

**OPINION 6**  
UTTAR PRADESH UNDER  
YOGI IS MAKING WAVES

**WORLD 8**  
TALIBAN TAKE MUCH OF  
PROVINCIAL CAPITAL IN SOUTH AF

**AVENUES 10**  
CAREER OPTIONS  
AFTER CLASS XII

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR  
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

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## India, China to pull back troops from Gogra point

First breakthrough achieved in 12th round of parleys

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

As regards the face-off sites, the other friction points are in the Hot Springs and the Depsang Valley, and the two sides will hold more military



### FORWARD MOVEMENT

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

and diplomatic-level talks in the coming weeks to ease tension there, they added.

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

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

Since then, a stalemate persisted regarding the other friction points.

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

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

year.

A joint statement issued by India and China on Monday after the 12th round of talks said the Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side. This round of meeting was held following the meeting of the Foreign Ministers on July 14 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and the 22nd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs on June 25.

## Rahul trying to unite Opp for 2024

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

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

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

This is the second such

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

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

welcome message to the leaders.

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

Sena leader Sanjay Raut and Congress' Mallikarjun Kharge, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury were among those present. Representatives of RJD, SP, CPIM, CPI, IUML, RSP, KCM, JMM, National Conference and LJD too joined for tea and breakfast with Rahul and other leaders.

Opp agrees to debate 7 Bills in Parliament

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With stalemate continuing in the Rajya Sabha for the 11th day, the Government, Opposition and other parties on Tuesday agreed on eight items of business, including seven Bills, for which 17 hours of time has been allotted.

Parliament sources said this was decided at a meeting chaired by Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu, who appealed to all sides to enable normal functioning of the House.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi rides a bicycle in a symbolic protest over fuel price hike in New Delhi on Tuesday  
Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

## Opp parties insulting Parl by not letting it function, rues Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday slammed the Opposition for "insulting the legislature and the Constitution" by forcing repeated adjournments and not allowing Parliament to function. He also criticised the "arrogant" conduct of those from the Opposition who remain unrepentant on their conduct of tearing papers and making "derogatory" remarks on the way Bills have been passed.

The Opposition has not been allowing Parliament to function demanding a debate on the Pegasus snooping issue. The Government has termed it a "non-issue".

Briefing the media on Modi's speech at the BJP parliamentary party meeting, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the Prime Minister expressed anger at the conduct of some Opposition members and noted that those who tore papers and



threw it around have remained unrepentant.

This shows their arrogance, Modi said and asked his party members to maintain restraint.

While TMC MP Santanu Sen had torn the statement of IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on the Pegasus issue in the Rajya Sabha, several Opposition members had torn papers in the Lok Sabha and thrown it in the air and towards the Chair.

TMC MP Derek O'Brien had criticised the manner of Bills' passage in Parliament by drawing a parallel with making of "papri chat".

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

are the five journalists who approached the SC with the forensic reports of Pegasus' presence in their phones.

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

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

### CAPSULE

**PENTAGON ON LOCKDOWN AFTER SHOOTING NEARBY**  
Washington: The Pentagon was on lockdown on Tuesday morning after multiple gunshots were fired near a platform by the facility's Metro station.

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

## Corona R-factor high, wave not over: Govt

8 States show rise in virus reproductive rate

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

Dr VK Paul, who heads the

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

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

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

Covid-19 IN INDIA	
TOTAL CASES:	3,17,66,226 (+40,771)
DEATHS:	4,25,774 (+546)
RECOVERED:	3,09,21,544 (+32,742)
ACTIVE:	4,06,328
MAHA:	63,21,068 (+6,005)
KERALA:	34,49,149 (+23,676)
K'TAKA:	29,09,958 (+1,674)
TN:	25,65,452 (+1,908)
DELHI:	14,36,451 (+50)

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

By December-end, around 18 crore Covishield and Covaxin shots against Covid-19 will be available for inoculation in the country, the Government told Parliament on Tuesday even as it hoped that

four more Indian pharma

companies will start production of indigenous vaccines that will help meet the domestic demand. India has administered 47 crore doses of vaccine so far since the launch of the national vaccination drive from January 16 aimed to protect the people from the virus.

It plans to inoculate the adult population by December end.



## 99.04% students pass CBSE Class X

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Tuesday declared the much-awaited Class X results with 99.04 per cent students declared passed.

While the pass percentage of boys is 98.89 per cent, that of girls is 99.24 per cent.

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

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

PTI ■ BEIJING

The death of a 20-year-old Indian student in China's Tianjin city was a homicide and a foreigner has been arrested in connection with the murder, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said here on Tuesday.

The suspect's nationality has not been disclosed, officials said. Aman Nagsen, who hailed from Bihar's Gaya, was a student of Business Administration in the Tianjin Foreign Studies University. He was found dead on July 29.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry, in a written response to PTI, said around 8.00 pm, Tianjin police received a call that an "Indian student was lying on the floor of the dormitory with no sign of life".

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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



sought to cheer up the Indian men's hockey team that lost to Belgium in the semi-final clash, saying wins and losses are a part of life and India is proud of its players.

"Wins and losses are a part of life. Our Men's Hockey Team at #Tokyo2020 gave their best

and that is what counts," Modi tweeted.

Wishing the Team the very best for the next match and their future endeavours, he said, "India is proud of our players". He also spoke with Manpreet Singh, the captain of the hockey team, after the semi-final match, officials said.

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

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

## Olympic Gold still elusive for men's hockey India to take on Germany for bronze medal today

PTI ■ TOKYO

The Indian men's hockey team's dream of an Olympic gold after 41 years remained unfulfilled as it lost 2-5 to world champions Belgium in the last-four stage but the side is still in the hunt for a bronze in the Tokyo Games here on Tuesday.

Alexander Hendrickx (19th, 49th, 53rd minutes), the tournament's highest goal getter, scored a hat-trick while Loick Luyptaert (2nd minute) and John-John Dohmen (60th) also struck to hand the reigning silver-medallists their second successive entry into the final of the Olympics.

India's goals came from the

sticks of Harmanpreet Singh (7th) and Mandeep Singh (8th).

The Indians still have a chance to secure an elusive medal from the Olympics as they will feature in the bronze medal match on Thursday against Germany, who lost 1-3 to Australia in their semi-final clash.

India's last appearance in the final of the Olympics came way back in 1980 Moscow Games, where they went on to win their last of the eight gold medals.

The Indians had only themselves to blame for Tuesday's disappointment as Belgium's all four goals came from penalty corners.



India players wait for a video referral decision during their men's field hockey semi-final match with Belgium in Tokyo on Tuesday  
PTI

The Indian defence was put under relentless pressure by the Belgians as they secured

as many as 14 penalty corners out of which they converted three.

TOKYO 2020 MEDAL TALLY			
Country	G	S	B
China	32	21	16
USA	24	28	21
Japan	19	6	11
Australia	14	4	15
ROC	13	21	18
Great Britain	13	17	13
France	6	10	8
India	0	1	1

Belgium's game plan was clear from the onset as they tried to enter the Indian circle and earn penalty corners with Hendrickx and Luyptaert in their ranks. The play worked to perfection as the Indian defence wilted under pressure to concede the set pieces.

# Nainital students perform well in CBSE exams

PNS ■ NAINITAL

Parvati Prema Jagati Saraswati Vihar student Deepanshu Singh topped CBSE X exams here by scoring 99.8 per cent. Mohan Lal Bal Vidya Mandir student Aslesha Adhikari scored 97 per cent while Longview Public School student Shikhar Singh scored 96.8 per cent to come second and third respectively in Nainital.

In Parvati Prema Jagati Saraswati Vihar, Kushagra Singh Bhoj scored 96.6 per cent and Anshuman Singh scored 96.4 per cent. Of the 132 stu-

dents of this school who appeared in the exams, 42 scored more than 90 per cent.

In Birla Vidya Mandir, Nakshatra Kanchan scored 92.4 per cent followed by Vishal Kumar with 90.8 per cent and Rajat Jaiswal with 90.4 per cent.

In Mohan Lal Bal Vidya Mandir, Anshika Tiwari and Ashmita Bora scored 93.8 per cent each while Priya Jantwal and Priya Pant scored 93.6 per cent. In the Longview Public School, Manas Joshi scored 96.4 per cent and Rishi Chandra scored 95.8 per cent. St Xavier student Mayank

Sirala scored 86 per cent, Mohammed Salman scored 81 per cent and Saurav Arya scored 80 per cent. Similarly, in Amtul Public School, Ashish Tiwari scored 95.4 per cent followed by Ritika Sharma with 90.6 per cent and Mishka Siddiqui with 90.4 per cent. In Sanwal School, Himanshu Mathpal scored 93 per cent followed by Kushagra Joshi with 92 per cent and Gaurav Karki with 91.6 per cent. In the Radha Children Academy, Snehal Bisht scored 95.2 per cent, Divya Pathak scored 91.4 per cent and Harshit Tiwari scored 91.2 per cent.

# Army & UTU academic collaboration to be a milestone



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Officials of the VMSB Uttarakhand Technical University and the Indian Army held a discussion on academic collaboration between the two on artificial intelligence and machine learning.

The university vice chancellor PP Dhyani welcomed brigadier KP Krishnan Kumar and his team and informed them about the academic activities of the university. Informing the army team about the academic and research facilities in the university, registrar RP Gupta

said that academic collaboration between the university and the army would prove to be a milestone for the university and Uttarakhand.

Brigadier Kumar also discussed the planned academic collaboration with the additional chief secretary, Technical Education, Radha Raturi about the academic collaboration.

Lieutenant colonel Prashant Agrawal, Uttarakhand government defence manufacturing coordinator VS Rawat and senior officials of the university were also among those present during the discussions.

# Delhi@2047 opens doors to ties with India Inc



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated Delhi@2047, a platform for fostering partnerships with the private sector, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and philanthropic organisations to achieve the vision for Delhi by 2047.

The Chief Minister said that the Government is not approaching the private sector to just write cheques but it needs their ideas, expertise, participation, and partnership to realise the dreams everyone has for Delhi. He said that everyone needs to work together to enable Delhi to transform into the city of people's dreams, where even the poorest of the poor lives with utmost respect and comfort.

Kejriwal talked about the Government's efforts for transforming the style of governance and making it solution-oriented. He said that if one has the political will to find solutions then they cannot be stopped.

The platform was launched

in the presence of Jasmine Shah, Vice-Chairperson, Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi, Rajiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Auto, Banmali Agrawala, president of Infrastructure, Defence and Aerospace and Global Corporate Affairs, Tata Sons Private Limited, Abhimanyu Munjal, CEO of Hero Finance Corporation and Chairman-Northern Region, CII, and Subhrakant Panda, MD of Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Limited (IMFA).

While inaugurating the Delhi@2047 platform, the Chief Minister said, "I am very delighted to launch this platform. We had presented a small glimpse of our dream for Delhi@2047 in the Assembly while presenting the Budget. Delhi is like a gateway or a hub, being the national Capital, where people first arrive in India and then go to other places. People see India through Delhi. We have to develop Delhi as a global city."

"We have to prepare a roadmap for how Delhi will be in 2047, when the country will

complete 100 years of Independence. We had a vision in our budget this year for this point of view so we can start working towards it. There are some problems that we can fix in a year or two but there are also some long-term solutions that will go on till 2047. Our long-term goals include making Delhi's per capita income at par with that of Singapore and bidding for Olympics 2048," he said.

"There was a lot done in the field of education and health. The Government hospitals were in a despicable state but after forming the Government here we fixed them. We also started Mohalla Clinics, a network of polyclinics was formulated to provide a 'Health Suraksha Chakra' for each citizen because we have made accessing healthcare absolutely free," he added.

Talking about the development in the power and services sector, he further said, "Today, electricity is supplied for 24 hours. We stood on the ground and got the transformers, cables, and old equipment changed in front of us. We worked on this for a couple of years starting in 2015 and now Delhi gets a regular power supply for 24 hours. We worked a lot in the services sector. There are over 100 Government services that you get on your doorstep by just making a call," he added.

In its Budget for 2021-22, Kejriwal had unveiled a bold vision for Delhi by 2047 such as making the city equitable with per capita income compared to Singapore and every person, whether rich or poor, having a high standard of living.

# Delhi Govt nod to O2 production policy by pvt sector

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet led by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal approved the Medical Oxygen Production Promotion Policy (MOPPP) 2021 to provide incentives to the private sector for setting up oxygen production plants and its storage facilities.

This policy is part of the Delhi Government's rigorous effort to make the national Capital self-reliant in the production of medical oxygen to meet any health emergency in the future.

Kejriwal said that the MOPPP provides several incentives to the private sector to set up oxygen production plants, storage facilities, and oxygen tankers. He further said that this policy will help improve oxygen availability in Delhi, which became a huge bottleneck in handling the last Covid-19 wave.

"Approved Medical Oxy Prodn Promotion Policy. It provides several incentives to the private sector to set up oxy prodn plants, invest in Oxy tankers n set up oxy storage facilities. This will help improving oxy availability in Del which became a huge bottleneck in handling last Covid wave," Kejriwal tweeted.

"This will be done by increasing the production of oxygen in Delhi through setting up either new manufacturing enterprises or expanding the production capacity of existing units for uninterrupted oxygen supply to hospitals or nursing homes during the health crisis caused by Covid-19 or otherwise," the Chief Minister's Office said in a statement.

The policy will also facilitate storage and transportation of medical oxygen in Delhi. As per the policy the target to set up of Liquid Oxygen (LOX) manufacturing facilities of minimum 50 MT capacity up to a

Sectors Identified for Medical Oxygen manufacturing/generation, storage, transportation, and incentive thereof.

Particulars	Target Capacity	Minimum Capacity per unit	Subsidy per ton (in Rs.)	Power Subsidy for 5 years, Rs per unit cost (if applicable)	Deadline for Commissioning
Liquid Oxygen Generation Plant	100 MT	50 MT	20 Lakhs/MT	4	31-12-22
Non-Captive Cryogenic PSA/ASU	100 MT	10 MT	20 Lakhs/MT	4	31-03-22
PSA Plants for Hospitals and Nursing Homes	200 MT	500 LPM	20 Lakhs/MT	0	31-12-21
Cryogenic Tankers	500 MT	10 MT	3 Lakhs/MT	0	31-12-21
LMO Storage for Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Re-fillers	1000 MT	10 MT	1 Lakh/MT	0	31-12-21



total of 100 MT will be completed in a time bound manner.

It also proposes to set up non-captive oxygen generation plants (PSA/Air Separation Unit technology) of minimum 10 MT and maximum 50 MT capacity up to a total of 100 MT.

"Setting up of captive oxygen generation plants of minimum 500 LPM capacity at hospitals and nursing homes to cater to their peak demand for medical oxygen up to a total capacity of 200 MT and cryogenic tankers of minimum carrying capacity of 10 MT for the exclusive purpose of ferrying liquid medical oxygen up to a

total capacity of 500 MT are some of the target of the policy," it said.

"Power subsidy shall be made available to liquid oxygen generation plants and non-captive oxygen generation plants at Rs 4 per unit consumed in the manufacturing process for the first five years from the date of commencement of commercial production," a senior Government official said.

The official further said that applications for a grant of subsidy shall be invited within a window of 15 days from the date of notification of this policy.

# Haryana BJP's election committee meets to chalk out strategy for polls to PRIs

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The BJP's election management committee for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Haryana met here on Tuesday to chalk out a strategy for upcoming polls.

The Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, State BJP Chief OP Dhankar, Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gujjar among other senior leaders attended the meeting.

After the meeting, Dhankar said that members of the committee have been assigned the duty of all districts to oversee the preparations of the elections.

The Chief Minister has informed us that the State Government is prepared for the elections. Due to legal hurdles, the elections to panchayati raj institutions cannot be held before August 22. Hearing of a court case into the issue is scheduled on August 22. After this, the State Government will write to the Election Commission for the conduct of the elections, he said.

The state BJP Chief said that the 10-member election management committee for urban local bodies polls will meet on Wednesday.

# BJP had on August 1 launched its fortnight Tiranga Yatra to reach out to the people at grassroot level

When asked whether the party wants elections to urban local bodies and PRIs to be conducted simultaneously, Dhankar said that this would depend on the government's preparations. However, we would prefer that both elections are conducted at the same time, he said.

Responding to a question about the impact of ongoing farmers' agitation in rural areas during elections, he said that the BJP is witnessing a tremendous response to the ongoing Tiranga Yatra and getting full public support on the ground.

Eyeing upcoming elections to municipal bodies and PRIs in Haryana, the BJP had on August 1 launched its fortnight Tiranga Yatra to reach out to the people at grassroot level.

# Eyeing Punjab polls, SAD promises 400 units of free power, discount on diesel

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Making a series of promises and announcing a slew of schemes with an eye on 2022 assembly elections in Punjab, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Tuesday promised 400 "free" power units to residential consumers across all categories, Rs 10 per litre discount on diesel for tractors and agriculture purposes, Rs 10 lakh annual medical insurance for all families, among other things "if SAD is voted to power".

Announcing the 13-point charter of initiatives which the SAD-BSP alliance will implement once it comes to power in the State in 2022, Sukhbir also announced Rs 2,000 per month grant to all women heads of blue card holder families, provision of

power at the rate of Rs five per unit for industry and an interest free loan of Rs 10 lakh for students.

Besides 400 'free' power units, the slew of initiatives, which cover all sections of society, also include doing away with outstanding residential bills of all blue card holders, and restoration of connections of BPL families, which have been disconnected due to non-payment of bills.

"The health insurance cover of Rs 10 lakh per annum will cover treatment, medicines, diagnostic tests, surgeries and medical equipment in all public and private hospitals," said Sukhbir while addressing the media.

Simultaneously, in a big announcement for youth to help them go in for higher studies in India and abroad,

Sukhbir announced that a Student Education Card, with interest free loan up to Rs 10 lakh, would be issued to the students for the purpose of college fees and coaching fees like IELTs.

"For Scheduled Caste students, this facility would be in addition to the SC scholarship which would be restarted," he said.

Speaking about the initiatives which would be taken up in the agriculture sector, Sukhbir said that the legislation would be passed in the State Assembly to ensure that the three agriculture laws were not implemented in Punjab.

"Simultaneously, the Government would introduce minimum support price (MSP) for fruits and vegetables and pay the differential in case of reduction in prices to farmers," he said.

# Illegal construction of farm houses continue in Aravalis

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

Despite the Supreme Court's latest order regarding the removal of all illegal structures located in the Aravali range of Gurguram, Faridabad and adjoining districts, rampant illegal constructions of farmhouses can easily be witnessed in the Aravali region of Gurugram.

The encroachers have

developed a huge boundary wall at the main gate of their respective farmhouses to continue with illegal constructions inside the premises.

On Tuesday while taking stock of the situation this correspondent spotted that construction work can be seen in Raisina village in Aravali range where a concrete structure was developed and an earthmover was also parked at the spot for digging. Construction materi-

al was also being transported to the spot through tractor-trolley without any hindrance.

People present at the spot were even threatening journalists that they would be killed if they clicked photos or made any videos.

However, after taking cognizance by the Supreme Court over illegal constructions of farmhouses on Aravali range the Gurugram district forest department and Sohna

Municipal Council have started identifying farmhouses, adventure parks, banquet halls and other buildings which were constructed in parts of Gurugram and Sohna.

The civic body had started an encroachment and destruction and invasion of the hills with the help of the high-resolution, remote-sensing satellite images through National Remote Sensing Agency in the Gurugram region.



For this, they had also given the necessary directions to the district's forest department and dispatched drawings of villages located on Aravali range in Gurugram.

Several notifications have already been served by the multiple agencies to stop and protect the Aravali area from illegal activity but it came to fore farmhouses continued to be constructed in violation of the notification.

In June Sohna Municipal Committee had served notices to around 450 farmhouses in the Ansal Aravali Retreat and

Golden Heights for constructing farmhouses on "gair mumkin pahar" (uncultivable hill). As per the Aravali Notification of 1991 no construction is allowed on uncultivable hills. The notices were served to these farmhouses as per the October 2018 direction of the National Green Tribunal (NGT). However, the owner of the farmhouse claimed that the development took place before the Aravalli notification hence they didn't violate any of the law.

"The farmhouses at Ansal Aravali Retreat are located on

private land which does not fall under the notification. The Resident Welfare Association (RWA) of Ansal Retreat has recently filed suit for declaration in a lower court in which we have make parties to the District Administration Gurugram, Forest Department, Sohna Municipal Council and District Town and Country Planning (DTCP) to clarify whether it was a Forest land or Agricultural land because all the farmhouse owners have registries and mutation of their properties. Also we had purchased this land years ago from Ansal and had also paid govt stamp duties," Rajesh Vats, Vice President Ansal Retreat RWA said He also claimed that the forest department has submitted an affidavit in the Supreme Court and NGT that these farmhouses don't fall under forest land.

Vats said they are protecting the Aravali from the mining mafias. "We have planted a large number of trees to maintain the greenery".

He said a registries of few farmhouses had also been conducted earlier in February 2021. The Pioneer has accessed a copy of the registry document.

An official of Sohna Municipal Council, said revenue estate of Sohna including Raisina comes under the municipal boundary from 2015.

"With the help of the satellite image we will check the construction which have come after 2015, particularly in hills, and appropriate action would be taken as per the municipal act". He said that as per municipal act it is mandatory to take Change of Land Use (CLU) and building plan approval for construction irrespective of the land category whether it is Aravali or not. The structures raised in the violations of the act will face appropriate action as per the law.

Apart from this the district administration Gurugram said a survey will be conducted with drone cameras to identify the constructions made in the forest area and those constructions will be removed by giving notice to the illegal constructions.

Deputy Commissioner Garg has been ordered to start within a week. After the survey, notices will be given by the Forest Department to the concerned persons for illegal constructions.

BRIDCUL (ब्रिडकुल)   
 ३-सेल: pmbbridcul.ddn@gmail.com   
 CIN No-U45203UR2008SG032591

ब्रिज, रोपवे, टनल एण्ड अदर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ़ उत्तराखण्ड लि.   
 (उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)

पूर्व में उत्तराखण्ड राज्य अवस्थापना विकास निगम लिमिटेड   
 इकाई कार्यालय: अवस्थापना भवन, राजकीय आई.टी.आई. सिटी, देहरादून, सहानपुर रोड, देहरादून

Ref No: 570/BRIDCUL-233/21   
 Dated: 03.08.2021

On behalf of Managing Director, BRIDCUL, sealed Item Rate Tenders with Post Qualification, are invited in two separate envelopes (Technical and Financial) from Contractors/Dealer/Manufacturer/Suppliers for the following work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost Without GST (In Lac.)	Bid Security/ EMD (In Rs.)	Cost of Tender Form	Tender Document can be obtained/ submitted at
1	Providing & Placing of Furniture equipments for New campus of HNB Uttarakhand Medical Education University Dehradun (General Office, Office room & Waiting Area etc)	17.13	51390.00	Rs. 2000.00 +18% GST	Project Unit BRIDCUL Dehradun

The tender documents can only be purchased from the office of the respective Project Manager between 10.00 am to 5.00 pm on all working days from 04.08.2021 to 18.08.2021. The cost of tender document amounting to Rs 2000+18% GST, will be paid while purchasing the tender documents, by cash or Demand Draft in the favour of Project Manager, Project Unit Dehradun, BRIDCUL. The tenders should reach the office latest by 1500 hours on 18.08.2021 and the technical bid shall be opened at 1530 hours on same day in presence of tenderers who choose to be present.

Project Manager, BRIDCUL

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# Dhama completes one month in office

**With an eye on elections Dhama has taken many decisions related to public interest & stayed away from controversies**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has completed one month in office. He had taken over the charge as 11th and youngest CM of the state on July 4 after the central leadership of BJP removed Tirath Singh Rawat from the post of CM. With an eye on elections Dhama has taken many decisions of public interest in the last one month and has stayed away from controversies.

In a message issued on the eve of his completing one month in office, Dhama said that due to the special love of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the cooperation of the Union government, the state of Uttarakhand is moving fast on the path of development. He said that his gov-



ernment is committed to provide transparent and corruption free governance to the people of the state. He added that his government's priority is to provide employment to the youth. Women empowerment and uplift of Dalits and poor are also on the agenda of

his government.

Recently Dhama announced a package of Rs 200 crore for the people associated with the tourism industry which would provide relief to 1.64 lakh people. In the health sector the State Government announced Rs

205 crore for the health workers which would benefit 3.73 lakh families.

For the children orphaned during the pandemic period, the state government has started a Mukhyamantri Vatsalya Yojana (MVY) under which a sum of Rs 3,000 per month

205 crore for the health workers which would benefit 3.73 lakh families.

would be provided to selected children till they attain 21 years of age. Dhama said that government medical colleges would be set up in Haridwar and Pithoragarh districts and for it a sum of Rs 70 crore each would be given to these colleges in this financial year.

In view of the probability of the children getting affected by the disease the state government has earmarked 1,945 paediatric oxygen beds, 739 NICU and PICU beds. The state government has set up a high level committee to study legal repercussions of the Uttarakhand Chardham Devasthanam Board act.

The State Government has increased the stipend of the guest teachers from Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000 and has started the process to fill 22,000 vacant posts in different government departments. In one of the important decisions the Dhama government increased the stipend of MBBS interns from Rs 7,500 to Rs 17,000 per month.

The State Government has also decided to extend a financial help of Rs 50,000 to the

## CM's work to benefit BJP in 2022 Assembly polls: Kaushik

**Says Cong won't benefit in election from gimmicks**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

During his one month in office so far, the Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has proved his commitment to development. Stating this, the Bharatiya Janata Party state president Madan Kaushik said that youths of the state are enthused due to Dhama being the chief minister and this will definitely benefit the party in the 2022 Assembly elections.

Kaushik claimed that while the state government is reaching even the last person in need, the MLAs, ministers and senior office bearers of the party organisation are spending time in their respective areas and addressing public grievances. He further said that the BJP is moving ahead seriously on its 2022 roadmap. A workshop will be held this month which will be attended by senior party workers. The BJP will approach the public with the issues of development and its service, he said.

Referring to the Chintan Shivir of the Congress, Kaushik said that the Congress has not

been able to fulfill the role of the opposition. It remained silent in the Vidhan Sabha and failed to work among the people. The Congress spent all its time in the tussle for leadership and has lost the trust of the public, he said. "The Congress won't benefit from its gimmicks in the election. Even during the Covid pandemic, the people learnt of the reality of the Congress which was busy staging protests when other parties and social organisations were serving the public in difficult times. The Congress only wants power but the people have understood it," said the BJP state president.

aspirants of the civil services and NDA, CDS. Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana financial help has been extended to 16,472 families to build their own houses. The Dhama government has also increased the pensions of veterans and

Veer Naris of the Second World War from Rs 8,000 to Rs 10,000 per month. Under the Mukhyamantri Mahalaxmi Yojana, kits have been provided to 16,929 mothers and newborn babies.

The CM said that neces-

sary preparations have been made to combat the probable third wave of the pandemic of Covid-19 and the state government has taken up a target of 100 per cent vaccination of the people of the state till December 30 this year.

## Heavy rain alert issued for six districts today

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State meteorological centre has issued an alert regarding the possibility of heavy to very heavy rainfall with intense spells at isolated places in Nainital, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Dehradun, Pauri and Tehri districts on Wednesday. While light to moderate/thundershowers are likely to occur at most places in Uttarakhand, Dehradun is forecast to receive a few spells of rain/thundershowers, one/two of which may be heavy in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures likely to be about 30 degrees Celsius and 25 degrees

Celsius respectively in Dehradun.

Meanwhile, a total of 85 roads were reported to be blocked due to landslides and other factors in different districts of the state. According to the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC), in Uttarkashi district the Rishikesh-Gangotri national highway is blocked near Chungi-Bhadeti, the Lambgaon-Ghansali-Tilwada motor road is blocked near Sada and nine rural motor roads are blocked.

While three rural motor roads are blocked in Dehradun district, 26 rural motor roads are blocked in Chamoli district. Two rural motor roads are

blocked in Rudrapur district and one state road, two main district roads and 13 rural motor roads are blocked in Pauri district while six rural motor roads are blocked in Tehri district. Similarly, eight rural motor roads are blocked in Bageshwar district, one rural motor road is blocked in Nainital district and in Champawat district the Tanakpur-Champawat national highway is blocked by debris at Bhartoli and six rural motor roads are blocked.

One border road and four rural motor roads are blocked in Pithoragarh district. Efforts are underway to reopen the blocked roads for traffic.

## CBSE Class X result: 99.23 % students pass in Dehradun region

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In the result of class X declared by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Tuesday 99.23 per cent of the students were declared passed in Dehradun region. The Covid-19 affected result process witnessed a jump of about 10 per cent from last year when 89.72 per cent students had passed the examinations. In the examination 85,539 students were enrolled out of whom 85,149 were included in the process and 84,494 were declared passed.

The regional officer of CBSE Dehradun, Ranber Singh said that 1,082 schools (610 Uttarakhand, 472 Uttar Pradesh) are in the jurisdiction of the Dehradun office of CBSE. He said that 100 per cent students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Central Tibetan Schools were declared passed in the examination. Similarly the pass per cent of the Government schools and independent schools remained at 99.55 and

99.19 per cent respectively. In Dehradun district 6,759 girls and 9,288 boys appeared in the examination process out of whom 6,729 boys and 9,202 girls cleared the examination.

It is pertinent to mention here that the CBSE in view of the increasing number of the Covid-19 cases in the country cancelled the board examination for class X which were slated from May 4. The board decided to declare the result on the basis of an objective criterion.

In the assessment criteria, 10 marks were given for the performance in the unit test, 30 marks for half yearly examination and 40 marks for the pre board examination. For accuracy and fairness of the results, a committee consisting of eight members (Principal, five subject teachers and two external members) was set up in every school. Singh said that any candidate who is not satisfied by the allotted marks will be given an opportunity to appear in the examination as and when the conditions are conducive for

## Reward citizens who comply with traffic rules: DM

PNS ■ DEHRADUN



**The DM was also made aware of 49 black spots across district which are highly vulnerable to road accidents**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Expressing his concern over the rising rate of road accidents in the district, Dehradun District Magistrate R Rajesh Kumar directed the officials of the Transport department and traffic police to work towards improving conditions in 49 accident prone areas. He also directed officials of the departments concerned to take strict action against the traffic rules violators and reward those citizens who properly follow the traffic rules to acknowledge their efforts. Following his recent inspection of traffic management in some main routes of the city, Kumar conducted a district level meeting of Road Safety Committee on Tuesday which was attended by the officials of the Transport department, traffic police, the Public Works Department (PWD) and National

Highways Authority of India (NHAI) among others.

The Transport department officials revealed during the presentation in the meeting that a total of 130 accidents occurred from January to June this year in which 96 people were severely injured while 55 people died.

According to them, over-speeding, rash driving and driving in the wrong direction were the main causes of most of the accidents. The DM was also made aware of 49 black spots across the district which are highly vulnerable to road accidents. According to the officials, the departments have improved the condition of 26 black spots in the district while work is underway on the remaining 23 black spots. After reviewing all the points, the DM directed the officials concerned to identify major reasons for road accidents and take appropriate action to prevent them.

He instructed PWD officials to install light speed breakers in accident prone areas besides directing officials to use online mode to impose penalties for traffic rules violation in the smart city area.

## Statehood activists to gherao CM residence on Aug 8

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

The Chinhit Rajya Andolanikari Sanyukt Congress Committee Vice President Dharendra Pratap said that statehood activists will gherao the chief minister's residence in Dehradun on August 8 to protest against the government's alleged failure on various issues pertaining to the statehood activists.

Addressing the media here on Tuesday, Pratap said that the State government has failed to provide employment and check corruption. He alleged that the state government is ignoring the statehood activists who had played a vital role in creation of Uttarakhand. The government is not ready to act on the issues of making Gairsain the permanent state capital, providing 10 per cent horizontal job reservation to statehood activists, completing the identification of remaining activists, pension for dependents of statehood activists and appointment of the Lokayukta. Citing these issues, he exhorted all statehood activists to reach Dehradun on August 8 to gherao the Chief Minister's residence.

## Critical patient airlifted from remote mountain village



PNS ■ PITHORAGARH

A villager in critical condition was airlifted by helicopter from his remote village in Pithoragarh district and taken to the district hospital. Man Singh is a resident of Kanar village situated at an altitude of 8,000 feet in the Baram Chhiplakedar ranges. The bridge path to Kanar village, along a 16 kilometre climb from Baram has been badly damaged due to rains.

Singh suddenly became ill on Sunday and the villagers were unable to carry him in a doli (palanquin) to Baram. Lack of proper medical facilities in nearby areas, damage to the road in Dhomani, Kaichani and Doligad and the intermittent rock falls from the mountain side prevented the villagers from transporting him by road even as his condition deteriorated.

The Gram Pradhan Mahendra Singh Parihar sent a letter to the deputy collector AK Shukla through WhatsApp, demanding a helicopter. Block Development Committee member Mahendra Singh Budiyal also met the sub divisional magistrate and demanded that a helicopter be provided to airlift the sick Singh. On Monday, a helicopter landed in Kanar village and transported the patient to Pithoragarh district hospital for treatment.

## Chintan Shivir; Cong starts brainstorming for elections



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The three day Chintan Shivir of Uttarakhand Congress started in Rishikesh on Tuesday. With the Shivir the Congress party intends to streamline its preparations for the upcoming assembly elections and make necessary deliberations for its election campaign. On the first day, the

in charge of Uttarakhand Congress Devendra Yadav, Pradesh Congress Committee president Ganesh Godiyal, former Chief Minister and head of election campaign committee Harish Rawat, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in assembly Pritam Singh and other leaders took part in different brainstorming sessions. The media in-charge of Uttarakhand

Congress, Rajiv Mehrishi said that the people of Uttarakhand are disillusioned because the promises made by the BJP in the run up for the assembly elections of 2017 have remained unfulfilled.

He said that the BJP government has failed on all fronts and the people are now looking towards the Congress party with hope.

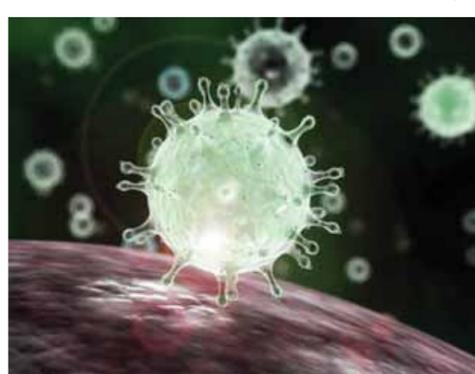
## UJVNL's Mohammadpur HEP achieves record generation

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

UJVNL Limited's 9.3 MW Mohammadpur hydro power plant, situated on Upper Ganga Canal in Haridwar district, generated the highest ever energy for the month of July since it's commissioning in 1952. The previous highest ever generation by Mohammadpur power plant for the month of July was done in July 2020 which was 5.313 million units. Singhal appreciated this achievement of the power plant and said that this record generation has been achieved by the better operation and maintenance of machines along with the commendable working of employees.

ever generation of this plant for the month of July since it's commissioning in 1952. The previous highest ever generation by Mohammadpur power plant for the month of July was done in July 2020 which was 5.313 million units. Singhal appreciated this achievement of the power plant and said that this record generation has been achieved by the better operation and maintenance of machines along with the commendable working of employees.

## Covid19: 48 new cases, 28 recoveries in U'khand



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State Health department reported 48 new cases of the novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) and 28 recoveries from the disease in Uttarakhand on Tuesday. No death from the disease was reported in the state on the day.

The cumulative count of Covid-19 patients in the state is now at 3,42,246 while a total of 3,28,262 patients have recovered from the disease so far. In the state 7366 people have lost

their lives to Covid -19 till date. The recovery percentage from the disease is now at 95.91. The state health department reported 11 new patients of Covid -19 from Haridwar, nine each from Dehradun and Pithoragarh, six from Uttarkashi, five from Nainital, three each from Rudrapur and Chamoli and one each from Almora and Udham Singh Nagar on Tuesday. No new cases of the disease were reported from Bageshwar, Champawat and Tehri districts

on the day.

The authorities reported three such deaths on Tuesday which had occurred in the past but went unreported earlier. The state now has 581 active cases of Covid 19. Dehradun with 253 cases is at top of the table of active cases while Pithoragarh is at second spot with 61 active cases. The state reported one new

case of Mucormycosis (Black fungus) and death of two patients from the disease on Tuesday. A total of 557 patients of Black Fungus have been reported till date in the state and out of them 126 have died. In the ongoing vaccination drive 77,089 people were vaccinated in 643 sessions held on Tuesday in different parts of the state.

## District admin aims to vaccinate all by November

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

All the residents of the Dehradun district will be vaccinated against Covid-19 by the end of November. This was stated by Dehradun district magistrate R Rajesh Kumar after his meeting with the district officials of the health department on Tuesday. According to the DM, the district administration is working on vaccinating more people on

a daily basis against the Covid disease. He informed that to achieve the target of vaccinating all the residents of the district within four months, the district administration will need additional 18,000 doses of Covishield and over 3,000 doses of Covaxin. The administration will work on getting the required doses for the district on time to achieve the target of vaccinating each citizen of the district, stated Kumar.

## MCD monitoring composting in Government colonies

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

As an initiative to prevent piles of waste from ending up in landfills and dump yards of the city, the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) has started promoting and monitoring the composting process in selected government colonies in the city in association with a non-governmental organisation Waste Warriors.

The officials informed that the health section of the corporation has marked 45 government colonies and societies in various wards of Dehradun to initiate this process. Besides this, certain general colonies have been marked for composting too. As stated by municipal sanitation inspector, Pushpa Rauthan, the corporation always encourages segregating

garbage at source and adoption of composting to minimise the domestic waste generation but not many locals follow it.

"We figured that the easy way to get people to make compost is to make them aware of how garbage segregation and composting can be beneficial. So the corporation, in association with Waste Warriors organised sessions to teach the locals about composting within their premises," stated Rauthan. Selecting five such colonies, the corporation started the composting process in two months ago during the Covid curfew.

She disclosed that composting is currently being done in colonies like Kewal Vihar and Shivalik Enclave besides some societies in the areas of Natthuwalla, Rajpur

and Jakhan. Rauthan clarified that after the sessions, the residents make compost and the corporation only monitors whether garbage segregation and composting are being done regularly in these areas. Sanitation workers of MCD do not get involved in the composting process. "When people mix wet biodegradable waste with non-biodegradable waste, it becomes extremely difficult to segregate or recycle them due to various chemical reactions that occur when different substances get mixed with each other.

Proper segregation and composting reduces the load on waste processing plants and benefits the environment too," asserted Rauthan. She said that MCD is also planning to initiate this composting process in other parts of Dehradun too.

# BJP MPs given leaflets to take on Covid plan critics



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

The booklets, prepared by the Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry, claim all efforts to counter the disease cannot be attributed to just the Union or State Governments

but to "Team India" which acted with a "whole of Government and whole of society" approach in a pre-emptive, proactive and graded manner.

Opposition parties have been attacking the Narendra Modi dispensation and the BJP governments in poll-bound states such as Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Goa for their handling of the pandemic.

They have also accused the central government of not doing enough to vaccinate people at a fast pace.

The ministry's note argues that India has delivered the highest vaccine doses compared to other countries for

which "transparent" data is available in the public domain. China has claimed to have given 160 crore doses, it added.

India has by July-end administered over 45 crore doses compared to 34.3 crore in the US and 13.7 crore in Brazil and 8.4 crore in the UK, it said. India took 166 days to reach the mark of 34 crore vaccine doses against 221 days by the US, the note stated.

India has so far administered over 10 per cent of the doses given globally.

Referring to India's handling of the pandemic, the note claims that the country managed to "evade" the catastrophic effects of the pandemic which had wreaked havoc in the world.

It also highlights the government's efforts to distribute required medicines and medical oxygen, besides the measures to ramp up the supply of the life-saving gas.

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

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



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Maintaining that nearly 1.20 crore migrant workers returned to their home States during the pandemic-induced lockdown in the first and second waves, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, headed by Biju Janata Dal MP Bhartruhari Mahtab, has asked the Government to

explore ways and means to put money in the bank accounts of the informal workers during adverse conditions like Covid-19.

The panel noted that total number of migrant workers who returned to their home states during the lockdown in the first wave of COVID-19 was 1,14,30,968. During the second wave lockdown,

5,15,363 migrant workers returned to their home states.

According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), over 90 per cent of workers in India are informal workers, which in absolute terms translate into 419 million out of a total of 465 million workers.

The Committee in its report, "Impact of Covid-19 on rising unemployment and loss



of jobs/livelihood in organised and unorganised sectors", tabled in the Parliament said that in the short/immediate term, it is imperative to expand the social assistance and public welfare programmes, both in the urban and rural areas, to provide relief and protection to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged strata of the society. "Offering another round of income support to the poor to compensate for loss of jobs/employment incurred due to the two lockdowns imposed would go a long way in mitigating their woes," the report said.

The Committee has asked the labour ministry to take note of any unprecedented situation, like the migrant workers' exodus during the pandemic, rather than waiting for the judiciary to intervene on the issue.

It found that in compliance to a Supreme Court order on June 9, 2020, Union Labour Secretary wrote a letter on June 19, 2020 to the chief secretaries/administrators of all states/UTs to collect and maintain details of all migrant labourers who returned to their native places along with their skill, nature of employment etc to facilitate the administration

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

to extend benefit of different schemes to them.

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

About 93 million informal workers in urban areas are involved primarily in five sectors namely manufacturing, trade, hotel and restaurant; construction; transport; storage and communications; and finance, business and real estate. Out of these total 93 million informal workers in these sectors, 50 per cent are self-employed, 20 per cent are casual workers on daily wages and 30 per cent are salaried or contract employees.

The Committee advised that the Government both at the Central and State Levels should encourage and introduce entrepreneurial opportunities as means of sustenance which would help in reducing unemployment and supporting recovery.

# CBI files case against director of Mumbai-based pvt firm

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

besides unknown others on the allegations of awarding contract at exorbitant rates for supply of High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs).

The CBI on Tuesday conducted searches at various locations/premises connected to the accused at Shillong (Meghalaya), Delhi,

Mumbai and Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh).

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

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



Mumbai and New Delhi had participated in the tender process, the agency alleged in the FIR.

It was further alleged that the Director of said company in collusion with unknown officials of Transport Department of Government of Meghalaya, rigged the said tender process by submitting col-

lusive bids through entities controlled by him," it said.

It was also alleged that the work was awarded to the Mumbai-based company at exorbitant rates in 2005.

The company also got approved exorbitant rates for supply of High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs) in Meghalaya.

# Modi to chair open debate on maritime security at UNSC

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

It will be the first time that an Indian Prime Minister will preside over an open debate at the world body.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in a tweet, "PM @narendramodi will Chair Open Debate on 'Maintenance of



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

Minister will preside over Open Debate."

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

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

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

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

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

The North Delhi Municipal Corporation had argued before the top court that classification of Ayush doctors and doctors under the CHS in different categories is reasonable and permissible in law.

A bench of Justices L. Nageswara Rao and Hrishikesh Roy said: "This however does not appeal to us and we are inclined to agree with the findings of the Tribunal and the Delhi High Court that the classification is

discriminatory and unreasonable since doctors under both segments are performing the same function of treating and healing their patients."

It emphasised that the only difference is that Ayush doctors are using indigenous systems of medicine like ayurveda, unani, etc. and CHS doctors are using allopathy for tending to their patients.

"In our understanding, the mode of treatment by itself under the prevalent scheme of things, does not qualify as an intelligible differentialia," said the bench, in its 19-page judgment.

It added that such unreasonable classification and discrimination based on it would surely be inconsistent with Article 14 of the Constitution.

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

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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



Government to look into it.

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

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

with amendments made by the Centre in the Banking Regulation Act to limit rights of cooperative banks.

With speculation rife about the agenda of the meeting, NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik said, "Rumours are being spread over the meeting but Pawar had already informed CM Thackeray and Congress leaders about the same."

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



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

Leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and RSP MP N K Premchandran said that bills should not be passed when the House is not in order and there should be a proper debate before the passage of any bill.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said he wants to assure the House that after the parliamentary nod and presidential assent, the Act will become effective only when it is invoked. As the minister was speaking, opposition members continued their protests over Pegasus, snooping row and farmers' issues. N K Premchandran (RSP) was of the view that such an important Bill should not be passed amid the din.

Chowdhury termed the bill as "draconian" and said that it should not be passed when the House is "not in order". TMC's Saugata Roy alleged the measure is "anti-labour". The defence minister said the Bill has been brought keeping in mind the security of the nation and the importance of the legislation should be understood. "Keeping in mind national security, I request you to pass this Bill," he told the Lower House. MoS Defence Bhatt said there was no intention to harm the interests of government employees.

# Rahul indulging in gimmicks for cheap publicity, says BJP



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Opposition parties have stalled Parliament's proceedings over the Pegasus row. BJP chief spokesperson Anil Baluni said the Congress leader is mostly concerned about cheap publicity through gimmicks like driving tractor or riding cycle and does not take the legislature seriously.

"They have no real issue and do these things to be in news. This is the first time we are seeing that the government wants to debate issues in Parliament while the opposition does not," he said.

Naqvi said the opposition is engaging in "rant and run" tactics. It is not allowing Parliament to function and then defames the government outside it, he said.

In their "Modi-bashing", the opposition has been resorting to "India-bashing", he alleged. Leaders of several opposition parties attended a breakfast meeting hosted by Rahul at the Constitution Club here where he stressed on opposition unity. Several opposition MPs led by Rahul later cycled to Parliament to highlight the issue of fuel price hike. Those who could not cycle walked down to Parliament.

# 2 CGST officials in CBI net for taking bribe



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

The arrested accused are Superintendent CGST, Patna, Umesh Prasad and Inspector, Akhilesh Kumar Singh posted in the same office.

A case was registered against the accused posted in

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

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

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

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

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

The bench, also comprising Justice Surya Kant,



referred to a similar panel, set up to inquire into the encounter killing of gangster Vikas Dubey in Uttar Pradesh, and said it has already filed the report.

The commission was headed by former Supreme Court judge B S Chauhan and had concluded that there

was no evidence to suggest that the encounter of Dubey was staged.

Referring to the inquiry into the Hyderabad encounter killings, the bench sought to know from lawyer K Parameshwar the reason for the delay in concluding the inquiry.

The lawyer said the commission has to hear from over 130 witnesses in the matter and the COVID situation contributed to the delay as well.

"Ok. Six months," the bench ordered. PTI

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

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

TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

flood-affected families.

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

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

Shop owners and village artisans who have suffered



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

would be compensated up to ₹10,000 each.

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

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

rivers that caused havoc in late July after intense rainfall.

"There should be a three-year plan for constructing flood resistant walls, cleaning and dredging river beds, the Government," Uddhav told the senior officials present at the State Cabinet meeting.

The chief minister asked the state administration to evolve a real-time data gathering mechanism and make it functional during the next three months.

It may be recalled that during the heavy rains and consequent earthquakes and floods witnessed in Maharashtra from July 21 to 23, as many as 213

people were killed and 52 other injured, while the rescue and relief teams shifted as many 4,35,879 people in the flooded areas of the state to safer places.

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

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

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

TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

Malik said that at the Cabinet meeting, several ministers expressed

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Bengal BJP has strongly reacted to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's country wide Khela Hobe call saying her slogan has "dangerous underpinnings."

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

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

Banerjee earlier declared that

"Khela Hobe", which turned out to be the Assembly poll winning slogan for her Trinamool Congress in Bengal, would be reverberated across the country soon for its immense popularity, clearly hinting at her national ambitions.

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

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

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

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

## Army helicopter crashes into Ranjit Sagar Dam lake

Pilots remain untraceable

PNS ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

The depth of the crash site has been measured to be over 200 feet.

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

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

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

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

## Plight of West Pak refugees in J&K

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Ex-serviceman Pritam Singh Mohit Kandhari

village Pull Bhajuan, Sialkot (now in Pakistan). He said, later I joined Indian army and participated in the 1965 and 1971 wars with Pakistan. I was posted in the Chhamb sector in 1971. "Indian army gave a tough fight and pushed back the enemy. I feel proud when I recollect those memories".

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

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

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

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

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

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



order have been awaiting certification from the committee and lying in the DC office". On the other hand, a total number of 36 files with objections are yet to be returned to the concerned Tehsildars and lying in the DP section.

The maximum number of 3263 families, as per old records, were staying in the border belt of Ranbir Singh Pura in Jammu. Out of these only 80 files were received in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Jammu and 63 were recommended to the office of Divisional Commissioner, Jammu.

President of the West Pakistan Refugee Action Committee Labha Ram Gandhi told The Pioneer, "the Government claims only 5764 families of West Pakistan Refugees have been registered with them. But as per our records, a total number of 22159 families of West Pakistan Refugees have been living in different districts of Jammu region".

Gandhi said the successive state governments in Jammu and Kashmir always misled the Union Government over the exact number of west Pakistani refugee families camping here in Jammu.

He said they may have earned citizenship rights but the compensation package announced by the central government is yet to be implemented on ground zero.

He said less than 200 cases have been processed so far. Gandhi said, after the abrogation of Article 370 we all celebrated our freedom. We were struggling for the last 70 years to earn citizenship rights. He said, despite getting domicile

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

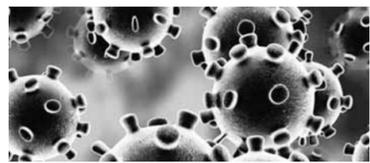
Gandhi said in the absence of a government order the lower rung government servants are creating hurdles and not processing their files in time. Some of the refugee families were allotted land and have constructed their homes but when they approach the revenue authorities for registration of their properties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

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

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

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

## Covid deaths in Maha rise to 177



TN RAGHUNTHA ■ MUMBAI

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

A day after the number of deaths dipped to 90 and the infections dropped to a relative low of 4869, the Covid-19 deaths rose 87 to touch the daily tally of 177, while the infections registered an increase of 1,136 to reach the daily case tally of 6,005.

With 177 fatalities reported on Tuesday, the total number of deaths in the state increased from 1,33,038 to 1,33,215, while the infections -- with 6005 new cases -- climbed from 63,15,063 to 63,21,068.

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

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

Pune with 15,552 active cases emerged as the first in the state in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the State, while Sangli with 7,301 stood second, followed by Satara (6,848), Ahmednagar (6570), Thane (5982), Kolhapur (5404), Mumbai (4996) and Solapur (4,776)

Of the 4,85,32,523 samples sent to various laboratories across the state so far, 63,21,068 have tested positive (13.02 per cent) for COVID-19 until Tuesday.

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

### IN SHORT

#### ARAVALI UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES TO BE RAZED

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

#### ORDER PROHIBITING USE OF PARK FOR FUNCTION STAYED

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has stayed a National Green Tribunal order prohibiting the use of parks for social, commercial, marriage or other such functions. A bench comprising Justices Indira Banerjee and V Ramasubramanian said however that in no circumstances, the use of parks be permitted for more than 10 days in a month. The order was passed on the petitions filed by the municipal bodies against the February 4 order of the NGT.

## Kerala: Surge in cases again after slight relief

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

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

The average Test Positivity Rate across the State stood at 11.87 per cent while there were 323 places with TPR of 15 per cent and above. On Monday, there was some relief all over the State as the day's diagnosis had shown only 13,984 new cases. But on Tuesday, more than 1.9 lakh samples were tested and this threw out more Covid-19 patients.

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

Thrissur (2908), Ernakulam (2702), Kozhikode (2416), Palakkad (2223) and Kollam (1826).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Watch out!

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

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



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

### PICTALK



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

# Uttar Pradesh under Yogi is making waves



PRAFULL GORADIA

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

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

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

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

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



a dream. The scenario after Yogi's coming to office in March 2017 is a sharp contrast. Over the past four and a half years, 137 criminals have been liquidated in police action, while close to 3,000 criminals were injured; nearly 37,000 accused have been booked under the Gangster Act and over 500 under the National Security Act. The Yogi administration has also hit criminals hard by targeting their finances; in the Government's drive against the mafia, their illicit property worth approximately ₹1,580 crore has either been attached or demolished. Along with action against the mafia, Adityanath has also provided protection to witnesses.

Vastly improved law and order has begun to pay off in the realm of development. Here, too, figures speak for themselves. The State's industrial development data reveals that over the years, UP has received investment proposals worth ₹66,000 crore from both foreign and local investors. The administration has been acting quickly on these proposals. More to the point, companies from Japan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, the UK, the US and South Korea are lining up to invest in UP; one



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

company has even returned from China to set up operations in Agra. It is also significant that Yogi's Government is ensuring that the flow of investment is not restricted to the bigger cities, it is being channelled to smaller towns like Etah, Amroha, Mirzapur, and so on.

Yogi has adopted an investor-friendly policy. Apart from the fresh proposals for investment, MoUs worth ₹4.68 lakh crore have been signed at investor summits, of which 371 proposals worth close to ₹3 lakh crore are already functional, generating employment for up to 5 lakh people. Here, one must mention the work being done by the State Government on the defence industrial manufacturing corridor, which has already drawn in up to 14 MoUs. The aim is to transform UP into a hub of capital-intensive manufacturing, which the defence industry invariably entails.

Farmers, a community very much in the news these days, have much to be happy about under Yogi's rule. Development schemes and programmes for their long-term success also need the health of the rural economy to be robust. And the rural economy, of course, includes farmers. Adityanath's transparent

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

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### INDIA'S DAUGHTERS ARE CREATING HISTORY

Sir — India's performance in the Tokyo Olympics so far has been in the name of India's daughters. The journey started with Mirabai Chhanu's silver medal, progressing further with PV Sindhu's bronze medal and then women's hockey team defeating Australia to reach the semifinals for the first time.

It seems that the daughters of this country have taken the responsibility of making the country proud; this is the changing identity of India. Sushil Kumar was the first Indian to set a record of winning two medals in two consecutive Olympics. He is still the only player to win two Olympic medals in men's individual events. Sushil Kumar won bronze and silver medals at the Beijing Olympics 2008 and the London Olympics in 2012, respectively, when he won in the 66-kg freestyle category. So, in the same vein, the women's hockey team has made it to the semifinals for the first time by defeating Australia. Many congratulations to PV Sindhu! She has given the country a chance to be proud, and we hope the women's hockey team will do the same.

Devanand Ray | Delhi

#### THE GOVERNMENT VS THE OPPOSITION

Sir — The conditions seem to be ripe for the Opposition to intensify its attacks on the Modi Government and mount a fresh challenge to its misrule. The Opposition is at its most vibrant and exudes confidence. It uses issues like the mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic, the unprecedented fuel price hike, the new farm laws and the Pegasus phone hacking scandal as rods to beat the Government with. The blows seriously hurt the Government as the concerns raised by the Opposition over these issues are shared by the general public.

The current climate of opinion is tilted in favour of the Opposition. The cycle rally by the Opposition MPs, led by Rahul Gandhi to protest the runaway price hike of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinders, obviously struck a chord with the common people. Fuel price hike that has now

### No kneejerk reaction, please



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

tion of beef or even cattle slaughter in the majority of the BJP-ruled States, and has made exemptions in its crusade against beef (in Goa and the northeast).

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

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

become unaffordable for many people is no sign of *achche din*.

The Pegasus issue has put the Government on the defensive. Its adamant refusal to agree to a 'structured' debate on the issue in the presence of the Prime Minister and a probe by a JPC or a sitting Supreme Court judge has deepened suspicions. The Government cannot just wish Pegasus row away by just dismissing it as a "non-issue" or as a "manufactured issue". Illegal snooping is a serious issue; its chilling effect on the right to free speech is obvious. Modi has described the disruptions in Parliament as an "insult to democracy". It is within his power to end them by acceding to the just demand of the Opposition.

G David Milton | Tamil Nadu

#### EVEN ALLIES ARE CRITICISING GOVT

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

sensational Pegasus snoogate and discussion in Parliament. All this is happening due to the misuse of modern technology.

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

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

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

## Humanity

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

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



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

### SOUNDBITE

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

#### Former Bihar Chief Minister

— Jitan Ram Manjhi

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

#### Afghan President

— Ashraf Ghani

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

#### Actor-scriptwriter

— Richa Chadha

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

#### American equestrian rider

— Jessica Rae Springsteen

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

#### Delhi Chief Minister

— Arvind Kejriwal

**FIRST COLUMN**  
**CITIZENS, MSMEs IN LOAN DEFAULT CRISIS**

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



SHIVAJI SARKAR

There is more to the COVID-19 menace as it leads to a dreadful rise of a whopping ₹66-lakh crore in personal loan defaults in the country. This is in addition to the accumulated MSME debts of ₹2.26 lakh crore. Several individuals are facing auctions by banks and financial institutions. The MSMEs are facing temporary or permanent closure and yet seeking more loans to survive. Personal debts stand at ₹27.86 lakh crore and people are finding it difficult to repay. Another ₹14.64 lakh crore accounts for individual housing loans, ₹2.38 lakh crore in vehicle loans, credit card dues total ₹1.02 lakh crore. People are also unable to repay education loans of ₹62,720 crore and loans against jewellery worth ₹62,221 crore. The education, housing, and jewellery loans are often linked to each other, as individuals unable to pay one loan take recourse to the other. Often, none of them is fully repaid, revealing the poor economic status of the loanees. The people also suffer from high taxation. Most of them, except for a small segment, are income-tax payers. As



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

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

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

Street-connected kids in pandemic's shadow



SURINA NARULA

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

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

The authorities say they are providing help. For example, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been distributing food to street-connected children and vulnerable families in the Indian capital. In other cities too, local governments and charities have been doing the same.

However, the situation with street-connected children on the ground is very different. Sanjay Gupta works with street-connected children through CHETNA (Childhood Enhancement Through Training and Action), a grass-roots Indian NGO. He says that the scale of the problem is daunting and that many children are invisible because they live away from the main roads and in areas that are not accessible. He wants essential service passes to be made for his workers during COVID lockdowns as they work round the clock to try and reach these children whom the government cannot reach.

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

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



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

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



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

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty that promises to protect and fulfill the rights of every child. There was never any mention of street-connected children in this convention. After many consultations with NGOs and street-connected children across the world, CSC finally managed to convince the UN to include a general comment on street-connected children in this convention. This comment gives all those working with street-connected children a high-level tool to hold their governments accountable for not adhering to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In the words of the UN: "The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child provides authoritative guidance to States on developing comprehensive, long-term national strategies on children in street situations using a holistic, child rights approach and addressing both prevention and response in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child." The obligation of States towards children in street situations is defined quite comprehensively in this comment. This is already being implemented in a small number of countries.

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

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

from Abbvie, has been providing crucial support to street-connected children and has helped them access the services, information, and legal protection they need throughout the pandemic. It has provided safe shelters, access to safe food, water, and information on how to stay safe from the virus when the street is the home. Its member partners have collaborated with local governments to come up with innovative strategies to provide basic healthcare facilities, hospital care, essential medicines, and mental health counselling to street-connected children during the outbreak of the pandemic.

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

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

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

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



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

Mamata's Opposition unity Delhi errand

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

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



KALYANI SHANKAR

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

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

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

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



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

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

To soften the Congress, she met Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi during this trip.

Though Congress is the oldest national party and has ruled the country for long, it presently faces too many problems. They include a leadership crisis and a weakening party organisation. Sonia Gandhi has taken a backseat due to health reasons. In 2004 she went from one party leader to the other and united the heterogeneous opposition block successfully. Her son Rahul

Gandhi is still not ready.

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

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

Arvind Kejriwal.

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

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

In her speech, Banerjee took her winning slogan

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

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

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

# Taliban take much of provincial capital in south Af

**Kabul:** The Taliban pressed ahead with their advances in southern Afghanistan on Tuesday, capturing nine out of 10 districts of the Helmand provincial capital, residents

and officials said. Afghan Government forces launched airstrikes, backed by the US, in a desperate effort to defend the city of Lashkar Gah. The fall of Lashkar Gah would be a major turning point in the offensive the Taliban have waged over the past months as US and NATO forces complete their pullout from the war-torn country. It would also be the first provincial capital captured by the Taliban in years. Residents of the city, speaking to The Associated Press over the telephone, said the

fighting has them trapped, hunkered down inside their homes and unable to step out for basic supplies. They said Taliban fighters were out openly in the streets, and that all but one Lashkar Gah district was under Taliban control. Elite commando units were dispatched from Kabul to aid Afghan forces as the government held on to key government buildings, including the local police and army headquarters. Majid Akhund, deputy chairman of the Helmand provincial council, confirmed

that the Taliban control nine Lashkar Gah districts and also the city's TV and radio station, which had both gone off the air. The Afghan forces commander for Helmand, Gen. Sami Sadat, in an audio message shared with journalists Tuesday urged residents in neighborhoods captured by the Taliban to evacuate immediately, though he did not clarify how they could do that amid the ongoing clashes. The message was an indication more airstrikes were planned. "Please evacuate your families from your homes and

their surroundings," Sadat said. "We will not leave the Taliban alive. ... I know it's hard ... we do it for your future. Forgive us if you get displaced for a few days, please evacuate as soon as possible." Lashkar Gah is one of three provincial capitals under siege by the Taliban as they stepped up their onslaught against government forces. In recent months the Taliban swept through dozens of districts across the country, many in remote and rural, sparsely populated areas. Afghan troops in those

battles often surrendered or pulled out with barely a fight, frequently lacking re-supplies and reinforcements. Over the past weeks, the Taliban have also captured several lucrative border crossings with Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan. Most recently, the Taliban have turned their guns on provincial capitals as the withdrawal of the US and NATO forces is now more than 95 per cent complete. The final US and NATO soldier are expected to be out of Afghanistan by Aug. 31. **PTI**

# China's Wuhan, cities begin mass testing, impose lockdowns

**Beijing:** Authorities in central China's Wuhan, where the coronavirus first emerged in 2019 and spiralled into a pandemic, on Tuesday began testing of its over 11 million people following the resurgence of cases, a year after it contained the deadly virus, even as a sense of unease prevailed in the country as several provinces reported fresh infections. Wuhan, which became

famous all over the world for its first coronavirus lockdown early last year, broke the zero-infection record since June 2020, as seven new Covid cases were reported. Authorities began a city-wide Covid testing on Tuesday, the official media here reported. The city has upgraded its epidemic response measures in the face of the recent coronavirus infections, locking down the area where Covid infections have been reported while upgrading its risk levels, state-run Global Times reported. The city metro has adopted stricter anti-epidemic rules, and all schools have been closed. Just as Wuhan braced for the second Covid resurgence, especially the Delta variant, several provinces and cities including Beijing are rushing to test millions of people. The National Health Commission (NHC), in its daily report on Tuesday, said that 61 new locally-transmitted Covid-19 cases have been reported from different provinces, including Jiangsu, Hunan, Hubei, Henan, Yunnan besides Beijing, Shanghai and Fujian. **PTI**

## Pak has much to gain from Af peace: US

**Washington:** The United States has said Pakistan has much to gain and will continue to have a critical role in Afghan peace process. "We do appreciate Pakistan's efforts to advance the Afghan peace process and stability in South Asia, including by encouraging the Taliban to engage in substantive negotiations," State Department spokesperson Ned Price told reporters at his daily news conference on Monday. "Pakistan has much to gain and will continue to have a critical role, will be well-positioned to have a role in supporting the outcome that not only the United States seeks, but that many of our international partners, many of the countries in the region also see," he said. **PTI**

## Can't have terrorist camps moving back into Af, this will have direct impact on India: UNSC Prez

**United Nations:** The situation in Afghanistan is of deep concern to all members of the UN Security Council, President of the Council for the month of August Ambassador TS Tirumurti has said, underlining that "we cannot have terrorist camps' once again moving back into the war-torn country that will have a 'direct impact' on India. India, currently a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 2021-

22 tenure, assumed the rotating Presidency of the powerful UN organ for the month of August. "The situation in Afghanistan is of deep concern to all members of the Security Council and we have seen that in recent days, the violence is only increasing," Tirumurti said at the UN Headquarters on Monday. Briefing reporters at the UN Headquarters on the Council's Programme of Work, Tirumurti, who is India's Permanent Representative to

the UN, cited a UN report that said the number of casualties in Afghanistan during May-June exceeds the number between January and April. Responding to a question on the situation in Afghanistan and what the Security Council can do to prevent further escalation in violence, Tirumurti said he expects that "probably the Security Council will be looking at this aspect sooner rather than later" **PTI**

## US hits 70% vaccination rate — a month late

**Washington:** The US has finally reached President Joe Biden's goal of getting at least one COVID-19 shot into 70 per cent of American adults - a month late and amid a fierce surge by the delta variant that is swamping hospitals and leading to new mask rules and mandatory vaccinations around the country. In a major retreat in the Deep South, Louisiana ordered nearly everyone, vaccinated or not, to wear masks again in all indoor public settings, including schools and colleges. **AP**

## More than 110M Covid vaccines sent to 60 countries, says US

**Washington:** The US has donated and shipped more than 110 million doses of Covid vaccines to more than 60 countries, ranging from Afghanistan to Zambia, the White House announced Tuesday. President Joe Biden was expected to discuss that milestone and more later Tuesday in remarks updating the public on the US strategy to slow the spread of coronavirus abroad. The announcement comes amid a rise in infections in the

US, fuelled by the highly contagious delta strain of the virus, which led US public health officials last week to recommend that people who have been fully vaccinated against Covid resume wearing face coverings in public indoor settings. Biden has promised that the US will be the "arsenal of vaccines" for the world. But while notable, the 110 million doses the US has donated largely through a global vaccine programme known as COVAX represent a fraction of what is needed worldwide. **AP**

## Lanka probing massacre of Buddhist monks by LTTE in 1987: Apex Court told

**Colombo:** Sri Lanka has begun an investigation into the 1987 massacre of Buddhist monks by the Tamil separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) which attacked a bus and killed 31 people, the country's Supreme Court here was told on Tuesday. The Attorney General's counsel told the apex court that a survivor, Buddhist monk Andaulpotha Buddhadasa, has given a statement on the attack. The LTTE, then fighting for a separate homeland for the minority Tamils in the north and east provinces, carried out the attack on June 2, 1987 at Aranthalawa in the eastern Ampara district. Some 33 monks and three civilians were travelling in a bus on the monthly Buddhist holy day when the bus was waylaid by the LTTE, who randomly opened fire, killing at least 31 monks. No one was arrested and there were no legal proceedings as in the case of many attacks carried out by the LTTE. **PTI**

## Suspect in fatal S Carolina shooting of 3 found in Florida

**AP ■ COLUMBIA** The suspect in the killing of three people in rural South Carolina hopped on a plane after the shootings and was arrested hours later at a Florida hotel, authorities said. A man and two women were killed in the shootings Monday around 3 p.m. inside a Greenwood County home just off U.S. Highway 25, Sheriff Dennis Kelly said. A child was also hurt in the shooting.

## US OK's sale of Harpoon Joint Common Test Sets to India worth \$82 mn

**Washington:** The US has approved the sale of Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS) and related equipment to India for an estimated cost of USD 82 million, a decision which it said will help strengthen the bilateral strategic ties and improve the security of a major defensive partner in the Indo-Pacific region. The Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) delivered the required certification notifying the US Congress of this possible sale on Monday, according to an official statement. Harpoon is an anti-ship missile. The Government of India has requested to buy one Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS). Also included is one Harpoon Intermediate Level maintenance station; spare and repair parts, support, and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training; US Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and programme support. The estimated total cost is USD 82 million, it said. **PTI**

## US, India share number of interests, values: Biden admn

**Washington:** The US has a number of shared interests and values with India in terms of economic and trade ties and cooperation on climate and regional security issues that were discussed during the recent visit of Secretary of State Tony Blinken to New Delhi, a top State Department official has said. Blinken arrived in New Delhi on July 27 on a two-day visit with an extensive agenda for talks. It was Blinken's first visit to India after assuming charge as the US Secretary of State and the third by a high-ranking Biden administration official. Blinken

## Pentagon on lockdown after shooting near metro station

**Washington:** Gunshots were fired on Tuesday morning near the entrance of the Pentagon, resulting in multiple injuries. The facility, the headquarters of the U.S. military, was placed on lockdown. The Arlington County Fire Department reported "multiple patients," but it wasn't immediately clear if they had been shot or the extent of the injuries. The incident occurred on a Metro bus platform that is part of the Pentagon Transit Center, the Pentagon Protection Force Protection Agency tweeted. **AP**

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**OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, DELHI**  
4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI- 110001  
R.C.No. 406/2015 E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE Dated: 19.07.2021

ICICI BANK VS. MR. HARISH KUMAR GOSWAMI  
"ORDER"

As per my order dated 19.07.2021 the under mentioned properties will be sold by Public e-auction sale on 02.09.2021 in the said Recovery Certificate:-  
The auction sale will be "online e-auction" through website:-www.bankeauctions.com  
Date and Time of Auction: 02.09.2021 between 03:00 PM to 04:00 P.M. (With extensions of 5 minutes duration after 04:00 P.M., if required).

S.No.	Property Description	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.)
1.	House No.1007, Khasra No.204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni Ghaziabad- 200001.	Rs. 10,00,000/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-

**Terms & Conditions**

- The auction sale will be "online through" e-auction through website portal: www.bankeauctions.com.
- The EMD shall be paid either through Demand Draft/Pay Order in favour of the "Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi-A/C R.C. No. 406/2015". The said Demand Draft/Pay Order qua EMD, alongwith self-attested copy of identity (voter I-card/driving license/passport), which should contain the address for future communication, and self-attested copy of PAN card, and in the case of company, copy of resolution passed by the board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company also, must reach the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi latest by 31.08.2021 before 4.00 P.M. The EMD or original proof of EMD received thereafter shall not be considered.
- The envelope containing EMD, along with details of the sender, i.e. address, e-mail ID and mobile number, etc, should be super-scribed "RC No. 406/2015".
- The property is being sold on "as is where is basis" and "as is what is basis".
- The bidders are advised to go through the portal www.bankeauctions.com for detailed terms and conditions for e-auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings and/or contact Sh. Mohit Chadha, Zonal Debt Manager, ICICI Bank Ltd. 2nd Floor, Videocom Tower, Ihandewalan Extn Delhi. Mobile no. 9650957770 Email ID: mohit.chadha@icicibank.com.
- Prospective bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and Password well in advance, after deposit of EMD, which is mandatory for bidding in the above e-auction, from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyogvihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana-122015, Telephone No. 7291981214/2526 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile no 9813887931 Email Id: delhi@c1india.com and support@bankeauctions.com.
- The interested bidders may avail online training on e-auction, after deposit of EMD, from M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Udyogvihar, Phase-2, Building No. 301, Gurugram Haryana 122015, Telephone No. 7291981214/2526 Contact Person: Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile no. 9813887931 Email Id: delhi@c1india.com and support@bankeauctions.com.
- Only those bidders holding valid user ID & Password and confirmed payment of EMD through demand draft/pay order shall be eligible to participate in on line e auction
- The prospective buyer may inspect the site on 25.08.2021 and 26.08.2021 from 10.30 AM to 04.00 PM.
- The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price by 31.08.2021 in the office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from 03.00 PM TO 04.00 PM. 02.09.2021. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
- The bidders shall improve their offer in multiples of Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
- The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the Office of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings.
- The successful / highest bidder shall have to prepare and deposit Demand Draft/Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount, after adjusting the EMD, favoring Recovery Officer II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015 by next bank working day i.e. by 04.00 PM with this Tribunal, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited.
- The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft/Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/C R.C. No. 406/2015, the balance 75% of the sale proceeds before the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi on or before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II Delhi. (In case of deposit of balance amount of 75% through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above). In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be re-sold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit after defraying the expenses of the many sale, they, if the undersigned thinks fit be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sam for which it may subsequently be sold.
- CHFI/CH Bank is directed to serve the Sale proclamation on CDs through Dast speed post, courier and by affixation at the conspicuous part of the property and by beat of drum in its vicinity and a copy of the same be placed on the notice board of the Tribunal.
- Sale proclamation be also published in the Newspapers in English as well as in Vernacular language, having adequately wide circulation in the area.
- CHFI/CH Bank is directed to confirm the publication of advertisement in the Newspapers and original proofs of the publication be filed before next date of hearing.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.

**Schedule of the property**

Description of the property to be sold	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof	Details of any encumbrance to which property is liable	Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property, and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value.
House No.1007, Khasra No.204, NH-24, Bhim Nagar, Mawai, Loni Ghaziabad- 200001.	Not known	Not known	Not known

Matter be listed on 18.08.2021 for filing affidavit of service of E-auction sale notice with proofs of service (including track results qua speed post and courier) and dastli, original proofs of publication in newspapers and wider publicity including website for the purpose of e auction.

(Dattatrey Baipayee)  
RECOVERY OFFICER-II,  
DRT-II, DELHI.

**Chola Cholanadalam Investment And Finance Company Limited**  
Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai-600 001.  
Branch Office: H-1 & 2, 3rd Floor, Padam plaza, Plot No.5, Sec 16 B, Avas Vikas, Sikandra Vojna, Agra 282002.

**DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002**

You, the under mentioned Borrower / Mortgagee is hereby informed that the company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13 (2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for Borrower is has been returned undelivered. Hence, you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and costs. It is needless to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

Name and Address of the Borrower/s	Loan Amount	Date of Demand Notice & Amount Outstanding	Description of the property / Secured Asset
LOAN ACCOUNT X0HEAHE00001324669 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- ASHOK KUMAR JAIN, BABITA JAIN & PIYUSH JAIN ALL ARE RESIDING AT FATEH NO.2 BLOCK-1, RAJ KAMAL APARTMENT FLAT#HABAD ROAD, AGRA-UP - 282002	Rs. 32,33,131/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 64,62,854.14/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of Residential Flat No.2 Third Floor,Block No.1,Situated at Raj Kamal Apartment, Mauza Basai Muski, Tajganj ward, Tehsil & Distt. Agra (Measuring area 153.28 Sq.Mtrs.). Boundaries: East:Open to Sky, West: Corridor & Stair, North:Open to Sky, South:Open to Sky.
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00001545281 & X0HEAHE00001871992 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- PARUL PRATAP SINGH 11CIN467 INDRA NAGAR NAI ABADI, AGRA-UP- 282006 SANTOSH KUMAR, DEV PRATAP SINGH & KRISHNA TANTI & CATERING ALL ARE RESIDING AT 11CIN467/S.P.D/J INDRANAGAR NAI ABADI NARAICH,AGRA-UP- 282006	Rs. 16,72,929 & 10,00,000/- Totally Rs. 26,72,929/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 24,20,754.80 & 15,48,461.80/- Totally Rs. 39,69,216.60/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	House on land bearing old Khasra No. 4548 with land underneath measuring area 108.69 Sq. meters situated at Nareish Basti, Mauza Nareish, Tehsil Etmadpur and Distt.Agra. Property bound as: East:Rasta 8 Feet wide West: House of Shri Durgesh North : House of Seller South: House of Hukum Singh
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00001662952 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- NISHA AGRAWAL, NITIN KUMAR AGARWAL, KUMAR GAURAV AGARWAL, PARUL AGARWAL ALL ARE RESIDING AT 9 AMITA VIHAR EXTENSION, AGRA-UP - 282006	Rs. 46,00,000/-	08-06-2021 & Rs. 55,26,839.50/- as on 05-06-2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of property bearing House No.9, Khasra No.115/3, Measuring area-105.90 Sq.mtrs Situated at Amita Vihar Extension, Manoharpur, Mauja-Ghavasvan Muski, Tehsil & Distt. Agra. Boundaries:East-Property of Mukhiya J, West-Rasta, North-House No.10 of Smt.Meena Kumari, South - House No.8.
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00002095511 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- SHIV SINGH, CHHOTY LAL & GUDDI DEVI ALL ARE RESIDING AT H.NO.27, PUSHPANJALI PURAM, PHASE 3 TAJ GANJ, CIVIL LINE, AGRA-UP - 282002	Rs. 25,00,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 26,65,278.51/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Residential Plot No.27, bearing at Khasra No.574 situated at Puspshpanjali Puram Phase-03, Mauza Basai Muski Chungi Andar Tehsil & Distt.Agra measuring area 106.76 sq.mtrs bounded on the East by Plot No.28 West by M.M.I.G No.26 North by Rosta 9 Mtrs wide & Exit South by Plot No.398/38
M/S HARI OM ENTERPRISES 27, PUSHPANJALI PURAM PHASE 3 TAJNAGARI, TAJ GANJ, AGRA-UP - 282002	Rs. 20,00,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 23,65,753/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property House bearing Khasra No.37, Nagar Nigam No.43/120L/BNPK-97 measuring area 106.63 sq.mtrs situated at Mauja-Bajpur, Tehsil & Distt.Agra bounded on the East by Rasta 20 feet wide West by Other Property North by Other Property South by Other Property
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00002095725 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- PRAMOD KUMAR, AMAR SINGH, & SHRI MATI KUMHA, All Are Residing At 43/120L/BNPK-97 BAIJPUR SIKANDRA, AGRA-UP- 282002	Rs. 20,00,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 23,65,753/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing House No.44, measuring area-93.64 sq.mtrs situated at Dwi Nagar, Mauja-Keshupur, Manoharpur, Tehsil & Distt. Mathura bounded on the East by Property of Kalish Chand Bansal and others West by Gali 10 feet wide North by Property of Murali Lal Maheshwari South by Property of Dau Dayal Gupta
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00002095523 AND X0HEAHE00002643499 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- ANUJ PATHAK & GUDDI DEVI ALL ARE RESIDING AT 13/147 PAK TOLA TAJ GANJ, AGRA-UP - 282001	Rs. 25,31,092/- and Rs. 7,00,000/- totalling to Rs. 32,31,092/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 26,26,682.12 & Rs. 7,77,321.30 totalling to Rs. 34,04,003.42 as on 07/06/2021 with further interest thereon	Property bearing House No.13/147, measuring area 200.24 Sq. Mtrs., situated at Pak Tola, Tajganj Ward, Agra.
M/S TAJ FASHION WORLD Shop No.11 UG, Reamshree Complex Agra-UP - 282002	Rs. 75,00,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 83,10,546.66 as on 07/06/2021 with further interest thereon	A Plot of land and building bearing Development Authority No.D-53,Pratap Nagar M.M.I.G in KhatenaHousingDevelopment scheme measuring 118.447 sq.m situated at Khatena Agra Police station Lohamandi Agra bounded on the North by M.M.I.G D/64 South by M.M.I.G D/62 East by 30 Feet Road West by M.M.I.G D/74
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE0000233640 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- SARAD GUPTA, RAMA DEVI, M/S RAMA TRADING CO. LTD ALL RESIDING AT H.NO. 44 KESOPURA, MOHAN PURA, KRISHNA NAGAR, MATHURA, 291004	Rs. 27,50,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 31,05,924/- as on 05/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing House No.44, measuring area-93.64 sq.mtrs situated at Dwi Nagar, Mauja-Keshupur, Manoharpur, Tehsil & Distt. Mathura bounded on the East by Property of Kalish Chand Bansal and others West by Gali 10 feet wide North by Property of Murali Lal Maheshwari South by Property of Dau Dayal Gupta
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. X0HEAHE00002471935 AND X0HEAHE00003173953 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- Aman Gautam & M/s Jaggamba Enterprises Both Are Residing At F4 Block B Pearl Paradise Anupam Bagh Dayal Bagh, Kanpur - 282005 SANDHYA GAUTAM & GAYATRI GAUTAM Both Are Residing At F 4 Block - B Pearl Paradise Apartment Dayalbagh, Kanpur - 282005 M/S AMAN COLOR CHEM Near Main Telephone Exchange Nai Ka Nagla Hatras , Hathras - 204101	Rs. 10,00,000/- and Rs. 10,00,000/- totalling to Rs. 35,00,000/-	08/06/2021 & Rs. 26,90,259.12 and Rs. 11,10,893.94 totalling to Rs. 38,01,153.06 as on 07/06/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of Residential Flat No.F04 on First Floor, Corporation No. F-04 Block-B situated at Perf Paradise Apartment, Anupam Bagh, Jaganpur Muski Tehsil & Distt. Agra measuring 130 sq.mtrs bounded on the East by Other Property West by Open Parking Space on Ground Floor & Road 9 Mtrs wide North by Flat No.-F05 Block-B South by Flat No-F-03 Block-B

Date : 04.08.2021  
Place : Agra

AUTHORISED OFFICER  
Cholanadalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

**RTCL LIMITED**  
CIN No. : L16003UP1994PLC016225  
Registered Office: 8/226,Second Floor, SGM Plaza, Agra Nagar, Kanpur UP 208002  
Corporate Office: 6926, Jaipuria Mills, Clock Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007  
Website: www.rtclimited.in E-mail: rgc.secretarial@gmail.com

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, 13th August, 2021 at 04.00 P.M. at its corporate office 6926, Jaipuria Mills, Clock Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007. Inter-alia to consider and take on record the Audited Financial Results of the Company for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2020.

This Intimation is also available on the Company's website at www.rtclimited.in and on the Stock Exchange website at www.bseindia.com.

Further, in accordance with the SEBI (Prevention of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading, the Trading Window for dealing in the Company's securities was closed from Thursday 01st July, 2021 and will open 48 hours after the said financial results are declared to the Stock Exchanges.

For RTCL Limited  
Sd/-  
(Ajay Kumar Jain)  
Director

Place: Delhi  
Date: 03.08.2021

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**RAGHUNATH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
CIN No. : L52312UP1994PLC022559  
Regd Office: 8/226 Second Floor, SGM Plaza, Agra Nagar, Kanpur UP 208002  
Corporate Office: 6926, Jaipuria Mills, Clock Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007  
E-mail: rgc.secretarial@rediffmail.com, Website: www.raghunathintlimited.in

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, 13th August, 2021, at 03.30 p.m. at its Corporate office at 6926, Jaipuria Mills, Clock Tower, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007 inter-alia to consider and take on record the Un-Audited Standalone and Consolidated financial results of the Company for the First quarter ended on 30th June, 2021.

This Intimation is also available on the Company's website at www.raghunathintlimited.in and on the Stock Exchange website at www.bseindia.com.

Further, in accordance with the SEBI (Prevention of Insider trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading, the Trading Window for dealing in the Company's securities was closed from Thursday 01st July, 2021 and will open 48 hours after the said financial results are declared to the Stock Exchanges.

For Raghunath International Limited  
Sd/-  
(G.N. Choudhary)  
Director

Place: Delhi  
Date: 03.08.2021

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**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 50 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Black Colour Shirt and Black colour Lower, was found Dead on the Pavement Under Paharganj Flyover, Delhi on 28.07.2021.

In this regard a DD No.63-A, dated 28.07.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Nabi Karim, Delhi. The Dead Body has been kept preserved in the Mortuary of MAMC Hospital, Delhi, for 72 hours for identification.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this dead person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

**SHO**  
**P.S. Nabi Karim, Delhi**  
**DP/917/CD/2021** Ph.: 011-23521082, 8750870428

# Sensex soars 873 pts to new peak

## NIFTY SCALES 16K FOR 1ST TIME

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex skyrocketed 873 points to a fresh closing peak while the Nifty finished above the 16,000-mark for the first time on Tuesday as economic recovery hopes triggered across-the-board buying. Investors grew richer by ₹2.30 lakh crore, with market capitalisation of all BSE-listed reaching a lifetime high of ₹2,40,04,664.28 crore. Rising for the second straight session, the 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex ended 872.73 points or 1.65 per cent higher at its fresh closing record of 53,823.36. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rallied 245.60 points or 1.55 per cent to an all-time

peak of 16,130.75.

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

its lifetime peak of 53,887.98 points.

Rallying for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, the 30-share BSE index closed at a fresh closing peak of 53,823.36 points, a jump of 872.73 points or 1.65 per cent.

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

The journey past 16,000 quite clearly has been led by the retail investors who have allocated more into equities even as FIs sold worth Rs 95 billion

during this period, he noted.

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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



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

## BRIEFS

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

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

### AFGHANISTAN AMBASSADOR CALLS ON CM GEHLOT

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



### ARUN ARORA APPOINTED EASTERN RLY GM

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



### VODAFONE IDEA SHARES FALL OVER 10 PC

New Delhi: Shares of Vodafone Idea on Tuesday fell over 10 per cent after reports that Aditya Birla group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla has offered to hand over his stake in debt-laden VIL to the government entities to keep the company operational. The stock plunged 10.30 per cent to close at ₹7.40 on the BSE. During the day, it tumbled 13.09 per cent to ₹7.17 -- its 52-week low. At the NSE, it closed at ₹7.40, lower by 10.30 per cent. The billionaire businessman made the offer in June in a letter to Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba. According to official data, VIL had an adjusted gross revenue (AGR) liability of ₹58,254 crore out of which the company has paid ₹7,854.37 crore and ₹50,399.63 crore is outstanding.

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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



mendations," she said.

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

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

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

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

Mumbai: Non-bank lenders' non-performing asset ratios will slip by up to 1 percentage point and the ratio of the loans recast will double to 3.3 per cent in FY22, domestic rating agency IcrA said. It attributed the asset quality impact largely to the reverses of the second wave of the pandemic, which has hit the collection efficiencies for the non-bank finance companies (NBFC) and housing finance companies (HFCs).

With the abatement of the pandemic and the resumption in business activity, the collections are improving and will offer some succour to the financiers as the fiscal year progresses, it said, adding that it has a "negative" outlook on the sector. "Notwithstanding the near-term pressures, the net increase (adjusting for write-offs) in the 90+ dpd (days past due) in the current fiscal is expected to be about 0.50-1 per cent. ICRA draws comfort from the provisions maintained by the entities, which continue to remain about 1 per cent higher than the pre-Covid levels," its vice president for financial sector ratings A M Karthik said.

# Sebi allows payments banks to act as investment bankers

New Delhi: To provide easy access to investors to participate in public and rights issues by using various payment avenues, markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday allowed payments banks to carry out the activities of investment bankers.

Non-scheduled payments banks, which have prior approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), will be eligible to act as a banker to an issue (BTI), Sebi said in a circular. This is subject to fulfilment of the conditions stipulated in the BTI rules.

PTI

# Digital deals to propel IT sector revenues

Mumbai: Indian IT services companies are likely to post a 9-12 per cent revenue growth in USD terms in FY22, helped by the strong demand for digital deals, a report said on Tuesday. However, the same will not translate into profits, because higher salaries will result in the operating profit margins for the same set of companies to come at 23 per cent from 24.2 per cent in FY21, domestic rating agency IcrA said. The IT sector is one of the few sectors that have not been deeply impacted by the pandemic.

PTI

# Fixing floor prices critical amid financial stress in telecom: COAI

New Delhi: Industry body COAI on Tuesday contended that floor price fixation is absolutely critical and need of the hour, given the "major financial stress" in the telecom industry. The association - whose members include Bharti Airtel, Reliance Jio and Vodafone Idea - said floor prices need to be fixed for data only for an interim period, for two years, and that voice calls and tariffs can be excluded from this. "In the last few years, fixation of floor prices has become a critical issue and is need of the hour today with telecom industry going through major financial stress," S P Kochhar, director-general of Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI), said in a statement.

PTI

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to all concerned that Vimal Chharia W/o Sawar Lal Chharia R/o A 142 Prashant Vihar, Delhi-110085, and who is the owner of Plot No F-29, Sector-56, Noida U.P., and had sold the said plot, on the basis of GPA to the following persons: General Purpose of Attorney was executed on 17.12.1994 duly registered at Noida vide Book No IV Volume No 42 on pages 218 at Document No 3084 and Addl Book No IV Volume No 86 on pages 433-438 dated 17.12.1994 in favour of Ashoo Gupta S/o J.P. Gupta R/o F-22, Sector-56, Noida and Agreement to Sell was not registered, so it is informed to all concerned that the said property is going to be transferred in favour of Rekha Verma W/o Sunil Verma & Tushar Verma & Vishal Verma Both S/o Sunil Verma All R/o F 29, Sector-56, Noida if any one has any objection he/she may submit his/her objection in the Residential Plot Department of Noida Authority along with sufficient proofs within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Panjee Singh for 2/5<sup>th</sup> share, Sunil Kaur Bakshi alias Suneel Kaur Bakshi for self & behalf of Gurleen Kaur, Leewans Bakshi & Sarwans Singh Bakshi for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share of Late Amrit Kaur, Sumnder Kaur for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share & Gian Kaur for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share, "Seller" claims to be owner & in possession of First Floor, of Prop. bearing no. D-145, Defence Colony, N. Delhi (hereinafter called the said property) by virtue of Conveyance Deed dt. 25.09.2017 Doc No. 4541 and Release Deed dt. 17.02.2020 executed by Jasbir Singh Sandhu Doc. no. 782 and Will dt. 22.03.2018 executed by Amrit Kaur Bakshi & said Pavitar Singh for 2/5<sup>th</sup> share, Sunil Kaur Bakshi alias Suneel Kaur Bakshi for self & behalf of Gurleen Kaur, Leewans Bakshi & Sarwans Singh Bakshi for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share of Late Amrit Kaur, Sumnder Kaur for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share & Gian Kaur for 1/5<sup>th</sup> share has agreed to sell the said property to Shivrajpal Rawat & Sarvesh Thakral & Sarve Purchasers has agreed create mortgage of the said property severally in favour of our clients, Axis Bank Ltd., having its office at Axis House Sector 128, Noida, U.P. All person's/Institutions having any claim against or interest of the said property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, lien or otherwise, however, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned or our client Axis Bank Ltd. shall proceed with the disbursement of loan for the purchase of the said property and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect thereof. Vishal Diwan (Adv.) For Diwan and Company LLP Advocates and Solicitors H.No.2 (LG), NRI Complex, N.D.-19 (M): 9818399999

## Ashnoor Textile Mills Ltd.

Regd. Office: Belapur Road, Village Khandsa, District Gurugram, Haryana-122001  
E-mail: amit.delhi@yahoo.com  
Phone: 91 0124 4809756  
CIN: L17226DL1984PLC033384  
NOTICE  
NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Thursday, August 12, 2021, inter-alia, to consider and approve Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the First Quarter ended June 30, 2021. This information is also available on Company's website at www.ashnoortext.com and also on the website of BSE, i.e. www.bseindia.com.  
By the order of Board  
Sd/-  
August 03, 2021 Suneel Gupta  
Gurugram, Haryana Managing Director  
DIN-00052084

## KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD

(A Government of India Undertaking)  
Belapur Bhavan, Plot No.6, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400 614.  
Employment Notification No. CO/P-R/04/2021  
KRCL has published Employment Notification No. CO/P-R/04/2021 dated 27/07/2021 for the post of:  
Dy. Chief Engineer (Fabrication) on regular basis.  
No of Post : 01.  
Notification is open up to 17:30 hrs. of 26/08/2021.  
Candidates may see the details of notification, eligibility criteria etc., on the KRCL website www.konkanrailway.com at the link > Recruitment > Current Notification accordingly.  
Chief Personnel Officer

## Aro granite industries Ltd.

CIN: L74899DL1988PLC031510  
Regd. Office: 1001, 10th Floor, DLF Tower A, Jasola, New Delhi - 110025  
Ph.: 011-41686169, Fax: 011-26941984,  
Email: investorgrievance@arogilite.com, Website: www.arogilite.com  
NOTICE  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulations 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Friday, the 13th August, 2021 inter-alia to approve the Audited Financial Results for the first quarter ended 30.06.2021. The above details of the said meeting are also available on the website of the Company www.arogilite.com and also at the website of the Stock Exchanges www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

## ADDI INDUSTRIES LTD.

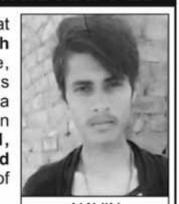
Regd. Office: 23, Eastern Avenue, Maharanagar, New Delhi - 110065  
CIN: L51109DL1980PLC256335  
NOTICE  
Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, we are pleased to inform you that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company has been scheduled to be held on Friday, the 13th day of August, 2021 at 1.30 P.M. at B-44, Maharanagar, New Delhi - 110065, to inter-alia consider and approve, the Un-audited Financial Results of the Company along with Limited Review Report of the Statutory Auditor for the quarter ended June 30, 2021.  
For ADDI INDUSTRIES LTD.  
Sd/-  
Date: 03.08.2021 Tarangeet Kaur  
Place: New Delhi Company Secretary  
Membership No. 5991

## NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

Re-Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)  
1 Name of work with its location Provision of vehicle for mobility of supervisors, staff & T & P in the Dy.CE/BL/TJK unit. (2 nos. MUV) Period - (2MUJ X 24 Months) for the office SSE/BR/M/SSB & SSE/BR/PL/SSB  
2 Approx. Cost of work Rs. 20,70,703/-  
3 Completion period of the work (24) Twenty Four Months  
4 Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender Upto 15.00 hrs on 27.08.2021 Opening of tender after 15.00 hrs on same day  
5 Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen & downloaded Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in  
Tender Notice No.: 32-W-MUV-1MT-HIRE-DLI Date: 03.08.2021 1738/2021  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely Navin S/o Sh. Rakesh R/o H.No. E-605, Sudhir Enclave, Rampark, Loni, Ghaziabad U.P. has been Missing/ kidnapped from the area of PS: Burari, Delhi since 22.07.2021. In this regard, a case FIR No. 583/21, dated.24.07.2021 has been registered at P.S. Burari, Delhi. The description of the missing boy as under:  
Age: 15 Years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 6', Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Only black Half pant. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/ kidnapped boy then please inform P.S. Burari, Delhi at following Tel No./e-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in and Website: http://cbi.nic.in  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 Sd/- S.H.O. Burari, Delhi DP/1376/N/2021 Phone: 011-27616844



## NABHA POWER LIMITED

Regd. Office: PO Box No. 28, Near Village Nalash, Rajpura, Patiala Punjab 140401, INDIA, CIN: U40102PB2007PLC031039

### Notice Inviting "Expression of Interest for Ash Utilization"

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

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

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

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

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

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



# THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

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

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

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

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

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

**EVENT MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY SINGLE-HANDEDLY OFFERS THE MOST EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDENTS ON THE VERGE OF MAKING A CAREER CHOICE. WITH SO MUCH HAPPENING AROUND, BE IT STAGE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, OR CORPORATE EVENTS, THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS STUDIED EVENT MANAGEMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MSC COURSE**  
The University of Sheffield, UK invites applications for the MSc Pharmaceutical Engineering course starting in September 2022.  
The MSc gives you hands-on experience of an industrial-scale continuous powder processing plant, and develops the knowledge and skills you need to stand out in the global pharma market.  
This programme has been developed taking into consideration the requirements of the global pharmaceutical industry. You will learn about: the science and application of products, oral drug delivery, the production of medicines and new technologies.  
**Duration:** One year  
**Eligibility:** Holders of a three-year bachelor degree with a minimum of 60 per cent or first class in science, technology and engineering from a reputable university. Overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.  
**How to apply:** Log on to <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2021/pharmaceutical-engineering-msc> or [cbe-msc@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:cbe-msc@sheffield.ac.uk).



**Admissions guides**  
students with opportunities to develop their own start-up in sectors as Agri-tech, fintech, and wearables.  
**Eligibility:** The programme is open to all who have obtained or are about to obtain a completed under-graduate degree from a recognised university in India. The students are required to have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or 75 on a scale of 100. Applicants with lower final grades should still apply; the admissions committee takes candidates' full applications into consideration.  
Students are also required to submit their GMAT/GRE scores along with clearing scores for English language proficiency.  
**How to Apply:** Log on to [https://international.tau.ac.il/Sofaer\\_Global\\_MBA](https://international.tau.ac.il/Sofaer_Global_MBA).

**MBA PROGRAMME**  
Offered by the Collier School of Management at Tel Aviv University, the Sofaer Global MBA is the flagship one-year full-time MBA focused on New Venture Creation, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship.  
It is designed for students with professional ambitions ranging from founding ventures, building start-ups, and leading innovative processes in multinational companies. The programme's curriculum combines a foundational core with a wide variety of advanced courses focused on entrepreneurship and innovation.  
The programme is structured to be experiential alongside classroom learning that brings together theory and practice and simultaneously

**MSC DATA ANALYTICS**  
The University of Sheffield, UK is inviting applications for its MSc Data Analytics course starting in September 2021. This course will develop your skills in analysing big data sets so that you can transform the information into actionable knowledge.  
**Duration:** One year  
**Eligibility:** Holders of a three-year bachelor degree with a minimum of 60 per cent or first class from a reputable university in a numerate discipline (computer science, mathematics, economics, engineering, physics, chemistry). Overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.  
**How to apply:** Log on to <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/courses/2021/data-analytics-msc> or [msc-compsci@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:msc-compsci@sheffield.ac.uk).

Industry visits have become an essential part of students pursuing a professional degree or course. The Indian education system has witnessed immense transformation over the last few years, with more importance being given to hands-on training. The approach for delivering quality education has changed with time for the Indian universities, and industry visits have become a part of the curriculum for many courses.  
Industry visits have become the norm for courses ranging from Engineering to Management in a number of institutes. A number of institutions now give grades and attendance on industry visits to students. The reason behind the popularity of industry visits is due to the fact that it exposes students to gain the practical knowledge on their subject which even their textbooks can't provide. There are several other advantages attached to such visits – but, before we move on, let's take a look at what exactly are industry visits:  
Industry visits give students an insight regarding the internal working of companies. Just having a theoretical knowledge about a subject is not enough for making a good professional career. With an aim to go beyond academics, industrial visits provide students with a practical perspective on the internal working in a company.  
The students are provided with the opportunities to gain an in-depth knowledge of the pro-

## It's a visit worth making

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

cedures and techniques followed throughout in the company. Also, the students attain an understanding of the work culture of the industry they have been taken to, followed with an opportunity to analyse the management essentials. The industry visits are not limited to only engineering – nowadays, management students are being actively taken to industries to help them get a hold of management concepts.  
**BENEFITS:**  
Not everything that is essential to be learnt by students can be delivered by in the classroom. There are several practical aspects which require a hands-on experience for a student to elucidate the understanding of the facts and concepts. Industrial visits transform the concepts into action which in turn, facilitate the attainment of hands-on experiential awareness. The benefits are not limited to mere practical exposure. Below mentioned are the advantages which students enjoy during industrial visits:  
■ The detailed information on the functioning of industries can only be experienced after visiting one. The visits are extremely helpful for students to embed hands-on understanding of the effective functioning of an organisation.  
■ The industry visits offer an opportunity to students to engage in a conversation with the professionals. This, in turn, helps students improve their communica-

tion and interpersonal skills. Also, the students get a chance to establish a connection with experts, which could be helpful in placements.  
■ There are certain myths which have been prevalent for years, in terms of management and other aspects based on the entire functionality of the industries. Industry visits provide an opportunity for students to gain insight into actual practices in a work-place. The students get an enhanced outlook on the practices followed by the companies to ensure effective operations and how they manage their workforces.  
■ The industry visits are not limited to the attainment of practical knowledge, but, it also plays an essential role in identifying an interest area for the students. During the visit, they go through different departments and thus, they get an idea about different roles and what they entail. Students can get clarity of what exactly a job functions required to be performed in a specific profile.  
Industry visits are slowly becoming mandatory in leading institutes in India, as it gives students a chance to enhance their practical knowledge. Nowadays, students actively participate in industry visits in a bid to understand the workings of an organisation.  
The writer is Senior Director at Institute of Management Studies (IMS) Noida

## Top cybersecurity institutes

The modern life we live these days is highly dependent on online services. Hence, having a clear understanding of cybersecurity threats is extremely vital. Additionally, since most of the data is now stored on servers and clouds across the globe, applications of cybersecurity in our day-to-day lives has caused a vast explosion of careers in this field. Owing to this, the importance of courses revolving around cybersecurity is gaining high prominence.  
There are many institutes offering the best cyber security courses and to make your choice a little simpler, we list down the best five institutes for cybersecurity. If you are aspiring to carve a career path out of this, you may definitely want to consider these courses.  
**Henry Harvin:** The cybersecurity course offered by India's leading Ed-tech company — Henry Harvin takes you through various modules of cyber security thus adding stars to one's portfolio. The course explains in detail the meaning, purpose, scope, applications of cybersecurity. The course also deep dives into cloud security, data & endpoint security along with application security to train the professionals with every aspect of the course.  
This extensive training session acquaints the pursuants with the best skills and knowledge transferred by experienced professionals and helps you attain the title of a qualified cybersecurity professional.  
**Intellipaat:** This PG certification in Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking by E&ICT Academy, MNIT Jaipur in collaboration with the EC-Council aims to provide extensive training on Cyber



Security concepts including risk analysis and mitigation, data security, cloud-based security, ethical hacking, etc. The course is designed by the top faculty at MNIT & industry expert to help you gain relevant skills required by the Industry and land you in your dream job.  
**Simplilearn:** The cybersecurity expert master's programme equips you with the skills needed to become an expert in this rapidly growing domain. The course allows you to learn comprehensive approaches to protect your infrastructure, including securing data and information, running risk analysis and mitigation, architecting cloud-based security, achieving compliance and much more with this best-in-class programme.  
**Great Learning:** This cybersecurity course navigates the pursuit through the foundations and skills necessary to build a successful cybersecurity career. In addition to security objectives basics like confidentiality, integrity, non-repudiation and authentication one also gets to exploit the vulnerabilities. By using secure systems, and design methodology, the applicant also learns about primary security breaches that might occur over the years and thus makes you eligible for building the countermeasures for the same.  
**Eduureka:** Cybersecurity certification training by Eduureka allows one to learn cybersecurity concepts from scratch. Throughout the online cybersecurity training, the students get to learn important concepts such as ethical hacking, cryptography, computer networks & security, application security, idAM (identity & access management), vulnerability analysis, malware threats, sniffing, SQL injection, DoS, session hijacking, and various security practices for businesses along with hands-on demonstrations.

## Career guidance course

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

discover their interests, identify their potential, learn workplace readiness skills and apply these in real life. From nurturing young peoples' skills and aptitudes to providing them age-appropriate exposure to career knowledge, LaunchMyCareer helps students make informed career decisions.  
Most learners are overwhelmed and confused about what career they want to pursue, and how to be what they want to be. However, everyone is looking for career success. True career success is an amalgamation of financial stability and job satisfaction.  
This can be achieved when one is able to map interests and skills with available opportunities. LaunchMyCareer brings forth a unique gamified experience to enable young people

the chance to explore career possibilities through a journey of self-discovery, harmonising interests with future careers and helping them to acquire requisite skills.  
The platform brings together educators, counsellors and experts to steer students along a career roadmap, under parental guidance, in a systematic, experiential and engaging way.

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**  
Great Learning, a leading global ed-tech company for professional and higher education, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School, has announced the launch of two executive education programmes: Future Leaders Programme (FLP) and Practical Decision Making Using Data Science Programme (PDDS).  
NUS Business School is known for providing management thought leadership from

## Executive programmes

an Asian perspective, enabling its students and corporate partners to leverage global knowledge and Asian insights. The school has consistently received top rankings in the Asia-Pacific region by independent publications and agencies, such as *The Financial Times*, *Economist Intelligence Unit*, and *QS Top MBA*, in recognition of the quality of its programmes, faculty research and graduates.

The Future Leaders Programme is designed for first-time and middle managers who aspire to build their leadership skills, and entrepreneurs who need to lead as they scale up their organisations.  
The three-month online programme focuses on professional growth, developing self-awareness and tangible skills in learners that can be applied to real-world situations.  
The Practical Decision Making Using Data Science Programme is best suited for mid to senior managers who have a strong understanding of their respective domains and wish to learn analytics to aid their decision-making skills.  
It provides an in-depth and comprehensive journey in Data Science from the lens of a business manager.



# ENHANCING LEARNING

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The writer is CEO, DUX Education

# 'Research before applying abroad'

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

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

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

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

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

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



Adarsh Khandelwal, Co-founder, Collegity

ject opportunities, that many schools offer; if gaining professional experience alongside your degree is a priority for you, choose accordingly.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## MINDIT

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

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

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

What will it take to change this? The answer turns out to lie in the relentless expansion in the capabilities of computer hardware and software, as embodied in Moore's Law and its corollaries. There is little doubt that in the 2030s we will look back at the early 2020s as an era of primitive computers that had only terabyte storage, gigabyte memories and gigahertz clock speeds and 5G communications.

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

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



Last date to apply is August 31, 2021.

The University of Melbourne, Australia invites applications for its Melbourne Mobility Awards. International students can apply.

**Eligibility:** The candidate must be enrolled at the university in either an undergraduate or a graduate coursework degree.

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

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

**Admission requirements:** For taking admission, applicants must have a good academic record.

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

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

**DATA SCIENCE AT HEYSTACK**  
Location: Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹20,000 per month  
Link: internshala.com/i/172dd0  
Deadline: August 12, 2021

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

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

**BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE DEV (BI/ETL) AT CREDGENICS**  
Location: Delhi  
Stipend: ₹30,000 per month  
Link: internshala.com/i/bc44b8  
Deadline: August 12, 2021

**GRAPHIC DESIGN AT SOCIAL CRAWLER**  
Location: Lucknow  
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹8,000/Month  
Link: internshala.com/i/f8b30d  
Deadline: August 12, 2021

**BIZ ANALYTICS AT ELECTROVESE SOLUTIONS**  
Location: Chandigarh, Delhi  
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month  
Link: internshala.com/i/f8d778  
Deadline: August 11, 2021

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

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

## INBRIEF

### INCUBATION CENTRE AT ANANTU

The AnantUhas launched incubation centre — Aarambh with a vision to foster a culture of entrepreneurship among the design and architecture fraternity, students and budding entrepreneurs to use Design Thinking for solving societal problems with a long-term impact. The aim is to promote the entrepreneurship culture in and around the campus by offering various platforms to budding entrepreneurs to experiment with their business ideas, get one-on-one mentorships from domain experts and professionals from

the industry, interact with investors and create their own organisation and or enterprise. The platform will nurture entrepreneurial thinking, promote business knowledge and inculcate confidence in every student. It would add value to the entrepreneur and make an impact on society at large.

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

### SUCCESSFUL IELTS TRAINING BY LEAP

The Leap's IELTS training programme has been attended by more than two lakh study abroad aspirants since its

launch in February 2021. It offers a whole suite of curated courses, delivered fully digitally on the web and the app. The

IELTS is a globally accepted standardisation test, designed to gauge the English language proficiency of non-native speakers.

### PARTNERSHIP INKED

The Aplicar, an end-to-end student recruitment tech start-up has announced its partnership with Portage College and CodeCore College. Students and recruitment partners from around the globe can now access these esteemed institutions only through Aplicar. Located in New

Westminster, CodeCore College was founded in 2008 in Vancouver as a coding bootcamp. It has been providing practical programming training tailored to industry needs to students. With many innovative courses, this college has a placement rate of 95% within 90 days of graduation.

### 2ND EDITION OF F-SET ANNOUNCED

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

The assessment consists of 14 individual tests focusing on various verticals and functions

within financial services. For an aspirant keen to work in financial services, F-SET is a fantastic way to gain insight and get ahead of peers in preparation for the recruitment processes of financial services institutions.

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

Duration of each exam will be two hours and

results will be announced on October 17, 2021.

The fees for the assessment is ₹354 till August 15, ₹472 between August 16 September 15 and ₹590 post September 16 till the last date.

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

### 2ND EDITION OF PRE-INCUBATION PROGRAMME AT IIMU

The Indian Institute of Management Udaipur (IIMU) Incubation Center opened registrations for its second cohort of the pre-incubation programme for early-stage ventures, students and working professionals with product ideas. The program is open to 30 eligible participants and will run from September 1, 2021 till November 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought

a surge in entrepreneurship. The programme will host live curated workshops, structured modules, offer incubation team support and provide a learning community.

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

### FARMERS FAMILY SIGNS MOU WITH IIML-EIC

Farmers Family, a Noida-based agritech startup, has signed a long-term memorandum of understanding (MoU) with IIM Lucknow-Enterprise Incubation Centre (IIML-EIC). The signing of the MoU marks a significant development in promoting entrepreneur development, startup incubation, and opening up investment avenues to the business.

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

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

# 'Need to focus on Bronze medal match'

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

PTI ■ TOKYO

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

The eight-time winners of Olympic Gold, the last of which came way back in 1980, fell short against world champions Belgium, losing 2-5 in the semifinals here on Tuesday.

"It is really hard for me right now because we came with a winning mindset, but unfortunately we didn't win the match. Now we need to focus on our next Bronze-medal match and we need to work and we need to get the medal," Manpreet said after the loss.

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

The skipper said having toiled hard for the last five years to reach this level, India deserved a better result on Tuesday.

"It's always been hard work and togetherness. This team has been together for the last four or five years. We have worked



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

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

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

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

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

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

Senior India defender Rupinder Pal Singh too feels that all is not lost in the ongoing Games for them.

"Of course it's heartbreaking for us, reaching the semifinals

after 41 years and we were here to win a Gold medal. That was our aim, but we lost today. The great thing is we have a chance to finish third in the next game so we will focus on that," he said.

Rupinder believes a medal from Tokyo will be big for the sport back in the country.

"If we win that, it's going to be for us only. Of course there are a lot of people behind this and supporting us. But we are going to win for us first and then

## Women's team face Argentina in semis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Indian players celebrate after win over Australia

@TheHockeyIndia

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

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

The Argentina women

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

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

converting good chances. "We need to work hard for the next game."

India will face Germany, in the Bronze medal play-off match on Thursday.

## Sindhu one of India's greatest Olympians: Thakur Sonam's debut ends in 1st-round defeat

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

The 26-year-old from Hyderabad was accorded a warm welcome when she returned to India on Tuesday.

"PV Sindhu is amongst India's greatest Olympians. She is India's icon, inspiration and has caught the imagination of every Indian who dreams of playing for the country," Thakur said after felicitating Sindhu and her Korean coach Park Tae-Sang here.



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

"Her incredible achievement — that of winning two Olympic medals in two consec-

utive Olympic Games will inspire a generation of budding athletes." PTI

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

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

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

The Mongolian was later outplayed by Bulgaria's Tayeb Mustafa Yusein, the second seed and 2018 world champion, the result spelling the ouster of the Indian wrestler.

"Sonam was definitely a better wrestler than the Mongolian but she made a mistake by being over defensive. That was a mistake. Nevertheless, she has got big-stage experience," Sonam's coach Ajmer Malik said.



RAVI, DEEPAK GET GOOD DRAW

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

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

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

## Lovlina chases historic final berth

Tokyo: A medal already secured, Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) will be in pursuit of history when she takes on reigning world champion Busenaz Surmeneli of Turkey in the Olympic semifinals here on Wednesday, aiming to become the first ever Indian boxer to advance to the Games final.

The 23-year-old from Assam, who started her career as a Muay Thai practitioner, has become only the third Indian boxer to ensure a podium finish at the showpiece after Vijender Singh (2008) and MC Mary Kom (2012).

Hers is also the first Olympic medal in boxing in nine years and the aim now is to reach where none before her has reached, the finals.

"Since the bout is in the afternoon, we have been training in the afternoon everyday for the past two days," national coach Mohammed Ali Qamar told PTI on the eve of the crucial fight.

"As for Lovlina, all that needs to be conveyed in terms of strategy has been conveyed to her and she is ready. These two have never faced each other before so it is an uncharted territory for both of them," he added.

"She is very upbeat and confident about a good performance and I am sure she will deliver."

The boxer herself seemed pretty clear about her path ahead after the semifinal win over former world champion

Nien-Chin Chen on the Chinese Taipei.

"Medal to bas gold hota hai, let me get that first," she had said after the historic triumph which ensured that the nine-strong Indian boxing team that came here has at least one medal to celebrate.

Borgohain has shown remarkable composure for a debutant at the sport's biggest extravaganza. And it is this poise that might do the trick for her against the imposing opponent from Turkey, who is seeded top in the draw.

Surmeneli is also 23 and has collected two gold medals this year internationally.

The former middleweight (75kg) boxer claims to have promised an Olympic medal to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan back in 2015 itself.

Borgohain is no novice either and has secured two world championship bronze medals so far in her career.

In fact, both Borgohain and Surmeneli competed in the 2019 championships, from where the latter came out champion, while the former settled for a bronze.

The two, however, did not face off after landing up in different halves of the draw.

Borgohain has been candid enough to admit that she hasn't been the most fearless boxer in her career but several mind exercises and meditation later, she has found the self-belief that is needed for a big stage like the Olympics.

## Toor, Rani fail to reach finals

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

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

Competing with a heavily bandaged shoulder, his next two throws were fouls. Every participant gets only three attempts in the qualification round.

The below-par show meant that Toor made an exit even before the start of second qualification.

Those who cleared 21.20m or at least 12

best performers from the two qualifying rounds made the final cut.

Toor had qualified for Olympics with a personal best of 21.49m and had managed to achieve that, he would have been an automatic qualifier to the finals.

In the women's javelin throw, national record holder Rani was even worse as she finished 14th and last in qualification A with a best third round throw of 54.04m, which was well below her personal best of 63.24m. Rani, who qualified for the Olympics on the basis of her world rankings eventually ended at 29th and last after the two qualifying rounds.

Her two other throws were 50.35m and 53.19m. Those who breach the automatic qualifying mark of 63m or at least 12 best performers make it to the finals.



TOPPERS OF CLASS X		
<b>Delhi Public School Ranipur</b> Deepika Jaiswal 99.2% Himesh Kushwaha 99.6% Shivansh Singh 99.2%	<b>Kendriya Vidyalaya IMA</b> Akshay Sharma 98% Shaksham Rawat 97.4 Riya 94.8%	<b>Parwati Prema Jagati Saraswati Vihar Nainital</b> Divyanshu Singh 99.8% Kishagra Singh 96.6% Anshuman Singh 96.4%
<b>The Asian School</b> Akshaj Singhmar 99.2% Pixel Kathait 99.2% Aditi Joshi 99%	<b>Army Public School No.1 Roorkee</b> Shouryavardhan Singh 98% Harsh Yadav 97.6% Priyanka Uniyal 96.6%	<b>Birla Vidya Mandir Nainital</b> Nakshatra Kanchan 92.4% Vishal Kumar 90.8% Rajat Jaiswal 90.4%
<b>Delhi Public School Dehradun</b> Shreyasi Choudhary 99.6% Radhika Agarwal 99.4% DIYA DHARMA 99.2%	<b>Saigrace Academy International</b> Anuj Anthwal 95% Diksha Bisht 94.4% Prajakta Uniyal 93.2%	<b>Mohan Lal Shah Bal Vidya Mandir</b> Ashlisha Adhikari 97% Hansika Tiwari 93.8% Asmita Bora 93.8%
<b>Doon International School</b> Vansh Kapoor 99% Shreya Kumari 98.6% Samridhi Gusain 98.4%	<b>Sanwal School Nainital</b> Himanshu Mathpal 93.0% Kushagra Joshi 92.0% Gaurav Karki 91.6%	<b>Radha Children Academy Nainital</b> Snehal Bisht 95.2% Divya Pathak 91.4% Harshit Tiwari 91.2%
<b>Long View Public School Nainital</b> Shikhar Singh 96.8% Manas Joshi 96.4% Rishi Chandra 95.8%	<b>Amtul Public School Nainital</b> Ashish Yadav 95.4% Ritik Sharma 90.6% Misika Siddiqui 90.4%	<b>St. Xavier's School Nainital</b> Sumit Joshi 95.0% Mayank Sirala 86.0% Mohd Saliman 81.0%