

**OPINION 6**  
CRUSADE FOR  
AFGHAN WOMEN

**WORLD 8**  
CHARLIE HEBDO: PROUD TO PROVOKE  
ISLAMISTS, DESPITE VIOLENCE

**SPORT 12**  
DELHI FACE MUMBAI  
IN IPL CLASH

Established 1864

Published From  
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR  
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

\*Late City Vol. 30 Issue 303  
\*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY OCTOBER 31, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3

# the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



PROUD OF MY  
DAUGHTER:  
GOVINDA  
10 VIVACITY

## World's 2nd Covid wave kicks in

Even as India witnesses flattening of pandemic curve, coronavirus is back with vengeance across globe with 5.45L positive cases on Thurs

NAVIN UPADHYAY ■ NEW DELHI

India may be witnessing a flattening of Covid-19 curve, but the virus is back with a vengeance across the globe. The world recorded 5.45 lakh cases on Thursday, the biggest single-day spike during the last 10 months when the pandemic first struck the globe.

Just two months ago on August 29, Europe recorded just 42,000 new cases in a day. On October 29, this figure went up to 2.39 lakh, underlining the enormity of the crisis staring Europe.

Three months ago it seemed that Italy was all but free of coronavirus. The country added just 289 new cases on July 29, but on October 29, the figure of new cases touches 26,000.

On July 29, France added just 1,392 new cases, but three months down the line on October 29, it added more than 47,000 new cases. The same has been the story of the UK and Germany.

The Latin American nations such as Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Peru have also seen a sharp rise in the number of new cases. With the world better prepared to deal with Covid-19, the second wave is turning out to be far less fatal than the first one. The Thursday death toll stood at around 7,000, which denotes a casualty rate of around 12 per cent on the total count of 5.45 new cases on that day.

Europe has seen a massive

rebound in coronavirus cases after countries such as France, the United Kingdom, Spain, and Italy celebrated nearly three months of respite from the virus and number of new cases came down to between 30,000 and 40,000 a day in the region.

Just two months ago on August 29, Europe recorded just 42,000 new cases in a day. On October 29, this figure went up to 2.39 lakh, underlining the enormity of the crisis staring Europe.

Three months ago it seemed that Italy was all but free of coronavirus. The country added just 289 new cases on July 29, but on October 29, the figure of new cases touches 26,000.

On July 29, France added just 1,392 new cases, but three months down the line on October 29, it added more than 47,000 new cases. The same has been the story of the UK and Germany.

The Latin American nations such as Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Peru have also seen a sharp rise in the number of new cases. With the world better prepared to deal with Covid-19, the second wave is turning out to be far less fatal than the first one. The Thursday death toll stood at around 7,000, which denotes a casualty rate of around 12 per cent on the total count of 5.45 new cases on that day.

Continued on Page 2



A health worker collects a swab sample for a Covid-19 test in New Delhi on Friday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

### Covid-19 IN INDIA

**TOTAL CASES: 81,32,341**  
**DEATHS: 1,21,623**  
**RECOVERED: 74,21,887**  
**ACTIVE: 5,87,424**



STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	16,72,858	43,837	15,03,050
Andhra Pradesh	8,20,565	6,676	7,88,375
Karnataka	8,12,784	11,046	7,34,682
Tamil Nadu	7,22,011	11,091	6,87,388
Uttar Pradesh	4,80,082	6,940	4,40,847
Kerala	4,25,123	1,458	3,32,994
Delhi	3,81,644	6,470	3,42,811
West Bengal	3,69,671	6,784	3,25,888
Odisha	2,88,646	1,361	2,73,838
Telangana	2,37,187	1,330	2,17,401
Bihar	2,15,964	1,084	2,06,625
Assam	2,06,015	926	1,94,665
Rajasthan	1,95,213	1,898	1,78,064
Chhattisgarh	1,85,306	2,038	1,60,918
Gujarat	1,72,009	3,714	1,55,205
Madhya Pradesh	1,70,690	2,941	1,58,455

## OBC reservation in Sainik Schools OK'd

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major decision, the Government on Friday allowed reservation for Other Backward Class (OBC) students in the Sainik Schools of the country. This decision comes a year after the Defence Ministry opened the doors of these schools for girls.

There are more than 30 Sainik Schools, which works under the Ministry of Defence, in India. The first school was set up in 1960 to prepare students for entry into the prestigious National Defence Academy (NDA).

The reservation for OBC students will commence from the next academic session commencing 2021-22. Announcing it through a tweet, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar said 27 per cent seats in Sainik schools will be reserved for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

"OBC reservation to be introduced in Sainik Schools from the year 2021-22," Kumar said on Twitter and posted images of an October 13 circular that was sent to principals of all Sainik schools across the country.

The circular said 67 per cent of the seats in a Sainik school are reserved for candidates from the State or the Union Territory in which the school is located and the remaining 33 per cent is reserved for those who come from outside that state or Union Territory (UT). These



two lists will be termed List A and List B.

The circular said within each list, 15 per cent seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes, 7.5 per cent seats are for Scheduled Tribes and 27 per cent seats are for non-creamy layer OBCs.

This decision comes a year after the Defence Ministry asked five Sainik Schools to admit girls from 2020-21. This step was taken after the pilot project of the Defence Ministry in Sainik School Chhingchip, Mizoram was a success when six girl cadets were admitted into Class VI in June 2018.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved five Sainik Schools — Sainik Schools Bijapur, Chandrapur, Ghorakhal, Kalikiri and Kodagu — for these admissions.

It was Uttar Pradesh Sainik School (UPSS), the first Sainik School of the country established in 1960 which admitted 15 girl cadets in April 2018 in

Class IX.

Students of Sainik Schools are called cadets like the trainees of the pre-commission military academies. The UPSS is the only Sainik School functioning under the State Government with the rest being run by the Defence Ministry.

The Ministry had issued directives to the principals to take steps to carry out adequate publicity through newspapers, websites and other means. Monitoring the registration strength vis-a-vis the capacity of exam centres, recruitment of exclusive staff, provision of infrastructure required for girl children and taking adequate steps are the other instructions to the Principals.

## 7.5% quota for TN Govt school students in MBBS courses

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has assented to a Bill for 7.5 per cent quota to Government school students who have cleared National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test in admission to undergraduate medical courses.

A day after the State Government took the executive route to implement the quota regime from the current 2020-21 academic year itself and issued a government order to facilitate it, the Raj Bhavan said "this is to inform the people of Tamil Nadu that the honourable Governor has given his assent to the Bill."

The Governor sought legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India (SGI) on September 26 and the opinion was received on October 29, the release said. "As soon as the opinion was received, honourable Governor has given assent to the Bill," the statement said.

Amid accusations that Purohit delayed clearing the Bill, the Raj Bhavan pointing out that the Bill was approved soon after the receipt of legal opinion — that the Bill is in sync with Constitution — assumes significance.

Continued on Page 2

## CAPSULE

### AMETHI VILLAGE HEAD'S HUSBAND 'IMMOLATED'

Amethi: A village head's husband died from burns here on Friday, with his family claiming that he was killed over electoral rivalry, police said. The victim's family lodged a complaint against five people, of which three have been arrested.

### 32,000 TONNES ONION IMPORT TO CUT PRICES

New Delhi: As retail onion prices skyrocket to over ₹80 a kg in some parts of the country, Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said private import of 7,000 tonnes and another 25,000 tonnes before Diwali are expected to improve the supply situation and check its rising prices.

### MUSLIMS PROTEST FRENCH CARTOONS

Dubai: Thousands of Muslims, from Pakistan to Lebanon to the Palestinian territories, poured out of prayer services to join anti-France protests on Friday, as the French President's vow to protect the right to caricature the Prophet continues to roil the Muslim world. Demonstrations in Islamabad turned violent as some 2,000 people who tried to march toward the French Embassy were pushed back by police firing tear gas.

## LeT killed 3 BJP leaders in J&K; cry of patriotism during funeral

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The police have claimed Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) was behind the killing of three BJP leaders in Kulgam district on Thursday.

On a day his son completed his first year, BJP leader Fida Hussain Yatoo was laid to rest in his native village on Friday. He, along with two other BJP officer bearers, was gunned down by terrorists in YK Pora area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district late on Thursday night.

The entire neighbourhood in his village witnessed a surcharged atmosphere. Chanting patriotic slogans, local villagers and party workers attended the funeral prayers. Senior BJP leaders, including J&K Chief Ravinder Raina, too attended the last rites and visited the family of Yatoo to offer condolences on behalf of the top brass of the party.

The Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir range, Vijay Kumar Friday claimed that LeT had executed the killing of three BJP leaders.



"The names of LeT militants — a local militant from Dooru, Nisar Khanday; and Abbas from Khudwani who was previously associated with Hizbul Mujahideen and is now with LeT and also claims to be from TrLF — are cropping up. The involvement of these two is there, but there may be a foreign terrorist involved as well in the attack," he said.

IGP Kumar also appealed to the protected persons in the valley not to move around without their security.

He said, "We have provided PSOs and security to 157 BJP workers, and nearly 30 have been provided with guards and we will provide more security to those who have severe threat perception."

Referring to the issue of providing security cover to the protected persons, IGP said they had prepared a list of 1,619 vulnerable persons who were lodged in secure locations before the Centre's decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5 last year.

"We had made a list of 1,619 vulnerable persons before August 5 (last year) and we had kept them in different hotels in secure areas. We had kept Fida in a hotel in Pahalgam where he stayed for three weeks. Recently, he gave an undertaking and left the hotel. We are investigating what they were doing in a car in an area far away from home," he said.

Continued on Page 2

## 'Item' strips Nath of star campaigner tag

### EC notice to BJP leader Vijayvargiya for chunnu-munnu, gaddar jibes

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Friday revoked the star campaigner status of senior Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath for repeated violations of model code. In another decision regarding senior BJP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya remarks "chunnu-munnu" and "gaddar" against Congress' Digvijaya Singh and Kamal Nath, the EC advised him not to use "any such word" in his public utterances during the model code period. The EC also barred MP Minister Mohan Yadav from holding any campaign.

In its order against former MP CM, the EC has slammed



Nath for using the word "item" for a woman candidate and said that the usage of the word for a woman constitutes a violation of the advisory issued by the commission. The Commission has further expressed its displeasure and said despite being a leader of a political party, Nath is repeatedly violating the provisions of Model Code of Conduct and breaching ethical and dignified behaviour.

The commission said, "...for repeated violation of Model Code of Conduct and for completely disregarding the advisory issued to him, the Commission hereby revokes the status of leader of a political party (Star Campaigner) of

Kamal Nath, Ex-Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh, with immediate effect for the current by-elections of Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh." It said no permission will be granted by authorities to Kamal Nath as a star campaigner.

"However, if any campaign is done by Kamal Nath from now onwards, the entire expenditure related to travel, stay and visit will be completely borne by the candidate in whose constituency he carries out campaigning," it said. The EC pulled up Nath for using words such as "item" to address a woman during campaigning for the bye-elections while the Model Code of Conduct is in effect. Taking another complaint in consideration, where the Congress leader has spoken against current State Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and referred to him as "mafia" and milawtkhor, the Commission has said that its report confirms violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

Continued on Page 2

## Buses to run with full capacity despite Covid resurgence in Capital

New Delhi: Delhi Lt Governor Anil Bajjal has approved the Delhi Government's proposal to allow buses to run with full seating capacity even as Covid-19 cases are witnessing a surge in the city.

The buses are currently running with 20 passengers in view of the outbreak of coronavirus.

Bajjal, who is the chairman of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), has also approved resuming inter-State bus services and the process to plan a standard operating procedure for it is on and the service is likely to restart from next week, a senior government officer said.

The issue of raising the



number of passengers in DTC and Cluster buses was raised in a DDMA meeting on October 23. Transport minister Kailash Gahlot had sought permission for full seating without any passenger standing on buses. The number of DTC and Cluster buses seat up to 40-45 passengers. Bus stops in the city witnessed long queues as a result of reduced capacity of passengers allowed in the buses.

PTI

## Delhi's air improves to 'very poor'

Favourable wind to clean air further, stubble fire contribution rises to 36%

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's air quality was recorded in the "very poor" category on Friday morning after a slight improvement from the severe level. However, more improvement in air quality is likely due to favourable wind speed on Saturday.

According to the Ministry of Earth Sciences' air quality monitoring agency, SAFAR, the share of stubble burning in Delhi's PM 2.5 pollution was 36 per cent on Thursday — the maximum so far this season.

Delhi recorded an AQI of 380 at 9:30 am. The 24-hour average AQI was 395 on Thursday. It was 297 on Wednesday, 312 on Tuesday,



A thick blanket of smog engulfs the national Capital, leading to poor visibility conditions across the city this morning in Delhi on Friday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

353 on Monday. On Thursday, PM10 levels in Delhi-NCR peaked to 424 microgram per cubic meter (µg/m3) at 10 am — the high-

est this season so far, according to CPCB data. PM10 levels below 100 µg/m3 are considered safe in India. NASA's satellite imagery

showed a large, dense cluster of fires that covered most parts of Punjab and some regions of Haryana.

Continued on Page 2

## Sena nominates Urmila as MLC

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Shiv Sena-led MVA Government has made a recommendation to Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari to nominate Bollywood actress Urmila Matondekar as one of the 12 members in the State Legislative Council that are due to be filled from the fields of literature, science, arts, cooperative sector and social service.

Confirming that Matondkar's name had been recommended by the State Government for nomination as one of the 12 members of the State Legislative Council, Shiv Sena spokesperson and MP Sanjay Raut said: "Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has spoken to Matondkar. She has given her consent for being



nominated as an MLC by the Governor."

Informed official sources said that the 12 nominated members were finalised at the weekly State Cabinet meeting held on Thursday. Subsequently, the 12 recommended names were sent in a sealed cover to the Governor for formal approval and declaration of the nominated members.

Continued on Page 2

# 2 cops hurt in Lohardaga's Maoist attack

**PNS ■ RANCHI/LOHARDAGA**  
At least two police personnel were injured during an encounter with CPI (Maoist) rebels at Shahighat locality under Serengdag police station of Lohardaga district on Friday morning.  
The place where the encounter took place is situated barely half km from Serengdag police station.

Serengdag is worst hit by left wing extremism which the state government last year had claimed the area reclaimed from extremists.  
Sources in the security agencies said that the involvement of an armed squad led by CPI(Maoist) sub-zonal commander Ravindra Ganju is suspected behind the attack. Seven police personnel were doing foot patrolling when

rebels targeted them.  
Rebels also triggered a landmine explosion on the main road besides opening fire on a police patrolling party to inflict maximum damage. Injured police personnel identified as Upendra Singh of Lohardaga police and Anjani Kumar Pandey of Special Auxiliary Police were airlifted to Ranchi for their treatment at Medica hospital. So far, no

casualty from either side and the loot and loss of fire weapon has been reported. It is said that Pandey sustained a bullet on his chest whereas Singh sustained a bullet injury on his thigh.  
A constable Krishna Oraon had gone missing during the encounter but he safely reached the police station an hour after the encounter ended.  
While the additional

deployment of CRPF and district police has been done; a massive search operation also started. Since Serengdag shares a border with Ghaghra police station of Gumla district; Gumla police too has started combing operations.  
The attack on the police force must have left Jharkhand Police worried since rebels planting landmines and targeting police in the close vicinity

of police station indicates security lapse and intelligence failure.  
Left wing extremists have once again targeted security forces after a lull of 11 months. Ravindra Ganju and his armed squad had gunned down three home guard jawans and an ASI ranked official of Latehar police on November 22 last year ahead of assembly elections.

# HSCW team to visit hospital after patient on life support raped

**PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM**  
A team of the Haryana State Commission for Women (HSCW) will soon visit the Fortis hospital in Gurugram to take stock of alleged rape of a 21-year-old patient while she was on life support system in the ICU of the hospital.

Bhardwaj, vice-chairperson of HSCW told The Pioneer over the phone.  
"The commission is very concerned about the incident and the safety and security of women," she added.  
"We have written to the Gurugram police commissioner to complete the investigations into the matter on time being manner and prescribed guidelines of Ministry of Home Affairs of completing probes in two months in cases of sexual assault," Bhardwaj said.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) on Thursday had also taken suo motu cognisance of the matter and had sought a detailed report from the police and the hospital management.  
According to the HSCW they too have taken suo motu cognisance of the matter and have also sought a detailed action taken report from the chief minister's office (CMO) and the police.  
The hospital administration has also been directed to send an action taken report in the matter. "It was a shocking incident which took place inside the hospital premises. A team of the HSCW will soon visit the spot and will talk to the family members of the victim. As the victim is still on ventilator we wish her speedy recovery," Preeti

Meanwhile, three days after registering the case the police is yet to establish the identity of the accused.  
The police said the investigation was on and they were waiting for the statement of the victim who is still on ventilator and unfit for the statement.  
"The investigation team have questioned a number of staff members or outsourced workers of the hospital in connection with the matter. The CCTV footage of the hospital is being scanned but still didn't find any breakthrough, said Maqsood Ahmed DCP (east), adding that the police didn't detain anyone."

## LeT killed 3 BJP...

**From Page 1**  
Sharing preliminary details of the investigations IGP said, an Alto car used by the LeT terrorists has been seized by the police. "Three terrorists came in a car belonging to a local terrorist identified as Altaf. Fida Hussain was with his two colleagues in a car when these terrorists fired indiscriminately on them from close range. They received grave injuries and succumbed on the way to the hospital."  
Kumar said after the attack, the terrorists fled in the same car towards Achbal area, from where the car was seized this morning. Asked whether the attack was pre-planned, the IGP said it was possible.

rorism.  
"You know it all. Recently, media persons also received threats through 'Kashmir Fight', an online medium which is run in Pakistan, or the TRF website. They claimed the attack yesterday on 'Kashmir Fight' as well. This is Pakistan-sponsored terrorism and this proves that these killings take place on the orders from Pakistan," he said.  
As a countermeasure to such attacks, Kumar appealed to the protected persons to follow the standard operating procedures (SOP) laid down by the security agencies for their movement and not to move around in vulnerable areas especially without their security.

# Sisodia shares Govt's success stories with students

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**  
Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia interacted with the students of Ashoka University at an online "master class" on Entrepreneurship in Governance and shared the success stories of the Delhi Government.

Sharing his vision on governance, the deputy chief minister said that "People like me are dreamers and so we work hard to make those dreams come true."  
On policy-level-interventions in governments, Sisodia explained that it is important for students to understand that for a successful policy, "the public bind" is essential. "During the Right to Information Act movement, lawmakers, and policy makers involved us. I was not in politics then but we mobilised enough people, and stakeholders to create a policy pressure group on the government.

When the government heard us, it was a positive sign for the policy," Sisodia said.  
He emphasised that there are many ways in which young professionals can get involved with policy-making.  
Sisodia encouraged students to not shy away from politics. He said, "You do not have to necessarily stand in elections, but by simply becoming a member or even a party worker, you can engage in various departments where work on research, analysis, and policy-drafts is being done regularly. Use the skills of your education to work at grass-roots levels; that is where the real

changes happen."  
Citing Mohalla Clinics, and "Door-Step Delivery Services" as examples of how simple ideas were adapted by the Delhi Government, he said, "This is another way in which one needs to be entrepreneurial while working in the government. How can we ease the running of the system, and does it help the public at-large? The scale is important in governance."  
Sisodia also shed light on how the Skills and Entrepreneurship University in Delhi looks to fix that gap between job-seekers, and job-creators.

"It seems so to us as well because what were they doing away from home, waiting for someone or not, then terrorists came, attacked them and then ran away to Achbal. There is a chance that it was a pre-planned attack and we are investigating it and will soon solve it," he said.  
On a question as to whether the attacks on BJP activists -- instances of which have increased over the last few months -- were carried out at the local level by the terrorists or did the ultras get orders from Pakistan, the IGP said this was part of Pakistan-sponsored ter-

**7.5% quota...**  
**From Page 1**  
Chief Minister K Palaniswami said efforts were afoot to implement the reservation from the current year.  
DMK president MK Stalin claimed Purohit gave his assent to the quota bill as he was left with no other choice and thanked him for giving his nod.  
His party's protest and the hope expressed by the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court were behind Purohit's "change of heart." In a twitter post, Stalin said the

approval came after 45 days and when the time for medical counselling was nearing and the Governor had to approve in view of such factors.  
Hearing a batch of public interest litigation petitions, a division bench had on Thursday hoped that the Governor would take a decision at the earliest. BJP's Khushbu Sundar said, "We deliver when we promise."  
PMK chief S Ramadoss said Purohit's consent was the victory of the people. The Raj Bhavan said Purohit sought to know if the proposed quota was in accordance

with the Constitution and compatible with Articles 14 (Equality) and 15 (prohibition of discrimination).  
The SGI, Tushar Mehta, in his opinion said "intelligible differentia" would enable reservation for socially and educationally backward class, an affirmative action. The bill is in "consonance with the Constitution of India," Mehta noted adding it is however subject to judicial review and also to other constitutional principles like those related to the upper limit to reserved seats. **PTI**

## 'Item' strips Nath of star...

**From Page 1**  
In the order against BJP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya, the EC said the Commission has carefully considered the matter "and is of the considered view that Kailash Vijayvargiya has violated Para (2) of Part I of the General Conduct Model Code of Conduct for the Guidance of Political Parties and Candidates."  
The commission had issued a notice to the BJP leader on October 26 seeking his reply. The poll body advised Vijayvargiya that "while making public utterances he should not use any such word or statement during the period of Model Code of Conduct."  
According to the notice, the statement made in Sanwer, Indore, during an election rally on October 14 against the two

was found to be in violation of the provisions of the model code. The BJP leader had also dubbed them as "gaddar" or traitors. In his response, Vijayvargiya said the remarks quoted in the notice are in a complete misunderstanding of its context. The complaint is in an election driven narrative of the Congress party to change the course of the election, he said.  
The BJP leader also said that "abiding by the directions of the Election Commission and the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct is paramount for him as well as every party worker of the BJP, and he has the highest regard of the same." Bypolls to 28 Madhya Pradesh Assembly seats will be held on November 3 for which campaigning is on.

## World's 2nd Covid wave...

**From Page 1**  
When the coronavirus first struck Europe and the USA, the fatality rate went up as high as 8 per cent. The USA has also seen the arrival of a powerful second wave as the poll-bound country has completely disregarded the protocol required to contain the menace.  
After recording sub 50,000 new cases daily for weeks, the USA suddenly saw a massive rise in the number of new cases. On Thursday, the new cases stood at 91,000. But Americans continued to throng at the rally of US President Donald Trump in big numbers.  
The resurgence of the coronavirus cases could derail the

nascent the global economic recovery. A Reuters poll of around 500 economists revealed that a majority of economists expect the rebound next year to be weaker than previously thought.  
The Oct 6-Oct 27 Reuters polls of economists across Asia, Europe, and the Americas, covering 46 economies, showed scant sign of activity recovering to pre-Covid-19 levels anytime soon.  
Nearly three-quarters of 150 analysts who responded to an additional question said the resurgence in virus cases posed a high risk of halting the current global economic recovery as early as this year.



**DELHI POLICE**  
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA



## Saluting his Contribution to Unity of the Nation

**Delhi Police pays tribute to India's First Home Minister - The Iron Man of India, Commemorating The National Unity Day**

**31<sup>st</sup> October, 2020**

*"It is prime responsibility of every citizen to feel that this country is free and to defend its freedom is his duty."*

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

## Delhi's air...

**From Page 1**  
SAFAR said accumulation of locally generated pollutants and increased external intrusion due to north-north westerly boundary level winds from regions where stubble is burnt were the major factors for the increase in PM2.5 levels.  
Extremely calm surface and boundary layer winds along with the low night time boundary layer height resulted in low ventilation practically stagnant,

no dispersion condition has resulted in the current situation, it said.  
An increase in surface wind speed and better ventilation conditions are likely to "significantly" improve the situation by Saturday, SAFAR said.  
According to the India Meteorological Department, the predominant wind direction was northerly and the maximum wind speed was 10 kilometers per hour. The minimum temperature was recorded at 13.1 degrees Celsius. It was

12.5 degrees Celsius on Thursday - the lowest in October in 26 years.  
The city's ventilation index - a product of mixing depth and average wind speed - is likely to be around 7,000 meter square per second on Friday - favourable for dispersion of pollutants.  
On Thursday, the Centre introduced a new law through an ordinance that put in place a powerful oversight body to curb air pollution.  
Under the ordinance

released by the Union Ministry of law and justice on Thursday, the 22-year-old Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) has been dissolved and replaced by a powerful commission comprising 18 members.  
The Commission for Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas will specifically look at Delhi-NCR and adjoining areas only and it will be binding on the states to follow its directions.

## Sena nominates...

**From Page 1**  
Given that the nominations are required from the fields of literature, science, arts, cooperative sector and social service, the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) partners - Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress - are understood to have taken care that the names recommended were the specified fields of activities. The three parties have reportedly four names each.  
The reported recommendation of Matondkar's names on the heel of "Rangeela" actress crossed swords with controversial actress Kangana Ranaut. Matondkar had slammed Kangana for her comment likening Mumbai to PoK and said she would "never tolerate any defamatory remark" about the city.  
On Kangana's comment about rampant drug use by Bollywood personalities, Urmila had said that if Kangana had information about illegal drugs in Bollywood she should look to her State Himachal Pradesh and would be better served by going to the authorities rather than tweeting about it.  
"Which girl from a civilised cultured house would use this kind of language? Like 'kya ukhaad loge, kiska baap ka kya hai, speaking about Jaya ji the way she did,' Urmila said in a television interview. On her part, Kangana hit back at Urmila by calling her "a soft porn star." "She isn't known for acting for sure and is known for doing soft porn. If she can get a ticket, why won't I get a ticket?" Kangana had asked. Matondkar, it may be recalled, had joined the Congress

and contested the Lok Sabha elections from Mumbai unsuccessfully against BJP's Raju Shetty in the 2019 polls. She quit the Congress after the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.  
The Governor's nomination of 12 members to the Upper House of the State Assembly has been delayed considerably, given the terms of the earlier nominated members ended on June 15. So much so that the Shiv Sena had joined issue with the Opposition in July this year over the delay in the nomination of 12 members by the Governor to the State Legislative Council.  
In his Sunday column 'Rokhtok' in the Sena mouthpiece Saamna, Shiv Sena's MP and spokesperson Sanjay Raut had ticked off the Opposing BJP by accusing it of playing politics every during the Covid-19 and trying to influence the "Union Home Ministry-nominated" Governor to delay the process of nominating 12 new members to the Upper House of State Legislature in place of equal number of outgoing legislators whose terms ended on June 15.  
Indirectly suggesting that the current Governor was not in a mood to nominate the 12 persons recommended by the Maharashtra Cabinet headed by chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, Raut had written in his column: "Normally the Governor appoints experts from various fields as members of the Council based on the recommendation of the State Cabinet. If the nomination does not happen on time, such a thing would tantamount to trampling upon the Constitution and gagging of the State Council.

## चुनाव सूचना

अग्रवाल कॉलेज बल्लबगढ़, की **Governing Body** के पदाधिकारियों प्रधान, उपप्रधान, महासचिव, कोषाध्यक्ष, 11 कार्यकारिणी के सदस्यों (संख्या 01 से 11), 02 शिक्षक प्रतिनिधि एवं 01 गैर-शिक्षक प्रतिनिधि का चुनाव दिनांक 11-01-2021 दिन सोमवार, समय प्रातः 09:00 बजे से सांय 04:00 बजे तक अग्रवाल कॉलेज (मिल्क प्लांट रोड, सैक्टर-2) बल्लबगढ़ के भवन में होगा। चुनाव कार्यक्रम निम्नलिखित है।

- कॉलेजियम : दिनांक 24-11-2020 दिन मंगलवार सदस्य (मतदाता) सूची का अग्रवाल कॉलेज सूचना बोर्ड पर प्रकाशन
- नामांकन : दिनांक 01-12-2020 दिन मंगलवार से 10-12-2020 दिन वीरवार समय प्रातः 10:00 बजे से दोपहर 03:00 बजे तक अग्रवाल कॉलेज (मिल्क प्लांट रोड, सैक्टर-2) बल्लबगढ़ के कार्यालय में स्वीकार किये जायेंगे जो निर्वाचन अधिकारी के सम्मुख सभा के संविधान अनुसार मरे जायेंगे।
- नामांकन पत्रों की जाँच : दिनांक 11-12-2020 से 15-12-2020 प्रातः 09:00 बजे से 11:00 बजे तक।
- नाम वापसी : दिनांक 16-12-2020 से 20-12-2020 प्रातः 11:00 बजे से दोपहर 03:00 बजे तक।
- चुनाव विहन आबंटन : दिनांक 21-12-2020 दिन सोमवार को दोपहर 03:00 बजे से सांय 05:00 बजे तक।
- मतदान की तिथि : दिनांक 11-01-2021 दिन सोमवार, समय प्रातः 09:00 बजे से सांय 04:00 बजे तक अग्रवाल कॉलेज (मिल्क प्लांट रोड, सैक्टर-2) बल्लबगढ़ के भवन में होगा। तत्पश्चात मतगणना आरम्भ की जायेगी एवम् उसी दिन चुनाव परिणाम घोषित किये जायेंगे।

निर्वाचन मण्डल संख्या 1 से 108 तक के कॉलेजियम सदस्यों की सूची, संविधान की प्रति प्रत्येक रु. 100/- में तथा नामांकन फार्म रु. 500/- में कॉलेज के कार्यालय (मिल्क प्लांट रोड, सैक्टर-2) से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं तथा **Governing Body** के प्रत्येक पद प्रधान, उपप्रधान, महासचिव एवं कोषाध्यक्ष के उम्मीदवार के लिए रु. 2000/- **Refundable Security** के रूप में जमा कराने होंगे।

**डॉ० कृष्णकान्त**  
निर्वाचन अधिकारी

# 'BJP should hand over MCDs to Govt'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Chief Spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj on Friday said that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-ruled Municipal Corporations has put a massive burden of debts on the citizens of Delhi and it is high time the BJP should hand corporations to the Delhi Government for its better functioning.

Bhardwaj said that BJP-ruled MCD has to take Rs 18,000 crore from the central government and must return Rs 8500 crore to Delhi Government.

He said that the MCDs have sealed Delhi's big markets and illegally taken conversion fees and parking charges but yet



shops are sealed, shopkeepers are devastated.

"For the past several months the BJP-ruled MCDs were not paying the salaries of the doctors and nurses. For this inhuman behaviour of the BJP

ruled MCD the image of Delhi has been maligned. But during this whole time, the BJP ruled MCD repeatedly blamed the Delhi government for this crisis and also quoted baseless figures against the AAP government," he said.

The AAP leader further said that to expose the lies of the BJP, Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia on Thursday wrote to all the three mayors. Sisodia has noted that as on 1st April 2020, a total of Rs 6,008 Cr loan is outstanding over the three MCDs.

"It is well known that the Central Government provides grants to all the Municipal Corporations of our country. The amount given to Municipal Corporations is cal-

culated based on their population and for every person residing in that city, Rs 488/- per person is given as municipal development funds. In total, Rs 2,87,636 is given as municipal funds to all the cities of the country except the Delhi MCDs," he said.

The Central government has granted funds to Ghaziabad and Gurugram from this fund but none to the MCDs in Delhi.

Based on Delhi's population, this amounts to a total of Rs 18,000 Cr over the last 15 years that should have been granted by the Centre to the MCDs.

This means that the MCD should return around Rs 8,500 Cr to the Delhi government

and should take Rs 15,000 from the Central government. On behalf of the AAP, I want to request the BJP to handover the MCDs to the AAP. We will run the MCDs in surplus as we did it in case of the Delhi government," he added.

Attacking the BJP leaders, he said "In the last 14 years, all three corporations have ruined some of the popular markets of Delhi at South Ex, Amar Colony, GK 2 etc. "They sealed the shops of these beautiful markets and took crores of money from the shop owners as conversion charges and as parking tax. Despite such massive harassments to the shop owners the BJP-ruled MCDs have not yet allowed those shops to run," he said.

# 4 gangsters held after exchange of fire

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Following a brief exchange of fire, the Delhi Police has arrested four alleged members of Gaurav-Monti gang in northwest Delhi's Bawana area.

The accused have been identified as Rinku (24), a resident of Pooth Khurd village, Vishal (24), a resident of Muzafarnagar district in UP, Deepak (22), a resident of Bajitpur Thakaran, and Lalit (24), a resident of Jharoda Kalan, they said.

According to police, they received information regarding movement of four criminals of Gaurav-Monti gang with illegal fire arms and they may commit robbery, carjacking and extortion.

On Thursday, police spotted a car, without number plate, and signaled to stop it, but the occupants tried to flee from the spot, a senior police official said.

When police blocked their way, the occupants of the vehicle fired at police. Police also retaliated and during cross fir-

ing, a total of 12 rounds were fired, the officer said.

During the firing, two accused person -- Rinku and Vishal -- sustained injuries. The other accused persons were overpowered.

Both injured persons were shifted to MV Hospital, Pooth Khurd. They were later referred to BSA Hospital, they said.

Two semi-automatic pistols, one car robbed from Bawana area, 10 live cartridges have been recovered from their possession, police added.

# Indra Park gets tube-well to meet rising water demand

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In the continuous endeavours to develop a planned and consistent water supply to meet Delhi's growing demands, Raghav Chadha, Vice Chairman of Delhi Jal Board (DJB) inaugurated a tube-well at Indra Park on Friday.

Tube-wells are vertical drilled wells that extract water for various purposes and provide domestic water supply. The newly commissioned tube-well will rationalize the water supply to Indra Park, Pandav Nagar.

"In spite of the global pandemic that is the COVID-19, our service towards our family here in Indra Park has not stopped. Despite the tremendous financial strain we are going through Arvind Kejriwal's

government has allocated a special fund for the ground water extraction work here at Indra Park, Pandav Nagar," Chadha said.

"Our government's vision to provide 24\*7 water for all is certainly not a pipe dream but a living breathing reality just like water. With this ground water extraction work, my family here at Indra Park, Pandav Nagar will have increased access to high quality water to serve their needs. I fully understand the importance of hav-

ing continuous, unobstructed access to water," he said.

Chadha said, "For a long time, residents have had to face unnecessary problems because of the unpredictable supply of water. Now, with the successful completion of ground water extraction, I am certain there will be no complaints, and every resident here will get the required amount of water to serve their needs."

DJB has nine water treatment plants and eight sewage testing laboratories set up with adequate facilities and manned by qualified persons for inspection and evaluating the raw sewage and final effluent. Laboratories collect samples from sewage pumping stations and drains in its command area and conduct routine surveys of river Yamuna downstream from Wazirabad to Okhla barrage to monitor the quality deterioration.

DJB is responsible for production of water in Delhi and its distribution in the area under the control of Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Besides, the Board is responsible for collection, treatment and disposal of sewage in Delhi



# Abducted Delhi-based contractor rescued, 3 held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Friday rescued a Delhi-based contractor who was abducted by one of his co-workers and his associates from Uttar Pradesh's Sitapur district. Police said that they have also arrested three accused from there. Police said that one of the accused, who used to work with the victim, planned the abduction following a dispute over payment with him.

The accused have been identified as Irfan Ali (27), Aziz Ali (35) and Bablu (24), all residents of Sitapur.

According to Atul Kumar Thakur, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, on October 24, a woman, who is a resident of Malviya Nagar here, lodged a complaint with the police.

"She alleged that her husband Ramesh Chandra, who had gone to Lakhimpur Kheri in UP for some work on October 23, has been abducted by unidentified people, who had also demanded a ransom of Rs four lakh for his release. A case was then registered under relevant section at Malviya Nagar police station," said the DCP.

"Investigation revealed that the victim was called to Lakhimpur Kheri by

Irfan to finalise a deal related to stone works. It was also revealed that Irfan had earlier also got into a dispute with Chandra over some payment issue. On the basis of technical surveillance, police reached Sitapur, rescued Chandra from a jungle and arrested the accused on Wednesday," said the DCP.

"During interrogation, Irfan said he was engaged in the work of stone polishing along with Chandra in Delhi but a dispute had erupted between them over some payment issue. In order to teach Chandra a lesson, he made a plan to abduct him. He asked the victim to come to Lakhimpur kheri on the pretext of finalising a deal of some work," said the DCP.

"When Chandra arrived at Lakhimpur Kheri bus stand on October 24, he was abducted by Vakeel, the elder brother of Irfan, and Aziz Ali, who took him to Sitapur from there in a car, driven by Bablu, the DCP said.

The accused also demanded Rs four lakh as ransom. The car used in the crime has also been recovered, police said, adding that efforts are being made to nab Vakeel and another accused named Samim.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This Season is Conducive to Mosquito Breeding  
**Prevent yourself from Dengue, Chikungunia & Malaria**

**PROTECT YOUR FAMILY BY TAKING FOLLOWING MEASURES**

 <b>Don't allow accumulation of water in and around your houses and offices.</b>	 <b>Water in containers for birds must be changed every week</b>	 <b>Don't keep the tin, tyres, broken utensils, Kabhad etc. under open sky.</b>	 <b>Empty &amp; scrub dry the coolers weekly, can put temephos granules, petrol or diesel in the coolers which cannot be emptied.</b>
 <b>Close the overhead tank tightly with lids &amp; Cover the water containers properly.</b>	 <b>Change the water of Money plant, fengsui plant etc. weekly.</b>	 <b>Don't throw coconut shells, plastic cups, plates under open sky.</b>	 <b>Use mosquito repellents /mosquito nets to avoid mosquito bite</b>

**Non - compliance of the said advise will lead to the legal action as per the provisions under relevant sections of the New Delhi Municipal Council (Malaria and other Mosquito borne diseases) bye-laws-2007**



NDMC

has issued **3028** Notices & **168** challans till 26-10-2020



NDMC 311 App

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
TO BE THE GLOBAL BENCHMARK FOR A CAPITAL CITY

For further information  
**1533**  
NDMC 24x7  
Control Room Number



महाकाव्य 'रामायण के रचयिता, आदिकवि

# महर्षि वाल्मीकी जी

की जयंती पर आप सभी को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं

-अरविंद केजरीवाल  
मुख्यमंत्री, दिल्ली

**दिल्ली सरकार**  
आप की सरकार

अ.जा./अ.ज.जा./अ.पि.व./अल्पसंख्यक कल्याण विभाग  
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली सरकार



DIP/Shabdarth/g/0063/20-21

# Navy test-fires anti-ship missile for op readiness



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**  
Sustaining the momentum to be operationally ready to meet any challenge in the backdrop of the ongoing tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the Indian Navy on Friday successfully test fired an anti-ship missile from its

guided missile corvette INS Kora in the Bay of Bengal. Stating that the missile hit the target at maximum range with precise accuracy, officials said here the drill reflected the navy's combat readiness in the strategic sea lanes around India, officials said. "Anti-ship missile fired by Indian Navy's Guided

Missile Corvette INS Kora hits the target at max range with precise accuracy in Bay of Bengal. Target ship severely damaged and in flames," the Navy tweeted. Last week, the Navy released a video of an anti-ship missile destroying a sinking ship with "deadly accuracy"

## India releases schedule of annual Malabar naval drill

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Days after announcing the participation of Australia for the first time in the Malabar series of naval exercises despite China's strong objection, India on Friday released the schedule of the annual exercise. It will take part in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea in two phases.

In all four countries including India, Japan, US and Australia will exercise together in the first phase for four days from November 3 to 6 in Visakhapatnam in the Bay of Bengal. The next session will commence in mid-November.

The 2+2 ministerial level dialogue between India and the US here earlier this week had expressed satisfaction over the forthcoming Malabar exercise. It will see all the four Quadrilateral countries exercising together for the first time.

China had all along objected to the inclusion of Australia claiming it will militarise the Quad and increase tension in the Indo-Pacific region. India announced the decision about Australia's participation on October 19.

The Malabar exercises started in 1992 when India and US exercised together. Japan joined in 2015. An

invitation to Australia in 2007 saw China expressing its displeasure to all the four countries. However, the US and Japan were in favour of Australia joining this prestigious exercise and the process was on for the last two years.

Giving details of the upcoming exercise, officials said here the 24th edition is scheduled in two phases in November 2020. Phase-1 will see participation of Indian Navy units with USN Ship USS John S McCain (Guided-missile destroyer), Ballarat (long range frigate) with integral MH-60 helicopter of Australia and Onami (Destroyer) with integral SH-

60 helicopter of Japan.

The Indian Navy participation in Phase 1 will be led by Rear Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet. Indian Navy units participating in the exercise include destroyer Ranvijay, frigate Shivalik, Off Shore Patrol Vessel Sukanya, Fleet Support Ship Shakti and submarine Sindhuraj. In addition, Advanced Jet Trainer Hawk, long-range maritime patrol aircraft P-8I, Dornier maritime patrol aircraft, and helicopters will also be participating in the exercise.

The exercise, being conducted as a 'non-contact, at

sea only' exercise in view of COVID-19 pandemic, will showcase the high-levels of synergy and coordination between the friendly navies, which is based on their shared values and commitment to an open, inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order. The first phase will witness complex and advanced naval exercises including surface, anti-submarine and anti-air warfare operations, cross deck flying, seamanship evolutions and weapon firing exercises. The second phase is scheduled to be conducted in the Arabian Sea in mid-November 2020.

somewhere in the Arabian Sea.

The missile was fired by frontline corvette INS Prabal as part of a mega drill involving aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya and a number of warships, attack helicopters, and other assets of the Navy.

The Indian Navy has significantly increased its deployment in the Indian Ocean Region in an attempt to send across a message to China in the wake of escalation in tension between the two countries over the border standoff in

eastern Ladakh.

The Indian Navy has participated in a number of joint maritime exercises in the last few weeks, including a three-day drill with Japanese navy from September 26-28. Last month, Indian Navy

also carried out a two-day mega exercise in the Indian Ocean Region with the Australian Navy that featured a range of complex naval manoeuvres, anti-aircraft drills and helicopter operations. In July, the Indian Navy

carried out a military exercise with a US Navy carrier strike group led by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz off the coast of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The USS Nimitz is the world's largest warship.

## Money laundering case: Kerala CPM leader's son in ED net

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested Bineesh Kodiyeri, son of Kerala CPI (M) leader Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, for money laundering.

The agency on Friday claimed that Kodiyeri allegedly credited "huge amounts of unaccounted funds" into the bank accounts of the drug peddler Mohammed Anoop.

The ED has initiated investigation against Mohammed Anoop and others based on the FIR registered by Narcotics Control Bureau, Bengaluru on August 22 this year.

Earlier, Mohammed Anoop, a drug peddler, was arrested by ED on October 17, 2020 and, during his custodial interrogation, he inter-alia admitted that he was indulging in sale and purchase of narcotics drugs and closely associated with Bineesh Kodiyeri, the ED said in a statement.

"It is also revealed that he held various bank accounts and indulged in transferring/layering of huge proceeds of crime into various accounts. Fund trail investigation also established that huge amount



of unaccounted funds were being regularly credited in his accounts by Bineesh Kodiyeri. These were preceded by large cash deposits in Kerala into the accounts of Bineesh Kodiyeri," it said.

During the course of investigation, it was revealed that Mohammed Anoop is a Benamidar of Bineesh Kodiyeri and all his financial dealings were done on the instructions of Bineesh Kodiyeri who had paid huge amounts of money to Mohammed Anoop.

He could not explain these cash and fund transactions and was completely evasive in his replies, the agency said.

Bineesh Kodiyeri was produced before the ED PMLA Court on Thursday and the designated court

granted ED custody till 5 PM of November 2. Further custodial interrogation and investigation is under progress, it added.

Benamidar is a person in whose name the benami property is held or transferred, and a beneficial owner of the person for whose benefit the property is being held by the benamidar.

The NCB had claimed in the past that "prominent musicians and actors" in Karnataka are under its scanner after the operation involving Anoop and Kodiyeri.

Kodiyeri has maintained that he knew Anoop and his family and the latter had borrowed money from him and some others for setting up the restaurant business in Bengaluru a few years ago.

## Gujrat Assembly bypoll: 18 per cent candidates have criminal background

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Out of the 80 candidates in the fray for the November 3 Gujarat Assembly by-election, 18 per cent have declared criminal cases against themselves. According to a report by poll rights group Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), which also gives details of the financial background of candidates, said a total of 20 or 25 per cent of them have declared financial assets worth crores of rupees.

While a total of 81 candidates are contesting the elections, the report is based on an analysis of affidavits furnished by 80 of them. Bypolls in Abdasa, Limbdi, Morbi, Dhari, Gadhada, Karjan, Dang and Kaprada assembly seats in Gujarat were necessitated after the sitting Congress MLAs resigned.

The report said that seven or 9 per cent of the candidates have declared serious criminal cases against themselves, while 14 or 18 per cent have declared criminal cases against themselves. Serious criminal cases are non-bailable offences with over five years of imprisonment.

According to the report, one (50 per cent) out of two

**7 OR 9% OF THE CANDIDATES HAVE DECLARED SERIOUS CRIMINAL CASES AGAINST THEMSELVES**

candidates analysed from Bhartiya Tribal Party, three (38 per cent) out of eight candidates analysed from BJP, two (25 per cent) out of eight candidates analysed from Congress and eight (15 per cent) out of 53 Independent candidates have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits. One (50 per cent) out of two candidates analysed from Bhartiya Tribal Party, two (25 per cent) out of eight candidates analysed from BJP and four (8 per cent) out of 53 Independent candidates have declared serious criminal cases against themselves, the report said.

"Two (25 per cent) out of eight constituencies are red alert constituencies. Red alert constituencies are those where three or more contesting candidates have declared criminal

cases against themselves. The directions of the Supreme Court have had no effect on the political parties in selection of candidates as they have again followed their old practice of giving tickets to around 18 per cent candidates with criminal cases," the report said.

"All major parties contesting in Gujarat bye-elections have given tickets to 25 per cent to 38 per cent candidates who have declared criminal cases against themselves," it said. "Out of the 80 candidates, 20 (25 per cent) are corepatis. Eight (100 per cent) out of 8 candidates analysed from BJP, 6 (75 per cent) out of 8 candidates analysed from Congress and 6 (11 per cent) out of 53 Independent candidates have declared assets worth more than ₹1 crore," the report stated. The average assets per candidate is ₹1.16 crore, it said.

"Among major parties, the average assets per candidate for eight Congress candidates analysed is ₹4.38 crore, eight BJP candidates analysed is Rs 2.52 crores, two Bhartiya Tribal Party candidates have average assets of ₹17.85 lakhs and 53 Independent candidates have average assets of ₹70.52 lakhs," it added.

## Munger police firing: Cong seeks dismissal of Nitish, Sushil Modi

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Congress on Friday demanded immediate suspension of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi over the Munger police firing incident. A delegation of party from national Capital met Bihar Governor. The congress delegation was also likely to meet President of India during the next couple of days in this regard.

The Congress delegation led by General Secretary Randeep Surjewala submitted a memorandum to Bihar Governor Fagu Chauhan demanding immediate dismissal of Nitish Kumar government, alleging its failure in handling the situation in Munger where one youth was killed in police firing and several others were injured in lathi charge on those participating in immersion of idol of Goddess Durga on October 26.

AICC sources said that party is also seeking an appointment from President Ram Nath Kovind to apprise him of the breaking law and order situation in Bihar when elections are

being conducted on the ground. The grand alliance consisting of Congress, RJD, and left parties has also demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi dismiss the NDA Government of Bihar over the incident.

Two incidents of violence occurred in Munger within 72 hours that had erupted following excess committed against devotees during immersion of idol of Goddess Durga near Azad Chowk in Munger district on October 26.

Surjewala said that a youth Anurag Kumar was killed in police firing and it was also evident from the report of CISE. Eight others were injured in lathi charge on the fateful night of October 26, he added.

Congress leader said that the party had demanded from the Governor for immediate dismissal of Nitish Kumar government for its failures in handling the situation in Munger. Stringent action should be taken against DM and SP of Munger, who were at the helm of affairs during the incident, after placing them under suspension with the immediate effect, the party said in its memorandum.

## Javadekar seeks Cong's apology for its conspiracy theories on Pulwama attack



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**  
A day after a Pakistani politician in Assembly confessed that the country was behind the Pulwama terror attack that claimed the lives of 40 CRPF personnel in J & K, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Friday sought an apology from the Congress for its conspiracy theories around the incident.

What was described as a terror attack inspired by Pakistani terror outfits had prompted Indian punitive air strikes at Balakot across the borders, last year.

Taking to Twitter, Javadekar said, "Pakistan has admitted its hand behind Pulwama terror attack. Now, Congress and others who talked of conspiracy theories must apologise to the country," he said.

The alleged terror attack took place on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on February 14, 2019, when a convoy of vehicles carrying security personnel was struck by a vehicle-borne suicide bomber at Lethpora near Awantipura in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Lok Sabha polls were held in 2019 and on the first anniversary of Pulwama attack, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi had held the BJP responsible for security lapses asking who benefited the most from the attack.

## PM inaugurates 4 tourism attractions at Statue of Unity



**PTI ■ KEVADIYA (GUJARAT)**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is on a two-day visit to Gujarat, inaugurated four new tourist attractions near the Statue of Unity at Kevadiya in Narmada district on Friday.

The Prime Minister inaugurated Arogya Van, Ekta Mall, Children's Nutrition Park and Sardar Patel Zoological Park/Jungle Safari.

He was scheduled to launch 17 new projects, including a seaplane service, on Friday and Saturday.

Modi first inaugurated Arogya Van ('health forest'), spread over 17 acres with a wide range of medicinal plants. The sprawling garden, which boasts of five lakh plants of 380 species, also highlights the importance of Yoga,

Ayurveda and meditation, an official release said.

It also has a 'yoga and meditation' garden, souvenir shop and a cafeteria serving "Ayurveda foods".

Modi also visited a digital information centre and an indoor plants garden inside Arogya Van.

The prime minister then inaugurated Ekta Mall, a unique store near the Statue of Unity where tourists can buy handloom and handicraft products from various states. The two-storey air-conditioned complex is spread over 35,000 square feet and houses 20 emporia, said the government release.

Modi, accompanied by Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, visited several emporia. The prime minister spent significant time at stalls sell-

ing traditional items from Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East.

He showed keen interest in the processes involved in making them, an official said.

The PM next inaugurated a Children's Nutrition Park, dubbed as the world's first such technology-driven theme park developed over 35,000 square meters. Its primary objective is to make children understand the importance of nutritious food, officials said.

The park has 47 attractions providing "infotainment" to children with the underlying theme of "Sahi Poshan Desh Roshan".

Modi then inaugurated Jungle Safari, a state-of-the-art Zoological Park spread across 375 acres and seven levels.

## Plea in SC seeks replacing of party symbols on EVMs with name, educational qualification

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking a direction to the Election Commission to remove symbols from ballot and EVMs and replace it with 'name, age, educational qualification and photograph' of candidates.

The plea filed by BJP leader and advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay has also sought directions to declare that use of party symbol on EVM is illegal, unconstitutional and violative of the Constitution.

The plea, filed through advocate Ashwani Kumar Dubey, said the best solution to weed corruption and criminalisation in politics is to replace political party symbols on ballot and EVM with name, age, educational qualifi-

cation and photograph of the candidates.

It said that ballot and EVM without political party symbol have many benefits as it will help electors to vote and support intelligent diligent and honest candidates.

"Ballot and EVM without political party symbol will control dictatorship of political party bosses in ticket distribution and forced them to give ticket to those who religiously work for people's welfare," the plea said.

Referring to a study done by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), a non-government organisation working in electoral reforms, the plea said that out of 539 MPs, 233 (43 per cent) MPs have declared criminal cases against themselves.

## India dealt with border crisis with China with firmness, maturity, says Foreign Secy

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

India has dealt with the "worst crisis" in decades along its border with China with "firmness and maturity" despite facing the challenge of the coronavirus pandemic, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said on Thursday.

In an address at a leading think-tank in Paris, Shringla mentioned two recent terrorist incidents in France, one of

which he said had its origins in Pakistan, noting that the civilised world needs to act with firmness to address the threat of terrorism.

Delving into major geo-strategic issues, he said the immediate challenges have not been able to distract India from broader strategic goals, especially in the Indo-Pacific Region where it is moving purposefully at multiple levels to create an "open, inclusive architecture".

## Centre asks States to form committees for smooth Covid-19 vaccination



**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Centre has asked States to constitute committees for coordination and overseeing COVID-19 vaccination drive while ensuring minimal disruptions in other routine healthcare services, and stressed early tracking of social media to dispel rumours which could impact the community acceptance of coronavirus inoculation.

Stating that COVID-19 vaccine introduction will span over a year with multiple groups being included "sequentially starting from health care workers", the Health Ministry has sought constitution of committees at state and district levels which will review preparatory activities in terms of cold chain preparedness, operational planning, strategies for state-specific challenges in terms of geographical terrain and hard-to-reach areas, etc.

In a letter to states and union territories, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan has suggested setting up of a state steering committee (SSC) chaired by the chief secretary,

a state task force (STF) led by additional Chief Secretary or principal secretary (health), and a district task force (DTF) to be headed by the district magistrate.

An annexure attached with the letter outlines the terms of references for the committees according to which the SSC will ensure active involvement of all departments concerned and devise innovative strategies for improving community engagement ("Jan Bhagidaari") for improved coverage of COVID-19 vaccine once it is available.

"Ensure early tracking of social media and other platforms for possible misinformation and rumours around COVID-19 vaccine that could impact the community acceptance for the vaccine," it said.

The SSC will also have to institute a reward/recognition mechanism for achievement of best performing district/block/urban ward, etc. The COVID-19 vaccine introduction will span over a year with multiple groups being included sequentially starting from HCWs.

# Vijayan heads gold smuggling mafia, says Kerala BJP chief

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Pinarayi Vijayan's continuation as Chief Minister has become untenable in the backdrop of last two days' events, according to K Surendran, president, Kerala BJP.

In a scathing attack on Pinarayi Vijayan and the CPI(M), the BJP leader termed Vijayan as the chief of a mafia dealing in gold smuggling, drug trafficking and hawala transactions. "Chief Minister Vijayan heads a smuggling mafia, a mafia specialising in smuggling of gold, money laundering and hawala transactions."

Vijayan is the prime accused in gold smuggling," lambasted Surendran while addressing the media at Thiruvananthapuram.

Quoting from statements made by Vijayan since July 2020 when the gold smuggling scam was busted by the Customs Department, Surendran said that there were

wide discrepancies and contradictions in the former's stance.

"Chief Minister had told in his initial reactions that he did not know who the controversial woman was and has not met her. But when Swapna Suresh (the controversial woman) told the Enforcement Directorate sleuths that it was Vijayan who introduced her to principal secretary Sivsankar, he retracted his earlier statement and said he knew her."

The Enforcement Directorate in its charge sheet has said that it was with the knowledge and concurrence of the chief minister that Swapna Suresh, whose educational qualification is dubious was appointed as Chief Executive of Kerala Government owned Space Park," said Surendran.

The BJP chief said that two more ministers in the Kerala cabinet and two more senior officials in the Chief Minister's Office were involved in gold

smuggling activities. "I will come out with their names at the appropriate time. But before that I ask Vijayan to submit his resignation and go home," said Surendran.

He said Vijayan while meeting the media on Thursday read out from a prepared statement and stayed away from sensitive questions. "There are enough evidence to link the chief minister to the LIFE Mission, the flagship programme of the Kerala Government," charged the BJP leader.

Ramesh Chennithala, Leader of Opposition, went to the extent of calling Pinarayi Vijayan as a mafia chief. "He heads a mafia of gold smugglers, drug dealers and hawala operators. Kerala has never seen in the past a group of criminals heading a government," charged Chennithala, the frontrunner in Congress for the post of Chief Minister after the next year's assembly election.

# Villagers bid adieu to BJP leader killed by LeT

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

On a day his son turned a youth Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP), leader Fida Hussain Yatoo, mercilessly killed by the Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) terrorists along with two other officer bearers in YK Pora area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district late Thursday night, was laid to rest in his native village on Friday.

The entire neighbourhood in his village witnessed a surcharged atmosphere while family members and his supporters bid final farewell. Chanting patriotic slogans, local villagers and party workers attended the funeral prayers. Senior BJP leaders including J&K Chief Ravinder Raina also attended the last rites and visited the family of Yatoo to offer condolences on behalf of the top brass of the party.

Meanwhile, Inspector General of Police, Kashmir range Vijay Kumar Friday claimed Pakistan based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) was behind the killing of three BJP leaders in Kulgam district. "The names of LeT militants --

a local militant from Dooru, Nisar Khanday; and Abbas from Khudwani who was previously associated with Hizbul Mujahideen and is now with LeT and also claims to be from TRF -- are cropping up. The involvement of these two is there, but there may be a foreign terrorist involved as well in the attack," he said.

IGP, Kashmir also appealed to the protected persons in the valley not to move around without their security.

He said, "We have provided PSOs and security to 157 BJP workers, and nearly 30 have been provided with guards and we will provide more security to those who have severe threat perception".

Referring to the issue of providing security cover to the protected persons, IGP said they had prepared a list of 1,619 vulnerable persons who were lodged in secure locations before the Centre's decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5 last year.

"We had made a list of 1,619 vulnerable persons before August 5 (last year) and we had

kept them in different hotels in secure areas. We had kept Fida (Hussain) in a hotel in Pahalgam where he stayed for three weeks. Recently, he gave an undertaking and left the hotel. We are investigating what they were doing in a car in an area far away from home," he said.

Sharing preliminary details of the investigations IGP said, an Alto car used by the LeT terrorists has been seized by the police. "Three terrorists came in a car belonging to a local terrorist identified as Altaf. Fida Hussain was with his two colleagues in a car when these terrorists fired indiscriminately on them from close range. They received grave injuries and succumbed on the way to the hospital". Kumar said after the attack, the terrorists fled in the same car towards Achbal area, from where the car was seized this morning.

Asked whether the attack was pre-planned, the IGP said it was possible.

"It seems so to us as well because what were they doing away from home, waiting for someone or not, then terrorists

came, attacked them and then ran away to Achbal. There is a chance that it was a pre-planned attack and we are investigating it and will soon solve it," he said.

On a question as to whether the attacks on BJP activists -- instances of which have increased over the last few months -- were carried out at the local level by the terrorists or did the ultras get orders from Pakistan, the IGP said this was part of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

"You know it all. Recently, mediapersons also received threats through 'Kashmir Fight', an online medium which is run in Pakistan, or the TRF website. They claimed the attack yesterday on 'Kashmir Fight' as well. This is Pakistan-sponsored terrorism and this proves that these killings take place on the orders from Pakistan," he said.

As a countermeasure to such attacks, Kumar appealed to the protected persons to follow the standard operating procedures (SOP) laid down by the security agencies for their movement and not to move around in vulnerable areas especially without their security.

# 2 terrorist associates arrested by J&K police

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested two terrorist associates from North Kashmir's Handwara and recovered arms and ammunition from them, officials said on Friday.

Police said on the basis of a specific information regarding the movement of anti-national elements, the Handwara police along with the army and the CRPF established check points at different locations in the town and started searching vehicles and pedestrians.

"During search/checking at Chinar Park Handwara, two persons riding on a bike were found in suspicious condition, who on seeing the search party tried to escape from the spot but were chased and apprehended by the search party," police said. Police said the apprehended persons on preliminary questioning disclosed their identity as Liyakat Ahmad Mir and Aqib Rashid Mir, both residents of Hyen Trehgam Kupwara.

"On their personal search, arms and ammunition were recovered from their possession," police said.

"During questioning it came to surface that the duo are working with terror outfit LeT as associates and were about to distribute the arms and ammunition among the terrorists in South Kashmir."

The police have registered an FIR and started the investigation. IANS

# Omar meets local leaders in Kargil, vows to fight for special status of J&K

PNS ■ JAMMU

Ahead of visiting Jammu next week a delegation of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) led by former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday visited Drass area of Kargil in the Union Territory of Ladakh to take stock of the prevailing political situation in the region.

The delegation included PDP leaders Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura and Waheed Para, Nasir Aslam Wani of

National Conference, Muzafar Shah of Awami National Conference.

While attending a series of meetings with the local leaders Omar conveyed a clear message to the ruling dispensation in New Delhi that we will continue to fight for the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

"We are united in our resolve that the pre August 5th, 2019 position must be restored in Jammu and Kashmir", Omar said during his meeting with the leaders of the Kargil

Democratic Alliance in Kargil.

Addressing a separate gathering in Drass Omar said that no elected assembly or Chief Minister of the state signed the August 5 order and it was forcefully implemented which "we haven't accepted and will fight for the restoration of all that has been snatched and forcefully implemented"

He said that with support from the people of Drass and Kargil Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration will fight

it and achieve the goal and act as a voice for this area.

Meanwhile, in Jammu National Conference leaders staged a protest demonstration against new land laws for J&K and forcefully restricting the movement of the party president Dr Farooq Abdullah.

Led by NC Provincial President, Devender Singh Rana, senior NC leaders protested outside their office when they were not allowed to march towards Raj Bhavan in Jammu.

# Authority demolishes encroachments on 2L square yards land on Aligarh Palwal road

Aligarh: A bulldozer ran from Kurana to Hamidpur on the Aligarh Palwal road in Yamuna Development Authority. During which, many houses, boundaries of plots etc. were demolished.

According to Yamuna Development Authority Special Executive Officer Navneet Goyal, illegal construction on 2 lakh 20 thousand square yards has been demolished by JCB. The cost of this land is about

2.25 crores.

The special executive officer of the authority along with the team camped in Kurana village on Thursday morning. The village is on Aligarh-Palwal road, about 3 km from the Yamuna bridge.

The team demolished half-dozen houses and the boundary wall above the foundation by JCB from Kurana to Hamidpur. According to the authority offi-

cial Navneet Goyal, colonizers are doing plotting by showing a dream to customers which is illegal. Without the permission of the Yamuna Development Authority, plotting cannot be done on the above-mentioned lands. Action is fixed on those who have done plotting.

Those who need to purchase the plot should first inquire from the Yamuna Development Authority. PNS

# Eid-e-Milad Nabi celebrated in AMU

Aligarh: It is not an easy task to encapsulate the awe-inspiring traits of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), who propagated the final message of God in a short time, said Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) Vice Chancellor, Professor Tariq Mansoor.

He was delivering the presidential address in the online Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (Birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet) function in AMU.

Prof Mansoor said: Despite the power and the massive following, the Prophet never led a luxurious life. Instead, he continued with spartan life.

He sought no personal gains and lived by the principles he espoused. PNS

# Covid death toll drops to 127, 6,190 + ve in Maharashtra

Mumbai: In another day of relatively low Covid-19 infections and fatalities, as many as 127 people died of coronavirus and 6,190 others tested positive for the parts of Maharashtra on Friday.

A day after Maharashtra witnessed 156 deaths and 5,902 infected cases, the daily death tally dropped to 127, while the infections went up marginally to 6190.

With 127 fresh deaths, the Covid-19 toll in Maharashtra rose from 43,710 to 43,837. Similarly with 6190 fresh infections, the total infected cases jumped from 16,66,668 to 16,72,858.

As 8241 more people were discharged from various hospitals in the state, the number of people discharged from various hospitals after full recovery since the second week of March this year went up to 15,03,050. The recovery rate in the state rose from 89.69 per cent to 89.85 per cent.

Of the 127 deaths reported, Mumbai accounted for a maximum of 32 deaths, while there were 15 deaths in Thane and 14 in Pune.

In the lower range, there were 8 deaths in Aurangabad, 6 in Solapur, 5 each in Beed and Nagpur, 4 each in Raigad, Ahmednagar and Jalna, 3 each in Sangli and Latur, 2 each in Nandurbar, Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Akola, Yavatmal, Wardha and Bhandara and one death each in Nashik, Jalgaon, Satara, Parbhani, Osmanabad, Buldhana, Washim, Gondia and Chandrapur. In addition, one person from outside the state died in Maharashtra.

With 32 deaths, the Covid-19 toll in Mumbai rose from 10,229 to 10,261 while the infected cases shot up by 1,145 to trigger a jump in the infections from 255,360 to 256,505.

Meanwhile, the mortality rate in the state stood at 2.62 per cent. The number of "active

cases" in the state dropped from 1,27,603 to 1,25,418.

Pune district, which continued to be the worst-affected city-district in Maharashtra, saw the total number of cases increase from 3,32,354 to 3,33,106 while the total number of deaths in Pune increased from 6657 to 6,671.

Thane district remained in the third spot -- after Pune and Mumbai -- after the total number of infections rose from 2,21,770 to 2,22,507 while the pandemic toll climbed from 5,316 to 5,331.

Out of 89,06,826 samples sent to laboratories, 16,72,858 have tested positive (18.78 per cent) for COVID-19 until Friday.

Currently, 25,29,462 people are in home quarantine while 12,411 people are in institutional quarantine. PNS

# Robbers target ATMs in Aligarh

Aligarh: Dozen ATMs of Canara Bank running without security guards are on target of thieves these days. In Aligarh and Hathras, robbers are knocking on ATMs of Diebolt (company special) company. Masked thieves enter the ATM cabin and taking out the money with the help of cards and keys. Up to 5000 rupees dispense at a time but it is not deducted from the account of the account holder.

Therefore, the account holder is not aware of this theft. When the bank officials noticed these incidents in a dozen ATM cabins in a fortnight, the issue came to the lead bank manager. The investigation has been started by putting the technical team in the case and cases have also been registered in many police stations. In October, one day the team arrived at the ATM of Canara Bank's Gular Road SSI branch in the morning to feed money, the top part of the machine was found open. PNS

# PDP, NC instigating people to resort to violence: BJP leader Kavinder Gupta

Jammu: A day after three BJP workers were shot dead by militants in Kulgam district, senior party leader and ex-deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta on Friday accused the PDP and NC of "propagating a false narrative" in the Valley to instigate people in resorting to violence as a means of showing resistance against the recent changes in Jammu and Kashmir.

He however maintained that such "cowardly" acts by the militants cannot deter BJP's commitment to work for the national cause. Chairing a meeting of senior party leaders here on Friday, Gupta said, "The killing of the three BJP workers in Kulgam is an outcome of the recent provocative statements by PDP and NC leaders who deliberately toed a line to incite passions of people prompting them

to commit such dastardly acts to demoralize the nationalist populace in the Valley".

"The PDP and NC were propagating a false narrative in Valley to instigate people to use violence as a mean to show resistance against recent changes that Jammu and Kashmir witnessed due to the Narendra Modi government's efforts to completely unite erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir with the country," he said. On Tuesday, the Centre, in a gazette notification, omitted the phrase "permanent resident of the state" from Section 17 of the Jammu and Kashmir Development Act that deals with disposal of the land in the union territory, paving the way for people from outside Jammu and Kashmir to buy land in JK and Ladakh, over a year after the nullification of provisions. PTI

# Observers' no to repolling in 71 seats of Bihar assembly

Patna: Observers have not recommended Repolling in any of the 71 seats that went to polls in the first phase of the Bihar assembly elections on October 28, sources in the Election Commission said on Friday. State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) H R Srinivas, in his report based on inputs provided by returning officers and district election officers, has also concluded that repolling was not required in any of the seats, they said.

General observers conducted post-poll scrutiny of all the 71 seats in the presence of candidates/political parties and concluded: "The polling process was completed on poll day peacefully and in accordance with statutory instructions in all the 31,371 polling booths spread across 71 constituencies in 16 districts of the state," they said. PTI

# Police remove posters of French Prez from Mumbai's road

## After video of vehicles passing over it went viral

Mumbai: Within hours after posters of French President Emmanuel Macron -- who is under fire from Muslim leaders and organisations for his comments defending the rights to publish cartoons of the Prophet -- surfaced on Mumbai's Mohammed Ali Road in south Mumbai, the city police on Friday stepped in and removed the posters from the busy road on Friday afternoon.

After the videos of people trampling upon and cars driving on the posters pasted by some unknown persons on the Mohammed Ali Road went viral, the police from the nearby Pydhonie police station rushed to the scene and removed them.

Unconfirmed that the posters were part of a protest organised the Raza Academy, a Muslim organisation, against Macron who has come in for a severe flak from defending the rights to publish cartoons of the Prophet. As the police were preoccupied with the arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi procession taken out in the afternoon, they had neither registered a case nor arrested any-

one in connection with the poster incident.

Macron has come in for criticisms Muslim leaders and organisation following the public beheading of a Paris teacher who had shown students in his class the cartoons. On his part, Macron said the teacher had been "killed because Islamists want our future" and promised that his government would intensify a crackdown on radical Islam.

After India expressed solidarity with France, posters slamming Macron for defending the rights to publish cartoons of the Prophet surfaced in Mumbai and Bhopal late on Thursday and early on Friday.

The Opposition BJP sought to make a political capital out of the controversy, by pillorying the ruling Shiv Sena for "supporting Islam terrorists" and demanding action against the protesters. "When France speaks out against Islamic terror then here (in Maharashtra) the government stands behind people supporting fanatic Islam terrorists?" BJP leader Kirit Somaiya said.

Another city BJP leader and MLA Atul Bhatkalkar rooted for stringent action against those responsible for sticking posters of the French President who has stood by India solidly vis-a-vis China in recent times.

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India

# NATIONAL UNITY DAY

31<sup>st</sup> October 2020

On the birth anniversary of  
**Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**  
the Grateful nation pays tribute

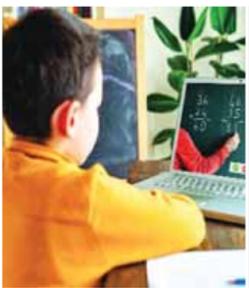
**Sardar Patel's mantra of unity is the ethos of the nation and his birth anniversary is the festival of Unity of India.**

“Sardar Patel did the important work of uniting the country. His thoughts and actions inspire us to live the mantra of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'”  
- Narendra Modi

Live telecast of Prime Minister's programme on:  
Doordarshan Network from Statue of Unity, Kevadia, Gujarat from 07:30 am onwards

## Every child's right

The ASER survey maps the extent of the digital divide in rural India and makes a case for strengthening infrastructure to democratise education



We all knew about the digital divide in the education sector, about how children in rural India, already cut off from last mile connectivity and lacking internet and technology resources, would suffer badly in a post-pandemic scenario. But it looks far worse than initially estimated. The Annual State of Education Report (ASER) survey, which mapped the extent of learning loss among students in September, has found that with the closure of schools, about 20 per cent of rural children had no textbooks at home. About three per cent of them, aged between six and 10 years, had not yet enrolled in school this year compared to just

1.8 per cent in 2018. And in the week of the survey, about one in three rural children had not participated in any learning activity at all while about two in three had no learning material or school-oriented activity. Enrolment patterns, too, show a slight shift toward Government schools, with private schools seeing a drop across age groups. Though, encouragingly, about one in every 10 rural households across the country bought a new phone to support their child's digital education, it also brings out the harsh reality that only a minuscule percentage of village children had access to live online classes. This adversely impacted the education of the rest, who could not afford either a smartphone or a computer, and were, therefore, left with the option of not studying at all or sharing the scarce resources in groups. To make matters worse, only one-third of all enrolled children received textbooks, worksheets, online/recorded classes, video or some other form of virtual lessons from their teachers, increasing the learning gap even more. Here, too, the divide between the haves and the have-nots was accentuated because 28.7 per cent of children studying in private schools had watched videos or other pre-recorded content online, as compared to 18.3 per cent of Government school students. But even 28.7 per cent is a dismal figure by all standards and all efforts to ensure seamless education by adopting technology solutions have clearly come to a naught. So if we want to mainstream hybrid education, the ASER report is a reality check. Urban models cannot be imposed on rural India, where technology has to be hardwired in a community format and distance learning via satellite TV networks or intranet encouraged.

India may be among one of the largest consumers of smartphones worldwide and may have the second largest internet penetration but we still don't have a reliable and strong broadband connection throughout the country. Till we can ensure this, patchy links will remain one of the major reasons for the lack of access to online learning. Even in cities, where we have a comprehensive 4G network, there are major disruption issues being faced by parents, students and teachers alike. So how can we expect things to be better in rural India? While urban homes may have the privilege of owning power back-ups, what about rural areas where power supply is a luxury and where outages are mostly diurnal to supply electricity to the industrial and farm sector, basically the time when the classes are supposed to be held? Besides, how many of the teachers are comfortable taking online classes in rural India? Given the fact that data is expensive, even if parents are able to get the child an exclusive phone for studies, they are forced to keep the video option off to save data. Which in turn makes the lessons uninteresting for the students and difficult for the teacher to monitor them. The language barrier is a serious challenge as most of the content is either in English or Hindi, making it tough for regional language speakers. It is at times like this one wishes that India had taken full advantage of its Educational Satellite (EduSat). But we can still widen the bouquet of direct to home (DTH) educational channels, all of which cover content from pre-school to doctoral studies, and beam them over local cable networks. A knowledge society must be democratic, not exclusionary. And since enrolment at Government schools is up, it is time to prioritise upskilling teachers and standardise modules there. We cannot leave rural India behind.

## Conflict of ideas

After yet another beheading in France, there is a hardening of positions between religion and secularism



The depiction of Prophet Mohammad has been a controversial issue in France for long as any kind of visual portrayal related to him is forbidden in Islam. It is what prompted a terror attack in 2015 on the offices of the satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*, which printed his cartoons in the name of free speech. But given the 36 attacks carried out by a fringe minority of Muslims on French soil since 2012, the latest beheading of a Parisian teacher, who had used cartoons again in a civics class about freedom of expression, and the killing of a woman at Notre-Dame church in Nice, there is a raging debate now over the extent to which secularism can

be stretched and not conflict with religiosity. Particularly in times when the clash of civilisations has never seemed sharper. Some liberals, who have been arguing that while the cartoon may have been in poor taste but was not illicit, are now wondering whether freedom of speech and values had been stretched too far. And whether the French should be careful about comments and expressions, which can be deemed as racist, anti-Semitic or homophobic, particularly when applied to a minority. However, the majority detest this pandering as compromising the nation's foundational principles. Besides, France has had an uneasy relationship with settlers and migrants, one that has led to what it is now labelling as "Islamofascism." In fact, in deeply divided times across the world, the freedom of speech and liberty of ideas are being increasingly challenged by what the fringe sees as offensive to its sensibilities. But the French continue to defend the art of satire over the art of accommodating the religious beliefs of others. In fact, just after *Charlie Hebdo* magazine published its cartoons of the Prophet, the then President, Jacques Chirac, had sounded a note of caution, saying, "Anything that can hurt the convictions of someone else, in particular religious convictions, should be avoided." But no French politician since then has sounded a voice of reason with current President Emmanuel Macron going to the extent of saying that Catholics are "under threat." That's because post the scale of violence, the right to satire is being seen as emblematic of France's status and ethos as a secular Republic that counters religious bias. And the fatwas are being seen as an attack on the French way of life, more hurtful than the pain of a religious sect or group.

In 1905, France adopted the *laïcité* or secularism. This means the State can neither support nor stigmatise any religion. However, things changed after its traumatic defeat in Algeria with the State targeting the visibility of Islam on its turf. France became the first and only European country to ban the hijab in public schools in 2004. Few years down the line, it banned the wearing of niqab or face covering. Things have taken such a turn now that even human rights and civil society groups are collecting data on the rise of Islamophobia, something that a 1978 French law forbids. Macron's infamous statement, "Fear will change sides", and his claim that Islam as a religion is in crisis have not gone down well with several Middle Eastern countries that are boycotting French products. His idea of reforming Islam has been interpreted as provocative rather than well-meaning. Several activists argue the Government should instead invest more effort in addressing the marginalisation of French Muslims, often with ancestry in Africa and the Middle East, in the suburban ghettos of the country. They feel alienated and they suffer from high levels of unemployment and poor social housing. Rather than working on the root cause of the problem, the hardening of positions can only widen the existing faultlines and social rift. It might then just become impossible to defend who is tolerant or not.

# opinion

## Crusade for Afghan women

They should not be left at the mercy of the Taliban and civil societies in all democracies should ensure that they have equal rights and freedom



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

As the world is pre-occupied with dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, and individual countries solve their respective specific problems, such as India with its confrontation with China, the fate of Afghan women has received little attention. No Government seems to be bothered by the fact that a political order in Afghanistan, shaped according to the Taliban's dictates, may once again relegate them to virtual house arrest and deprive them of almost all freedoms, including the economic activity of their choice, and independent access to healthcare — as they were during the Taliban rule from 1994 to 2001.

In a report titled *The Taliban's War on Women: A Health and Human Rights Crisis in Afghanistan*, Physicians for Human Rights, a respected human rights organisation based in the United States, presented a nightmarish picture of the condition of Afghan women under Taliban rule. It wrote: "The Taliban was the first faction laying claim to power in Afghanistan, which had targeted women for extreme repression and punished them brutally for infractions. To our knowledge, no other regime in the world had methodically and violently forced half of its population into virtual house arrest, prohibiting them on the pain of physical punishment, from showing their faces, seeking medical care without a male escort or attending school.

"It is difficult to find another Government or would-be Government that has created such poverty by arbitrarily depriving half the population under its control of jobs, schooling, mobility and healthcare. Such restrictions are literally life-threatening to the women and their children."

Lt-Gen Kamal Matinuddin (Retd) of the Pakistan Army wrote in *Taliban Phenomenon: Afghanistan 1994-97*, "Girls are being denied education, women have been prevented from working. If they leave their house, they have to be covered from head to foot with a veil (*burqa*); besides being veiled, women have to be accompanied by a male relative when they venture out on the streets. Shopkeepers have been directed not to sell goods to unveiled women. Rickshaw drivers are not to pick up women passengers unless they are fully covered. Women caught violating these rules



are imprisoned, as are the shopkeepers and rickshaw-drivers."

Things began to change after the Taliban were booted out of power in 2001 by US-led coalition forces. As George R Allen and Wanda Felbab-Brown state in their paper, *Fate of Women's Rights in Afghanistan*, which is a part of Brookings Institution's 19A: *Gender Equality Series*, "The post-Taliban constitution in 2004 gave Afghan women all kinds of rights, and the post-Taliban political dispensation brought social and economic growth that significantly improved their socio-economic condition." They further state that against fewer than 10 in 2003, the percentage of girls enrolled in primary schools rose to 33 in 2017. Registered female enrolment in secondary schools rose from six to 39 per cent in the same period. Three-and-a-half million Afghan girls were in school with 1,00,00 studying in universities. They further say, "By 2020, 21 per cent of Afghan civil servants were women (compared with almost none during the Taliban years), 16 per cent of them in senior management levels; and 27 per cent of Afghan members of Parliament were women."

These gains are no doubt unevenly distributed. The beneficiaries have mainly been urban women. According to Allen and Felbab-Brown, in rural Afghanistan, where 76 per cent of Afghanistan's women live, life has not changed much from the Taliban era, their formal legal empowerment notwithstanding. This goes particularly for Pashtun areas besides others where rural minority ethnic groups live. They have to get permission from men in their families to access health care, attend school and work. Many Afghan men are deeply conservative. Typically, families allow their girls to have a primary or secondary education — usually up to puberty — and then arrange their marriage. Even if the male guardian of a young woman permits her to attend a university, she may not be allowed to work after graduation. Also, rural women have to bear much of the brunt of the devastating conflict between the Taliban and Government forces and local militia. Loss of husbands, brothers and fathers to the fighting causes severe psychological trauma and fundamentally jeopardises their economic survival and ability to go about everyday life.

As a result, attitudes differ. While women in rural areas want peace — many of them even on the Taliban's terms — urban women generally want the Government not to give in and accept a political order in which the Taliban can implement their retrograde gender and social agenda. Hence, the question: Are the Taliban prepared to moderate their stance and, if so, to what extent? Borhan Osman and Anand Gopal write in *Afghan Views on a Future State*; (With an introduction by Barnett Rubin: NYU/Centre on International Cooperation), "a number of interviewees emphasised that Taliban redlines lie not with female education as such, but rather with co-ed or wholly sec-

ular education, which accords with views voiced even by Mullah Omar." They said they did not object to women working or to the education of women in their country. However, what they objected to and prevented by force was if this work or education breached Islamic Shari'a. Nowadays, there were scores of schools, especially for girls in the area under the Islamic Emirate, and women performed jobs such as "teaching of girls and medicine for women." They further said, "We encourage this and we call for it on condition that hospitals for females are segregated from hospitals for males, and on condition that the work conditions are in harmony with Islamic Shari'a, not to satisfy instincts, whims and lust. We do not care if the West or the world complain about us in this respect. All we want is to establish Islamic Shari'a in Afghanistan; we do not care who is satisfied and who is not satisfied."

"Similarly, several interviewees presently active in the movement said that an Islamic State should not only allow women to go to school, but it must encourage them; indeed, the State should use its resources toward this end. The condition for such education is that girls should observe the proper hijab and that there should be full segregation. There appears to be little change on the view of women's right to work, however. Most interviewees accepted the need of women in the sectors of health and education, and in any Government department dealing with women and children. Beyond that, there appears to be

little enthusiasm for the idea of women holding public office or working in businesses not dealing with females or children."

What all this adds up to is a far cry from what Afghan women — at least those in urban areas — enjoy in terms of opportunities, rights and freedoms. Women in rural areas doubtless lag behind. They, however, legally have the right to the opportunities available in the cities and, a great deal of their distress will disappear when peace returns — a goal that seems distant but should not be abandoned. Besides, the most important question is whether what the Taliban means what they say or are peddling falsehoods aimed at persuading the Americans to take a less stringent line with them.

In an article titled *The false inclusivity of the Taliban's emirate* ([www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com)), Mehdi J Hakimi writes, "Notwithstanding repeated claims that they support women's rights, for instance, the Taliban has continued to attack girls' schools. Also, women and young people, while comprising most of the country's population, are conspicuously missing from the Taliban's negotiating team. Moreover, despite Afghanistan's rich pluralism and cultural mosaic, there is extremely little ethnic, religious, linguistic, cultural and professional diversity within their ranks. This absence... tells us, through calibrated action rather than hollow rhetoric, who is actually welcome in the Taliban's emirate."

Referring to the "blatant inconsistency between the Taliban's mantra of inclusion and praxis of exclusion, this early in the intra-Afghan talks," and their renegeing on their "counter-terrorism pledges to the United States by continuing to operate closely with al-Qaeda," Hakimi concludes by writing that the Islamic emirate's recurring duplicity "must serve as a reminder of the perils of hastily taking a leap of faith towards the Taliban. A lasting peace, after all, is possible only through a genuinely inclusive process — not through one masquerading as such."

Clearly, there is no guarantee that the Taliban will implement even their currently professed stand on the opportunities and freedoms they would grant women — which themselves fall far short of what Afghan women enjoy now — when they are in power. Afghan women are in peril. Civil societies in all democracies must press on their Governments not to abandon them.

(The writer is Consultant Editor, The Pioneer, and an author)

## SOUNDBITE

As President, I'll stand with South Korea, strengthening our alliance to safeguard peace in East Asia and beyond, rather than extorting Seoul with reckless threats to remove our troops.



Democratic presidential nominee — Joe Biden

The security of Tejaswini Yadav is completely compromised at rally venues. It is a threat to his life apart from creating hurdles in the helicopter operation.



RJD Rajya Sabha MP — Manoj Jha

The changes we've made in the last four years helped us protect the integrity of more than 200 different elections around the world, including in the EU, India and Indonesia.



Facebook CEO — Mark Zuckerberg

The core group is strong with some very good players and I will have to bring out my best performance to earn a spot again in the Indian team and I am working towards it.



Hockey player — Dipsan Tirkey

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Curb air pollution

Sir — In a first, the Centre has come up with a law, through an Ordinance, to set up a commission to tackle the problem of air pollution in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR). It will coordinate with the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh to plan, execute and monitor programmes. The commission will have the authority to shut down or regulate water and electricity supply to industries or sites which cause air pollution. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority also had almost similar powers but failed in cleaning the air even after being in force for more than 20 years. The question of whether it's a positive move or just a distraction and wasteful exercise will be decided on the fact whether the Ordinance changes the status quo when it comes to ground implementation and guarantees action on polluters or not.

Apart from seven Central ministries, the commission will also have representation from the above mentioned five States, the Central Pollution Control Board, the Indian Space

### Protect the innocent lives

A 15-year-old girl was raped at her residence in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, by a person she had befriended on social media. The incident, which took place on July 21, came to light only on October 24, when the teenage survivor, a resident of Shahjahanabad, lodged a police complaint against the accused. In yet another case of sexual assault against a minor, a 10-year-old girl was allegedly raped by her cousin brother in Gautam Buddha Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh. The incident took place in a village under Badalpur police station late on Monday, October 26. Another case was reported in Gujarat on October 17, when a 12-year-old differently-abled girl was allegedly raped and killed by her cousin in Deesa town of Banaskantha district.

It is extremely shocking that incidents of sexual violence are taking place every single day in different parts of the country. According to the National Crime Record Bureau's data, as many as 109 children were sexually abused every day in India in 2018, which showed a



22 per cent jump in such cases from the previous year. The highest number of child rapes was recorded in Maharashtra at 2,832, followed by Uttar Pradesh at 2,023. Strengthening the community-level child protection system and changing society's mindset are the key to protecting our children.

B Ahsanullah  
Delhi

Research Organisation, Niti Aayog and pollution experts. The participation of these States is extremely important as it sets up a collective decision-making and implementation among different political bodies. Mutually inconsistent action among the States (for example, the gradual response action plan for NCR and paddy stubble burning in upwind States) impedes short

term improvements in the air quality and long term solutions. With curbs on road transport, rail services and air travel still to resume fully, the situation will offer a test case for the commission to study the factors that contribute to air pollution in Delhi-NCR and take steps to improve the situation.

Yash Pal Ralhan  
Jalandhar

### Brazen Pakistan

Sir — The Pakistan Government's claim that it succeeded in the Pulwama terror attack, which took the lives of 40 CRPF personnel in 2019, has unmasked its true face before the world. While addressing the Pakistan National Assembly, Prime Minister Imran Khan's close aide and Science and

Technology Minister Fawad Chaudhry showered praises on the former and hailed the attack as a great achievement of the Government. This is the first time a Pakistani Minister has admitted what India has long maintained — that Pakistan directly or indirectly supports terror groups that target India. But it is neither shocking nor buffing to hear it from the horse's mouth as the Pakistan Government has a rich track record of indulging in such barbaric acts. With a differential power equation and bereft of moral strength that hinders it from waging a direct war against India, the rogue nation is resorting to proxy war. It's appalling that a so-called civilian Government is bragging and unabashedly taking credit for the dreadful terror strike. It is definitely hard for India to deal with such a notorious neighbour. And while Islamabad, along with Beijing, continue to challenge our borders, India needs to widen its military reach through diplomatic strategies.

Avani Jain  
Ujjain

Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

## FIRST COLUMN

## Interesting times ahead in Pak

The hostility between the US and China is steadily increasing and this is bound to have an effect on the ruling Pakistani establishment



MARKANDEY KATJU

Pakistan is in the throes of turmoil right now. However, despite all the rallies and hue and cry created by the People's Democratic Movement (PDM), it is unlikely to be of much consequence. For the uninitiated, the PDM was formed in September by the leader of the Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam, Fazal-ur-Rehman, but constitutes 11 parties, representing nearly the entire political spectrum of Pakistan. Significantly, the PDM has brought together the two mainstream but rival parties, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) led by Bilawal Bhutto and the Pakistan Muslim League (PML) led by the exiled former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, but currently headed by his daughter Maryam.

No doubt Pakistan is facing a severe economic crisis because of which people are suffering. Prices of essential commodities like food and medicines have gone through the roof and there is mounting unemployment. However, despite these, the people of Pakistan are unlikely to give much support to the PDM as it is an unholy alliance of corrupt leaders. While Nawaz Sharif was mentioned in the Panama Papers, his daughter Maryam has been accused of having four huge flats in England by Prime Minister Imran Khan. Then there is Bilawal whose mother Benazir allegedly took huge amounts of money abroad and Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman, the Rasputin of Pakistan and a rank opportunist, to name a few. These politicians have no real love for the people of Pakistan but are a disgruntled, motley lot having nothing in common. In fact earlier, for years they had been at each other's throats but now they have united because they are out of power and not enjoying the loaves of office.

As anticipated, Nawaz Sharif's attack from London in his online speech in the PDM rally in Gujranwala against General Bajwa and some other top military brass — probably thinking that this would divide the Pakistani Generals and provoke some to stage a coup against the Army chief — did not have any effect. An army, by its very nature, is different from a mob. It is a highly-disciplined organisation, with a hierarchy and chain of command. Each person on a lower rank unquestioningly carries out the orders of his superior. The army chief is at the top of this hierarchy and the corps commanders, even if they sometimes disagree with him, will ultimately carry out his orders. They know that breach of this discipline destroys an army, and therefore themselves. So there will be no coup in the Pakistan Army, whatever Nawaz Sharif may think. The Pakistan Army officers are fiercely protective of their Generals, both serving and retired, and will not tolerate their humiliation, because they know if this happens one day they, too, may meet a similar fate. In fact, it is probably because Nawaz Sharif started hounding General Musharraf that the Pakistan Army turned on him.

The essence of a State is its military and bureaucratic establishment. In Pakistan, the army is the real power, though it prefers to shield and screen itself behind the veneer of a civil Government, as that gives it power without responsibility. Imran Khan is clever enough to realise this, and as long as he keeps the army happy (which he is doing with great alacrity) he is safe. To think that a mob can fight and disperse an army, even if a hundred times smaller in number, is unrealistic and silly. It reminds one of Vendemiaire in Paris in October 1795, when 4,000 troops under Brigadier General Napoleon Bonaparte dispersed a mob numerically 10 times larger by "a whiff of grapeshot." So all the PDM's horses and all the PDM's men cannot have any effect on the Pakistan ruling establishment, however many rallies they may hold. However, there is one factor which can have an effect, and it is this which needs to be considered.

Earlier, Pakistan was pro-US and was closely tied to it, economically and militarily. But now it has also become close to China, which has emerged as the second superpower in the world. China has closer proximity to Pakistan and has hugely invested in it. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has forged a strong link between the two countries. The Chinese are taking away huge amounts of raw materials from Balochistan. Gwadar Port has been given on a 40-year lease to China and Pakistani markets are full of cheap Chinese goods. So Pakistan, which earlier had only one master, now has two. It is well-known that the hostility between these two, the US and China, is steadily increasing, and this is bound to have an effect on the ruling Pakistani establishment, which may well be torn apart, one part siding with the US and the other with China.

More discontent among the Pakistani people, over rising prices, unemployment and so on, by itself is unlikely to cause an overthrow of the rulers. But if coupled with, and supported by one of the two masters mentioned above (which may feel threatened by the other's ascendancy), this may well happen in the long run, caused by a fissure in Pakistan's ruling establishment. Interesting times are ahead in our neighbouring nation.

(The writer is former Judge of the Supreme Court of India)

# Online astroturfing sways public opinion

False and misleading claims in blogs, websites and portals are detrimental to consumers and their right to information



HIMA BINDU KOTA

In December 2008, the release of the Quarter Pounder burger by McDonald's was quite sensational. There was a crowd of about 1,000 people queued outside the US fast food major's outlet in Kansai area of Japan from midnight onwards, hours before the opening of the branch that morning. In another part of the world, in the US, a blog by the name of Working Families for Walmart, praised the efforts made by the retail corporation for the welfare of its employees. On the face of it, both these examples show the popularity of these companies, but the truth is that McDonald's paid 1,000 part-time employees \$11 an hour each to queue up in front of the store and even reimbursed their burger pur-

chase. On the other hand, Walmart owned the blog in question and was praising itself for all the good work. In both cases, it was not the employees or the customers but the organisations themselves patting themselves on the back for positive publicity. This misleading attempt of displaying pre-planned, stage-managed publicity in the disguise of spontaneous comments from society is known as astroturfing, a term first used in the US by former Senator Lloyd Bentsen.

Astroturf groups are prevalent in all walks of life where an opinion has to be created — be it the sports arena, public health or politics — who have used this perception management techniques for years. This practice of creating an illusion of extensive support of the masses is not new in the non-digital world but it gained renewed strength with the advent of the internet and technology.

Several virtual identities and phony pressure groups are created to sway public opinion in favour of the astroturfer as the internet, that has changed the rules of social communication worldwide, offers appropriate occasions for users to publicise their opinions without being identi-

fied. The net provides a sense of security, by pretending to be someone else, thereby making it a perfect platform for astroturfing. Since it is challenging to check the authenticity of a person online, it is easy to develop false identities and impersonate as spontaneous individuals and promote a belief or opinion. Additionally, internet, digital technology and social networks allow an individual to create several identities to give a notion to the general public, that there are many people sharing the same opinion.

The blend of obscurity and communication supported by digital technology has provided a perfect technical platform and opportunity for astroturfing. There are several ways in which preferred outcomes can be achieved: A solo professional blogger can work on several blogs simultaneously; an individual can form varied profiles on social networks; hired people can evaluate and post reviews and comments on many websites. That is why the extent and severity of unreliable actions on the internet is making online astroturfing more popular than traditional astroturfing.

Most of the consumers are going

online either for buying or to do research on the products available, which makes it easier for astroturfers to spread information throughout the digital world via online forums, comments, blogs, and social networks. It can also be corroborated that some large organisations have used public relation firms as astroturfers to create posts and shame their critics, while other institutions have utilised paid individuals to propagate favourable images online. Many businesses are continuing to use this method for creating public opinion.

The problem here is that astroturfing creates false impressions and passes them on as the opinion of the general public, through various communication channels, which influence the decision-making ability of consumers. In fact, these lobbyists or hired people convey these insincere beliefs. However, the extent and impact of astroturfing is restrained by the funding behind this process, as engaging a public relations firm or lobbyists to create and spread incorrect and untrue information can be very costly.

There are several examples of online astroturfing by large firms worldwide. For instance, IBM open-

ly encourages its employees to blog in its favour and criticise the company's competitors.

In 2010, evidence of online astroturfing emerged during the Massachusetts Senate war between Martha Coakley and Scott Brown, in the forms of several hundreds of tweets generated by several fake Twitter accounts. This had a wide reach and may have had an influence on the final outcome. Fake positive reviews have also been identified on Amazon and Barnes & Nobles, aimed at influencing the buying behaviour of consumers, benefitting multiple stakeholders like vendors, publishers, and authors.

There are two ways to initiate an online astroturfing activity: Automated systems and human operators, although automation can be more effective and reach a larger scale. Once word from an online astroturfer is spread, it becomes more organic as many genuine people believe in the propaganda and start sharing the misleading information, in turn magnifying the online astroturfing mission. Even though human astroturfers may not be as capable as automated systems, they are more effective,

quickly adapt to changing conditions as they carefully mould their messages to suit the environment. The ability of human astroturfers to communicate with actual people on the internet makes them more believable.

However, astroturfing poses a considerable threat wherever it is used, be it in the business world, public health or politics. There can be horrible consequences when a fake support to a controversial product, service or a system, finds its way into people's conscience and is a major disservice to a genuine product, service or political candidate.

These false and misleading claims in different online locations like blogs, portals and websites are detrimental to consumers and their right to information. Proper checks and mechanisms have to be developed using different techniques like content and language analysis; and Artificial Intelligence to detect astroturfing and protect consumers from false and misleading opinions. Till then, consumers have to use their wisdom to not get swayed by blindly accepting the views and reviews on the internet.

(The writer is Associate Professor, Amity University, Noida)

## POINTCOUNTERPOINT

VERY LUCKY TO GET A RECALL BASED ON IPL AND WHITE BALL PERFORMANCE. BUT NOW LET'S JUST HOPE RAHUL MAKES THE MOST OF THIS CHANCE.

—FORMER CRICKETER  
SANJAY MANJREKAR



QUESTIONING KL RAHUL'S SELECTION IN TESTS? HE HAS PLAYED WELL IN TESTS. I WON'T AGREE AT ALL. MANJREKAR DOESN'T HAVE ANY OTHER JOB.

—FORMER CRICKETER  
KRIS SRIKANTH

# Fill the care gap

Though healthcare infrastructure has considerably improved over the last two decades, rural areas are still grappling with the lack of necessary facilities for diseases such as cancer



SACHIN CHOPDA

When 53-year-old Preeti (name changed), based in a small village on the outskirts of Pune, felt a lump in her breast, little did she know about the symptoms associated with breast cancer and the treatment for it. Like Preeti, most women in rural India are not aware of the symptoms of cancer, the importance of screening and the treatment options available to them.

This is despite the fact that non-communicable diseases account for 63 per cent of all deaths in India, and at nine per cent, cancer is one of the leading causes of mortality. Out of this, breast cancer forms a major part of the disease burden in the country, having overtaken cervical cancer. While in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Kolkata, Chennai and Ahmedabad, breast cancer accounts for 25-32 per cent of the disease burden in women, in rural areas the incidence of breast cancer is one in every 60 women.

A 2018 study by a doctoral student on 1,000 women in rural Maharashtra indicated that 90 per cent of them are unaware about breast self-examination and almost 50 per cent of women delay seeking treatment by three months as access and awareness about cancer care is very minimal. In India, it's also more common in the younger age group as almost 50 per cent of all cases are in the age group of 25-50. Sadly, more than 70 per cent of the cases present in the advanced stage had a high mortality rate. The numbers are staggering and constantly rising. As per the National Cancer Registry Programme Report, released by the Indian Council of Medical Research recently, the country will have 13.9 lakh cases of cancer this year and this number is likely to increase to 15.7 lakh by 2025.

Sadly, India is lacking in overall healthcare facilities, including cancer care, even after years of efforts and push by philanthropists, healthcare professionals and the Government. Though cancer facilities have greatly improved in urban areas, the same is not the case with rural India. Our villages are perpetually short of basic healthcare facilities. Hence, advanced treatment procedures for diseases like cancer are still a distant dream for the rural population.

There are a number of issues that rural areas face when it comes to cancer care. Right from lack of adequate screening to minimal awareness and stigma about the disease, there are a few fundamental issues that need attention.

**Stigma and lack of awareness:** Late detection of cancer is one of the key reasons behind the high fatality rate in the segment. Early detection of the disease is highly correlated with the level of awareness in the locality. Earlier detection results in effective treatment. The word "cancer" has negative connotations in society. This is true not just in rural areas but even in cities. It's important that we change the way we talk about cancer and opt for a constructive approach towards its treatment and care.

What can be done to bring more awareness and change the conversation? Creating awareness about the disease and its implications is no easy feat. It requires grassroot level planning and execution at a mass level. A number of start-ups and NGOs are working towards building more awareness by holding screenings and through reg-

“ THERE IS A GROWING NEED FOR BETTER MEDICAL FACILITIES IN VILLAGES AND SMALLER TOWNS. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THIS HUMONGOUS PROBLEM, A NUMBER OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PLAYERS HAVE TO COME TOGETHER TO CREATE SOLUTIONS THAT ARE IN LINE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF RURAL PATIENTS. THE FOCUS HAS TO BE ON EXPANDING THE COVERED GEOGRAPHIES UNDER RURAL CANCER HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN ORDER TO MAKE TREATMENTS AFFORDABLE ”



ular interactions with people. Hosting awareness workshops on a regular basis can help educate people about the importance of early detection and its implication on the outcomes.

**Lack of access to doctors, medicines and other required facilities:** Official data indicate that in India the ratio of oncologists to patients is 1:2,000. Hence, there is an acute shortage of oncologists to treat current and future cases as the numbers are expected to rise each year. Geographically concentrated centres compel patients from small towns to travel long distances for diagnosis, treatment and follow-ups. Only top hospitals are equipped with expensive equipment like PET-scan, radiotherapy machine and histopathology laboratories which are critical for diagnosis and post-treatment care. Heavy dependence on these centres increases their load and reduces the quality of treatment.

On the other hand, there are many not-so-famous hospitals with good doctors and equipment that are operating below capacity. Inadequate Government-run healthcare infrastructure for cancer treatment compels patients to depend on private hospitals where the overall treatment cost burden is very high, resulting in extra hardship to patients and their family members. Rural and urban tie-ups can ensure better availability of doctors and create the required infrastructure such as doorstep medicine delivery and post-treatment services to patients. In addition to this, setting up teleconsultation facilities in smaller private clinics in association with hospitals in urban areas can provide on-time sec-

ond opinions and consultation for patients. A new-age, tech-enabled hub and spoke expansion across geographies, equipped with live video-conferencing facility for online consultation with oncologists, diagnosis, treatment guidance and pharma delivery support to patients, is needed. Oncology experts from the hub can serve a large number of cases with live monitoring and reporting of instances to the Government authority for better regulation.

**Financial burden:** Financing is another problem in the treatment of cancer patients from lower and mid-income groups. Due to lack of health insurance coverage, treatment becomes a financial burden for the patients and their families. In a number of cases, when the patient has to undergo chemotherapy, man-days are lost which results in loss of income. The feeling of having financial support can ease the burden of the patients to a great extent and it can go a long way in quicker and better treatment in the lower and mid-income patient segment. Though the Government has included cancer in the Ayushman Bharat healthcare scheme, there is not enough awareness of the same.

**Emotional and physical drain:** Currently, due to the lack of available facilities, rural patients end up travelling to cities to access treatment. In cases that require intensive chemotherapy sessions, most rural patients end up spending considerable money on finding a place to stay and on transportation within the city. In some cases, when there's a gap between treatment schedules, they have to travel back and forth

a number of times. This not only causes a financial burden but also results in emotional drain for the patients as well as their families. Factors such as staying away from their hometown and loved ones, unfamiliar surroundings, rigorousness of the treatment can cause emotional and physical upheaval for the patient and their families.

By establishing cancer care centres in rural areas, patients can focus entirely on the treatment without having to worry about transportation or accommodation during treatment. A number of start-ups are also working towards providing mental health counselling to patients and are offering an integrated approach towards healing the disease. Though healthcare infrastructure has considerably improved over the last two decades, rural areas are still grappling with the lack of necessary facilities for diseases such as cancer.

There is a growing need for better medical facilities in villages and smaller towns. In order to address this humongous problem, a number of public and private players have to come together to create solutions that are in line with the requirements of rural patients. The focus has to be on expanding the covered geographies under affordable rural cancer healthcare facilities in order to make treatments available at an affordable price. The real challenge, however, lies in creating a hassle-free network to support this kind of lower fixed investment model for cancer care and creating mass awareness about the disease so as to avoid delay in detection and healing.

(The writer is Director, Universal Cancer Conquest)



## FOREIGN EYE



## BORIS GETTING IT ALL WRONG

A Prime Minister who idolises Winston Churchill, one might have imagined, would seize the opportunity to imitate him. Yet the irony now facing the UK is that its Prime Minister seems less suited to steer his country through a crisis than almost anyone else. Strong action and clear communication are needed. But instead we seem at growing risk of being shipwrecked on the rocks of Boris Johnson's libertarian instincts. (The Guardian editorial)

# Virus resurge fails to dampen Trump rallies

Washington: There are no crowds at Disneyland, still shut down by the coronavirus. Fewer fans attended the World Series this year than at any time in the past century. Big concerts are cancelled.

But it's a different story in Trumpland. Thousands of President Donald Trump's supporters regularly cram together at campaign rallies around the country — masks optional and social distancing frowned upon.

Trump rallies are among the nation's biggest events being held in defiance of crowd restrictions designed to stop the virus from spreading. This at a time when public health experts are advising people to think twice even about inviting many guests for Thanksgiving dinner.

"It doesn't matter who you are or where you are, when you have congregate settings where people are crowded together and virtually no one is wearing a mask, that's a perfect setup to have an outbreak of acquisition and transmissibility," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, recently told Yahoo News. "It's a public health and scientific fact."

The Trump campaign, which distributes masks and hand sanitizer at its rallies, says those who attend are peaceful protesters who, just like Black Lives Matter demonstrators, have a right to assemble. The president says he wants to get the country back to normal.

Some states have fined venues that host Trump rallies for violating caps on crowd

size. But the rallies continue — even as the U.S. sees cases spike, especially in the Midwest and the Plains. The nation posted a record high number of new infections last week — nearly 500,000.

And the crowds keep turning out for Trump.

Ysabel Benajam, 69, of West Bloomfield, Michigan, drove about 90 minutes to Lansing and waited more than four hours in rainy, near-freezing temperatures to see Trump on Tuesday.

"I'm not afraid at all," said Benajam, wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat and a mask emblazoned with "Trump 2020." "We need to step back into normality."

Democrat Joe Biden, in contrast, has shunned rallies and instead holds online and drive-in events where people honk their horns to show support. He calls the Trump rallies "super-spreader events" and says he's listening to the warnings of public health experts.

Since Feb. 7, when Trump told author Bob Woodward that he knew the coronavirus was airborne and deadlier than the flu, the president has hosted more than 50 rallies in more than two dozen states. They were halted during most of March, April and May because of the pandemic. After they resumed in late June, they were held primarily outdoors at airports.

## Biden: Trump rallies are 'super-spreader' events

Washington: The election rallies of Donald Trump are "super-spreader events," Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden has alleged and questioned the US president's efforts in addressing the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The raging coronavirus outbreak has become a key issue in the November 3 presidential election between 74-year-old Trump, a Republican, and 77-year-old Biden, a former US vice president. The US has so far recorded 8,945,891 COVID-19 cases and 228,668 deaths —

both the numbers highest in the world.

"Donald Trump just had a super-spreader event here again. They are spending more than just coronavirus; he is spreading division and discord," Biden, 77, said at a drive-in election rally in Tampa, hours after the president and First Lady Melania Trump addressed a huge crowd in the city in Florida, a battleground state.

Thousands of people, many of them without masks, crowded together at an outdoor event in Tampa on Thursday to hear Trump at the rally.

# Thousands of Muslims protest French cartoons



Protesters throw stones towards riot police during a protest against French President Macron's comments over Prophet Muhammad caricatures, near the Pine Palace, which is the residence of the French ambassador, in Beirut on Friday

Dubai: Thousands of Muslims, from Pakistan to Lebanon to the Palestinian territories, poured out of prayer services to join anti-France protests on Friday, as the French president's vow to protect the right to caricature the Prophet continues to roil the Muslim world.

Demonstrations in Pakistan's capital Islamabad turned violent as some 2,000 people who tried to march toward the French Embassy were pushed back by police firing tear gas and beating protesters with batons.

Crowds of Islamist activists hanged an effigy of French

President Emmanuel Macron from a highway overpass after pounding it furiously with their shoes. Several demonstrators were wounded in clashes with police and authorities deployed more security forces to protect the embassy.

In Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore, thousands of worshippers celebrating the Mawlid, the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad, took to the streets, chanting anti-France slogans, raising banners and clogging major roads en route to a Sufi shrine.

In Multan, a city in Pakistan's eastern Punjab

province, thousands more burned an effigy of Macron and demanded that Pakistan sever ties with France and boycott French goods.

In Jerusalem, hundreds of Palestinians protested against Macron outside the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest site in Islam, chanting, "With our souls and with our blood we sacrifice for our prophet, Muhammad."

Some youths scuffled with Israeli police as they exited the esplanade into the Old City. Israeli police said they successfully dispersed the gathering and detained three people.

## Charlie Hebdo: Proud to provoke Islamists, despite violence

Paris: It's been targeted again and again, threatened and fire-bombed and struck in an attack that killed a dozen staff members, but satirical French newspaper Charlie Hebdo won't stop poking fun at Islamic extremism.

The newspaper's many critics worldwide say its editorial staff is attacking Islam itself; the people who work for Charlie Hebdo says they are calling out intolerance, oppression and a political form of Islam that threatens democracy.

But with freedom of expression as its credo, the publication routinely pushes the limits of French hate speech laws with often sexually explicit caricatures that take on or offend nearly everyone.

Its decision to publish new cartoons this week ridiculing its opponents in the Islamic world formed the backdrop for yet another attack Thursday in France, where three people were fatally attacked in a church.

Charlie Hebdo has lam-pooned dead child migrants,

virus victims, dying drug addicts, world leaders, neo-Nazis, popes, bishops, Jewish leaders, and other religious, political and entertainment figures.

This week's issue features a cartoon of the funeral of a beheaded teacher, showing officers carrying two coffins, one for the body, one for the head.

Since a trial opened last month over the 2015 attack that killed 12 of its cartoonists, the newspaper has chronicled the proceedings daily and devoted nearly half of its weekly covers to mocking Islamic extremism. "We need strong actions to stop Islamism but also to condemn the slightest gesture, the slightest intolerant or hateful word toward French people of immigrant backgrounds. Because France isn't divided between Muslims and non-Muslims, between believers and non-believers, between people with French roots and French people of immigrant backgrounds," read this week's editorial from Charlie Hebdo's editor, who goes by the name Riss.

## Poland seizes communist-era security files headed for US

Warsaw (Poland): Customs officials at Warsaw airport have discovered and seized valuable historical documents and recordings from 1967-68, of Poland's communist-era security, in two packages destined for the U.S., authorities said Friday.

The files describe the situation and views inside the communist Polish United Workers' Party, or PZPR, in power at the time, as well as the social mood among students, artists, intellectuals and workers in the time leading to and during the 1968 students' revolt and anti-Semitic purges, Deputy Prosecutor General Andrzej Pozorski said.

These events eventually led to a change of party and government leadership in Poland in 1970.

Pozorski said that some 11 sets of written files and over 100 recordings made by the then-dreaded Interior Ministry and regional militia authorities have been seized and passed to a state historical institute, IPN, that analyzes old documents, especially from World War II and the communist era. Pozorski is the chief investigator at IPN.

The institute confirmed the discovery, first reported earlier this week, to the AP Friday. The sender and the intended recipient in the U.S. have not been named.

## Remarks on French attacks taken out of context: Mahathir

AP ■ KUALA LUMPUR

Former Malaysian leader Mahathir Mohamad said Friday he is disgusted because his comments on attacks by Muslim extremists in France had been taken out of context.

Mahathir, 95, sparked widespread outrage when he wrote on his blog Thursday that "Muslims have a right to be angry and kill millions of French people for the massacres of the past." Twitter removed a tweet from Mahathir containing the remark, which it said glorified violence, and France's digital minister demanded the company also ban Mahathir from its platform.

"I am indeed disgusted with attempts to misrepresent

and take out of context what I wrote on my blog," Mahathir said in a statement.

He said critics failed to read his posting in full, especially the next sentence which read: "But by and large Muslims have not applied the 'eye for an eye' law Muslims don't. The French shouldn't. Instead the French should teach their people to respect other people's feelings." He said Twitter and Facebook removed the posting despite his explanation, and slammed the move as hypocritical.

"On the one hand, they defended those who chose to display offending caricatures of Prophet Muhammad... And expect all Muslims to swallow it in the name of freedom of speech and expression," he said.

## New arrest after France church attack, security tightened

AP ■ NICE (FRANCE)

A new suspect is in custody Friday in the investigation into a gruesome attack by a Tunisian man who killed three people in a French church, as France heightened its security alert amid religious and geopolitical tensions around cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad.

The suspect is a 47-year-old man believed to have been in contact with the attacker the night before the attack on the Notre Dame Basilica in the Riviera city of Nice, according to a judicial official. The official was not authorized to be publicly named.

**DHFL DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED:**  
 National Office: HDIL Towers, B-wing, 6th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Station Road, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.  
 Branch Office: Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) 400602.

**DEMAND NOTICE**

Under Section 13(2) of the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DHFL) UNDER Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) the said Borrower(s), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to DHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date of the said Notice till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/instructions, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to DHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Loan Code	Demand Notice Date and Amount With NPA date	PROPERTY ADDRESS
(LC No. 00000442 of Rohini Branch) Zafar Abbas (Borrower) Shabnam Zehra (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 1080881/- (₹ Ten lakh Eighty Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One) NPA (01-03-2020)	Plot No- C-168, Flat No- SF-3, Mig. Second Floor (Lhs Back Portion), D L F Ankur Vihar, Lohi, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201002
(LC No. 00000746 of New Delhi-West Branch) Jyeshth Pruthi (Borrower) Renu Pruthi (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 2885359/- (₹ Twenty Eight lakh Eighty Five Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Nine) NPA (01-06-2020)	Plot No - 186, Second Floor, With Roof Right, Pocket-9, Sector-21, Rohini, Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi - 110085
(LC No. 00000142 of Karkarduma Noida Branch) Udayan Dasgupta (Borrower) Sudeshna Dasgupta (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 3403481/- (₹ Thirty Four lakh Three Thousand Four Hundred Eighty One) NPA (01-06-2020)	Flat No A 1005 10th Floor, Tower A01 Springview Heights, Sare N24, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201010
(LC No. 00001190 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Surjeet (Borrower) Savitri (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 954873/- (₹ Nine lakh Fifty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Three) NPA (01-06-2020)	D-57, 2nd Floor, Without Roof Rights, South East Portion, Sudershan Park, Village Basal Darapur, New Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi - 110015
(LC No. 00000182 of Azadpur N S P Branch) Shailesh Rathi (Borrower) Rashmi Singh (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 3708753/- (₹ Thirty Seven lakh Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Three) NPA (01-06-2020)	G1/264-b, Pvt Floor No. D-404, 3rd Floor, With Roof/Terrace, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi - 110059
(LC No. 00001806 of New Delhi-west Branch) Vishal Jain (Borrower) Veena Jain (Co Borrower 1)	09-09-2020 / ₹ 5199667/- (₹ Fifty One lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Seven) NPA (01-02-2020)	Plot No- 147, Second Floor With Roof, Pocket-11, sector 24, Rohini, New Delhi, Delhi - 110085
(LC No. 00001293 of Ghaziabad Branch) Manoj Kumar (Borrower)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 2272982/- (₹ Twenty Two lakh Seventy Two Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Two) NPA (01-02-2020)	Flat No:1225, 12th Floor, Block-C, 1st Type, High End Paradise, Noor Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201011
(LC No. 00000441 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Suman (Borrower) Madhu Sudan (Co Borrower 1)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 1453983/- (₹ Fourteen lakh Fifty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three) NPA (01-08-2020)	Plot No- 68 Second Floor With Roof Right, Block & Pocket D-11, Sec-7 Rohini New Delhi, Delhi - 110085
(LC No. 00000450 of Delhi-Janakpuri Branch) Hitendra Setiya (Borrower) Deepinder Setiya (Co Borrower 1)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 8339682/- (₹ Eighty Three lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Two) NPA (01-08-2020)	Plot No-27, Third Floor Front Side Pocket-15 A, Sector-24, Near Bachpan School, Rohini, Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi - 110085
(LC No. 00001250 of Raj Nagar Branch) Narendra Kumar (Borrower) Manisha (Co Borrower 1)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 2474400/- (₹ Twenty Four lakh Seventy Four Thousand Four Hundred) NPA (01-07-2020)	Plot No- D-417, UGF - Front Side, Indraprastha Colony, Near Teela Mor, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201101
(LC No. 00001217 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Suresh Kumar (Borrower) Mukesh Kumar (Co Borrower 1) Vardaan Party Decorators (Co Borrower 2)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 2933949/- (₹ Twenty Nine lakh Thirty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Nine) NPA (01-07-2020)	House No. 1335, Ground Floor, Sawaranpasta Floor, Omxax City, G. T. Road, Sonapat, Haryana, Sonapat, Sonapat, Haryana - 131402
(LC No. 00001700 of Noida 1 Rajendra Branch) Ankit Sharma (Borrower) Prem Lata Gaba (Co Borrower 2)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 5279755/- (₹ Fifty Two lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Five) NPA (01-07-2020)	Plot No.-E-234, Entire Property, Khalsa No-183, 185, 207/184, 208/184, Vill- Neemri Kacchi Angoori, Khata No-56/99 Shastri Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi - 110052
(LC No. 00001056 of Anand Branch) Kalish Chander Sharma (Borrower) K C Sharma Huf (Co Borrower 1) Ankit Sharma (Co Borrower 2) Mamta Sharma (Guarantor 1)	26-09-2020 / ₹ 105234657/- (₹ Ten Crore Fifty Two lakh Thirty Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Seven) NPA (01-09-2019)	F No 201 & 202, 2nd Flr, Hicon Enclave, 14th Road, Near Fortune Enclave, Khar West, Mumbai 400052, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra - 400052

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to DHFL as aforesaid, DHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of DHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date : 31.10.2020  
 Place : Delhi

Sd/- (Authorised officer)  
**DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED**

## 'Gruesome' crash kills 21, mostly young kids, in Nigeria

Lagos: Nigeria's president is expressing sadness over a "gruesome vehicle accident" in which 21 people, most of them young school children, were killed.

The accident occurred Wednesday in Awgu, Enugu state, when a truck lost control and hit a school bus conveying 61 children. A teacher also was among the dead.

The children were with the Presentation Nursery and Primary School, which is run by the Catholic diocese of Awgu.

President Muhammadu Buhari asked vehicle owners to ensure roadworthiness, "as initial reports attributed the accident to brake failure by the truck involved." Serious accidents with high death tolls are common in Nigeria due to poorly maintained vehicles, reckless driving and bad roads.

## Quake kills 6 in western Turkey, rattles Greek island

Istanbul: A strong earthquake struck on Friday in the Aegean Sea between the Turkish coast and the Greek island of Samos, collapsing buildings in the city of Izmir in western Turkey, and officials said at least six people were killed and scores were injured.

A small tsunami struck the Seferisar district of Izmir, said Haluk Ozener, director of the Istanbul-based Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute. At least four people were slightly injured on Samos, where a tsunami warning was issued.

Six people were killed in Izmir, Turkey's third-largest city, including one who drowned, and 202 were injured, according to Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, or AFAD.

Izmir Gov. Yavuz Selim Kosger said at least 70 people had been rescued from the wreckage. He said four build-



Rescue workers and local people try to reach residents trapped in the debris of a collapsed building, in Izmir, Turkey, Friday

ings were destroyed and more than 10 collapsed, while others also were damaged. Search and rescue efforts were continuing in at least 12 buildings, AFAD said. Turkish media showed wreckage of a multiple-story building, with people climbing it to start rescue efforts. Smoke rose from several spots.

Videos on Twitter showed flooding in the Seferhisar district, and Turkish officials and broadcasters called on people to stay off the streets after reports of traffic congestion.

Health Minister Fahrettin Koca tweeted that 38 ambulances, two ambulance helicopters and 35 medical rescue teams were working in the city of Izmir.

## Two same-sex couples in military marry in first for Taiwan

Taoyuan (Taiwan): Two lesbian couples tied the knot in a mass wedding held by Taiwan's military on Friday in a historic celebration with their peers.

Taiwan is the only place in Asia to have legalised same-sex marriage, with more than 4,000 such couples marrying since the legislation passed in May 2019. The mass wedding with 188 couples was the first time same-sex couples have been wed and celebrated at a military ceremony.

Both couples viewed their ceremonies with a sense of responsibility towards representing the LGBT community.

"We are hoping that more LGBT people in the military can bravely stand up, because our military is very open-minded. In matters of love, everyone will be treated equal-



Lesbian couple Yumi Meng, left, puts a ring on Yi Wang's finger during a military mass weddings ceremony in Taoyuan city, northern Taiwan on Friday

ly," said Chen Ying-hsuan, 27, an army lieutenant who married Li Li-chen, 26.

Chen wore a rainbow wristband and said she has always been open about her

sexual orientation while serving.

The ceremony at an army base in the northern city of Taoyuan was brief. The couples took part in a parade and

then exchanged rings in front of an audience of family members and their senior officers.

Yumi Meng, 37, and her wife, army Maj. Wang Yi, 36, wiped back tears as they exchanged rings. Meng wore sneakers under her wedding dress, while Wang wore her officer's uniform. They each carried a pride flag throughout the ceremony.

Meng's parents had not come to the celebration, but in support both of Wang's parents as well as her teacher came out to support the couple.

"I really feel that this is a huge breakthrough for the military because before gay people really had to go through a lot," said Amy Chao, mother to Wang.

**Aro granite industries ltd.**  
 (100% Export Oriented Unit)  
 CIN : L74899DL1988PLC031510  
 Regd. Office : 1001, 10th Floor, DLF Tower A, Jasola, New Delhi - 110025  
 Ph. : 011-41686169, Fax : 011-26941984, Email : investor@grievance@arogite.com, Website : www.arogite.com

**EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2020** (Rs. in lacs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended
		30.09.2020 Audited	31.03.2020 Audited	30.09.2019 Audited
1	Total Income from operations	4,674.02	17,770.99	4,330.34
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	276.59	517.35	45.30
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	276.59	517.35	45.00
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	188.92	360.62	7.73
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	188.74	327.35	3.95
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	1,530.00	1,530.00	1,530.00
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year		16618.68	
8	Earnings Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)-			
	1. Basic:	1.23	2.14	0.03
	2. Diluted:	1.23	2.14	0.03

Note:  
 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial results is available on the websites of the Stock Exchange(s), www.bseindia.com, and www.nseindia.com and the Company's website www.arogite.com.

For and on behalf of the Board  
 Sd-  
**Sunil Kumar Arora**  
 Managing Director

Place : HOSUR  
 Date : 30.10.2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Geeta Goyal is the owner of Property No. R2 - 442/316, area measuring 75 Sq.Yds., Kharsa No. 316, situated in the revenue estate of Village - Nasirpur, Colony known as West Sagarpur, Gali No. 7, New Delhi, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 06.04.2016, registration No. 2711, but SMO Certificate stating legal heirs of late Jai Kishan Ahluwalia is not available with her. All persons including surviving members and legal heirs of late Late Jai Kishan Ahluwalia are hereby informed if anyone has any objection with respect of Title / ownership of Mrs. Geeta Goyal, with respect of the said property, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) Prop. No. 23, 1st Floor, Shivaji Marg, Mori Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph. 011-411297-28, www.associatesadvocates@gmail.com

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Notice is hereby given that Share Certificate No 37002 for 100 Equity Shares of Rs 10/- (Rupees Ten only) each bearing Distinctive Nos(s) 3898301 to 3898400 of Eicher Motors Ltd. having its registered office at 3rd Floor, Select city walk, A-3 District City Centre, Saket, New Delhi 110017 registered in the name of Mrs Krishna Mathur have been lost. Mrs Krishna Mathur have applied to the company for issue of duplicate Certificate. Any person who has any claim in respect of the said certificate should lodge such claim with the Company within 15 days of the publication of this notice.  
 Place: Delhi Date: 31/10/2020

# 7,000 tonnes of onion imported: Govt

**ANOTHER 25,000 TONNES ARRIVING BEFORE DIWALI**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

As retail onion prices skyrocket to over ₹80 a kg in some parts of the country, Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said private import of 7,000 tonnes and another 25,000 tonnes shipment before Diwali are expected to improve the domestic supply situation and check price rise of the commodity.

Enough supply will be there in the market as cooperative Nafed will also commence imports, he said. Not only onion, about 10 lakh tonnes of potato is also being imported for which customs duty has been reduced to 10 per cent till January 2021, the minister said.

About 30,000 tonnes of

potato will arrive from Bhutan in the next few days, he added. In a virtual press conference, Goyal said the retail prices of onion, potato and some of the pulses had increased. But for the last few days, the prices have been stable after the government took proactive measures, including ban on export of onion, to increase local supplies.

As a result, all India average retail price of onion has been ruling stable at around ₹65 per kg, while that of potato at ₹43 per kg, for the last three days, he added. However to ensure consumers get these commodities at reasonable rates during the festival period, Goyal said the government has taken steps to import onion and relaxed fumigation norms till December. "So far, 7,000 tonnes of onion has been imported by private traders. Another 25,000 tonnes of onion is expected to arrive before Diwali," he said.

Onions are imported from countries like Egypt,



Afghanistan and Turkey by private traders. Even Nafed will import on its own capacity, he added. Further, the minister said along with imports, the arrival of new kharif onion crops in mandis from next month will improve the supply situation and ease pressure on prices.

Kharif onion is expected to hit mandis from next month. The government has pegged kharif and later kharif onion output lower by 6 lakh tonnes to 37 lakh tonnes in the current year. Among

the commodity is available to consumers during the festival period."

About 30,000 tonnes of potato is arriving from Bhutan in the next couple of days, he said.

In case of pulses, the minister said prices of most pulses are stable now and in fact much lower than what they prevailed four years back.

However, to ensure smooth domestic supply, the government has extended the time-limit for import of 4 lakh tonnes of tur dal till December, Goyal said.

Licences have been issued for import of 1.5 lakh tonnes of urad, and import duty of 10 per cent on masoor will continue till December-end, he said.

The government has also decided to extend memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Mozambique for import of 2 lakh tonnes of tur for another five years and also to enter into a five-year MoU with Myanmar for import of 2.5 lakh tonnes of urad, he added.

# Combined fiscal deficit to cross 13 per cent: Report

**Govt debt to jump over 80% this yr**

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The pandemic-induced growth contraction and additional spending to support the needy amounting to a little over 2 per cent of the economy are likely to push the combined fiscal deficit to 13 per cent of GDP this fiscal - nearly double of the past year, according to a report.

Similarly, these numbers will see the government debt, which has been under 70 per cent of GDP for long, shooting past the 80 per cent mark this year to Rs 75.6 lakh crore or USD 1.01 trillion, making the country the second most indebted in Asia after China.

The cumulative fiscal deficit of the Centre and states stood at over 7 per cent of GDP in FY20 as against an average 6.6 per cent in the previous five years, as the Centre maintained the deficit below 4 per cent for four years from FY16 to FY19, before a cocktail of bad data -- revenue and higher spending -- pushed it to 4.6 per cent in FY20.

"The pandemic related pressures might see the combined fiscal deficit jump to 13 per cent of GDP this year," house economists at Singaporean lender DBS led by Radhika Rao said in a note on Friday.

It can be noted that general government debt levels have come down from the highs, averaging around 70 per cent of GDP for the past three years.

"But due to the pandemic-induced impact on growth shock and the resultant lift in borrowings, debt levels are expected to climb past 80 per cent this year," the report said.

As of July-end 2020, the total quantum of outstanding central government securities (bonds and T-bills) stands at Rs 75.6 lakh crore or USD 1.01 trillion, while that of the states called state development loans stood at Rs 34 lakh crore or USD 459 billion, nearly half of the G-Secs. Among the states, the top five issuers in FY19 were Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, accounted for more than half the total issuances, and top 10 states made up almost 75 per cent of the total. According to finance ministry data on the ownership pattern of G-Secs, as of June 2020, commercial banks own 40 per cent of the outstanding G-Secs issuances, followed by insurance companies (25 per cent), the Reserve Bank (15 per cent) and foreign investors (2.4 per cent).

# Markets skid for 3rd day as global factors weigh

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex and Nifty retreated for the third session on the trot on Friday amid continued weakness in global markets due to rising Covid-19 cases in Europe and uncertainty ahead of US elections.

After gyrating 746 points during the day, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 135.78 points or 0.34 per cent lower at 39,614.07.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 28.40 points or 0.24 per cent to 11,642.40.

Bharti Airtel was the top loser among the Sensex constituents, shedding 3.82 per cent, followed by Maruti, HUL, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank, Kotak Bank and Bajaj Auto.

On the other hand, Tata Steel, NTPC, Sun Pharma, Nestle India, TCS, Tech Mahindra and ONGC were among the main gainers, climbing up to 2.27 per cent.

Market heavyweight Reliance Industries rose 1.37 per cent ahead of its results.

During the week, Sensex tumbled 1,071.43 points or 2.63 per cent, while Nifty sank 287.95 points or 2.41 per cent.

"Concerns over prospects of global economic recovery due to resurgence of Covid-19 in various nations continued to weigh on investors' sentiments as domestic equities declined for third consecutive day. Financials and Auto were the major drags today, while other key sectoral indices staged a recovery towards the end of the session.

"Volatility in markets is expected to persist in coming week as well led by uncertainty over global economy and US presidential election.

However, better corporate earnings so far and improvements in high frequency key economic indicators are

expected to offer support to domestic equities," said Arjun Yash Mahajan Head Institutional Business at Reliance Securities.

BSE telecom, auto, bankex, FMCG, finance and tech indices fell as much as 2.37 per cent, while realty, metal, energy, oil and gas and power closed in the green.

In the broader markets, the BSE midcap index advanced 0.62 per cent, while the smallcap gauge slipped 0.03 per cent.

In rest of Asia, bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul and Tokyo ended the day with significant losses.

Stock exchanges in Europe were also trading on a negative note as fresh lockdowns in France, Germany and other countries dented risk sentiment. Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.58 per cent higher at USD 38.48 per barrel.

# RBI launches latest round of surveys on consumer confidence, inflation expectations

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank has launched the latest round of surveys to capture consumer confidence and inflation expectations of households, which are useful inputs for its monetary policy.

The central bank has been regularly conducting Consumer Confidence Survey and Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH).

The results of these surveys "provide useful inputs for monetary policy," the RBI said while announcing the launch of the November 2020 round of CCS and IESH through two statements.

The next meeting of the RBI Governor-headed Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is scheduled for December 2 to 4, 2020.

The consumer confidence survey seeks qualitative

responses from households regarding their sentiments on general economic situation, employment scenario, price level, households' income and spending.

The survey is conducted regularly in 13 cities -- Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram. It covers about 5,400 respondents across these cities.

The IESH is conducted to capture subjective assessments on price movements and inflation of about 6,000 households, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 18 cities. The cities include Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Delhi, Guwahati, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai and Thiruvananthapuram.

# Niti Aayog releases draft model Act on land titles

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Niti Aayog has released a draft model Act and rules for states on conclusive land titling with an aim to reduce litigations and ease the land acquisition process for infrastructure projects.

The model Act and rules will provide state governments power to order for establishment, administration and management of a system of title registration of immovable properties.

The aim of the draft model Act is to reduce a large number of land related litigations and also improve land acquisitions for the infrastructure projects.

Under the model Act, the land dispute resolution officer and land title appellate tribunal are one-shot institutions which will fade away as the work reduces.

Also, after three years of its

**NOTIFICATION**

Registration Officer shall make an entry to that effect in Register of Titles and in the Register of Disputes and refer the case to the land dispute resolution officer. A party aggrieved with an order of the land dispute resolution officer may file an appeal before the Land Titling Appellate Tribunal within 30 days of passing of such an order. It also said that a special bench of High court shall be designated to deal with appeals against the orders passed by the Land Titling Appellate Tribunal.

notification, the register of title attains conclusivity without any external action.

Exclusive land titles are guaranteed by the state for correctness and entail provision for compensation by the state in case of any dispute.

According to the draft Act, any person aggrieved by an entry in the Record of Titles notified under Section 11 may file an objection before the Title Registration Officer within three years from the date of such notification.

Following this, the Title

## IN BRIEF

**TWITTER SHARES TANK AMID UNCERTAINTY IN US ELECTION**  
**San Francisco:** Twitter shares sank after it posted strong third-quarter earnings but fell short on user growth, as it faces an uncertainty amid heightened scrutiny around the US presidential election. The stock fell as much as 16 per cent after hours after gaining 8 per cent during the regular trading on Thursday.

**MOU WITH WORLD FOOD PROGRAM IN RAJ**  
**Jaipur:** Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot said that children are the future of the country. The country will become prosperous only if they are healthy. The State Government is fulfilling the responsibility of nutrition of children through food security schemes with full commitment. It is our endeavor that Rajasthan be first in achieving the goals of sustainable development.



**NORTHERN RAILWAY ORGANISES VENDOR MEET**  
**New Delhi:** Northern Railway is celebrating the Vigilance Awareness Week 2020 from 27.10.2020 to 02.11.2020. As part of ongoing activities during Vigilance Awareness Week, Northern Railway organised a Vendor Meet at Baroda House, New Delhi today i.e. on 29.10.2020. Due to challenges of Pandemic COVID-19 and the norms of social distancing, the Vendor Meet was held on Digital Platform. One of the main focus areas of the Vendor Meet was 'Ease of Doing Business' with Railways.



# 15th Finance Commission finalises report, to submit it to President on Nov 9

**New Delhi:** The 15th Finance Commission will submit its report for fiscal years 2021-22 to 2025-26 to President Ram Nath Kovind on Nov 9, an official statement said on Friday. The commission under Chairman NK Singh on Friday concluded its deliberations on the report. The report was signed by Singh and members of the commission -- Ajay Narayan Jha, Anoop Singh, Ashok Lahiri and Ramesh Chand. "The commission had sought time to present its report to the Honourable President of India. It has now been communicated by the office of the president that the report submission will be on Nov 9, 2020," the statement

said. The commission will also present a copy of the report to PM Narendra Modi later next month. The report, which contains recommendations pertaining to five financial years, 2021-22 to 2025-26, will be tabled in Parliament by the union finance minister along with an action taken report of the Govt of India. "The commission has finalised report after wide-ranging consultations with the Union and State Govts, local Govts at different tiers, chairmen and members of previous finance commissions, advisory council to the commission and other domain experts, academic institutions of eminence and multi-lateral institutions," the statement added.

# Petrol, diesel prices on freeze: IOC says international oil prices range-bound

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) on Friday said international oil prices have been range-bound in the last few weeks, warranting no revision in retail petrol and diesel rates.

While petrol price hasn't changed since September 22, diesel rates have been static from October 2.

"Crude oil has not seen any drastic movement," IOC Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya told reporters here. "Crude oil has traded in the USD 39 to 42 per barrel range in recent weeks."

The basket of crude oil that India buys has averaged around USD 40 per barrel in October as against USD 41.35 in the previous month.

He said this range-bound movement does not warrant a change in retail rates.

As per practice, petrol and diesel prices are revised daily on the basis of change in benchmark international oil price and foreign exchange rate.

Petrol in Delhi currently costs ₹81.06 per litre while diesel is priced at ₹70.46. The retail price of diesel was cut by ₹3.10 per litre and petrol by ₹0.97 between September 1 and October 2, he said.

# Global travel and tourism projected to shed 174 million jobs

AP ■ LONDON

The global travel and tourism industry is on course to lose 174 million jobs this year if current restrictions to curb the spread of the coronavirus remain in place, a leading industry group warned Friday.

While alarming, the projection from the World Travel & Tourism Council was lower than previously expected, largely because of a strong recovery in domestic travel in China and rebounds in other countries. In June, the council warned that there could be 197 million job losses worldwide in a sector that many nations are hugely reliant on economically. Restrictions on travel imposed when the pandemic erupted this year effectively banned flights from abroad and closed down the hospitality sectors in many countries.

# Vodafone Idea shares jump nearly 5% after Q2 earnings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of Vodafone Idea on Friday gained nearly 5 per cent after the company reported significant narrowing of losses to about ₹7,218 crore for the September quarter. The stock rose 4.42 per cent to close at ₹8.75 on the BSE. During the day, it gained 6.44 per cent to ₹8.92. On the NSE, it jumped 4.79 per cent to close at ₹8.75. In traded volume terms, 939.19 lakh shares were traded at the BSE and 41.75 crore units on the NSE during the day. The company's losses in the second quarter of financial year 2020 had been at a staggering ₹50,921.9 crore after it provisioned for Supreme Court mandated statutory dues. The gross revenue for the quarter ended September 30, 2020, came in at about Rs 10,791 crore, marginally lower than the same period of the previous year.

# Agriculture loans not part of Government's interest waiver scheme

ANS ■ MUMBAI

In what may be a severe hit for farmers and other stakeholders in the country's agricultural sector, crop loans, tractor loans and other agricultural loans will not be part of the scheme for ex-gratia payment of difference between interest on loans up to ₹2 crore.

In an additional list of frequently asked questions (FAQ), the Department of Financial Services (DFS) said: "Crop loans and tractor loans, etc are agriculture and allied activities loans and are not part of the eight segment/classes eligible under the scheme."

Under the scheme, the ex-gratia payment -- the difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months -- will be made to borrowers whose aggregate loan sanctions and outstanding is not more than ₹2 crore as on February 29, 2020.

The finance ministry wants all payments to be credited in the accounts of borrowers well before Diwali by November 5.

The scheme can be availed by designated class of borrowers for the period of March 1 to August 31, 2020. Housing loans, education loans, credit card dues, auto loans, MSME loans, consumer durable loans and consumption loans come under the ambit of the scheme.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the share certificate No(s) 164894 & 200084 for 240 shares bearing distinctive No(s) (1) 7550498 to 7550617 (120), (2) 11286876 to 11286995 (120), standing in the name(s) of **Bunu Das** in the books of M/S Atlas Copco India Limited has/have been lost/misplaced/destroyed and the advertiser has/have applied to the company for issue of duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu thereof. Any person(s) who has/have claim(s) on the said shares should lodge such claim(s) with the Company's Registrars and Transfer Agents viz. **KFin Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Corporate Registry, Karvy Selenium, Tower - B, Plot No. 31 & 32, Financial District, Serilingampally Mandal, Hyderabad - 500032. Phone No. 04067161500 / 18003454001 Fax No. 040-23001153 / 23420814** within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate(s) in respect of the said shares.

Date: 31/10/2020 Name(s) of the shareholder(s): **Bunu Das,**  
 Place: New Delhi

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Sunil, S/o Jeevan Lal, R/o Allahabad, U.P., Age: Approx 60 years, Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'8", Build: Strong, Face: Oval, was wearing Sky Blue T-Shirt, Blue colour Jeans, due to road accident admitted into Lady Harding Hospital for the treatment and during the treatment he was absconded from the hospital. Later on he was found in unconscious condition at Footpath at Panchkuyia Road, Near Gate No.6, Sulabh Sauchalaya of LHMC Hospital on dated 21.10.2020 in the area of P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. In this regard a FIR No. 209/20, u/s 279/304A, dated 24.10.2020, has been registered at P.S. Dariya Ganj, Delhi.**

His dead has been preserved in LHMC Hospital Mortuary. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

**SHO**  
**P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 011-23279331, 23274683**

**DP/449/CD/2020**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)**

1. TENDER NOTIFICATION  
 Name of work: Dismantling, Shifting & Re-commissioning of 01 No. CNC Pit Wheel Lathe, Make HYT from MEMU Car Shed, SRE to MEMU Car Shed, KJGY.  
 Tender Notice No:-13/2020-21

1.1. General:-  
 UMB division of northern railway invites **single tender** through E-tendering system from eligible agencies who fulfill qualification criteria as stipulated in tender document for "Dismantling, Shifting & Re-commissioning of 01 No. CNC Pit Wheel Lathe, Make HYT from MEMU Car Shed, SRE to MEMU Car Shed, KJGY".

1.2 The key details are as follows:

Tender No.	: 30-EL-MEMU-T-13-20-21
Type of tender	: Single
Name of works	: Dismantling, Shifting & Re-commissioning of 01 No. CNC Pit Wheel Lathe, Make HYT from MEMU Car Shed, SRE to MEMU Car Shed, KJGY.
Approximate Cost	: ₹ 48,08,500/-
Earnest Money	: ₹ 96,200/-
Completion Period	: 04 (Four) Months from the date of issue of the letter of acceptance.
Validity of offer	: 45 days.
Tender papers issued by	: Sr.DEE/MEMU/SRE.
Dt. of closing/opening	: 13.11.2020 at 15:00 Hrs./thereafter
Cost of tender document	: Free of cost.

**NOTE:-**

- The required earnest money will only be accepted through on line payment mode available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. up to tender closing date and time. Exemption from submission of Earnest Money for tenderer shall be as per Railway Board Guidelines.
- Manual payments through demand draft, banker cheque, deposit receipt, FDR etc are not allowed. Offers which are not complying above will be considered invalid.
- Tender must provide validity of the offer for 45 (forty five) days from the date of opening of tender.
- Public procurement order 2017 issued by Rly. board vide L. No. 2015/RS(G)/779/5 Dt. 16.03.2018 shall be followed.
- The tender can be seen or upload on web portal as under:  
**Website Portal:** <https://www.ireps.gov.in> **2399/2020**

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**Power Development Department**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer,**  
**Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC), Batote**  
**Email: pddbatote@gmail.com**  
**e- NIT No: 35 of 2020 Dated 26.10.2020**

1. INVITATION:-  
 For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer, Electric Division JPDC Batote (Distribution), herein after referred as 'Employer', invites online e-bids from Class 'A' registered contractors or Self Help groups for SUPPLY, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HT/LT NET WORK BY WAY OF REPLACING STRANDED CONDUCTOR, BARBED WIRE WORN-OUT POLES/TREES ETC AT VILLAGE RAKHJAROG AND DHARMOUN IN RAMBAN DISTRICT UNDER BARBED WIRE PROGRAMME UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ELECTRIC DIVISION JPDC BATOTE. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

- The tender document is available at website <http://ktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below.
- Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date :- 27.10.2020; 10:00 Hrs
- Tender Document Sale/Download End Date :- 07.11.2020; 12:00 Noon
- e-Bid submission (start) date & time :- 27.10.2020; 10:00 AM
- e-Bid submission (end) date & time :- 07.11.2020; 02:00 PM
- Submission of Hard Copy of Tender Fee & EMD Instrument (End) date & time :- 07.11.2020 up to 12:00 Noon
- Commercial and Technical Bid opening date & time :- 09.11.2020; 14:00 Noon
- Online financial e-Bid opening date & time (Only of the technically qualified bidders) - Will be communicated to the Technically Qualifying Bidders.
- Tender Value :- Rs. 30.00 Lakhs
- Cost of e-Bid document :- Rs. 500 (Non-Refundable)
- Amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) :- Rs. 60000/-
- Sd/- Executive Engineer  
 Electric Division, JPDC Batote

No. DIP/J-2249/P/20  
 Dated :- 29-10-2020

SHORT CIRCUITS

**SHILPA SHETTY**

"Mom, can I have the yummy Banana Bread today?" Requests like these are hard to refuse, especially when your kids love and relish the healthier options. Viaan's favourite Banana Bread with walnuts is an amazingly healthy cake, which is free from any kind of refined sugar or flour.



**GOVINDA**

I saw the film *Driving Me Crazy* and it made me proud. The entire cast and crew have worked very hard towards the project. I am receiving calls and messages from all my friends, complimenting Tina (Ahuja, his daughter). It's a moment of pride for me. I am very happy that people love and support Tina.



**RASIKA DUGAL**

I am thrilled to have had the opportunity to be part of two shows releasing on the same day, of different genres and as an actor, two completely different characters. I loved re-visiting Beena Tripathi in *Mirzapur* season two and loved discovering Savita Mehra in *A Suitable Boy*.



**AMAAL MALLIK**

I always intended to create non-film music for myself and I'm thrilled that *Tu Mera Nahi* is finally happening. This is the first time I am singing, composing and featuring in the music video. I really hope that I do justice to my fans and manage to give them something they love and goes beyond their expectations.

**PATRICK WILSON**

I'm honoured to be at the helm of the next *Insidious* installment, which will provide an amazing chance to unpack everything the Lamberts went through a decade ago. Directing the film is both professionally and personally a full circle moment for me. I am extremely grateful.



JUKEBOX 45 MINUTES

UNEXPLORED MELODY

Music composer and singer ANKUR TEWARI embarks on a journey across India to explore raw and unique sounds in the new season of *MTV Sound Trippin'*. By TEAM VIVA

Beyond the rumbling walls of a recording studio or the soulful excellence of a symphony, there lies music replete with imperfections that's strung out of edgy sounds and untrained voices. This music of serendipity connects people and places in ways no one knows about. Celebrating such rustic and authentic music, MTV brings back *Sound Trippin'*. Adhering to its core belief that each sound has a story, each instrument tells a tale and all these tales contribute to a song, the show will primarily focus on stories told through sounds. This season, music composer and singer Ankur Tewari embarks on a journey across India to explore raw and unique sounds. Excerpts:



♦ Tell us about *MTV Sound Trippin'* and what prompted you to be a part of it?

I have been watching *Sound Trippin'* for quite some time now. It's one of my favourite shows. They proposed that I should become a part of it. It was something that didn't take me much time to jump on to because the idea was exciting and I was actually looking at something to challenge me in terms of making a new kind of sound. It was perfect in every sense. I have always believed that art enables you to bend things most people see as a straight line. That's exactly what I get to do in the show by exploring unexplored sounds and creating music out of elements that don't fit the routine.

♦ How has been the experience of travelling and shooting on-ground, especially after the lockdown?

Well, you can say that it was challenging because I've been indoors for quite a while, so I was very nervous in the beginning. But we got a really good unit, a great pro-

duction team and we kind of really did our homework. We did a bunch of meetings about how we could approach the shoot and I think by the second or the third day of it, we realised that we are in safe hands. We didn't need to be that nervous because we had set up some stringent rules of how we were going to shoot. By the end of it when we returned to Mumbai, we all got ourselves checked and everyone was COVID negative, so we were relieved. It was quite something we were happy and proud about.

♦ Out of the four cities, Uttarakhand, Goa, Mumbai and Jodhpur, where you travelled and shot for the show, which was the most memorable one and why?

We travelled via Dehradun to Mussoorie and Rishikesh, we travelled to Goa, Jodhpur and then came back to Mumbai. For me, going back to Uttarakhand was the most exciting because it's my hometown. Being indoors for so long, I was kind of missing home, so being back to where I belong was the most thrilling experience. Having said that, the excitement levels that I got in Rajasthan was another level, it was just so surreal.

♦ What has been some of the major challenges since the time you started and how did you overcome them?

I have been making music since the 90s, so if I start counting the challenges then there will be a never ending list. But the one thing that is recurring in an independent musician's life is that every time you feel that you have found a comfortable spot, life throws another challenge at you. I think one must be on their toes all the time when it comes to doing something that you really love. It is not very conve-

nient but the kind of satisfaction and the kind of love you get from doing something that you love is beyond comparison.

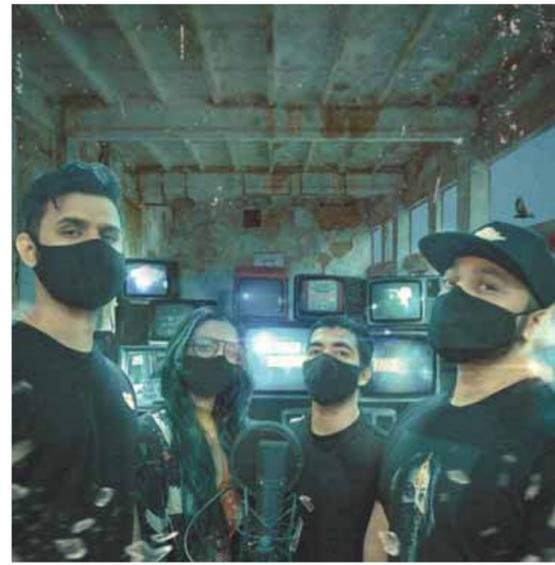
♦ *Gully Boy* has been a raging success and people have loved your work. How would you describe that journey?

*Gully Boy* was quite a unique experience for me, especially because I do not make hip hop music. I listen a lot of hip hop, but I do not make it per se. For me, it was a very interesting journey as it was one of the few times where a major film from the country was expressing a unique, honest sound. Usually what ends up happening is that things get a sugar coating from the film industry but in this case it was the director herself, she was kind of adamant in presenting a raw image. So, it was an amazing experience for me to work on a project where everyone was bringing out their 'A-game'. Every department was challenging the other department to get better.

♦ What is next for you? Any forthcoming projects that you would like to share?

There are a few projects coming up, in terms of there are a couple of movies. Shakun Batra is directing one, Gurmeet Singh is directing one. Shakun's film is with Dharma, the other one is with Excel and apart from that there are a few Netflix projects that are coming up. Right now, I just finished *A Suitable Boy* that recently released on Netflix. Then there is a show with Conde Nast that is coming out on Netflix where I've done music supervision. I have worked on my single, my EP and more.

(The show premieres every Friday at 7 pm only on MTV.)



Cut through the noise

Rapper RAFTAAR gears up to unleash a riveting single for generating awareness around the snowballing surge of misinformation and fake news on COVID-19

As the world continues to fight its battle against COVID-19, rapper Raftaar gears up to unleash a riveting single with a timely message. Inspired by the United Nation's Pause campaign, which is part of the Verified initiative, *Mask On* aims to generate awareness around the snowballing surge of misinformation in the wake of the unprecedented global crisis. Produced by independent music label Kalamkaar and featuring its affiliates Rashmeet Kaur, Karma and Yunan, the inspiring anthem encourages listeners to support the global crusade against misinformation by verifying the authenticity of information before they share it.



Commenting on this, Raftaar states, "This is Kalamkaar's humble contribution on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the UN. Currently the world is in a state of chaos. A lot of people want to lament on a lot of things due to the built-up anguish, anxiety and annoyance and it's understandable. Unfortunately, over the years the human race hasn't given importance to mastery of emotions and thoughts and now we face serious trials when there is a multitude of emotions being generated due to the unprecedented crisis. However, this doesn't give anyone the right to spread misinformation which is a virus and exploits our biases and prejudices. We are in a moment of global unrest with growing COVID-19 cases, economic volatility, climate emergency, worldwide protests for racial justice. Misinformation, hate speech and fake news is empowering and distorting all of these issues. Often, we share on impulse, before checking the authenticity of the content but I urge everyone to contain this impulse."

Echoing his views, Rashmeet adds, "COVID-19 has provided a stark reminder that access to accu-

rate, trusted information can be the difference between pessimism and optimism, division and unity, and even life and death. We are proud to be supporting Verified and its work to tackle the Coronavirus infodemic by rapidly spreading reliable, science-based information to protect people and communities around the world. Misinformation and fake news on COVID-19 across social media and other communication channels can be deadly, disrupt crucial health services and endanger life. Taking a brief pause before sharing information will help to break the chain and significantly lessen the inclination to share shocking or emotive material and slow the spread of misinformation."

Misinformation is damaging the world. It hijacks people's emotions, taps into their weaknesses, tricking them into contributing to a chain of events that can have serious consequences on people. COVID-19 misinformation undermines the collective ability to control the pandemic and keep people safe. In response to COVID-19 infodemic, the initiative is focussing on empowering people to help combat false information by sharing only trusted information, fact-based advice and stories from the best of humanity.

CAUSE 15 MINUTES

Bring back the roar

Actor and fitness enthusiast VIDYUT JAMMVAL comes on board to support the cause of saving the wild tiger population. He says that he takes inspiration from the agility and fierceness of the animal and incorporates the same in life

mega line-up of wildlife documentaries in the third season of *Mission Big Cat*, an anthology of shows dedicated to big cats. The programming included series like *Big Cat Tales*, *Big Cats of Serengeti*, *Desert King*, *The Lion Queens of India*, *Tigerland* and *The Lion Kingdom*.

"Tigers teach us so many attributes that are applicable towards shaping our personalities. I often take inspiration of their agility and fierceness in several aspects of my life. As part of this initiative, I tried to depict and imbibe the nature, kindness and ferocity of the beast through *Kalaripayattu*," Vidyut shares. "Saving the tiger population is certainly the need of the hour. Its sur-



vival and presence plays a crucial role in the sustenance, balance and well-being of the ecosystem. It is our duty to conserve their habitat and help increase the number of wild tigers in any way we can. I feel honored to be associated with the channel to promote such an important cause," adds he.

"We remain committed in our efforts of spreading awareness and conserving the wildlife. Project C.A.T is our effort towards the global goal of doubling the number of tigers in the wild by 2022. We are confident that Vidyut's strong support for this noble initiative will help more people to join us and encourage them to contribute towards the same," says Megha Tata, Managing Director — South Asia, Discovery.

By conserving nearly six million acres of protected land including India and Bhutan among other countries, this initiative aims to ensure a healthy habitat for tigers. The channel has further increased the ambit of the project by extending support for tiger conservation initiatives in Sundarbans forest located in the coastal region of Bay of Bengal.



This year, actor, martial artist and wildlife enthusiast, who is known to follow a vegan life, Vidyut Jammwal, has come on board to support the cause and help raise awareness about conservation of the big cat and their habitat. Animal Planet, in partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature India (WWF India) and others, is back with a new edition of its flagship initiative Project C.A.T: *Conserving Acres for Tigers*, that aims to sensitise people about the cause of saving the wild tiger population.

Vidyut who has always shown affinity towards animals, is well poised to front this social service campaign on tiger conservation. In the campaign video, actor encourages people to be a part of this initiative by helping the nearly extinct species by donating towards the cause to help conserve the habitat. The actor made the campaign video special by performing *Kalaripayattu* moves inspired by the movements of tigers to make sure the message of their conservation hit homes. As part of this initiative, the channel recently introduced a stellar

CONVERSATION 45 MINUTES

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

# THE SMOOTH RIDE

Actor **MATT DAMON**, who doesn't connect much with the automobile space, says that if he can love the film *Ford Vs Ferrari*, anybody can. By **TEAM VIVA**

*Ford Vs Ferrari*, the Oscar nominated film is a sports drama directed by James Mangold. The plot follows around the American car designer Carroll Shelby and driver Ken Miles' battle corporate interference, the laws of physics and their own personal demons to build a revolutionary race car for Ford in order to defeat Ferrari at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in France in 1966. It stars renowned actors Matt Damon and Christian Bale as Carroll Shelby and Ken Miles. In this interview, Matt discusses about his role, experience of working with Christian & James and his first car.

**Do you know much more about cars now than you ever thought you would?**

No, not at all. I just acted like I did. I was never really a car person but I love the film's script because it really feels relatable even if you're not a car nut.

**Which one was your first car?**

The first one I ever bought was after I got the job in school ties. And before the movie started, I was out here for about three months, so I needed a car and I got to salvage. It was an 89 Acura Integra else that had been in a crash and had been restored. So I got a good deal.

**Tell us your view on the underdog theme of the film.**

This film is really a classic underdog story. At that time in the Lamont, 24 hour race was dominated by Ferrari. It seemed that every year he would go and win, he was just the master builder and designer of these beautiful cars that were famous around the world for being the epitome of perfection.

**Your opinion on Ken Miles and Carroll Shelby.**

They were both old, in their 40s. Miles was at the end of his run and this was his last



chance. So the film really follows that relationship and the dynamics in a way that these two guys who are very different but have a deep and abiding respect for each other, attempt to do the impossible.

**What did you love the most about the script?**

When I first read it I found it incredibly relatable because this relationship is the centerpiece of the film and you can sense what this means to both of them individually. You go into the back to the home with Miles and see his relationship with his wife and son. You see what's at stake in the crossroads. He's financially at trouble. And you get that with Shelby as well. You know that this is an inflection point in both of their lives. They need each other in order to have the desired outcome but they fight like brothers and drive each other crazy, which is a lot of fun. It's like a classic buddy film.

**How was it working with director James Mangold?**

I've always said that I sign films based on the first directing them. That's the first thing that I look at and then there's the screenplay, role and co-actors. But when I heard it was Jim and

then got to know about Christian, I didn't give it a second thought. I've been following Christian for a really long time. You can say that I am a fan of his and Jim's work. I've known Jim for 20 years and we've never found something to do together. So it was a very easy choice for me to sign this one.

**How do you think the film will captivate people?**

Any time you make a film about a particular subset of human beings, in this case, it's car lovers, you know, presumably that those people will like it as you're going to recreate that time in their life.

I grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts, taking the subway. I didn't grow up in a car culture. The fact that I love the film even then means that this can get people excited. It's kind of a great underdog story.

**How excited were you for the film?**

I had most fun working with Christian every day and watch him act. I think that guy is an amazing actor. Even the script is really good and the director is great.

*(The film will premiere for the first time on Star Movies on November 1 at 12 pm and 9 pm.)*

CELEB TALK 15 MINUTES

# Want to do my bit for social good: Manushi

Manushi Chhillar has a strong voice and is an opinion leader who likes to take a stand on societal issues. Immediately after winning Miss World in 2017, she conceived and spearheaded a non-profit organisation, *Project Shakti*, aimed at improving the menstrual hygiene of women. The debutant is clear that she wants to help raise awareness on issues regarding children and education in the near future.

Manushi says, "My journey with Miss World opened my eyes to life, society and most importantly, humanity. I cherish every moment because I got to meet the most incredible people across the world and came across fascinating stories of self-belief, self-reliance and survival. The lessons I learnt has shaped me as a human being and I want to do my bit constantly for social good." Manushi, who will be debuting in Bollywood opposite Akshay Kumar in YRF's *Prithviraj*, adds, "I want to use my equity as an actor to take up more and more causes and dedicate my life towards bringing attention to initiatives on children and education. How we protect our future generation will lay the foundation stone on how this world will shape up."



She also reveals her plans to expand the scope of work of her initiative. Says she, "I'm already actively working on Project Shakti which I'm keen to expand and reach out to more women in newer cities of India. We had elaborate plans for 2020 but we had to wait on these discussions because of the Coronavirus pandemic. I'm

eager to roll out these plans and bring as much awareness across India about menstrual hygiene. It's a cause that I feel deeply connected to."

The debutant adds, "My Miss World tenure showed me that we as a society, as individuals have to constantly try to help others because there are so many people in need. I

do feel that we have a collective responsibility towards our next generation and we are looking at a serious crisis hitting us if we don't pay attention to them."

# Tahir begins shoot for *Loop Lapeta*

Actor Tahir Raj Bhasin is ready to start shooting for his next, *Loop Lapeta*, opposite actor Taapsee Pannu.

The young actor is thrilled to be back on a film set. "I can't wait to get started on the film. The script is good and I've lived with the story as drafts have improved through the lockdown. I can see it being challenging but equally fun to do. It is also very different from anything that I've explored before which doubles my excitement!" says Tahir, who will also be seen playing the role of Sunil Gavaskar in the Ranveer Singh starrer *83*.

He adds, "The producers — Atul Kasbekar and Tanuj Garg are aware of the new work environment we are venturing into. They ensure that the film set is a safe work to work."

The actor is confident that audience will love the duo's

chemistry. He says, "A lead pair in acting is a bit like a dance duet. The performance works if both dancers do. To be brilliant and I hope the audience sees this chemistry."

Tahir is excited about the industry restarting itself after over six months of total shut down due to the Coronavirus pandemic. "The lockdown was a time to pause and reassess for everyone. Projects have had time for rewrites and improvements. People appreciate being at work and around friends more. It has changed our attitudes toward health and safety. To be back in the ring and a part of one of the first few projects to kick start its engines is a great feeling. It is simultaneously invigorating and a responsibility to set a sustainable work template," he adds.

## POSSESSION NOTICE

(For immovable property)

(Under Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation is a Banking Company having its office at 25 Barakhamba Road New Delhi and branch office at K-14-18, Sector 18 NOIDA U. P under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002), and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 13.03.2015 under Section 13(2) of the said Act calling upon the borrowers Mr. Raja Kaushal, Parvinder Kaushal to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being Rs.2,14,12,477.47 (Rupees Two Crore Fourteen Lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Seven and Paise Forty Seven Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower mentioned herein above having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers mentioned hereinabove and to the public in general that undersigned has taken physical possession of the property described herein below with the help of Duty Magistrate-Cum Tehsildar, Wazirabad, Haryana, appointed by Ld. District Magistrate, Gurgaon vide order dated 11.03.2020, in exercise of powers conferred on me under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with the Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 26th day of October the year 2020.

The borrowers mentioned hereinabove in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the Charge of The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited for an amount of Rs.2,14,12,477.47 (Rupees Two Crore Fourteen Lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Seven and Paise Forty Seven Only) and interest thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of property "Residential Apartment No. H2D083, located in Block 'D' on 8th Floor, having super area 242.44 square meters alongwith two covered parking space(s) No. POD016 & POD017 in the multistory building No.'2' in Group Housing Building known as Westend Heights in the residential colony known as DLF City (earlier known as DLF Outab Enclave Complex), Phase-V, Teh. & District Gurgaon, Haryana

Dated: 26th October 2020

Authorized Officer  
(M/S The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited)

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



Anjai

General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Anjali, D/o Lt. Vinod Kumar, R/o: H.No. C-3/155, Nand Nagri, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since **06.10.2020** from her house from the area of P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi In this regard a case vide **DD No. 81-A dated 09.10.2020** has been registered at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped girl is as under:

**Age:** About 22 years, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Build:** Thin, **Wearing:** Black colour T-shirt & pant and slipper in feet. 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 -** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
**Ph.:** 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639 P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi**  
**DP/373/NE/2020 Ph.: 011-22137761, 8750870733**

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made that accused person namely **Prakash Gupta S/o Sh Mahesh Chand R/o H.No. 360B, Nala Market Jatwada Ghaziabad, UP** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 305/15 u/s 420/468/471/406 IPC & PS: Mandir Marg, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Prakash Gupta** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Prakash Gupta** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person **Prakash Gupta** of **FIR No. 305/15 u/s 420/468/471/406 IPC & PS: Mandir Marg, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **14.12.2020**.

By order  
Sh. Pawan Kumar  
Metropolitan Magistrate,  
Court No-06, Patiala House Courts,  
New Delhi

DP/145/NDD/2020

**HINDUSTHAN URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED**  
CIN: L31300DL1959PLC003141  
Regd. office: 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kanchenjunga Building, 18, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001  
Email: [investors@hindusthan.co.in](mailto:investors@hindusthan.co.in), website: [www.hindusthanurban.com](http://www.hindusthanurban.com), Phone no: +91-11-23310001-05

### NOTICE TO MEMBERS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the "Act"), read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 (the "Rules"), Secretarial Standards on General Meetings, Regulation 47 of (Listing obligations and Discloser Requirements Regulations, 2015 ("Listing Regulations"), General Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, General Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020, General Circular No. 22/2020 dated June 15, 2020 (the "MCA Circulars") and any other applicable Laws and Regulations, that the approval of the members of the Company is being sought through a Postal Ballot (only through remote e-voting) for the following business to be passed by way of special resolution.

- Continuation of directorship of Mr. Shyam Sunder Bhuwania (DIN: 00107171) as Non-Executive, Non-Independent Director.
- The Company has on Friday, October 30, 2020 sent the Postal Ballot Notice by e-mail to those shareholders who have registered their e-mail addresses with the Company/RTA or their respective Depository Participants. In view of the continuing circumstances due to COVID-19 pandemic requiring social distancing and in compliance with the requirements of the MCA Circulars, hard copy of Postal Ballot Notice along with the Postal Ballot Forms and pre-paid business reply envelope will not be sent to the members for this Postal Ballot and shareholders are required to communicate their assent or dissent through remote e-voting system only.
- The Company is pleased to offer its Members the facility to cast their vote by electronic means through e-voting facility provided by National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") in compliance with the Act and the Listing Regulations. The voting through remote e-voting shall commence at 9.00 a.m. (IST) on Saturday, October 31, 2020 and ends at 5.00 p.m (IST) on Sunday, November 29, 2020. The e-voting Platform would be disabled by NSDL thereafter.
- The cut-off date for determining right of voting of members is Friday, October 23, 2020.
- The Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Mr. Kapoor Chand Garg, Proprietor of M/s. KCG & Associates, Company Secretaries, New Delhi as Scrutinizer for conducting the e-voting in fair and transparent manner.
- The Postal Ballot Notice has been hosted on the website of the Company viz. [www.hindusthanurban.com](http://www.hindusthanurban.com) under Investor relationship section and on website the NSDL <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.
- The updates of the Postal Ballot are also communicated to the Stock Exchange where the shares of the company are listed and the same can be viewed at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).
- The results of e-voting along with Scrutinizer's Report will be announced on Monday, November 30, 2020 through the website of the company [www.hindusthanurban.com](http://www.hindusthanurban.com) and will also be communicated to BSE Limited.
- The procedure for e-voting is available in the Notice and also <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. In case the shareholders have any queries or issues regarding e-voting, please refer Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for shareholders available at the downloads section of <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or call on toll free no. 1800229900 or send a request to Mr. Amit Vishal, Senior Manager, NSDL at [amitv@nsdl.co.in](mailto:amitv@nsdl.co.in) or at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in). For other query/ grievances please contact the RTA at Skyline Financial Services Limited, D-153 A, 1st Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase - I, New Delhi-110020, [virenr@skylinefina.com](mailto:virenr@skylinefina.com) 011-41044923.

By Order of the Board  
For Hindusthan Urban Infrastructure Limited  
Sd/-  
M.L. Birmiwala  
President - Finance & Secretary  
FCS No. 1037

Date: October 30, 2020  
Place: New Delhi

**PRAKASH WOOLEN & SYNTHETIC MILLS LIMITED**  
CIN - L17291UP1979PLC004804  
Regd. Office: 18th Km Stone, Delhi Moradabad Road NH-24, Village Amhera, Distt. J. P. Nagar, UP- 244102  
Website: [www.prakashwoolen.com](http://www.prakashwoolen.com) Email: [info@prakashwoolen.com](mailto:info@prakashwoolen.com)

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Monday, 09th November, 2020 to consider and take on record the Un-Audited Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th September, 2020 among other things.

A copy of the said Notice and the Financial Results shall also be available at the Company's website at [www.prakashwoolen.com](http://www.prakashwoolen.com) and on Stock Exchange Website at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com)

For Prakash Woolen & Synthetic Mills Limited  
Sd/-  
VIJAY KUMAR GUPTA  
Place: Village Amhera (Amroha)  
WHOLETIME DIRECTOR & CFO  
Date: 30.10.2020 DIN: 00335325



# ROYALS LIT TOP 4 RACE

All-round Rajasthan chase 186 with 15 balls to spare, end KXIP's five-game winning run

PTI ■ ABU DHABI  
Star England all-rounder Ben Stokes stole the limelight from Chris Gayle as Rajasthan Royals clicked as a unit to beat Kings XI Punjab by seven wickets and stay afloat in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.  
Stokes hit a 26-ball 50 and



Ben Stokes tries to play a shot during IPL game against Kings XI Punjab | IPLT20.com

also claimed two wickets to emerge as the star performer for his team.  
Earlier, Gayle had smashed a 63-ball 99 to power KXIP to 185 for four but it went in vain.  
Chasing 186 for a win, RR overhauled the target in 17.3 overs with Stokes top-scoring with a magnificent 26-ball 50. Sanju Samson was also equally impressive during his knock of 48 from 25 balls.  
Opener Robin Uthappa contributed 30, while captain Steve Smith, who has been struggling for form, and Jos Buttler remained not out on 31 and 22 respectively to take RR home and snap KXIP's five-match winning streak.  
RR's collective batting effort ensured that KXIP batsman Chris Gayle's superb 99 went in vain. During his knock, the West Indies batsman had taken his tally of sixes to 1001 in his glorious T20 career.  
With the win, their sixth in 13 matches, RR kept themselves alive for a spot in the play-offs with 12 points with one game left. Despite the loss, KXIP also remained in contention with 12 points from 13 matches.  
RR made an explosive start to

their run chase with Stokes and Uthappa stitching 60 runs inside powerplay. Stokes was in magnificent form during his short innings as he got the boundaries with ease.  
The star England all-rounder hit Murugan Ashwin for two sixes and a four to take 16 runs from the fourth over. He reached his fifty off 24 balls when he hoisted Chris Jordan for a six in the sixth over.  
But Jordan got his revenge by removing Stokes two balls later.  
RR were still cruising ahead at 66 for 1 at the end of powerplay and with Samson firing on all cylinders, they went past the 100-run mark in the 10th over.  
The fireworks were halted after Uthappa fell in the 11th over to Ashwin but RR were in complete control with the asking rate less than seven runs an over with seven wickets in hand.  
Earlier, Gayle continued his menacing form, smashing a 63-ball 99 to steer Punjab to 185 for 4 after being put in to bat.  
Gayle and captain KL Rahul (46) took the RR bowlers to the cleaners, stitching 120 runs for the second wicket in 13.4 overs to help KXIP post a challenging total.

Nicholas Pooran played a late cameo of 22 off just 10 deliveries with the help of three sixes.  
Gayle, who had four boundaries and eight sixes in his explosive innings, was out just two balls before the end of the innings and he showed his disappointment of missing out on a hundred by throwing down his bat.  
KXIP lost their first wicket in the opening over itself when Mandeep Singh got dismissed for a first-ball duck with Ben Stokes taking a brilliant diving catch off an equally superb delivery by Archer.  
But Gayle and Rahul maintained a high scoring rate, reaching 53 for 1 at the end of powerplay. The self-styled 'Universe Boss' smacked two fours and six in consecutive deliveries off pacer Kartik Tyagi.  
Gayle reached his third fifty in six matches in this IPL in style, hitting a six off Rahul Tewati in the 11th over as KXIP cruised along to reach the 100-run mark in the 13th over.  
Stokes finally got the breakthrough by getting rid of tournament's top run-getter Rahul in the 15th over to put brakes on KXIP innings.

POINTS TABLE						
		P	W	L	NRR	PTS
1	MI (Q)	12	8	4	+1.186	16
2	RCB	12	7	5	+0.048	14
3	DC	12	7	5	+0.030	14
4	KXIP	13	6	7	-0.133	12
5	RR	13	6	7	-0.377	12
6	KKR	13	6	7	-0.467	10
7	SRH	12	5	7	+0.396	10
8	CSK	13	5	8	-0.532	10



Kings XI Punjab batsman Chris Gayle do push ups during practice session before start of IPL match on Friday | @lionsdenkrip

# MI look to spoil DC's party

PTI ■ DUBAI  
Their play-off berth secured, defending champions Mumbai Indians would look to add to the woes of Delhi Capitals, who are on a three-match losing streak, and consolidate their position at the top when the two teams face each other in their penultimate league game here on Saturday.  
Chennai Super Kings six-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders on Thursday sealed MI's play-off berth. The defending champions are currently on 16 points and with an excellent net run rate, are almost certain to finish in the top two.  
Despite three defeats on the trot against Kings XI Punjab, KKR and Sunrisers Hyderabad, DC are placed third with 14 points from 12 games, courtesy their consistent run in the first phase of the league.  
The three defeats should come as an eye opener for DC as they can ill-afford to take things lightly and need at least a win to seal their play-off place.  
But it won't be an easy task as their last two games are against the top two teams on the table — MI and Royal Challengers Bangalore.  
If DC lose their last two games, it is entirely possible that KXIP will go past them on NRR even if they finish on 14 points and in such a case, the Delhi side could be eliminated if other teams on 14 have a higher NRR.  
Going by paper, MI definite-

ly have a clear-cut edge over DC and having confirmed their last four berth, the title holders would be playing without any pressure.  
Regular skipper Rohit Sharma, who missed the last three games due to a left-leg hamstring injury, is unlikely to take the field again, but there is no substantial word from the MI management in this regard yet.  
MI are unlikely to tinker with the playing XI, with their top-order firing on all cylinders.  
While MI had roared back to form after thrashing RCB by five-wickets in the last game, there are problems aplenty for DC.  
The Shreyas Iyer led side need to pull up their socks quickly after a hat-trick of defeats.  
Their batsmen crumbled under pressure against SRH in their last game and were bundled out for 131 while chasing an imposing 220-run target.  
Shikhar Dhawan (471 runs) has been in blazing form for DC, with two centuries but needs support from the likes of Ajinkya Rahane, who has replaced Prithvi Shaw, skipper Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant, Shimron Hetmyer and Marcus Stoinis.  
The South African pace duo of Kagiso Rabada (23 wickets) and Anrich Nortje (15) have been exceptional for DC, barring an off day for the latter against SRH.  
Tushar Deshpande and Ravichandran Ashwin have been erratic off late and need to come good.

## Micro, small and medium enterprises! Partner with Indian Railways



**A great opportunity for MSMEs to contribute towards self-reliant India**

Inviting MSMEs to become suppliers for manufacturing of coaches & locomotives and operations & maintenance of assets of Indian Railways.

Procurement of Goods worth more than ₹ 70,000 Cr by Indian Railways annually.

**Promoting a fair, transparent, equitable Ecosystem for encouraging domestic manufacturers**

**Make in India Policy**

- Only suppliers with more than 50% local content eligible to bid for most wagon, track and LHB coach items
- Electrics in "Vande Bharat" train to have 75% Make in India content

**Promoting MSMEs**

- If the lowest bidder is a non-MSME, Purchase Preference to those MSMEs whose bids are up to 15% higher than the lowest bid

**Promoting Ease of Doing Business**

- Earnest Money Deposit and Security Deposit conditions relaxed
- No separate approvals needed – Vendor approved for an item by any Vendor Approving Agency of Indian Railways is now considered approved across Railways

For complete list of annual requirements and to register as vendor, please visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in)

# RCB one win short of playoffs

PTI ■ SHARJAH  
An IPL Play-offs spot at stake, Royal Challengers Bangalore need to shrug off the disappointment of two back-to-back defeats and put up a strong challenge against strong-willed Sunrisers Hyderabad when the two teams clash, here on Saturday.  
But it would be easier said than done since SRH are brimming with confidence after their crushing win over Delhi Capitals.  
Going by current standings, RCB are better-placed at number two and they need to win one of their remaining two games — against SRH or DC — to make the cut.  
And even if RCB lose both their matches and stay on 14 points, they can still qualify. But for that they need favourable results from other games.  
RCB can ill afford to lose both their last two games as it will affect their NRR, resulting in their elimination if other teams on 14 points have higher run rates.  
SRH, on the other hand, have nothing to lose. Sitting on the seventh spot with 10 points from 12 games, the Hyderabad outfit need to win their remaining two matches — against RCB and MI — to reach 14 points to stay in the reckoning.

Just winning both the games might not be enough for SRH. They would be hoping that at least one out of RCB, DC (14 points) and Kings XI Punjab (12 points) don't reach the magic figure of 16.  
If that happens, SRH will progress to the play-offs because of a superior NRR than all the teams which can finish on 14 points.  
RCB need to regroup as their confidence definitely took a beating after crushing defeats at the hands of MI and CSK.  
For RCB, batting has been their strength with the likes of Virat Kohli, young inform opener Devdutt Padikkal, AB de Villiers and Aaron Finch doing the job.  
Their biggest challenge will be to counter Afghanistan spinner Rashid Khan, who remain an unsolved mystery for batsmen in the 2020 season. The pressure he build with dot balls has helped SRH in big way.  
SRH, on the hand, were clinical in their 88-run win over DC and would look to continue in the same vein.  
Skipper David Warner (66) and Wriiddhiman Saha (87), were a treat to watch in their 107-run opening partnership against DC, while Manish Pandey continues to shine in the middle-order.

