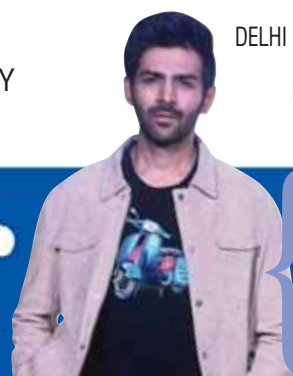


OPINION 6
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CRAVING
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11 VIVACITY

Chak De India moment in Tokyo

Women's Hockey team scripts history with maiden entry in Olympic semis

PTI ■ TOKYO

They seemed courage and tenacity personified as India's women hockey players stunned three-time champions Australia to enter their maiden Olympic semifinals, while debutant discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur held her own against a world-class field to give the country a lot to be proud of on day 10 of the Games here on Monday.

Rani Rampal and her resolute team brought their 'A' game and lots of determination to the field and the Australians did not know what to do.

It was a case of real imitating the reel as blockbuster "Chak De India", which told the tale of an underdog Indian women's hockey team guided by a discredited coach winning the World Cup, trended all across. The pinnacle is still some distance away for the real bunch but it has already surpassed all expectations and redeemed itself for the 12th place finish back in the 2016 Rio Games.

This was a day after the Indian men's team entered the Olympic semifinals following a 49-year gap, a phenomenally gritty run for both the teams.



Indian players celebrate their victory against Australia during women's field hockey quarterfinal match at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo on Monday

PTI

Drag-flicker Gurjit Kaur rose to the occasion when it mattered and converted India's lone penalty corner in the 22nd minute to surprise the Australians on the day, who cried in disbelief even as the Indians shed tears of joy and let out ear-splitting screams to celebrate.

"I don't know what to say because emotions are too high at the moment, and we all are very happy because it was not an easy game to win from Australia," an elated skipper Rani Rampal said after the

upset win.

India will play Argentina in the semifinal on Wednesday. "I think that belief like we can work really hard throughout the game... And this is only 60 minutes, just focus on the 60 minutes. Don't think further what will happen, just focus on 60 minutes, and give everything that you have got. And I think everyone did that, so yeah, I am super proud," Rani said, a reminder of the "70 minute speech" that had galvanised the reel team in Chak De India.

SC orders inclusion of Paralympian shooter Naresh

New Delhi: In a major victory before firing a shot in the upcoming Tokyo Paralympics, the Supreme Court on Monday ordered the PCI immediately include Arjuna awardee and five-time Paralympian shooter Naresh Kumar Sharma as an additional participant for the sporting mega-event in Japan.

TOKYO 2020 MEDAL TALLY				
Country	G	S	B	
China	29	17	16	
USA	22	25	17	
Japan	17	6	10	
Australia	14	4	15	
ROC	12	21	17	
G Britain	11	12	12	
France	5	10	7	
India	0	1	1	

3rd Covid wave this month, say experts

Cases may soar to 1.5L/day with peak in October

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Experts from IIT Hyderabad and Kanpur have set off an alarm saying that a third Covid-19 wave could hit India in the coming weeks of August itself with 1 lakh daily cases in the best of scenario, or nearly 1,50,000 in the worst scenario. The peak could come about in October.

However, it would not be as brutal as the second wave, where cases rose to 4 lakh on a daily basis before slumping down again, they said.

For the record, 17 States and Union Territories showed a rise in coronavirus cases on Sunday with a total 40,134 new Covid-19 cases and 422 deaths registered as the tally of positive cases reached 3,16,95,958. The Covid-19 cases saw an uptick on a week-on-week basis for the first time since mid-May after the decline in the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic. Kerala has reported the maximum surge during the past week.

Talking to a news agency, the researchers whose prediction is based on a mathematical model said that States



People line up to get inoculated against the coronavirus at a Covid-19 vaccination camp in Mumbai on Monday

AP

reporting a high number of Covid cases like Kerala and Maharashtra may play a significant role in skewing the case count during the third wave.

Earlier in May, Mathukumalli Vidyasagar, a professor at IIT Hyderabad, had predicted that India's coronavirus outbreak could peak in the coming days based on the mathematical model. However, their prediction that the wave would peak by the middle of last month was incorrect. Taking to Twitter, the team of researchers had then justified that it was because of incorrect parameters as "the pandemic was changing rapidly, even wildly, until about a week ago."

Covid-19 IN INDIA	
TOTAL CASES:	3,17,23,560 (+28,190)
DEATHS:	4,25,203 (+395)
RECOVERED:	3,08,86,221 (+36,539)
ACTIVE:	3,99,577
MAHA:	63,15,063 (+4,869)
KERALA:	34,25,473 (+13,984)
K'TAKA:	29,08,284 (+1,285)
TN:	25,63,544 (+1,957)
UP:	17,08,500 (+24)

CAPSULE

PM LAUNCHES 'E-RUPI' NEW PAYMENT SYSTEM

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched e-RUPI, a person and purpose specific digital payment solution that is aimed at improving transparency and targeted delivery of benefits. Over the years, several programmes have been launched to ensure that the benefits reach its intended beneficiaries in a targeted and leakproof manner, with limited touch points between the Government and the beneficiary.

INDIA, CHINA AGREE TO RESOLVE LAC ISSUES

New Delhi: The Indian and Chinese Armies have agreed to resolve the remaining issues in eastern Ladakh in an "expedient manner" and described their 12th round of military talks as "constructive", according to a joint statement on Monday.

DON'T DESERVE MEDIA TRIAL: SHILPA SHETTY

Mumbai: Actor Shilpa Shetty in a statement on Monday requested people to respect the family's privacy, especially that of her children, and let law take its course. "People have put their faith in me and I've never let anyone down. So, most importantly, I request you to respect my family's and 'my right' to privacy in these times. We don't deserve a media trial Satyamev Jayate," she added.

Rahul invites Opp leaders to plan strategy on Pegasus row

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing stalemate in Parliament, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi has invited leaders of Opposition parties to a breakfast meeting at the Constitution Club on Tuesday to chalk out a joint strategy on the Pegasus snooping issue. All Opposition MPs and floor leaders of various parties have been invited for the meeting, sources said.

AICC sources added an invite has also been sent to the Trinamool Congress, which has been skipping all meetings convened by Rahul so far. Rahul met with TMC chief Mamata Banerjee when she called on Congress chief Sonia Gandhi last week.

After a meeting with the floor leaders of Opposition parties last week, Rahul said the Opposition has only one question: whether the Government had bought Israeli spyware Pegasus to use it as a "weapon against its own people".

While the Opposition has been insisting on a full-fledged debate on the Pegasus issue, the Government's stand has been that it is ready to discuss anything but the tapping scandal.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi leaves Parliament in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

Nitish backs Opp demand for probe into snoopgate

PNS ■ PATNA

In a major embarrassment to Lally BJP, JD(U) supreme and Bihar Chief Minister Kumar has backed the Opposition's demand for a probe in the Pegasus snooping scandal.

"A probe should be done, indeed. We have been hearing about telephone tapping for so many days, the matter should

be discussed (in Parliament). People (Opposition) have been reiterating (for talks) for so many days, it should be done," Nitish said on Monday.

While Opposition parties have stalled Parliament for ten days over demand for a debate and probe, this is the first time that an ally of the BJP has backed their stand for a probe.

J&J takes back plea for vax nod in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bad news for those waiting for the US pharma giant Johnson & Johnson's single-shot Covid-19 vaccine 'Janssen' in India. The top drug regulator, Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), said on Monday that the pharma major had withdrawn its proposal seeking accelerated approval of its in the country. It didn't give additional details.

So far, four vaccines have been given Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) in India — Covishield, Covaxin, Sputnik V and Moderna.

In mid-July, Dr VK Paul, Niti Aayog member (health), had said, "We are in talks with Johnson & Johnson regarding their single-dose vaccine." He had added, "As per the plan, this vaccine will also be produced in Hyderabad's Bio E."

The US-based Johnson & Johnson had sought approval in April to conduct a bridging clinical study of its Janssen Covid-19 vaccine candidate in India.

It was reported earlier that a few thousand doses of Johnson & Johnson's vaccine could arrive in India in July.



The US FDA authorised Johnson & Johnson's viral vector Covid-19 vaccine for emergency use in February 2021. However, weeks after its authorisation, the vaccine was linked to a rare but serious blood-clotting disorder.

Covaxin effective against Delta Plus

Hyderabad: Bharat Biotech's Covid-19 vaccine Covaxin (BBV152) is effective against Delta Plus (AY.1) variant of the coronavirus, according to a study published in bioRxiv by the Indian Council of Medical and Research (ICMR).

Maha reports first Zika virus case, Centre rushes team

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After Kerala, Maharashtra has reported its first case of Zika virus infection, prompting the Centre on Monday to rush a high-level team to the State to support the authorities to draw an action plan to control the further spread of the disease.

Zika virus is transmitted mostly by the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito, mainly Aedes aegypti.

On July 31, Maharashtra reported the first case in a resident of Purandar district in rural Pune. The 50-year-old woman was admitted to Belsar primary health centre in Purandar and has now recovered and been sent home. She was also infected by chikungunya.

A statement issued by the Union Health Ministry said that the three-member Central team consists of a public health expert from the office of Regional Director, Pune; a gynecologist from Lady

Hardinge Medical College, Delhi; and an entomologist from National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), ICMR, New Delhi.

"The team shall work closely with the State Health Department, take a stock of the situation on the ground and assess whether the Union Health Ministry's Action Plan for Zika Management is being implemented, and recommend necessary public health interventions for the management of Zika in the State," said the statement.

Kerala has so far reported 61 Zika cases. The infection is mostly found in the tropical and subtropical regions. The symptoms of Zika are similar to dengue, including fever, skin rashes and joint pain. In the vast majority of cases, there are no symptoms. Zika can cause paralysis (Guillain-Barré Syndrome) in some people. It has the potential to cause birth abnormalities in pregnant women.



Chargesheet against Sushil, 12 others filed for wrestler's murder

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Monday filed a thousand-page chargesheet against Olympic medalist wrestler Sushil Kumar and 12 others in connection with the alleged murder of a former junior national wrestling champion at Chhatrasal Stadium in the National Capital.

The chargesheet names 13 accused persons, with Sushil Kumar as the main accused. A total of 15 accused have been arrested in the case and five are on the run. The chargesheet has been



filed before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Satvir Singh Lamba by the crime branch. The judge will announce the date for hearing of the case at the point of taking cognisance of the chargesheet on Tuesday.

Rains likely to be normal in Aug, Sept: IMD

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday said monsoon rain is likely to be "normal" in August and September, between 95 per cent and 105 per cent of the long-period average (LPA).

According to the IMD, during August and September, "below normal" to "normal" rainfall is likely over many areas of the northwest, east and northeast India while "normal" to "above normal" rainfall is most likely over peninsular India and adjacent central India.

The monsoon halted its progress across central India in the third week of June, resulting in a three-week delay in the rain during the key sowing season.

The IMD said after witnessing uncharacteristically



A migrant family sells balloons on a roadside as monsoon clouds gather over Srinagar on Sunday

AP

heavy rain and an irregular weather pattern in July, Delhi is likely to receive normal rainfall in August. Normally, the national Capital receives 210.6

mm and 247.7 mm rainfall in July and August, respectively.

In another forecast for August, IMD Director General Mrutunjay Mohapatra said

monsoon is also likely to be normal in the month. West Madhya Pradesh and adjoining Rajasthan, some parts of interior Maharashtra, Jammu &

Kashmir, Ladakh, some parts of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are likely to receive below-normal rainfall in August, Mohapatra said.

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh, Konkan and Goa, central Maharashtra, south Gujarat, northeastern States, Bihar are likely to receive above-normal rainfall during the month, he added.

July recorded a 7 per cent deficiency in rain, with 26 per cent deficiency over east and northeast India; 27 per cent excess over south peninsula; 7 per cent deficiency over northwest India and 7 per cent deficiency over central India. June ended with 10 per cent excess rain but a monsoon break of around 12 days from June 19 to July 11 led to a long dry spell in many parts of the country.

Indian student in China found dead in room

PTI ■ BEIJING

A 20-year-old Indian student studying in a university in the Chinese city of Tianjin has been found dead in his room and the cause of his death is not yet known, officials here said on Monday.

Aman Nagsen, who hailed from Gaya in Bihar, was a student of Business Administration in the Tianjin Foreign Studies University. He was found dead on July 29.

The cause of his death is under investigation, officials said. He was one of the few Indian students who remained in China through the coronavirus pandemic.

The Indian Embassy here and his family have been informed.

Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main, Secondary Examination of Year 2019 and Roll No. 2213252 issued by CBSE has been actually mutilated. Name of the candidate Gursamir Singh Full address Village- Ranpur Theri, Po-Bharonwali, Tehsil Ramia, Distt. Sirsa, Haryana. Mo-9350878022.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We Ram Kumar S/o Sh. Babu Ram and Smt. Beena W/o Sh. Ram Kumar H/o-9 Maha Maya Colony, MDC, Sector-4 Panchkula declared that our son Harish Kumar and his wife Smt. Sonia are out of our control so I disown both of them from my moveable/immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them will do so at his/her own risk.

I, Jaspal Singh S/o Surjan Singh R/o VPO Hathira (Kurukshetra), have disown my son Sonu from all my movable immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

We Krishan Kumar S/o Desh Raj & Kusum Lata W/o Krishan Kumar R/o H.No- 15 New Vita Enclave Near Kalka Chowk Ambala City inform that our Son Sanjeev Sood, his wife Amanpreet Kaur are out of our control. So we disown both of them from our movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them will do so his/her at their own risk.

I, Hem Raj S/o Narata Ram R/o H.No 751/46 Deena ki Mandi Ambala cantt inform that my Son Vijay, Daughter in Law Poonam, daughters Sapna & Madhu are out of my control. So I disown all of them from my moveable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them will do so his/her at their own risk.

I, Sushil Kumar Adhar no.(241810357245) S/o Sh. Inder Parkash R/o H.No. 15- C, Prem Nagar, Atlas Road, Sonapat declare that my son Sahil Gupta and his wife Navita are out of my control. So I disown them from my Moveable & Immovable Properties. Anybody dealing with them at own risk.

I, Kishan Puri S/O Dharam Pal R/O #133 Gobindgarh, Tehsil And Distt Mohali Declared My Son Gurwinder Puri And Is Wife Rina Kaur Are Out Of My Control So I Disown Both From My Moveable And Immovable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Them On Their Own Risk.

We, Manjaar S/o Akhtar and Sakila W/o Manjaar R/o Madhawalana, PO Nanakpur, Thana Pinjore, Tehsil Kalka, Distt Panchkula, Haryana declare that our Son Aslam and his wife Shamiya are out of our control. We disown them from our all moveable/immovable properties. Anybody deals with them will do so at their own risk.

I, Karnail Singh S/O Amarnath Singh R/O Vill Fatehpur Garhi Teh. Rajpura (Patiala) Declare That My Son Jugraj Singh Is Out Of My Control So I Disown From All My Moveable / Immoveable Property . Anyone Dealing With Him At Thier Own Risk.

I, Gursant Singh S/o Sukhram Singh R/O Vill: Kalal Majra Teh-Samrala (Ludhiana) declare that my son Gagandeep Singh and his wife Harpreet Kaur are out of my control. So I disown with them from my moveable/immovable property. if anybody dealing with them at his/her own risk.

ਮੈ ਮਕਾਨ ਲਾਲ ਪੁੰਡਰ ਹਰੀ ਪੁਲਾਦ ਵਾਸੀ ਕੀ ਨਗਰ 9, ਮੁਹੱਲਾ ਸੰਤਪੁਰਾ, ਕਪੂਰਥਲਾ ਆਪਣੇ ਲੜਕੇ ਬੁਕਸ਼ ਉਰਫ ਬੰਨੀ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਤਾਮਾ ਚੁੱਲ੍ਹ ਅਤੇ ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਮੈ ਤਰਬਥ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੰਡਰ ਕਰਤਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ ਸਕਰ ਰਵਿੰਦਰਾ ਬਲਦੀ (ਸ਼ਹਿਰ) ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਕਪੂਰਥਲਾ ਦਾ ਰਹਿਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਹਾਂ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਤੇ ਨੂੰ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇਬਾਤ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹੈ ਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਰਦੀ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਨ ਤੇ ਇਸ ਲਈ ਮੈਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਲੜਕੇ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਨੂੰ ਗੁਰਦਾਸ ਕੌਰ ਪਤਾ ਗੁਰਦਾਸ ਸਿੰਘ ਪਤੀ ਗੁਰਦਾਸ ਕੌਰ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੱਲ ਅਤੇ ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਅੱਜ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਜੋ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਮੇਰੇ ਲੜਕੇ ਤੇ ਨੂੰ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰੇਗਾ ਉਹ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਮੈ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਕੌਰ, ਪਤਨੀ ਸਵ : ਬਲਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ. 116, ਗੋਲਡਨ ਐਵੀਨਿਊ ਅਜੀਤ ਨਗਰ ਰੋਡ ਕਪੂਰਥਲਾ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੀ ਰਹਿਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਹਾਂ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਮਨਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਉਸਦੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਨਰੋਜ਼ ਭੁਮਾਰੀ ਉਰਫ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਬਾਹਰੀ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਰਦੀ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰੇਗਾ ਉਹ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਮੈ, ਚਮਨ ਲਾਲ ਪੁੰਡਰ ਸ਼ੰਕਰ ਦਾਸ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ. ਈ. ਐਸ.-474, ਅਬਾਦਪੁਰਾ, ਜਲੰਧਰ ਬਿਅਨ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਰਹਿਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਉਰਫ ਮਨੂੰ ਜੋ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹੈ। ਮੈਂ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੱਲ-ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ। ਜੋ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰੇਗਾ। ਉਹ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਵੇਂ ਨੁਕਸਾਨ ਦਾ ਆਪ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਸਬੰਧਿਤ ਨੋਟ ਕਰਨ।

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Lakhvinder Singh Sra S/o Jarnail Singh R/o #3172, Sector 31/D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Lakhvinder Singh Sra to Lakhvinder Singh vide affidavit No. 0013441054 Dtd.25-03-2021 at Chandigarh.

I, Avtar Singh S/o Sh. Gurdev Singh R/o House no. 135/1, Sector 55, Chandigarh have changed my name to Avtar Singh Bhullar.

I, Vanita Mehta W/o Sh. Sanjay Mehta H.No.458 Sector-25 Panchkula have changed my name to Vanita Mehta.

I, No JC246549W Rank RIS Name Yenneti S Narayana Murthy posted at 13 ARMD REGT C/O 56 APO hereby declare that I have changed the name of my son from Yasant Kumar to Yenneti Yasantwam Kumar vide affidavit dated 02/08/2021 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, No 15489604L Rank Dfr Name Bagal Dattu Gangadhar posted at 13 ARMD REGT C/O 56 APO hereby declare that I have changed the name of my son from Krishna to Krishna Dattu Bagal vide affidavit dated 02/08/2021 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Nirmala mother of No 15489604L Rank DFR Name Bagal Dattu Gangadhar R/O VPO Hirapur, Teh Chdwndw, Distt Nashik, State MH 423101 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Nirmala to Nirmalabai Gangadhar Bagal vide affidavit dated 02/08/2021 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Bharati spouse of No 15489604L Rank DFR Name Bagal Dattu Gangadhar R/O VPO Hirapur, Teh Chdwndw, Distt Nashik, State MH 423101 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Bharati to Bharati Dattu Bagal vide affidavit dated 02/08/2021 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Ashok Kumar S/o Choudhary Ram R/o 2088, Sector -17, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar have changed my name to Ashok Chhabra.

I, Seema Rani W/o Ashok Chhabra R/O 2088, Sector -17, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar have changed my name to Seema Chhabra.

I, Daljeet Kaur W/o Gurpreet Singh R/o H.No- 2286-A, Near MC Bali House Subhash Nagar Ambala City have changed my name from Daljit Kaur to Daljeet Kaur.

I, Rakesh Kumar S/o Hans Raj R/o DSP Road, Fatehabad, Haryana have changed my Name from Rakesh Batra to Rakesh Kumar.

I, Kamesh Rani W/o Rakesh Kumar R/o DSP Road, Fatehabad, Haryana have changed my Name from Kamesh Batra to Kamlesh Rani.

I, Gautam S/o Anil Kumar Mehta R/o H.No. 31/1A Ajit Nagar, Ward no 11 Mahesh Nagar Ambala Cantt have changed my name from Gautam Mehta to Gautam.

I, Avtar Singh S/O Sh. Satwant Singh Kalsi and Smt. Sukhdeep Kaur Kalsi R/O 2360, Sector 44C, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Avtar Singh Kalsi.

I, Opinder Kumar Pandit S/O Ratan Dev Pandit R/O ward No. 11 Kulwail Jampalpur Awana Ludhiana Declare That Opinder Kumar Pandit And Bhupinder Pandit One And The Same Person.

I, No. 15662856X Rank Hav, Gajendra Kumar Singh H/o Smt. Kiran Kumari Unit 2 Corps Grid Sig Regt C/O 56 APO. Have Changed my Name from Vijay Lakshmi To Vijay Lakshmi.

I, Hav Rajbir Singh (4481702H) S/o Sh Faquir Chand Residence Village & Post office Bhareri Kalan Tehsil Naraingarh Distt Ambala Haryana. Have declare that in my service record my wife name wrongly recorded Sarabjit Kaur instead of Sarvjeet Kaur, his right and correct name is Sarvjeet Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Mrs. Vijay Laxmi W/o Govind Singh (Service No. 13999353W) Rank Hav R/o 4002 Field Hospital C/O 56 APO. Have Changed my Name from Vijay Lakshmi To Vijay Laxmi.

I, Parmajit S/O Ginder Ram V.P.O Gaggarpur Dist. Kaithal. Have Changed My Name Parmjeet Ram.

I, Nitin Kumar S/o Sh. Vedpal VPO. Baliana Distt. Rohtak declare that before my name was Nitin. I have changed my name Nitin to Nitin Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Meenakshi Rana D/o Suresh Kumar Rana W/o Pardeep Dogra R/O H.No 2148, Sector 12, Sonapat, Haryana have changed my name from Meenakshi to Meenakshi Rana for all future purposes.

I, Smt. Shalu Manhas W/o No 3990242A LtNK Subash Singh R/O Vill. Mohiuldinpur Dalep, PO Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my daughter from Shiwanj Manhas to Shiwani. Concerned Note.

I, No 4452793P Ex Nk Prem Singh S/o Shri Charan Singh R/O VPO Nangal Bihalan Tehsil Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my daughter from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur. Concerned Note.

I, Sonia Rani D/o Ishwar Das, W/o Amit Kumar R/O Ward No. 14, Shop No. 49, New Grain Market, Barwala, Distt. Hissar (Hry) have changed my name from Sonia Rani to Priya for all purposes in future.

I, Chintti Devi mother of No JC247779W Rank RIS Name Mukesh Kumar R/O Vpo Dilawarpur Gowardhan, Teh Hajipur, Distt Vaishali, State Bihar 844503 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Chintti Devi to Chintta Devi vide affidavit dated 02/08/2021 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Khushbu spouse of No 15501649A Rank ALD Name Shesh Narayan Tiwari R/O Vill Saidpur, Po Pahar Ganj, Teh Amethi, Distt Amethi, State Uttar Pradesh 227405 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Khushbu to Khushbu Tiwari vide affidavit before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Tulsee Ram Tiwari father of No 15501649A Rank ALD Name Shesh Narayan Tiwari R/O Vill Saidpur, Po Pahar Ganj, Teh Amethi, Distt Amethi, State Uttar Pradesh 227405 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Tulsee Ram Tiwari to Tulsi Ram Tiwari vide affidavit before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Harbhajan Singh S/o Bur Singh village Jia Sahota Kalan Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my name is revenue record is Harbhajan Singh but in bank account my name is Bhajan Singh. Harbhajan Singh and Bhajan Singh is the same person known by two names. Concerned note.

I, Surjit Kaur W/O Rattan Singh Residence Of Village Aimanmangat. Teh.Mukerian. Distt. Hoshiarpur. (Punjab)Declare That IHave Changed My Name Spellings From Surjit Kaur To Surjeet Kaur. Please Concerned Note.

I, S. Gurnam Singh S/O Late S Ram Singh Father Of No.3406740F Late Sepoy Gurcharan Singh R/O Village Kandhari Khurd Po Kandhari Kalan, Tehsil Jagadhri Distt. Yamuna Nagar Declared In Service Documents Of My Late Son Gurcharan Singh My Dob & My Wife Name And Dob Is Recorded Wrong. Please Correct Gurnam Singh (Dob 10.05.1962) To S. Gurnam Singh (Dob 10.05.1962) And My Wife Name Surinder Kaur To Salinder Kaur & Dob From 11.06.1968 To 20.09.1952.

I, Vijal Kumar Sharma , 203805Wpo, R/O 1/10 Ft Pkt-12, Sec. 82 Noida Declared My Naval Service Record As My Father And Mothers Name Wrongly Mentioned As Sunder Lal Sharma , His Correct Name Is Sunder Ram. My Mother's Correct Name Is Premi Devi Sharma D.O.B 07/09/1940.

I, Narinder Kaur W/o Amritpal Singh R/o VPO. Bombeli, Teh. Garhshankar, Distt.Hoshiarpur-146101, Punjab declare that Given name was Narinder & Surname as Kaur.

I, Narinder Kaur W/o Amritpal Singh R/o VPO. Bombeli, Teh. Garhshankar, Distt.Hoshiarpur-146101, Punjab declare that my minor daughter Given name as Jaskirat & Surname as Kaur.

I, Kulwinder Kaur W/o Baljit Singh R/o VPO. Bhojwal, Distt. Jalandhar-144101 have changed name of my minor daughter from Jaspreet Kaur Mahal to Jaspreet Kaur.

I, Parmjit Singh S/o Gurdev Singh R/o H.No.40, Church Street, Old Cantt Road, Faridkot, Punjab-151203, have changed my name as Parmjit Singh Gharu.

I, Jasbir Kaur D/o Gurmei Singh and W/o Parmjit Singh Gharu R/o H.No.40, Church Street, Old Cantt Road, Faridkot, Punjab-151203, have changed my name as Jasbir Kaur Gharu.

I, Abhay Kumar Army No. 157194055 Rank-NK Hg Mt 11CSR, S/o Upendra Prasad Singh, Service at Jalandhar Cantt., at permanent address is Vill. Gijnas, Post- Jaintpur, Ps-Saraiya, Block-Saraiya, Tehsil-Muzaffarpur State-Bihar Pin-843123 have changed my wife name from Archana Singh to Archana Kumari. All Please Note.

I, Arti Tiwari W/o Yagyadatt Tiwari Service No. 15359149P Rank Hav, Presently Serving in 11CSR C/O 56 APO that my permanent address is Vill. Kusmara, Post- Kusmara, Ps-Jalaun, Tehsil Jalaun, Distt. Jalaun, State U.P. have changed my name from Arti Devi to Arti Tiwari. All Please Note.

I, Army No-13760090H Rank Hav.Sanjay Kumar Father of Nainshii R/O Village Thalamber. PO Kkakkar. Tehsil Sujampur, Distt. Hamirpur (HP) Serving in 3 JAK Rifle C/O 56 APO, in my Service Record my Daughter Name is D.O.B is Wrongly Entered as Malti Devi 06.06.1987. Instead of Kavita Devi 22-09-1986. Vide Affidavit.

I, Suman kumari D/o Army No.JC561204L Rank-Subedar Name Ramakant Singh Resident of vill. Bhikhanpura Chhakmand, P.o H.P.O Teh-Mushari Ps Sadar,Distt-Muzaffarpur That i have been changed my name Anjali Kumari to Suman Kumari D.O.B -13 Nov 2002 Through Affid-21674/ 19.06.21 I will know only Suman kumari for Future Purpose.

I, Aman kumar S/o Army No.JC561204L Rank-Subedar Name-Ramakant Singh resident of vill. Bhikhanpura Chhakmand, P.o H.P.O Teh-Mushari Ps Sadar,Distt-Muzaffarpur That i have been changed my name Anjali Kumari to Suman Kumari D.O.B -13 Nov 2002 Through Affid-21674/ 19.06.21 I will know only Suman kumari for Future Purpose.

I, JC-511152K Sub Amarjit Singh Son Of Milkhi Ram R/O Vpo. Badeston Tehsil Garhshankar District Hoshiarpur (Punjab) Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son From Yatin To Jatin Singh As Per Affidavit.

I, Jatinder Kumar S/O Ashwani Kumar R/O H.No.444 Ward No.11, Purani Dana Mandi Moga Have Changed My Name From Jatinder Kumar To Jatinder Gupta.

I Harpreet Kaur Sekhon W/O Jagdeep Singh Gill R/O Patti Badal, Vpo. Kaunka Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Harpreet Kaur Gill.

I Mandip Kaur Sidhu W/O Gurtej Singh R/O Vpo. Malliana Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Mandip Kaur.

I Anil Kumar S/O Om Parkash R/O Shaan Gali Chowk Laxmansar Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Anil Kumar Aggarwal.

I Rajvir Kaur D/O Harbhajan Singh R/O Vpo. Kokri Vehniwal Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Rajveer Kaur.

I Ranjit Singh S/O Jangeer Singh R/O Vpo. Jecda Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Ranjit Singh Brar.

I, Anita Goel W/o Pawan Kumar R/o ward no.4, near bus stand Ghagga distt Patiala after marriage have changed my name to Anu Garg.

I, Baby Jana Mother of Army No. 15479837Y Rank DFR Name: Arup Ratan Jana Son of Nikhilesh Jana R/O Village Ichharpur, PO. Bayenda District Purba Medinipur State: West Bengal Pin-721425 to Changed Name Baby Jana to Babi Rani Jana.

I, No. 14931330M, Hav. Solanki Vasant Kumar of Unit 25 Mech Inf C/O 56 APO Declare that my Service Record my wife namely & Date of birth is Wrongly mentioned as Nayana Ben & Date of birth is 18/07/1986 but my wife Correct Name Solanki Nayana Ben & Date of birth is 01.02.1989.

I, No. 2691712X, Hav Jafar Ali Khan, Unit 21 Grenadiers C/o 56 APO Ferozepur Cantt declare that my wife Wrongly registered as Madeena Banu in my Service Record. But the Correct name of my wife is Madeena Bano.

I, Jamiro Devi W/o Chhatar Pal R/o Shadipur Ladwa, PO Umri, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name to Jamero.

I, Aarti Arora W/o Darpan Walia R/o H.No. EE-26, Krishana Street, Bhagat Singh Chowk, Jalandhar have changed my name to Aarti Walia.

I, Sarita W/o Anand Kumar Kaul R/o H.No. 1191, Boota Pind, Jalandhar have changed my name to Sarita Kaul.

I, Anju W/o Rajiv Malhotra R/o H.No. 202, Hardev Nagar, Jalandhar have changed my name to Anjali Malhotra after marriage.

I, Narinder Kaur W/o Amritpal Singh R/o VPO. Bombeli, Teh. Garhshankar, Distt.Hoshiarpur-146101, Punjab declare that Given name was Narinder & Surname as Kaur.

I, No. 3394298M Ex Hav Nachhattar Singh S/O Sh. Mukhtar Singh Resident Of VPO. Balair, Tehsil Patti, Distt Tarn Tarn Changed My Son Name Jarmanjit Singh To Jarmanjeet Singh.

I, No. 4465136Y Ex Nk/Ts Amrk Singh S/O Sh. Shingara Singh Resident Of Vill. Rahal Chahal, P.O. Sangatpur, Tehsil Khadoor Sahib, Distt Tarn Tarn Changed My Daughter Name Davinder Kaur To Devinder Kaur.

I, No. 3394298M Ex Hav Nachhattar Singh S/O Sh. Mukhtar Singh Resident Of Vill. Warana, P.O. Lalpur, Tehsil & Distt Tarn Tarn Changed My Daughter Name Karandeep Kaur To Kirandeep Kaur.

I, Sherry S/o Gulshan Bhagi R/o H.No. 184 W/o. 9 Kurali Teh-Kharar (SAS Nagar, Mohali) Punjab, changed my name from Suraj Bhagi to Sherry.

I, Amandeep S/o Nand Kishore R/o # 113/2, W/o-2, Loharan Mohalla, Samana (Patiala) changed my name to Amandeep Verna.

I, Service No.Jc184371a Ex Sub & H/Lt Harbhajan Singh S/O Natha Singh R/O Vpo- Dashmesh Nagar (Gurudwara Gali) Tehsil Gurdaspur (Near New Chungi Batala Road) Distt- Gurdaspur State Punjab, That I Declare Changed My Daughter Name From Sukhwinder Kaur To Sukhjinder Kaur And Date Of Birth From 08/09/1986 To 15/12/1985 In Army Record.

I, Service No.1470319f Ex Spr Nageen Singh S/O Sukhkan Singh R/O Vpo- Behrampur, Tehsil And Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab, That I Declare Changed My Daughter Name From Lovpreet Kaur To Lovepreet Kaur In Army Record.

I, No.4473361n Ex Hav Tarsem Singh S/O Sh Charan Singh R/O Village Khanna Chamaran Po, Dharankot Randhawa Tehsil Dera Baba Nanak Distt Gurdaspur State Punjab, Have Changed The Name Of My Son Samrjeet Singh To Surmeet Singh.

I, No.4546783K Ex Hav Subhash Kumar S/O Sh Bawa Ram R/O Village- Sanger, P.O- Dharival Tehsil And Distt- Gurdaspur State Punjab, Have Changed The Name Of My Son Mukesh Kumar To Mukesh Kumar Sharma.

I, No.3392786W Ex Hav Paramjit Singh S/O Gurdial Singh Resident Of Vpo- Joito Sarja, Teh-Batala & Distt- Gurdaspur (Pb), Have Changed Name Of My Son From Sajpreet Singh To Sehajpreet Singh Randhawa.

I, Smt Kulvir Kaur Spouse Of No.14398215f Ex Nk/Ts Balwinder Singh Resident Of Vpo- Dabarbawla, Teh- Batala & Distt- Gurdaspur (Pb), Have Changed My Name From Kulvir Kaur To Kulbir Kaur.

I, Mahakdeep Kaur Daughter Of No.14398215f Ex Nk/Ts Balwinder Singh Resident Of Vpo- Dabarbawla, Teh- Batala & Distt- Gurdaspur (Pb), Have Changed My Name From Mahakdeep Kaur To Mehakdeep Kaur & Date Of Birth From 20/10/1993 To 21/10/1992.

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Classified Advertisement Contact : 94174-19351

Hry CM and Sports Minister congratulate Indian women's and men's hockey teams

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday congratulated Indian women's and men's hockey teams for reaching the semi-finals in Tokyo Olympics 2020. Indian Women's hockey

team has created history by registering a tremendous win over Australia and has reached the Olympic semi-finals for the first time. A day before, the Men's Hockey team had also made it to the Olympic semi-finals after 49 years. The Men's Hockey Team defeated Great Britain by 3-1

and entered into the semi-finals. "In Indian Women's Hockey Team, nine players are from Haryana and the captain of this team, Rani Rampal is also from Shahabad, which is a matter of pride for the people of Haryana," said the Chief Minister in his congratulatory message.

LOST & FOUND

I Bharti Devi D/o Sh. Rajkumar R/o H. NO.-7/14 Ashok Nagar, Ganaur, Sonapat Declare that One of my Vasika NO.-43 Dated 16/04/1990 has been lost at home on dated 01.05.2016 Ganaur, Sonipat. If found not in Misuse. Deponent

LOST & FOUND

I, Sanjeev Kumar Dani S/o Raj Paul Dani R/o 124, Golden Avenue, Phase-I, Jalandhar. lost my Old Special Power Of Attorney 6947 dt. 22/11/1996 Sr Jalandhar. Lodged Complaint in concerned Sewa Kendra vide Sr. No. 157098/2021 dt. 29/7/2021. In case of Finding the document, Kindly return my old given address or call me 9872538000. All Please Note.

LOST & FOUND

I, Kiran Devi W/o Kaku Ram R/o Gandhi Nagar, Narwana (Jind) declare that my Sale Deed No. 167, dated 17-04-2014 has been lost near Gandhi Nagar, Narwana on 01-06-2021. If found contact 9896706700

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that Mrs. Manpreet Kaur D/o Late Sh. Mohinder Singh R/o M-368, Guru Harikrishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087 has lost her original copy of TDI No. 22/504 and customer ID No. KFI 14596 Apartment TDI City, Kundli, Sonapat Haryana in her name claiming herself the legal heir of deceased Late Sh. Rajinder Pal Singh as per document, dated 27 February 2006 in records of company that i.e. TDI Infrastructure Ltd. having its office Vandana Building, 11, Tolaky Marg, New Delhi-110001. Any person having any objection of transfer of the said flat in favour of Mrs. Manpreet Kaur D/o Late Sh. Mohinder Singh may send at the above noted office of company with supporting documents or through email customer.care@tdiinfra.com within 15 days of the publication of this notice. Otherwise it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed transfer of the said flat in her name. After that company shall not be liable for any claim whatsoever after 15 days. TDI Infrastructure Ltd. having its office Vandana Building, 11, Tolaky Marg, New Delhi-110001, Phone No. 011-43111111

LOST & FOUND

I Govind Goel S/o Virender Mohan Goel R/o 524-Housing Board Colony, Ambala Cantt declare that I lost my Bag with original Documents Original Sale Deed Purni Devi V/S Anupam Gandhi Parlekh No. 153, Dated 22.04.1998, Adhar Card, Ration Card, Photos Property Tax Documents lost at Ram Bagh Road, Ambala Cantt on Dated 28-07-2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform and seek objections, if any, from general public that Smt. Aarti Garg wife of Late Sh. Kapil Kumar Garg intends to get the membership bearing no. 512 dated 18.03.2011 along with rights, entitlements for the allotment of a residential plot measuring 250 Sq. yards in the project known as Suntec City, situated at Sector 22, New Chandigarh - SAS Nagar, (Mohali), Punjab of the Society namely The Indian Coop House Building Society Ltd (Regd) held with the deceased namely. Sh. Kapil Kumar Garg (deceased) son of Sh. Darshan Kumar resident of House no. # 14039, Suraj Basti, Ganesh Nagar, Bathinda- Punjab on the basis of WILL dated 29/03/2021 as left by the deceased whereby he had bequeathed his rights, entitlements and interest in the membership/shareholding along with rights/entitlement for allotment of a residential plot measuring 250 Sq yards in the above said project in favour of Smt. Aarti Garg wife of Late Sh. Kapil Kumar Garg. Any person or entities including any bank, societies(s) or financial institution having any claim, right, title or interest in the above said membership/ shares in any manner whatsoever by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment, license, maintenance or otherwise however, shall bring the same to the notice of the undersigned in writing with supporting documents/evidence within a period of 21 days from the date of this notice failing which such claim if any, shall be considered to be waived, abandoned and it shall be presumed that no person or entities including societies/bank financial institution has any claim of any nature in respect of the shareholding/ membership along with rights in the said residential plot in the said society and any subsequent claim shall not bind us in any manner. The Indian Coop House Building Society Ltd. (Regd.) Registered office at Suncet City, Sector 22, New CHD (Mullarpur) Punjab

Court Notice

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

IN THE COURT OF **Ms. Navjeet Klair Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Kurukshetra.**

Haryana CM launches 'Har Hith' outlet scheme

Says around 2000 stores to be opened in first phase to give new business opportunities to youth

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In a bid to empower youth with jobs and entrepreneurship, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday launched the first of its kind "Har Hith" store scheme for promoting the sales of best quality of daily need products at reasonable prices.

"These stores will provide a platform to youth franchisees as well as Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), government cooperative institutions, FPOs (Farmer Producer Organizations), Self Help Groups (SHGs) to increase their business," said Khattar while officially inaugurating and inspecting a store during a programme held at Panchkula.

The Chief Minister said, "Making Haryana 'Beroigar Mukht, Rozgar Yukt' by 2024 is our target and opening of these stores would ensure creating of a necessity and would also enhance the possibility to encourage entrepreneurship and further create an ecosystem that promotes youth to be a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

He said that these stores would not only play a pivotal role in enhancing the manufacturing capabilities of MSMEs but would also prove to be a game-changer for market access to government cooperatives.

"With the opening of these stores, the State Government's model of making youth a job giver instead of job seeker would also be accomplished," he said.

'Franchise Policy' launched

The Chief Minister also launched 'Franchise Policy' under which those interested to apply for these stores can apply after duly following the terms and conditions. As per the policy, people in the age group of 18-35, women, persons with



special disability and those verified under Mukhyamantri Parviar Uthan Yojana would be given preference. As per the policy as many as 1500 stores would be opened in rural areas and 500 in urban areas in the first phase.

"From today, the people can apply for these stores on the

portal. In the coming two months, a target has been set for formally launching the first 100 stores," he said.

Khattar while launching the official website for the applicants to submit their applications for the store said that in the first phase, Haryana has planned to open 2000 stores

and in the second phase a target of opening 5000 such stores has been set.

Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited will allot one franchisee having 200 sq. ft. area over a population of 3000 per village, one at least per ward in the municipal corporation and one at least in a

group of wards having a cumulative population of 10000 in municipal committee or council.

The Chief Minister announced that young members of families having annual income less than Rs 1.80 lakh and who have been verified under State Government's

ambitious Parivar Pehchan Patra scheme will also be given priority in this "Har Hith" Store scheme.

He also announced that if these youth show their interest then through these stores, the State Government will also guarantee a minimum monthly income of Rs 15,000 per month to these youth.

"As per the sale provision made in the scheme, the franchisee partner who sells products worth Rs 1,50,000 will earn a marginal profit of 10 percent that is Rs 15,000," he informed.

Meanwhile, if any youth whose verified family annual income is less than Rs 1.80 lakh and are unable to earn an income

of Rs 15,000 in the first six months, then the State Government will guarantee them to get financial assistance for at least six months, the Chief Minister added.

Khattar further said "If the youth is able to earn Rs 12,000 then the government would give him a compensation

amount of Rs 3,000 as financial aid, if the income is above Rs 13,000, then the government would provide compensation of Rs 2000 and so on. The State Government will ensure that his minimum income comes to Rs. 15,000."

He said that if the applicant of the franchise is financially weak, then the State Government would provide a loan facility under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana without any guarantee.

During the programme the Chief Minister was apprised that Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited (HAICL) has already signed Terms of Trade (TOT) with as many as 51 big corporate houses which would be providing their quality products in these stores.

It was informed that these stores would be enabled with a complete IT support system ensuring the smooth running of the retail store. All the sales would be done through a point of sale system. Scanning the goods through the machine will facilitate billing, online payment, keeping material details and ordering stock.

Govt launches 'Rangla Punjab' web channel to promote hidden talent

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

To promote hidden talent from around the State, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday virtually launched a web channel — 'Rangla Punjab' (ranglapunjab.in).

"The channel would be instrumental in preserving and promoting the rich cultural legacy of Punjab, and will offer enormous opportunities to budding artists to showcase their talent in singing, dancing, and other forms of performing art and culture," said the Chief Minister.

Lauding the unique initiative of the Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department to promote Punjab, Punjabi, and Punjabiya, the Chief Minister said that the 'Rangla Punjab' channel would also open vistas for talented artists in Punjabi and Hindi film and music

industry, with the uploaded content likely to offer fresh choice of talent to eminent producers and directors.

The Chief Minister asked the youth, who are well versed in the new trends of vocal and instrumental music, to also go for singing legendary folklores like Heer-Ranjha, Sohni-Mahiwal and Sassi-Punnu, which are integral to Punjab's rich cultural heritage.

The Chief Minister hoped that Punjabi youth settled in Canada, USA, and Australia would also join this platform to exhibit their talent. "Though foreigners in countries like Germany don't understand Punjabi yet, they are enthralled by the lively Punjabi music and songs due to the scintillating melodies and beat," he added.

Earlier, the state Tourism and Cultural Affairs Minister Charanjit Singh Channi said

that this unique concept to connect Punjab's youth with their roots would motivate them to exhibit the best of their talent.

"Initially, only singing and dancing videos would be uploaded, which would be thoroughly screened by an expert committee of the members from Punjab Arts Council before sharing on the web channel. Later, competitions amongst the selected performers in different genres would also be held to encourage the youth as a part of talent hunt programme," he said.

Channi also briefed the Chief Minister about the launch of online registration under Bed and Breakfast or Homestay scheme-2021, which would go a long way in promoting rural tourism in the State, besides giving an opportunity to the citizens to earn livelihood by renting out their residential accommodations.

PSPCL purchases power at ₹2.22/unit at record low price

From power exchange on August 1

PNS ■ PATIALA

Availing the advantage of low prices of power at Power exchange, the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) has purchased 302 megawatt (MW) of power from power exchange at the rate Rs 2.22 per unit with a total quantity of 70.22 lakh units on August 1, this year.

Sharing the information, PSPCL chairman-cum-managing director A Venu Prasad on Monday said that whenever, opportunity arises, PSPCL is purchasing power at cheaper rates in its endeavour to reduce cost of supply for its consumers.

Giving details of power purchase from open market, Prasad informed that PSPCL has procured 355 million units (MUs) of power from the open market at the rate of Rs 3.06 per unit from onset of paddy season to June 30 this year, while during July, power purchase of 503 MUs has been made at the rate of Rs 3.24 per unit.

"The arrival of monsoon, coupled with efficient power procurement arrangements, has now resulted in a comfortable power supply position in the State," he added.

Prasad said that the PSPCL has procured huge quantity of power from the Power Exchange "due to failure of Talwandi Sabo Power Limited (TSPL), Mansa, in the paddy season...The TSPL remained out for continuous three days in July month. Presently, only two units of Talwandi Sabo

Power Limited are operational. These factors have caused a huge power shortage in Punjab," he said.

"To guard the commercial aspect, PSPCL has also enhanced the available transfer capability (ATC) limit to 7700 MW to facilitate more power purchase from various sources located outside the State. This has encouraged PSPCL in reducing overall purchase cost by 30 to 40 paise in the year 2021-22," he said.

The present peak demand of power in the State has been reduced from 14,000 MW plus to 10,100 MWs on Sunday at 8.15 pm. As a result of reduced demand, all four units of state-run GH Thermal Plant at Lehra Mohabbat and GGSS Thermal plant at Ropar and two units of private GVK Thermal Plant at Goindwal Sahib remained closed.

Portal launched for allotment of houses to Government employees in Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday launched a portal to make the process of allotment of Government accommodation to the employees more transparent.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the employees should get government accommodation on the basis of their seniority without any recommendation. There should be complete transparency in the allocation process, he said.

He said that such a system has been made so that the employees will be allotted accommodation on the basis of grade and seniority within the stipulated time after applying online.

The record of government houses available for allotment will be available on the portal

<http://awas.haryanapwd.gov.in>, on the basis of which the employees will be able to apply.

After completing the process of taking objections etc, once the applications are received, houses will be allotted to the employees within the stipulated period. With the launch of the portal, better tracking of allocation will be possible. All the formalities of house allotment, house change etc. will be done online, he said.

The Chief Minister further said that the availability of vacant houses on the portal will be updated continuously. The seniority list of online applications will also be available on the portal, he added.

It was informed that there are 1306 different types of houses in Panchkula and Chandigarh and there are 69 transit flats in Panchkula.

Special subsidy scheme prepared to attract mega projects in Haryana: Dushyant Chautala

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala on Monday said that the State Government has prepared a scheme of 'Investment Subsidy in lieu of Net SGST' in order to attract more investors in the state.

"Under this, projects from MSMEs will be given subsidy. With the establishment of more industries, employment opportunities will be directly enhanced for more youth of the state," Dushyant said.

The Deputy Chief Minister, who also holds the portfolio of Industries and Commerce Department, said that the 'Haryana Enterprises and Employment Policy, 2020' has been formulated by the State Government with the main objective to make the state a major investment-destination and to facilitate balance

between regional and sustainable development through an energy efficient governance system.

He said that the State Government realized that to attract the investors in backward areas, the State needs to provide support in setting up of infrastructure and better 'Ease of Doing' system as well as 'Investment Subsidy in lieu of Net SGST'. There is also a need to provide major financial incentives to reduce the cost of their business and make the industry more competitive and sustainable, he said. Dushyant informed that a customized package will be offered by the 'Haryana Enterprises Promotion Board' to the ultra mega projects across the state. The quantum and duration of 'Investment Subsidy in lieu of Net SGST' will be decided by this board itself. He also informed that such clusters, which include at least 10

enterprises engaged in similar economic activities, which are established or relocating to Haryana from other countries or states, will be considered as a mega project provided that it meets the criteria of 'Fixed Capital Investment' (FCI). On the basis of 'Cost Benefit Analysis', a special package will be decided by the 'Haryana Enterprises Promotion Board' as an incentive for this mega project, he added. Giving details about the 'Investment Subsidy in lieu of Net SGST' scheme given to the industries, the Deputy Chief Minister said that for the first 5 years, the industry set up in the 'D-category' section will be given 'Net SGST' of 75 percent, and 35 percent (maximum 125 percent of fixed capital investment) will be given for the next 3 years. Similarly, industries falling in the 'C-category' segment will get 50 percent of 'Net SGST' for the first 5 years, and

25 per cent for next 3 years (maximum 100 per cent of fixed capital investment) and 'B-category' industries engaged in this segment will be given 30 percent of 'Net SGST' for the first 5 years, and 15 percent (maximum of 100 per cent of fixed capital investment) for the next 3 years from the commencement of manufacturing of commercial products. In mega projects, which will have 'inverted duties', subsidy up to 5 percent of FCI (Fixed Capital Investment) will be given in equal annual installments for a period of 8 years. This would be a maximum annual limit of Rs 5 crore for a mega project, he added.

He further said that in cases where 'Net SGST' under cash ledger is less than 5 percent of FCI in a year, a subsidy of up to 5 percent of FCI will be given in equal annual installments for a period of 8 years.

Why patronising sand, liquor mafia: Majithia asks Sidhu

PNS ■ MOHALI

SAD MLA and former Minister Bikram Singh Majithia on Monday asked the newly-appointed Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee (PPCC) president Navjot Singh Sidhu to tell Punjabis why he was patronizing the sand and liquor mafia instead of holding them responsible for the scores of deaths and open loot of the State exchequer.

Majithia, who was in Mohali to attend a function which witnessed the joining of independent councillor Nirmal Kaur and former SOI leader Simran Dhillon back into the party fold, said that the alacrity with which Sidhu had embraced the sand and liquor mafias was condemnable especially when he had supposedly taken up cudgels against them earlier.

"The mafia and those who patronized them including Madan Lal Jalalpur, Hardyal

Kamboj and Gurkirat Singh Kotli are Sidhu's biggest supporters now. The mafia has even taken on the responsibility of running the Pradesh Congress office in Chandigarh and this is why we now see Sidhu expressing gratitude to the mafia leaders from Congress stages," he said.

DEBT WAIVER FOR LABOURERS, LANDLESS FARMERS A HOAX

On the Congress Government's announcement to waive off loans worth Rs 590 crore under the farm debt waiver scheme for labourers and landless farmers, Majithia said that the announcement was turning out to be a hoax already.

"Even before any waiver could take place, the Government has come out with pre-conditions which would make a majority of the supposed 2.85 lakh beneficiaries ineligible for the waiver," he

Sukhbir assures full support to Numberdars on their genuine demands

Chandigarh: SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Monday assured to fully support Numberdars of Punjab in their genuine demands. The assurance was made as a delegation of Numberdar Union met him at the party head office.

Sukhbir told the visiting delegation of the Numberdar Unions that the SAD will ponder over their genuine demands and will include all such demands in the party manifesto which the SAD-led alliance will be able to complete after coming to power. SAD is a party of principles and believes in only saying what it could accomplish, he added.

Delegation, led by chief patron Bhupinder Singh Gill, told Sukhbir that their demand was to make the post of Numberdar a hereditary post, their honorarium should be increased, Numberdars should be given relaxation in bus fare and toll taxes, they should be made members of District Level Grievances Committees besides others, a room should be allotted to them in Tehsil complexes, they should be awarded on August 15 and January 26 among other demands. PNS

claimed. Majithia said that the Government had come out with conditions that the beneficiary must not have paid back a single rupee and other such things which are being disclosed in the fine print of the scheme. "It is nothing but a hoax which is being played out four and a half years after the Congress party formed the government in the State," he added.

AAP to convey Kejriwal's message on farmers' movement

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal asked Punjab unit leaders to leave aside the party's flag and agenda and support the ongoing farmers' movement at all levels, the state party unit on Monday said that the "message" will be conveyed to all leader and volunteers at various levels.

"This message of Arvind Kejriwal is being conveyed by the party to the leaders and volunteers at all levels," said Punjab party affairs in-charge Jarnail Singh.

Reacting to the ongoing farmers' movement, Singh said that AAP was the first political party in the country opposing the anti-agriculture black laws at all levels since its drafting.

"AAP's national convener has given clear directions to the party leaders in Punjab and in all states that the farmers' movement is a pious and non-political movement for the sur-

A day before, Kejriwal had asked Punjab leaders to support ongoing farmers' movement at all levels

vival of the 'annadatas' and the preservation of the land...So, for further strengthening and upliftment of this movement, every leader and volunteer of the party should set aside the party's flag and agenda and continue to support this movement at all levels with body, heart, and money until the farmers return home waving the victory flag," he added.

Singh said that the Modi Government should give up its stubbornness and repeal all the three anti-agriculture black laws.

Notably, a day before, Kejriwal had met party leaders from Punjab, including the state unit president Bhagwant Mann, legislators led by Leader of Opposition Harpal Singh

Cheema, state affairs in-charge Jarnail Singh and co in-charge Raghav Chadha, among others.

Kejriwal, during a marathon meeting to chalk out the party's strategy on AAP's Mission-2022 that lasted for about three hours in New Delhi, discussed the ways to further strengthen the ongoing farmers' agitation, and sought detailed suggestions for the same.

During the meeting, Kejriwal had reiterated that the Central Government should immediately repeal the anti-agriculture black laws and should not introduce the Electricity Amendment Bill, 2021, in the Parliament.

MANPREET BADAL'S

ALLY JOINS AAP

In a major blow to the Congress in the Malwa region, Bathinda's prominent Congress leader and a close ally of Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal Jagroop Singh Gill joined AAP on Monday along with hundreds of his associates.

After Gurmeet Singh Khudian who was a close associate of Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, Gill's joining has given much needed boost to the AAP and a setback to the ruling Congress party.

Gill, the former chairman of Bathinda Improvement Trust, said: "We will support AAP in Malwa and in the entire Punjab, as the State awaits AAP government...Instead of playing politics, I would work to strengthen the party so that corruption would be eradicated from Punjab and closed factories would be reopened."

Welcoming Gill and hundreds of his supporters, Cheema said that all those

who want prosperity of Punjab are welcomed in the AAP. "The joining of Khudian and Gill in AAP has broke the back of the Congress party in Bathinda along with the entire Malwa region," he said.

Gill has also been the president of the District Bar Association as well as the president of the Municipal Council. Apart from this, Gill has been a councillor since 1979 and is now a councillor for the seventh time.

JOLT TO BJP IN MAJHA

AAP served a major jolt to the BJP in Majha with its district vice-president Harwinder Singh Malli from Gurdaspur and district general secretary Harbans Singh, besides vice-president of Panchayati Raj, Mangal Singh Sahur (Dera Baba Nanak) joining the party on Monday.

Malli has held a number of important posts, including Mission Modi's block president and Dera Baba Nanak constituency in-charge.

Fake FB profile of Chandigarh SSP asks for financial aid; investigation begins

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH

In a major cybercrime case, a hacker created a fake Facebook account of Chandigarh Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kuldeep Chahal and asked for financial assistance through online payment platforms.

A cyber fraudster had reportedly sent friend requests to group members via his fake account, seeking financial help and asking them to send money through online payment platforms.

Talking to "The Pioneer" SSP Chahal confirmed that his fake Facebook account was discovered and it has been deleted now and senior cyber cell officers are investigating this matter. Police sources said that the accused hacker who made a fake Facebook account of SSP, had asked for money from his acquaintances included in the friend list of the officer. People were asked for money in small

amounts continuously by making different excuses, sources said. Meanwhile, the incidents of hacking or cloning of FB accounts by cyber fraudsters have grown alarmingly in Chandigarh and the region. Facebook users have become soft targets for cyber criminals amid ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

When contacted, a senior cyber cell police officer, on the condition of anonymity, said that there has been a sharp spike in cybercrimes since the outbreak of Covid-19 as cyber fraudsters are taking advantage of increasing dependence on the virtual world. Cybercrime cases including FB account hacking or cloning are being reported on a daily basis in Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana.

The users whose FB accounts have been hacked also include senior cops, lawyers and senior politicians including the Mayor in the past. Many FB users are seeking monetary

help in the name of job loss, unemployment, and hunger among other reasons from friends over the social media platform. The latest trend in cyber crime is that hackers on social media find influential profiles to impersonate or even hack into, to lend credibility to their tactics, he added. The Police officer further said that recently, Chandigarh's cyber-crime cell had blocked at least eight Facebook pages promising free home delivery of alcohol to city residents, amid the Covid-19 outbreak and prohibitory orders.

"While the lockdown and surge in Covid-19 cases has confined people indoors and triggered an increase in their time spent over Facebook and other social media platforms, it has also led to increased activity by cyber fraudsters. Cyber cell of the police is, from time to time, issuing advisories to the citizens, but the cyber fraudsters are coming up with new methods to cheat people.

Navy fleet to set sail to ensure peace, order in high seas



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With China flexing its maritime muscle in the Indo-Pacific and South China Sea, a task force of the Indian Navy comprising warships will proceed for deployment in these zones. The duration of the overseas deployment will be for more than two months.

Besides, the Indian Navy will also take part in the Malabar series of exercise in the Western Pacific with the other Quad nations including the US, Japan and Australia. China is against the Quad and has repeatedly claimed that this grouping will lead to militarisation of the region.

Giving details of the deployment, the Navy said here on Monday in pursuit of India's 'Act East' policy and to enhance military cooperation

with friendly countries, a Task Force of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet is scheduled to proceed on an Overseas Deployment to South East Asia, the South China Sea and Western Pacific from early August.

The deployment of the Indian Navy ships seeks to underscore the operational reach, peaceful presence and solidarity with friendly countries towards ensuring good order in the maritime domain and to strengthen existing bonds between India and countries of the Indo Pacific.

The Indian Naval task force comprises Guided Missile destroyer Ranvijay, Guided Missile Frigate Shivalik, Anti-Submarine Corvette Kadmat and Guided Missile Corvette Kora. The latter three ships are indigenously designed and are equipped with a versatile array of weapons and sensors, and

India, China agree to continue dialogue to ensure LAC disengagement

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and China have agreed to sustain the dialogue process to ensure disengagement of troops from the friction points at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh. The two sides also reiterated their resolve to maintain peace in the interim at the border.

These two main points emerged from the Corps Commander level talks between India and China on Saturday last and the two countries on Monday issued a joint statement.

The statement issued here said, "The 12th round of India-China Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side.



This round of meeting was held following the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of India and People's Republic of China on July 14 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan and the 22nd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) held

on June 25.

The two sides had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on resolution of remaining areas related to disengagement along the LAC in the Western Sector of India-China border areas. The two sides noted that this round of meeting was constructive, which

further enhanced mutual understanding.

They agreed to resolve these remaining issues in an expeditious manner in accordance with the existing agreements and protocols and maintain the momentum of dialogue and negotiations.

The two sides also agreed that in the interim they will continue their effective efforts in ensuring stability along the LAC in the Western Sector and jointly maintain peace and tranquility."

The 12 rounds of talks were held nearly four months after the last round in early April. Stalemate persists at three friction points including Hot Springs, Gogra and the Depsang valley for the last more than a year.

A breakthrough was not

expected in the latest round as China wants the involvement of local military commanders of both the sides in the talks. However, the Indian security establishment is wary of the proposal.

Moreover, India has all along maintained that disengagement and withdrawal from all the stand-off sites is the prerequisite for restoring normal ties between the two countries. China is in favour of keeping this issue aside and get on relations. Also, India has insisted that status quo ante has to be restored at the LAC as was in April 2020.

The first stand-off began in the first week of May last year at the Pangong Tso(lake)and snowballed into face-offs at many other places at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh.

After several rounds of talks the military and diplomatic levels, armies of both the countries withdrew from the southern and northern banks of the Pangong Tso in February this year.

Since then, no progress took place in terms of disengagement from the three friction points despite military and diplomatic level talks in the last few months.

Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi held bilateral talks on the issue on July 14 on the sidelines of the foreign ministers' conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation(SCO). This interaction at the high political level saw both the sides reiterating their commitment to continue dialogue for early resolution of the disputes.

Indian missions' talks with States/UTs to secure border

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

To bolster better assessment of the security situation emerging from the neighbourhood, the Indian missions in the countries adjoining the frontiers will hold meetings on half yearly/yearly basis with officials of the bordering States/Union Territories and border guarding forces to have a better sensitisation and assessment of security concerns.

"The Union Home Ministry in coordination with the External Affairs Ministry, Research and Analysis Wing, Intelligence Bureau and Directors General of border guarding forces will initiate action for holding such meetings with officials of the concerned States and Union Territories on six monthly or yearly basis," a senior security official said.

In addition to this, the border guarding forces like the Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) have been directed to organise problem-specific hackathons in collaboration with premier educational institutions and start-ups in the country to evolve cost-effective indigenous solutions for border arrangement. The



Assam Rifles, deployed on the border with Myanmar, will also be in such an exercise, officials said.

They said all issues concerning construction of roads along the Indo-China border under the India-China Border Roads-II scheme are being resolved in top priority.

In order to keep the border population synced with the security apparatus, the police forces of the bordering States have been advised to hold "vikas utsavs" in their respective areas along the frontiers by involving the local community, public representatives, local administration and all stakeholder agencies.

The developments come in the backdrop of border row with China in eastern Ladakh and the continuing threats from the Pakistan army and its terror cohorts along the frontiers in Punjab and Jammu

and Made in India by Defence Shipyards.

During the deployment in the Indo Pacific, the ships are scheduled to participate in bilateral exercises with Royal Malaysian Navy (Samudra Laxmana), Vietnamese

Peoples' Navy, Republic of Philippines Navy, Republic of Singapore Navy (SIMBEX), Indonesian Navy (Samudra Shakti) and Royal Australian Navy (AUS-INDEX).

Further, they will also participate in multilateral

exercise MALABAR-21 alongside Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force, Royal Australian Navy and the United States Navy in Western Pacific.

The Indian Navy undertakes regular deployments to

friendly foreign countries and Indian and the Pacific Ocean regions in furtherance of the Prime Minister's initiative of 'Security and Growth for All in the Region - SAGAR'.

Further, such engagements build 'bridges of friend-

ship' and strengthen international cooperation. These maritime initiatives enhance synergy and coordination between the Indian Navy and friendly countries, based on common maritime interests and commitment towards

Freedom of Navigation at sea.

Besides regular port calls, the task group will operate in conjunction with friendly navies, to build military relations and develop interoperability in conduct of maritime operations.

BJP MPs from Northeast meet PM over Assam-Mizoram dispute

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

BJP MPs from North East on Monday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and submitted a memorandum, apprising him of the developments in the region against the backdrop of the ongoing border dispute between Assam and Mizoram. The BJP MPs accused a section of politicians led by the Congress for politicizing the issue.

"Through 2018, they tried to make CAA and NRC political issues but the people of North East gave them a befitting reply. Now, they are stoking tempers between Assam and Mizoram," the BJP MPs said.

The memorandum also praised the Modi-led NDA Government's "development work in the Northeast", calling it "historic and unparalleled". In a related development, Mizoram Governor K Hari Babu met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday and said the Centre is trying to find a solution to the border issue.

In the memorandum, the BJP MPs highlighted various issues pertaining to the region, including the border row. "A series of confidence-building measures have (been) taken over last few days by both Assam and Mizoram governments, yet actions of Congress

The memorandum also praised the Modi-led NDA Government's "development work in the Northeast", calling it "historic and unparalleled"

remain devious and mischievous," they said.

The BJP MPs said that they want to convey to all those elements who view the Assam-Mizoram issue as a means of "spreading chaos in India that their shenanigans will not work". The MPs further alleged that during the tenure of the previous Congress governments, chief ministers of Northeastern states had to wait for hours before they could get an appointment from Congress leaders and if they managed to get the appointment "they would play with their pets".

"Today North-East Democratic Alliance (NEDA) is looking after the inclusive development of Northeastern states. Unable to digest this, Congress and its ecosystem is trying many dirty tricks. In 2018 they tried to make CAA and NRC a political issue but the people of the Northeast gave

them a befitting reply. Today they are trying to stoke tempers between Assam and Mizoram," said the BJP MPs in their memorandum to the Prime Minister.

Speaking to the media post the meeting, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju accused "elements from outside our country" of "fuelling violence by making inciting statements". "Former Prime Ministers Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi were not sensitive to the aspirations of Mizo and Naga communities," they said.

The MPs from Northeast further said, "The Naga-accord, Bodo accord, Bru Reang moved towards peaceful resolutions. Northeast is home to infrastructures like Bogibeel Bridge and Dhola Sadiya bridge. Insurgency and violence have been reduced. On the contrary, Congress has no regard for the culture of the Northeast."

Earlier, the PM met Mizoram Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati to discuss the border situation and ways to diffuse the tensions between two states, as per sources.

Meanwhile, Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said he has directed state police to withdraw FIR against Rajya Sabha MP K Vanlalvena as a "goodwill gesture". However, he further said that cases against the other police officers will be pursued.

Crisis in Rajasthan Congress deepens once again

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

The crisis within the Ashok Gehlot Government and the ruling Congress is getting murkier. With Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot seemingly not ready to give in to his political bete noire and former deputy Sachin Pilot's demands, sources said party chief Sonia Gandhi rushed senior Congress leader and Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja to hold another and perhaps the last round of meeting with Gehlot.

Selja reached Jaipur on Sunday night and returned Delhi on Monday after a long meeting with Gehlot. Selja was sent after AICC General Secretaries K C Venugopal, Ajay Maken, Randeep Surjewala conducted a series of meeting with party members, legislators, rebels and the Chief Minister during the last one month.

AICC sources said that Selja returned with Gehlot's query for the central party leadership whether the party will keep repeating Punjab if there are differences within. "Should we repeat Punjab in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and then set a trend as this is the last resort to run a party and government," Gehlot is understood to have conveyed and asked, according to the sources.

The sudden trip has added to the speculation over the expected reshuffle, amid demands by Pilot that he and his loyalists should get a bigger share. Selja enjoys the confi-

dence of Congress president and is also considered close to Gehlot.

She was the chairperson of the screening committee formed to decide the Congress candidates in the last assembly elections in Rajasthan.

Selja's meeting with Gehlot comes just a day after Maken returned and briefed the high command about his three days of meeting with MLAs and CM last week. In a clear indication that some members of the Gehlot Cabinet may be dropped, Maken had told the media that a few ministers have expressed willingness to quit the state government to work for the organisation.

The Gehlot government, which came to power in December 2018, has completed half of its tenure. The demand for a cabinet reshuffle and political appointments to other posts gained momentum in June after some MLAs close to Pilot expressed resentment, saying promises made by the party high command to him last year had not been fulfilled but similar issues were met in Punjab within a few weeks of trouble there.

As of now there are 21 cabinet members including the CM in Rajasthan and after a reshuffle nine will be added taking the tally to 30 members in the Gehlot government. A three-member AICC committee too had been formed to look into the grievances of Pilot and his MLAs and both the time the central leadership took the step to pacify Pilot.

JD(U) delegation meets Shah, seeks caste-based census

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A delegation of Janata Dal (United) MPs, led by the new party president Lalan Singh, met Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday with the demand for a caste-based census.

Speaking to reporters, Singh said the Bihar assembly had passed unanimous resolutions in 2019 and 2020 for having census on the caste lines, and added that it is now for the central government to take a final decision. He said, Shah assured them that the matter will be discussed.

The JD(U) had also passed a resolution in support of the caste-based counting of population, a move with potentially wide political ramifications, in its national executive meeting on Saturday where Singh was elected its president. Its rival RJD too has been pressing for a caste-based census and even suggested that the State should do on its own, if the Centre isn't willing.

The Central government had recently again made it clear that it will not include caste wise data on population

other than Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the national Census. The Ministry of Home Affairs said this decision has been taken as a "matter of policy".

Responding in the Lok Sabha, the MHA noted that a request for the collection of caste data in the Census had been made by some state governments.

"The State governments of Maharashtra and Odisha have requested to collect caste details in the forthcoming Census. The Government of India decided as a matter of policy not to enumerate caste wise population other than SCs and STs in Census," the MHA said in the Lok Sabha.

In March this year too, the Government had informed Parliament that it was not planning to release the data on caste Census collected as part of the 2011 exercise.

To a question that some Bihar BJP leaders have expressed reservation against such a move, Singh claimed that he was unaware of their stand but noted that the saffron party had also backed the resolutions in the Assembly.

Covaxin effective against Delta Plus, says ICMR study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, India's first indigenous vaccine to fight Covid-19, is effective against the Delta Plus (AY.1) variant of SARS-CoV2 virus, a new study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has said. Despite a slight reduction in neutralisation of antibody titres, Covaxin is effective against Delta, AY.1 (Delta Plus) and B.1.617.3 variants, the study added.

Covaxin has been developed by the Hyderabad-based pharma major, in collaboration with ICMR. As per the website, when the vaccination was launched on January 16, just a little over 5 crore doses of Covaxin have been administered in the overall 45 crore immunisation so far. Majority has been contributed by Serum Institute of India, a Pune based vaccine manufacturer which is making Covi-shield.

So far 70 cases of the Delta Plus variant have been found by INSACOG, a group of 28 laboratories involved in genome sequencing. Delta Plus is a mutated form of the Delta variant, first discovered in India. It is characterised by increased transmissibility.

"Our research showed that Covaxin could still neutralise Delta, AY.1 and B.1.617.3 vari-



ants," Dr Samiran Panda, head of epidemiology and communicable diseases, ICMR, according to reports.

The new ICMR-National Institute of Virology study — 'Comparable neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 Delta AY.1 and Delta in individuals sera vaccinated with BBV152' — published as a pre-print on bioRxiv, said that Sera of vaccines among Covid naïve, recovered cases with full vaccination and breakthrough cases demonstrated 1.3, 2.5 and 1.9-fold reduction against Delta variant in comparison to B.1 variant respectively.

Lead author of the study, Dr Pragya Yadav said a minor reduction was observed in the neutralising antibody titer in Covid-

individuals.

"However, with the observed high titers, the sera of individuals belonging to all the groups in the study would still neutralise the Delta, Delta AY.1 and B.1.617.3 variants effectively," Dr Yadav said.

In July, the Hyderabad-based company released data from the final analysis of Covaxin and said that it demonstrated overall efficacy of 77.8 per cent against symptomatic infection. It also said that Covaxin has now received emergency use authorisations (EUAs) in 16 countries including, India, Philippines, Iran, Mexico, with EUAs in process in 50 countries worldwide.

In another development, Bharat Biotech said that Rotavac 5D, a variant of its Rotavac vaccine, has received "Prequalification" from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Parl passes Inland Vessels Bill, 2021



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Parliament on Monday passed the Inland Vessels Bill, 2021, with the Rajya Sabha passing it by voice vote amidst protests and sloganeering by the Opposition. The Lok Sabha had already passed the Bill on July 29, 2021.

Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal moved the Inland Vessels Bill, 2021 for consideration and passing. The Bill aims to bring uniformity in the application of the law relating to inland waterways and navigation within the country.

The Minister of Tribal Affairs also introduced the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in Rajya Sabha amid the din.

During the debate on the Inland Vessels Bill, certain Opposition members, who were in the well of the House, yet again tore papers and flung those in the air just like they did a couple of days ago.

Apex court nixes rape survivor's plea to marry accused

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed the plea of a rape survivor from Kottiyoor, Kerala, who moved the Supreme Court seeking permission to marry her assailant — a defrocked Catholic priest who is undergoing 20-year imprisonment. The apex court also dismissed a separate plea of the defrocked Priest Robin Vadakkumchery seeking bail on the ground that he wanted to marry the survivor, who was a minor at the time of rape had given birth to a child.

A bench of Justices Vineet Saran and Dinesh Maheshwari told the former priest, "The High Court has taken a decision consciously and we would not like to interfere with its finding."

The apex court told the victim that she may knock on the door of trial court with her plea to marry the former priest. During the hearing, advocate Amit George, appearing for the former priest, said the High

Court had passed sweeping directions in the case with regard to the marriage, which is a fundamental right. The bench asked George what is the age of the victim and the former priest to which he replied that his client is 49, while the rape survivor is around 25. The top court then told George, "You yourself have invited sweeping directions from the High Court and it would not like to interfere."

At the outset, senior advocate Kiran Suri, appearing for the woman, said that she has sought interim bail for the accused for two months, so that he can marry her and give some legitimacy to the four-year-old child. The bench said that both the victim and the former priest can take recourse of whatever remedy is available under law.

Meanwhile, the State prosecution said that it is up to the two adults to decide on the marriage and bail can't be given. Marriage can be conducted at jail premises but no bail can be allowed, said the Kerala State's prosecutor.

Breather in Kerala, Covid storm abates

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Kerala, which has been reeling under unabated increase in the number of Covid-19 cases and fatalities, got a small relief on Monday as the cases came down slightly to the comfort of Health Minister Veena George, who is leading the operation to fight the pandemic from the front line.

The Minister's plea to the people of the State for the last one week to abide by the guidelines and not to crowd anywhere had its impact as the number of persons diagnosed with the pandemic came down to 13,984 on Monday from the daily average of more than 20,000 new cases.

The Test Positivity Rate too came down from the average figure of 13 to 10.93 per cent on Monday though the fatalities recorded during the last 24 hours showed 118 persons succumbing to the disease. The death toll till date reached 16,955 (excluding the 7,000+ under reported cases).

George said 1,27,903 samples were tested during the last 24 hours. Thrissur topped the table of districts with the highest number of positive cases (2350). Malappuram which was the district with the highest number of patients till Sunday (the district had 3,770 cases) diagnosed 1,925 new patients on Monday.

The Health Minister said

that as on Monday, the State had 1.65 lakh patients undergoing treatment for Covid-19. Idukki district diagnosed 196 new cases while Wayanadu (represented in the Lok Sabha by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi) had 263 patients.

Dr Rajiv B Pillai, senior Ayurvedic physician, was of the view that Idukki and Wayanadu were ideal districts to study about the immunity capability of the population. "Both these districts are known for people who work hard to earn their livelihood and have not changed their lifestyle to what we see in cities which are full of fast food joints and Arab foods," said Dr Rajiv while glancing through the day's figures.

TMC condemns attack on Abhishek's convoy in Tripura

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress has strongly condemned the Monday's attack on the convoy of its MP — and the party's second-in-command — Abhishek Banerjee.

Hours after his cavalcade was attacked by alleged BJP supporters the Bengal ruling outfit took to Twitter saying "Shocking display of absolute hooliganism by the Tripura (BJP) government! When it comes to BJP, ruthlessness and DISRESPECT FOR DEMOCRACY seems to be running the show. You can keep trying but you cannot erase us from the hearts of the people of Tripura! Shameful attempt!"

The car of Banerjee who was on a day-long visit of Tripura was attacked with a flag stick by some alleged BJP men while he was proceeding towards the Tripureshwari Kali Temple, party sources said.

Alleging that the Tripura BJP and its Chief Minister Biplab Deb was "taking the state to new heights," Banerjee later tweeted "Democracy in Tripura under BJP... Well done Biplab for taking the state to new heights." He further said "They (BJP) say



'Athithi Devo Bhava' (guest is God) ... but now they are attacking (the visitors). The people of Tripura will judge."

The TMC also accused the BJP of damaging and tearing off posters of Banerjee. The plan of creating trouble for Banerjee was hatched in advance, the party claimed even as its Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien called upon Home Minister Amit Shah to look into the matter and act against the miscreants.

He wrote "Raised the issue in Rajya Sabha of Lok Sabha MP Abhishek Banerjee being attacked today in Tripura. Amit Shah

please come to Parliament and answers the hard questions. Democracy?"

While officials on duty at the Agartala police headquarters claimed "no information on any attack" on the Trinamool Congress leader who is also the nephew of Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Bengal BJP spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya said "the BJP does not such an act ... though it is peanuts in comparison to what they have been doing here in Bengal."

He said "I have heard there was a small commotion as people were spontaneously protesting against his party's attempt to vitiate Tripura's political atmosphere when Abhishek Banerjee's vehicle reached there ... the entire cavalcade had crossed the BJP procession and only at the tail end of the BJP rally some youth hurled a stick at his car which is not desirable."

The Bengal BJP later wrote in its social media handle, "While this has been a routine affair in Bengal for any opposition leader, seems you have now dispatched violent TMC cadres to Tripura... Wait till the people of Bengal do this to TMC leaders in West Bengal too."

Akhilesh remark on ropeway baseless: Min

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Responding to tweets posted by Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on the inauguration of a ropeway by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Vindhyachal Dham in Mirzapur on Sunday, UP Minister and Government spokesman Sidharth Nath Singh flayed the SP chief for making irresponsible statements.

In his tweet, Akhilesh had attributed the credit for conceptualising and planning the ropeway in Vindhyachal Dham to the previous Government headed by him.

"Akhilesh Yadav has no future left in 2022 UP Assembly elections and is perturbed over his party's predictable defeat. Samajwadi Party's defeat in the 2022 elections is a foregone conclusion. In fact, this time Akhilesh and his party will be wiped out of Uttar Pradesh. People are waiting for the elections to kick them out. Akhilesh knows this too well and for this reason, he is making baseless and non-sensical statements on every issue," Singh said in Lucknow on Monday.

Hitting out at the SP chief, the Government spokesman further said that the Samajwadi Party was just making false claims and taking the credit for whatever work the Bharatiya Janata Party had done in the state.

"In regard to the development work of Vindhyachal Dham, the SP chief is making fabricated statements. Akhilesh is a frustrated person, perpetually engaged in misleading the people of the state through fallacious claims. The SP chief is merely reaping the fruits of what he has sown during his chief ministership," he said.

IN SHORT

PMO ADVISER AMARJEET SINHA RESIGNS

New Delhi: Amarjeet Sinha, an Adviser in the PMO and handling projects related to the social sector, has resigned from his post. A Bihar-cadre IAS officer of 1983 batch, Sinha had superannuated as the Rural Development secretary in 2019 and was then appointed to the PMO. He is the second top officer to quit the PMO in recent months after former Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha, who worked there as Principal Advisor, resigned in March. In December 2019, PM's Principal Secretary Nripendra Misra resigned.

EAM TO PRESENT INDIA AT IRAN PREZ OATH TAKING

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is likely to represent India at the swearing-in ceremony of newly elected Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran on August 5, people. Raisi, a hardliner and known to be close to Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, won the presidential election in June by a landslide.

SC SUGGESTS MEDIATION TO AP, T FOR KRISHNA WATER

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday suggested "mediation" to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana for settling their dispute over sharing of Krishna river water, saying it did not want to interfere "unnecessarily". A bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana was hearing the plea of Andhra Pradesh which has alleged that Telangana has deprived it of its legitimate share of drinking and irrigation water.

NIA RE-REGISTERS ISRAEL EMBASSY BLAST CASE

New Delhi: The NIA on Monday took over and re-registered the case pertaining to the blast that took place outside the Israel Embassy in Delhi on January 29 this year.

DELAY IN LAYING OF 378 NOTIFICATIONS

New Delhi: The Committee on Subordinate Legislation, headed by Partap Singh Bajwa, in its report tabled in the Rajya Sabha on Monday said that there had been a delay in laying of 378 notifications and 141 notifications (26.5 percent of total delayed Notifications) were delayed by more than 11 months while some others by more than four years.

BJP attacks Mamata Govt for identifying convicts by religion

PNS ■ KOLKATA

In a "bizarre presentation" of statistics for the number of ageing "life convicts" being released from Bengal jails the Trinamool Congress Government on Monday disclosed their caste and religious identities apart from mentioning their age and sex leading the BJP to come down heavily on the ruling Trinamool Congress saying "this list of convicts being released is the greatest example of the kind of 'secularism' being practiced by the TMC Government."

Speaking on the issue State BJP spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya on Monday said that "we have always known that the criminals have no caste, creed or political affiliation ... they are only criminals ... but here the TMC

Government has prepared a list in which they have claimed that out of those being released 5 are SCs, 3 are STs, 2 are OBCs, 53 are General caste, 51 are Hindus and 12 are Muslims ..."

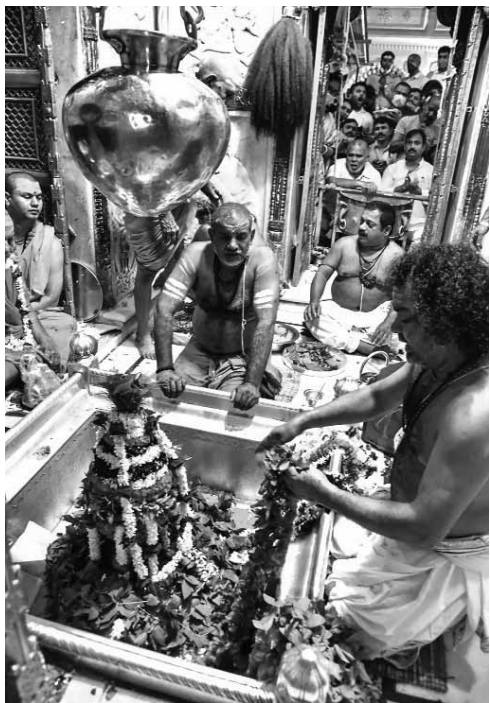
He added, "by classifying the convicts according to their religion the TMC is only pursuing its divide-and-rule politics ... based on communal and caste lines ... Nowhere in India the convicts have been released by identifying them by their castes or religion ... It is nothing but a way to show that 'look in Bengal more number of Hindus are criminals than the Muslims ... and when we will raise this issue they will call us names.'"

The Mamata Banerjee government on Monday said that it had ordered the release of 63 life

convicts from Bengal prisons so that the prisons could be decongested ahead of the third wave of the corona pandemic.

A senior official said that "there was a need to decongest the prisons because of the prevailing Covid-19 situation. Section 432 of the CrPC (Code of Criminal Procedure) empowers the state government to consider the premature release of life convicts who have already served 14 years in jail."

The release of the convicts serving life sentence was recommended on humanitarian grounds by the state sentence review board. Accordingly 61 male convicts above 60 years and two female convicts aged above 55 years would be released before the Independence Day.



Priests offer prayers at Kashi Vishwanath Temple during 'Sawan' in Varanasi on Monday

Cong to observe Dalit Swabhiman Diwas in UP today

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

To woo the Dalit community ahead of the 2022 Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, the Congress has decided to organise 'Dalit Swabhiman Diwas' on Tuesday.

Desperately trying to find its lost political foothold in the state, the Congress had earlier organised conferences of various castes which could play important role in the State politics, like Nishad-Kevat-Mallah conference, Maurya-Shakya-Saini-Kushwaha conference and Pal-Gaderia-Dhangar conference.

Formerly with Congress, Jitin Prasada too had started a Brahmin Sabha to woo the community, alleging harassment by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party across the State before recently switching allegiance to the saffron outfit. The Dalit cell of UP Congress will be celebrating 'Dalit Swabhiman Diwas' across the state on August 3 and will also take out a Dalit Swabhiman Yatra in all 75 districts of the state.

"After Independence in 1947, first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet had passed a resolution to make Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar the Law Minister on August 3 and the UP Dalit Congress will celebrate the day as Swabhiman Diwas," said state chief of Dalit cell of UP Congress, Alok Prasad, in Lucknow on Monday.

ATS arrests hawala trader funding terror module

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The sleuths of the Anti-Terrorism Squad claimed to have made a breakthrough in terror racket when they arrested a man from Gorakhpur district for his alleged involvement in sending money through the hawala route to Pakistani handlers, officials said on Monday.

The accused, Dinesh Kumar Singh alias Ajay Kumar Singh alias AK Singh (46) of Gorakhpur, was arrested on Sunday. He was evading arrest for the past three years and carried a reward of ₹50,000 on his arrest, the officials said.

In a statement issued here, the ATS said, "Information was received that on the instructions of Pakistani handlers, some people were using fake documents to open accounts in different banks, duping people to deposit money in those accounts, withdrawing the deposited money and sending it to the Pakistani handlers through the hawala route."

Pondy Min: Decision on reopening of schools only after Aug 15

Puducherry: Minister A Namassivayam on Monday said the Puducherry Government would decide on re-opening of schools and colleges in the Union Territory after consulting the Lieutenant Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan and Chief Minister N Rangasamy after August 15. The Home and Education Minister, in a press statement, said he held a meeting with educational officials to discuss about Covid-19 and its third wave.

He said the government has decided not to re-open the schools and colleges for now. **PTI**

Kerala HC: A stray dog is made ferocious by its circumstances

Kochi: A dog is made ferocious by the circumstances and it is a myth that a stray canine is dangerous by nature, the Kerala High Court said on Monday while dealing with the issue of poisoning of street dogs in Thrikkakkaru municipality area of Ernakulam district.

A Bench of Justices A K Jayasankaran Nambiar and P Gopinath said killing or maiming the street dogs was not the way to make people safer and the better option was to capture the canines and rehabilitate them at animal shelters. It also said, "This kind of dog catching using hammers cannot be done."

The court said a balance has to be maintained between the interests of the residents of the area who feel threatened by the street dogs and the welfare of the animals. It was also skeptical with regard to the municipality's claims that one of its junior health inspectors paid for the poisoning of the canines from his own pocket.

The court directed the municipality to identify in its area any animal shelters run by private organisations who would be able to capture the street dogs and shelter them in their premises. It issued the direction while

observing that it understands that presently the municipality would not be able to spend funds for setting up such shelters.

The Kerala Government was asked to give details of the animal shelters -- run by the state and private ones -- in all the districts.

With these directions the court listed the matter for hearing on August 6.

The court had taken up the issue of the poisoning of the dogs after a video on the same was brought to its attention. While seeking the stand of the municipality over its role in the entire matter, the bench had also directed the civic body to ensure no such incident takes place within its territorial limits in future and to put in place suitable machinery to ensure the same.

On Monday, the municipality told the court that it had no role in the matter.

Last week, the junior health inspector -- arrayed as an accused in the case with regard to killing of the canines -- moved the High Court, seeking anticipatory bail and claimed that he was being falsely implicated in the case to divert the probe from the Chairperson and of the municipality and the chairperson of its standing committee on health.

Sena workers damage 'Adani Airport' signboard in Mumbai

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

An irate group of Shiv Sainiks vanadised a brand new "Adani Airport" signboard erected by Adani Airport Holding Ltd. (AAHL) outside the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) here on Monday, in protest against the AAHL's move to rename the city airport christened after the Maratha warrior which they dubbed as "an insult" to the people of Maharashtra.

Still fresh from jubilation of taking over the management of CSMIA from the Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL), the Adani group tasted anger of the Shiv Sainiks over the renaming of CSMIA, as the Shiv Sainiks went on a rampage and tore down a brand new "Adani Airport" signboard erected by the AAHL.

Raising slogans like 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ki jai ho, Shiv Sainiks climbed up the landscaped garden outside the city airport where the controversial hoardings had been erected, uprooted AAHL sign boards in English and Marathi languages and planted saffron flags there.

Monday's protests by the Shiv Sainiks were in line with the serious reservations expressed by Sena MP and party spokesperson Sanjay Raut over the renaming of the CSMIA as Adani Airport Holding Ltd. (AAHL). "It is Chhatrapati Shivaji



Police officials inspect the site after Shiv Sena workers damaged an Adani group signboard near the Shivaji Maharaj statue in Mumbai on Monday

Maharaj International Airport. We had undertaken an agitation and had the city named as CSMIA. We do not accept if the airport is named after any industrialist. It will remain as CSMIA," Raut said.

"The AAHL employees have been given T-shirts with Adani Airport written on them. You have to use binoculars to see the name of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj written in such small letter. This is an insult to the great Maratha warrior. When the Adani group ignores our reservations about the renaming of the airport, you can expect the kind of angry reaction from the Shiv Sainiks as the one you witnessed in the afternoon," Shiv Sena MP Arvind Sawant said.

"The name of Chhatrapati Shivaji is not known just in Maharashtra but in the entire country. Earlier we had a big company GVK group that was managing the Airport. But, it did not name the airport after the group. Has Industrialist bought the entire Airport? Why is the industrialist trying to destabilise Mumbai and Maharashtra by resorting to this kind of acts? And for what?" Mumbai Mayor Kishori Pednekar asked.

Meanwhile, reacting to the Shiv Sena's protests, an AAHL spokesperson said: "In light of the incidents around Adani Airports branding at the Mumbai International Airport, we firmly assure that Adani Airports Holding Limited (AAHL) has merely replaced the previous branding

with Adani Airports branding and that no change has been made to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport's branding or positioning at the terminal

"The branding at CSMIA is in compliance with the norms and guidelines of Airport Authority of India (AAI). AAHL will continue to adhere to all the guidelines laid out by the government in the interest of the aviation community at large," the spokesperson added.

The AAHL's move to erect a new sign board comes nearly three weeks after AAHL a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd, took over the management control of Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) from the GVK Group. It may be recalled that on July 13, the AAHL had taken over the management control of Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) from the GVK Group. The development had followed approvals received from the Government of India, the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) of Maharashtra, and the Government of Maharashtra.

MIAL is India's second busiest airport by both passenger and cargo traffic. With eight airports in its management and development portfolio, AAHL is now India's largest airport infrastructure company, accounting for 25% airport footfalls.



Tourists visit the historic Taj Mahal during a cloudy day in Agra on Monday

PTI

FIRST COLUMN EDUCATION IS NEXT CALAMITY IN MAKING

The current learning gap and reduced social skills can lead to a widening knowledge gap



SHUBHANG RATHI

There is a calamity in the making in the field of education, especially school education, in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has affected every stake holder, be it the parents, teachers, students, and school administrators. Innovative ways and technical tools are being developed to make students come close to get the feel of classroom teaching. According to *Azim Premji Foundation*, more than 60 per cent of children cannot access online education and around 90 per cent of students with disabilities are unable to participate in online classes. Delhi-based NGO, Child Fund India, says as many as 64 per cent of children in rural India are facing the prospect of being dropped out of school. For students, the biggest challenge is the absence of physical interaction with peers and teachers. Primary school students cannot even comprehend what is happening to them. Not only are learning standards affected, physiological pressure on senior students is becoming immense. There



is little physical activity because local parks and school playgrounds are also shut. Students in X, XI and XII are irritated about the new methodology of exam evaluation. For parents, it is challenging to teach different concepts and methods to their children every day. Parents are juggling between house chores, office work, and handling the education needs of their children. One parent of my school said: "If this year it is online classes, I am shifting back to my village as I am here in the city only for my children's studies." Parents who have suffered financially due to COVID-19 are taking extreme steps to cut down on education expenses. Unfortunately, it is also their first response, resulting in a heavy blow to the child's future. For teachers, the biggest challenge is teaching by using technology and understanding students' body language. Old and experienced teachers face issues related to online teaching. Teachers are dissatisfied with learning outcomes after putting in extra effort.

I see a calamity coming: Many students have left any formal form of studying in 2020-21. Something needs to be done to rectify the situation. For instance, when we return to work after a gap of 10 days, we feel we have to start work from scratch even though we have been doing the same work for the past several years. Imagine how will a child in the 5-10 age group cope with a break of over 18 months and still attain previous academic levels? Even though we have the infrastructure to teach children, what we lack is continuity. It might become difficult for students to remember the past concepts and relate them to the new ones. It is a challenging task to bring the students back to their previous academic levels. There is already a fear of many small schools closing down because of the spiraling running costs. The administrators are bogged down by unpaid fees in spite of the Supreme Court's verdict. The current learning gap, reduced social skills, and poor handling by educators can lead to a widening knowledge gap of students when offline classes commence again. This can create an educated but unskilled and incapable workforce in the future. We are also looking at an education divide between the rich and the poor and urban and rural. We require the government's intervention to come up with a plan to allow students to visit their schools once or twice a week while continuing their online classes. A hybrid model to clear doubts and reduce the physiological pressure of the students will be most welcomed by schools.

(The writer is the owner of a private school in Morena, Madhya Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)

Power reforms — a distant dream

Unshackling of discoms will take away the leverage parties enjoy to serve their populist goal of giving cheap/free power to people at election time



UTTAM GUPTA

Since last year, there have been several announcements regarding the reformation of power distribution companies (discoms). They include the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2020, Reforms-Linked, Result-Based Scheme for Distribution (RLRBSD), and a special loan of ₹90,000 crore (subsequently raised to ₹130,000 crore) to discoms in 2020, and the new draft National Electricity Policy, 2021.

The key reform measures included (i) developing an efficient market for electricity distribution; (ii) de-license the distribution business, bring in competition, and give the consumer power to choose supplier (or "open access"); (iii) direct benefit transfer (DBT) of subsidy; (iv) putting a cap on the hike in power tariff; (v) linking payments by discoms to letter of credit (LoC); (vi) denying grants or loan to loss-making discoms, etc.

An overwhelming share of power generated by PSUs such as the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), etc., independent power producers (IPPs), besides generating stations of State electricity boards (SEBs) is procured by discoms (these are mostly owned and controlled by State governments) under power purchase agreements (PPA). Most of these PPAs are long-term contracts up to 25 years. A mere five per cent of the electricity is traded.

The State governments order discoms to sell electricity to some preferred consumers, viz., poor households and farmers, either at a fraction of the cost of purchase, transmission, and distribution, or even free. On the units sold to these groups, they incur colossal under-recovery. This is aggravated by aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses - most of it is plain theft. In flat tariff allowed to IPPs/PSUs under a cost-plus formula (under the PPAs) adds to the revenue shortfall.

A deadly cocktail of these three factors contributes to persistent and increasing losses of discoms. In 2015-16 it was ₹52,000 crore, Ts. 17,000 in 2017-18 (this reduction has to do with a massive bail-out given in November 2015 under Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana), ₹30,000 crore in 2019-20, and ₹58,000 crore in 2020-21.

In this backdrop, let us analyze the reform measures: (i) A pre-requisite for the development of an efficient market for electricity distribution is that a major chunk of power should be available for sale in the open market. But, with 95 per cent of electricity tied to PPAs, that too long-term, this is unthinkable.

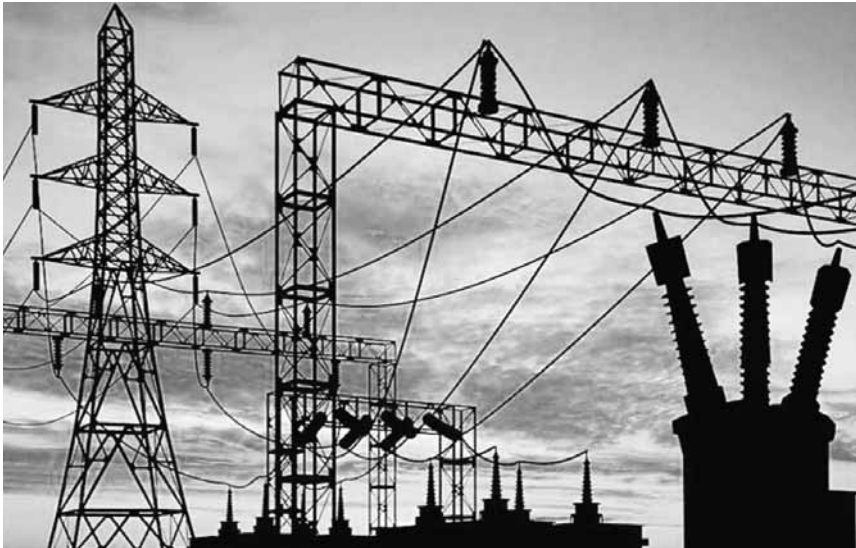
About (ii), considering that the entire distribution network — transmission lines, feeder lines, transformers (that caters to households), industries, etc. — is owned and controlled by discoms, any talk of letting in private entities is a misnomer.

As for 'open access', a provision was made even under the amended Electricity Act (2003). Under this policy, to be imple-



BY FIXING THE SURCHARGE AT A HIGH LEVEL AND NOT BOTHERING TO REDUCE IT (AS MANDATED UNDER THE ACT), THE STATE GOVERNMENTS ENSURED THAT POST-SWITCH, THE EFFECTIVE COST OF POWER TO THE CONSUMER — TARIFF CHARGED BY THE NEW SUPPLIER PLUS OAC — IS HIGHER THAN WHAT THEY PAY TO SEBs. THAT RENDERED THE SWITCH UNECONOMICAL

(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)



mented within five years of its enactment, i.e., by 2008, the choice was given to the bulk consumers (having consumption more than 1 megawatt) to choose their supplier. But another provision in the Act required such customers to pay an 'open access surcharge (OAC)' to the concerned SEB they wanted to leave.

State governments used this lacuna to the hilt to shield the SEBs who are prone to charging exorbitant tariffs from industries. By fixing the surcharge at a high level and not bothering to reduce it (as mandated under the Act), they ensured that post-switch, the effective cost of power to the consumer — tariff charged by the new supplier plus OAC — is higher than what they pay to SEBs. That rendered the switch uneconomical.

They have not even spared the Railways which spends over ₹12,000 crore annually on the purchase of electricity. Under the Railways Act, it is allowed to distribute and supply power and is a "deemed" licensee as it is buying electricity for its consumption and is exempt from payment of the surcharge. Yet, it has to pay OAC as States will not give 'NOC' - a requirement for availing exemption.

Coming to (iii), under DBT, the State Government gives subsidies directly to the target beneficiaries, even as discoms fix tariff in a manner as to fully recover their cost of purchase, wheeling, and distribution, thereby avoiding any under-recovery on such sale. They also need not charge more from industries and businesses which they have

to do under the present regime to cross-subsidize supplies to preferred users. With direct cash transfer, discoms can be freed from state control which will help them reduce costs including by reining in theft. Under this regime, it will also be easier to implement "open access".

Despite these positive spin-offs, the Union Government has not shown the gumption to implement the DBT. In fact, following strong protests from farmers' leaders on its inclusion under the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2020, it has even promised that the status quo will continue. If the existing system of supplies at heavily subsidized tariff or even without charge to farmers has to continue, then, logically, the same should apply on supplies to households as you cannot have two different methods of delivering subsidy to different sections of the society. So, there is no hope of the DBT ever seeing light of the day.

As for (iv), discoms can recover only up to 15 per cent of under-recovered power supply cost from other consumers. Simply put, if their under-recovery from supplies to farmers/households is say, 'X', then they will be allowed to recover only 0.15X by hiking tariff on supplies to industries and businesses. This will end up further bloating the losses of discoms (though industries will face a modest hike in tariff vis-à-vis the existing scenario of no cap). But this will not prompt them to set their house in order all the more when they know that eventually, the Government will bail them out.

As for (v), under the LC

arrangement, the banks guarantee that a buyer's payment to a seller will be received on time and for the correct amount. If the buyer is unable to pay, the bank will be required to cover the full or remaining amount, which, in turn, it will recover from the buyer using all available legal means. Here, the buyer being the discom - owned by the State - it will be a daunting challenge for the bank. As for (vi), denial of loan to loss-making discoms will not make them feel the heat as experience shows that help reaches them by hook or crook.

To conclude, measures such as those mentioned under (iv), (v), and (vi) are merely cosmetic while the political brass does not have the gumption to act on other measures — as discussed under (i), (ii), and (iii) — which are real reforms. This is because it will require the unshackling of discoms and that will take away the leverage that all parties currently enjoy to serve their populist goal of giving cheap/free electricity to the people who matter at election time. No wonder that we hear proclamations about reforms only to justify mammoth capital infusion whenever discoms need salvaging.

Under UDAY (2015), discoms were given a package worth ₹400,000 crore but are still saddled with under-recovery of ₹0.42 on every unit of electricity sold and a debt of about ₹450,000 crore as on March 31, 2021. Under RLRBSD, the government will be spending another ₹300,000 crore but with no hope of trimming under-recovery. The vicious cycle will continue.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THESE PEOPLE (CONGRESS) WERE THE JAMES BOND OF SPYING (WHEN IN POWER). THEY SPIN A WEB OF SPYING WHEN IN GOVERNMENT.

— UNION MINISTER
MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI



NO GOVERNMENT ALLOWS OTHERS TO SNOOP ON ITS PEOPLE, BUT THIS WAS ALLOWED TO AN ISRAELI COMPANY. IS SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY SAFE?

— CONGRESS LEADER
MALLIKARJUN KHARGE

Thirty years later, 'reform' yet to happen

Liberalisation was not voluntary but was egged on by global lenders who would not lend without a firm Indian commitment on 'reforms'

Thirty years and India is still waiting for the dream to become real. The liberalization of the economy in 1991 is erroneously taken as being limited to divesting government assets and holdings in industry.

Liberalisation was not a voluntary decision but was nudged by major lenders, the IMF and World Bank, who threatened to stop lending without a firm commitment to "reforms". The country went through a foreign exchange crisis in the late 1980s and 1990s and family jewels were pawned because forex reserves plunged to unexpected lows. In July 1991, the RBI pledged 46.91 tonnes of gold with the Bank of England and Bank of Japan to raise \$400 million to meet its international obligations. The



SHIVAJI SARKAR

reforms that meant losing government assets to the private sector started with a "bang" but did not bring the private sector to par with the government. The reforms initiated by the then finance minister, Manmohan Singh, were not a roaring success but a piece of confusing policy that has dumped subsequent governments into a policy quagmire.

While liberalizing the society from licence-permit raj was welcomed, the process of doing so gradually became complicated. Changes were made in industrial policy, monopolies law was annulled, import licensing was abolished, India joined WTO and TRIPS, quantitative restrictions on import of manufactured goods and farm products were removed, and current



account convertibility was introduced, business processes were eased, and the GST was introduced.

But disinvestment of public assets caught all attention. Every government took pride in selling assets or being seen doing that. Still, the private sector is suspect in the eyes of the bureaucracy.

It is still a mystery why a partial opening up was considered revolutionary. India is still not free of its socialist

mindset and a preference for government control on the pretext of "concern for people's welfare".

The "reforms" worked a bit. But the pandemic impoverished 80 crore people. Growing joblessness during the lockdown pushed the middle class to the edge of poverty. This is reflected in the slow growth of the GDP. In 2020-21, India's economic growth slowed and contracted by 7.3 per cent, the NCAER says.

Liberalisation in 1991 was followed by a series of ₹7 lakh crore scams - Harshad Mehta to Ketan Parekh, UTI, LIC (about ₹2 lakh crore), and a series of banks, leading to a JPC probe. The top scams are coal allocation (₹1.86 trillion), 2G spectrum (₹1.76

lakh crore), Waqf Board land (₹1.5 lakh crore), Games Commonwealth Games (₹70,000 crore), Telgi stamp (₹20,000 crore), Satyam (₹14,000 crore), and Hawala scandal (₹100 crore).

Scams of such magnitude had never happened since Independence. Every divestment deal was also questioned. While the large private houses acquired these assets with loans from public sector banks, it also opened up an era of high bank losses (NPAs) particularly after the Lehman meltdown in 2007-08. The RBI Financial Stability Report (FSR) says despite banks writing off ₹23,786 crore loans in 2019-20, enabling the PSU banks to show lower NPAs, banks could go into severe stress as it fears the NPAs may

escalate to 16.2 per cent by September 2021 as borrowers are saddled with unpaid dues.

Repeated reorganization and mergers of banks have not boosted confidence. The latest move to sell four major banks and LIC is not being seen as a happy event. Many buyers could be from the list of 50 major defaulters.

Since 1991, government assets worth ₹3.63 lakh crore were divested. During 2014-19, ₹2.79 lakh crore worth assets were divested. The target set for 2020-21 is ₹2.1 lakh crore. The money received is adjusted in budgetary expenditure and is not known to have been used for building assets.

In 2016, demonetization shook the economy. The cash flow was severely hit, affecting

sales of goods and commodities. People's purchasing power collapsed, delaying the post-pandemic industrial, real estate, and market recovery. It might lead to years of moderate to slow post-pandemic growth and that means a severe resource crunch. Thirty years since the reforms, the power sector is in a mess again and agriculture remains the mainstay of the economy.

Have we made progress? Prime Minister Narendra Modi says his government is working for a targeted \$5-trillion economy. But former PM Manmohan Singh says that the future economic path is tougher than in 1991. Either way, the country must bite the reforms bullet and recast its policies keeping in mind growth in the next 30 years.

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

Af Prez seeks defence of cities as Taliban advance

Kabul: The Afghan President on Monday blamed the American troops' speedy pull-out for the worsening violence in his country and said that his administration would now focus on protecting provincial capitals and major urban areas in the face of the rapidly advancing Taliban.

Ashraf Ghani also urged lawmakers to back a national mobilisation drive against the

Taliban amid an intensifying war between the Taliban and Afghan government forces over the past few months as US and NATO troops complete their pullout from the war-torn country. An imported, hasty peace process a reference to Washington's push for negotiations between Kabul and the Taliban not only failed to bring peace but created doubt and ambiguity among Afghans, Ghani said in his address to Parliament.

The Afghan President arrived by helicopter for the extraordinary session of the house, called because of the dire situation on the ground. Ghani touched down at the Darul Aman Palace in Kabul

and inspected an honor guard before heading inside.

The Taliban are now trying to seize provincial capitals after already taking large swaths of land and scores of districts in more rural areas, as well as several key border crossings with neighboring countries.

The Taliban do not believe in lasting or just peace," Ghani said. He predicted a sea change on the battlefield in the next six months" that would push the Taliban back, without elaborating. He claimed that Afghan forces are up to the task and have the capacity" to defeat the insurgents. But in past weeks, Afghan forces have struggled against the Taliban onslaught, and have often been left with-

out reinforcements and resupplies. On Sunday, the Afghan armed forces spokesman, Gen. Ajmal Omar Shinwari, told reporters that three provinces in southern and western Afghanistan face critical security situations.

Southern Kandahar the birthplace of the Taliban as well as Helmand and Herat provinces have witnessed several attacks.

Helmand provincial council chief Attaullah Afghan said the Taliban are also advancing in the provincial capital of Lashar Gah, and now have control of the city's seventh district. On Monday, elite Afghan commando units were dispatched to Lashar Gah to help

defend the city.

There has been relentless gunfire, air strikes and mortars in densely populated areas. Houses are being bombed, and many people are suffering severe injuries, said Sarah Leahy, Helmand coordinator for Doctors Without Borders.

The group, also known as Mdecins Sans Frontiers or MSF, said in a statement Monday that life in Lashar Gah was at a standstill as residents hunker down inside their homes, afraid to venture out.

Some of our colleagues are staying overnight in the hospital as it's safer, but also so they can keep on treating patients," the organization said. The situation has been dire for

months but now it is even worse.

Faizullah, who like many other Afghans goes by one name, told The Associated Press over the phone that he fled Lashar Gah with his family and was now following the Helmand River to safety.

Clashes between the Taliban and Afghan forces have intensified, he said, and Afghan security forces are out of supplies and food in the city.

Back in Kabul, Ghani claimed his government has the financial and political support of the United States and the international community to turn the tide even as he urged the insurgents to reinjoin peace talks. **AP**

Millions under Covid lockdown; China battles Delta Variant outbreak

Beijing: Millions of people were confined to their homes in China on Monday as the country tried to contain its largest coronavirus outbreak in months, including seven positive tests found in Wuhan, where the virus first emerged in late 2019.

China reported 55 new locally transmitted cases on Monday as an outbreak of the fast-spreading Delta variant reached over 20 cities in more than a dozen provinces.

The Wuhan cluster came after the official daily tally was released, but it was confirmed by state media which said the infections had been traced to a train station.

"The seven were identified as migrant workers," Xinhua reported, citing Covid-19 prevention and control officials.

Major cities including Beijing have now tested millions of residents while cordoning off residential compounds and placing close contacts under quarantine.

Authorities in the capital

met and agreed on the need to "raise vigilance, take strict precautions and defend (the city) to the death, sparing no expense," in comments put out by the Beijing Government.

Elsewhere, over 1.2 million residents were placed under strict lockdown for the next three days in the central city of Zhuzhou in Hunan province Monday, as authorities roll out a citywide testing and vaccination campaign, according to an official statement.

"The situation is still grim and complicated," the Zhuzhou government said. China had previously boasted of its success in bringing domestic cases down to virtually zero after the coronavirus first emerged in Wuhan, allowing the economy to rebound. But the latest outbreak, linked to a cluster in the city of Nanjing where nine cleaners at an international airport tested positive on July 20, is threatening that success with more than 360 domestic cases reported in the past two weeks. **AFP**

Citing Taliban violence, US expands Afghan refugee program

Washington: The Biden administration on Monday expanded its efforts to evacuate at-risk Afghan citizens from Afghanistan as Taliban violence increases ahead of the US military pullout at the end of the month.

The State Department said it is widening the scope of Afghans eligible for refugee status in United States to include current and former employees of US-based news organizations, US-based aid and development agencies and other relief groups that receive US funding. Current and former employees of the US Government and the NATO military operation who don't meet the criteria for a dedicated program for such workers are also covered. **AP**

Malaysia lawmakers protest Parliament closure as ploy by PM

Kuala Lumpur:Police blocked Opposition lawmakers from marching on Monday to protest a two-week lockdown of Malaysia's Parliament, which they consider another ploy for the embattled Prime Minister to dodge a no-confidence vote.

With a crucial parliamentary session due, Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin instead postponed it and Parliament will be shut for two weeks. The health ministry said Parliament was deemed a high-risk venue because four of 11 COVID-19 cases detected among staff and others were

suspected to be the fast-spreading delta variant.

Lawmakers and activists questioned the timing of the announcement of Parliament's closure, which came after the king rebuked Muhyiddin's government on Thursday for misleading Parliament on the status of ordinances it issued during the seven-month coronavirus state of emergency. The opposition immediately filed a motion of no-confidence against Muhyiddin that was expected to have been raised Monday. **AP**

Florida breaks record for Covid hospitalisations

Orlando: A day after it recorded the most new daily cases since the start of the pandemic, Florida has broken a previous record for current hospitalisations set more than a year ago before vaccines were available.

The Sunshine State had 10,207 people hospitalised with confirmed Covid-19 cases, according to data reported to the US Department of Health & Human Services.

The previous record was from July 23, 2020, more than a half-year before vaccinations started becoming widespread, when Florida had 10,170 hospitalisations, according to the Florida Hospital Association.

Florida is now leading the

nation in per capita hospitalisations for Covid-19, as hospitals around the state report having to put emergency room visitors in beds in hallways and others document a noticeable drop in the age of patients.

In the past week, Florida has averaged 1,525 adult hospitalisations a day, and 35 daily pediatric hospitalisations. **AP**

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In the past week, Florida has averaged 1,525 adult hospitalisations a day, and 35 daily pediatric hospitalisations. **AP**

Australia city extends lockdown as clusters grow

Brisbane: A lockdown of Australia's third-largest city Brisbane was extended until Sunday because of a growing Covid outbreak.

Brisbane and several sur-

rounding municipalities in Queensland state were due to end a three-day lockdown on Tuesday. But the Queensland government on Monday announced the extension after 13 locally acquired infections of the highly contagious delta variant were detected in the latest 24-hour period. **AP**

UK eases travel curbs as industry lobbies for more

London: Britain opened its borders to vaccinated travellers from the US and European Union on Monday as travel industry leaders urged the Government to further ease restrictions and allow people to enjoy the benefits of a Covid inoculation programme.

The new rules came into effect amid reports that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government may add a new category to Britain's traffic light system of travel restrictions, a move industry officials say would make many people decide to stay home. As of Monday, fully vaccinated travellers from destinations on Britain's "amber list" are allowed to enter the country without self-isolating for up to 10 days. **AP**

UK calls Iranian ambassador over oil tanker attack

London: Britain summoned Iran's ambassador to the Foreign Office on Monday after an attack on a merchant vessel off the coast of Oman.

James Cleverly, the minis-

ter for the Middle East, summoned Mohsen Baharvand in response to the attack on MV Mercer Street on Thursday, which killed a British national and a Romanian.

"Minister Cleverly reiterated that Iran must immediately cease actions that risk international peace and security, and reinforced that vessels must be allowed to navigate freely in accordance with international law," the Foreign Commonwealth &

Development Office said in a statement.

The United States, the UK and Israel have alleged that Iran carried out the fatal drone strike on the oil tanker, though Tehran denied involvement in the attack. **AP**

Skipper: Documents show no coverup in submarine sinking

Portland: The release of about 3,000 pages of documents delving into the deadliest submarine disaster in US history has not yielded any sinister effort to hide the truth, a retired Navy skipper says.

Instead, documents show the Navy's policies and procedures failed to keep pace with fast-moving technological advances during the Cold War, allowing a series of failures that led to the sinking of the USS Thresher on April 10, 1963, said retired Capt. James Bryant,

who sued for release of the documents under the Freedom of Information Act.

"There's no coverup. No smoking gun," he said.

That doesn't make it any less tragic, though.

The loss of the nuclear-powered submarine and all 129 sailors and civilians aboard during a test dive in the Atlantic Ocean was both a tragedy for the families and a blow to national pride during the Cold War. **AP**

Pelosi, Democrats call on Biden to extend eviction ban

AP ■ WASHINGTON

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the House Democratic leaders on Sunday called on the Biden administration to immediately extend the nation's eviction moratorium, calling it a "moral imperative" to prevent Americans from being put out of their homes during a COVID-19 surge.

An estimated 3.6 billion Americans are at risk of eviction, some as soon as Monday.

Congress was unable to pass legislation swiftly to extend the ban, which expired at midnight Saturday, and the Democratic leaders said in a statement that it was now up to President Joe Biden's administration to act.

Death toll from floods in China's Henan reach 302

Beijing: The death toll from floods triggered by torrential rains in China's Henan province has increased to 302 as of Monday, according to the information office of the local Government.

Another 50 people remain missing, Xinhua news agency quoted the office as saying.

A total of 292 people were confirmed dead and 47 missing in Zhengzhou, the provincial capital.

There were seven fatalities and three missing in Xinxiang city, while Pingdingshan and Luohe reported two and one death, respectively. **IANS**

RE-TENDER NOTICE

No.SSA/CW/KGBV-VI to X/254/2020/ 7042 Dated -26/07/2021

The Mission Director [I/C], SSA, Assam, invites fresh bids for the following work from registered contractors [Class- I (A, B & C)] under A.P.W.D.(Building) Assam, having experience of similar nature of work.

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 02/08/2021(04:30 PM) to 12/08/2021 (2:00 PM)

The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in

Name of Work	Package No	Place	Approx. Value of Work	Time of completion	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	E.M.D. to be drawn in favour of	Tender Cost
CONSTRUCTION OF KASTURBA GANDHI BALIKA VIDYALAYA (CLASS VI TO X) (ACADEMIC BLOCK ASSAM TYPE WITH RCC HOSTEL BUILDING (G+2) (KGBV-TYPE-II), SSA, ASSAM	1S	SOUTH SALMA RA, S.S. MANKA CHAR	Rs.1,91,28,90 0.00 [Per site]	12 (twelve months)	Rs.3,82,578.00 (for General) Rs.1,91,289.00 (for reserved Category) [PER SITE]	The Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Guwahati-19	Rs.5,000.00

Janasanyog No. CF/813/21

Sd/- Mission Director I/c,
SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-I
OVER HEAD TANK: OPP. BHARTI COLLEGE
JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.
e-mail: eesw1janakpuri@gmail.com**

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
Press N.I.T. NO: 16 SW-I (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost. (In Rs.)	Date of release of tender in E-procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through E-procurement Solution
1.	Replacement of sewerage system by Providing Laying 250 mm dia sewer line from Taar Factory road to Solanki Chowk, Vishawas Park in Palam Constituency AC-37, under EE(SW)-I	25,09,237/-	2021_DJB_206464_1 31.07.2021	17.08.2021 up to 3:00 pm

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)

Sd/-
(Munish Kumar)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-I

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 238(2021-22)

JASCH INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Regd. Off. : 502, Block C, NDM-2, NSP, Pitampura, Delhi 110034 CIN : L24302DL1985PLC383771
Website : www.jaschindustries.com, Email : accounts@jasch.biz

Extract of Unaudited Ind AS Financial Results for the Quarter ended on 30th June 2021 (Standalone & Consolidated Financial Results under Regulation 47(1)(B) Of Listing Regulations) (₹ in Lakh)								
SI No	Particulars	Standalone					Consolidated*	
		Quarter Ended			Year Ended		Quarter Ended	Year Ended*
		30.06.21	31.03.21	30.06.20	31.03.21	31.03.20	30.06.21	31.03.21
		Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited	Unaudited	N.A.
1	Total Income from Operations.	3704.21	4984.58	1488.66	13567.63	13077.64	3704.21	–
2	Profit before Interest, Depreciation & Taxes (EBITDA)	512.70	754.17	181.40	1909.27	1154.72	512.70	–
3	Net Profit for the Period (before Tax and Exceptional Items)	430.37	669.93	85.37	1561.97	620.02	430.37	–
4	Net Profit for the Period before Tax (after Exceptional Items)	430.37	669.93	85.37	1561.97	620.02	430.37	–
5	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional Items)	310.37	493.37	63.88	1135.20	453.72	310.37	–
6	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [(Comprising Profit) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	310.37	493.37	63.88	1135.20	453.72	310.37	–
7	Equity Share Capital	1133.00	1133.00	1133.00	1133.00	1133.00	1133.00	–
8	Reserves	6129.21	5818.84	4720.45	5818.84	4656.57	6129.21	–
9	Earnings Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each)	2.74	4.35	0.56	10.02	4.00	2.74	–
	Basic & Diluted:							

Notes :

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the website of Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and also on Company's website at www.jaschindustries.com.
- The financial results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS).
- Figures for the previous periods have been regrouped, wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's classification.
- *The Financial results of Jasch Industries Ltd ("JIL") have been consolidated with that of Jasch Gauging Technologies Ltd ("JGTL" - a wholly owned subsidiary of JIL) which was incorporated only on 25-05-2021 and received approval to commence business on 06-07-2021. Therefore, standalone and consolidated figures as at 30-06-2021 are the same. Since JGTL was not in existence on 31-03-2021, a dash ("-") appears in the relevant column of consolidated data as on 31-03-2021.

Sonipat, 24th July 2021 **sd/- (J. K. GARG) CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Public Notice

Be it known to all that my clients Sh. Onkar Singh Rana S/o Late Shri Khem Chand R/o E- 6/A, 234, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi has disowned / debarred his son namely Sh. Suraj Pratap Singh and his wife Smt. Rakhi @ Anuradha from all his movable and immovable properties / assets and severed all relations with above named persons due to their misbehaviour / misconduct towards my clients, the above said persons are not in control of my client, in future my client shall not be responsible for any conduct of Sh. Suraj Pratap Singh and his wife Smt. Rakhi @ Anuradha.

Advocate Kuldeep Grewal
Cn.505, Lawyers Block, Saket Court
Phone: 844717888

Public Notice

Be it known to all that My Clients Narender Singh S/o Diwan Singh and Jagwanti W/o Narender Singh R/o H.No. L-9, Shyam Park, Nawada, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have disowned their Son **Mukesh Kumar alias Jhau** from all their movable/immovable properties and severed all their relations both legal & social with his due to disrespectful behavior. Any person dealing with **Mukesh Kumar alias Jhau** shall be doing so at his/her own risk, and my clients shall not be responsible for the same.

Sanjeev Dwivedi (Advocate)
48, Gaganand Block, Tis Hazari Courts, ND 54

PREMIUM MERCHANTS LIMITED

Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025
CIN: L51909DL1985PLC021077, Tel: +91 11 61119658
Email Id: premiummerchants123@gmail.com,
[website:www.pmltd.com](http://www.pmltd.com)

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the meeting no. 03/2021-22 of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 12th August, 2021 (Thursday) at the registered office of the Company at Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 3.30 P.M to discuss the following agenda items:

- To take on record the Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the Quarter ended on 30th June, 2021 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015.
- To discuss and approve the Director's Report along with Corporate Governance Report for the Financial Year ended on 31.03.2021.
- To fix the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company.
- To consider and decide the period of closure of register of members for record purpose.
- To avail services of Electronic Voting Platform from National Securities Depository Limited.
- To consider appointment of Scrutinizer for the purpose of e-voting at ensuing Annual General Meeting.
- To table and approve the draft of the Notice convening the next Annual General Meeting.
- To discuss any other business with the permission of Chair.

By Order of the Board
For **Premium Merchants Limited**
Sd/-
(Balbir Singh)
Director

Place: New Delhi
Date: 02.08.2021
DIN:00027438

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

Large scale riots occurred in **February-2020** in **North East District, Delhi**. The rioters had indulged in violence and arson to public and private properties and inflicted injuries upon a number of public persons and police personnel.

In this regard, criminal cases are being investigated in various police stations. General public is hereby requested to help identify the culprits who indulged in these riotous activities. Any information leading to arrest of rioters, the identity of the informant will be kept secret. Delhi Police reserves the right to decide actual informant and its decision will be final.

Following persons were seen in Video Footage during the riots which took place near Shamshan Ghat, Kabir Nagar, Delhi on 25.02.2020.



The information can be given in person to the SHO/IO of the respective police station or can be communicated on phone number **011-22822746, 011-22826808, 011-22829335** or on email ID: dcnpnortheast-dl@nic.in and adcp1-northeast-dl@nic.in
S.H.O.
P.S. Welcome, North East, Delhi

DP/939/NE/2021

DOCYARD
DR SHAILESH JAIN

Principal Consultant,
Neurosciences

NEW DELHI



It's complicated



COVID in the last 18 months has shown a devastating effect on human life. Apart from affecting the lung, it also affected different parts of the body. However, it mainly affects the lung and increases level of ferritin, D-Dimer, CRP and cytokines eg IL-6. High levels of all these chemicals may have catastrophic effect on vital organs.

Neurological involvement is a spectrum of loss of olfactory senses to necrotising encephalitis and involving almost every aspect of central (CNS) and peripheral nervous system (PNS). Prevalence is around 0.1-1 per cent of COVID infections. Most complications are seen by second to fourth week of COVID infection. CNS-related events were more common than PNS manifestations. Common CNS manifestations are headache, disturbance in consciousness, dizziness, acute cerebrovascular disease, ataxia, and seizures. PNS symptoms are impairment in taste, smell, and vision. Musculoskeletal symptoms were observed in form of myalgias and nonspecific pain.

Stroke comprises of 60-70 per cent, encephalopathy 30-40 per cent and neuropathy around 6 per cent and all other neurological complications in 0.1 per cent cases of neurological cases related to COVID.

Neurological involvement is mainly categorised into CNS and PNS involvement. CNS involvements are in form of stroke, encephalopathy, delirium, psychoses, necrotising encephalitis and fungal infections eg. Fungal abscess or rhinocerebral mucormycoses. PNS involvements are facial palsy, acute inflammatory demyelinating neuropathy (AIDP) and paraesthesia in all limbs and myalgia.

Strokes are ischemic type usually due to large vessel occlusion with high degree of morbidity or mortality and it is more prevalent with diabetic, hypertensive and Coronary artery disease. It is also associated with large coronary occlusion or sudden cardiac death upto six-eight weeks after COVID. Most patients were found to have hypercoagulable state.

Encephalopathy or delirium or psychoses were seen by third to fourth week of COVID. It is a non-specific term used to describe the acute impairment of brain function which presents clinically as alteration in the level of consciousness and triggered by viral infections. It is completely reversible with appropriate medications.

Neuropathy may be in form of facial palsy or severe weakness of all limbs in form of G B Syndrome. Both are completely reversible with medications. Headache, myalgia and paresthesia and fatigue are minor symptoms

and it disturbs sleep but didn't cause any disability. These recover with time and medications.

Some unusual complications are necrotising encephalitis and myelitis. They have high level of morbidity and mortality. Encephalitis is a serious condition with significant impact and burden. About 20-50 per cent of encephalitis cases are caused by viruses, and half of the cases have no known etiology. The disease causes a variety of neurological abnormalities, such as altered consciousness, hallucination, confusion, abnormal movement, and aphasia.

Smoking accelerate the process of atherosclerosis all over body and leads to endothelial dysfunction, thrombus formation and hypercoagulable state. It also aggravates dyslipidemia. It locally affects the lung parenchyma and make it vulnerable to COVID related lung damage and oxygenation of body. Coexistence of smoking related atherosclerosis and COVID induced hypercoagulable state increases chances of large vessel stroke.

COVIDCARE

COCOA: Cocoa is considered to be one of the best medicinal foods. It is full of flavonoids. It helps control diabetes and cocoa based products are advised

to be included in the daily diet to improve the insulin resistance and level of glucose in the body.

Cocoa powder is good for the heart and prevents fatal blood clots. Hence, avoiding severe cardiac problems.

The flavonoid and anti-oxidants in cocoa beans lowers blood pressure and improves the elasticity of veins and blood vessels.

Cocoa is great for the skin. It is also considered to cure cancer - used particularly in the cure of prostate and colon cancer. It has anti-depressant properties that can help prevent mental exertion and facilitate certain physiological processes and elevate the mood.



MONSOON MALADY

With rains come plethora of diseases including leptospirosis, DR TRUPTI GILADA tells SHALINI SAKSENA

Even though the monsoon brings with it the much-needed relief from the scorching heat, it does have a down side as well. Dengue and malaria are some of the diseases that are common during this season. Then there are diseases that come due to flooding and water-logging of low-lying areas. One such disease is leptospirosis.

WHAT IS IT

It is mainly a monsoon associated infection associated with exposure to water, soil or mud contaminated with the urine from infected animals. It is caused by a bacteria called Leptospira. It is carried by many animals. It lives in their kidneys and is found in the urine and faeces.

WHO IS AT RISK?

Anyone who wades through flooded water is at risk. When there is water-logging, the water gets contaminated by bacteria because of the mixing of the stool or urine. The bacteria then enters the body through skin cuts or abrasions when a person wades through this contaminated water, and occasionally through the lining of the mouth, nose and eyes. Farmers are also at high risk as they may get exposed to the urine and excreta of field rats while working.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms usually develop after five to 14 days following exposure. The most common initial symptoms of this disease include either fever or all of these symptoms: Fever, severe headache, sore muscles, chills, vomiting, and red eyes. Since these mimic other monsoon-related illnesses like malaria and dengue, clinical diagnosis can sometimes be difficult.

Few people with leptospirosis can develop severe disease and may need hospitalisation.

This can include kidney failure, jaundice, liver failure, bleeding and respiratory complications. Lesser common complications include meningitis



ANYONE WHO WADES THROUGH FLOODED WATER IS AT RISK. WHEN THERE IS WATER-LOGGING, THE WATER GETS CONTAMINATED BY BACTERIA BECAUSE OF THE MIXING OF THE STOOL OR URINE. THE BACTERIA THEN ENTERS THE BODY THROUGH SKIN CUTS OR ABRASIONS

gitis where the lining of the brain and spinal cord gets involved and causes altered sensorium.

TREATMENT

This disease is commonly treated with antibiotics. Treatment is thought to be most effective when detected early. The testing can take some time and the disease may be severe in some patients. A doctor may therefore sometimes choose to start antibiotics prior to confirming the diagnosis with tests. However, some people recover spontaneously without antibiotics.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Most individuals recover from leptospirosis without further sequelae. But in some individuals who went undiagnosed and untreated in the early and or acute illness, there can be long-term effects. People can have a chronic-fatigue-like illness that lasts for months. Others can have persistent headaches, depression or other neurologic complaints. Occasionally the bacteria can persist in the eyes and cause chronic eye complaints.

PREVENTION

As far as possible, avoid wading through puddles and water-logged areas. Wear well covered footwear in monsoon. Cover any cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings. Wash hands and legs with soap, as leptospira bacteria are quickly killed by soap, disinfectants, and drying. Rodent control is of paramount importance and requires efforts both at individual and government level. Prompt cleaning up of garbage dumps and removing food sources that are close to housing is essential. Appropriate personal protective gear for those who work with animals or on the farms (like waterproof boots)

Those who may have been exposed to the bacteria because they waded through floods must contact their doctor immediately. The doctor may prescribe certain antibiotics (like Doxycycline) that can be taken to prevent the disease.

Photo: Ranjan Dindi

A DOSE FOR YOUR CLOTHES

MUSBA HASHMI speaks with SASHA BOSE, Director & CEO of Nanochemi Pvt Ltd, about the nano tech application that allows garments to not only be protective in nature but also makes it long lasting

■ **What was the idea behind the inception of Faibr-x?**

Faibr-x was conceptualised on the idea of safespace for every human and child. Clothes are the biggest carrier of virus and bacteria and we strongly believe that clothes can also be the biggest protector against both. Faibr-x was conceptualised to add an element of protection, certified protection in this case, to our daily wear clothes to protect us against virus, bacteria and insects including mosquitoes. And to be honest, this was called for by the situation caused by the COVID pandemic. Now we may have started to move out of our houses but it is still not safe, the pandemic isn't entirely over yet and we do need an extra line of defence against this virus.

■ **How is it different from already treated antiviral clothes?**

Faibr-x uses nanotechnology to impart protective nature to garments against virus and bacteria. The protective finish as added to garments is done on a nano level (1nanometre is 10⁻⁹ metre) wherein the protective finish is applied on the fibre of the cloth. This nano level application allows the garment to not only be completely protective in nature but also makes it long lasting. A once treated garment would remain protective even after 10 washes. Here we are not just fighting a specific virus, we are taking down all kinds of viruses and disease causing bacteria. Along with the bacteria that cause odour. This is what sets the clothes treated with Faibr-x apart from already treated antiviral clothes.

■ **What are the challenges that you face?**

Biggest challenge is to make the end consumer understand and acknowledge our solution. We realise Faibr-x is a first of its kind solution and therefore many people may not be aware of our vision and the impact of our solution. With that said, we are making a constant stride forward, towards brand awareness and making people realise how significant can Faibr-x prove to be during this pandemic.

■ **How safe are Faibr-x treatments for various individuals?**

Faibr-x nanotechnology and its ingredients are certified by OekoTex Class 1 and have been evaluated by CDSO, ISO, and NABL labs human and environment safety. Non metal, non silver, non itching technology is safest not only for various individuals but even for newborn and young toddlers.

■ **How can one get their clothes Faibr-x treated?**

As mentioned above, we have tied up with grocery stores, medical stores, dry cleaners, and departmental stores that act as collection points for us. People can drop their clothes with these stores, from where they would be picked up and sent for Faibr-x treatment. And then returned.

■ **What has been the people's response to such treated clothes?**

People's response to the treated clothes has been positive so far. Our services have been perceived by our customer base as a unique concept of protection. People do feel donning Faibr-x treated clothes acts as a defence mechanism against virus and bacteria. Customers have been happy with the affordability and the accessibility of our services, given we have collaborated with local grocery stores and dry cleaners, we are easily accessible.

Only 0.01 per cent Indians consent to donate

Organ donation in India is only just beginning to take off — reason for the delay being lack of awareness, spiritual belief of life after death, and generally negative attitudes towards organ donation, says RAGHAV KHANNA

Thousands of lives can be improved through organ and tissue transplants, enabling people to live better, and in many cases, survive. So, why are only 0.01 per cent of Indians consenting to donate their organs after their death?

Organ donation is the process of retrieving or procuring an organ legally with the intention of being able to medically help someone in need. Consent is given either by the donor while they're still alive, or after death by their Next of Kin. First the organ is recovered, or harvested, before being transplanted into the recipient in need. Organ donation in India is regulated by the 1994 Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act. The act aims to control the removal, storage, and transplantation of organs and prevents any commercial dealings, while the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation facilitates procurement, allotment, and distribution of organs within India. With a budget of ₹149.5 crore, the Government implemented the

National Organ Transplant Programme for promoting organ donation.

Despite the Government identifying the need for organ donation, there is a disparity between huge demand and low supply. Organ donation in India is only just beginning to take off — reason for the delay being lack of awareness, spiritual belief of life after death, and generally negative attitudes towards organ donation. Donation is encouraged as a charitable act that saves or enhances life; therefore, it requires no action on the part of the religious group.

India's Statistical Data as of 2015 shows that in response to the demand for 1.75 lakhs of kidney transplants, only 5000 transplants were completed. With 50,000 people dying of terminal liver disease, only 1000 got transplants. These statistics are even more distressing in organs like hearts and lungs. About 0.5 million people in India die every year from causes that could have been prevented by organ transplants that were not available to them.

Government should undertake the responsibility for establishing proper infrastructure to facilitate speedy transport and harvesting of organs

Organ donation rates in India sit at 0.01 percent, a minuscule figure in comparison to countries like Croatia's which sits at 36.5 per cent and Spain's at 35.3 per cent.

One donation from a deceased whose brain gave way before their heart can save lives of up to eight people who are suffering from end stage organ failures. If India's donation rates were to be improved to one donation per million deaths, it would satisfy the country's organ requirement completely.

The process of pledging is simple. A donor card is provided to a person who is willing to donate the organs after death. Donor cards are not a legally binding document - it is only an expression of a person's willingness to be a donor. At the time of organ donation, the family of the patient will make the final decision on whether to donate organs or not. Any person willing to donate his/her organs can do so by filling out the donor consent form available on the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India website.

Government of India should undertake the responsibility for establishing proper infrastructure all over India to facilitate speedy transport and harvesting of organs. The official paperwork should be more donor-friendly and convenient. The NGOs along with healthcare providers should run their awareness campaigns in a more intensive way, involving print/social and electronic media.

The writer is a final year student of Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi

INBRIEF

SIGN OF ENDOMETRIOSIS

Endometriosis is an often painful disorder in which tissue similar to the tissue that normally lines the inside of your uterus — the endometrial — grows outside your uterus. Endometriosis most commonly involves your ovaries, fallopian tubes and the tissue lining your pelvis. Rarely, endometrial tissue may spread beyond pelvic organs.

Dr Neerja Goel, professor and HOD of Obstetrics and gynaecology department, Sharda Hospital, said at the time of endometriosis "complaints of painful menstruation, cramping, painful sex, constipation, back pain, leg pain, pain while urinating, and rectal bleeding. It can affect women of any age. It's a long-term condition that can have a significant impact on any woman's life and also the main cause of ovarian cancer."

Foods rich in Omega-3 fatty acids, fresh fruits and vegetables, avoiding intake of alcohol and caffeine, avoid stress and fatty foods add regular exercise and yoga in your routine that helps in to resolve the problem and if it is not treated on time it leads to infertility or heavy bleeding during the time of menstruation and having pregnancy at an older age. "Primary treatment of this disease and if it is not diagnosed at an early stage then surgical treatment is the option. Usually, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs are used to relieve pain. If symptoms are mild and women do not plan to become pregnant, for most women with moderate to severe endometriosis, the most effective treatment is removing endometrial tissue and endometriosis," says Dr. Goel.



ONE STEP AT A TIME

PRATIK SUD advises caution against exerting yourself too much after recovering from COVID-19



Exercise is an important part of recovery after falling prey to COVID-19. As the number of COVID-positive cases is on the rise, remember that irrespective of how restless you may feel after being restricted to your home, if you were stricken by the disease, you should take it easy and remember that it is only natural to take some time to achieve the fitness level you possessed before you got infected.

Generally, doctors recommend a break of three-six months, even after the symptoms subside, depending on the severity of the infection in the patient. Provided below are some guidelines to ease your transition to the active lifestyle you once led.

■ Always warm up before and cool down after exercising. Begin with breathing exercises and mild walking. You will be shocked to see how you gasp for breath even after walking for 100 metres.

■ Wear comfortable clothes that



circulate air to help you breathe normally. Also, wear comfortable shoes for free movement.

■ Eat healthy and nutritious food in sufficient quantities an hour before the exercise. Forget about dieting post-COVID-19 illness.

■ Staying hydrated while recovering from the illness is imperative. Ensure that you drink ample water before and after exercising.

■ Don't exhaust yourself by exercising in hot weather. Try working out early in the morning or in the evening. If by chance you can't work out in the morning, then meditate during the afternoon, but don't indulge in rough workout sessions.

■ At the same time, avoid exercising indoors with the air conditioner on. Extreme cold weather can leave you breathless which can lead to an uneven flow of blood in the vessels and stressed muscles.

Doctors claim that weakness can last up to six months after recovering, depending on a person's immune system and energy levels. If your friend can run 20-25 laps of the field post-recovery, doesn't mean that your body can also tolerate the same.

Immediately stop working out if you experience any of the following symptoms:

■ Nausea
■ Dizziness or lightheadedness
■ Breathlessness is common while exercising. However, stop if the breathlessness worsens and doesn't subside even after resting
■ Excessive sweating

■ Tightness in the chest area
■ Increased pain especially in the arms and jaw

The moment you experience any uncommon symptoms, you should stop exercising and contact your doctor immediately. There is no harm in discussing the symptoms with your fitness expert as well. Remember, medical staff and doctors are there for our assistance.

The best way to start exercising is by warming up. Mild exercises can loosen the muscles and increase blood flow. This will help in exercising properly without any room for injuries, soreness or uneasiness in the body.

Few exercising tips that can loosen muscle and increase strength

■ Warm-up exercise

Roll your shoulders slowly to loosen the muscles and increase blood flow. You need to roll them clockwise and anti-clockwise five times consecutively. Continue this motion for five minutes.

■ Fitness exercise

We all have marched during the school graduation ceremony, so, it will not be difficult to march on one spot for 10 minutes. You can also walk/run up and down the staircase for 10 minutes. It helps in improving breathlessness.

■ Strength exercise

Stand facing the wall and raise both hands and place your palms on it. Now push yourself towards the wall, against the force and then return to your position. This exercise helps in building strength in arms and joints.

Start with mild exercises. Gradually, increase the frequency, intensity and duration of your workout at your ease. This is the best way of challenging yourself by increasing one level further. Breathlessness is normal while exercising, but too much of it can be harmful and should be addressed immediately. Increase the intensity of your workouts according to your tolerance. Fatigue and extreme pain can be signs of over-exertion. It is advised to work out with a fitness expert so that if you feel breathless or are in extreme pain, s/he can provide you with emergency assistance.

(The author is co-founder of Synqfit, a one-stop solution for your home workouts.)

Back in the game

Actor KARTIK AARYAN is all set to star in the forthcoming romantic thriller, *Freddy*. By TEAM VIVA

Who is Freddy, you might ask? This introduction needs a drum roll or rather some suspenseful staccato played at a steadily increasing pace.

Producer Ekta Kapoor, in collaboration with Jay Shewakramani, is all set to kickstart their next production, *Freddy*. The film, directed by Shashanka Ghosh, is a romantic thriller starring Kartik Aaryan in the titular role.

Incidentally, Shashanka's last outing *Veere Di Wedding* with Balaji Telefilms was a super-hit and now they're teaming up again. Full of unpredictable twists and sharp turns, characters in this movie are set to take us on a dark and chilling roller coaster ride, where the lines between love and obsession blur! *Freddy* is jointly produced by Balaji Telefilms and Northern Lights Films.

Ekta, who's known for genre-bending content is excited as the movie is all set to go on floors. "I'm thrilled to have Kartik on board. His choices of the subject have always been unique and this one is no different and collaborating with Jay makes it even more special," she says.

Jay adds, "It is the first time I am collaborating with Ekta and Kartik on a film and for it to be on a script like this, makes it all the more exciting! *Freddy* is a script we worked on incessantly and we can't wait for Shashanka to bring to life these crazy characters!"

Speaking about the movie, an ecstatic Kartik shares, "As an actor, I crave to explore different facades of entertainment and with *Freddy*, I'm venturing into an uncharted territory which is both exciting and intriguing in equal measures. I look forward to marking my presence in Freddy's world and bring alive this dark romantic thriller. This will be my first collaboration with a visionary like Ekta Kapoor and creative forces such as Jay and Shashanka. Couldn't have asked for a better team on this new journey."

The director, Shashanka, further adds, "As a filmmaker, there is a lot to play with the genre, like a thriller. I am more than excited to work with an incredible team on a project as inspiring as *Freddy*. I am sure that the film is going to be one of the best thrilling cinematic experiences for the audience across the nation."



The fight for inclusion

SONU SOOD joins Special Olympics Bharat as brand ambassador

Bollywood actor Sonu Sood has joined Special Olympics Bharat as its brand ambassador. At a virtual event attended by over 500 athletes, coaches, families, officials and volunteers, Sonu interacted with the special athletes responding to their queries while admiring and appreciating their sporting achievements.

The inaugural session introduced him to the #WalkForInclusion, an initiative of the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Region, demonstrated by the athletes, marking his entry into the Inclusion Revolution of the Special Olympics movement.

Speaking about his role as the ambassador, Sonu said, "Today is a very special day for me and I am delighted to join this journey of inclusion with Special Olympics Bharat. Through their sporting achievements, each athlete redefines the human spirit that stands tall in the face of every challenge. I wish luck to all of them to do their best and showcase their abilities with confidence which in itself would send a strong message to the world that they deserve to be mainstreamed. I feel privileged to join the Special Olympics Bharat family and vouch to make this platform even bigger and resonate with people all over the country."

Not to be confused with the Paralympics, the Special Olympics is for individuals with intellectual disabilities, whereas the Paralympics is

generally for athletes with any disability, including physical, and only at an elite level. Sonu will lead the team of Special Olympics Bharat Athletes who will travel to Kazan to participate in the Special Olympics World Winter Games in January 2022.

He went on to express his gratitude, "I feel honoured to have this opportunity to be with our team in Russia for the Special Olympics World Winter Games. We will together encourage our athletes to give their best and cheer them on with such enthusiasm that the roar of support will echo back home in India as well."

Speaking on the occasion, Mallika Nadda, chairperson of Special Olympics Bharat, remarked, "I wish to convey my gratitude to Sonu Sood for accepting our invitation to join the Special Olympics family. We are certain that he will play a major role in giving a new direction to the Special Olympics movement in India and help the cause of persons with intellectual disabilities all over the world. Sonu Sood has offered his support to Special Olympics Bharat on several occasions in the past, and we are thrilled that he is now going to lead the Special Olympics movement. We look forward to working together with Sonu Sood in our effort to provide an equal opportunity and the dignity of life for persons with intellectual disabilities."

—IANS



Gauhar Khan has managed to find her fan base in every section of the audience.

From featuring in TV reality shows like *Bigg Boss*, *Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa*, *Fear Factor: Khatron Ke Khiladi*, to sharing screen space with Bollywood stars like Ranbir Kapoor, Saif Ali Khan and Vidya Balan in films like *Rocket Singh: Salesman of the Year*, *Begum Jaan* and recently in the web series *Tandav* and her latest film *14 Phere*, Gauhar has done it all.

Even though she is mostly grabbing headlines for her social and personal life on social media, in a recent interview, the actress shares that with time, her parameters on choosing projects, especially films, has changed because she is looking to explore her acting skills now.

"Honestly speaking, I do not look at anything with regret. I do not regret why I could not have the role of the female protagonist opposite Ranbir in a Bollywood film or why directors, producers are not considering me for lead roles. For films, the footage did not mat-

Basking in the glory

Model-turned-actress GAUHAH KHAN looks back on how she has thrived in the entertainment industry for 19 years



ter to me, the character did. If you look at my character in *Ishaqzaade* and *Begum Jaan*, those scenes and moments in the story were important. For me, it is always about creating something on-screen that resonates with the audience, and it did," expresses Gauhar.

"Initially, for me, I would try to use every opportunity to the best of my ability because I started from zero. It has been around 19 years for me in the entertainment business and I have seen so much change... Especially with OTT platforms, actors like myself are getting the opportunity to showcase their skills, earlier in

cinema chances were limited," she adds.

Gauhar started her journey as a model and was one of the participants in 2002 for the Femina Miss India beauty pageant. She went on gaining popularity with many non-fiction TV shows like *The Khan Sisters*, *Ticket to Bollywood*, *India's Raw Star*, *I Can Do That* and different seasons of *Bigg Boss*. She was the winner of *Bigg Boss 7*.

"The web-series space is interesting for me and I am getting good offers from OTT platforms. *Tandav* was an important show for me that was released on Amazon Prime Video. I have a couple of things lined up for OTT and again, all of them are very versatile and interesting. Now my parameter of choosing a project is to collaborate with directors and storytellers who will use my potential; I want to be challenged with new and exciting roles," shares Gauhar who also appeared in the Hotstar special sitcom show *The Office*.

—IANS

No to negativity

MARC KAPLAN shares how new-age social media platforms are providing users with a revamped experience



Currently, most of the prominent social media platforms have become vehicles that proliferate negativity, drive divisiveness, and enable cyberbullying. While they each have standards for behaviour outlined for all to see, they are at best inconsistently applied, and at worst completely ignored. The sites have become so toxic that not a day goes by where many regular users are not exposed to some level of negativity. People regularly report the loss of interactions with friends, family and colleagues online.

The call for reform has been side-stepped by these companies. The likes of key social media platforms have held up the freedom of expression flag in their defense, though many believe this is just a way to justify a business model that is lucrative to them and their shareholders. There is little doubt that extreme societal damage has been done from these platforms' unwillingness to make meaningful changes to address these issues. To date, the conversation has largely been about the issues with these platforms. However, now is the time for solutions. It is time to bring about a more positive way to interact online where members can connect in a safe and secure environment openly and freely.

Various new-age networking

platforms are focussing on improving online forums while making concerted efforts to mitigate negativity and cyberbullying. Their sole

aim is to bring about a social revolution that counterbalances the online negativity and toxicity that is perpetuated, enabled and perhaps

unknowingly supported by major social media platforms today.

These modern social networking platforms enable people to give and receive guidance for free and the members help each other in achieving their respective goals. These targets could be related to fitness, career, health, parenting, hobbies, personality development, or any other topic.

These platforms are a community where like-minded people and those who share common interests and goals come together to support each other and render a helping hand to each other. The members in such a scenario can interact and engage one-on-one amongst like-minded individuals or other communities across the globe instantly and seamlessly. They are devoid of ads, negativity, fake news, trolling, and cyberbullying and work beyond the popularity contest approach of garnering maximum likes and shares.

New-age networking platforms leverage the power of content moderation, identity verification, and technology mix to come up with state-of-the-art community-enabled solutions that help resolve all the associated issues. People with real identities facilitate an increased level of trust, credibility, and safety amongst the members and prefer

platforms that provide a safe and protected environment where their privacy is secured.

Trust, respect and genuine connections form the core of these social networking platforms and they are leaving no stone unturned to ensure that their community is free from negativity and toxicity. All they want is to leave a positive impact on the members' lives.

These new-age networking platforms don't function as the usual social media platforms but rather lend a helping hand to solve the problems faced by people in the social space. They aim to come up with a new social contract so that people can interact quickly, easily, and instantly with each other. They are aware that negativity, divisiveness, polarisation and fake news rule the social media space today. However, they wish to take a bold stance and bet on the goodness of the people. They desire to uplift each other rather than tearing each other down. The broader vision of these new-age platforms is to normalise a different online experience and provide an alternative way to spend your time online which is positive, interactive, engaging, and fosters connections!

(The author is co-founder & CEO of ChekMarc, a social platform that enables impactful one-on-one connections.)

TRENDBLAZER

fairtalk

TIGER SHROFF



"From the time my first film was released people said 'ye ladka hai ya ladki', people commented on my face and said I look like a girl. When it comes to trolling, it is at times scary how a nameless, faceless individual could say anything about anybody without getting caught! As long as love is coming in for me from my fans, I am okay."

dailytalk

ONIR



"I think modern-day slavery is one of the themes prevalent in our society that we do not address as much as we should. It is one of the worst forms of human depravity and since cinema is a powerful medium, we need to take the opportunity to address the matter and provoke the thought in the minds of people."

WHAT A BIG JOB: KIT HARINGTON

Game Of Thrones star KIT HARINGTON and his wife Rose Leslie welcomed their first child, a baby boy, five months ago. The actor admits he wasn't prepared for just how 'big' a job raising a family is.

"Everyone goes, 'look, it's big what you're about to go through.' You have no way of knowing that until it happens. What surprises you is that you go, 'Oh, this goes on forever.' Like, you don't get a break from it," Harington told Access Hollywood.



'WE DON'T DESERVE A MEDIA TRIAL'

Actor SHILPA SHETTY KUNDRRA took to social media on Monday to issue a statement, saying she and her family do not deserve a media trial.

"All I will say is, as it's an ongoing investigation, I have full faith in the Mumbai Police and the Indian judiciary. I request everyone to respect my family's and 'my right' to privacy in these times. We don't deserve a media trial. Please let the law take its course. *Satyamev Jayate!*" she said via a post on Instagram.

TOKYO TIMELINE
MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Hockey:** India beat Australia 1-0 in women's quarterfinal.
- **Athletics:** Dutee Chand 7th and last in women's 200m Heat 4; fails to qualify for semifinals.
- **Kamalpreet Kaur** sixth in women's discus final with a best throw of 63.70m.
- **Shooting:** Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar 21st and Sanjeev Rajput 32nd in men's 50m rifle 3 positions qualification; fail to qualify for final.
- **Equestrian:** Fouaad Mirza 25th in eventing jumping individual qualifier; 23rd in final.

IN ACTION TODAY

- **Athletics:** Annu Rani in women's javelin throw Qualification Group A. (5:50am)
- **Tajinderpal Singh Toor** in men's shot put Qualification Group A. (3:45am)
- **Hockey:** India vs Belgium in men's semifinal. (7:00am)
- **Wrestling:** Sonam Malik vs Bolortuya Khurelkhuu (Mongolia) in women's 62kg. (8:30am onwards)

Live on SONY TEN & SIX Network

PTI ■ TOKYO

A brave and determined Indian women's hockey team etched its name in the history books by entering the Olympic Games semifinals for the first time, stunning three-time champions and world No 2 Australia 1-0 in an intense last-eight tie here on Monday.

A day after the Indian men's team entered the Olympic semifinals following a 49-year gap, the world No 9 women's side also produced a phenomenally gritty performance to make it way into the last four.

Drag-flicker Gurjit Kaur rose to the occasion when it mattered and converted India's lone penalty corner in the 22nd minute to surprise the Australians.

"We are so happy, it is the result of hard work that we put in for several, several days. In 1980, we qualified for the Games but this time, we made the semifinals. It is a proud moment for us," Gurjit said after the match.

"This team is like a family, we have supported each other and found support from the country as well. We are very happy," she added.

But the Indians, determined to prove a point, produced a strong and brave performance to eke out the narrow win over the Hockeyroos.

How much it meant for the team and Indian hockey in general could be gauged from the

HISTORYMAKERS

In a first, Indian women's hockey team enter Olympic semifinals with a stunning 1-0 win over Hockeyroos



Indian players celebrate after Gurjit Kaur (jersey No 2) scores India's only goal against Australia during women's hockey quarterfinal match

©Tokyo2020hi

A movie on self-belief & staying in the moment did trick: Marijne

Tokyo: Watching a movie on self belief after three consecutive losses rebuilt the Indian women's hockey team's shattered morale and helped it to 'aim for the clouds', the side's Dutch coach Sjoerd Marijne revealed on Monday after Rani Rampal and Co entered their maiden Olympic semifinals here.

The Indian team bounced back tremendously in the tournament after successive losses and Marijne said the movie helped psychologically ahead of the must-win pool game against Ireland but did not reveal its name.

"The difference is believing in ourselves and believing in their dreams and then it's about going back to reality focussing on your past. I think that is the main thing and that's what we did," Marijne said after upsetting Australia in the quarterfinals.

"If you lose you don't stop

believing and that's what I told the girls. The most important thing is to stay in the moment. I showed them a movie and that movie is about being in the moment and I think that was really helpful. Against Ireland we kept on referring to that movie," he said.

He said all he asked the team to do was to aim for the highest.

"In India you must think big and that's what I said to the girls. If you aim for the highest, for the clouds, you will fall on the highest mountain. If you aim for the mountain you will fall on the ground," he explained.

"We went for the clouds and I said whatever happens after it doesn't matter, but that's where we have to aim for."

India captain Rani Rampal too credited the movie for the turnaround of fortunes. **PTI**

emotions that were on display after the final hooter went off. The players screamed, hugged each other, and got into a huddle with their Dutch coach Sjoerd Marijne with tears of joy rolling down their faces.

India's best performance in the Olympics came way back in

the 1980 Moscow Games where they finished fourth out of six teams. In that edition, women's hockey made its debut in the Olympics and the sport was played in a round-robin format.

The Rani Rampal-led side will play Argentina in the semifinal on Wednesday.

Kamalpreet finishes 6th in discus final

Tokyo: Discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur finished a creditable sixth in her first Olympics in a rain-interrupted final while sprinter Dutee Chand ended her campaign on a disappointing note by failing to qualify for the 200m semifinals here on Monday.

The 25-year-old Kaur, who has qualified for the final as second best on Saturday, was never in the running for a medal in the eight rounds of competition which was interrupted by rain for more than an hour.

Her best throw of 63.70m in the third round saw her finish at sixth and equal 2010 Commonwealth Games Gold medalist Krishna Poonia's performance in the 2012 London Olympics.

Throughout the competition, Kaur looked nervous and short of confidence as she lacked international exposure. She has taken part in World University Games in 2017, her lone international competition.

It was a tough competition for all the participants as rain started pouring down towards the end of the second round and a few throwers taking their attempts in spite of slippery circle.

Rain stopped after an hour but the humidity seemed to have affected the throwers' performance and they have to be cautious as the approach area to the circle was wet.

With her right

shoulder heavily strapped, Kaur began with a 61.62m effort before fouling her next attempt. That put her under pressure and on the verge of being eliminated as she was ninth just before her third throw.

But she gave her best and came up with a 63.70m, that saved her and put her in the sixth position as the bottom four out of the 12 finalists were eliminated after three rounds.

Not much changed in the position of the throwers in the final three rounds. Kaur fouled the fourth throw and then had a 61.37m in her penultimate attempt before sending the discus out of sector in the final one.

American Valerie Allman took the Gold with a first round throw of 68.98m while Kristin Pudenz (66.86m) of Germany and reigning world champion Yaime Perez (65.72m) of Cuba won the Silver and Bronze respectively.

In the morning session, sprinter Dutee ran her season's best in 200m but that was not enough for a semifinals berth as she made a disappointing exit from the Olympics after finishing last in her heat race. The 25-year-old clocked 23.85 seconds to finish seventh and last in Heat 4 and 38th overall out of 41 competitors.

Tokyo: Handling the immense burden of expectations would perhaps be the key when the Indian men's hockey team takes on world champion Belgium, aiming to secure a place in the Olympic finals and with it, a medal for the first time in 41 years here on Tuesday.

With 11 Olympic medals, eight of them Gold, in its kitty, India has a rich history in the Games and the Manpreet Singh-led side seems on course to resurrect that glorious past.

The Indians achieved the semifinal slot by beating Great Britain 3-1 in the quarterfinals on Sunday, and are now in touching distance of a medal.

The Graham Reid-coached current side knows very well that another good outing against Belgium on Tuesday would etch its name in the history books in golden words no matter the colour of the medal.

The Indians are on a four-match winning streak after the 1-7 drubbing against Australia

Belgium stand b/w India & final



in their second pool match and come Tuesday, Manpreet and his teammates would look to continue the momentum.

But it would be easier said than done as in Belgium, India face a tough opponent, which has improved leaps and bounds in the last few years.

Besides being current world champions and world No 2 side, Belgium are also the reigning European champions.

Going by rankings, however, there is hardly anything to separate between the two sides as India are currently

ranked third in the world. The recent head-to-head record also favours India.

India and the Red Lions played each other three times in 2019 during their tour of the European nation and the Asian side came out victorious in all the matches. India

defeated Belgium 2-0, 3-1 and 5-1 in the three games during that tour.

In the most recent outing in March this year, India beat Belgium 3-2 during their Europe tour. In fact, in their last five matches against Belgium, the Indians have registered four wins.

However, the last time both the sides met each other in the Olympics, Belgium came out 3-1 winners in Rio. **PTI**

Keep emotions in check, avoid cards: Reid tells his team

Tokyo: India men's hockey team chief coach Graham Reid has told his players to keep their emotions in check and avoid cards against a strong opponent like Belgium in semifinals.

While Reid expressed that he was happy with the 3-1 victory against Great Britain in the quarterfinal on Sunday, he highlighted that getting two green cards and one yellow card in the game is something they must avoid against

Belgium.

"The things we can learn from last night (Sunday) is that there is a difference between passion and emotion. Sometimes, we let our emotions take over.

"We need to keep 11 players on the pitch. The problem is that we played a lot of our game against Great Britain with 10 men on the pitch. We can't do that against Belgium and think that we can be victorious," asserted Reid. **PTI**

Mirza 23rd in individual eventing



Tokyo: Equestrian Fouaad Mirza on Monday finished a creditable 23rd in eventing after he became the first Indian to reach the final of the event here on Monday.

Mirza and his equine Seigneur Medicott sneaked into the top-25 in the morning to make the jumping finals and become the first Indian to do so.

In the final, Mirza incurred

qualifying eventing rounds with a spectacular dressage round by taking the ninth place on Saturday.

On Sunday, Mirza picked up 11.20 penalty points in the challenging Sea Forest Cross Country Course to be placed 22nd.

Mirza and Seigneur finished the cross country run in just over eight minutes after starting a bit late owing to a technical issue.

In the final qualifying event, Mirza knocked two fences in the jumping round to incur eight penalty points en route to finishing 25th with an overall 47.2 penalty points.

The final was once again a jumping round where the top 25 competed.

Germany's Julia Krajewski won the Gold in the event, making her the first female Olympic champion in eventing's history. **PTI**

12.40 penalty points for an overall 59.60 that included the points from the three rounds of qualifying events — dressage, cross country and jumping.

It was a creditable performance for the 29-year-old Bengaluru rider Mirza, who was the first equestrian to qualify for the Olympics since Imtiaz Anees in Sydney 2000.

Mirza started off the three

Sonam to begin India's wrestling campaign

Tokyo: Young Indian wrestler Sonam Malik was on Monday placed in the challenging bottom half of the women's 62kg draw, where she will open her Olympics campaign against Asian Silver medalist Bolortuya Khurelkhuu from Mongolia.

The 19-year-old will be the sole Indian wrestler in action on Tuesday. Relatively new to the big stage, every single bout will be a test of character for Sonam, who qualified for the Tokyo Games by making the final at the Asian Qualifier in April in Almaty.

Khurelkhuu is more experienced than Sonam and has stood on the podium on both the occasions she took the mat this season but the Indian is not intimidated.

Sonam came into Olympics after recovering from a right knee injury that did not let her fly to Russia for training in build-up to the Games.

"I am fine. There is no pain in my knee. It's neither tough nor easy draw for me," Sonam, who earned a name for herself by defeating Rio Bronze-medallist

Lost and Found

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि गोविन्द राम मकान नंबर 1074B, HBC कॉलोनी जीड में दस्तावेज Transfer Deed No. 2666 date 31/03/96 Transfer Deed 540, Date 10/05/10 Deed No. 1903, 28/08/2009 Deed No. 2379, 15/10/2009 घर के रास्ते में गुम हो गई है। किसी को मिले तो कृपया हमारे पते पर भेजें।

The Telehos Employees Coop HB First Society Ltd. Sector 50-C, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of General Public that Sh. Narender Kumar S/o Sh. Prem Chand & Smt. Veena Rani W/o Sh. Narender Kumar R/o # 1219-A, Sector 41-B, Chandigarh have entered into an agreement for purchase of Flat No. 2482 (1st Floor), Category -B, in the Telehos Employees Coop HB First Society Ltd., Sector 50-C, Chandigarh presently owned by Sh. Krishan Kumar Batra (K K Batra) S/o Sh. N. L. Batra R/o # 2482, Telehos Society, Sector 50-C, Chandigarh.

They have applied to issue NOC to transfer the above said Flat & execution of Sale Deed. If any has objection against the transfer of above said flat, same may be submitted to the Society, in writing along with supporting documents within 30 days of the publication of this notice, otherwise NOC will be issued to the intending purchaser.

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

PUBLIC NOTICE

I hereby informed the general public that Smt. Satpal Kaur wife of Sh. Surinder Singh and Sh. Surinder Singh son of Sh. Dhian Singh is absolute owners of Plot measuring 3-1/3 Marla, bearing under Khata No.1218, comprised under Khata No.5113 (6-3), as per jamabandi year 2011-2012, situated at Village Rajpura, Hadbast No.51, Tehsil Rajpura & Distt. Patiala (Punjab) Now (1 Smt. Satpal Kaur wife of Sh. Surinder Singh and Sh. Surinder Singh are taking Lap Loan on the said property from Magma Housing Finance Ltd. SCO 75, 2nd Floor Phase-9, Mohali. Smt. Satpal Kaur wife of Sh. Surinder Singh and Sh. Surinder Singh have lost the following original document in respect of said property. 1. Sale Deed Dated 20.01.2015, bearing Vaska No.3025 in favour of (1) Sh. Ran Singh son of Sh. Amar Singh (2) Sh. Navjot Kumar son of Sh. Ajay Kumar (3) Sh. Narender Kumar son of Sh. Parshotam Sh. Sadhan Singh son of Sh. Moola Singh in Original. 2. Sale Deed Dated 16.06.2011, bearing Vaska No.2678 in favour of Smt. Parvinder Kaur wife of Sh. Manjit Singh in Original. 3. Sale Deed Dated 25.05.2010, bearing Vaska No.1221 in favour of Sh. Sumit Kumar son of Sh. Basant Kumar in Original. If anybody found the said lost documents then may contact to undersigned and anybody having claim or claiming any prior rights or interest in any manner in this property or has raised loan by depositing the aforesaid documents to any person/ bank/ corporation/ financial institution may approach the undersigned and may submit objections within 14 days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of the period of this notice no claim shall be entertained and such claim shall be deemed to be false, fake, frivolous, fraudulent and baseless claim and shall have no value in the eyes of law.

Smt. Satpal Kaur and Sh. Surinder Singh Magma Housing Finance Ltd. SCO 75, 2nd Floor Phase-9, Mohali Punjab. M. 98888-84755

And Excellent Legal Services Room No.419-A, 4th Floor, Stock Exchange Stock, Feroza Gandhi Market, Ludhiana Ph. 0161-4661890

I was blank, my coach was in tears: Sindhu after win

Tokyo: Reigning world champion P V Sindhu on Monday said she was completely blank after winning a second successive Olympic medal and it took her a while to realise the enormity of her historic achievement in the ongoing Games.

The 26-year-old Indian on Sunday etched her name among the all-time greats after winning badminton's women's singles Bronze medal to add to the Silver she won at Rio de Janeiro five years back.

"...I was blank, my coach was literally in tears, it was a big moment. I hugged him and said 'Thank you'. I didn't know what to do for 5-6 seconds, I shouted, so all emotions came together at that moment," she said during a virtual press conference.

In the third-place play-off, Sindhu beat China's He Bing Jiao. The win came after a painful loss in the semifinals to world No 1 Tai Tzu Ying.

Sindhu said coach Park Tae-sang's encouragement helped her to recover from the semifinal loss and claim the Bronze for the country.

"After semis, I was really sad, I was in tears but my coach said it is not over yet. There were mixed emotions, if I should be sad or happy but Park told one thing. He said 'there is a lot of difference between a fourth position and a Bronze' and that really hit me," she said.

"I went with the mindset that I have to give my 100 percent and get that medal."

A lot of questions were raised when Sindhu



PV Sindhu hugs her coach Park Tae-sang after winning women's singles badminton Bronze medal match

Park felt pressure after being assigned to train Sindhu

Tokyo: His phone hasn't stopped buzzing ever since P V Sindhu claimed the Bronze medal at Tokyo Olympics but India's foreign badminton coach Park Tae-sang says he did feel 'little pressure' after being suddenly asked to train the star shuttler for the Games.

The 42-year-old from South Korea was initially

hired to train the men's singles players but started working with Sindhu after the abrupt departure of Kim Ji Hyun, following the World Championship in 2019.

"I'm really happy because this is the first time my player has got a medal in my coaching career," Park, who competed at the 2004 Athens Olympics before taking up

coaching the national Korean team, said during a virtual press conference.

"When I first started teaching Sindhu, she was already a big Olympic star. I felt little pressure but I tried. My Korean players also didn't get an Olympic medal, so I thought I can try to get her a Gold. We failed but Bronze is also a very big medal. **PTI**



NCLT Chandigarh Bench held a plantation drive
Chandigarh: National Company Law Tribunal, Chandigarh bench organised a Mega Plantation Drive with assistance of Chandigarh Administration at Corporate Bhawan, Madhya Marg and surrounding areas. The plantation drive was supported by Hon'ble Member (Law) Ajay Kumar and NCLT Head Chandigarh and well supported by all staff members.