the lockdown caused massive damage to the economy is partially correct as it exacerbated a deceleration which could have been stemmed with the right prescription.

The ratings firm ICRA has said that the September recovery may not be sustainable in the long run. It says that intra-State goods movement and Goods and Services Tax (GST) e-way bills increased nine per cent from a year earlier against the August contraction of 3.5 per cent. But the

increase in auto production (11 per cent), power generation and petrol sales is not reflected in actual retail growth. Also, the calculations are against the massive 23.9 per cent slump. ICRA does not see it sustaining beyond the November festivities.

HDFC bank CEO Aditya Puri says the problems for the economy are not over yet. While sales of cars and television sets hold out promise of a return of nine per cent growth, the rebound is patchy. The country may end up with 9.5 per cent contractions at the end of the year, as per the Reserve Bank of India's projections. He says if semi-urban India grows and there are right infrastructure spends, seven per cent growth is not difficult, though it might take three years to achieve.

The skewed lockdown has devastated the hotel, tourism and eatery industry that had just started to break even after a two-decade struggle. Even the private healthcare sector has been hit. The manufacturing sector's share in the economy has gradually reduced. While the "Make in India" initiative, that is at a nascent stage right now, may turn the tide eventually, the competition in the region is high with Thailand, Malaysia,

Vietnam and Bangladesh sniffing at our heels.

Since 2016, the country has been through many man-made crises that ailed the economy continuously, though there were some good patches in between. However, if of surging gold prices are any indication, apprehensive investors are shying away from making investments.

This is because the country has got its priorities wrong. The excessive spending of public money in rebuilding of highways, choking the national Capital with roads that are not needed or invasive and continual construction of excessive infrastructure is an indication of this. Extensive concrete constructions in Bihar, Odisha, the new State Capitals in Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh, the eroding hills in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the North-East and Jammu and Kashmir are damaging the fragile ecology of the Himalayas and the rest of India.

The recent flooding of Hyderabad is testimony to the massive damage human greed has done. The cost of these man-made disasters is estimated but not taken into financial accounts. Rather these become sources of further financial



mismanagement.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has revealed that India is among the top five disaster-hit countries, which incurred losses amounting to \$79.5 billion between 1998 and 2017. Yes, the country has been committing these mistakes continuously, irrespective of the party in power.

Wasteful expenditure has become a national character, the latest being the plan to build a new Parliament building and redevelop

the Central Vista at a cost of over ₹22,000 crore, the irrational ₹1.1 lakh crore bullet train, the ₹6,000 crore high-speed rail corridors or several six-lane toll highways (many of which are being rebuilt). The nation has not learnt from the mistakes of Hyderabad, Bengaluru or the collapse of Amaravati and Raipur.

One could argue that people need houses. But a third of the new residential constructions are unoccupied in most cities. Jewar airport or Amaravati type constructions are promoting speculative activities and draining the economy, causing pollution and worsening living conditions for citizens.

The banking system, once the world's best, is collapsing due to irrational projects, non-repayment of huge debts and higher operational costs.

India is now one of the most degraded countries on the planet with no national policy on public spending, securing of public sector units, the banking system, farmers and land use.

The 2014 election had generated hope that past wrongs would be corrected. The BJP made the right noises before the polls and Narendra

Modi instilled hope. But somewhere along the way, the system got derailed and irrational policies continued. Knee-jerk reactions like demonetisation, unnecessary construction that depleted the banks, increasing travel costs following a hike in fuel prices, cess and tolls (for which the previous regimes were criticised) have only stressed the economy further.

The promised jobs, a crore a year, could not be provided as the State went into penury. The lockdown has now made income sustainability difficult as job losses rise despite the unlocking of the economy. The exploitative situation, legally denying rights to the labourers and farmers, reminds one of the heavy industrialisation of the 18th and 19th century Europe with its concomitant exploitation, leading to the rise of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

Course correction is imperative to stop the country from slipping into a deeper crisis. A national dialogue is needed to turn the present morass into an opportunity. Modi, skilled at taking decisions, is capable of initiating this change and ticking the right boxes. Question is, will he?

(The writer is a senior journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



NOT GOOD FOR THE US AT ALL

The calculated shamelessness of Donald Trump's disregard for facts and propriety in his response to the election suggests that the coming days and weeks will also be vicious, bitter and explosive. Even if Joe Biden eventually enters the White House as President in January, he will be immediately confronted with an entrenched opposition. This is not good for the US.

(The Guardian editorial)

Prez election exposes US's perilous divides

New York: Presidential elections can be revealing moments that convey the wishes of the American people to the next wave of elected officials.

So far, the big reveal in the contest between President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden is the extent of the cavernous divide between Republican and Democratic America, one that defines the nation, no matter which candidate ultimately wins.

Voters from both parties turned out in droves to pick the next president, but as they did so, they found little agreement about what that president should do. Democrats and Republicans prioritised different issues, lived in different communities and even voted on different kinds of ballots.

Whoever emerges as the winner, that division ensures that the next president will face significant gridlock in Congress, scepticism about the integrity of the vote and an ag-



tated electorate increasingly divided by race, education and geography. Even the vote count itself threatens to further split Americans.

Two days after polls closed, neither Trump nor Biden has earned the 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency. The Republican incumbent is encouraging his supporters to protest outside counting locations still sorting through mail ballots — the method of voting preferred by many Democrats — while pursuing an aggressive

legal strategy that could lead to further delays.

"Except for the Civil War, I don't think we've lived through any time as perilous as this in terms of the divisions," said historian Barbara Perry, the director of presidential studies at the University of Virginia's Miller Centre.

Even after the 2000 election, when the Supreme Court ultimately intervened on Republican George W. Bush's behalf, Democrat Al Gore quickly conceded and congressional leaders found areas of agreement on Capitol Hill. AP

China slams US for delisting Xinjiang's ETIM as terrorist outfit

Beijing: China on Friday sharply criticised the US for delisting Xinjiang's separatist militant outfit East Turkistan Islamic Movement from its list of terrorist organisations, saying it reflected Washington's "double standards" on fighting global terrorism.

In a major policy shift on November 5, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo lifted the ban on East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), which was designated as a terrorist organisation by the UN's 1267 counter-terrorism committee in 2002 for its alleged association with al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban.

China accuses ETIM, which is entrenched in Uighur Muslim-majority province of Xinjiang province, of being responsible for numerous violent attacks in the province and outside, including one at the Forbidden City in Beijing, killing several people.

The US in recent months has stepped up its criticism of China's treatment of about 12 million minority Uighur

Muslims in Xinjiang.

Since last year, China has been under severe international criticism including from the UN and western countries over allegations that it is holding over a million people, mostly ethnic Uyghurs, in internment camps in Xinjiang, in a bid to wean them away from religious extremism.

The resource-rich Xinjiang province is home to Turkic speaking Uighur Muslims. The province is restive for several years over settlements of Han Chinese.

China defends the camps, describing the facilities as re-education centres aimed at de-radicalising sections of the Uyghur Muslim population from extremism and separatism.

Asked for his reaction on the US move to delist ETIM, which calls itself a separatist outfit, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here on Friday that "China deplores and rejects US decision". PTI

Top Chinese official praises Lam for stabilising Hong Kong

Beijing: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam received credit from a top Chinese official on Friday for restoring order and reviving the economy in the semi-autonomous territory.

Vice Premier Han Zheng, meeting Lam on the last day of her four-day visit to Beijing, said that her government had "overcome all kinds of difficulties and dealt with the challenges".

Hong Kong was wracked by

protests last year demanding fully democratic elections and opposing China's expanding influence in city affairs. Lam, who was picked as leader by a committee dominated by pro-Beijing members, was accused of being too close to the central government.

China responded by enacting a national security law for Hong Kong earlier this year that has curtailed the protests, which

were already dwindling because of COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings.

Han, one of seven members of the ruling Communist Party's top leadership body, praised Lam's government for its handling of the pandemic, easing the economic burden on the population, implementing the national security law and protecting the stability of Hong Kong. AP

Indian-origin Democratic lawmakers: Must understand Trump supporters, their issues

New York: Prominent Indian-American Democratic Congresspersons have hailed presidential candidate Joe Biden and his running mate Kamala Harris for being on the cusp of electoral success and becoming the new leaders of America, but noted that Democrats need to invest in understanding the core supporters of President Donald Trump as well as the issues he raises with them.

On Friday, Biden took crucial leads over Republican incumbent Trump in the key battleground states of Georgia and Pennsylvania, bringing him closer than ever to a historic electoral success.

"How amazing it is that we

are going to be electing a new president. We will be electing Joe Biden as President, we will be electing Kamala Harris as Vice President. How incredible!" Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal said during a virtual post-election political analysis hosted by leading non-profit Indian diaspora organisation 'Indiaspora'. She said it is "amazing and joyful" that in Harris the US will be electing the first woman of colour to a major presidential party ticket.

"First Black woman, first South-Asian American woman. That's really phenomenal and we're not always so good at celebrating our victories, but this is an important one," Jayapal said. PTI

At least 3 die in latest shelling of Nagorno-Karabakh cities

Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh): At least three civilians were killed in the latest shelling of Nagorno-Karabakh cities Friday as Azerbaijan pushed its offensive to reclaim control over the separatist territory for a sixth straight week, territorial authorities said.

Azerbaijani rockets and artillery shells hit residential areas in Nagorno-Karabakh's regional capital, Stepanakert, and the city of Shushi in the hills just south, according to Nagorno-Karabakh authorities. They said at least three people died, including a

woman and her two grandchildren in Stepanakert.

Azerbaijan's Defense Ministry denied targeting civilian areas, as it has on previous days of fighting, and accused Armenia of targeting the city of Terter and nearby villages in Azerbaijan.

Nagorno-Karabakh lies within Azerbaijan but has been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since a war there ended in 1994. The latest outbreak of fighting started on September 27 and has left hundreds — if not thousands —

dead, marking the worst escalation of the decades-old conflict between the two ex-Soviet nations in over a quarter-century. According to Nagorno-Karabakh officials, 1,177 of their troops and 50 civilians have been killed. Azerbaijani authorities haven't disclosed their military losses, but say the fighting has killed at least 92 civilians and wounded over 400. But Russian President Vladimir Putin said on October 22 that the actual death toll was nearing 5,000, according to the information Moscow had at the time. AP

UK rolls out first city-wide Covid tests in Liverpool

London: Everyone living or working in the UK's Liverpool is being offered COVID-19 rapid tests from Friday, whether they have symptoms or not, as a pilot ahead of an expected nationwide rollout.

The UK government has said the initiative will last for approximately two weeks and Liverpool Mayor Joe Anderson said it would help save lives, stop hospitals being overwhelmed and help the city ease out of lockdown.

The city has among England's highest rates of coronavirus, with latest figures showing that Liverpool recorded 318 cases per 100,000 in the week up to November 2 and across England, the rate was 236 per 100,000. People will be offered a mix of existing swab tests and new lateral flow tests, which could provide a result in 20 minutes without the need to use a lab. PTI

German police raid homes of people linked to Vienna attacker

Berlin: German police have raided the homes and businesses of four people linked to the Islamic State sympathiser who carried out a deadly attack in Vienna this week.

Federal police said Friday that officers, including members of the anti-terrorism unit GSG9, searched premises in Osnabrueck, Kassel and Pinneberg county.

Police said while the men aren't currently suspected of involvement in Monday's shooting, in which four people and the gunman were killed, there is evi-

dence that they had links to the attacker. Authorities in Austria have identified the attacker as 20-year-old Kujtim Fejzulaj, a dual national of Austria and North Macedonia who had a previous conviction for trying to join IS in Syria and had been given early release in December.

An investigation has been launched into why Austria didn't put Fejzulaj under observation despite being tipped off by Slovakian authorities that he had tried to purchase assault rifle ammunition at a shop in Bratislava in July. AP

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi- 110005

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
[See proviso to rule 8(f)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

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 proviso to Rule 8 (f) 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/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Chander (Borrower), Tejal (Co-Borrower) LBDEL00002384207	Flat No 54, 3rd Floor Sec 34 Pocket 2, Block E3 LIG Rohini, Delhi 110085. Area- 345 Sq. ft.	Rs. 15,69,730/- (As on November 02, 2020)	Rs. 16,82,500/- Rs. 1,68,250/-	November 23, 2020, From 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM	December 07, 2020, From 12:00 Noon Onwards
2.	Bamdeo Mishra (Borrower), Shradha (CO-Borrower) LBND000002385629	Flat No 17, Block B5 4th Floor DDA, Sec 34, Pocket 2 Rohini LIG, Delhi, Delhi 110085. Area- 345 Sq. ft.	Rs. 14,83,828/- (As on November 02, 2020)	Rs. 16,82,500/- Rs. 1,68,250/-	November 23, 2020, From 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM	December 07, 2020, From 12:00 Noon Onwards
3.	Satyaveer Singh (Borrower), Suman (Co-borrower) LBDEL00001386142	Flat No.1, 1st Floor Plot No. S-2 Blk - A Shalimar Garden Extn-2 Ghaziabad Area: 748 Sq. Ft	Rs. 31,90,843.5 (as on October, 31st 2020)	Rs. 16,60,000/- Rs. 1,66,000/-	November 24, 2020 from 11:00AM to 01:00PM	December 07, 2020 From 11:00 AM to 01:00PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgages/notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **December 05, 2020 before 05:00 P.M** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder (s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi- 110005 and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website on or before **December 05, 2020 before 05:00 P.M** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, incase prospective bidder (s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted to ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi- 110005 on or before **December 05, 2020 before 05:00 P.M**. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 8584874809/ 8657476284 or M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. NexXen Solution Private Limited 2. Ageo Asset Management Pvt Ltd have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: November 07, 2020
Place: Delhi/ NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Suu Kyi's party expected to win second term in Myanmar polls

Bangkok: Myanmar's citizens go to the polls Sunday in an effort to sustain the fledgling democracy they helped install just five years ago.

There are about 37 million registered voters, though turnout is expected to suffer because of a recent surge in coronavirus cases. In 2015, excitement was high over the opportunity to end

more than five decades of army-directed rule. The National League of Democracy party of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi roared to a landslide election victory, and she became her country's leader after many hard years at the forefront of a non-violent struggle against military dictatorships that won international admiration. AP

Horrified by deadly attacks, French Muslims protect church

Paris: As a French-born Muslim, Elyazid Benferhat's stomach turned when he heard about a deadly Islamic extremist attack on a church in Nice. Then he decided to act.

A self-described man of peace and pragmatism, Benferhat and a friend gathered a group of young Muslim men to stand guard outside their town's cathedral for the All Saints' holiday weekend, and symbolically protect it and show solidarity with Catholic churches.

Parishioners at the 13th-century church in the southern town of Lodeve were deeply touched.

The parish priest said their gesture gave him hope in a time of turmoil.

Benferhat, speaking with a

distinctive southern French accent, identified himself as "more French than anything." While his mother was born in Algeria, he was born in France and grew up speaking only French.

"But I am also Muslim ... And we have seen Islamophobia in this country, and terrorism," he told The Associated Press.

"In recent years, I've had a pit in my stomach," because every time Islamic extremist violence strikes France, he said, French Muslims face new stigmatisation, even though "we had nothing to do with it."

He called the beheading of a teacher near Paris last month — targeted because he showed his class caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad for a debate on free expression — an

act of "unbelievable, unprecedented cruelty."

Then when three people were killed last Thursday in the Notre Dame Basilica in Nice, Benferhat said he was so sickened that he wanted to do something "so that everyone wakes up."

Benferhat, who works for French oil company Total and coaches at a local football club, talked to a Muslim friend who was in Nice that day, "and we had this idea.

We needed to do something beyond paying homage to the victims. We said, we will protect churches ourselves."

They recruited volunteers among their friends and at his football club, and guarded the church that night and again for Sunday Mass. AP

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.Pc.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Suraj S/o Suresh R/o A-92, Double Story, Harijan Colony, Tilak Nagar, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 557/2020 date 30.10.2020 u/s 324/34 IPC, P.S. Tilak Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Suraj cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Suraj has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Suraj of FIR No. 557/2020 date 30.10.2020 u/s 324/34 IPC, P.S. Tilak Nagar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 16.12.2020.

By Order,
Puneef Nagpal
Metropolitan Magistrate-07, Room No. 289,
IInd Floor, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/260/WD/2020

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 65 years of age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found dead near main gate of Aruna Asif Ali Hospital, Rajpur Road, Civil Lines, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with DD No: 45-A dated 30.10.2020 at PS Civil Lines, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the UDB is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** about 65 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** White colour kurta, pajama and black colour jacket.
If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/ Civil Lines, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbl.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi.
Ph. No. 011-23810633, 23815444

DP/697/N/2020

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that an one male person was found dead at 11/2 Dakshinpur Extn., New Delhi dated 18.10.2020. In this regard a Vide DD No. 21A dated 18.10.2020 has been registered at PS Ambedkar Nagar, New Delhi.

The description of the dead body is given as under **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 35 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Sallow, **Face:** Long & Beard, **Built :** Medium, **Wearing:** White Baniyaan and Light Cream Colour Pant, **Identification Mark:** Tatoo of "Christian Cross" on right hand and "Sonu" name is written on right hand. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO
PS Ambedkar Nagar, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-290522304, 8750870832

DP/313/SD/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a lady namely Puja with her daughter, W/o Rohit Kumar R/o 3D, Gali No. 5, Near Baba Balak Nath Mandir, Chander Vihar, Delhi has been missing since 05.10.2020 at 5:00 p.m. from her house. In this regard, DD No. 8-A dated 06.10.2020 has been registered at P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing lady and her daughter but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing lady and her daughter are as under:
Name: Puja, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 26 years, **Height:** 4'10", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Green colour sari with yellow colour flower and yellow colour blouse and slipper on her feet.
Name: Akanshi, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 2 years, **Height:** 2'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Biuit:** Medium, **Wearing:** Cream colour skirt and slippers on her feet.
If anyone has any information regarding this the missing lady and her daughter, kindly inform SHO/P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbl.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi.
Ph. No. 011-22732427,
22732429, 8750870624

DP/221/ED/2020

Markets soar for 5th straight day

SENSEX CLOSES AT NEARLY 10-MONTH HIGH

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rising for the fifth straight session, equity benchmark SENSEX rallied 553 points and closed at a nearly 10-month high on Friday, tracking gains in index-heavyweights Reliance Industries and HDFC twins amid largely positive global market sentiment.

The 30-share BSE index ended 552.90 points or 1.34 per cent higher at 41,893.06, while the broader NSE Nifty surged 143.25 points or 1.18 per cent to 12,263.55.

On January 14, SENSEX had closed at a record peak of 41,952.63.

Reliance Industries was the top gainer in the SENSEX pack, surging 3.78 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv,

IndusInd Bank, HDFC twins and Kotak Bank.

On the other hand, Maruti, Bharti Airtel, Asian Paints, UltraTech Cement and Nestle India were among the laggards. According to Hemant Kanawala, Head - Equity, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance, Indian markets rallied in sync with its global peers, putting to the backburner the uncertainties in the US Presidential election. They delivered a broad-based performance, with both Nifty and Nifty midcap indices returning 1.5 per cent over the last week.

Sectorally, BSE energy, bankex, finance, realty and consumer durables indices rallied up to 3.16 per cent, while telecom, healthcare and FMCG fell up to 0.92 per cent.

Broader midcap and smallcap indices rose up to 0.54 per cent. During the week, SENSEX soared 2,278.99 points or 5.75 per cent, while Nifty advanced 621.15 points or 5.33 per cent.

₹ strengthens for 2nd straight day, settles 28 paise higher at 74.08/\$

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Indian rupee strengthened for the second straight day and settled 28 paise higher at 74.08 against the US dollar on Friday supported by gains in domestic equities and expectation of Joe Biden's victory in the US presidential election.

Weakness in American currency against its key rivals and significant foreign fund inflows also boosted investor sentiment, traders said.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit opened at 73.99 against the US dollar and touched an intra-day high of 73.87 and a low of 74.28.

75 pc of industry workforce may continue to work from outside office, says IT Secy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The information technology (IT) industry may not get back to the old style of working from office and around 75 per cent of the workforce may continue to work from outside office going ahead, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Secretary Ajay Prakash Sawhney said on Friday.

He said the IT industry showed resilience during the lockdown, with up to 97 per cent of its workforce working from home or anywhere they found suitable to serve not just domestic but global clients also.

"We are very excited at what happened at that point of time (during lockdown). Now it is a fact, I can't imagine going back to the old way of working and I am told by the industry as well, going back to the old ways of working is almost out of question."

"It is quite possible that 75 per cent of the workforce will continue to work outside a formal office and yet be equally or more productive," Sawhney said at a Microsoft event.

The government on Thursday announced simplified guidelines for BPOs and ITES companies to reduce the compliance burden on them and to facilitate "Work From Home" and "Work From Anywhere" framework.

The new rules for Other Service Providers (OSPs) seek to create a friendly regime for "Work From Home" and "Work From Anywhere", while removing frequent reporting obligations for such companies.

The move assumes significance as the industry had been asking for relaxations for "Work From Home" to continue on a permanent basis as the sector moves towards a blended working model in the post-COVID-19 era.

Sawhney said the services being provided with the help of data centres helped everyone to work from outside office without any disruption.

"Before lockdown, at least half of my work was on physical files. It took us less than 48 hours to switch over seamlessly into a system where 100 per cent of our work was digital. We started working from

home, making use of video conferencing solutions," Sawhney said.

Talking about the need for cyber security due to expansion of technology, Sawhney said the government is providing market support for local development of products and applications in the segment.

Minister of State for Electronics and IT Sanjay Dhotre said 'Digital India' is a transformational mission of the government.

Modern technologies have unprecedentedly expanded the horizons of our public services in all sectors of our economy. Today digital platforms, remote working, online education and other such intervention are no more an option but necessity after COVID-19," Dhotre said.

After developing various technology platforms, MeitY is developing an artificial intelligence based natural language translation mission in collaboration with academic and research institutions, industry and start-ups, which will pave the way for voice-enabled internet in Indian languages, he added.

INBRIEF

OBSERVANCE OF VIGILANCE WEEK IN HAL

NASIK: Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Aircraft Division, Nasik observed Vigilance Awareness Week from October 27, 2020 to November 2, 2020. UG Salawade, Additional General Manager (Design) was the Chairman of the Steering Committee formed for observance of Vigilance Awareness Week. On October 27 2020, the Function was inaugurated at the hands of Chief Guest, Shri Deepak Singhal, General Manager (AMD). Saket Chaturvedi, General Manager (AOD) and RP Khapli, General Manager (AURDC) were the guests of honour. This year's theme for observing the Vigilance Awareness Week was 'Vigilant India - Prosperous India'. After lighting of the Lamp, the Chief Guest, Deepak Singhal, General Manager (AMD) and other Dignitaries, paid homage to Bharat Ratna Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and his portrait was garlanded by the Chief Guest.



NAFED GETS GOOD RESPONSE ON THE TENDERS

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (Nafed), on the directions of Govt of India had floated tenders for supply of 15 thousand imported Red onions at Port towns loaded on truck and rail from Importers. This tender was released on 31st October, 2020 with closing date of 5th November, 2020. Yesterday, Nafed received good response in the tenders with offers to supply at Tuticorin and Mumbai. This time Nafed has insisted for the quality and size matching the choice of Indian Consumers who generally prefer medium sized onions whereas in overseas origins the sizes are bigger upto 80 mm. Unlike last year when MMTC had directly imported yellow, pink and red onions from Turkey and Egypt, this year private importers have been offered to supply. This may ensure quality supply in minimal time.

Increased digital payment to better assess country's GDP, says Sitharaman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said increased digitalisation will help in making better assessment of the country's economic growth and nudged tax practitioners to suggest their clients to shift towards digital modes of payments.

She said the government, irrespective of the party in power, tries to widen the tax net and at the same time, lower the tax burden in its pursuit of revenue collection, and tax practitioners can play a critical role in this by ensuring timely compliance by taxpayers.

"(As) we move towards digital transaction... We expect that the temptation for dealing with cash be brought down."

"Unless it is so small that you cannot go in for digital, it is always encouraging to know there will be digital ways of doing things so that every (transaction) somewhere is into the realm of getting noticed," Sitharaman said at the 'National tax Conference 2020' organised by the All India

Federation of Tax Practitioners.

She said India's gross domestic product (GDP) will remain "underestimated" if commercial transactions do not come under monitorable radar. "If each of these transactions are brought into some kind of monitorable network, your GDP calculation can be closer to the actual strength of Indian economy," Sitharaman added. She also said tax practitioners today are the most important component, because they educate the tax assessee, counsel them, tell them about the best ways of handling their tax liabilities, and help them plan it in such a way that what is due comes from an honest taxpayer in time. "What you (tax practitioners) can tell them (assessee) is by more and more digitalisation, you help the country have a better assessment of what its gross domestic product is."

The minister said that in a growing economy like India, the government tries to widen the tax net and, at the same time, look at ways to bring down the burden of taxes.

Govt cautions public not to fall prey to cheating in the name of PMEGP loans

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The MSME Ministry on Friday cautioned the general public and potential entrepreneurs against falling prey to cheating in the name of its flagship scheme Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

The ministry's alert comes in the backdrop of some instances being reported whereby potential entrepreneurs/beneficiaries were approached by private persons or agencies offering loans under PMEGP scheme and handing over loan sanction letters and cheating the entrepreneurs by charging money from them. "Ministry has warned the scrupulous elements against cheating general public in its name and it has been informed that the Ministry has already taken up the matter with the police authorities for proper investigation and action," it said in a statement.

The PMEGP is a central sector credit linked subsidy scheme being implemented by the Ministry of MSME since 2008-09 to assist first generation entrepreneurs for setting up micro enterprises across the country. Under the PMEGP Scheme, the entire process of application and fund flow, right from receipt of application to sanction and release of loan by banks to the applicants, has been made online through only one government portal run by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

The whole process is totally free of cost. No private party/agency/ middlemen/franchise, etc. Is engaged or authorized for promoting and sanctioning PMEGP projects or providing any financial assistance under PMEGP scheme, the statement said.

"Instances of potential entrepreneurs/beneficiaries being approached by private persons or agencies offering loans under PMEGP Scheme and handing over loan sanction letters and cheating the entrepreneurs by charging money from them is totally illegal and absolutely fake," it said.

Amount of fraud in GST needs cautious approach: Official

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Kolkata: The CGST department needs to take a cautious approach because of the amount of fraud happening in claiming input tax credit (ITC) by business entities, an official of the GST administration said on Friday. Deputy commissioner, north, CGST Naveen Rana said in a CII organised webinar that there are many reasons for blocking ITC by the department. "Blocking of ITC is done after substantial verification. The amount of fraud happening in GST is crucial for the department to take a cautious approach", Rana said.

He said that in many cases it is found that suppliers of inputs are found to be non-existent. "Upon physical verification by the GST department, if suppliers are found to be non-existent, then ITC will be blocked. Then the option left with the department is to initiate action against those claiming ITC", he said. Rana said the other main reason for the department to block ITC is that suppliers are often found not filing the returns on time, not paying taxes to the government.

DAY 5 OF COMMERCIAL COAL MINE AUCTION Aurobindo Realty and Infra wins block in Jharkhand

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

On the fifth day of commercial coal mine auction on Friday, Aurobindo Realty and Infrastructure Ltd won a block in Jharkhand, while EMIL Mines and Mineral Resources emerged as a winner for a mine in Odisha.

EMIL Mines and Mineral Resources made the final bid offer of 16.75 per cent revenue sharing for Radhikapur (East) block in Odisha, for which Adani Enterprises Ltd, Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL) and National Aluminium Co Ltd (Nalco) were also in the race.

With regard to the Urma

Paharitola coal block in Jharkhand, Aurobindo Realty and Infrastructure made the highest final offer of 26.50 per cent revenue sharing, the coal ministry said in a statement.

Companies like Adani Power Resources Ltd and Welspun Steel Ltd were also vying for the block.

The block, which has geological reserves of 579.30 million tonnes, will generate an annual revenue of Rs 1,415.85 crore, the ministry said.

This is the second block won by Aurobindo Realty and Infrastructure in this auction. On the first day of auction, the company had won the

Takli-Jena-Bellora (North and South) block in Maharashtra.

"Two coal mines (one in Odisha and one in Jharkhand) were put up for auction on Day 5 of commercial coal mine auction," the ministry statement said.

The total geological reserves of the mines put up for auction are 755.63 million tonnes with a cumulative peak rate capacity of 15 million tonnes per annum.

The e-auction witnessed strong competition among the bidders with both the mines attracting good premiums over the floor price, the ministry said.

DELHI JAL BOARD OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (NE) II R-POCKET DILSHAD GARDEN DELHI-95 "STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene" PRESS NIT No. 26 (2020-21)						
S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender to Tender	EMD Amount	Tender Fees	Date of release of tender in procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through eprocurement solution
1.	Replacement of old / deep / damaged CI water line in D-Block Gali No. 3 Dayalpur under Mustafabad AC-69 NE-II Tender ID No. 2020_DJB_196360_1	48,77,358.00	98,000.00	500.00	05.11.2020	20.11.2020 upto 02:30 P.M.

All the terms and conditions including technical specification and special conditions is available on Delhi Govt. Website <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt No. J.S.V. 217 (2020-21)

Sd/-
(Sukhpal Chauhan)
EX. ENGINEER (NE)-II

WESTERN RAILWAY
GENERAL FURNISHING, CARPENTRY, PLUMBING & PASSENGER AMENITY WORKS
Department: Mechanical, Executive : Sr.CDO-BCT. TENDER NOTICE NO: BCT/Amenity/2020 dated 04.11.2020.
Work and location: General Furnishing, Carpentry, Plumbing & Passenger amenity works round the clock in coaches at Coaching Depot Mumbai Central during Primary, Secondary & STR Maintenance.
Approx. Cost of the work: ₹8,21,59,294.78 (All Inclusive). EMD: ₹5,60,800/- Office where Tender form available: ONLINE. Date and time of Submission (Closing): On 02.12.2020 till 15.00 hrs. Date and time of opening: On 02.12.2020 at 15.30 hrs. Note: Please visit our Website www.ireps.gov.in to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details. 0413
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

Breaking dishwashing gender stereotypes

New Delhi: Hindustan Unilever Ltd's Vim has launched #VimWhatAPlayer campaign with an aim to "unereotype" dishwashing. Seeped from the Covid-led impetus of male participation in household chores, the brand has taken an opportunity to break the age-old stereotype around dishwashing with this campaign. "Being an industry leader, we are committed to contribute to positive cultural change," said HLL Executive Director and VP Prabha Narasimhan.

Businesses supplied by large firms could face ITC denial over wrong e-invoice

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Small businesses will need to be extra careful while taking supplies from big vendors from November as they would not be able to claim input tax credit on such supplies if the supplier has issued a non-compliant e-invoice.

The Govt has made e-invoice generation mandatory for all businesses with a turnover of over ₹500 crore from Oct 1 with some relaxation available till the end of the month.

Govt weeds out 4.39 cr bogus ration cards under NFSA since 2013

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Friday said about 4.39 crore bogus ration cards were weeded out since 2013 for rightful targeting of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

New ration cards are regularly issued to genuine and eligible beneficiaries or households against the deleted ration cards, it said in a statement. In a statement, the Union food ministry said that amid the technology-driven reforms to modernise the PDS, a total of about 4.39 crore ineligible or bogus ration cards have been weeded out in the country during the period from 2013 to 2020 so far by the state governments.

To bring transparency and improve efficiency in PDS, the government has digitised beneficiaries database and made it mandatory the seeding of Aadhaar number that has helped detect ineligible and bogus ration cards. It has also helped to weed out de-duplication of digitised data and migration or deaths of beneficiaries during the run-up to the implementation of NFSA, it added.

WESTERN RAILWAY
TRACK WORKS
Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th Floor, Engg. Deptt. Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008 invites E-tender as per details given as follows:
Executive : Sr.DEN(N/BCT). 1.TENDER NOTICE NO: BCT-20-21-258 dtd 04.11.2020. Work and location: Virar - Surat Section :- ADEN/Valsad (I) Complete Track Renewal of existing 60kg rails on PRC sleepers at 1660 No./km including deep screening and recruitment of ballast to 300mm on various location i.e Total CTR(P) = 5.854km, CTR(S)= 3.110kms. (II) Deep Screening of P&C (III) TFR=56.04km & TBR=4.523km (IV) Rectification of bad layouts and TBR of P&C by use of T-28, JCB, Crane etc. under ADEN/Valsad Section (Re-invite-7).
Approx. Cost of the work: ₹3,16,55,349.83. EMD: ₹3,08,300/-
2.TENDER NOTICE NO: BCT-20-21-259 dtd 04.11.2020. Work and location: Virar-Joravasani Section:- TRR(P)=9.228km & TFR=20.900km in connection of sanctioned track work (I) TRR(P)=14.503km (II) TBR=65.587km. TFR=18kms & TFR=24.537kms. (Re-invite-1).
Approx. Cost of the work: ₹1,37,44,980.83. EMD: ₹2,18,700/-
Date and time of Submission: On 08.12.2020 till 15.00 hrs. Date and time of opening: On 08.12.2020 at 15.30 hrs. Note: Please visit our Website www.ireps.gov.in to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details. 0412
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

RAJASTHAN STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION, JAIPUR
E-BID NOTICE
नियम की 100 नकारा वाहनो का ई-ऑक्शन वेब-साईट Transport.Rajasthan.gov.in/rsrtc एवं rsrtc.procure247.com के माध्यम से जहा है. जैसी है कि रिजल्ट में किया जाना है जिसका विवरण निम्न प्रकार है :-
S. No. Event's Name EMD Deposit Start Date EMD Deposit End Date BID Start Date BID End Date
1. LEYLAND BLUE LINE 100 BUSES 21.10.20 10.11.20 10.11.20 11.11.20
नोट - 1. ई-ऑक्शन में शामिल होने से पूर्व बोलीपत्रा द्वारा EMD राशि जमा करना अनिवार्य है।
2. ई-ऑक्शन का सम्पूर्ण विवरण, नियम एवं शर्त वेब-साईट पर उपलब्ध है।
Advt. No. 116/2020-21
Raj.Samwad/C/20/6523
Financial advisor

RATHI BARS LIMITED
Regd. Office: A-24/7, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, New Delhi-110044
Ph: +91-11-42760373, 42730360
Web: www.rathisteels.com, E-mail: rathibars@hotmail.com
CIN No: L74899DL1993PLC054781
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, the 13th day of November, 2020, at 11.00 A.M., inter alia, to consider and approve the Un-Audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended 30th September, 2020.
This notice is available on the Company's website at www.rathisteels.com and also on the website of the stock exchange at www.bseindia.com
For RATHI BARS LIMITED Sd/-
Anurag Rathi
Whole Time Director-CFO
Place : New Delhi
Date : 06-11-2020

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-TENDER NOTICE No. Pub-Media-Monitoring-Pt-I (OT) DATE: 04/11/2020 E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India from Reputed Advertising Agencies who were in the past or presently are empanelled with any Zonal Railways / Production Units / Railway PSUs/PSUs or reputed Social Media firms who have done similar kind of work. SI.No.: [01]. Tender No.: Pub-Media-Monitoring. Name of the work: Engagement of agency for work related to Print Media, Electronic Media & Social Media monitoring and preparation of news clippings etc. works on daily basis for a period of 12 months". Tender Value (Rupees): ₹ 10,56,000.00 (Rupees ten lakhs Fifty six thousand) only including GST. Cost of Tender document (Rupees): ₹ 0.00 (Rupees Zero) only. Earnest money (Rupees): ₹ 21,100.00 (Rupees twenty one thousand one hundred) only. NOTE: (i) Date of closing- 04/12/2020 at 13.00 hrs. (ii) Complete details can be seen in the Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. (iii) Contact Number: 9163340004.
PMC-154
Sr.PRO
CLW/Chittaranjan
Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

PUBLIC NOTICE
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata- 700020
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com
The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.
Sr. No. Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Loan Account Number & Address Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice NPA Date
1. Raviraj Gupta/ Rajni Gupta/ C/o Mphan Gupta, 36-A, Second Floor, Gali No. 12, Mangal Bazar Laxmi Nagar, East Delhi Delhi 110092/ LBPTN00004895009/ LBPTN00004895007 Flat No. E-712, Block- E, On The 7th Floor, Chhatrapati Shivaji Green, Patna, Measuring An Area Of 1002 Sq. Ft Super Built Up Area (774 Sq. Ft Built Up Area) And (682 Sq. Ft Carpet Area) Together With Covered/ Open Car Parking Space 06-10-2020 Rs. 6510069.00/- 29/02/2020
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.
Date : November 07, 2020
Place: Delhi NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
MAHARASHTRA STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LTD.
Praskashgad, 1st Floor, Plot No.9, Station Road, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400 051.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/09- 2020-21
Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM System from the registered vendors for supply of following:
Tender No. & Description of Material Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs) Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender
RFX No. 5000000865 SP/T-0610/120 (Two Bid System) Procurement of 400kV, 220kV, 132kV & 100kV Class Circuit Breakers EHV S/S in MSETCL system. Rs. 898.59 lakhs 25.11.2020 Up to 15:00 Hrs. 25.11.2020 at 16:00Hrs
Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C) Tel. No.022-26474211/022-26472131 Extn. 2493/2491/3667.
For further details visit our website <http://www.srmertender.mahatransco.in>
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.
DGIPR/2020-2021/1149 Executive Engineer (P&C)

SHORT CIRCUITS

NEIL NITIN MUKESH

My film *Jail* released today 11 years ago. A film, I always say is and shall remain very close to my heart. The only film in my career that I used the method acting approach for. Madhur Bhandarkar sir gave me the wings to fly as an actor, guiding me through one of my most powerful portrayals on screen. Mugdha Godse was a strong support too.



AMAAL MALIK

With *Tu mera nahi*, I tried to pack the choicest elements musically and visually, including the arid beauty of Dubai that underlines the feeling of desertion in the song, the creativity of live musicians and Virag sir's spot-on lyrics. We are confident about the cinematic experience the song has, it's already winning hearts.



RAHAT FATEH ALI KHAN

Sason ki mala is a qawwali very close to my heart and this time it has been presented as a fusion track, conceptualised by Salman Ahmed. I dedicate its release to my mentor Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and my father Ustad Farrukh Fateh Ali Khan. The video of the song is unique, its locations and the entire feel is mesmerising.



AMOL PARASHAR

I am excited to go back on the set and be working after so long. I have come to Goa for a shoot of my next project. I am quite excited about shooting fiction again, after so long. I like to work on things and with people that excite me and this project definitely ticks all the boxes. It helped me take a breather, work on myself and grow as a person and actor.

MILEY CYRUS

I've gone through a lot of trauma and loss in the last couple of years. I had a house fire in Malibu, where I lost my house and went through a divorce recently. I lost my grandma who I was super close with.



ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES

HIS MOMENT IN THE SUN

Actor ARJUN MATHUR mistook his Emmy nomination as a prank. He talks to SAKSHI SHARMA about his reaction, how typecasting should never be an actor's problem, his own expectations and the way digital has turned out to be a game-changer for him



Good things take time, just like they should. And getting something too easily or too soon might take away the enormity of the outcome. Actor Arjun Mathur's success story can't prove it more. Even though his initial releases didn't create much of an impact, the actor believes that his career trajectory has been in the "right place at the right time" as the web has proved to be his major breakthrough. It worked out for him in a way mainstream Bollywood cinema couldn't.

And it's quite evident how the OTT space has levelled the playing field beautifully for him after *Made in Heaven*. We can say this with more conviction now that the British-born Indian actor has received a nomination in the 'Best Performance by an Actor' category at the International Emmy Awards 2020 for his portrayal of a gay man in the Amazon Prime Original series.

Well, actors like him seek authentic stories and powerful content to engage the audience. He believes that his several independent acting projects — in films, OTT, theatre and voiceovers — would have otherwise "thrived in the digital space" too. If we take a moment to reflect on how the online space has been a game changer in the past few months, we'll also realise that it kept us going in a situation when theatres were shut. Certainly, it's the right time for artistes like him to seek their moment in the sun. Excerpts:

◆ **From your Instagram posts and other interviews, it is evident that it took you some time to sink in that feeling of being nominated for the Emmys. How do you feel?**

I have been in this profession for long with my own share of ups and downs. But no matter for how long you struggle to be seen, getting this kind of validation at the end is a completely amazing and an unexpected feeling. Emmy is something we dream and fantasise about but don't actually expect that this can happen to us. But I guess miracles do happen! Now one month after the announcement, I have some time to let that feeling of being nominated 'sink in.' I feel great, proud and gratified.

◆ **What was your instant reaction and who was your first go-to-person?**

You'd imagine that as soon I heard this I would have gone ecstatic and crazy but that didn't actually happen. As soon I heard the news, I refused to believe it. I thought it was a joke or some sort of misprint or mistake somewhere. I was more like 'Who's joking with me?' 'Who's playing a prank?' It took me a few minutes to realise that this has actually happened when I got a call from Amazon and Excel. It then start-



ed settling down slowly and gradually. As far as who I first contacted is concerned, I was already sitting with my partner. The first people I messaged was my family group saying that this news is coming in but I am not believing it yet, I'll keep you posted. The first two people I called was Zoya (Akhtar) and Nitya (Mehra) because they were simply the two people who were responsible for believing in me, holding my hands throughout the process and having me onboard.

◆ **Do you think this international recognition will help you spread your wings as an actor and open more doors for you?**

I hope so. I can't really predict it now. At the end of the day that's what we all are trying to do, working our way towards bigger and better opportunities. And one can never be content with this feeling because even if you get the best work, you'll still strive for more. I have always believed in spreading my wings and have tried to showcase it all over the world and not just in narrow pockets. I hope this enables me for more and more.

◆ **After your performance in the series, *Made in Heaven*, people certainly have higher expectations from you. Do you feel the pressure of putting your best foot forward?**

I have given my best every time I was a part of something. I worked as hard for every small independent project and tried to be authentic too. I have always been someone who has kept high standards for himself. So my own expectations have gotten higher because there is a definite quality that I want to maintain in my work. I am not the one who works as per people's expectations. Infact, when people expect something from me, I want to do the opposite because it is important to follow your own instinct and heart — eventually that is what connects with people also. If I start working as per people's expectations, there wouldn't be anything authentic. Rather, I will only become an image, which is something I want to resist. I don't want to live an actor's image or up to the audience's expectations. So I just want to keep surprising people and pushing my own boundaries and standards.

◆ **What are the factors that you consider while choosing a script?**

It's really an instinctive reaction. The first thing I do is to really listen to my gut, due to which I instantly know that it is the right deci-

sion. Of course, my heart knows it but my mind remains trapped thinking more about it.

I connect the most with the character and the script. The character is, of course, paramount. That's the first thing I look at even though there are many other variables, too. We can find a good script often but it might lack production support or the audience's attention or a wider reach. It takes so many variables for a project to really click and become the kind of magic that *Made in Heaven* did. So now there are a lot of things to look into. For instance, the people making it, the technical requirements, the cast, where is it going to be seen, its reach, promotion and much more.

◆ **Before starting your cinema journey, you worked as an assistant director for hits like *Bunty Aur Babli* and *Rang De Basanti*. How would you describe that space? Did that experience add on in understanding the nuances of acting and this industry?**

Oh yes, definitely! Before assisting in those films, I got trained in acting. So, post that, I really wanted to assist only to get some kind of experience and observe the actors, shooting, working on a set, etc. I didn't go to a college but assisting filled that gap. Those days were the most valuable days of my career because being around actors like Amitabh Bachchan and Aamir Khan, there's a lot to pick up just from the way they approach a role or a scene or a project. I saw how amazing their work ethics and professionalism were, are.

Second, I like to think that I am a fairly efficient actor on the sets. I get there, do my work as fast as I can and finish it. The habit probably comes from my days as an AD (assistant director) because then, I had seen things from the other side too. I know how much an actor's non-cooperation or punctuality can trouble a production. Hence, I try to be as much of a support as I can and not be a person they just have to put up with.

◆ **You have worked in feature films as well as OTT platforms. How do you think they differ from each other from an actor's perspective?**

There are a couple of aspects. One is the absolutely creative aspect — what is the basic difference? In a series, you really get to delve deep into the characterisation. The advantages are not enough for the actors as much as they are for the creators and writers as they are the ones who get to explore the different ways of the storytelling and delve deeper into the characters. As actors, it's

amazing that we get to sink our teeth into that material. But I don't have any preferences in particular between films or OTT. I don't even think about it as much when I am taking up a project. It's one of the last things I consider because an actor's job is to act, no matter what you're acting for — a film, a daily soap, an OTT series, a play, voice acting or a street performance. We just want to work and make it reach as far and wide as possible. The higher the number of medium, the better it is.

◆ **You did two short films where you played a gay and it became the talking point for a short while back in 2014. Then came your third such role in *Made in Heaven*. Do you think playing a certain kind of role repetitively typecasts an actor?**

If I would have thought so, I wouldn't have done it. Honestly speaking, typecasting should never be an actor's problem. It's the lack of imagination and vision on the part of other people who are not able to see an actor as anything except what they have already seen him as. I personally have never taken typecasting or slotting seriously because at the end of it, it's up to you. You can get typecast only if you let yourself. At the end, the choice is all yours. To accept or reject a role is completely your call.

As far as playing gay three times is concerned, the first time I did it was because it was my first film and I had the opportunity to act opposite Irrfan Khan in a Mira Nair film. I just had to do it. The second time I did it... which had an intimate scene with a man. At the time, it was quite scary for me but I wanted to challenge myself and break that barrier as an actor. And the third time was when *Made in Heaven* came up. I was a bit apprehensive about doing it for the third time, yes, but as soon as I read the script and saw what the show was about, there was no way I could have passed it on. I feel glad for all three opportunities. I think I'll do it again if I find something which really engages me the way my recent series did. I have no vision in my mind anymore about gay and straight part because that's where we need to be as an audience, as creators or as actors. We just have to normalise it to an extent that gay actors could come out and represent themselves.

◆ **Could you give us a glimpse into your role in *Made in Heaven*?**

I am waiting for an official announcement. Honestly, I haven't even read the script. I am waiting as much as you to know something.

CONVERSATION 30 MINUTES

Big B is never intimidating: Shoojit

Filmmaker Shoojit Sircar says Amitabh Bachchan is one of the most fascinating actors to work with.

The two have worked together on films such as *Piku*, *Shoebite* and most recently *Gulabo Sitabo*, which also stars actor Ayushmann Khurrana.

"Since I have worked with both of them earlier, somewhere down the line, there is trust,

bonding and comfort between us and that has matured slowly. Of course, it is a creative process, and we keep challenging each other all the time."

The filmmaker added, "We challenge Bachchan and he challenges us. That is very important for that good, healthy working relationship. The vision of the film needed the chemistry between these two people to be



crackling. It took a little time. If you work with him for the first time, it does take a little time to get past that aura. And in the beginning, that hesitation was there with Ayushmann but later it became fine. Bachchan also made him comfortable. In fact, he's (Big B) never intimidating, he's very easy. He may look like he isn't easy but on set he's absolutely a director's actor, and also one of the most fascinating co-actors to work with," the filmmaker added.

The film *Gulabo Sitabo* released this year. Talking about the film, the director

said, "It's a satire on very simple people who are struggling with their lives every day. There are these two characters — Banke (played by Ayushmann) and Mirza (played by Bachchan) — and also many other characters. In this film, I have explored a world which is an absolutely new and challenging world for me. I've not ventured into these characters and this space before. I wanted to present Lucknow with a new visual feel, which the audiences have appreciated."

(The film will air on Sony MAX this month.)

CELEB TALK 30 MINUTES

THE STORY OF LIFE

M NIGHT SHYAMALAN feels that his film, *Glass*, is impactful because it creates a realistic scenario for the audience through the emotions its characters portray



What was it like to create the third version with previous characters?

I would say that it was definitely a strange venture. My directorial career has been basically made on original content-based films, so in each film, I try to kind of invent a new tone and a new life — a world that these characters are living in. So it was really different for me to kind of bring characters from two different films together which I had invented earlier and then create a third version.

What are your thoughts about the battle between the good and the evil?

I think my favourite thing about *Glass* is its idea of the good and the evil. It asks a range of questions — Are there only bad people? Are there good people or such a change is always on a continuum? Are there a mixture of people? It is constantly vacillating between those two extremes. Well, I feel that way about the film. I think it's hopefully one of its great, great assets. It has a sense of redefining what a villain is and what a hero is and differentiate between an antagonist and a protagonist in a different way altogether. The way that it can make you feel that we could be either of those things as a person is one of the biggest things.

Tell us about the marginalised characters in the film.

Glass is really all about marginalised characters. It is about them in search of a place in this world, which they feel is important. It is



also about the fact that they realise how equally important they are even though the world has told them or always made them feel otherwise.

How did you make fictional characters have real emotions?

I think things that are most effective in the fictional world is when we imbue them with nonfictional emotions, which resonate. I think it's a powerful factor about a film and impacts the most when the audience is able to feel that verisimilitude in their emotions as well.

Tell us about your method of finding the cinematic vision?

My cinematic vision is not better or worse than others. It's kind of solidified into really being able to visualise exactly how fast the

camera needs to move or when is it moving it? When are we booming up and when are we not! Why are you holding there to have a philosophy behind all of those things and know it inside and out before you shoot the scene.

Tell us about your relationship with Samuel L Jackson and Bruce Willis?

Sam and I had been in touch. It's like we see each other at times but not on regular basis. However, Bruce and I have actually stayed in touch over the years. Our families have stayed close. He has been like a big brother to me since I was a little kid. He's the one who took all the big risks in my life and protected me. So there's always a special place for him. It was really special to work with him again. I feel you might see that in the film as well...

(The film premieres on November 8 at 12 pm and 9 pm on Star Movies.)

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON



Vipin Gulati

General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo) Vipin Gulati S/o Late Sh. Tilak Raj R/O H.No. 54A, Lal Qtr. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi Aged: About 59 years, has been reported missing from his house since 16.10.2020 vide DD No. 94-A Dated 22.10.2020 lodged at Police Station - Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Height : 5'5", Complexion : Fair, Face : Round, Build : Strong, Clothing : wearing grey colour shirt & pant and black colour leather shoes in feet.

Any person is having any information or clue about this missing person may inform SHO, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Tele No.: 24368638/24368641, Fax: 24368639,

SHO : P.S. Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi Ph. : 011-25224162, 25225616, 8750871124

I love music: Boman



I started a group called Spiral Bound. It was started with four youngsters, and now we are almost 200. We have done many sessions. We discuss technique and structure, character, plot, analysis, it's the most amazing thing that I have been a part of. I am glad to have initiated this," added Boman, who became a household name after starring in the 2003 film *Munna Bhai M.B.B.S.*

The project is like "a little contribution back to the film industry that has given me so much." He is now looking forward to start working on his own film as a filmmaker. "I have found a story as a

filmmaker and I have been developing the story over a period of time. It's a story about relationship between a father and son. Hopefully, first thing next year we will be under production," said the actor.

As an actor, he can't wait to catch his films 83 and *Jayeshbhai Jordaar* in theatres. "I like watching films in theatres. There is nothing like a big giant screen and watching it with fellow viewers who love cinema. *Jayeshbhai Jordaar* and 83 and will hopefully release soon, and I would love to see them and I think every cinema lover would want to see those big films on

big screens," he said.

The pandemic had forced theatres to temporarily stop operations. Many filmmakers instead chose to take the digital route to release their films.

"There are certain films that work pretty well on the OTT, and that's great. It gives a lot of opportunity to people to produce films and watch them on OTT. But these films (83 and *Jayeshbhai Jordaar*) are big films and have to be seen on big screens, I just can't wait. This is something that I have been doing since I was a kid, watching films on the big screen and I want to see these films on the big screen," stressed Boman.

—IANS

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Desh Deepak Mishra, Suraj Mishra, Narayan Bhatti Media Advertising, 405 4th Floor Tower-07 Paras Tiera Gh 01 Sec-137, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBNOD00002449852	Unit No- 904, 9th Floor Tower- G Arihant Arden, Plot No- GH- 07A Sec-01 Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	05/10/2020, Rs. 27,28,242/-	29/02/2020
2.	Kanchan Verma, Mukesh Verma, X 728 First Floor, Near Gurudwara Sarojni Nagar, South Delhi, Delhi, A/c:- LBNOD00003140245	Flat No J- 1703, 17th Floor, Tower- J, Ajnara Le Garden, Greater Noida West, Plot No. GH- 02, Sector 16	05/10/2020, Rs. 27,75,607.3/-	29/02/2020
3.	Jayant JHA, Bishwamber JHA, 504 Gautam Tower Griaapravesh Sector-77, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBNOD00004404992	Flat No 1503, Floor No- 15 Tower- 2, Block-D, Plot No Gh- 16, Funihera Tower, Sector- 01, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	05/10/2020, Rs. 44,33,453/-	29/02/2020
4.	Rakesh Singh Bhadauria, 3/1 Manek Shaw Enclave, Taj Road Agra Cannt, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBDEL00000837750	Plot No- C- 45, Block- C, Sector- Beta- 1, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 2,51,425.29/-	30/09/2019
5.	Abhimanyu George, George Thankachan, 329, 4th Floor Back Side, Sant Nagar, East Of Kailash, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00001014463	Flat- MOL- 16/15 (Nova), Windsor, 3rd Floor, Vaibhav Khand, Shipra Sun City, Indirapuram Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 6,92,935.82/-	08/02/2020
6.	Gopal Jee Pandey, Kavita Pandey, L-364, Pratap Vihar Near Santosh Medical College, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBDEL00001213368	Flat Build UP On Plot No- K-124, First Floor- 1, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 4,77,930.08/-	31/01/2020
7.	Narendra Kumar Gautam, Nicola Gautam, Perennial Travels Pvt. Ltd., E-2/211, Block E, Pkt- 02 Sector 11, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002376075	Commercial Unit No. 229, On Second Floor, Plot No. Su, Rg Mall, Local Shopping Centre, Opp. Plot No. 39, Sector- 9, Rohini, Delhi- 110085	09/10/2020, Rs. 12,47,556.9/-	29/02/2020
8.	Amit Singh Rawat, Vijay Singh, Haska No- 14/2/1 Kamal Vihar, Kamalpur Manjra Pepsi Road, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002519245	Flat No- A 181/1/3 First Floor Sec-4A Asra Type- 1M, Aasra Type- I, Delhi Saharanpur Road Residential, Scheme, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 10,57,096/-	31/10/2019
9.	Himanshu Aggarwal, Asha, A- 1/52, Sector 07, Near M2K Narela, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002855194 LBDEL00002882867	Flat No: P-040403, 4th Floor, The Petioles, Crescent Parc Green Parc II, Situated At Sare Crescent Parc Township, Sec-92, Gurgaon, Haryana	05/10/2020, Rs. 1,08,31,976/- Rs. 1,03,050/-	31/12/2019
10.	Sumit Rastogi, Aditi Arya, 105 B, Humayun Pur Village, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002911731	Flat No. B3- 2004, 19th Floor, Morpheus Pratiksha, Plot No. Gh- 16A, Sector- 1, Greater Noida West	09/10/2020, Rs. 17,16,247/-	29/02/2020
11.	Suman Chalka, Shivanth Chalka, Shivnath Chalka, C 9 Pine Grange, Bath Road Bh- 12 Ph, Bourne Mouthdorsebth, England, England, A/c:- LBDEL000027467	Flat No- 803, 8th Floor Tower- A, Meghdutam Encore, Sports City Plot No Gh 05, Sec- Adjoining Techzone- IV, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 45,48,499/-	29/02/2020
12.	Naseem Raza Ansari, Irfan Ali, 51 D Pkt- A Mayur Vihar, Phase 2 Laxmi Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00003156105	Flat No. 301, Tower F- 4, 3rd Floor, Neotown, Plot No- Gh- 03, Tech Zone- IV, Greater Noida- West, District Gautam Budh Nagar (UP)- 201308	09/10/2020, Rs. 12,20,207/-	29/02/2020
13.	Deverakonda Srinivas Swarna, 004, Victoria, Tower- B, Grand Omaxe, Sector- 93 B, Noida Uttar Pradesh, A/c No:- LBDEL00004071475 & LBDEL00004123592	Flat No- 004, Ground Floor, Tower Victoria, Block- B, Grand Omaxe, Situated At Plot No - 01, 02, 03, Sector- 93B, Noida, Uttar Pradesh.	05/10/2020, Rs. 44,97,901/- Rs. 13,80,498/-	31/12/2019
14.	Shashi Jain, Rishant Jain, 1829 Gali, Malawli Maltiwara, 1st Floor Chandni Chowk, Mumbai, A/c:- LBGHZ00001039389	Flat No. 102, 1st Floor Type Block A- 4, Krishna Aparra Gardens, Plot No. 7, Vaibhav Khand, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, UP	09/10/2020, Rs. 9,10,599/-	31/10/2019
15.	Priyanka Tutoo, Amit Tutoo, Flat No- 4B, Second Floor, Plot No- 7/1, Sector- 2, Rajendra Nagar Near Karan Gate Chowk, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBGHZ00001329531	Flat No B- 4, 2nd Floor, Plot No 7/1, Sector- 2, Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 9,41,734.06/-	08/02/2020
16.	Shelly Bhardwaj, Subodh Sharma, Plot No. 3, Shanti Path, Sanjay Colony, Shastrri Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan, A/c:- LBNOD000012742	Plot No- 8B/ 609, HIG, Type- D Naya Moradabad, Moradabad Uttar Pradesh	09/10/2020, Rs. 7,99,001/-	08/11/2017
17.	Nishu Kumar Govil, Bhavana Govil, B-80 Mahesh Park, Daudpur Puri, Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBNOD00002091167	Flat No. Q- 12A01, Tower Q, Ajnara Le Garden, Greater Noida West, Plot No- Gh- 02, Sector 16, Gr. N	09/10/2020, Rs. 23,19,323/-	31/08/2019
18.	Amit Aggarwal, Shivani Aggarwal, Sai Trade Links, B- 39 Block- B, Preet Vihar Delhi, Delhi, A/c:- LBNOD00002854099	Flat No. Q- 806, 8th Floor, IITL- Nimbus The Golden Palms, Gh-01/E, Sector- 168, Noida	09/10/2020, Rs. 16,18,486/-	29/02/2020

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : November 07, 2020
Place: Delhi NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R, GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF ICU/HDU IN CIVIL HOSPITAL SECTOR - 10 AT GURUGRAM (PROVIDING INTERNAL E.I. ONLY) + 1 OTHER WORK	06.11.2020 19.11.2020	13.49 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	Pwd-eeed-gurgaon@hry.nic.in 0124-2320874
2	PWD B&R, SIRSA	PERIODICAL RENEVAL BY WAY 30MM THICK BC AND 5 YEARS PAID MAINTENANCE COST ON DHS ROAD TO SIKANDERPUR-RASULPUR-DARBI-SANGAR SARISTA NH-10 SUCHAN-KUSUMBI ROAD IN KM. 0.00 TO 19.05 IN SIRSA DISTT. & ELLENABAD TO JIWAN NAGAR ROAD IN KM. 0.00 TO 13.20 (ROAD ID 5897& 5898) IN SIRSA DISTT. REWARD + 2 OTHER WORKS	09.11.2020 23.11.2020	443.83 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-222959/ pwd-eeep2-sirsa@hry.nic.in
3	PWD B&R, PANIPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF SUB HEALTH CENTER AT VILLAGE KUTANI IN DISTRICT PANIPAT	03.11.2020 18.11.2020	21.46 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0180-2638652
4	DISTRICT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY, GURUGRAM	SUPPLYING OF STATIONERY/ EXPENDABLE ITEMS	05.11.2020 25.11.2020	1 LACS	GURUGRAM.GOV.IN	ditsgrg1@gmail.com ditsgrg@gmail.com
5	IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPTT. SIRSA	DESILTING INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF MANGALA DIRECT MINOR FROM RD. 0 TO 96000 + 3 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE	19.26 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	xenghagar@gmail.com 01666-235721
6	IRRIGATION & W.R. DEPARTMENT HARYANA INDRI W/S DIVISION, KARNAL	RENOVATION OF QUARTER NO. 20 CLASS-III AT AUGMENTATION CANAL COLONY, MEERUT ROAD, KARNAL + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 17.11.2020	3.73 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	0184-2258008 xenindivn@yahoo.in
7	IRRIGATION & W.R. DEPARTMENT HARYANA SONIPAT	I/C OF PAI DISTY FROM RD 1600 TO 42200 BEFORE RABI 2020-21 + 4 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 18.11.2020	27.20 LACS	hid.gov.in	xenwrs@rediffmail.com xenwrsal.in@gov.in
8	PANCHAYATI RAJ, PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF STREET AT VILLAGE DEVRI, SAYUN, RUNJA, SAKHAYAN G.P. BHOJKOTHI BLOCK MORNI DISTRICT PANCHKULA	10.11.2020 24.11.2020	42.97 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2576698
9	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA	PDG. E.I. WORK IN PANCHAYATI GHAR AT VILL. NANGLIYA DISTT. REWARD + 2 OTHER WORKS	03.11.2020 10.11.2020	1.99 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	98020-58718 / 0171-2980510/ prexeengelec.amb@hry.nic.in
10	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING, KATHAL	SALIMPUR MAHADUD - ESTIMATE FOR STRENGTHING OF DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION (FHTC) TO HOUSEHOLD TO VILLAGE SALIMPUR MAHADUD TEHSIL AND DISTT. KATHAL (UNDER JAL JEEVAN MISSION). + 7 OTHER WORKS	05.11.2020 12.11.2020	118.37 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-222250/ eeekathal@phedharyana.gov.in
11	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG. HISAR	ESTIMATE FOR LAYING OF RISING MAIN IN NEW RISHI NAGAR BOOSTER BALANCE DISTRIBUTION PIPE LINE REPLACEMENT OF OLD GUPVC PIPE LINE IN HISAR TOWN. SUPPLY AND ERECTION OF PUMPING MACHINERY AT 2ND W/W KAIMRI ROAD & SATROD KHAS W/W AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO + 1 OTHER WORKS	05.11.2020 16.11.2020	14.72 LACS	https://etendershary.nic.in	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
12	PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER BOUND DISTRICT CHARHI DADRI	SUPPLY OF INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCKS AND PRECAST C.C BLOCK AS PER APPROVAL OF GOVT./HSR. 1988/ PWD SPECIFICATION. + 13 OTHER WORKS	12.11.2020 27.11.2020	EMD 12.80 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416104176
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, SOHNA, GURUGRAM	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK SOHNA & DISTT-GURUGRAM.CATEGORY B TO L	13.11.2020 23.11.2020	574.18 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7015356206

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etendehry.nic.in RO NO. 83650

TODAY
TRAILBLAZERS VS SUPERNOVAS
Live from 7:30pm
STAR SPORTS 1



IPL 2020
KL Rahul | 670 runs
Jasprit Bumrah | 27 wickets

My nails are okay for the moment. They (Natarajan and Rashid) have been of great impact for us. Rashid has a lot of pressure on him to perform. Kane is our banker

Every time he (Surya) has come in to bat, if the early wicket has fallen, he has come and taken the pressure away from the team and the batter that he is batting with

It (Chase) was very tough. The best thing was that we were on the winning side. It was a similar feeling to what we had in the game against KXIP which was a small chase as well

Altogether they (SRH) put us under a lot of pressure in the first innings. Few soft dismissals, few fortunate ones for them as well and we just didn't have enough runs on the board

Supernovas take on Trailblazers in must win game

PTI ■ SHARJAH

Defending champions Supernovas will have to get past an upbeat Trailblazers here on Saturday to stay alive in the Women's T20 Challenge.

Brimming with confidence after a crushing win over Velocity on Thursday, the Smriti Mandhana-led Trailblazers will aim for another win to finish with two victories and enter the final on November 9 with momentum behind them.

They will be up against Supernovas, a team smarting from defeat in the tournament opener against Velocity. Another loss would knock Supernovas out of the tournament.

Trailblazers came up with a stellar bowling performance to bundle out Velocity for 47 with England's left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone, the world No 1 T20 bowler, returning impressive figures of 4 for 9 in 3.1 overs. Mandhana will be hoping that the bowlers continue the good work against a strong Supernovas line-up led by Harmanpreet Kaur.

The southpaw will be aiming to showcase her skills and expect her batting unit to step up in a crunch encounter.

Supernovas need a win and that will bring the net run-rate into play and possibly eliminate Velocity who have a negative NRR (-1.869).

Velocity, on their part, will hope Supernovas lose allowing them to advance to the summit clash.

Kaur, the Indian T20 captain, will look to build on her performance in the tournament opener and hope Sri Lankan Chamari Atapattu continues her good form.

Supernovas appeared to have the match under control before Sushma Verma and Sune Luus took it away from them as the bowlers crumbled under pressure.

On the Sharjah pitch that has gotten slower progressively, the spinners will have a big role to play. Ecclestone will again be a key bowler for Trailblazers with fellow left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad and veteran Jhulan Goswami expected to back her up. Both Supernovas and Trailblazers possess quality spinners and how the batters of the two sides fare could well decide the fate of the match.



TEAMS
Supernovas: Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Jemimah Rodrigues (vc), Chamari Atapattu, Priya Punia, Anuja Patil, Radha Yadav, Taniya Bhatia (wk), Shashikala Siriwardene, Poonam Yadav, Shakera Selman, Arundhati Reddy, Pooja Vastrakar, Ayushi Soni, Ayabonga Khaka, Muskan Malik.
Trailblazers: Smriti Mandhana (c), Deepti Sharma (vc), Punam Raut, Richa Ghosh, D Hemalatha, Nuzhat Parween (wk), Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Harleen Deol, Jhulan Goswami, Simaran Dil Bahadur, Salma Khatun, Sophie Ecclestone, Natthakan Chantham, Deandra Dottin and Kashvee Gautam.

Holder Kane do it

W Indies all-rounder first takes 3/25 & then adds unbeaten 65 with Williamson (50 not out) to take Sunrisers home

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Jason Holder's all-round show and Kane Williamson's solid unbeaten fifty helped Sunrisers Hyderabad beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by six wickets in the IPL Eliminator here on Friday.

Holder first led SRH's brilliant bowling effort with figures of 3 for 25 to restrict batting-heavy RCB to a modest 131 for seven before he and Williamson steered SRH past the target with two balls to spare.

Williamson (50 not out off 44) played a composed knock and together with Holder (24 not out off 20) shared 65 runs for the unbroken fifth wicket to take SRH home after early hiccups.

SRH play Delhi Capitals in the Qualifier 2 on Sunday for a place in the final while the RCB were knocked out of the tournament.

SRH didn't have the best of starts losing Sreevats Goswami early. Skipper David Warner (17) didn't last long, edging one to AB de Villiers behind the stumps off Mohammed Siraj.

Manish Pandey (24) and Priyam Garg (7) too failed to rise to the occasion as they departed in quick succession.

But then, Williamson and Holder joined hands and played sensibly. They initially kept SRH in the hunt before accelerating towards the end to take their side home.



Jason Holder celebrates with Sunrisers Hyderabad teammate Kane Williamson after he smashes Navdeep Saini for four to win the IPL Eliminator clash against RCB on Friday. IPLT20.com

Needing nine runs off the last over off Navdeep Saini, Holder struck two boundaries to seal the win.

Earlier, Holder led SRH's bowling attack with impressive figures of three for 25 and was ably supported by T Natarajan (2/33) as RCB found the going difficult from the beginning.

AB de Villiers' (56 off 43) scored a timely half-century to somewhat rescue RCB from a horrible start and take the team past the 120-run mark.

RCB witnessed a horrendous start to their innings as they lost two wickets for 15 runs inside four overs after being sent into bat.

Skipper Virat Kohli (6), who opened the innings along side Devdutt Padikkal (1), was the first to depart, nicking one on the leg side to injured Wriddhiman Saha's replacement Sreevats Goswami off Holder.

An over later, Holder picked up his second victim when Padikkal pulled one to Priyam Garg inside the circle as RCB slumped to 15 for two.

Aaron Finch (32 off 30), who replaced Josh Philippe, and de Villiers then tried to stabilise the innings with a 41-run third wicket stand.

But twin blows in the 11th over put paid to RCB's effort.

First, Finch departed, caught by Abdul Samad off Shahbaz Nadeem (1/30) and then a ball later, Moeen Ali was caught short off the crease by a direct hit from Rashid Khan.

Shivam Dube (8) didn't help his side's cause, so was Washington Sundar (5).

In between, De Villiers brought up his 50 off 39 balls with a boundary off Holder, but he was soon sent packing by a gem of an yorker from Natarajan as RCB lost their last hope.

Bumrah is world's best T20 bowler: Bond

PTI ■ DUBAI

Mumbai Indians bowling coach Shane Bond has described his side's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah as the best T20 bowler in the world, saying it was always a privilege to watch him play in the Indian Premier League.

Bumrah and his pace partner Trent Boult blew away the Delhi Capitals batting line-up in the IPL Qualifier 1 on Thursday to help MI reach the final.

"Jasprit (Bumrah), it's a privilege to watch. The best T20 bowler in the world going about his work," Bond said in a video posted by MI on its Twitter handle.

Bumrah returned with figures of 4/14 from his four overs while Boult had 2/9 from his two overs as MI beat DC by 57 runs.

Bond also praised Boult for the impact he has made for MI in the IPL.

"I loved working with Trent (Boult) since 2012. We have seen him at his very best and I was really excited to have him at our team because what a devastating bowler he can be and he has done that throughout the tournament for us."

"It makes life so much easier. When you are picking up wickets early and he has been the No 1 guy in the tournament," the former New Zealand pacer added.

Talking about his team's strengths, Bond said MI have an 'intimidating' batting department.

"We're an intimidating batting line-up, it's just relentless. Delhi fought really hard in the middle of the innings and got back themselves well into the game. If they had little bit of more luck, we would have been under pressure at the back," he said.

Just want to execute role given by team: Jasprit

Dubai: Mumbai Indians pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah says he is reaping the reward for not worrying about results and just focusing on executing the role assigned to him by the team.

"I am okay with not getting wickets and winning the tournament, I have been given a role so I just want to execute that role," Bumrah, who

reaped the purple cap with a tally of 27 wickets, said.

"I am always ready when the captain wants me to bowl. I don't focus on the end result. When I have done that it's always gone downhill."

Bumrah had delivered a perfect yorker to get rid of in-form Shikhar Dhawan (0) for his first wicket. "Opening yorker was really important. I decided I will do that early in the game and when it comes off it's always nice," he said.

Bumrah and New Zealand's Trent Boult (2/9) had dished out a 'Test match opening spell' to blow out Delhi for 143 for 8.

"I have a great camaraderie with Boult. We discuss fields, situations, so there's a lot to learn from him."

"Batsmen have been taking all the awards, so it's good to get it as a bowler (laughs). Ah no, I don't worry about awards. As long as the team is winning I am happy."

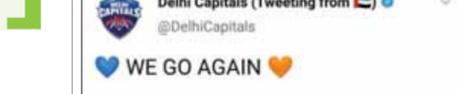
PTI

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DUGOUT

MOTION PICTURE

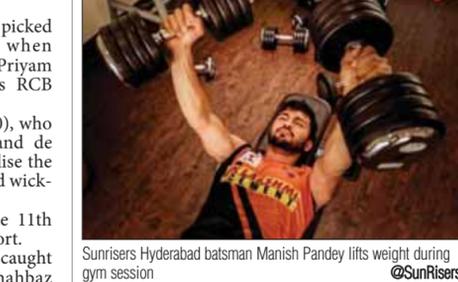


See you on Sunday for a place in the #Dream11IPL Final, @SunRisers

#DCvsSRH #YehHaiNayiDilli



Sunrisers Hyderabad batsman Manish Pandey lifts weight during gym session @SunRisers



Delhi Capitals pacer Kagiso Rabada signs jerseys @DelhiCapitals

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. Regional Office Jsel Building, Malviya Nagar JLN Marg-Jaipur 302017

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
(See provision to rule 8(6))
Notice for sale of immovable assets

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 proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Joginder Kumar (Borrower) / Sunita Devi (Co-Borrower) / Loan no: LBBWD00003939712	Flat No.- 3803, Second Floor The Park, Block C Kharsa No 200, 201, 202, 191, 181, 192, 519/189, 518/1, Village Shahpur, Tehsil Jajira Bhiwadi-301411 Super built-up area-1125 Sq Ft	Rs. 23,66,131/- as on October 21,2020	Rs. 20,00,000/- Rs. 2,00,000/-	December 05, 2020 from 11:00AM to 2:00PM	December 22, 2020 from 11:30 AM onwards.

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-https://disposalhub.com) of our auction agency M/S NexXen Solution Private Limited. The Mortgagees/noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till December 21, 2020 before 05:00 P.M. else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Ltd. Regional Office Jsel Building, Malviya Nagar JLN Marg-Jaipur 302017, and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before December 21, 2020 before 05:00 P.M. along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Ltd. Regional Office Jsel Building, Malviya Nagar JLN Marg-Jaipur 302017 on or before December 21, 2020 before 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Jaipur.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 8584874809/7230004964 or M/S NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933

Please note that Marketing agencies/entities, NexXen Solution Private limited 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: November 07, 2020
Place: Delhi/INCR
Authorised Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. S.E.K.C. Keonjhar No. 10 / 2020-21
e-mail : sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No. 3052 dt. 29.10.2020

1. No of the work: :- 07 Number of Building Works
2. Estimated cost :- Rs. 119.95 Lakhs to Rs. 492.51 Lakhs
3. Period of completion :- 09 (Nine) Calendar Months to 15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months
4. Date and Time of availability :- From 11.00 Hours of 18.11.2020 to 16.00 Hours of 01.12.2020
of Bid document in the portal
5. Last date / Time for receipt of :- 16.00 Hours of 01.12.2020
bids in the portal
6. Date of opening of Bid from Portal :- 12.00 Hours on 02.12.2020
7. Name and address of the officer :- Superintending Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.
inviting Bid

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersodisha.gov.in" Sd/- A.N. Das
OIPR-34033/11/0011/2021
Superintending Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar

IMPORTANT NOTICE
RUNNING OF FULLY RESERVED "FESTIVAL SPECIAL" TRAINS BY RAILWAYS TO ACCOMMODATE DEEPAWALI AND CHHATH PUJA RUSH
KIND ATTENTION: RAIL PASSENGERS

The Festival Special Trains shall run fully reserved
Only the reserved class accommodation (both berths & seats) will be available in Festival Special Trains
The passengers are requested to get the reservation of berths/seats done beforehand
Passengers having reserved tickets will only be allowed to enter the platform to board the train

As part of the Northern Railway's additional measures, all stations and trains will be adequately manned to check passengers without ticket

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SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Ishu, D/o: Rajinder Kumar, R/o: H. No. 245/23, Street No. 5, East, School Block, Mandawali, Delhi, has been missing/kidnapped since 31.10.2020 at 6:00 pm. from the area of P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 331/2020, u/s 363 IPC dated 01.11.2020 has been registered at P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under: Age: 14 years, Sex: Female, Height: 5', Face: Long, Complexion: Fair, Built: Thin, Wearing: Green colour top and cream colour plazzo and red colour slipper. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail Id - cbc@cbi.gov.in
Ph. No: 011-24368638, 24368641
SHO
P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi
DP/250/ED/2020 Ph.: 011- 22732426, 8750870624

कार्यालय आयुक्त खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं नियंत्रक, खाद्य एवं औषधि प्रशासन मध्य-प्रदेश
क्रमांक-1/2020/ भोपाल, दिनांक
ई-निविदा सूचना द्वितीय आमंत्रण
अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा इस प्रशासन के खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिकारियों द्वारा लिये जाने वाले रेग्युलेटरी (Legal) तथा Surveillance Sample खाद्य नमूनों की जाँच एन.ए.बी.एल. अधिमाम्यता एवं FSSAI द्वारा अधिमूचित प्राप्त प्रयोगशालाओं से कराने में लगने वाले परीक्षण शुल्क हेतु निर्धारित प्रपत्र में दिनांक 08.11.2020 से 16.11.2020 तक ऑन लाइन ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट www.mptenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
अन्य विवरण एवं शर्तें
1. निविदा फार्म में निर्धारित प्रपत्र के वेबसाइट www.mptenders.gov.in से रु. 1000/- (रुपये एक हजार मात्र) ऑन लाइन भुगतान करके दिनांक 08.11.2020 से 16.11.2020 तक डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं। यह राशि वापसो योग्य नहीं है।
2. ऑन लाइन निविदा जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 16.11.2020 तक निर्धारित है।
3. निर्धारित समय तक प्राप्त निविदायें दिनांक 17.11.2020 को दोपहर 1:30 बजे तत्समय उपस्थित निविदाकारों के समक्ष खोली जावेंगी।
संयुक्त नियंत्रक
खाद्य एवं औषधि प्रशासन
मध्य प्रदेश
G-15361/20 दो गज की दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी।