

OPINION 6
UTTAR PRADESH UNDER
YOGI IS MAKING WAVES

WORLD 8
TALIBAN TAKE MUCH OF
PROVINCIAL CAPITAL IN SOUTH AF

AVENUES 10
CAREER OPTIONS
AFTER CLASS XII

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

BHOPAL, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 4 2021; PAGES 12 ₹1.50

Late City Vol. 18 Issue 211
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable



www.dailypioneer.com

LOVLINA
CHASES FINAL
BERTH
12 SPORT



India, China to pull back troops from Gogra point

First breakthrough achieved in 12th round of parleys

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

India and China are likely to pull back their troops from a friction point in Gogra at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh in the next few days. This could be a significant step towards resolving the continuing border crisis. At present, about 30-40 soldiers from both sides are in a face-off situation there and may disengage after a consensus has been reached between the Corps Commanders of the two armies.



FORWARD MOVEMENT

- At present, about 30-40 soldiers from both sides are in a face-off situation at Gogra
- To resolve other friction points — Hot Springs and the Depsang Valley — the two sides will hold more military and diplomatic-level talks
- The first disengagement of troops from both the sides took place in February this year at the southern and northern banks of the Pangong Tso

They had held the 12th round of talks on Saturday last and broadly agreed in principle to withdraw from Patrolling Point (PP) 17A in Gogra, sources said here on Tuesday. However, the final decision will be taken by the top brass of the military and diplomatic hierarchy, they said.

The latest round of talks lasting more than 10 hours was held nearly four months after the 11th round in early April.

As regards the face-off sites, the other friction points are in the Hot Springs and the Depsang Valley, and the two

sides will hold more military and diplomatic-level talks in the coming weeks to ease tension there, they added.

Since last one and a half years, the LAC is tense due to transgressions by China with the first incident taking place in May last year at the Pangong Tso (lake). Shortly afterwards, stand-off erupted at more places, including Gogra and Hot Springs.

The first disengagement of troops from both the sides took place in February this year at the southern and northern

banks of the Pangong Tso. Since then, a stalemate persisted regarding the other friction points.

Incidentally, India and China had started pulling back their troops from Gogra and Hot Springs last year but massive induction of troops and armoury by China saw the process coming to a halt.

India has all along insisted that China has to disengage from all the friction points in order to normalise ties. India has also made it clear status quo ante has to be restored at the

LAC as it was in April last year. A joint statement issued by India and China on Monday after the 12th round of talks said the Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at the Chushul-Moido border meeting point on the Indian side.

This round of meeting was held following the meeting of the Foreign Ministers on July 14 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and the 22nd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs on June 25.

Rahul trying to unite Opp for 2024

Second such Opposition huddle in recent times as Rahul cycles to Parliament

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

From meeting over a "sumptuous" breakfast to cycling to Parliament in a bunch, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday sought to "unite" leaders of over a dozen Opposition parties to take on the Modi-led NDA dispensation in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

This is the second such

Opposition huddle in recent times, the first convened by NCP supremo Sharad Pawar. In between, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee camped in Delhi in her bid to bring about Opposition unity by meeting a section of Opposition leaders. Notably though, while the TMC attended the Rahul-chaired meeting unlike earlier times, the BSP and AAP chose to skip it.

"The more this voice unites, the more powerful it will become, the more difficult it will become for the BJP and RSS to suppress this voice. We should remember the foundation of unity and it is important that now we start to come up with the principles of this foundation," Rahul said in his welcome message to the

Senla leader Sanjay Raut and Congress' Manojan Kharge, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury were among those present. Representatives of RJD, SP, CPI(M), CPI, IUML, RSP, KCM, BDM, National Conference and LID too joined for tea and breakfast with Rahul and other leaders.

During the breakfast meeting held at Constitution Club in the vicinity of Parliament, TMC leader Mohua Mottra, NCP Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule, DMK's Kanimozhi, Shiv

Parliament sources said on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Opposition and other parties on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Parliament sources said on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Parliament sources said on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Parliament sources said on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Parliament sources said on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Journalists, Editors Guild move SC for SIT probe into Pegasus snooping

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Senior editors N Ram, Sashi Kumar, and the Editors Guild of India on Tuesday filed a plea in the Supreme Court seeking a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the reported surveillance of journalists and others allegedly by the Government through the use of Israeli firm NSO's Pegasus spyware.

Apart from Ram and Kumar, five other journalists whose phones were tapped using Pegasus spyware too approached the apex court. Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, SNM Abdi, Prem Shankar Jha, Rupesh Kumar Singh, and

activist Ipsa Shatakshi are the five journalists who have petitioned the SC seeking the forensic reports of Pegasus' presence in their phones.

Lawyer ML Sharma and CPI(M) MP John Brittas too have petitioned the SC seeking a probe into the snooping incident. The cases are expected to be listed on Thursday.

The Guild's petition stated that journalists are tasked with enforcing the public's right to be informed, accountable and to an open and transparent government. The plea stated that all attempts to seek accountability and enforce Constitutional limits through Parliamentary processes have been stonewalled.

CAPSULE

PENTAGON ON LOCKDOWN AFTER SHOOTING NEARBY
Washington: The Pentagon was on lockdown on Tuesday morning after multiple gunshots were fired near a platform by the facility's Metro station. A Pentagon announcement said the facility was on lockdown due to "police activity." An Associated Press reporter near the building heard multiple gunshots.

SENSEX SOARS 873 PTS, NIFTY ABOVE 16,000
Mumbai: The Sensex skyrocketed 873 points to a fresh closing peak while the Nifty finished above the 16,000-mark for the first time on Tuesday as economic recovery hopes triggered across the board buying, investors grew richer by ₹2.30 lakh crore, with market capitalisation of all BSE-listed reaching a lifetime high of ₹2,40,04,664.28 crore.

GIANT WAVES SWALLOW CENTURIES-OLD TEMPLE
Kendrapara (Odisha): The miracling sea that had been eroding the centuries-old Kendrapara for decades, devouring one village after another, recently razed to the ground the centuries-old Panchwarahi temple, dashing hopes of locals who often offered prayers there seeking respite from the scourge of Mother Nature.

Corona R-factor high, wave not over: Govt

8 States show rise in virus reproductive rate

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Eraised as concerns are being Erased over the impending third Covid-19 wave, the Government on Tuesday cautioned that the country is not yet done with the second wave and eight States have shown a rise in the R-factor which, it said, is a "significant problem".

Dr VK Paul, who heads the

Government's Covid task force, said as many as 44 districts have reported a high case positivity and the Delta-driven second wave is still not over. Eighteen districts showed an increasing trend in cases in the last four weeks, he said at a Press conference here.

"Delta variant is a dominant problem. The pandemic is still raging and the second

Covid-19 IN INDIA	
TOTAL CASES:	3,17,66,226 (+40,771)
DEATHS:	4,25,774 (+546)
RECOVERED:	3,09,21,546 (+32,742)
ACTIVE:	4,06,328
MAHA:	63,21,068 (+6,005)
KERALA:	34,49,149 (+23,676)
K'TAKHA:	29,09,958 (+1,674)
TN:	25,65,452 (+1,908)
DELHI:	14,36,451 (+50)

wave is persisting in our own country," said Dr Paul, expressing concern about the R-factor or the reproductive rate of a virus, which indicates how fast it is spreading.

18 crore Covishield, Covaxin shots to be ready by year end

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

By December-end, around 18 crore Covishield and Covaxin shots against Covid-19 will be available for inoculation in the country, the Government on Tuesday even as it hoped that four more Indian pharma companies will start production of indigenous

vaccines that will help meet the domestic demand.

India has administered 47 crore doses of vaccine so far since the launch of the national vaccination drive from January 16 aimed to protect the people from the virus.

It plans to inoculate the adult population by December-end.

99.04% students pass CBSE Class X

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Tuesday declared the much-awaited Class X results with 99.04 per cent students declared passed. While the pass percentage of boys is 98.89 per cent, that of girls is 99.24 per cent.

While Thiruvananthapuram topped results with the highest pass percentage of 99.99, as much as 98.19 per cent students in the Delhi region have passed the CBSE Class X board examinations.

Indian student's death homicide, suspect held: Chinese Foreign Min

PTI ■ BEIJING

The death of a 20-year-old Indian student in China's Tianjin city was a homicide and a foreigner has been arrested in connection with the murder, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said here on Tuesday. The suspect's nationality has not been disclosed, officials said. Aman Nagesan, who hailed from Bihar's Gaya, was a student of Business Administration in the Tianjin Foreign Studies University. He was found dead on July 29.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry, in a written response to PTI, said around 8:00 pm, Tianjin police received a call that an "Indian student was lying on the floor of the dormitory with no sign of life".

PM to invite entire Indian Olympics contingent as spl guests on I-Day

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will invite the entire Indian Olympics contingent to Red Fort as special guests on Independence Day, the celebrations for which will remain a low-key for the second year in a row due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The PM will also meet the athletes personally at the official residence and interact with all of them. Prior to the contingent leaving for Tokyo, he had promised ace shuttler PV Sindhu to have ice-cream with her, which she could not due to her preparations for the games. Sindhu became the first Indian women athlete to bag two Olympic medals.

Modi on Tuesday also



sought to cheer up the Indian men's hockey team that lost to Belgium in the semi-final clash, saying wins and losses are a part of life. Our Men's Hockey Team at #Tokyo2020 gave their best

and that is what counts," Modi tweeted.

Wishing the Team the very best for the next match and their future endeavours, he said, "India is proud of our players". He also spoke of our triumphs for which will remain a low-key for the second year in a row due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Modi appreciated the team's good performance throughout the tournament and wished them luck for the next game, they said. The Indian women's team is also in the semi-final.

When the match was in progress, Modi tweeted, "I'm watching the India vs Belgium Hockey Men's semi-final at #Tokyo2020. Proud of our team and their skills. Wishing them the very best!"

Rain, flood: 200 villages submerged

1,600 people rescued to safer place so far: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that about 1171 villages in Shivpur, Sheopur, Datia, Gwalior, Bhand and Rewa have been affected due to excessive rains and floods. A total of 200 villages are submerged in water. SDERE, NDERF teams have rescued about 1600 people and shifted them to safer places.

Armed forces have been called. Five Air Force helicopters took off from Gwalior this morning. They went for 8 miles but could not land for rescue due to bad weather. Chouhan has appealed to the people of the affected villages



An aerial view of the flood-affected area in Shivpur, Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday

camp and food. Do not pay heed to rumours. All dams are safe, have confidence. The government is making every effort. People of the affected areas should remain motivated. Chief Minister Shri Chouhan was addressing the media after observing and reviewing the situation of floods and excessive rainfall from the Situation Room at Mantralaya.

Chouhan said that as soon as the weather improves, helicopters will again leave for relief and rescue work. About 22 villages in Shivpur and Sheopur particularly, are submerged in water. Yesterday 11 people were rescued by the Air Force. 70 teams of SDERE and 3 teams of NDERF are engaged in rescue operations. The central government has been requested to send more teams

Continued on Page 3

'The Great Indian Foodie' soaring food blog on Insta

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In recent years, apart from destination and lifestyle bloggers, a new breed of bloggers has taken social media platforms by storm. Indeed, we are all aware of them and they are none other than 'Food Bloggers'.



Indian Foodie!

The focus of the blog is to bring forward the hidden delicacies and the places where they are found in the world.

Pizza hut, Dominos, Taj Mahal Tea House, and so on. He was also fortunate enough to appear as a guest speaker in his college, Amity University, and share the stage with influencers like Kusha Kapila, Dolly Singh, and many more at InfluencerCon 2019.

'The Great Indian Foodie' is one such page on Instagram that was started in 2016 by a creative and innovative guy Sukrit Jain from Haryana, India. By combining his marketing skills with his love and passion for food, Sukrit crafted a blog on Instagram that offers its followers a rare look at some of the most delicious foods from different parts of India.

St Mary's shines in class X results

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

After the outstanding performance in class XII, St Mary's Convent School has recorded 100% pass rate again in CBSE X board examination results which were announced on Tuesday.

Among 178 students appeared 38 students scored above 90. Aatra Ansari topped with 98% while the second topper Vinamra Patil secured 97.6%.

The third highest score of 95.8% was shared between



Thushar Singh and Aditya Saxena. Others who occupied

the top positions in the merit list included Ansh Saxena (95.6%) and Mehak Jeswani (95.4%). The principal Sr. Maria Jagtap, expressed her joy over the remarkable results. She said, in spite of being away from the schools due to the pandemic, students have performed better this year in comparison to the previous years.

BOL reports net profit of ₹720 cr for FY-2021

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Bank of India Net Profit stood at ₹720 Cr. up by 188% over Q4FY21. Operating Profit at ₹2,806 Cr up by 44% over Q4FY21. Non-Interest Income grew by 39% YoY and NIM improved by 15 bps sequentially with NII up by 7%.

Retail Credit grew by 10.57% YoY. Agriculture Credit grew by 11.08% YoY and MSME Credit grew by 11.45% YoY. Advances grew by 11.02% YoY and it constitutes 51.36% of Advances and CASA deposits increased by 13.80% YoY. Gross NPA ratio down to 40bps YoY Net NPA ratio down by 23bps. Credit Cost declined by 241 bps over Q4FY21 and Slippage ratio declined by 96 bps over Q4FY21. YoY Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) at 86.17% improved by 130 bps and YoY CRAR stood at 15.07% higher than both

Mar'21 and Jun'20 RAM. Further, Global Deposits increased by 4.73% YoY to Rs. 6,23,385 Cr in June'21. Domestic deposits went up by 6.71% YoY to Rs. 5,52,303 Cr over the same period. Domestic CASA went up by 13.80% YoY to Rs. 2,35,980 Cr in Jun'21 and CASA percentage stood at 43.22%. As on 30.06.2021, Bank's total Capital Adequacy Ratio (CRAR) was at 15.07% against 14.93% in Mar'21. CET-1 ratio stood at 11.52% as on Jun'21 against 11.51% in Mar'21. Priority Sector advances increased by 10.58% YoY to Rs. 1,39,020 Cr in Jun'21 which constitutes 39.65% of ANBC. Advances to Small & Marginal farmers continued 9.35% to ANBC and that to weaker sections continued 12.10%, which are well above the regulatory norm. Sanctions under PMSVA/Nidhi 97.92% and disbursement, 96.91%.

IGRMS exhibits Bengali string instrument 'Kath Banam'

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Under the popular museum series 'Exhibit of the Month' of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, a traditional object is displayed in the appearance for a whole month. The exhibit for the month of August, 2021 - 'Kath Banam' (A string instrument) from Village Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati, Birbhum, West Bengal, is on display in the indoor exhibition building - Veerhi Sankul.



The ancient musical instrument of the Santal tribe. It is carved out of a single piece of Shisham wood in which lower part is hollowed and covered with lizard skin.

The upper portion of the instrument is carved with an image of a human face that adorns a crown like decoration depicting various miniatures on which four human figures are shown in standing posture indicating the Guru and his disciples. The body of instrument is designed with linings. This traditional Banam is played with the bow popularly known as Retawak. The notes are produced by gentle pressing of the fingers of the left hand over the string of the instrument.

Typologically three types of Banam are found among the Santals. 'Dhodro-Banam' is the largest Banam whereas Retu Banam/Hukka Banam, are made of coconut shell and bamboo. The third one is Pheton Banam which is a smaller Banam rather than bowed monchord.

4 Drug peddlers nabbed; cannabis worth ₹1cr seized

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Reva police have seized Cannabis weighing 52 kg worth over ₹1 crore and arrested four drug peddlers from Mauganj Chak Mod; truck carrying drugs was seized while two persons on motorcycle who were moving along with the truck were arrested in the action.



Pradesh towards Reva team was formed and tracked the truck carrying drugs.

Police said that acting on a tip-off regarding massive drug consignment from Uttar Pradesh towards Reva team was formed and tracked the truck carrying drugs. After receiving information taking immediate action, the team seized a truck container from under the over bridge in front of Mauganj Chak Mod, the spot described by the informer. Two persons going by motor cycle in front of this container were arrested. Those who were piloting to save the container from the police.

On checking the container, 9.52 quintals Cannabis in 53 sacks of 18-18 kg each with a value of more than ₹1 crore rupees in the international market were found in a cabin near the driver's seat which was seized.

In the action police have seized a truck with Cannabis a two wheeler without a registration number, 6 mobiles and a number plate totalling ₹1.5 crore. The accused have been arrested and registered against them under the NDPS Act at Mauganj police station and taken up for investigation. To unveil the larger nexus details of the accused have not been revealed by the police and started further investigation.

St Joseph's Mansi in city toppers list with 99.8% in Class X exams

Carmel's Manisha Pathak, DPS Toshika Kamle made their names in major league

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Mansi Manvani of St Joseph's Convent School grabbed the position on city topper in the CBSE Class X Board exams in city. She secured 99.8% in the board exams.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) declared the x board results on Tuesday. The results were declared making the students and parents happy and relaxed.

Notably, this time too, the girls outshine boys. Manisha Pathak of Carmel Convent



Students celebrate their success after CBSE declared class 10th results, at St Joseph's co-ed school, in Bhopal on Tuesday

School and Toshika Kamle of Delhi Public School (DPS)

Rathad also secured 99.8% and made their name in the league.

The results were announced on the official website of CBSE www.cbse.nic.in. Besides, the results are also available on DIGILocker App.

The students studied at home without going to school for two years due to COVID-19 students. Out of about 21 lakh students from across the country, 99.04% students passed. The passing percentage in Bhopal zone is 99.47%.

The top students of Bhopal believed that self-study was beneficial for them in difficult times. They used to do self-study after doing revision and homework. This made them understand the chapter very well when the teachers taught during the class.

While sharing her success story, Mansi said that during this time, the biggest challenge was to study online. Since the school was not open, she had to study on her own. It was most difficult to maintain discipline, in such a situation.

So she set rules for herself and made a proper plan. During the self-study, she was in constant contact with her teachers and friends to ask doubts. It proved to be really beneficial for her.

St Joseph Co-ed school students win laurels for school in Class X board exams

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The students of St Joseph Co-ed School performed brilliantly in CBSE X Board Examinations 2020-21. The toppers list includes names like Aryanam Rathore scored 98.4%, Shrawani Kaykarr scored 97.8%, and Sanskriti Gupta secured 97.6%.

The students studied at home without going to school for two years due to COVID-19 students. Out of about 21 lakh students from across the country, 99.04% students passed.

The passing percentage in Bhopal zone is 99.47%.

The top students of Bhopal believed that self-study was beneficial for them in difficult times.

They used to do self-study after doing revision and homework.

This made them understand the chapter very well when the teachers taught during the class.

While sharing her success story, Mansi said that during this time, the biggest challenge was to study online.

Since the school was not open, she had to study on her own.

It was most difficult to maintain discipline, in such a situation.

So she set rules for herself and made a proper plan.

During the self-study, she was in constant contact with her teachers and friends to ask doubts.

It proved to be really beneficial for her.

Sadapur Police station all set to go green soon

Variety of saplings to be planted on premises, says TI

PNS ■ INDORE

To give a clean green and healthy oxygen abundant environment to the police man and the local citizens the Sadapur police station of Dhar district is all set to go green.

Recently the new two storey building of the police station was inaugurated by Chief Minister Shri Singh Chauhan during his recent visit to Dhar. Sadapur police station which is spread in two acres is now coming up as 'green' plantation on several trees of different species are being planted here and also a Nakshatra mini garden is being developed here where trees related to different sun signs will be planted in different direction.

TI Sadapur Vishwadeep Singh Parihar told The Pioneer that on the instructions and guidance of S P Dhar Aditya Pratap Singh the development of garden and plantation drive is going on in Sadapur police station premises and we have also constructed the 200 feet cemented boundary wall in front of the police station parallel to the road with the help of gram panchayat Sadapur and public support which will protect the plantation.

A cement concrete road is also constructed in the police station premises between the garden so that the police staff and the people of police residential police families and village people can use this road for morning and evening walk.

Event 'Ye Shaam Mastani' to be held in memory of singer Kishore Kumar at Rabindra Bhavan today

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Like every year, legendary singer Kishore Kumar will be remembered in an event 'Ye Shaam Mastani' on August 4.

To observe the birth anniversary of eminent playback singer Kishore Kumar, 'Ye Shaam Mastani' will be organized by the Directorate of Culture from 6.30 pm at Rabindra Bhavan Auditorium.

In the view of the present circumstances, this year this event is being organized without any audience. The event will be live, which will be broadcast live on department YouTube channel.

The purpose behind this event was to let talented artists who sing Kishore Kumar can be encouraged by inviting them. This year, Mumbai's eminent playback singer Ravi Tripathi and his group have been invited by the Directorate. Ravi Tripathi is also a good composer and music director along with playback singing. You started singing at the age of four. After receiving his music education from Bhaktanand Singdeo Vishwavidyalaya, he learned the nuances of playback singing from the well-known playback singer and composer Suresh Wadkar.

and his group have been invited by the Directorate.

After making it to the top finalist in the second season of Chandni Chowk to China, Tripathi has consistently performed in many music reality shows. Tripathi's album 'Baatein', which made his Bollywood debut, was never submitted with the bank and approval letter which is provided by the bank was produced fake and would submit with the showroom which made it easy to finance business.

Tripathi has composed music for many TV channels like Sony TV, Star Plus, GTV, ETV and Life OK and has also sung background songs and titles songs for serials aired by these TV channels. In the year 2009, Tripathi represented India in China by performing with Hollywood star Jackie Chan at the countdown show of the Asian Games. Rahman's 'Jai Ho' has also been sung.

Fraudsters who sold 6 scooters with forged approval letter held

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The MP Nagar police have arrested two accused involved in selling 6 scooters worth ₹5 lakh using forged approval letter of financing vehicle, two sales agents of two wheeler showroom were arrested.

Police have arrested two accused identified as Rehan Khan (35) and Vivek Shrivastava (26) who used to work with Apna Suzuki in MP Nagar. Earlier the victim Ritesh Jodhwani lodged complaint after he requested for payment of 6 two wheelers which are financed in the period of September 2019 to October 2020 and found that the approval letter were fake.

The accused were identified as Rehan Khan and Vivek Shrivastava who worked as agent of IDFC bank at the showroom during the fraud and as soon as fraud surfaced the two left job. Investigating Officer SI A S Parihar said that the accused would collect documents of customers visiting the store and would process using the same documents but these documents were never submitted with the bank and approval letter which is provided by the bank was produced fake and would submit with the showroom which made it easy to finance business.

RTU observes birth anniversary of Hindi writer Jagannath Prasad Choubey; holds discussion series

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A Discussion on the personality and work of Vannali was held on Tuesday at Ravindranath Tagore University.

To observe the 109th birth anniversary of late Jagannath Prasad Choubey 'Vannali', an important story writer of Hindi literature, a discussion series was held. This event was organized by Vannali Srijaan Peeth, Bhopal and Faculty of Humanities and Liberal Arts under the aegis of Ravindranath Tagore University under Vishwa Kang. On this occasion, discussions on the personality and work of Vannali was held. Santosh Choubey, senior poet, storyteller and Chancellor of Ravindranath Tagore University, director of Vishwa Rang, presiding over the program, said that Vannali had a distinctive personality.

Santosh Choubey further said that Vannali used to say that 'Don't finish the story immediately. Read it leisurely. It is very important for the fineness of the language.' Vannali used to write the story like a poem. Poetic language, visual writing, deep analysis and psychological intelligence are clearly

Bhopal Indian Bank launches retail loan distribution drive

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Retail loan distribution campaign was launched by Indian Bank Bhopal Zone and on this occasion Zonal Manager A S Hira provided Home Loan and Car Loan to customers.

ZM Hira informed that this mega program started this month will be extended till the upcoming festivals, in which Indian Bank, through its 93 branches and 2 RAMPC

branches located in Bhopal zone, will provide loans for house construction, plots & houses in various urban and semi urban areas etc.

Special emphasis is being laid on providing housing loans on easy terms to buy or repair their customers.

On this occasion, special loan disbursement campaign at various places like Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Ujjain, Dewas, Datta, Shivpuri, Morena, Barhanpur, Khargone, Ratlam,

Sehore etc., today by taking full 8 schemes of bank home loan has been started from.

Shivakumar D, Deputy Zonal Manager, Navreen Srivastava, MS Rawat, CK Sahu, Puneet Kumar were also present on this occasion.

Keeping in view the increasing demand for vehicle loans, all branches of Indian Bank have been asked to pay special attention to it in the months of August and September.



Destitute women under the banner of Gas Peedit Nirashrit Pension Bhogi Sangharsh Mancha stage a protest demanding for a hike in their social security pension including several other demands, at district collectorate in Bhopal on Tuesday

Cabinet Ok's MP Excise Act A bill-2021

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With a view to discourage excessive relation crimes in the state, Madhya Pradesh Excise Act (Amendment) Bill, 2021 has been approved to increase the fine and penalty imposed on various types of crimes in the Cabinet meeting held at Mantralaya today under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shivra Singh Chouhan.

It is provision for imprisonment for a minimum period of 6 months and maximum of 6 years and fine up to Rs. 5 lakh. Any person who poses obstruction in duty or is guilty of assault under the Act may be arrested by any Excise Officer. For the establishment, operation and up-gradation of ITI, a total amount of Rs 18 crore 43 lakh is likely to be spent.

The Cabinet took a decision regarding the implementation of the new classification of micro, small and medium enterprises by the Government of India in the state. In the notification, new investment and business limits have been allowed for all the departments of the State Government and their subordinate corporations/institutions/undertakings for all the purposes of the MSMEs of the entire state from the date of effect of the notification in this regard.



Madhya Pradesh police contingents rehearse for Independence Day at Moolati Nehru Police Stadium in Bhopal on Tuesday

WC Railway generates ₹50 cr revenue for month June-2021

PNS ■ JABALPUR

Even under the odd circumstances of the Covid-19 epidemic, West Central Railways has worked in all the three divisions which has resulted in an income of over ₹50 crores was received in railway revenue by paying 163 railway receipts in June 2021.

Under BDU Marketing established in all the three divisions of West Central Railway in June 2021, rail received record revenue in freight from goods. West Central Railway Headquarters and Business Development Unit of Jabalpur Bhopal Kota Division, Railways has increased the speed of goods trains so that it is easier to deliver goods on time and faster.

One injured in accident near Delhi IIT flyover

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A member of a center truck was injured after the vehicle was allegedly hit by a dumper truck near IIT flyover in the early hours of Tuesday morning. The accident that took place around 4 am, caused traffic snarls during morning rush hours. The injured has been identified as Jasbir, a resident of Dwarka area.

NDMC launches new state of the art property tax module

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to give relief to the property tax payers, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has launched new state of the art property tax module particularly for services like self assessment of property tax, mutation, amalgamation and bifurcation, vacancy remission, property mutation as well in similar manner and will the certificate without any hassle. The official further said that the new system will not only help the citizen in terms of making the process of tax calculation and payment smooth, fair and transparent, but will also be of great assistance to the NDMC in reducing the response time and improve revenue collection and thereby serving its citizens in a more efficient manner.

Delhi Govt approves continuation of free Wi-Fi scheme

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government has granted approval to continue availing free Wi-Fi facility in the national Capital. The Kejriwal Government has so far set up hotspots at 10,561 places in the city. Out of these, 2,208 hotspots have been installed at bus stops, while 8,353 have been installed at other places. Delhi Cabinet has given its approval to this proposal on Tuesday. The Govt had set a target of setting up 11,000 hotspots to provide free Wi-Fi facility across Delhi. After the installation of hot spots, people are getting Wi-Fi at every 500 meters in Delhi. Each hotspot has a radius of 100 meters. Every person is being given 15 GB of data for free every month. 1.5 GB of data per day is being given for free. On average, Wi-Fi at the speed of 100 to 200 Mbps is being given.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivra Singh Chouhan flags off new vehicles for use of patients during Ayushman beneficiary convention at Minto Hall in Bhopal on Tuesday

Delhi Govt Ok's MLAs salary hike

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) will now get ₹90,000 per month as salary and allowances as Arvind Kejriwal Government on Tuesday approved a hike recommended by the Centre on Tuesday. Earlier, each MLA was getting ₹75,000 as salary and allowances as Arvind Kejriwal Government, the Government said in a statement. The restriction imposed by the Centre has forced Delhi MLAs to be among the lowest earning legislators in the country whereas MLAs of States ruled by the BJP and the Congress earn around 1.5 to 2 times the amount that the MLAs in Delhi receive. The salary of Delhi MLAs has not increased since 2011 and the Delhi Government had requested the MHA to ensure that the salary of Delhi MLAs is at par with MLAs of other States, however, the MHA refused to do so, it added. After the approval, the MLAs will get a salary of ₹30,000 and still be among the lowest-paid MLAs of the country. Several BJP-ruled States pay their MLAs 1.5 to 2 times the salary and allowances proposed for Delhi MLAs. Uttar Pradesh ₹1.98 lakh, Himachal Pradesh ₹1.9 lakh, Haryana ₹1.55 lakh, Bihar ₹1.3 lakh.

Eyeing Punjab polls, SAD promises 400 units of free power

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Making a series of promises and announcing a slew of schemes with an eye on 2022 assembly elections in Punjab, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Tuesday promised 400 'free' power units to residential consumers across all categories, Rs 10 per litre discount on diesel for tractors and agriculture purposes, Rs 10 lakh annual medical insurance for all families, among other things 'if SAD is voted to power'. Announcing the 13-point charter of initiatives which the SAD-BSP alliance will implement once it comes to power in the State in 2022, Sukhbir also announced Rs 2,000 per month grant to all women heads of blue card holder families, provision of power at the rate of Rs five per unit for industry and an interest free loan of Rs 10 lakh for students. Besides 400 'free' power units, the slew of initiatives, which cover all sections of society, also include doing away with outstanding residential bills of all blue card holders, and restoration of connections of BPL families, which have been disconnected due to non-payment of bills. The health insurance cover of Rs 10 lakh per annum will cover treatment, medicines, diagnostic tests, surgeries and medical equipment in all public and private hospitals," said Sukhbir while addressing the media. Simultaneously, in a big announcement for youth to help them go in for higher studies in India and abroad, Sukhbir announced that a Student Education Card, with interest free loan up to Rs 10 lakh, would be issued to the students for the purpose of college fees and coaching fees like IELTS. For Scheduled Caste students, this facility would be in addition to the SC scholarship which would be restarted," he said. Speaking about the initiatives which would be taken up in the agriculture sector, Sukhbir said that the legislation would be passed in the State Assembly to ensure that the three agriculture laws were not implemented in Punjab. "Simultaneously, the Government would introduce minimum support price (MSP)

Student Education Card, with interest free loan up to ₹10 lakh, would be issued to the students for the purpose of college fees and coaching fees like IELTS

for fruits and vegetables and pay the differential in case of reduction in prices to farmers," he said. Stating that the next SAD-BSP government would prioritize health and education, Sukhbir said that 500-bed Government Medical Colleges with super specialty facilities would be established in every district. He also announced that 33 percent reservation would be given to students passing their education from government schools in all professional colleges in the State, including medical colleges. Sukhbir also announced that one lakh new jobs would be created in the government sector and that 10 lakh new jobs would be created in the private sector. He also announced a minimum of 50 percent reservation for women in all government jobs, adding that 75 percent jobs would be reserved for Punjab youth in the private sector. In another announcement, Sukhbir promised that all contractual employees, including staff carteris, would be regularized besides announcing complete digitization of all government services available to citizens and making Sewa Kendras, which have been closed down by the Congress Government functional again. He also announced that large companies would be encouraged to switch to solar energy by waiving off transmission charges in the State besides asserting that new textile and IT hubs would be created in the State. Stating that the SAD had always delivered on the promises made to the people, Sukhbir said that Akali Dal had earlier promised free power to farmers, which was delivered on. "We promised unique schemes for the socially disadvantaged including 'aata-daal' scheme and 'Shagun scheme' and made them a reality. We promised to make the State power surplus and did so. Similarly, we promised to provide world class infrastructure to the people and delivered on it. As far as AAP conveners or international airports, Jo keha, oh keeta; jo kehanghe, oh karange," he quipped. SAD chief also detailed how the SAD-led governments of Parkash Singh Badal had always stood for peace, communal harmony, brotherhood and respect for all religions. Lashing out at the Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, Sukhbir said that the Congress leader had sworn false oaths on the holy Gurtika Sahib and reneged on them. "As far as AAP conveners Arvind Kejriwal is concerned, the latter has always adopted double standards on all issues concerning Punjab and Punjab. Kejriwal betrayed the interests of Punjab on SYL issue and stubble burning and recently even tried to force closure of the thermal plants in the State," he said, adding that even the 300 units of free power promised by Kejriwal had proved to be a hoax with AAP leader claiming that anyone consuming even one

Gujarat Urban Development Company Limited (Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking) Karmayogi Bhavan, Block No. 1, B1 Wing, Ground Floor, Sector -10/A Gandhinagar, Tel: 079-23246126, 27, 28 C/N : U75140GJ1999SGC036051 E-mail: contact@gudctd.com Website: www.gudctd.com

E-Tendering Notice Ref.No.GUDC/e-TENDERING/PROJECTS/ROB-RUB/23 Gujarat Urban Development Company Ltd. invites online tenders by e-tendering for ROB (Railway Over Bridge) in lieu of LC-23 at Umreth for an amount of Rs. 23.64 crore under SJMSMVY. Tender will be uploaded after 05/08/2021 on the web site http://gudc.nprocure.com. All subsequent information, notification, changes and amendments would be posted only on the aforesaid website.

No/INF/VPN/2020/G/778

Office of The Executive Engineer. PWD Division Ashoknagar (M.P.)

Table with 7 columns: S.No, Tender No., Nature of work, Name of work, Call No., Cost of Project (Lakh), Cost of Tender form. Contains 10 tender entries for various repair and maintenance work.

The document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of Document and online submission bid is dated 23/08/2021 up to (17:30) and NIT will be opened on 25.08.2021. NIT other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper. Executive Engineer PWD Division Ashoknagar (MP)

Rain, flood..

Chouhan said that discussions have been held with Srahwar of Air Force. Collectors of the affected districts Shivpuri, Datia, Gwalior, Ashoknagar are constantly in touch. Water was released due to excess water in Madhikhed Dam. Earlier, 12,500 cusecs of water was being released from the dam, now it has been reduced to 10,500 cusecs. Villagers affected by the release of water from the dam have been alerted. The effect of rain has also reduced. Now the situation is likely to improve soon. Chouhan said that Home Minister Narottam Mishra, Water Resources Minister Jitendra Singh and Revenue Minister Govind Singh Rajput are monitoring the situation closely. Minister Yashodhara Raje Scindia and Minister-in-Charge of Shivpuri, Madhura Singh Sisodia are coordinating relief and rescue operations from Shivpuri Control Room.

Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited Corporate Office: 1st Floor, Tans House, No.2, N.S.C. Bore Road, Chennai-600 001. Branch Office: 2nd Floor, Om Complex, Nandambur, Nandambur, Chennai-600 001. REMAINDER NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002

BJP MPs given leaflets to take on Covid plan critics



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In view of the impending Assembly polls in various States, BJP MPs on Tuesday were handed over a booklet giving a detailed note on the Modi Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing vaccination drive with an aim to help them with information to take on the critics and clarify its position among public in general.

but to "Team India" which acted with a "whole of Government and whole of Society" approach in a pre-emptive, proactive and graded manner. Opposition parties have been attacking the Narendra Modi dispensation and the BJP governments in poll-bound states such as Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Goa for their handling of the pandemic, the note claims that the country managed to "evade the catastrophic effects of the pandemic which had wreaked havoc in the world."

which "transparent" data is available in the public domain. China has claimed to have given 160 crore doses, it added. India has by July-end administered over 45 crore doses compared to 34.3 crore in the US and 13.7 crore in Brazil and 8.4 crore in the UK, it said. India took 166 days to reach the mark of 34 crore vaccine doses against 221 days by the US, the note stated.

India has so far administered over 10 per cent of the doses given globally. Referring to India's handling of the pandemic, the note also highlights the government's response to the pandemic, the note also highlights the government's response to the pandemic, the note also highlights the government's response to the pandemic.

PM Modi, it notes, held 21 meetings with states and addressed the nation 10 times and chaired a total of 40 meetings. India's Covid-19 cases at 22,726 per million and fatality at 305 per million are among the "lowest" in the world, it said.

Explore ways to put money into bank a/cs of lockdown-hit labourers, Parl panel asks Govt



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Maintaining that nearly 1.20 crore migrant workers returned to their home states during the pandemic-induced lockdown in the first and second waves, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, headed by Biju Janata Dal MP Bharti Mahab, has asked the Government to explore ways and means to put money in the bank accounts of the informal workers during adverse conditions like Covid-19.

The panel noted that total number of migrant workers who returned to their home states during the lockdown in the first wave of COVID-19 was 1,14,30,988. During the second wave lockdown, 5,15,363 migrant workers returned to their home states. According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), over 90 per cent of workers in India are informal workers, which in absolute terms translates into 419 million out of a total of 465 million workers.

The Committee has asked the labour ministry to take note of any unprecedented situation, like the migrant workers' exodus during the pandemic, rather than waiting for the judiciary to intervene on the issue. It found that in compliance to a Supreme Court order on June 9, 2020, Union Labour Secretary wrote a letter on June 19, 2020 to the chief secretaries/administrators of all states/UTs to collect and maintain details of all migrant labourers who returned to their native places along with their financial details, etc. to facilitate the administration

About 93 million informal workers in urban areas are involved primarily in five sectors

to extend benefit of different schemes to them. In magnitude, the informal workers in rural areas (298 million) comprise almost 2.5 times higher than urban areas (121 million). This is primarily because a large number of informal workers are engaged in farm or agricultural activities (62 per cent) as compared to only 8 per cent in urban areas.

About 93 million informal workers in urban areas are involved primarily in five sectors namely manufacturing, trade, hotel and restaurant; construction; transport storage and information; and finance, business and real estate. Out of these total 93 million informal workers in these sectors, 50 per cent are self-employed, 20 per cent are casual workers on daily wages and 30 per cent are salaried or contract employees. The Committee advised that the Government both at the Centre and State Levels should encourage and introduce entrepreneurial opportunities as means of sustenance which would help in reducing unemployment and supporting recovery.

CBI files case against director of Mumbai-based pvt firm

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against a Director of a private company based in Mumbai (Maharashtra) and unknown officials of the Transport Department of Meghalaya.

besides unknown others on the allegations of awarding contract at exorbitant rates for supply of High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs). The CBI on Tuesday conducted searches at various locations/premises connected to the accused at Shillong (Meghalaya), Delhi,

Mumbai and Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh). Director Mumbai-based firm Shimmit Utsch India Pvt. Ltd., Nitin Shah and unknown officials of the Transport Department of Meghalaya as also others have been listed as accused in the case.

It has been alleged that in the year 2003, the State of Meghalaya floated a tender for execution of High Security Registration Plates scheme and three private companies based at



Mumbai and New Delhi had participated in the tender process, the agency alleged in the FIR. It was further alleged that the Director of said company in collusion with unknown officials of Transport Department of Government of Meghalaya, rigged the said tender process by submitting col-

lusive bids through entities controlled by him, it said. It was also alleged that the work was awarded to the Mumbai-based company at exorbitant rates in 2005. The company also got approved exorbitant rates for supply of High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs) in Meghalaya.

Modi to chair open debate on maritime security at UNSC

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will virtually chair an open debate on maritime security at the United Nations Security Council on August 9, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Tuesday.



Minister will preside over Open Debate." On August 1, India took over the rotating presidency for the month-long 15-nation UN Security Council, and on January 1, India began its two-year tenure as a non-permanent member of the UNSC. It is India's seventh term.

It will be the first time that an Indian Prime Minister will preside over an open debate at the world body. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in a tweet, "PM @narendramodi will Chair Open Debate on 'Maintenance of

international peace and security: Maritime security in virtual mode @UNSecurityCouncil on 9th August. This will be the 1st time an Indian Prime

India has planned high-level engagements with the world community on key focus issues like maritime security, peacekeeping and counter-terrorism during the month of August. IANS

'Both heal patients': SC for same 65 years retirement for ayurvedic, allopathic doctors

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the doctors, both under Ayush and the central health services (CHS), render service to patients and on this core aspect, there is nothing to distinguish between them as it held that ayurvedic doctors are also entitled to the benefit of enhanced superannuation age of 65 years (raised from 60 years), at par with allopathic doctors.

discriminatory and unreasonable since doctors under both segments are performing the same function of treating and healing their patients." It emphasised that the only difference is that Ayush doctors are using indigenous systems of medicine like ayurveda, unani, etc. and CHS doctors are using allopathy for tending to their patients.

The North Delhi Municipal Corporation had argued before the court that classification of Ayush doctors and doctors under the CHS in different categories is reasonable and permissible in law. A bench of Justices L. Narasimha Rao and Hrishikesh Roy said: "This however does not appeal to us and we are inclined to agree with the findings of the Tribunal and the Delhi High Court that the classification is

"In our understanding, the mode of treatment by itself under the prevalent scheme of things, does not qualify as an intelligible differential," said the bench, in its 19-page judgment. It added that such unreasonable classification and discrimination based on it would surely be inconsistent with Article 14 of the Constitution.

The bench said the municipal corporation not paying the ayurvedic doctors their salary and benefits, while their counterparts in CHS received salary and benefits in full, "must be seen as discrimination."

2 CGST officials in CBI net for taking bribe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Tuesday arrested two officers of Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST), Patna, in a bribery case and conducted searches at their premises.

The arrested accused are Superintendent CGST, Patna, Umesh Prasad and Inspector, Akhlesh Kumar Singh posted in the same office. A case was registered against the accused posted in

the office of Directorate General of GST, Intelligence, Zonal Unit, Patna on a complaint alleging therein the demand of bribe of ₹50,000 favouring the complainant's firm in the enquiry of bank transactions, the CBI said.

The CBI laid a trap and caught the accused while accepting the bribe of ₹10,000 from the complainant. Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused at Patna, it said.

Pawar meets Shah, discusses sugar price, blending of ethanol in petrol

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

NCP chief Sharad Pawar met Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday to discuss issues related to pricing of sugar and ethanol blending in petrol.



He was accompanied by National State Cooperative Sugar Factories Federation Chairman Jayprakash Dandgaonkar and NCP MP from Raigarh. Shah has been also appointed as the new Cooperation minister and his ministry aims to provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for co-operatives.

After meeting Shah, Pawar told reporters that they discussed the current selling price of sugar, which is even lower than the cost of production, and he requested the

Government to look into it. Pawar, a former agriculture minister, said he also talked about the need to increase the blending of ethanol in petroleum products.

The NCP chief said Shah has assured him that he will look into all issues related to the sugar sector. Pawar had earlier met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in connection

with amendments made by the Centre in the Banking Regulation Act to limit rights of cooperative banks. With speculation rife about the agenda of the meeting, NCP spokesperson Navab Malik said, "Rumours are being spread over the meeting but Pawar had already informed CM Thackeray and Congress leaders about the same."

LS passes Essential Defence Services, Tribunal Reforms Bills without any debate



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As Lok Sabha proceedings on Tuesday continued to remain disrupted due to protests by the Opposition on the Pegasus and Farm Bills' issues, two legislations namely The Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021 and The Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2021 were passed without any debate.

Critical of the Opposition, Sitharaman said that the "constitutional impasse" in Parliament was "not correct." She also said it was unfortunate that nothing is being done to stop the din in the House.

The Essential Defence Services Bill seeks to prohibit any agitation and strike by anyone engaged in essential defence services. Amid protests by some opposition members on the intent of the bill, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt, who piloted the measure, informed the House that the "biggest thing" is that "we have taken a decision to add a sunset clause in this (bill)." A sunset clause gives an expiry date to a law.

The Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2021 seeks to abolish tribunals or authorities under various laws by amending various statutes treating the justice delivery system. These include the Cinematograph Act, the Copyright Act, the Customs Act, the Patents Act, the Airport Authority of India Act, the Trade Marks Act and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act.

The Lok Sabha was adjourned for the day when it assembled again at 4pm after three earlier adjournments. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the government was ready to respond to any queries raised by members on bills laid in the House.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said he wants to assure the House that after the parliamentary nod and presidential assent, the Act will become effective only when it is invoked. As the minister was speaking, opposition members continued their protests over Pegasus snooping, rural farmers' issues. N K Premchandran said that bills should not be passed when the House is not in order and there should be a proper debate before the passage of any bill.



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday accused former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi of indulging in "gimmicks" for cheap publicity and alleged that the Opposition has resorted to a "rant and run" tactics to hijack parliamentary proceedings and defame the Government.

Union Minister Anukumar Abbas Naqvi, the deputy leader of the House in Rajya Sabha, said Opposition members have been outdoing each other in disrupting Parliament's proceedings to project themselves as the leader of the anti-BJP grouping.

Opposition parties have stalled Parliament's proceedings over the Pegasus row. BJP chief spokesperson Anil Bhatnagar said the Congress leader is mostly concerned about cheap publicity through gimmicks like driving tractor or riding cycle and does not take the legislature seriously. "They have no real issue and do these things to be in news. This is the first time we are seeing that the government wants to debate issues in Parliament while the opposition does not," he said. Naqvi said the opposition is engaging in "rant and run" tactics, which is not the way to function and then defame the government outside it, he said. In their "Modi-bashing," the opposition has been resorting to "India-bashing," he alleged. Leaders of several opposition parties attended a breakfast meeting hosted by Rahul at the Constitution Club here where he stressed on opposition unity. Several opposition MPs led by Rahul later cycled to Parliament to highlight the issue of fuel price. Those who could not cycle walked down to Parliament.

Tokyo refused to allot addl slot for Paralympian shooter, SC told

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court was informed on Tuesday that "Tokyo has refused to allot additional slot" for Paralympian shooter Naresh Kumar Sharma, who was not included as additional participant for the upcoming

Paralympics in Japan as per the apex court's order to the IBCI. The top court granted liberty to Sharma to approach Delhi High Court and request it to expeditiously take up his appeal against its single-judge order, which had refused to interfere with his non-selection for the Tokyo

Paralympics, scheduled for later this month. A bench of justices A M Khanwilkar and Sanjay Khanna passed the order after senior advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for Sharma, said it is a classic case as "Tokyo has refused to allot additional slot" to the petitioner.

Hyderabad rapists' encounter killing: SC gives probe commission 6 month extension

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday gave another six months to the three-member inquiry commission, headed by former apex court judge V S Sirpurkar, to file the final report on encounter killing of the four accused in the case of gangrape and murder of a veterinarian in Hyderabad.



A bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana asked the lawyer appearing for the inquiry panel as to how much more time it wanted to conclude the probe. The bench, also comprising Justice Surya Kant,

referred to a similar panel, set up to inquire into the encounter killing of gangster Vikas Dubey in Uttar Pradesh, and said it has already filed the report. The commission was headed by former Supreme Court judge B S Chauhan and had concluded that there

was no evidence to suggest that the encounter of Dubey was staged. Referring to the inquiry into the Hyderabad encounter killings, the bench sought to know from lawyer K Parameshwar the reason for the delay in concluding the inquiry. The lawyer said the commission has to hear from over 130 witnesses in the matter and the COVID situation contributed to the delay as well. "Ok, six months," the bench ordered. PTI

₹11,500 cr relief package for flood-hit people: Maha Govt

● To give ₹5,000 each to affected families
● ₹1.5L compensation for each damaged house

TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

The Maharashtra Government on Tuesday announced a ₹11,500 crore relief package towards the losses suffered by the people during the recent floods in coastal Konkan region, western Maharashtra and other parts of the state.

Of the flood relief package, the State Government has earmarked ₹1,500 crore for providing immediate assistance to flood victims, while ₹3,000

crore would be spent on reconstruction and repair of damaged infrastructure. A sum of ₹7,000 crore has been allocated for undertaking long-term measures to minimise impact of future floods.

Talking to media persons after the State Cabinet approved the ₹11,500 crore relief for the flood-affected people in the State, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said that his Government would extend a financial assistance of ₹5,000 to each of the

flood-affected families. Similarly, the State Government would give a financial assistance of ₹1,50,000 to each of the families whose houses were damaged in the floods, while the people whose houses suffered damage to the tune of 50 per cent would get ₹50,000 as compensation. The partially damaged houses will get ₹25,000 per home.

As per the package, the farmers who lost their cattle would get financial assistance of up to ₹40,000, while fishermen would be compensated ₹25,000 per damaged boat.

Shop owners and village artisans who have suffered

losses during the floods would be given a compensation of ₹50,000 each, while the affected owners' way-side shops

would be compensated up to ₹10,000 each.

Earlier at the beginning of the State Cabinet meeting, the State Disaster Management department made a presentation before the chief minister and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on the impact of recent floods and heavy rain after which the Maharashtra cabinet sanctioned the financial assistance, an official said.

The Chief Minister asked the state administration to set up an expert committee and seek help from the National Water Development Agency to study flood lines of the

State BJP spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya on Tuesday said "By giving Khela Hobe slogan the Chief Minister has hinted at unleashing of violent politics in India... The one practiced by her party in Bengal that has seen hundreds of bloody attacks on BJP workers leaving scores of them dead."

Saying that "the Chief Minister's brand of Khela (sports) is always smeared with blood," he said the people of India would learn from Bengal's experience and never vote for TMC wherever it went.

Banerjee earlier declared that

people were killed and 52 other injured, while the rescue and relief teams shifted as many as 43,879 people in the flooded areas of the state to safer places.

The districts of Raigad, Ratnagiri, Satara and Sangli were badly affected by the natural calamity. Raigad accounted for a maximum of 95 deaths, while there were 46 deaths in Satara district of western Maharashtra.

The death tally in other places comprised Ratnagiri-35, Thane-15, Kolhapur-7, Mumbai-4, Pune-3, Sindhudurg-4. Wardha and Akola-2 each. Eighty persons were still reported missing.

people were killed and 52 other injured, while the rescue and relief teams shifted as many as 43,879 people in the flooded areas of the state to safer places.

The districts of Raigad, Ratnagiri, Satara and Sangli were badly affected by the natural calamity. Raigad accounted for a maximum of 95 deaths, while there were 46 deaths in Satara district of western Maharashtra.

The death tally in other places comprised Ratnagiri-35, Thane-15, Kolhapur-7, Mumbai-4, Pune-3, Sindhudurg-4. Wardha and Akola-2 each. Eighty persons were still reported missing.

Guv trying to create two power centres: Maha Min | BJP flays Didi's 'Khela Hobe' call

TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

Another round of turf war broke out between the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government and Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari on Tuesday, as its senior Minister Navab Malik of the NCP accused the Governor of "exceeding" his brief and trying to create two power centres in the State.

Talking to media persons after the weekly Cabinet meeting, Malik took strong exception to the manner in which Koshyari was conducting himself, he said that State chief secretary Sitaram Kunte would meet the Governor's secretary later in the day and would submit a letter explaining the brief of the Governor and asking the latter not to exceed it.

Malik said that at the Cabinet meeting, several ministers expressed

serious concern about the manner in which the Governor had chosen to undertake a three-day tour of Nanded, Raigad and Parbhani in Marathwada region.

"The Maharashtra Governor is trying to create two power centres in the State, where powers are delegated to the chief minister once he takes office. For reasons best known to him, the Governor is going about inaugurating some state government projects during his proposed tour of three districts in Marathwada region," Malik said.

During the meeting, the Governor is slated to inaugurate two minority student hostels at Nanded, a review meeting of the district officials at Nanded on August 5, to hold a review meeting of University at Hingoli where there was no University, attend an agriculture university programme at Paraha and hold a review meeting

there. Malik also charged that the Governor was not only touring the state but was also holding meetings with district collectors and seeking information about various government works. "If he needs to know something, the Governor can always write to the chief secretary for the same," Malik said. Koshyari has been at loggerheads with the MVA government ever since Uddhav Thackeray assumed office as the chief minister on November 28, 2019.

Among the first of the controversies that arose between the Governor and the MVA government was his refusal to nominate chief minister Uddhav as a Member of Legislative Council in one of the two vacant slots. It was another matter, Uddhav - who was not a member of either of the Houses of the State Legislature when he was sworn in as the chief minister

on November 28, 2019 - was elected unopposed subsequently to the State Legislative Council, through a normal election.

On another occasion, the Governor had landed in an unsavoury situation by calling up Home Minister Anil Deshmukh and conveying his concern over the "security and health" of incarcerated editor-in-chief of Republic Media Network Arnab Goswami. It may be recalled that on October 12 last year, the Governor had triggered a controversy by rooting for the reopening of temples in the state. In a letter shot off to the chief minister, questioning the latter's Hinduva credentials and wondering if Uddhav was receiving any "divine premonition" by postponing the reopening of temples of worship time and again or whether he suddenly turned "secular".

BJP flays Didi's 'Khela Hobe' call

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Bengal BJP has strongly reacted to the reverberated across the country soon for its immense popularity, clearly hinting at her national ambitions.

The Chief Minister said, "some people may not admit it, but Khela Hobe has become very popular. It is been raised in Parliament and states like Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan now. So far Khela (game) was limited to Bengal. Now it will happen again across the country. Life can't go on without 'Khela'."

The Chief Minister also suggested a theme song on 'Khela Hobe' for August 16 Khela Hobe Day. He said that her Government has decided to celebrate every year in memory of some spectators who died during a football match in

Kolkata more than three decades ago. Reacting to Banerjee's announcement the BJP leaders said that "after reverberating Bengal in a disturbed State the TMC was trying to do the same thing across the country... But they will forfeit their deposit wherever they will go... Like it happened in Assam, Delhi and elsewhere." Meanwhile, TMC MP Sunil Mondal who had joined BJP last year on Tuesday said that he was still in the Trinamool and had never left it.

"I had never left TMC or taken BJP's membership... There was only some misunderstanding with local leaders... That has been sorted out. Earlier he had talks with senior TMC leader Mukul Roy who too returned to the Trinamool three-and-a-half years' stint in the saffron outfit."

certificates the Government machinery on the ground is still asking members of the community to produce their state subjects to earn benefits of government schemes such as Ladli Beti, Scholarship and housing schemes for members living below poverty line.

Gandhi said in the absence of a government order the lower rung government servants are creating hurdles and not processing their files in time. Some of the refugee families were allotted land and have constructed their homes but when they approach the revenue authorities for registration of their properties they are told to produce state subject certificates.

Another activist and office bearer of West Pakistan Refugee Action Committee Ratan Lal said, "When poor people from different villages approach revenue authorities for verification they are told to visit them after some time. It is causing long delays and the majority has not received even a single penny compensation."

Rattan Lal said, "After the abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A, the long pending demand of granting citizenship rights to West Pakistan refugees has been fulfilled by the Union Government but the real benefits are yet to reach them. He said on papers our children can now apply for government jobs within Jammu and Kashmir and they can cast their votes to elect their own public representatives. But in the last two years we have failed to get any benefits from the government machinery. We are not able to enrol girl children for Ladli Beti Scheme, enroll bright students from scholarship schemes and earn benefits of housing schemes of the Central Government."

Rattan Lal demanded smooth implementation of the central govt schemes for West Pak refugees and clear cut directions to the revenue authorities to entertain their files on top priority without any further delay to ensure timely disbursement of compensation package.

order. He said, later I joined Indian army and participated in the 1965 and 1971 wars with Pakistan. I was posted in the Chhamb sector in 1971. Indian army gave a tough fight and pushed back the enemy. I feel proud when I recollect those moments.

When asked why his claim had not been approved, Singh said, "I was told my file was incomplete."

Singh is not the only one who is struggling with this tedious exercise of preparing a complete file with relevant records.

In the last more than three years, files of little over three percent families living in Jammu district have been recommended to the Office of Divisional Commissioner for disbursement of relief amount through direct bank transfer.

Official records clearly revealed over 5457 files/families as per old record only 459 files have been received in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Jammu till July 23, 2021.

Out of these 459 files only 174 files i.e. 3.18 percent have been recommended to the office of Divisional Commissioner for disbursement of relief amount while 163 files with objections have been returned to the concerned Tehsiladars.

According to the records, "a total number of 86 files which were found in

Army helicopter crashes into Ranjit Sagar Dam lake

Pilots remain untraceable

PNS ■ JAMMU

Two pilots of the Indian Army's aviation wing remained untraceable after their chopper crashed into Ranjit Sagar dam lake in Basoli area of Kathua Tuesday morning.

This is the second incident involving an ALH Dhruv. On January 25, 2021 an Army pilot was killed after his helicopter crash-landed in Kathua district following a technical snag.

According to official sources, "an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH Dhruv) had taken off from Mamun cantonment on Tuesday morning and while passing through Ranjit Sagar Dam lake it suddenly crashed around 10.30 am."

The depth of the crash site was raised to be over 200 feet.

The helicopter was piloted by two officers of the Indian Army's aviation wing at Mamun cantonment.

Eyewitness accounts claimed the helicopter was flying low and fell suddenly after losing height.

The rescue operations were launched immediately. Local divers of the Indian army accompanied by the NDRF team rushed to the spot to locate the pilots. The rescue teams located the wreckage of the helicopter and also zeroed in on the possible location of the crash. During the day long searches divers faced a tough task to trace the pilots.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) R C Kotwal, while supervising the rescue operations told reporters that the forces and boats were mobilised for the search operation, after which some pieces of chopper were found, confirming it to be an Army helicopter.

Plight of West Pak refugees in J&K

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

An 89-year-old ex-serviceman Pritam Singh, a veteran of 1965 and 1971 wars, is waging a lonely battle along with thousands of others to get a sanctioned amount of compensation announced by the Union Government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2018 for West Pakistan Refugees of 1947.

The compensation package of ₹5.50 lakh per family was announced by the former Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh for West Pakistan Refugees on June 9, 2018.

On August 5, 2019 when the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir was reorganised under Article 370 and 35-A, which granted special status to J&K, were abrogated these refugees celebrated the momentous occasion. As they earned their citizenship rights after a struggle of over 70 years, they hoped for early settlement of compensation claims too were raised.

Ahead of the second anniversary of Abrogation of Article 370 when this correspondent visited the village Chak Jafar near Akshona a large number of West Pakistani Refugees revealed an ugly truth.

"Nothing much has changed for us in the last two years. We continue to receive a meagre monthly treatment at the hands of lower rung officers of the revenue, social welfare and other departments," several refugees narrated their ordeal while attending a monthly meeting in the presence of President of the West Pakistan Refugee Action Committee, Labha Ram Gandhi and other office bearers.

Speaking to The Pioneer, a West Pakistani refugee Pritam Singh said, "So far I have not received my compensation. My file is yet to be approved. The concerned officers have raised some queries. I will try and submit my claim afresh."

Singh said, "In 1947 when I was in my early teens my family migrated from



Ex-serviceman Pritam Singh

order. He said, later I joined Indian army and participated in the 1965 and 1971 wars with Pakistan. I was posted in the Chhamb sector in 1971. Indian army gave a tough fight and pushed back the enemy. I feel proud when I recollect those moments.

When asked why his claim had not been approved, Singh said, "I was told my file was incomplete."

Singh is not the only one who is struggling with this tedious exercise of preparing a complete file with relevant records.

In the last more than three years, files of little over three percent families living in Jammu district have been recommended to the Office of Divisional Commissioner for disbursement of relief amount through direct bank transfer.

Official records clearly revealed over 5457 files/families as per old record only 459 files have been received in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Jammu till July 23, 2021.

Out of these 459 files only 174 files i.e. 3.18 percent have been recommended to the office of Divisional Commissioner for disbursement of relief amount while 163 files with objections have been returned to the concerned Tehsiladars.

According to the records, "a total number of 86 files which were found in



Mohit Kandhari

Covid deaths in Maha rise to 177

A significant drop in the number of Covid-19 fatalities and infections, the daily pandemic deaths rose to 177 in Maharashtra on Tuesday, while the State recorded 6,005 new cases.

A day after the number of deaths dipped to 90 and the infections dropped to a relative low of 4,869, the Covid-19 deaths rose to 177, while the infections registered an increase of 1,136 to reach the daily case tally of 6,005.

With 177 fatalities reported on Tuesday, the total number of deaths in the state increased from 1,33,038 to 1,33,215, while the infections - with 6,005 new cases - climbed from 63,15,063 to 63,21,068.

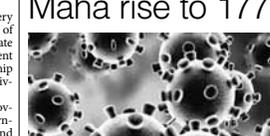
As 6,799 patients were discharged from the hospitals across the state after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March last year increased from 61,03,325 to 61,10,124. The recovery rate in the state dropped from 96.55 per cent to 96.66 per cent.

The total "active cases" in the state dropped from 75,303 to 74,318. The fatality rate in the state stood static at 2.1 per cent.

Pune with 15,552 active cases emerged as the first in the state in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the State, while Sangli with 7,301 stood second, followed by Satara (6,848), Ahmednagar (6,570), Thane (5,982), Kolhapur (5,404), Mumbai (4,996) and Solapur (4,776).

Of the 4,85,323 samples sent to various laboratories across the state so far, 63,21,068 have tested positive (13.02 per cent) for COVID-19 until Tuesday.

Currently, 4,51,971 people are in home quarantine while 3,009 people are in institutional quarantine.



TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

IN SHORT

ARAVALI UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES TO BE RAZED

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday said all unauthorized structures standing on Aravali forest land in Faridabad's Khori village will have to go as its order passed in the matter regarding demolition of such buildings is "very clear". The apex court, which had on July 23 granted four more weeks to the Faridabad municipal corporation to remove encroachments from forest land, asked the commissioner of the civic body to submit a status report which may also include the outcome of representations made before him regarding rehabilitation.

ORDER PROHIBITING USE OF PARK FOR FUNCTION STAYED

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has stayed a National Green Tribunal order prohibiting the use of parks for social, commercial, marriage or other such functions. A bench comprising Justices Indira Banerjee and V Ramasubramanian said however that in exceptional circumstances, the use of parks is permitted for more than 10 days in a month. The order was passed on the petitions filed by the municipal bodies against the February 4 order of the NGT.

Kerala: Surge in cases again after slight relief

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The relief seen all over Kerala by Monday night as the total number of Covid-19 cases saw a dip turned out to be short lived. On Tuesday evening, the office of the Health Minister Veena George wore a sombre as it was officially announced that 23,676 new persons were tested positive for Covid-19 while the disease claimed 148 lives during the last 24 hours which took the death toll in the State till date to 17,103.

The average Test Positivity Rate across the state at 11.27 per cent while there were 323 places with TPR of 15 per cent and above. On Monday, there was some relief all over the State as the day's diagnosis had shown only 13,984 new cases. But on Tuesday, more than 1.9 lakh samples were tested and this threw out more Covid-19 patients.

Malappuram topped the table of localities with the highest number of patients (4,276). The district was followed by neighboring

Thiruvananthapuram (2,908), Ernakulam (2,702), Kozhikode (2,416), Palakkad (2,223) and Kollam (1,826).

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan was presiding over a review meeting at the time of going to Press to take stock of the new situation. It is widely expected that the Government may make alterations in the weekend lockdown which has been slapped for the last two months.

Elsewhere in the State, traders and business community are demanding for a total lifting of the lockdown. The CPI(M)'s leading business baron VKC. Mohammed Koya himself came out in the open asking the LDF Government to relax lockdown rules as this has affected the financial position of the State. More than 100 traders have committed suicide in the State since the lockdown was enforced.

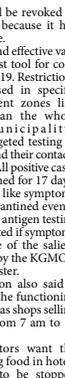
The Kerala Government Medical Officers' Association in a letter addressed to the Chief Minister has suggested that the

lock down should be revoked as early as possible because it has served its purpose.

"Hassle free and effective vaccination is the best tool for containing the Covid-19. Restrictions should be imposed in specific micro containment zones like wards rather than the whole Panchayat/Municipality/ Corporation. Targeted testing of all symptomatic and their contacts must be the rule. All positive cases must be quarantined for 17 days. Those with Covid like symptoms must also be quarantined even if tested negative on antigen testing, as RT-PCR repeated if symptoms persist; are some of the salient points suggested by the KGMOA to the Chief Minister.

The association also said it was for allowing the functioning of markets as well as shops selling essential goods from 7 am to 11 pm.

But the doctors want the practice of serving food in hotels and restaurants to be stopped immediately.



Army personnel train members of the Village Defence Committee at Mendhar in Poonch district on Tuesday

www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

Watch out!

COVID-19 third wave is almost here, so the Govt must take hard decisions right away

Researchers at the Indian Institutes of Technology in Hyderabad and Kanpur predict the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic may hit the country as early as this month. They soften the punch, claiming the wave might be much smaller, peaking in October and at its worst reporting 150,000 infections a day. Compared to the second wave that saw over four lakh new cases a day, the predicted surge of the third wave would certainly be smaller. The issue is whether the country needs a preventive lockdown in August, and what would be the economic implications of such a decision. The clamour about a third wave began ever since the second wave began to abate in July. Thereafter, the States adopted a gradual unlock. As of date, most restrictions have been lifted in the country, except containment zones in some districts with higher positivity rates. Educational institutions are on the verge of re-opening in most States while, in some others, they have been functional for nearly a fortnight. The public transport systems have 100 per cent occupancy rates though they are restricted in cities like Mumbai. The urban, semi-urban and rural commercial and industrial enterprises are back to normal. There is general confidence in the country after the fourth sero survey claimed that antibodies are present in over two-thirds of the population. Add to that the number of recovered people who have antibodies and only 40 crore people are said to be susceptible.



Even if at a slow pace, the number of fully vaccinated people is going up. However, a sense of complacency is also there, with a casual approach to following the safety protocols. Would the IIT prediction of a smaller third wave make the people and the Governments much more complacent? The Government's approach in the first two waves was reactive. In the last two months, it appears to have organised itself, sprucing up medical infrastructure and otherwise preparing to face a fresh wave. The Government needs to take a few decisions right away. One, at what point would the restrictions be re-imposed, before or after the fresh wave hits the country? The argument is that if everybody is anticipating a third wave, why open up businesses, offices, institutions and schools only to close them down in a while? Two, can the decision on restrictions be deferred till experts confirm whether the vaccination and the presence of antibodies have blunted the impact of fresh infections? The argument is, what if the Delta Plus variant, considered more dangerous and easily transmissible, leads the third wave? Three, with schools about to re-open and the children under 18 not vaccinated at all, would not they be most susceptible to the third wave? The pandemic task force advising the Government needs to look at these concerns on a priority basis. The wave prediction exercise can continue but not at the cost of not knowing how to come out of the predicament.

Even if at a slow pace, the number of fully vaccinated people is going up. However, a sense of complacency is also there, with a casual approach to following the safety protocols. Would the IIT prediction of a smaller third wave make the people and the Governments much more complacent? The Government's approach in the first two waves was reactive. In the last two months, it appears to have organised itself, sprucing up medical infrastructure and otherwise preparing to face a fresh wave. The Government needs to take a few decisions right away. One, at what point would the restrictions be re-imposed, before or after the fresh wave hits the country? The argument is that if everybody is anticipating a third wave, why open up businesses, offices, institutions and schools only to close them down in a while? Two, can the decision on restrictions be deferred till experts confirm whether the vaccination and the presence of antibodies have blunted the impact of fresh infections? The argument is, what if the Delta Plus variant, considered more dangerous and easily transmissible, leads the third wave? Three, with schools about to re-open and the children under 18 not vaccinated at all, would not they be most susceptible to the third wave? The pandemic task force advising the Government needs to look at these concerns on a priority basis. The wave prediction exercise can continue but not at the cost of not knowing how to come out of the predicament.

PICTALK



School students at an open-air class for those who can't afford smartphones and internet, in Baranulla

Humanity

Sporting events show us the way to lead a full, meaningful life outside of the playing arena, too

We have grown up hearing "Khelege kudoge, hope kharab...". However, worldly experience has since shown us that the basic sense of humanity stands at a much higher pedestal than education, knowledge and wisdom; also, that it can be gained out of a confined classroom and in spaces as vast and cut-throat as the Olympics. There is nothing more uplifting and inspiring as seeing a person helping a vanquished opponent. Let the body be bruised and defeated, but not the spirit, nor the soul! The latest essay in this life lesson comes from the men's high jump finals event at the Tokyo Olympics. Italy's Gianmarco Tamberi and Qatar's Mutaz-Essa Barshim gave a gold-worthy performance, clearing 2.39 metres with two failed attempts. The referee gave them the option for a jump-off, to which Barshim asked if they could share the gold medal (Tamberi had the short straw in the sense that he was injured by then). So they shared not only the yellow metal but also the jubilation of each other's nation. This was the first time since 1912 that a gold medal was shared in athletics.

Cut to 1936 Berlin Olympics: Silver claimants Shuhei Nishida and Sueto Oe cut their medals in half to create two new 'medals of friendship' of half silver, half bronze. There are moments galore when sportspersons have stopped to lend a shoulder to their crashed competitors. Like this runner at a mega event posed for another runner, who had taken a wrong detour in a marathon and so lasted seconds, before following him to the finish line. He could have easily grabbed a medal but he said: "My mother wouldn't have approved of that." This is the spirit that the world needs to imbibe, especially in the times of the pernicious COVID-19 virus, when it is important for all to survive for each one of us to live. Nobody can live in isolation. Like the ancient theorem of "vasudhaiva kutumbakam", we swim together or we sink together; there is no other option, there is no room for greed or upmanship. To sum it up, Tamberi said: "He is one of my best friends, not only on track but outside of it, too. This is a dream come true. It is the true spirit, the sportsman spirit, and we are here to deliver this message." Well said. Let's go, world!

Uttar Pradesh under Yogi is making waves



PRAFULL GORADIA

From being derided as a 'Bimaru' State since Independence, it has come a long way and is now attracting significant investment

India's largest State Uttar Pradesh and also its most vibrant, politically speaking, has moved in the field of development the fastest. Be it in the layout of highways, appointments to Government services, providing employment to the State's vast population, increasing investments, law and order, encouragement to tourism and pilgrimage as well as expanding the small and medium enterprises sector, Uttar Pradesh is making waves.

All these years since Independence, one has never heard that the largest State of the country had ever moved significantly in the area of development. It is surprising that New Delhi did not bother, perhaps ignoring the fact that UP is one-fifth of India. If, therefore, UP leaps in progress, the country races ahead in terms of development. Evidently, for the powers-that-be in India's *rajdhani*, UP was treated as a bank of 84 Lok Sabha seats (80 now) and a sure-shot ticket to parliamentary majority at the Centre, but nothing more. In fact, the head of a former ruling dynasty was reported to have voiced an opinion in favour of keeping Uttar Pradesh backward fragmented as that alone could help maintain this particular dynasty maintain its hegemony on power at the Centre!

Uttar Pradesh today, in 2021, is a vastly changed place. From the lowest of most economic indices, the State today has moved to becoming India's second richest in terms of gross state domestic product (GSDP), which for the State stands at \$268 billion (financial year 2020-21 figure), behind only Maharashtra now. This, under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has been an achievement that has been clocked despite the ravages of COVID-19. In the case of doing business, a crucial global benchmark anywhere, UP, which languished at 16th position in the country in 2016, has moved up to the second rank among Indian States.

Law and order, the most important prerequisite for any developmental activity to flower, was never a strong suite in Uttar Pradesh before Adityanath took over. Any economic or capital investment in the State remained



a dream. The scenario after Yogi's coming to office in March 2017 is a sharp contrast. Over the past four and a half years, 137 criminals have been liquidated in police action, while close to 3,000 criminals were injured; nearly 37,000 accused have been booked under the Gangster Act and over 500 under the National Security Act. The Yogi administration has also hit criminals hard by targeting their finances in the Government's drive against the mafia, their illicit property worth approximately ₹1,580 crore has either been attached or demolished. Along with action against the mafia, Adityanath has also provided protection to witnesses. Vastly improved law and order has begun to pay off in the realm of development. Here, too, figures speak for themselves. The State's industrial development data reveals that over the years, UP has received investment proposals worth ₹66,000 crore from both foreign and local investors. The administration has been acting quickly on these proposals. More to the point, companies from Japan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, the UK, the US and South Korea are lining up to invest in UP; one

company has even returned from China to set up operations in Agra. It is also significant that Yogi's Government is ensuring that the flow of investment is not restricted to the bigger cities, it is being channelled to smaller towns like Etah, Amroha, Mirzapur, and so on. Yogi has adopted an investor-friendly policy. Apart from the fresh proposals for investment, MoUs worth ₹4.68 lakh crore have been signed at investor summits, of which 571 proposals worth close to ₹3 lakh crore are already functional, generating employment for up to 5 lakh people. Here, one must mention the work being done by the State Government on the defence industrial manufacturing corridor, which has already drawn in up to 14 MoUs. The aim is to transform UP into a hub of capital-intensive manufacturing, which the defence industry invariably entails. For farmers, a community very much in the news these days, have much to be happy about under Yogi's rule. Development schemes and programmes for their long-term success also need the modernisation and expansion of the rural economy to be robust. And the rural economy, of course, includes farmers. Adityanath's transparent

policy of wheat and paddy purchase, as also his continuous supervision of purchase centres, has been successful. Take paddy, for instance, the State Government has purchased a record 60 lakh metric tonnes of the crop against a slated target of 55 lakh metric tonnes. Payments made to the State's farmers have been touching new records as well. The Chief Minister has accelerated his efforts to double the income of the State's farmers. Nearly ₹33,000 crore have been transferred to the accounts of about 3 crore farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, plus separate transfers under crop insurance schemes. The modernisation and expansion of 20 sugar mills in the State, along with the reopening of the Pipraich, Munderwa and Ramnagar sugar mills, is a significant milestone in the administration's agriculture policy. Uttar Pradesh under Yogi is clearly not the "Bimaru" State it was once derided as, under earlier dispensations that only milked the State politically.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)



UTTAR PRADESH TODAY, IN 2021, IS A VASTLY CHANGED PLACE. FROM THE BACKWATERS OF MOST ECONOMIC INDICES, THE STATE TODAY HAS MOVED TO BECOMING INDIA'S SECOND RICHEST IN TERMS OF GROSS STATE DOMESTIC PRODUCT, WHICH FOR THE STATE STANDS AT \$268 BILLION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INDIA'S DAUGHTERS ARE CREATING HISTORY

Sir—India's performance in the Tokyo Olympics so far has been in the name of India's daughters. The journey started with Mirabai Chhanu's silver medal, progressing further with PV Sindhu's bronze medal and then women's hockey team defeating Australia to reach the semifinals for the first time. It seems that the daughters of this country have taken the responsibility of making the country proud; this is the changing identity of India. Sushil Kumar was the first Indian to set a record of winning two medals in two consecutive Olympics. He is still the only player to win two Olympic medals in men's individual events. Sushil Kumar won bronze and silver medals at the Beijing Olympics 2008 and the London Olympics in 2012, respectively, when he won in the 66-kg freestyle category. So, in the same vein, women's hockey team has made it to the semifinals for the first time by defeating Australia. Many congratulations to PV Sindhu! She has given the country a chance to be proud, and we hope the women's hockey team will do the same. Devanand Ray | Delhi

THE GOVERNMENT VS THE OPPOSITION

Sir—The conditions seem to be ripe for the Opposition to intensify its attacks on the Modi Government and mount a fresh challenge to its misrule. The Opposition is at its most vibrant and energetic confidence. It uses issues like the mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic, the unprecedented fuel price hike, the new farm laws and the Pegasus phone hacking scandal as rods to beat the Government with. The blows seriously hurt the Government as the concerns raised by the Opposition over these issues are shared by the general public. The current climate of opinion is tilted in favour of the Opposition. The race rally by the Opposition MPs, led by Rahul Gandhi to protest the runaway price hike of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinders, obviously struck a chord with the common people. Fuel price hike that has now

No kneejerk reaction, please



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Meghalaya Minister Sanbor Shullai is urging people of his State to eat more beef than chicken, mutton and fish. This is not the first such instance in the Christian-dominated Meghalaya. In 2017, Bernard Marak, a BJP leader from Garo Hills, had promised to reduce the price of beef if his party was elected to power in the Meghalaya Assembly. People are fully aware, as a Hindu party, of the BJP's problem with beef and cattle slaughter. But here also the BJP has played some give-and-take regarding banning both the sale and consump-

tion of beef or even cattle slaughter in the majority of the BJP-ruled States, and has made exemptions in its crusade against beef (in Goa and the northeast). On the poll trail, Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the UP Government of promoting a "pink revolution", slaughtering our "mother cow" and exporting meat. Interestingly, India continues to be the world's largest exporter of beef, 70 per cent of it buffalo meat. In the current economic condition, Sanbor Shullai is urging the State's people to eat more beef because it is cheaper than chicken and fish and is a staple for the poorer communities. Why not, when Swami Vivekananda himself points out: "There was a time in this very India when, without eating beef, no Brahmin could remain a Brahmin; you read in the Vedas how, when a *saryasin*, a king or a great man came into a house, the best bullock was killed; how in time it was found that as we were an agricultural race, killing the best bulls meant annihilation of the race. Therefore, the practice was stopped." Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

before unacceptable for many people is no sign of *afache din*. The Pegasus issue has put the Government on the defensive. Its adamant refusal to agree to a structured debate on the issue in the presence of the Prime Minister and a probe by a JPC or a sitting Supreme Court judge has deepened suspicions. The Government cannot just wish Pegasus row away by just dismissing it as a "non-issue" or as a "manufactured issue". Illegal snooping is a serious issue, its chilling effect on the right to free speech is obvious. Modi has described the disruptions in Parliament as an "insult to democracy". It is in his power to end them by acceding to the just demand of the Opposition. G David Milton | Tamil Nadu

EVEN ALLIES ARE CRITICISING GOVT

Sir—Both Chief Minister Nitish Kumar became the first NDA ally to echo the Opposition's demand for a probe into the

sensational Pegasus snoopage and discussion in Parliament. All this is happening due to the misuse of modern technology. At a time when the BJP is busy stonewalling a Parliament debate on Pegasus, saying IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has already made his statement in both Houses, Nitish Kumar's divergent position has set the cat among the pigeons. The Opposition wants the presence of either Prime Minister Narendra Modi or Union Home Minister Amit Shah during the debate. In recent weeks, Nitish Kumar has not aligned himself with the NDA on important issues like caste census. Even the appointment of Munger MP Rajiv Ranjan alias Lalan Singh as the JD(U) member in Bihar was an attempt to nibble into the BJP's core traditional Bhumiwar vote bank in Bihar. Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

If the Opposition is demanding a probe in the Pegasus phone tapping case, it is a serious issue. The Government should initiate an inquiry.

Former Bihar Chief Minister — Jitan Ram Manjhi

An imported, hasty peace process not only failed to bring peace but created doubt and ambiguity among Afghans.

Alghan President — Ashraf Ghani

If (Girls Will Be Girls) is a fresh and feminist story, and I believe Shuchi is a new voice in Indian cinema.

Actor-scriptwriter — Richa Chadha

This is not only my first Olympics, but also my first championships. I am so excited to represent my country at this level.

American equestrian rider — Jessica Rae Springsteen

The salary of Delhi's MLAs hasn't increased since 2011 and the Delhi Government has requested the MHA that it should be at par with MLAs of other States.

Delhi Chief Minister — Arvind Kejriwal

FIRST COLUMN CITIZENS, MSMEs IN LOAN DEFAULT CRISIS

Several loans are linked as individuals unable to pay one loan take recourse to the other



SHIVAJI SARKAR

There is more to the COVID-19 menace as it leads to a dreadful rise of a whopping ₹66-lakh crore in personal loan defaults in the country. This is in addition to the accumulated MSME debts of ₹2.26 lakh crore. Several individuals are facing auctions by banks and financial institutions. The MSMEs are facing temporary or permanent closure and yet seeking more loans to survive. Personal debts stand at ₹27.86 lakh crore and people are finding it difficult to repay. Another ₹14.64 lakh crore accounts for individual housing loans, ₹2.38 lakh crore in vehicle loans, credit card dues total ₹1.02 lakh crore. People are also unable to repay education loans of ₹62.720 crore and loans against jewellery worth ₹62.221 crore. The education, housing, and jewellery loans are often linked to each other, as individuals unable to pay one loan take recourse to the other. Often, none of them is fully repaid, revealing the poor economic status of the loanees. The people also suffer from high taxation. Most of them, except for a small segment, are income-tax payers. As



their deposits are being eroded by tax deduction at source (TDS) on major interest earnings, the national crisis deepens. Many of them compromise on their food intake. The debts are affecting the banking, F&I, and non-banking (NBFC) sectors. There are calls for a drastic income-tax reduction. If that happens, it can help many sectors coming out of difficult situations and help banks reduce their NPAs. Fitch Ratings indicate the NBFCs facing near-term pressure as "non-performing loans (bad loans) are likely to rise as renewed activity restrictions have impaired borrower repayment capacity". The woes of individuals, small businesses, and others surviving on small incomes may multiply as banks and financial institutions plan tough recovery drives.

The lending institutions may start auctioning their pawned gold, vehicles, and other assets just as the festival season begins. This might mar festivities and create social and political problems. The F&I put off selling or auctioning the collaterals during the pandemic but now they are finding their survival difficult and some like HDFC and Axis are indulging in allegedly unethical means to shore up their cash books. Both these banks have been penalized for this. The ICICI is mulling the auction of pawned jewellery and vehicles. Jewellery loans indicate that households are in dire straits and rising numbers of suicides could be linked to people's deteriorating financial conditions. The fall in sales of FMCG goods sells or vehicles also reflects the worsening situation. The political thinkers are yet to mull over this grave situation. MSME minister Nitin Gadkari told the Rajya Sabha about a Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) study on the pandemic impact on micro-units under the PM Employment Guarantee Programme (PMEGP) revealing that 88 per cent of the beneficiaries were "negatively affected" by the pandemic. The private insurance sector is in a shambles. The sale of the LIC banks and LIC to the private sector cannot be a welcome step as it further adds to the deterioration of the economy and leads to bigger job losses. The entertainment, cinema included, and education sectors are also in deep crisis. Many cosmetic programmes, incentivisations, loans, and even direct benefit transfers, surprisingly, are not boosting the economy. The economic contours have to change, free from Manmohanomics, and a new economy needs to be conceived with discussions with all stakeholders and political parties. The post-demonetisation downfall has to be stemmed for the country to become an effective power. It has to begin with empowering the individual in real financial terms, including a cut in taxes.

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

Street-connected kids in pandemic's shadow

It is time to improve the quality of life of street-connected children who continue to be one of the most vulnerable sections of the society



SURINA NARULA

The multiple and complex challenges we face today because of the COVID-19 pandemic have fallen hard on children who live, work or play in the streets and are known as street-connected children. For them, it is often impossible to follow the basic guidelines to "stay at home" and "wash your hands". It is also difficult for them to access food, water, and medical services if they fall ill. In addition, they are at risk of being detained for being out during the lockdown or curfew.

The authorities say they are providing help. For example, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been distributing food to street-connected children and vulnerable families in the Indian capital. In other cities too, local governments and charities have been doing the same. However, the situation with street-connected children on the ground is very different. Sanjay Gupta works with street-connected children through CHETNA (Childhood Enhancement Through Training and Action), a grass-roots Indian NGO. He says that the scale of the problem is daunting and that many children are invisible because they live away from the main roads and in areas that are not accessible. He wants essential service passes to be made for his workers during COVID lockdowns as they work round the clock to try and reach these children whom the government cannot reach.

The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) is an international global network with more than 150 organisations, researchers, and practitioners across 135 countries that have been working since 1990 to protect the rights of street-connected children and making their voices heard at key forums. In its early days, the biggest challenge CSC faced was getting acknowledgement of the very fact that street-connected children exist. In the 1990s, many governments did not acknowledge them or recognise who they were. In many countries with dictatorial governments, they were actually shot to clean the streets! It took a lot of persuasion and pressure on governments through diplomats in the UK to stop such practices. Being one of the founders of CSC, I had personally attended a lot of these meetings for securing funding and holding workshops with the police in Latin America to stop treating these children with such cruelty among other issues.

It took many years to get the term "street-connected children" accepted and included in common parlance. It is now widely used to describe children who depend on the streets for their survival. It does not matter whether these children have parents or some kind of support outside the street situation; it is important to understand that once they are on the streets, they are vulnerable. Along with these workshops and conferences over the past 20 years, CSC has also been working on long-term goals of making street-connected children visible on global platforms



WE MUST TAKE URGENT STEPS TO BETTER PROTECT CHILDREN IN THE COMING MONTHS AND YEARS. A COORDINATED, CONSOLIDATED EFFORT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS AND ALL SEGMENTS OF THE SOCIETY MUST BE PART OF THE RECOVERY PROCESS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATIONS. WE CANNOT AND MUST NOT LEAVE THEM BEHIND

(The writer is the Co-founder of Consortium for Street Children and The DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. The views expressed are personal.)



by pushing policy interventions that address the discrimination these children face on a daily basis by empowering them and improving the quality of their lives.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty that promises to protect and fulfill the rights of every child. There was never any mention of street-connected children in this convention. After many consultations with NGOs and street-connected children across the world, CSC finally managed to convince the UN to include a general comment on street-connected children in this convention. This comment gives all those working with street-connected children a high-level tool to hold their governments accountable for not adhering to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In the words of the UN:

"The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child provides authoritative guidance to States on developing comprehensive, long-term national strategies on children in street situations using a holistic, child rights approach and addressing both prevention and response in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child." The obligation of States towards children in street situations is defined quite comprehensively in this comment. This is already being implemented in a small number of countries.

While global alliances like CSC and the efforts of local grassroots community organizations and non-government bodies attempted to improve the lives of these children,

the present reality is that the COVID-19 pandemic has suddenly and severely deteriorated their condition. The need for rebuilding much more resilient societies and frameworks that protect and empower them could not be more vital than it is now. We must take urgent steps to better protect children in the coming months and years. A coordinated, consolidated effort is required for this and all segments of the society must be part of the recovery process. This is particularly important for children in street situations. We cannot and must not leave them behind and must ensure that all children are being counted and included in our visions of the future. In other words, we must have policies and laws that ensure that street-connected children are guaranteed the same rights as every other child, so that they can live with dignity, safety, and security. The pandemic threatens to set back the realisation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which go to the heart of children's rights, their well-being, and their development. We must act urgently to avoid this. As responsible citizens, we should identify the NGOs in our area working with these children and provide help in kind or cash as we see fit, guide them and participate in their outreach activities. In the meantime, we also need to put pressure on our governments and policy makers to implement the general comment related to street-connected children in more countries. The Consortium for Street Children, with generous funding

from Abbvie, has been providing crucial support to street-connected children and has helped them access the services, information, and legal protection they need throughout the pandemic. It has provided basic healthcare facilities, hospital care, essential medicines, and mental health counselling to street-connected children during the outbreak of the pandemic.

In India, Abbvie has partnered with CHETNA along with two other organisations and provided relief packages including dry food, health/hygiene kits, and basic supplies to 750 families of street-connected children who have been hardest hit by the lockdowns or are at the highest risk from COVID-19. These relief packages are making a difference on the ground as each package can sustain a family of six for two weeks. CHETNA has also provided educational support and materials to 300 children for remote home learning.

While international networks like the Consortium for Street Children and NGOs like CHETNA are making a tangible difference, the time has now come for each one of us to contribute in our spheres of influence to improve the quality of life of street-connected children who continue to be one of the most vulnerable sections of the society.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

NOBODY IN THE GOVERNMENT IS LISTENING. SO WE HAVE DECIDED TO GET TOGETHER: THE OPPOSITION IS UNITED.
— CONGRESS LEADER MALLIKARJUN KHARGE



THE CONDUCT OF THE OPPOSITION IS AN INSULT TO PARLIAMENT AND THE CONSTITUTION... (CERTAIN) COMMENTS ARE DEROGATORY.
— PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

Mamata's Opposition unity Delhi errand

Her strategy is to first unite the Opposition parties, then find a suitable narrative acceptable to all and finally think of a leader

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee made a whirlwind trip to Delhi last week, for another attempt to unite the opposition parties. She met all the right people and made adequate noise about the eluding opposition unity. Will she be able to succeed where others have failed? She is all but ready to challenge Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the 2024 polls.



KALYANI SHANKAR

It is not her first attempt to unite the opposition. She tried to forge a third front ahead of the 2019 general elections but did not succeed. The Opposition bloc also lacked a face to pit against Modi. Above all, without Congress, there cannot be a government, arithmetically.

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

started early, almost three years before the next Lok Sabha polls. "Nothing can be done by a doctor who comes after the patient has died. The patient can be saved if treatment is given on time. Now is your time. The more time you waste all the more the situation will worsen," Banerjee said. She wants to expand her winning slogan "Khela Hobe" as a national slogan.

No doubt, after winning West Bengal for the third time in a row, Mamata Banerjee's stature has gone up. She has dropped enough hints to show that she is now ready for a national role. It is to prepare for this role she came to Delhi. Her poll strategist Prashant Kishore prepared the ground before her arrival. Mamata declared that "regional parties



will lead the nation, we will not bow down before anyone anymore, the time has come".

One of the biggest challenges before the opposition is to show a united face against the BJP before the 2024 polls. There are too many regional chieftains claiming to be the face of the opposition. Mamata has belted the cat once again. Mamata also understands now that without Congress, there can be no opposition front. Arithmetically, it is difficult to form a government.

Gandhi is still not ready.

The second problem is that the regional satraps are not keen to accept Rahul as their leader. Congress is not willing to consider any regional chief as the leader. Some parties like the BJP, Samajwadi Party, and Bahujan Samaj Party are neutral. That is why it is not easy to visualize a united opposition emerging before 2024.

Mamata has set off speculation whether she could be the catalyst to unite the opposition parties. She has good relations with many regional satraps. They include Sharad Pawar of Nationalist Congress Party, Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik, Telangana chief minister K. Chandrababbar Naidu, besides Andhra Pradesh chief minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, and Delhi chief minister

Arvind Kejriwal.

During her current visit, Mamata seems to have made up her mind to project herself as a mature leader who is more courteous to a bitter political enemy. This was evident when she called on the Prime Minister. The photograph showing Mamata greeting the Prime Minister with folded hands and a bowing Modi has gone viral.

In her interaction with the national media also, she spoke along similar lines. She kept the media guessing with her one-liners. She said, "I think all these will happen automatically. I am hopeful" and "I will not lead, the country will lead... We are all followers", etc.

In her speech, Banerjee took her winning slogan "Khela Hobe" (Game On) to the national stage and declared that "Khela" would happen in all States before the 2024 elections. This slogan is to underline that it is possible to defeat the BJP.

The opposition sees a possibility of building up a narrative before the next Lok Sabha polls and the upcoming Assembly elections in many States. She said: "In politics, there are times together for the sake of the country. This is that time."

Whatever may be the outcome, Modi is determined to be in the game. She has defined the fight as the country versus Narendra Modi. Her strategy is to first unite the opposition parties and then find a suitable narrative acceptable to all and think of a leader later.

Sensex soars 873 pts to new peak

NIFTY SCALES 16K FOR 1ST TIME

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex skyrocketed 873 points to a fresh closing peak while the Nifty finished above the 16,000-mark for the first time on Tuesday as economic recovery hopes triggered across the board buying.

Investors grew richer by ₹2.30 lakh crore, with market capitalisation of all BSE-listed reaching a lifetime high of ₹2,40,04,664.28 crore.

Rising for the second straight session, the 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex ended 873.73 points or 1.65 per cent higher at its fresh closing record of 53,823.36.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rallied 245.60 points or 1.55 per cent to an all-time

peak of 16,130.75.

Titan was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, spurring 3.89 per cent, followed by HDFC, Nestle India, IndusInd Bank, UltraTech Cement, Bharti Airtel and SBI.

Only three index components finished in the red - Bajaj Auto, Tata Steel and NTPC, shedding up to 0.33 per cent.

"Bulls pulled off the 16,000 mark on the Nifty effortlessly buoyed by positive news flow on GST and export data as domestic fund houses poured ₹280 billion during the first four months of the current fiscal," said S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP Securities.

The country's exports grew 47.19 per cent to the "highest ever monthly figure" of USD 35.17 billion in July on account of healthy growth in petroleum, engineering, and gems and

Market capitalisation of BSE-listed cos surge to record high of ₹240 lakh cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies jumped to a record high of ₹2,40,04,664.28 crore on Tuesday, driven by a rally in stocks that also saw the benchmark Sensex touching

jewellery segments, as per official data released post-market hours on Monday.

The journey past 16,000 quite clearly has been by the retail investors who have allocated more into equities even as FII's sold worth ₹95 billion

its lifetime peak of 53,887.98 points.

Rallying for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, the 30-share BSE index closed at a fresh closing peak of 53,823.36 points, a jump of 873.73 points or 1.65 per cent.

"The present rally is all the more significant since it provides enough opportunities to the new investor coming in now as several pockets of the economy still offer value going forward," he added.

IT services industry growth to accelerate in FY22, profit margins to moderate: ICRA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

IT services companies are expected to grow in revenue, driven by robust demand for digital technologies resulting in higher awards of contracts, according to ratings agency ICRA.

Further, the growth in the financial year 2021-22 will be supported by the pent-up demand of the financial year 2020-21 that was lower due to the initial impact of Covid-19.

Gaurav Jain, Vice President and Sector Head at ICRA, said IT services companies have managed to overcome supply-side challenges through uninterrupted delivery of services through the work-from-home model.

"As a silver lining, the pandemic is accelerating the secular trends of core modernisation, usage of collaborative technologies, and cloud migration as companies shift to digital business models to pursue work-from-home models, which will benefit IT services companies," he added.

In January-June 2021, traditional sourcing witnessed an annual contract value (ACV) of USD 15.2 billion, up by about 15 per cent on a year-on-year basis, owing to accelerated demand for digital technologies, Jain said.



BRIEFS

MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION GRANTS DRONE USE PERMISSION TO DULB, HARYANA

New Delhi: Ministry of Civil Aviation (MCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have granted conditional exemption from Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2021 to Directorate of Urban Local Bodies (DULB), Haryana. The exemption has been allowed for data acquisition, mapping, and implementation of web-based GIS platform for development of AMRUT cities and property tax survey for Hissar, Panchkula, Ambala urban areas. This exemption is valid for a period of one year from the date of approval or until further orders, whichever is earlier and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the SOP issued by DGCA.

AFGHANISTAN AMBASSADOR CALLS ON CM GEHLOT

Jalpur: The Ambassador of Afghanistan to India, Fareed Mamundzi, called on Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Monday at the Chief Minister's residence. This was his courtesy call on Mr. Gehlot. During this, the Chief Minister discussed the close historical ties and cultural exchange between India and Afghanistan in the context of Rajasthan with Mr. Fareed Mamundzi. Mr. Mamundzi described India's cooperation in the development of peace and infrastructure in Afghanistan as important.

ARUN ARORA APPOINTED EASTERN RLY GM

Appointment Committee of the Cabinet have approved the appointment of Arun Arora as General Manager Eastern Rly. He is the top officer of IRMSE 1984 batch. Prior to this appointment, he was posted as Additional Member (AM) Rly Board since October 2020 and was handling the important work charges of AM/Environment & AM/Mechanical Engineering. During his distinguished career spanning over 35 years, he has successfully handled many important & challenging assignments which include Principal Chief Engineer/ Northern Railway the largest zone of IR & Divisional Railway Manager/ Delhi, the biggest division of IR. In addition, some other diverse key assignments include Chief Rolling Stock Engineer/Operations & Freight/ N.Rly, CTO/DFCCIL, Director Mechanical Engineering/ Freight/Rly Board, Chief Public Relations Officer/ Rly & Deputy Secretary in Ministry of Steel & Mines.

VODAFONE IDEA SHARES FALL OVER 10 PC

New Delhi: Shares of Vodafone Idea on Tuesday fell over 10 per cent after reports that Airtel Birla group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla has offered to hand over his stake in debt-laden VIL to the government entities to keep the company operational. The stock plunged 10.30 per cent to close at ₹740 on the BSE. During the day, it tumbled 13.09 per cent to ₹717 - its 52-week low. At the NSE, it closed at ₹740, lower by 10.30 per cent. The billionaire businessman made the offer in June in a letter to Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba. According to official data, VIL had an adjusted gross revenue (AGR) liability of ₹58,254 crore out of which the company has paid ₹7,854.37 crore and ₹50,399.63 crore is outstanding.

Average annual revenue collection from tobacco products stands at ₹ 53,750 cr: FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday told the Rajya Sabha that the average annual revenue collection, including GST and excise duty, from tobacco products, stands at about ₹53,750 crore.

In reply to a question, the minister also said the GST rates, including compensation cess rates, on goods are fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the GST Council.

Answering supplementary questions, she said many non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and consumer education forums have suggested to increase levies on tobacco products considering the health impact.

"In the GST Council, we have formed a Group of Ministers (GoM). It has been given the terms of reference to see if on the capacity of introducing unit, where evasion is high, we can consider looking at an increase in the price.

"Such items like tobacco have also been put in that list... We will wait for the GoM to come back with its recom-

mendations," she said.

Prasanna Acharya (Biju Janata Dal) had asked her if the central government will put the proposal in the GST Council for increasing tax on tobacco.

In the written reply, Sitharaman said the average annual revenue collection (based on the last three years) including GST, compensation cess, excise duty and national calamity and contingent duty (NCCD) from tobacco products, is about ₹53,750 crore.

She also said excise duty and NCCD on tobacco products are levied by the central government and there is no proposal at present for imposition of any additional duty.

NBFCs' NPAs to rise 1% in FY22, recast loans to double: Report

Mumbai: Non-bank lenders' non-performing assets ratio will slip by up to 1 percentage point and the ratio of the loans recast will double to 3.3 per cent in FY22, domestic rating agency ICRa said. It attributed the asset quality impact largely to the reverses of the second wave of the pandemic, which has hit the collection efficiency in business activity, the collections are improving and will offer some succour to the financiers as the fiscal year progresses, it said, adding that it has a "negative" outlook on the sector.

"Notwithstanding the near-term pressures, the net increase (adjusting for write-offs) in the 90+ days (days past due) in the current fiscal is expected to be about 50.1 per cent. ICRa draws comfort from the provisions maintained by the entities, which continue to remain about 1 per cent higher than the pre-Covid levels."

With the abatement of the pandemic and the resumption in business activity, the collections are improving and will offer some succour to the financiers as the fiscal year progresses, it said, adding that it has a "negative" outlook on the sector.

"Notwithstanding the near-term pressures, the net increase (adjusting for write-offs) in the 90+ days (days past due) in the current fiscal is expected to be about 50.1 per cent. ICRa draws comfort from the provisions maintained by the entities, which continue to remain about 1 per cent higher than the pre-Covid levels."

With the abatement of the pandemic and the resumption in business activity, the collections are improving and will offer some succour to the financiers as the fiscal year progresses, it said, adding that it has a "negative" outlook on the sector.

Digital deals to propel IT sector revenues

Mumbai: Indian IT services companies are likely to post a 9-12 per cent revenue growth in USD terms in FY22, helped by the strong demand for digital deals, a report said on Tuesday.

However, the same will not translate into profits, because higher salaries will result in the operating profit margins for the same set of companies to come at 23 per cent from 24.2 per cent in FY21, domestic rating agency ICRa said.

The IT sector is one of the few sectors that have not been deeply impacted by the pandemic.

Fixing floor prices critical amid telecom stress in telecom: COAI

New Delhi: Industry body COAI on Tuesday contended that the government should absolutely critical and need of the hour, given the "major financial stress" in the telecom industry. The association - comprising operators going through major financial stress - S P Kochhar, director-general of Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI), said in a statement.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Board of Directors of the company has resolved to issue the following:

1. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

2. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

3. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

4. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

5. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

6. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

7. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

8. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

9. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

10. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Board of Directors of the company has resolved to issue the following:

1. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

2. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

3. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

4. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

5. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

6. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

7. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

8. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

9. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

10. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

Lost & Found

I. Dewan Dip Raj Kapoor holding 200 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each of Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) bearing No. 100051. This is to inform you that the following share certificate has been lost and replaced by the company. The original share certificate is hereby cancelled. The details are as follows: Name: Dewan Dip Raj Kapoor; No. of Shares: 200; Face Value: Rs. 2000/-; Serial No.: 100051. The company is not responsible for any loss or damage to the original share certificate. The details are as follows: Name: Dewan Dip Raj Kapoor; No. of Shares: 200; Face Value: Rs. 2000/-; Serial No.: 100051. The company is not responsible for any loss or damage to the original share certificate.

CAPRI GLOBAL CAPITAL LIMITED

Registered & Company Secretary: New Delhi-110005

Office: Capri Global Capital Limited 2nd Floor, 38 Raja Park Road, New Delhi-110005

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMovable PROPERTY

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Capri Global Capital Limited (CGCL) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Demand Notices issued by the Authorized Officer of the Company's (Guarantor's) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the said Demand Notices from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's (Guarantor's) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (12) of the Section 13 of the said Act and read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. 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. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of CGCL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantors	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice & Amount	Date of Possession
1.	CGCL/DELHI/000004330 of our Punjab Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Ground Floor (Part) and Entire First Floor of Property No. 16, Area measuring 175 sq. Yds., Block-D, 2nd, Model Town, Delhi-110029 Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 5,05,45,930/-	29-07-2021
2.	Shashi Gupta, Kamal Gupta, Ashok Gupta (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 9-A area measuring 266 Sq. Yds. Out of Khazana No. 174/2001, Sitapur Nagar Village, Mohali, Punjab, India. Delhi-110053.	₹. 1,80,55,191/-	29-07-2021
3.	Om Prakash, Suresh Kumar, Yogender Kumar, Deveswar Kumar, Vinod Kumar, Kamal Gupta (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Built-Up Property/Plot No. 122/10, measuring 70 Sq. Yds., out of Khazana No. 49, situated at Village Ghonaia alongwith the back of Ghonaia Gali, Model Town, Delhi-110029. Delhi-110053. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 51,75,120/-	29-07-2021
4.	CGCL/DELHI/000015129 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Built-Up Property/Plot No. 122/10, measuring 70 Sq. Yds., out of Khazana No. 49, situated at Village Ghonaia alongwith the back of Ghonaia Gali, Model Town, Delhi-110029. Delhi-110053. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 51,75,120/-	29-07-2021
5.	CGCL/DELHI/000015599 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 5-B, area measuring 50 Sq. Yds. out of Khazana No. 21/13, Village Najafgarh, abadi known as Dharampara Colony, Block, Najafgarh, Delhi-110043. Bounded As North, Plot No. 5 South, Plot No. 6 East, Plot No. 5-West, Road: 20 Feet.	₹. 50,05,678/-	29-07-2021
6.	CGCL/DELHI/000003599 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of One Shop and Store on Ground Floor having area measuring 20.80 sq. Yds. Built up on Property No. 4815-A, Main Road, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 38,28,091/-	29-07-2021
7.	CGCL/DELHI/000003599 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of One Shop and Store on Ground Floor having area measuring 20.80 sq. Yds. Built up on Property No. 4815-A, Main Road, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 38,28,091/-	29-07-2021
8.	CGCL/DELHI/000010004 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Built-Up Free Hold Property on Ground Floor with its roof terrace, measuring 20.80 sq. Yds. Built up on Property No. 4815-A, Main Road, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 26,60,835/-	29-07-2021
9.	CGCL/DELHI/000006375 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Built-Up Free Hold Property on Ground Floor with its roof terrace, measuring 20.80 sq. Yds. Built up on Property No. 4815-A, Main Road, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 20,64,756/-	29-07-2021
10.	CGCL/DELHI/000003432 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of First Floor without Roof terrace measuring 67.50 sq. Yds. Built up on Plot No. W/7-59, New No. A-59, Abada No. 25, Khazana No. 4068/27/40/597 situated at Sudeshnagar Extension, New Delhi-110053. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 20,57,394/-	29-07-2021
11.	CGCL/DELHI/000007086 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 382, area measuring 40 Sq. Yds., Ward No. 4, Part of Khazana No. 1151/3, Saffar wall Gali, Motilal, New Delhi-110030. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both. Bounded as follows: East: Gali West: Gali and Property No. 257/01, out of Chawk, Gali and Property South: Gali.	₹. 21,90,904/-	29-07-2021
12.	CGCL/DELHI/000007441 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 382, area measuring 40 Sq. Yds., Ward No. 4, Part of Khazana No. 1151/3, Saffar wall Gali, Motilal, New Delhi-110030. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both. Bounded as follows: East: Gali West: Gali and Property No. 257/01, out of Chawk, Gali and Property South: Gali.	₹. 22,99,622/-	29-07-2021
13.	CGCL/DELHI/000003432 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of First Floor without Roof terrace measuring 67.50 sq. Yds. Built up on Plot No. W/7-59, New No. A-59, Abada No. 25, Khazana No. 4068/27/40/597 situated at Sudeshnagar Extension, New Delhi-110053. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both.	₹. 20,57,394/-	29-07-2021
14.	CGCL/DELHI/000007086 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 382, area measuring 40 Sq. Yds., Ward No. 4, Part of Khazana No. 1151/3, Saffar wall Gali, Motilal, New Delhi-110030. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both. Bounded as follows: East: Gali West: Gali and Property No. 257/01, out of Chawk, Gali and Property South: Gali.	₹. 21,90,904/-	29-07-2021
15.	CGCL/DELHI/000007441 of our Patna Branch (Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 382, area measuring 40 Sq. Yds., Ward No. 4, Part of Khazana No. 1151/3, Saffar wall Gali, Motilal, New Delhi-110030. Alongwith Construction Present and Future both. Bounded as follows: East: Gali West: Gali and Property No. 257/01, out of Chawk, Gali and Property South: Gali.	₹. 22,99,622/-	29-07-2021

JINDAL LEASFIN LIMITED

Regd. Office: 110, Bahar Road, New Delhi-110001

Phone: 011-46201000, E-mail: jindal@jindal.co.in

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Board of Directors of the company has resolved to issue the following:

1. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

2. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

3. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

4. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

5. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

6. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

7. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

8. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

9. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

10. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

ADDI INDUSTRIES LTD.

Regd. Office: 25, Eastern Avenue, Saket, New Delhi-110017

Phone: 011-26100000, E-mail: addi@addi.co.in

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Board of Directors of the company has resolved to issue the following:

1. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

2. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

3. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

4. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

5. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

6. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

7. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

8. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

9. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

10. To issue the following: (i) 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (ii) 1,00,00,000 Preference Shares of Rs. 10/- each; (iii) 1,00,00,000 Debentures of Rs. 10/- each.

FOR Aro granite industries ltd.

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

Re-tendering of Tender for E-Tendering (E-Procurement Process) of the following work:

1. Name of work: Procurement of tools for maintenance of coaches, staff etc. with its location: In the C.E./R.T.K. units. (2 nos. Minors) Project - GRM/V

2. Approx. Cost of work: Rs. 20,70,700/-

3. Completion period of the work: 12/24 Twenty Four Months

4. Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender: Upto 16.00 hrs on 27.07.2021 Opening of tender after 15.00 hrs on same date.

5. Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen & downloaded: www.ireps.gov.in

6. Tender documents: 35.50 MUM/MTM/HR/011/2021/001 17382021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NABHA POWERLIMITED

Regd. Office: PO Box No. 28, Near Village Nalash, Rajpura, Patiala Punjab 140401, INDIA, CIN: U40102PB2007PLCO31039

Notice Inviting "Expression of Interest for Ash Utilization"

Nabha Power Limited (NPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of L&T Power Development Limited, has been successfully operating 2x700 MW supercritical Rajpura Thermal Power Plant Village Nalash, Rajpura, Patiala, Punjab India since 2014.

For promoting utilisation of ash and its consumption in an environment friendly manner, NPL invites "Expression of Interest" (EOI) for allocation of up to 20% of dry CSP dry fly ash (fly ash) on free of cost basis from units manufacturing fly ash or clay fly ash bricks, blocks or tiles.

The allocation of fly ash shall be subject to availability and for the remaining period of quarter-2 of the financial year 2021-22. The fly ash allotted from the Rajpura Thermal Power Plant must be utilized and consumed in an environment friendly manner and only for the purpose for which it is obtained, failing which the allocation of fly ash shall be cancelled.

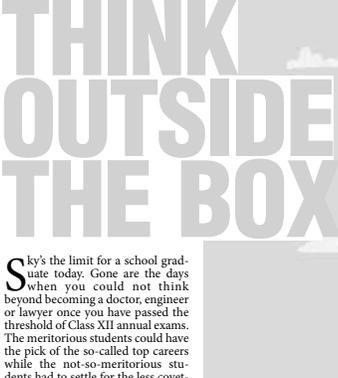
Interested parties are requested to submit their EOI within 7 days from publication of this notice along with details of fly ash requirement and supporting documents such as SSI registration, pollution control board approval, proposal on plan of proposed unit, existing and previous allocation letters of fly ash (if any), previous production details, income tax & sales tax registration details etc. in hard and soft copies to the Senior Deputy General Manager, Nabha Power Limited, Near Village Nalash, Rajpura-140401, Punjab. Tel. No.: +91-1762-277267 Fax. No.: +91-1762-277251 E-mail: npl@arsentoubro.com

Parties to whom fly ash will be allocated based on their EOI shall be responsible for the transportation and utilization of the same in an environment friendly manner.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely Navin Sio Sh. Rakshak R/o H. No. E-605, Sudhir Enclave, Rampark, Loni, Ghaziabad UP, who has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S

Class XII results are out. SUMIT SAURABH lists courses that students can pursue for a flourishing career



Some of the limit for a school graduate today. Gone are the days when you could not think beyond becoming a doctor, engineer or lawyer once you have passed the threshold of Class XII annual exams. The meritorious students could have the pick of the so-called top careers while the not-so-meritorious students had to settle for the less coveted courses to build a career out of. At the turn of the century, all that changed, for good!

The trends are much better today, as the world tries hard to rise up after being knocked down by the COVID-19 pandemic. The students who have completed education till Class XII, or not yet, can now look forward to some of the most amazing arrays of career choices, which make good use of their natural talents and skills while allowing them to have a flourishing career that doesn't feel boring at all. So, whether you belong to science, arts or commerce streams, if you are a student who is about to get into the Class XII or sitting for the final examination next year, you should read all about five of the most exciting career options you could think of taking up:

FASHION AND DESIGN
Fashion industry is not an alien concept anymore as far as the average Indian Class XII pass student is concerned. In fact, many of the young girls and boys know more about the fashion trends and designer-wear in comparison to their contemporaries from the past decades. The vast challenges that this industry throws at a newcomer can help you really shine if you are strong-headed and abundantly

creative. There are so many roles you can play after completing this course, such as fashion designer, fashion illustrator, fashion stylist, fashion coordinator, etc. With such prestigious fashion colleges now operating in the country and ever-increasing chances of an overseas education in fashion and design, it is no surprise that more and more Indian students are finding it easier to think of making fashion & design a career for life.

EVENT MANAGEMENT
Event Management industry single-handedly offers the most exciting career opportunities to students on the verge of making a career choice. With so much happening around, be it stage shows, conferences, concerts, seminars, theme parties, product launches, press conferences, weddings, exhibitions and corporate events, there is so much to do for someone who has studied event management in college. You just need to have a passion for organising events and a keen eye for detail so that everything runs smoothly. Once you finish this course, you can have multiple job opportunities such as event planner, wedding planner, wedding manager, logistics manager, etc.

APP DEVELOPER
The world is running on mobile applications these days and everything has an app version. The way this ecosystem is working, through technologies like Internet of Things, Blockchain, AI, Machine Learning, etc. there is going to be a higher demand for app developers now than ever before. With the software entering into every nook and corner of the world, this professional choice is already shooting through the skies in terms of popularity. You can choose to be an iOS or Android developer after you finish your course and look forward to a substantial first salary!

CONTENT WRITER
If there is one professional career option that has gained the maximum traction in the past one year, despite pandemic, it is the field of freelance content writing. Freelance because more and more people have joined the work-from-home workforce for obvious reasons. So, with that, there is an added lure to this career choice. You need to possess a fairly good writing accent, language skills and hunger for knowledge because in whatever you write about, you need to have the

industry knowledge beforehand, which is what the client demands. Moreover, with professional content writing courses, short-term as well as long-term, being run in various universities and colleges these days, there is no dearth of learning opportunities.

JOURNALISM
Journalists are professionally trained eyes & ears of the society and lately, this is an area to grow exponentially, in terms of opportunities as well as remunerations. Finishing a journalism course from a good college opens up job opportunities for you in newspapers, magazines, TV channels, blogs, social media, radio, etc. So, you see, if you have that fire to bring a change into the society with the help of a pen, keyboard or a microphone, going down this path will not only give you a career, it might also give you job satisfaction at the end of the day.

The career choices that you make today, decide what kind of life you are going to lead tomorrow. If any of these career options rock your boat, start preparing today!
The writer is Director, Hanzl Khaz Village, New Delhi

QUOTE OF THE DAY
Do you know the difference between education and experience? Education is when you read the fine print; experience is what you get when you don't.
— Pete Seeger

MSC COURSE
The University of Sheffield, UK invites applications for the MSc Pharmaceutical Engineering course starting in September 2022.

The MSc gives you hands-on experience of an industrial-scale continuous powder processing plant, and develops the knowledge and skills you need to stand out in the global pharma market.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Holders of a three-year bachelor degree with a minimum of 60 per cent or first class in science, technology and engineering from a reputable university. Overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.

How to apply: Log on to <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2022/pharmaceutical-engineering-msc> or msc@sheffield.ac.uk.

MBA PROGRAMME
Offered by the Collier School of Management at Tl Aviv University, the Sofer Global MBA is the flagship one-year full-time MBA focused on New Venture Creation, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship.

It is designed for students with professional ambitions ranging from founding ventures building start-ups, and leading innovative processes in multinational companies. The programme's curriculum combines a foundational core with a wide variety of advanced courses focused on entrepreneurship and innovation.

The programme is structured to be experiential along-side classroom learning that brings together theory and practice and simultaneously



guides students with opportunities to develop their own start-up in sectors as Agri-tech, fintech, and wearables.

Eligibility: The programme is open to all who have obtained or are about to obtain a completed under-graduate degree from a recognised university in India. The students are required to have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or 75 on a scale of 100. Applicants with lower final grades should still apply; the admissions committee takes candidates' full applications into consideration.

Students are also required to submit their GMAT/GRE scores along with clearing scores for English language proficiency.

How to Apply: Log on to https://international.ta.ac.il/Sofer_Global_MBA.

MSC DATA ANALYTICS

The University of Sheffield, UK is inviting applications for its MSc Data Analytics course starting in September 2022. This course will develop your skills in analysing big data sets so that you can transform the information into actionable knowledge.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Holders of a three-year bachelor degree with a minimum of 60 per cent or first class from a reputable university in a numerate discipline (computer science, mathematics, economics, engineering, physics, chemistry). Overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.

How to apply: Log on to <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2022/data-analytics-msc> or msc-compsci@sheffield.ac.uk.

Industry visits have become an essential part of students pursuing a professional degree or course. The Indian education system has witnessed immense transformation over the last few years, with more importance being given to hands-on training. The approach for delivering quality education has changed with time for the Indian universities, and industry visits have become a part of the curriculum for many courses.

Industry visits have become the norm for courses ranging from Engineering to Management in a number of institutes. A number of institutions now give grades and attendance on industry visits to students. The reason behind the popularity of industry visits is due to the fact that it exposes students to gain the practical knowledge on their subject which even their textbooks can't provide. There are several other advantages attached to such visits - but, before we move on, let's take a look at what exactly are industry visits.

Industry visits give students an insight regarding the internal working of companies. Just having a theoretical knowledge about a subject is not enough to make a good professional career. With an aim to go beyond academics, industrial visits provide students with a practical perspective on the internal working in a company.

The students are provided with the opportunities to gain an in-depth knowledge of the pro-

It's a visit worth making

The approach for delivering quality education has changed with time for the universities and industry visits have become a part of the curriculum for many courses, says DR KULNEET SURI

cedures and techniques followed throughout in the company. Also, the students attain an experiential awareness. The benefits are not limited to mere practical exposure. Below mentioned are the advantages which students enjoy during industrial visits.

■ The detailed information on the functioning of industries can only be experienced after visiting one. The visits are extremely helpful for students to embed hands-on understanding of the effective functioning of an organisation.

■ The industry visits offer an opportunity to students to engage in a conversation with the professionals. This, in turn, helps students improve their communication and interpersonal skills. Also, the students get a chance to establish a connection with experts, which could be helpful in placements.

There are certain myths which have been prevalent for years, in terms of management and other aspects based on the entire functionality of the industries. Industry visits provide an opportunity for students to gain insight into actual practices in a work-place. The students get an enhanced outlook on the practices followed by the companies to ensure effective operations and how they manage their workforces.

■ The industry visits are not limited to the attainment of practical knowledge, but, it also plays an essential role in identifying an interest area for the students. During the visit, they go through different departments and thus, they get an idea about different roles and what they entail. Students can get clarity of what exactly a job functions required to be performed in a specific profile.

Industry visits are slowly becoming mandatory in leading institutes in India, as it gives students a chance to enhance their practical knowledge. Nowadays, students actively participate in industry visits in a bid to understand the workings of an organisation.

The writer is Senior Director at Institute of Management Studies (IMS) Noida

cess to gain an in-depth knowledge of the pro-

cedures and techniques followed throughout in the company. Also, the students attain an experiential awareness. The benefits are not limited to mere practical exposure. Below mentioned are the advantages which students enjoy during industrial visits.

■ The detailed information on the functioning of industries can only be experienced after visiting one. The visits are extremely helpful for students to embed hands-on understanding of the effective functioning of an organisation.

■ The industry visits offer an opportunity to students to engage in a conversation with the professionals. This, in turn, helps students improve their communication and interpersonal skills. Also, the students get a chance to establish a connection with experts, which could be helpful in placements.

There are certain myths which have been prevalent for years, in terms of management and other aspects based on the entire functionality of the industries. Industry visits provide an opportunity for students to gain insight into actual practices in a work-place. The students get an enhanced outlook on the practices followed by the companies to ensure effective operations and how they manage their workforces.

■ The industry visits are not limited to the attainment of practical knowledge, but, it also plays an essential role in identifying an interest area for the students. During the visit, they go through different departments and thus, they get an idea about different roles and what they entail. Students can get clarity of what exactly a job functions required to be performed in a specific profile.

Industry visits are slowly becoming mandatory in leading institutes in India, as it gives students a chance to enhance their practical knowledge. Nowadays, students actively participate in industry visits in a bid to understand the workings of an organisation.

The writer is Senior Director at Institute of Management Studies (IMS) Noida

Top cybersecurity institutes

The modern life we live these days is highly dependent on online services. Hence, having a clear understanding of cybersecurity threats is extremely vital. Additionally, since most of the data is now stored on servers and clouds across the globe, applications of cybersecurity in our day-to-day lives has caused a vast explosion of careers in this field. Owing to this, the importance of courses revolving around cybersecurity is gaining high prominence.

There are many institutes offering the best cybersecurity courses and to make your choice a little simpler, we list down the best five institutes for cybersecurity. If you are aspiring to carve a career path out of this, you may definitely want to consider these courses.

Henry Harvin: The cybersecurity course offered by India's leading Ed-tech company - Henry Harvin takes you through various modules of cybersecurity thus adding stars to one's portfolio. The course explains in detail the meaning, purpose, scope, applications of cybersecurity. The course also delves deep into cloud security, data & endpoint security along with application security to train the professionals with every aspect of the course.

This extensive training session caters to professional and high-level education, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School, has announced the launch of two executive education programmes: Future Leaders Programme (FLP) and Practical Decision Making Using Data Science Programme (PDDMS).

Great Learning: This PG certification in Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking by ERiCT Academy, MNIT Jaipur in collaboration with the EC-Council aims to provide extensive training on Cyber



Security concepts including risk analysis and mitigation, data security, cloud-based security, ethical hacking, etc. The course is designed by the top faculty at MNIT & industry expert to help you gain relevant skills required by the industry and land you in your dream job.

Simplilearn: The cybersecurity expert master's programme equips you with the skills needed to become an expert in this rapidly growing domain. The course allows you to learn comprehensive approaches to protect your infrastructure, including securing data and information, running risk analysis and mitigation, architecting cloud-based security, achieving compliance and much more with this best-in-class programme.

Great Learning: This cybersecurity course navigates the pursuit through the foundations and skills necessary to build a successful cybersecurity career. In addition to security objectives basics like confidentiality, integrity, non-repudiation and authentication one also gets to exploit the vulnerabilities. By using secure systems, and design methodology, the applicant also learns about primary security breaches that might occur over the years and thus makes you eligible for building the countermeasures for the same.

Edukare: Cybersecurity certification training by Edukare allows one to learn cybersecurity concepts from scratch. Throughout the online cybersecurity training, the students get to learn important concepts such as ethical hacking, cryptography, computer networks & security, application security, iDAM (identity & access management), vulnerability analysis, malware threats, sniffing, SQL injection, DoS, session hijacking, and various security practices for businesses along with hands-on demonstrations.

Security concepts including risk analysis and mitigation, data security, cloud-based security, ethical hacking, etc. The course is designed by the top faculty at MNIT & industry expert to help you gain relevant skills required by the industry and land you in your dream job.

The cybersecurity expert master's programme equips you with the skills needed to become an expert in this rapidly growing domain. The course allows you to learn comprehensive approaches to protect your infrastructure, including securing data and information, running risk analysis and mitigation, architecting cloud-based security, achieving compliance and much more with this best-in-class programme.

This cybersecurity course navigates the pursuit through the foundations and skills necessary to build a successful cybersecurity career. In addition to security objectives basics like confidentiality, integrity, non-repudiation and authentication one also gets to exploit the vulnerabilities. By using secure systems, and design methodology, the applicant also learns about primary security breaches that might occur over the years and thus makes you eligible for building the countermeasures for the same.

Cybersecurity certification training by Edukare allows one to learn cybersecurity concepts from scratch. Throughout the online cybersecurity training, the students get to learn important concepts such as ethical hacking, cryptography, computer networks & security, application security, iDAM (identity & access management), vulnerability analysis, malware threats, sniffing, SQL injection, DoS, session hijacking, and various security practices for businesses along with hands-on demonstrations.

Career guidance course

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In recognition of the need to facilitate career guidance for young learners, the UK's leading personalised career guidance programme is now launching in India. LaunchMyCareer (LMC) has unveiled a first-of-its-kind career focused program for schools. The platform promises to help young learners

discover their interests, identify their potential, learn workplace readiness skills and apply these in real life. From nurturing young people's skills and aptitudes to providing them age-appropriate exposure to career knowledge, LaunchMyCareer helps students make informed career decisions.

Most learners are overwhelmed and confused about what career they want to pursue, and how to be what they want to be. However, everyone is looking for career success. True career success is an amalgamation of financial stability and job satisfaction.

This can be achieved when one is able to map interests and skills with available opportunities. LaunchMyCareer brings forth a unique gamified experience to enable young people the chance to explore career possibilities through a journey of self-discovery, harmonising interests with future careers and helping them to acquire requisite skills.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Great Learning, a leading Ed-tech company for professional and high-level education, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School, has announced the launch of two executive education programmes: Future Leaders Programme (FLP) and Practical Decision Making Using Data Science Programme (PDDMS).

Executive programmes

The Future Leaders Programme is designed for first-time and middle managers who aspire to build their leadership skills, and entrepreneurs who need to lead as they scale up their organisations.

The three-month online programme focuses on professional growth, developing self-awareness and tangible skills in learners that can be applied to real-world situations.

The Practical Decision Making Using Data Science Programme is best suited for mid to senior managers who have a strong understanding of their respective domains and wish to learn analytics to aid their decision-making skills. It provides an in-depth and comprehensive journey in Data Science from the lens of a business manager.



ENHANCE LEARNING

The future of online education lies in the development of a holistic platform that enhances teaching-learning experiences, says ROHIT JAIN

In the wake of the COVID-19 lockdown, the transition from in-person classes to online learning was facilitated by digital educational platforms along with online learning tools. Against such a backdrop, it is now making parents, teachers and students wonder what the future of online education is?

The future of online education lies in the development of a holistic platform that enhances the teaching-learning experiences. And, determined strides are being made in this direction.

Several ed-tech platforms are offering a wide range of educational tools and learning materials to students to learn while they are stuck at home. These digital platforms have evolved to provide classroom-like experiences as they enable real-time interaction between students and teachers, which is crucial for clearing doubts or assigning homework, and so on.

It must also be noted that education comprises five pillars—mentorship, self-learning, tools, feedback solutions, test and feedback systems and a cus-

It isn't a secret that online learning will become mainstream. Schools are expected to adopt a hybrid learning model in the new normal

tomised performance improvement plan. At the moment, the platforms are mostly solving any one of the following. However, the future of online learning is expected to be a holistic one, with platforms covering all five of them.

Looking at the trend, it isn't a secret that online learning will become mainstream. Gradually, schools are expected to adopt a hybrid learning model in the new normal era. In a hybrid model, online as well as offline learners can simultaneously attend the class of a particular teacher.

This will provide immense flexibility in teaching and learning. Hybrid learning also increases the accessibility of education to learners from even the remotest areas. It improves their learning experience through more customised and interactive classes, audio-visual lessons, and engaging tutorials. These facilities can meet the requirements of both online and in-person learners.

ONLINE SIMULATION TOOLS
Educational institutions that cannot afford world-class labora-

tories can use online simulation tools thereby giving students a real-lab experience. In addition, remote learning can be further enhanced by the use of virtual labs. In-depth virtual experiments can also increase their understanding of various customised and experimental processes.

COMMUNITY LEARNING
Another benefit is the community learning that will act as the key to solving doubts. In addition to the faculty, peers and seniors can guide in a moderated environment. All in all, it will enhance the exchange of new ideas, sharing experiences, discussions, and teamwork.

ROLE OF EDETECH
It is therefore fair to mention that several Edtech platforms have emerged to make online learning effective. According to IBEF, in 2020, a total of \$ 1.1 billion was poured into the Edtech sector. Another report by IBEF suggests that the Edtech market in India is expected to touch \$10.4 billion by 2025. The data proves that ed-tech

is going to flourish further, making online learning popular in the years to come. These platforms will be serving an array of advantages.

They will continue to play an important role in giving students access to customised and interesting e-content. Collaboration of ed-tech start-ups with educational institutions is serving the interest of both educators and learners alike. Besides, the courses are available in multiple languages to cater to the needs of diverse sections of learners. Teachers can create educational content and share it with students instantly. Through the use of online grading tools, the evaluation of the students' performance can conveniently be done.

Therefore, the future of online learning appears bright mainly because of rapid digitisation and the advancements taking place in the field of technology. Further, modernisation of the education sector will continue to happen to raise the standard of the quality of education in the country.

The writer is CEO, DUX Education

'Research before applying abroad'

There are many choices and opinions when it comes to foreign education. But it is crucial to acquaint with science of making intelligent decisions, says ADARSH KHANDELWAL

You are looking to study abroad? Consider the following: Why apply now? Why this course and university? Why do you want to move abroad for your degree? What are your future goals? How do the university and your chosen program align with these? Do you know what you want from this experience?



Adarsh Khandelwal, Co-founder, Collegely

If you have failed to answer any of these questions, not even an outstanding GPA will secure that coveted college spot for you. University admissions are not merely an exercise in form-filling, in which you would mechanically list your achievements; this is an introspective and constantly evolving process. One of the first things you would need to do is set aside some time to ponder these questions and the research universities that match your expectations.

In India, students instinctively reach out to their immediate network for advice or follow a gut feeling. The danger this poses is that there is a surfeit of information on the web, not all of which is accurate or even relevant to your profile. Confronted with so many choices and opinions, it is crucial to acquaint yourself with the science of making intelligent decisions. Here are tools to help you choose better.

Social life: This may not seem like the most important part of your decision-making process, but its value is often underestimated. Your peer community will be a considerable part of your student life, and the experiences you have via student clubs, societies, and events can be formative and inspiring. The informal network you build is a much more personal way to network and learn about potential opportunities. Another aspect you would be taking into account is its location, your accommodation, and access to the city's industry contacts and cultural scene.

Academic strength: The universities you choose should ideally be global leaders in the field of your choice. If the institution specialises in that discipline, you can rest assured that you will be immersed in a competitive, cutting-edge, and quality-driven environment with like-minded peers. Research the courses that the university offers. If you would like a tailored, mixed curriculum, or a course that incorporates an equal amount of practical and theoretical modules, pick the universities that give you that flexibility. If you are interested in the university's research strengths, find out where its faculty expertise lies, and if that relates to your academic goals.

Don't go overboard. We recommend listing not over seven schools for a PG shortlist, and not more than 15 for undergraduate. Divide these further into aspirational and safe schools — universities you feel confident about and consider your chances of gaining admission. However, keep your expectations realistic and be prepared for failure. College rejections are a tough but healthy way of learning that you are entering into a competitive, globally involved space. A story of failure may just provide you with that extra motivation for your next attempt.

Prospects: Look at the university's recruitment data. This will help you get a better idea of life after graduation. Alumni connections via LinkedIn will provide an insider view. There are also university career services and fairs, as well as internship or professional pro-

The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods in the past decade, along with the realisation that automated data-based AI tools can outperform even top-level human experts at some tasks, has given rise to the hope that AI may soon be able to take over many of the functions of a manager. This is hardly a new dream.

Frederick Taylor, in the late nineteenth century, already imagined the transformation of management to an engineering subject. The discipline of operations research was invented in the last century, mostly by experts working for the US Department of Defence, to quantify and automate

managerial tasks such as scheduling of work, planning of inventories, distribution and logistics, and production planning and management. A lot of tools that are used in AI were invented by operations research engineers. The advance of computer and communication technology in the latter part of the last century brought the dream of automated management and decision making even closer to reality.

Automated decision making is indeed, one of the central topics studied in AI. The general case is that of an intelligent agent that needs to make a sequence of decisions in the presence of uncertainty. Many of

MINDIT

AI tools are already available that can take a description of the business environment, its laws of evolution, and the set of actions that the manager can take and find a sequence of actions that minimises costs or maximises rewards. However, most of these tools are of recent vintage, still have a lot of theoretical shortcomings, and have not been tested extensively under real life conditions. Also, they work well only when the business problem they address is very well-defined

and can be expressed numerically.

As such, these tools can be of great use when the decisions to be made are in a well-specified and precisely measured domain such as production planning, or advertisement targeting, or financial asset-liability management. When the problem is less clearly specified, and less clearly measured, say as in customer satisfaction improvement, or human resource management, or strategy formulation, the

available tools are still at a very early stage of their life cycle and they are of an elementary nature. As such human intuition and expert judgment are more successful than any automated AI based method.

Will it take to change this? The answer turns out to lie in the relentless expansion in the capabilities of computer hardware and software, as embodied in Moore's Law and its corollaries: There is little doubt that in the 2020s, we will look back at the early 2020s as an era of primitive computers that had only terabyte storage, gigabyte memories and gigahertz clock speeds and 5G communications.

As we push on to exabyte storage, petabyte memories and 7G communications, we will be able to pose messier real-life problems using conversational natural language interfaces, and solve them using much more advanced algorithms, maybe even quantum methods. This will bring business management automation within our grasp and ever more realistic decision problems can be solved to a degree of efficiency that will be beyond the abilities of even the best human managers.

The writer is Dr Debashis Guha, Director, Master of AI in Business, SP Jain School of Global Management

DATA SCIENCE AT HEYSTACK
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹20,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/72ad0
Deadline: August 12, 2021

GRAPHIC DESIGN AT GROWTHGEAR
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/d52998
Deadline: August 11, 2021

TECHNICAL RECRUITMENT AT TRUCLANCER
Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/a31551
Deadline: August 12, 2021

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE DEV (BI/EL) AT CREDEGENICS
Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹30,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/bc4488
Deadline: August 12, 2021

GRAPHIC DESIGN AT SOCIAL CRAWLER
Location: Lucknow
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹8,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/78b30d
Deadline: August 12, 2021

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR ITS MELBOURNE MOBILITY AWARDS. International students can apply.

Eligibility: The candidate must be enrolled at the university in either an undergraduate or a graduate course-work degree.

The applicant intends to study overseas as part of a University of Melbourne Exchange or short-term program or a University of Melbourne subject with an overseas component that will be credited towards your University of Melbourne degree.

Supporting documents: If applicants want to apply for a scholarship on the basis of financial, academic, personal difficulties or disability or medical condition, they will be asked to provide supporting documents like Centrelink statement or medical certificates as part of the online application.

Admission requirements: For taking admission, applicants must have high school certificates with a good academic record.

How to apply: Applicants must submit an online application form.

Application deadline: The last date to apply for the awards is December 31, 2021.

BIZ ANALYTICS AT ELECTROVESE SOLUTIONS
Location: Chandigarh, Delhi
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/78d778
Deadline: August 11, 2021

DIGITAL MARKETING AT PATHARITECH
Location: Ranchi, Bokaro Steel City, Jamshedpur
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/d69261
Deadline: August 10, 2021

HR AT ZIGSAW CONSULTANCY
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/68456c
Deadline: August 12, 2021

INCUBATION CENTRE AT ANANTU
The AnantUhas incubation centre — Aarambh with a vision to foster a culture of entrepreneurship through design and architecture, fraternity, students and budding entrepreneurs to use Design Thinking for solving societal problems with a long-term impact.

The aim is to promote the entrepreneurship culture in and around the campus by offering various platforms to experiment with their business ideas, get one-on-one mentorships from domain experts and professionals from the industry, interact with investors and create their own organisation and/or enterprise. The platform will nurture entrepreneurial thinking, promote business knowledge and inculcate confidence in every student. It would add value to the entrepreneur and make an impact on society at large.

Partnered with the Student StartUp & Innovation Policy, Government of Gujarat and IIT Kanpur, the incubation centre provides an integrated approach to learning that includes converting the idea into a feasible business proposition, connecting to the entrepreneurial network assist in pitching the idea to the right audience.

2ND EDITION OF F-SET ANNOUNCED
The Association of International Wealth Management of India (AIWMI) has announced the second edition of India's largest Financial Services Employability test (F-SET) which is a national assessment designed for aspirants who are keen to work in the financial services.

The assessment consists of 14 individual tests focusing on various verticals and functions within financial services. For an aspirant keen to work in financial services, F-SET is a fantastic way to gain insight and get ahead of peers in preparation for the recruitment processes of financial services institutions.

The registration process has already started for and the last date of enrolment is September 30, 2021.

Duration of each exam will be two hours and results will be announced on October 17, 2021.

The fees for the assessment is ₹554 till August 15, ₹472 between August 16 September 15 and ₹590 post September 16 till the last date.

Aditya Gadge founder-CEO of AIWMI said: "Appearing for various assessments under F-SET is an ideal way for aspirants to test their knowledge and gain national recognition."

INCUBATION CENTRE AT ANANTU
The aim is to promote the entrepreneurship culture in and around the campus by offering various platforms to experiment with their business ideas, get one-on-one mentorships from domain experts and professionals from the industry, interact with investors and create their own organisation and/or enterprise. The platform will nurture entrepreneurial thinking, promote business knowledge and inculcate confidence in every student. It would add value to the entrepreneur and make an impact on society at large.

Partnered with the Student StartUp & Innovation Policy, Government of Gujarat and IIT Kanpur, the incubation centre provides an integrated approach to learning that includes converting the idea into a feasible business proposition, connecting to the entrepreneurial network assist in pitching the idea to the right audience.

SUCCESSFUL IELTS TRAINING BY LEAP
The Leap's IELTS training programme has been attended by more than two lakh study abroad aspirants since its launch in February 2021. It offers a whole suite of curated courses, delivered fully digitally on the web and the app. The IELTS is a globally accepted standardisation test, designed to gauge the English language proficiency of non-native speakers.

2ND EDITION OF PRE-INCUBATION PROGRAMME AT IIMU
The Indian Institute of Management Udaipur (IIMU) Incubation Centre opened registrations for its second cohort of the pre-incubation programme for early-stage startups, students and working professionals with product ideas. The program is open to 30 eligible participants and will run from September 1, 2021 till November 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought a surge in entrepreneurship. The programme will host live curated workshops, structured modules, offer incubation team support and provide a learning community.

The modules will help participants to understand target customers and their problems, design prototype and define business model, understand pricing, learn investment and launch product.

FARMERS FAMILY SIGNS MOU WITH IIML-EIC
Farmers Family, a Noida-based agritech startup, has signed a long-term memorandum of understanding (MoU) with IIML-EIC. The MoU marks a significant development in promoting entrepreneur development, startup incubation, and opening up investment avenues to the business.

According to the MoU signed with IIM Lucknow, Farmers Family will receive guidance from IIML-EIC incubator expert mentors, investors, experienced and successful senior business and corporate sector executives and industry veterans on a broad range of topics, including the fundamentals of setting up a business, among others.

Vikal Kulshrestha, Co-founder & CEO, Farmers Family said, "Our association with the world-class premier institute is not only fostering close linkages between academia and industry but will also open new avenues for resource sharing. We believe that this partnership has the real potential to make a deep and tangible impact on our business and enable us to reach milestones."

'Need to focus on Bronze medal match'

Indian men's hockey team dream of Olympic Gold end with 2-5 defeat against world champions Belgium in semis; will play Germany for third place tomorrow

PTI TOKYO

The 2-5 loss to Belgium in the Olympic semifinals on Tuesday is disappointing but Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh and star custodian P R Sreejesh said the side has no time to dwell on the heartbreak as it has to refocus for the Bronze medal play-off on Thursday.

The eight-time winners of Olympic Gold, the last of which came way back in 1980, fell short against world champions Belgium, losing 2-5 in the semifinals here on Tuesday. "It is really hard for me right now because we came with a winning mindset, but unfortunately we didn't win the match. Now we need to focus on our next Bronze-medal match and we need to work and we need to get the medal," Manpreet said after the loss.

"It's a great honour for us reaching the semifinal after a long time, but now I think we need to focus because the next match is going to be really important for us. At least we should win a Bronze medal for the nation," he added.

The skipper said having toiled hard for the last five years to reach this level, India deserves a better result on Tuesday. "It's always been hard work and togetherness. This team has been together for the last four or five years. We have worked



Indian players wait for a video referral decision that resulted in a penalty stroke against them during their men's hockey semifinal match with Belgium at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo on Tuesday

really hard to be reaching this level. We deserve better, and unfortunately we couldn't get it today."

Sreejesh agreed with his skipper and said the loss against Belgium is a thing of the past now and the team needs to focus on returning home with a medal from here.

"Disappointed, but you don't have time to worry about that. You need to forget about that and think about the future. Now we still have a chance to

win a medal and that's more important for us than crying at this time," he said.

"It's more important for us to think about the future, watch the match, think about where we lost, where we committed the mistakes, rectify that, and move on," added.

Senior India defender Rupinder Pal Singh too feels that all is not lost in the ongoing Games for them. "Of course it's heartbreaking for us, reaching the semi-

Women's team face Argentina in semis

Tokyo: A historic feat already achieved, a rampaging Indian women's hockey team would aim for more glory when it takes on mighty but beatable Argentina in the semifinals of the Olympic Games here on Wednesday.

A bunch of 16 fearless and determined Indian women did the unthinkable when they stunned three-time champions Australia 1-0 on Monday to enter the Olympic semifinals for the first time.

Come Wednesday, the Indian women would look to surpass the achievements of their more-admired male counterparts here by reaching their first-ever Olympic final.

By virtue of their performances here, the Indian women's team also got a major boost when it jumped to seventh in world rankings, their best-ever ranking.

But in world No 2 Argentina, the Indian women will up against tough opponents who are hungry for Olympic success after missing out in Rio five years back.

The Argentina women (everyone else). That's a great motivation, too," the tall drag-flicker said.

Rupinder credited team's self belief for its success in Tokyo.



Indian players celebrate after win over Australia

The Indian defence, led by goalkeeper Savita, had a brilliant outing against the Australians, stoutly defending their 22nd minute goal to register the narrow win.

The likes of Gurjit, Deep Grace Ekka, Monika and Udita will have to come up with similar efforts to stop the Las Leonas, who will be eyeing their maiden Olympic Gold here.

The Argentina women

have won two Silver medals at the 2000 Sydney and 2012 London Games but a Gold has eluded them.

And they are on course for the yellow metal after reaching the semifinals for the first time since 2012, stunning 2016 Olympic Bronze medalist Germany 3-0. But having registered three wins on the trot after as many losses, the momentum is in India's favour.

converting good chances. "We need to work hard for the next game." India will face Germany in the Bronze medal play-off match on Thursday.

TOKYO TIMELINE

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

● Athletics: Tajinder Pal Singh Toor finished 13th in men's shot put qualification group A, fails to qualify for final. Annu Rani finished 14th in women's javelin throw qualification group A, fails to advance to final. ● Hockey: India lost to Belgium 2-5 in men's semi-final, will play for Bronze medal. ● Wrestling: Sonam Malik lost to Bolortuya Khurelkhuu (Mongolia) after 2-3 scoreline in first round of women's freestyle 62kg event.

IN ACTION TODAY

● Athletics: Neezar Chopra in men's javelin throw Qualification Group A. (05:35 am) Shival Singh in men's javelin throw Qualification Group B. (07:05 am) ● Boxing: Lovlina Borgohain vs Busenaz Surmeneli (Turkey) in women's 69kg semifinal 1. (11:00 am) ● Golf: Aditi Ashok and Diksha Dagar in women's individual stroke play round (05:55 am onwards) ● Hockey: India vs Argentina in women's semi-final. (03:30 pm) ● Wrestling: Ravi Kumar vs Oscar Eduardo Tigresos (Colombia) in men's freestyle 57kg. (4th bout after 08:00 am start) Anshu Malik vs Iryna Kurachkina (Belarus) in women's freestyle 57kg. (5th bout after 08:00 am start) Deepak Punia vs Ekereme Agiomor (Nigeria) in men's freestyle 86kg. (8th bout after 08:00 am start) Live on SONY TEN & SIX Network



India's Sonam Malik, left, and Mongolia's Bolortuya Khurelkhuu compete during the women's 62 kg freestyle wrestling match on Tuesday

Sonam's Olympic debut ends in 1st-round defeat

Tokyo: Young Indian wrestler Sonam Malik's Olympic debut ended with a first-round defeat on criteria against Mongolia's Bolortuya Khurelkhuu in the 62kg category after the former had adopted a defensive approach on Tuesday.

The 19-year-old led the bout 2-0 but the reigning Asian Silver medalist Khurelkhuu effected a take-down move with just 35 seconds left in the contest to level the score.

The score remained 2-2 till the end but since it was the Mongolian who scored the last point with her move, she was declared winner on criteria.

The Mongolian was later outplayed by Bulgaria's Tayeb Mustafa Yusen, the second seed and 2018 world champion, on the result spelling the ouster of the Indian wrestler. "Sonam was definitely a

RAWL DEEPAK GET GOOD DRAW

Indian wrestler Ravi Dahya on Tuesday got a good draw as he will open his 57kg campaign against Colombia's Tigresos Urbano and going by form, he should not face much difficulty in reaching at least the semifinals.

In the men's freestyle 86kg, Deepak Punia is pitted against Nigeria's Ekereme Agiomor, the African champion Silver Bronze medalist.

Meanwhile, the 19-year-old Anshu Malik has got a difficult opener as he has drawn European champion Irina Kurachkina. PTI

Sindhu one of India's greatest Olympians: Thakur

New Delhi: Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Tuesday hailed PV Sindhu as a sporting icon and one of the 'greatest Olympians' the country has ever produced after she returned to the country to a warm reception following her Bronze-medal winning feat at the Tokyo Games.

The 26-year-old from Hyderabad was accorded a warm welcome when she returned to India on Tuesday. "PV Sindhu is amongst India's greatest Olympians. She is India's icon, inspiration and has caught the imagination of every Indian who dreams of playing for the country," Thakur said after felicitating Sindhu and her Korean coach Park Tae-Sang here.

Thompson-Herah wins 200m to complete 2nd sprint sweep

Tokyo: Jamaica's Elaine Thompson-Herah made Olympic history in Tokyo Tuesday, blazing to victory in the 200 metres to complete an unprecedented women's sprinting double-double.

Thompson-Herah, the 2016 Olympics 100m and 200m Gold medalist who successfully defended her 100m title on Saturday, bagged a record fourth individual Gold after storming home in a blistering 21.53sec.

Thompson-Herah's time was the second fastest in history after Florence Griffith Joyner's world record of 21.34sec set at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. AFP



Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur felicitate Tokyo Olympics Bronze medalist PV Sindhu on Tuesday

"Her incredible achievement — that of winning two Olympic medals in two consecutive Olympic Games will inspire a generation of budding athletes." PTI

Brazil vs Spain in final

Tokyo: Spain will play reigning champions Brazil in the Olympic men's football final after Marco Asensio's superb extra-time winner on Tuesday secured a 1-0 victory over host nation Japan in Saitam.

The Real Madrid winger came off the bench as a substitute and curled in a terrific strike in the 115th minute, sending Spain through to a first Olympic final since they finished runners-up at the 2000 Games in Sydney.

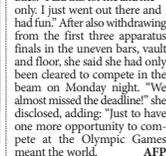
Japan will take to Mexico in Friday's Bronze medal match. Mexico lost 4-1 on penalties to Brazil in Kashiwa following 120 goalless minutes. AFP

Biles wins Bronze on balance beam at Olympic return

Tokyo: Simone Biles' nightmare Olympics concluded with the US gymnastics superstar returning in the beam final on Tuesday, declaring "I did our me" after taking Bronze behind Chinese teenager Guan Chenchen.

It was Biles' first taste of competition in Tokyo since dramatically standing down during the women's team final, struggling with the "twisties".

"I was just happy to be able to perform regardless of the outcome. I wasn't expecting to walk away with the medal. I was just doing this for me," said Biles. "I did this for me and me only. I just went out there and had fun." After also withdrawing from the first three apparatus finals in the uneven bars, vault and floor, she said she had only been cleared to compete in the beam on Monday night. "We almost missed the deadline," she disclosed, adding, "just to have one more opportunity to compete at the Olympic Games meant the world." AFP



Brazil players celebrate after win

Toor, Rani fail to reach finals

Tokyo: Asian record holder shot putter Tajinder Pal Singh Toor and javelin thrower Annu Rani failed to qualify for the final rounds of their respective events following below-par performances at the Olympics on Tuesday.

The 26-year-old Toor, who was expected to at least make the finals, failed to live up to the expectations as he could only manage one legal throw of 19.99m in his first attempt, to finish 13th out of 16 competitors in qualification A.

Competing with a heavily bandaged shoulder, his next two throws were fouls. Every participant gets only three attempts in the qualification round, the below-par show meant that Toor made an exit even before the start of second qualification.

Those who cleared 21.20m or at least 12 best performers from the two

Warholm shatters WR

Tokyo: Norway's Karsten Warholm shattered the world record to claim Gold in an epic 400m hurdles in an epic 400m hurdles on Tuesday as Germany's Malika Mihambo soared to victory in the long jump.

The 25-year-old stormed over the line in an incredible 45.94 seconds, slicing a massive 0.8sec off his own world record of 46.70 set in Oslo last month.

Long-time USA rival Rai Benjamin pushed Warholm hard in the home straight and took Silver in another blistering time of 46.17sec, the second fastest in history.

It was the dramatic final act of an entertaining morning session on day five of the athletics competition that produced a Gold for German long-jumper Mihambo in a classic duel with 2012 Gold medalist and four-time world champion Brittney Reese of the United States. AFP

India brace for tough English Test

PTI NOTTINGHAM

The toughest four months of Virat Kohli's eventful leadership career start here on Wednesday when his strategic acumen will be tested while selecting a perfect Indian combination to take on a good England side in the first Test of a five-match series.

Kohli announced his playing XI for the World Test Championship final against New Zealand couple of days before the game and drew flak for not respecting the conditions.

However, on Wednesday, he will have to think overtime about the balance of his squad with a long tail, often bushy with runs, and just two openers — one untested (Rohit Sharma) but very capable and another supremely talented (KL Rahul) but highly reluctant starter.

Rahul, with 2000 plus Test runs, looks a logical choice to partner Rohit after Mayank Agarwal's concussion but the



England captain Joe Root, left, and India skipper Virat Kohli meet with the trophies prior to the first Test between England and India at Trent Bridge in Nottingham

lack of Hardik Pandya and the utility of two specialist spinners does come into the question. Rahul's hundred in the last First-Class game and adequate preparation time would keep him in good head space. He was also in fine form during the intra-squad match and perhaps would fancy the idea of game time irrespective of his slot rather than wearing a red India bib and carrying

Singh Dhoni being captain in two of them.

Kohli was a part of the 2014 team when it lost 1-2 and the then vice-captain had a torrid time with the bat.

He came back determined in 2018, scored truckloads of runs but a poor team choice at the Lord's and one bad batting session in Southampton meant that under him, India lost 1-4.

As the Indian captain walks out with his hand of men against a side that has two artists of red Dukes at work in James Anderson and Stuart Broad.

The veterans will be complemented by one of the world's fastest bowlers in Mark Wood and a smart apprentice in Ollie Robinson. The job for Kohli and his seasoned top-order would be easier said than done on a grassy Trent Bridge pitch.

SQUADS

India: Virat Kohli (c), Rohit Sharma, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane, Hanuma

Vihari, Rishabh Pant (wk), R Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Shami, Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Umesh Yadav, KL Rahul, Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Abhimanyu Easwaran.

England: Joe Root (c), James Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Dom Bess, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Haseeb Hameed, Dan Lawrence, Jack Leach, Ollie Pope, Ollie Robinson, Dom Sibley, Mark Wood.

'LEAVE PUJARA ALONE'

India captain Virat Kohli wants critics of Cheteshwar Pujara to leave him alone as he strongly believes that it is up to individuals to figure out the 'drawbacks' in their game. Pujara is India's second highest Test run-getter in the current team after skipper Kohli with 6000 plus runs (6267) in 86 matches but has often been accused of playing an ultra-defensive game which increases pressure on batsmen who follow.

India captain Virat Kohli has often been accused of playing an ultra-defensive game which increases pressure on batsmen who follow.