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International flights won't resume

Omicron scare
puts off Dec 15
resumption plan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid Omicron scare, India may not resume scheduled international flights from December 15 as planned earlier.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Wednesday decided to postpone the resumption of the scheduled international flights from December 15 citing "evolving global scenario" in the wake of the emergence of the new Covid variant.

No case of Omicron has been reported in India so far but air travel is becoming longer and more expensive due to guidelines issued by the Government.

"In view of the evolving global scenario with the emergence of new variants of concern, the situation is being



Air passengers lined up at a terminal at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai on Wednesday PTI

watched closely in consultation with all stakeholders and an appropriate decision indicating the effective date of resumption of scheduled commercial international passenger services shall be notified in due course," the DGCA said in a circular on Wednesday.

The DGCA also referred to its circular issued on

November 26 wherein it was decided that scheduled international flights will resume from December 15.

The Pioneer had earlier reported that resumption of scheduled international flights was likely to be delayed from December 15 as planned earlier.

The USA, Canada, the

European Union, Israel, China have already banned travellers from South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique and Malawi. Japan has also decided to completely shut down international air travel from its soil.

A decision on the resumption of international flights

OMICRON EFFECT

- With new guidelines, air travel become more longer and expensive
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation said only two per cent of the passengers coming from countries that are not in the 'at-risk' list will be subject to random sampling for coronavirus and such passengers will be permitted to leave the airport after giving the samples
- Passengers are being charged ₹500 for the RT-PCR tests, the test result of which will be available in 5-6 hours. Those who opt for Rapid PCR tests need to shell out ₹3,900 at the airport and these are however available in one hour
- Air passengers flying to Chennai from 'at risk' countries will need to pay ₹4,000 for Rapid test while those opting for regular RT-PCR will pay ₹900

will only be taken after the Government finds it relatively safer to do so amid the prevailing pandemic situation.

The Chief Ministers of Delhi, Karnataka and Maharashtra have urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi not to reopen international flights from affected countries in the present scenario. The decision comes days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked officials to review the plans to ease international travel restrictions in light of the "emerging new evidence".

Contagious Omicron may displace Delta, says S African expert

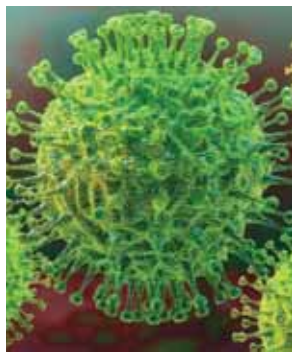
Johannesburg: The Omicron coronavirus variant detected in southern Africa could be the most likely candidate to displace the highly contagious Delta variant, the director of South Africa's communicable disease institute said on Tuesday.

The discovery of Omicron has caused global alarm, with countries limiting travel from southern Africa for fear it could spread quickly even in vaccinated populations and the World Health Organization saying it carries a high risk of infection surges

"We thought what will out-compete Delta? That has always been the question, in terms of transmissibility at least, ... perhaps this particular variant is the variant," Adrian Puren, acting executive director of South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), told Reuters in an interview.

If Omicron proves even more transmissible than the Delta variant, it could lead to a sharp spike in infections that could put pressure on hospitals. Puren said scientists should know within four weeks to what extent Omicron can evade the immunity generated by vaccines or prior infection, and whether it leads to worse clinical symptoms than other variants.

Anecdotal accounts by doctors who have treated South African Covid-19 patients say Omicron appears to be pro-



ducing mild symptoms, including a dry cough, fever and night sweats, but experts have cautioned against drawing firm conclusions.

Puren said it was too early to say whether Omicron was displacing Delta in South Africa, since local scientists have only produced 87 sequences of Omicron so far.

But the fact that cases have started to rise rapidly, especially in the most populated Gauteng province, is a sign that some displacement might already be happening.

Delta drove a third wave of Covid-19 infections in South Africa that peaked at more than 26,000 cases per day in early July. Omicron is expected to trigger a fourth wave, with daily infections seen topping 10,000 by the end of the week from around 2,270 on Monday.

Anne von Gottberg, a clinical microbiologist at the NICD, said it looked like infections were rising throughout the country.

Amid Omicron scare, 6 fliers Covid-19 +ve

11 international
flights landed at
various airports
in the country

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid Omicron scare, six passengers were reported to be Covid-19 positive from the total 11 international flights that landed here on the first day of operation of the central Guidelines for International Travellers as public health response measures for control and management of the new reported variant of the virus.

It has been designated as a Variant of Concern (VOC) by the World Health Organization (WHO).

"Total of 11 international flights landed at various airports of the country except Lucknow, from midnight to 4 pm today, from 'at risk' coun-

tries. These carried 3,476 passengers," said a statement from the Ministry.

All 3,476 passengers were administered RT-PCR Tests, wherein only 6 passengers were found Covid-19 positive.

The samples of the Covid-19 positive passengers have been sent to INSACOG labs for Whole Genomic Sequencing. INSACOG Labs network, a multi-laboratory, multi-agency, pan-India network has set up by the Government to monitor genomic variations in the SARS-CoV-2 for genome sequencing to determine the strain of the virus.

States will then undertake contact tracing of these positive individuals and follow up for 14 days.

"The Government continues to keep track of the evolving situation, and supports States/UTs in the fight against the pandemic through "whole of Government" approach," said the statement from the Ministry.



Army to now don new combat uniform

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With changing nature of modern warfare in mind, the Indian Army is going for a change of its combat uniform. The new kit will be on display at the Army Day parade here on January 15 next year.

Interestingly, the marching contingents in the Republic Day parade next year will don the uniform of different era starting over 100 years ago.

Unlike the previous years when the contingents wore the dress of their regiments, the Republic Day next year will see the troops marching past the saluting dais in uniform ranging from those worn during the World War I, World War II and other campaigns, sources said here on Wednesday.

As regards the new combat uniform, they said it is of a digital pattern which will help the personnel to have better cam-

ouflage in the battlefield besides comfort. Unlike the past, the officers and men will



not tuck in the shirt inside their trousers to provide them more comfort and fluidity in movement, sources said.

The Army is likely to switch over to the new combat uniform from mid next year. The uniform will be a mix of colours, including olive and earthen. The uniform is formally known as battle dress uniforms (BDU).

Several countries, including the US and European armies, have switched over to digital pattern uniform. The Indian Army decided to change its combat uniform after studying the dress of these countries, officials said.

To ensure safety and comfort element in the operational areas, the uniform is camouflaged, either in monochrome such as shades of green or brown to blend in with the background.

The new combat uniform is made of lighter and durable material suitable for both summer and winter as the Army operates in all kinds of terrain ranging from minus 40 degrees at the Siachen Glacier to 50 degrees plus in the Thar desert.

Meanwhile, the Army was working on the issue of having shoulder or collar tags marking the rank of the personnel. Some armies around the world have such rank markings on the button of their combat uniform.

State adds 237 Covid cases, 2 deaths

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State registered 237 new Covid-19 positive cases in 19 districts and the State pool on Wednesday, which surged the total tally to 10,49,345.

Among the newly-infected were 39 children in the age group of 0 to 18 years. Notably, the State had reported 228 cases on Tuesday. Of the new cases, 139 were from quarantine and 98 local contacts. Khordha district reported the day's maximum 96 cases followed by Mayurbhanj with 21, Cuttack 17 and Sambalpur at 11. The district which reported below-10 cases were: Jajpur and Mayurbhanj eight each, Balangir and Baleswar five each, Jharsuguda four, Dhenkanal, Puri and Jagatsinghpur three each, Nayagarh two and Boudh, Ganjam and Keonjhar one each. Besides, 23 cases were reported from the State pool. Two more persons succumbed to the disease, taking the total death toll to 8,415. Khordha and Dhenkanal districts reported one death each. However, 186 persons recovered on the day, increasing the total recoveries to 10,38,695. IIC held after seizure of Rs 5.88L cash

CAPSULE

ADMK TWEAKS BYLAWS TO SHUT DOOR ON SASIKALA

Chennai: The main Opposition AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, which is facing challenge from eased out leader VK Sasikala, on Wednesday amended its bylaws to strengthen norms to retain the present leadership structure of top two positions held by O Panneerselvam and K Palaniswami.

CRIME RATE IN DELHI DROPS BY 16.8% IN 2020

New Delhi: Delhi witnessed a 16.8 per cent dip in incidents of crime in 2020 as compared to 2019, according to the NCRB, the Government informed Parliament on Wednesday.

JeM's IED EXPERT AMONG 2 ULTRAS KILLED IN J&K

Srinagar: Terrorist commander of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) Yasir Parray and a foreign ultra were killed in an encounter with security forces in Pulwama district of J&K on Wednesday, police said. The encounter took place at Qasbayar area of the south Kashmir district.

Cyclone Jawad: Govt alerts DMs for mitigation measures

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

With the possibility of cyclonic storm Jawad hitting the north Andhra Pradesh-Odisha coasts around December 4 morning, the Odisha Government has pulled up its socks to combat any kind of eventuality.

Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra on Wednesday directed the Collectors of the districts likely to be affected by the cyclone to prepare mitigation measures. He asked them to keep cyclone shelters in preparedness and evacuate people residing in low-lying areas if required.

Mahapatra also directed the Fire Services, Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF), National Disaster

Response Force (NDRF) to be ready to deal with any possible untoward situation. Besides, coastal districts, Collectors of Mayurbhanj and Nayagarh have also been asked to remain alert.

So far, 200 Fire Services teams and 108 ODRAF and NDRF teams have been kept ready, said the Chief Secretary.

Earlier, the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) instructed administrative officials in the districts falling under 'Yellow and Orange' warning category (heavy rainfall alert issued by IMD) to remain prepared to meet any waterlogging or localised flood-like situation, including in urban areas.

The officials have also been asked to keep a watch on the possibilities of landslides in hilly areas.

Mamita issue hits Assembly session on day one

SUDARSHAN CHHOTORAY ■ BHUBANESWAR

As expected, the Winter Session of the Odisha Legislative Assembly began on a stormy note on Wednesday as opposition Congress MLAs staged a dharna at the legislature's two entry points and locked another gate over the Kalahandi schoolteacher Mamita Meher murder case.

Prior to the beginning of the House proceedings, the Congress members staged the dharna in a bid to prevent Minister of State for Home Dibya Shankar Mishra from entering the House for his alleged link in the sensational murder case.

Shouting slogans and holding placards, they also squatted on the entry points demanding Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's reply to the issue, removal and arrest of Minister Mishra and justice for Mamita.

"Go back Minister of State, Home, Odisha, Let CM reply..."



Give Justice to woman teacher," the placards read.

The Congress members also locked another gate in a bid to prevent entry of Mishra into the House. Later, Assembly security staffs broke the lock and opened the gate. However, there was no resistance to the entry of other Ministers and members.

The agitating MLAs later withdrew the dharna and par-

ticipated in the House proceedings.

"We oppose the Minister's entry into the august House. We will not allow the tainted Minister to impure the sanctity of the sacred House, which is a temple for the people of Odisha," Congress Chief Whip Tara Prasad Bahinipati told reporters.

Congress MLA Santosh Singh Saluja said his party

demands dismissal of Minister Mishra for his alleged link with Govinda Sahu, the prime accused in the Mamita murder case.

Opposition BJP members, on their part, met Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro and urged him to not allow Mishra to attend the House.

As for ruling BJD MLAs, they took out a rally from the Assembly to the Raj Bhavan

alleging the Centre's step-motherly attitude in allotment of houses to Odisha under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

They submitted a memorandum to the Governor in this regard.

"On the basis of a baseless and false complaint filed by BJP MPs, the Union Rural Development Ministry has stopped the PMAY in some districts of Odisha. It is yet to sanction 15 lakh housing units while fund is being sanctioned to the BJP-ruled States. So, we are strongly protesting it," said BJD legislator Byomkesh Ray.

As the House assembled for the day, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik moved a condolence motion virtually to pay homage to the members who passed away meanwhile. The House paid obituary references to former Deputy Speaker Prahalad Dora, former legislators Umesh Swain and Ramray Munda, ex-Sepoy of Odisha police Sitaram Murmu and the Covid-19 warriors.

₹19,833 cr Supp Budget presented in Assembly

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Amid ruckus by the Opposition, Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari on Wednesday presented the State's Supplementary Budget of Rs 19,833 crore for 2021-22 in the Assembly.

The budget is aimed at fulfilling the requirement of funds for public welfare and developmental activities, said Pujari.

A supplementary provision of Rs 13,568 crore under programme expenditure is to be financed by tied-up resources to the extent of Rs 6,137 crore and through additional collection of own revenue to the tune of Rs 7,431 crore.

Higher collection from the mining sector is the primary

contributor to the State's higher own revenue.

An additional provision of Rs 1,682.40 crore has been proposed in the Supplementary Budget against the differential year-end balance available as on March 31, 2021 in the State Disaster Risk Management Fund.

A total of Rs 2,147 crore has been allocated for irrigation facility, farmers' welfare and food security.

For Covid-19 assistance and supply of rice to BPL families, Rs 1105.18 crore has been provisioned and Rs 11.37 crore is earmarked for fair price shops' automation.

Besides, Rs 27.85 crore is provided towards the Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation

(KALIA) scheme and Rs 84.68 crore is provisioned for crop production management.

A sum of Rs 584.92 crore has been allocated for social security measures.

A total sum of Rs 2,038.16 crore is allocated for public healthcare. Out of this, Rs 498.51 crore has been earmarked for the Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana and Rs 25.83 crore for KHUSHI-Distribution of sanitary napkins.

Total Rs 1,311.17 crore has been allocated for the education, sports and skill development sectors. A total allocation of Rs 3,911.81 crore has been made for rural housing, wage employment, provision of drinking water and rural infrastructure.

Ore transport by trawlers hits local truck owners

PNS ■ KEONJHAR

The Keonjhar Truck Owners' Core Committee handed over a memorandum to the district Collector, Keonjhar against the transporting of iron ore by trawlers of outside Odisha and demanded priority to local truck owners in the transportation of ore.

Joda Truck Owners' Association secretary Sushanta Kumar Barik said local educated unemployed youths are maintaining their families by engaging trucks in the local mines of Keonjhar district and along with them, lakhs of family members of truck operators and local shop keepers are also dependent on truck business but the recent introduction of transportation of ore by trawler has hit the business of local truck operators.

As the mines owners like State-owned OMC, Guali and others like JSW, Nuagan and KNRam are giving preference to trawlers having capacity of carrying 60 tonnes of material to transport their ore instead of the local trucks, the ore loading by local trucks has



come down drastically.

As far as local trucks are concerned, they are made to wait for days together for a single loading. For this reason, the local truck owners are now rendered jobless.

Many of them apprehended that if the situation continued further, their financial condition would deteriorate and the property which they had mortgaged for getting loan to purchase trucks would be auctioned by the banks as they wouldn't be able to pay off

loan.

They further alleged that in the year 2012, the mines owners had signed an agreement with the Government as per which they would give a certain percentage of the ore for transportation to local trucks. But the permission to transport ore by trawler has led to the violation of the agreement. The committee members met BJD State organising secretary Pranab Prakash Das, who is said to have assured them to look into the matter.

HITTING THE BULLSEYE

Omicron truths that policymakers must know



BISWARAJ PATNAIK

After the devastating second corona wave in 2021, the sane mankind has kind of come on permanent guard. The insane would not care a fig; and they're as usual busy trashing all warning signals and engaging in all kinds of crazy, dangerously-infection-spreading activities -- no social distancing and no masks. Hand wash 'yes' but only before eating with hands, never to kill the virus.

South Africa is incidentally not part of the proverbial dark Africa with no food, no healthcare and no political order or stability. South Africa of today is a fairly developed country with appreciable advanced healthcare technology with genius medical experts including doctors and scientists. It would be appropriate to mention that the first-ever human heart transplant was performed by Dr Christian Barnard at the Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town on December 3, 1967. The daring operation and the charismatic surgeon had then received immense public attention around the world.

For almost as long as Covid-19 has been around, scientists, academics and cam-

paigners have pleaded with wealthy nations to share vaccines around the world only to protect all human beings by reducing the risk of new much smarter mutant variants emerging across helpless, unvaccinated communities that could evade available vaccines and cause infection. The mantra 'No one is safe until everyone is safe' did not have any impact on the wealthy vaccine-fall developed countries.

The African region, including otherwise-advanced South Africa, could not organise enough vaccines for the people and turned super-incubator. It is evident that Omicron originated elsewhere in Africa, which has been struggling to obtain enough shots.

As long as large portions of the world's population are unvaccinated, variants will continue to appear, and the pandemic will continue to be prolonged which is a very normal phenomenon. Unfortunately, most of Africa has received just 0.6 per cent of the nearly 8 billion shots that have been administered by now. By contrast, the United States and other rich nations have vaccinated all but the hesitant and ineligible and are now rolling out boosters.

Ethical experts and campaigners say one way to fix the immediate disparity would be through 'line-swapping', in which wealthy countries with enough shots allow poorer nations to jump ahead of them in the manufacturer's distribution list. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just declared Omicron its fifth 'Variant of Concern'. It has declared B.1.1.529 a 'Variant of

Concern' linked to 'an increase in transmissibility, more severe disease (e.g., increased hospitalisations or deaths), significant reduction in neutralisation by antibodies generated during previous infection or vaccination, reduced effectiveness of treatments or vaccines, or diagnostic detection failures,' as per the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Interestingly, the South African Medical Association has said Omicron is only causing mild diseases though transmissibility is high. The Omicron has over 30 mutations in the spike protein, which helps it potentially develop an 'immune-escape mechanism'.

Given that most Covid vaccines are developed to form antibodies against the spike protein, the multiple mutations in the spike protein only make the vaccines less effective, leading to decreased efficacy. But as of now, the Delta variant continues to remain the most dominant strain of the SARs-COV-2 virus. However, preliminary data collected by the WHO suggests an increased risk of re-infection. There are multiple Covid variants lingering in and around the world. So, experts believe that there may be a need to update Covid vaccines just like the influenza shots.

Around this critical period, health officials need to expand surveillance, facilitate multiple Covid testing centres and initiate Covid-appropriate restrictions, the lay people should do their part of wearing a mask, maintaining social distancing and practicing healthy hand hygiene.

Although the new Covid variant has not penetrated the

Freedom fighter Raghu Sardar's bust unveiled



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A statue of freedom fighter Raghu Sardar was unveiled here at Phulnakhara, 74 years after the noted freedom fighter and social worker laid down his life in the freedom struggle.

Raghunath Pattnaik alias Raghu Sardar was born at a village in the cluster of Bailaishi mouza of Cuttack district, who at his young age was inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and started his activities against the British rule at Cuttack. Irked by his activities, the British police had taken him to custody torturing him often. Finally Raghu left for Khidirpur, Kolkotta and laid the freedom struggle with the support of innumerable Odia and Bengali youths.

Miffed by his continuous struggle the British conspired

against him. He was murdered on August 14 night in 1947 by communal elements, who had played into the British hand. As a social worker he played a pivotal role in recruiting poor Odia youths there at Kolkata in various industries and was also known as a labour leader.

The statue of Sardar was unveiled by Bhubaneswar North MLA Sustant Rout, in presence of Sardar's son Dr BN Patnaik and Bhubaneswar Central MLA Ananta Narayan Jena. A market complex was also inaugurated along with a health camp in the name of Sardar.

Prominent among others present on the occasion were journalist Sugyan Choudhury, bureaucrat Laxmidhar Behera, Kabita Manjari Parida, Sudhansu Mahapatra, Rasmita Sahoo, Pramila Mahapatra and Pramod Parida.

IIC held after ₹5.88 lakh cash seized

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Vigilance police on Wednesday arrested Binod Bihari Nayak, Inspector-in-charge of the Bangomunda police station in Balangir district following seizure of cash of Rs 5.88 lakh from his possession. Nayak was intercepted near the Bargharh tollgate by Vigilance officials while he was on his way from

Bangomunda towards Kuchinda on a Maruti Ciaz car. During interception, Rs 2.07 lakh was recovered from Nayak, which he could not account for satisfactorily.

Later, during search of his residence Rs. 3.88 lakh was recovered. Besides, seven bank accounts in different banks and seven LIC policies in the name of Nayak and his family members were freed.

CM Patnaik unveils 'Ink from Night Skies' poems



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday released a book "Ink from Night Skies", a collection of poems, written by young poet Mahima Sethi. The book contains 110 poems.

The anthology is about expression of the writer's feelings and a depiction of human connection to life, inanimate objects and non-material aspects of the universe. The Chief Minister congratulated Mahima

and wished her more success in creative writing.

Mahima is a B.Tech graduate from the IIT Bombay. "Ink from Night Skies" is her first poetry book. Published by New Delhi-based Har Anand Publications and priced at Rs 695, "Ink from Night Skies" is characterised by tumult and chaos, with violent nature unfolding itself at every turn. Like the mother earth emerging from the fiery inception process, the poet also undergoes the creative throes.

CM alerts all on new Covid variant, wants to ensure strict protocol

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Following the World Health Organisation's (WHO) warning on the new Covid-19 variant which poses 'very high' global risk, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Wednesday asked the State administration to ensure strict Covid protocols. While reviewing the next phase Covid protection, he pointed out that many countries in Europe have been experiencing increasing infections in recent weeks.

"We have to reactivate all our protocols and keep the Covid facilities and personnel on high alert. I would like to hear from the Health Department about the emerging situation and the related preparations," he said.

"I urge the DGP to continue the good work done by the police since the first wave and enforce the norms strictly. The I&PR Department should start a new awareness campaign to sensitise the citizens to follow the norms of facemask, hand hygiene and social distancing," he said.

INBRIEFS

AIDS DAY OBSERVED AT PARADIP PORT

Paradip: The World AIDS Day was observed at the PPT Hospital with the theme "Ending the HIV Epidemic: Equitable Access, Everyone's Voice". A walkathon was organised to create awareness about AIDS. PPT Chairman PL Haranadh flagged off the walkathon in the presence of Deputy Chairman AK Bose, Paradip Ladies' Club president P Girija Sundari and vice-president Suchismita Bose, among others. A screening camp for HIV/AIDS was also organised.

PARADIP TRUCKERS' ASSN ELECTS OFFICE-BEARERS

Paradip: After three years, the office-bearers' election of the Paradip Truck Owners' Association (PTOA) was held on Sunday. Sumant Kumar Biswal was elected as president. Out of near about 1,250 members, 1,161 turned up to cast their votes. Biswal won as president defeating his nearest contestant Alok Parida by 130 votes. Pradipta Gahan and Khageswar Lenka were elected as vice presidents, Rajesh Mohanty as secretary, Sambit Tripathy and Suryakant Parja as joint secretaries and Smruti Ranjan Samantaray as treasurer of the association.

'EI ODISHA' CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Bhubaneswar: The 10th anniversary of Odisha newspaper "EI Odisha" was celebrated here on Sunday. Chief guest senior journalist and philanthropist Sunil Mishra and scribes Sarat Behera and Swarup Das spoke. The newspaper's chief editor Pabitra Patra told about the paper's history and executive editor Nagendra Negi coordinated the meeting.

Odisha moves up in nat'l food safety index

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

With different food safety measures, Odisha has kept up its upward movement in the national food safety index from the 26th position in 2018-19 to 13th in 2019-20 and further to the 4th position in 2020-21.

This was known at a State-level food safety advisory committee meeting held on Wednesday wherein Additional Chief Secretary Raj Kumar Sharma outlined the issues for discussion.

Mahapatra directed the department to orient and train the street food vendors on preparation of safe food. He directed that the food vendors must be made aware about the dangerous effect of adulterated food on human health.

He also directed to strengthen enforcement activ-

ities against the adulterated food. "Adulterated food sale is a criminal activity like selling adulterated medicine and it must be dealt mercilessly," he stated.

He further directed to hold district-level food safety meetings regularly to ensure sale of safe food by street vendors and food business operators. He also directed to collect intelligence on the quality of food being sold in towns from public and police sources.

Data showed that in 2020-21, total 3,049 food samples were collected and tested by way of surveillance and enforcement. Out of this, 576 samples were booked for adulteration and misbranding. By end of October 2021-22, total 1,984 samples were tested, out of which 446 were booked. Besides, total 280 cases were compounded with fines.

Jeypore custodial death: Case lodged against 4 police officers

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Crime Branch (CB) has registered a murder case against four police officers for their alleged involvement in the custodial death of a person at the Jeypore Town police station in Koraput district in 2017.

Akash Mahuria of Jeypore was allegedly beaten to death in the police station on January 30, 2017.

Police had then claimed that Mahuria, against whom a number of cases are lodged, fell and died when they were chasing to nab him.

The police officers against whom the murder case has been registered are Jeypore

police station's former Inspector-in-Charge Tapan Narayan Rath, former Sub-Inspectors Siba Prasad Sahu and Rajesh Baliarsingh and former Jeypore SDPO Rajendra Prasad Senapati.

A case has been registered against the accused under Sections 302, 323, 342, 325, 505 and 34 of the IPC. A team of the Crime Branch led by ASP Ramchandra Thamba would probe into the case.

Deceased Mahuria's mother Prabina had lodged a complaint with the Crime Branch, recently. The woman alleged that the cops took his son forcibly and assaulted him at the police station, which led to his death.

Kissan Cong to gherao Assembly on Dec 15

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The conditions of farmers in Odisha are precarious. Their monthly income is Rs 5,112, the second lowest in the country. This is the 'achievement' of the BJD Government in its 21 years' rule, said the speakers at an executive committee meeting of the Odisha Pradesh Kissan Congress here on Wednesday.

From the mandis to irrigation, there is failure in every sector. The Government is insensitive and silent spectator even as the farmer suicides are regularly increasing.

The schemes announced by the Central and State Governments are only for publicity purposes and cannot ensure welfare of the farmers, the speakers said.

File report on people’s displacement: NHRC

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued fresh reminder to the Odisha Chief Secretary to submit a report on the displacement of residents of some villages in Keonjhar district for the Kanpur Irrigation Project. The NHRC directed to submit the requisite report within six weeks positively failing which the commission would be constrained to invoke its coercive powers under Section 13 of PHR Act. 1993. The commission passed the order as the Chief Secretary failed to file the action taken report (ATR) on the issue of demolition of thousands of houses and large-scale displacement of poor, ST, SC

NHRC issues reminder to CS for report

and other villagers in Murusuan, Chamakpur, Ravenshawpur(A) and Ravenshawpur(B), Birkala, Govindpur and other villages in Keonjhar district. The NHRC passed the order acting on the petition filed by rights activist and lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy the NHRC. The matter pertains to the displacement of around 5,000 families on account of the Kanpur irrigation project. Notably, earlier the NHRC had investigated the issue investigated by its Special

Rapporteur in 2018 on a petition filed by Tripathy. The State Government had assured to carry out the recommendation of the commission in letter and spirit. But there are certain gaps in the promises by the State and ground realities. The displaced families are forced to live under the open sky on account of failure on part of district administration to conduct proper survey resulting into deprivation of basic necessities of life to them, said Tripathy. Pursuant to the notice of the NHRC, a letter was received from the State Home Department, which was an internal communication asking the Water Resource Secretary for submitting ATR in the matter, he pointed out to the commission.

Handapa locals bat for employment generation



BIJAY MISHRA ■ ANGUL

Thousands of villagers of six gram panchayats under Kishornagar block in Angul district have submitted a memorandum to the Athamallik Sub-Collector for smooth operating and continuance of a coal stockyard near the Handapa railway station, which is providing livelihood to hun-

dreds of families living around it. The villagers, under the banner of Maa Maheswari United Prajasangh urged the Government to allow operation of the coal yard to stop massive migration from the area. Kishorenagar block has no industries and mines. Hundreds of poor villagers are engaged in the transportation

activities of the coal yard and getting livelihood. “When the country has acute coal shortage affecting power plants and other industries, 31 trains have been loaded with coal from the Handapa siding in last two months and the Railways has earned around Rs 6.20 crore,” said Praja Sangha president Khirod Behera.

Plastic threat to Olive Ridleys: Manveer displays art



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

On the closing ceremony of the METIS Initiative on Plastics and Indo-Pacific Ocean 2021 at Utsha Foundation here, the grant-winning artist Manveer Singh shared his experience and also displayed a short film on his journey in Odisha in transforming his ideas to create beautiful art from plastics and also generating awareness among people and especially among the youth and students. He created a wall of Olive Ridley turtles hanged from net and the artist has the concept to tell to the visitors, how human activities like fishing are killing the turtles. The tiny ones consuming plastics are also facing life threat near the coastline and especially adjacent locations near the mass nesting grounds.

The work explained all the challenges behind the lifecycle of the Olive Ridley turtles, which are in love with the Odishan coast. The wonderful event on art and sustainability was attended by Consulate General of France Kolkata Talpain, Regional Director South Asia Agence Française de Développement (AFD) or French Development Agency Jacky Amprou, Director AFD India Bruno Bosle and Sector Portfolio Manager AFD Fanny Ragot and founder of Utsha Foundation and eminent artist Jagannath Panda, among others. The METIS initiative is part of AFD celebrating its 80th Anniversary on December 2, this year and for this the agency has planned events across the Indo-Pacific Region including India, Mauritius and Indonesia.

The AFD has decided to launch a global initiative METIS, to create a global public opinion on marine debris and pollution. While this has encouraged participation of artists in India to express their ideas relating to plastic waste production, management and its ill effects on the fragile coastal ecosystem, in Mauritius and Indonesia music and comics respectively were used to create the public awareness. Currently, AFD is also funding the CITIIS Programme in Bhubaneswar and 11 other cities of India through the Smart City Mission. AFD is funding CITIIS Programme here, supported by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, European Union and National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi and the Government of Odisha.

3 tigers present in Kuldiha sanctuary!

PNS ■ BALESWAR

While a tiger census in the Kuldiha sanctuary in Baleswar district is underway, wildlife officials have found evidence regarding the presence of three big cats after they found three different footprints in the sanctuary. Forest Range Officer Ananta Kumar Jena said these footprints would be verified.

He assumed the footprints to be of three different leopards and said experts would arrive at a conclusion in this regard. “The footprints were traced near Bholapokahari, Tutapokhari and Sarvana inside the sanctuary. However, they would be analysed by experts to ascertain the big cats’ number,” said Jena, adding that the footprints were collected by the PIPs (pug impression pads)

that were placed in the sanctuary for tiger headcount. The headcount exercise had started on November 26 and will end on December 3. As many as 14 teams have been conducting the census of tigers in 14 beats of the sanctuary. Besides trap cameras, 120 PIPs have been positioned to keep track of the presence of leopards and tigers in this Reserve Forest.

BeMC asked to limits it’s No. of wards to 42

KRUSHNA CHANDRA PADA ■ BRAHMAPUR

The Brahmapur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) has received a communication reportedly to clear its stand on the existing strength of wards and whether the number of wards can further be increased based on the population. Sources said that BeMC Commissioner Sidheswar Boliram Bonder, however, has already sent the reservation list earlier for 43 wards under the administrative ambience of the BeMC ahead of the urban poll, but the State Government has reportedly issued a directive to the BeMC Commissioner again to limit the total number of wards to 42 based on the population. Hence, the BeMC Commissioner will make a fresh exercise after due scrutiny and will send its reservation list limiting to the total number of wards to 42 only. Though the BeMC is currently having a total of 40 wards, it is going to get two more new wards increasing the current strength to 42. Now, the reservation list sent

for 43 wards earlier by the BeMC needs to be reorganised afresh as the strength of total wards is to be reduced to 42. As a result, some areas which were shown in ward No. 43 earlier will have to be added or merged or distributed under some other wards as part of the reorganization exercise without any change in the reservation list, sources said. The prospective candidates who are expecting to contest in the upcoming urban polls are closely watching the situation and waiting for the final reservation list to come. The BeMC will start the process of poll preparation, soon after it gets the orders from the State Government in the matter, BeMC sources said. It may be recalled here that, since 2018 no election has been conducted to the BeMC council. Notably in 2008, the BeMC was upgraded to the status of a Corporation with 35 wards which was increased to 40 only in 2013. Notably, out of 40 wards, wards from 35 to 40 come under the jurisdiction of Gopalpur Assembly Constituency.

Bhadrak: 2 wanted in ATM robbery held in encounter, 3 guns, ammo seized

PN S ■ BHADRAK

Two dreaded criminals were nabbed following an encounter with a team of the Rural police near Barapada in Bhadrak district on Wednesday morning. Police have seized three mousers, four magazines and sharp weapons from their possession. The duo was identified as Prahalad Das of Soro and Sushant Mallick of Nilagiri in Baleswar district. Both were wanted in the robbery of Rs 29 lakh from an ATM near Lakshinarayan Temple in Charampa area of the district on November 26. Das and Mallick, who have received gunshot wounds in their legs, were initially admitted to the District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) and later shifted to SCB Medical College

Hospital in Cuttack after their health condition worsened. Acting on a tipoff, a team of Rural police station raided a few locations in the Barapada area before having a faceoff with the criminals. Spotting the police, the accused opened fire in a bid to escape. However, were overpowered and nabbed after retaliatory firing by the cops. Rural PS IIC Alok Jena and Constable Srikanth Jena Aslo also received minor injuries in the encounter. Earlier on November 26, six miscreants on two motor-cycles came to the ATM near the Laxmi Narayan temple in the Charampa area and threatened the employees of a cash agency while they were busy in loading cash in the kiosk. They later filled a bag with the cash and fled the spot with around Rs 29 lakh on their motorbikes.

Jagatsinghpur Book Fair to be held online

PNS ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

The annual Book Fair held in Jagatsinghpur headquarters town in early January was put off due to Covid 19 pandemic. It was decided in an executive body meeting of Jagatsinghpur Sanskritika Parishad held in the Collectorate here on Monday. District Collector cum Book Fair Committee chairman Parul Patwari chaired the meeting. It was decided that owing to the Covid 19 pandemic, the physical event would be put off but it would be held online on January 15 at Adikabi Sarala Das Sanskriti Bhawan here. The publishers, booksellers, committee members and other book lovers have been requested to participate in the web-based celebration, Parishad

joint secretary Sudhir Kumar Mohanty said. General secretary Sarada Prasad Das read out the annual report. Earlier, two minutes of silence was observed at the meeting for eminent litterateur Manoj Das, Dr Bholanath Rout, Jagatsinghpur former Collector Sarveswar Mohanty, former MLA Umesh Swain and former DIPRO Pitambar Swain, who are no more. The meeting was attended by Parishad working president Biploba Choudhury, ADM Satchidananda Sahoo, Ganeswar Mania, Naresh Das, Natabar Barik, Rabindra Nath Mohanty, Sasanka Sekhar Lenka, Subrata Satapathy, Hemanta Rath, Gopala Krushna Mishra, scribe Pradipta Kishor Choudhury and DIPRO Kaminiranjan Patnaik.

Jumbo carcass found in A’garh; cause not known



PNS ■ ATHAGARH

A carcass of a female elephant aged about seven years was found in a corn field near Balipada village under Rajnagar forest beat area in Athagarh on Tuesday afternoon. When the local farmers were going to their corn fields for crop cutting, they stumbled

upon the dead pachyderm lying in a corn field. They informed the forest officials regarding the dead tusker immediately. Athagarh DFO Sudarsan Gopinath Jadav along with his team reached at the spot, seized the carcass and intimated the higher authorities on the matter. When the DFO called the local veterinary sur-

geon for autopsy, it was twilight for which the same was deferred to Wednesday, told BVO Dr Susant Behera. A veterinary doctors’ team will visit the spot, participate in the autopsy work and assess the cause of its death, said in-charge Forest Range Officer of Athagarh Gajendra Pal Singh Mathur.

House panel reviews displacement in J’suguda

PNS ■ JHARSUGUDA

A Committee of the State Assembly led by Deputy Speaker Rajanikant Singh visited several villages in Jharsuguda and settlement colonies of Ib valley and Lakhanpur field area under MCL on Sunday. They discussed with the displaced persons of Khairkuni, Tingismal, Darlipur and Ubuda villages and at the colonies at Mirdhadera and Khadam-2 regarding problems faced by them after rehabilitation.

As stated by the displaced persons, although their lands have been acquired from 1980 to 2017, they have not been settled yet, neither have they been given any job. The homestead lands have not yet been handed over to them after identification, they told. The committee members listened to the complaints of villagers at a review meeting held in the evening at the OPGC Resource Centre. The review meeting was organised under the direct supervision of district Collector Saroj Kumar Samal.

Samal realised that no basic amenities have been provided to the displaced persons by the mines management. In spite of repeated reminders by the Government officials, their problems are not sorted out for which he expressed his displeasure on the mines authorities present in the review meeting. Committee chairman Rajnikant Singh also showed his discontent over displacement and settlement issue. He assured that injustice to the Hirakud displaced families would not be tolerated.

CREDAI holds drawing test among school kids



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As a part of its CSR activity, the CREDAI Bhubaneswar Foundation youth wing organised an open hand drawing competition “Art Talent Quest” in association with Artecion E-commerce. The topic of the competition was “Imagination of a Smart City”. Speaking on the occasion, CREDAI Bhubaneswar Youth Wing Member Swayam Mohanty said, “The objective of the competition is to give a

platform to the children to showcase their imagination and talent. Being in this real estate business, we want to know their imagination of the future smart city.” Children of Class 8th - 10th registered for the online art. The winner of the competition Basundhara Bastia from Baxi Jagabandhu English Medium School got a cash reward of Rs 5,000 1st Runner-up, Simron Priyanshi from Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir

got Rs 3,000 and 2nd Runner-up Soujanya Darsani Maharana from Ryan International School got a cash reward of Rs 2,000. All other participants received participation certificates and Gift Hampers at an event happened at CREDAI Bhubaneswar Foundation office. Swayam Mohanty, and Director Artecion E-commerce Ashutosh Nanda distributed the awards, participation certificates and gift hampers among the children

Odishi, Kathak dominate as 5-day Konark Fest starts

PNS ■ KONARK

The ‘Konark Festival’-2021, a five-day Indian classical dance extravaganza, was inaugurated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at Konark on Wednesday. Minister of School and Mass Education Samir Ranjan Dash, Minister of Tourism and Odia Language and Culture Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi and Minister of Electronic and IT, Sports and Youth Services Tusharkanti Behera as honorable guests of the event lit the ceremonial lamp as part of the inaugural ceremony. The programme is organised by the State Department of Tourism in association with the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi and



Odisha Tourism Development Corporation (OTDC). The inaugural show witnessed Odishi performance by Madhavi Mudgal and Group led by Odishi exponent Padma

Shri Madhavi Mudgal from Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, New Delhi. The performances showcased Odishi dance recitals on Nartan Ganesh, Pallavi, Abhinaya and Trayi. It

was followed by Kathak performance by Vaswati Mishra and Group of ‘Dhwani’ from Lucknow Gharana. The International Sand Art Festival 2021 at the

Chandrabhaga beach was inaugurated earlier on the day by Minister of School and Mass Education Dash, Minister of Tourism and Odia Language and Culture Panigrahi, Minister of Electronic and IT, Sports and Youth Services Behera and noted sand artist Padma Shri Sudarshan Patnaik. This year 100 artisans are participating in the event which includes artists from Odisha and 9 other Indian States including Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The theme for the inaugural day was ‘Culture and Monuments’ on which various enchanting sand sculptures were created.

PARLIAMENT’S WINTER SESSION RS adjourned as Opp continues to protest MPs’ suspension

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition continued remain in a bellicose mood on the issue of suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha members and warned that Parliament could see further disruption if the action was not reviewed.

The suspended MPs sat near the Mahatma Gandhi statue in the Parliament premise to register their protest.

The proceedings of the Upper House were adjourned for the day as Opposition members lodged strong protest on the issue. The first adjournment happened soon after the House met for the day and then two other adjournments followed.

The MPs demanded that Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge be allowed to speak on the suspension, while the treasury bench moved the Dam Safety Bill for consideration. As the Chair refused to let Kharge speak, Opposition members raised vociferous protest. Placard-carrying opposition MPs trooped into the well of the House and shouted slogans against the suspension.

Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu expressed dismay at their conduct, and said the suspended MPs have shown no



remorse, and there was no question of revoking their suspension. "It is sacrilege of the House, I have said (on the conduct of the 12 suspended MPs during the last session in August). There is no remorse by members who have really insulted the parliamentary system," he said.

Naidu ordered that nothing that the opposition MPs say would go on record but said their conduct in the Well of the House should be shown to the people of the country.

"Protest will go on until this illegal suspension is revoked. It is autocratic. Other opposition colleagues have been protesting in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha,

Shiv Sena leader Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi told The Pioneer.

Ripun Bora, another suspended MPs belonging to Congress, said "Every day from 10 am to 11 am opposition MPs are protesting and will continue to do so. The suspended MPs are also sitting in protest and will do so every day from 10 am to 5 pm in front of the Gandhi statue."

"Rajya Sabha Chairman should explain why they have been suspended as they were raising farmers' and peoples' issues such as price rise and Pegasus snooping allegations. Is that an offence? Should we apologise for it?," Bora stated.

As soon as the House resumed in the afternoon, Deputy Chairman Harivansh, who was in the chair, asked Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat to move The Dam Safety Bill, 2019 for consideration in the House. The minister moved the motion for consideration of the bill by the House, and thereafter the Deputy Chairman asked him to speak on the bill. In the meantime, Kharge asked the Deputy Chairman to allow him to speak on the issue of suspension of 12 members of the House. However, Harivansh did not allow him to raise the matter, and said he can speak on the Bill.

As the minister started his speech on the Bill, opposition members started raising slogans and again demanded that Kharge be allowed to speak on the issue of suspension of members. Harivansh requested the opposition members not to come into the Well and to go back to their seats.

He also told some members that photography in the House is not allowed when they tried to click pictures with their phones. But when opposition members refused to relent, the Deputy Chairman adjourned the House till 3 pm and thereafter for the day after a brief functioning of the house.

Govt should give ₹5 cr aid to kin of martyred farmers: Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After two days of disruptions, the Lok Sabha Sabha on Wednesday witnessed active participation by most of the Opposition members in the House proceedings with Congress members seeking a legal guarantee for the MSP and ₹5 crore compensation for each of the farmers 'martyred' in the ongoing agitation.

Proceedings largely went on smoothly even as 'Telangana Rashtriya Samiti' members continued to protest in the well on the issue of paddy procurement by the center.

The question hour lasted 28 minutes with Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishaw and Consumer affairs Minister Sadhvi Niranjani Jyoti answering questions on electrification of railway tracks and LPG prices respectively.

Cabinet Minister for Consumer affairs Piyush Goyal said the question on the LPG was not related to his ministry and that "international prices guide these prices". This was when a member pointed out that LPG prices have risen to Rs 1400.

TRS members who were in the well carried placards 'don't punish farmers', 'bring bill for MSP' and 'no discrimination among states' and sought to block members speaking during question hour with their placards.

Criticising members for sloganeering and creating a ruckus in the House, Lok Sabha



Speaker Om Birla said their behaviour is not justified and the House cannot function if some members disturb the entire House.

"You are a member of the House. Senior members are speaking and you are waving placards in front of them. What decorum do you want to create in the House?," he said.

Lok Sabha was adjourned till 12 noon and it lasted one hour and 35 minutes during zero hour before adjourning till 2.35 pm when Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya moved the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2020 for discussion.

The house proceedings were a clear departure from last two-day when it could not conduct any business and adjourned for the day after repeat disruptions.

During zero hour, Congress members Manish

conceding law on the MSP all those in jail for farmer agitation be released.

Apart from farmers issue, Sangita Azad (BSP) brought up the matter of leakage of question papers for teachers exam in Uttar Pradesh, Mahua Moitra (TMC) sought demolition of a villa near 'an ASI protected site' in Goa, Shashi Tharoor questioned reduction in Kerosene subsidy which he said was affecting Kerala fishermen and Nishikant Dubey (BJP) wondered as why the country did not have a common Civil Code despite 75 years of independence.

Congress looked distancing itself from the TRS saying it wanted to participate in the proceedings of the House to put the government in the mat after it rolled back three farm laws.

The Congress suspects "a hidden agenda" in TRS protests in the house to not to allow a proper discussion on farmers issue.

Lok Sabha passes Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed by voice vote a Bill to regulate and supervise assisted reproductive technology clinics.

The Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2020, seeks to regulate and supervise assisted reproductive technology (ART) clinics and assisted reproductive technology banks, and ensure the safe and ethical practice of assisted reproductive technology services.

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya also moved various amendments to the Assisted Reproductive (Regulation) Bill based on recommendations made by a parliamentary committee. Moving the Bill, Health Minister said the Bill was tabled in Parliament in September 2020 and the lower House referred it to the Standing Committee. Many suggestions came from the Standing Committee and Government has considered those recommendations, he said. The Standing Committee Report on the Bill was submitted in March this year.

"Many such ART clinics have been running in the country without regulation. Need was felt for regulation of such clinics as it has implication on health of those who

undertake the procedure," he said.

Initiating debate on the Bill, Karti Chidambaram (Congress) said this law is a Victorian law as it is not all encompassing. It excludes those who could not afford this expensive procedure for a baby and the Government should consider supporting poor childless parents for taking help of ART, Karti suggested.

He also suggested that the Government should consider including lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBTQ). Heena Gavit (BJP) said the Bill seeks to set minimum standards and codes of conduct for fertility clinics and egg/sperm banks. It also proposes stringent punishment for those practising sex selection and sale of human embryos or gametes. She said about 80 per cent ART clinics are not registered and the Bill will ensure strict adherence to guidelines.

"Ensuring confidentiality of the commissioning couples, women and donors will also be done under the aegis of this proposal of the Cabinet. The Bill also has a provision that those involved in trafficking and sale of embryos will be fined Rs 10 lakh at first instance and in second instance the person could be imprisoned for up to 12 years," she added.

PM to lay foundation for Delhi-Dehradun corridor project on Sat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation of the ambitious Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor (from Eastern Peripheral Expressway Junction to Dehradun) project on Saturday during his visit to Dehradun.

Official sources said besides the Expressway, the PM will inaugurate and dedicate projects worth Rs 18,000 crore in the run-up to Uttarakhand assembly polls.

The corridor will have seven major interchanges for connectivity to Haridwar, Muzaffarnagar, Shamli, Yamunagar, Baghpat, Meerut and Baraut. It will also have Asia's largest wildlife elevated corridor (12 km) for

unrestricted movement of animals, according to the PMO release.

A 340-m tunnel near Dat Kaali temple, Dehradun, will also help reduce impact on wildlife, the Government said.

Road Ministry sources said the Delhi Dehradun corridor will be built at a cost of around ₹8,300 crore and after completion will reduce the travel time from Delhi to Dehradun to two-and-a-half hours.

At present, it takes six hours to travel from Delhi to the Uttarakhand capital.

According to an official statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Modi will lay the foundation stone of 11 development projects, including the government's ambitious project -- the Delhi-

Dehradun Economic Corridor (from Eastern Peripheral Expressway Junction to Dehradun).

Further, multiple animal passes are being built in the Ganeshpur-Dehradun section for avoiding animal-vehicle collisions. The economic corridor will also have arrangements for rainwater harvesting at intervals of 500m and over 400 water recharge points.

A greenfield alignment project from the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor, connecting Halgoa, Saharanpur to Bhadrabad, Haridwar, will be constructed at a cost of over ₹2,000 crore.

It will provide seamless connectivity and reduce travel time from Delhi to Haridwar as well.

SC clears hurdle on custodial interrogation of ex-Unitech promoters by ED

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Supreme Court on Wednesday cleared a hurdle for fresh custodial interrogation of ex-Unitech promoters Sanjay Chandra and Ajay Chandra by the Enforcement Directorate as it clarified that its earlier order of production of the accused through video conferencing facility will not come in the way. The ED has sought clarification of the August 26, order of the top court by which it had transferred the Chandra brothers to two separate jails in Mumbai and said that they will participate in judicial proceedings against them through video conferencing.

ED has said that given new evidence found against them, it needs to confront the ex-promoters, and for that their custodial interrogation is needed. A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and MR Shah said, "Having regard to the contents of the application, which have been filed by the ED, we clarify that the order dated August 26, 2021, will not come in the way of ED to bring the requisite application before the magistrate for the purpose of seeking custodial interrogation of the accused, which shall be decided in its own merits".

Speculation of BJP, JDS tie after Modi-Gowda meet

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Speculation is abuzz about BJP having a pre-poll tie-up with the JD(S) for the December 10 Legislative Council elections in Karnataka. Former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda held talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday following BJP veteran B S Yediyurappa setting the ball rolling on the issue by his public statement.

On Tuesday, photos of Modi holding Gowda's hand and offering him a seat went viral setting off possibilities of both the sides exploring electoral adjustments in the Southern State. Earlier, former BJP Chief Minister Yediyurappa had publicly solicited JD(S) backing on seats where the regional party is not contesting. Gowda had said after his meeting that he discussed the upcoming MLC elections with Modi. "I told Modi that state-level leaders from JD(S) and BJP have to take a decision on forging an alliance," he said.

On December 10, elected representatives of local bodies will choose 25 members to the Legislative Council. This election gives BJP the chance to control the upper house with a majority. The BJP and Congress are contesting in 20 seats whereas the JD(S) in just six where it is confident of winning.

Normal-to-above-normal min temp likely over northwest India: IMD's winter forecast

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday predicted a higher probability of normal temperatures during winter this year in Haryana, Punjab, West Rajasthan, and Delhi NCR while normal to above normal minimum temperatures over many parts of northwest, south, and north east parts of the country from December 2021 to February 2022.

According to the IMD, India witnessed 645 events of heavy rainfall this year. Of them, 168 very heavy rainfall occurred in November, the highest in the month in five years.

In its forecast for minimum and maximum temperatures for the winter months, the IMD said that below normal minimum temperatures are most likely over some parts of the north interior peninsula. "Below normal maximum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country except over some parts of northwest India and most parts of northeast India, where normal to above normal maximum temperatures are most likely during the upcoming winter season," the IMD said.

"The rain in December in the peninsular region is likely to be above normal at around 132% of the long-period average. Currently, weak La Niña conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific region. The latest Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System



(MMCFS) forecast indicates that La Niña conditions are likely to strengthen and peak to moderate conditions during the upcoming winter season," it said.

According to the IMD, the country saw 645 events of heavy rainfall and 168 of very heavy rainfall in November, the highest in the month in five years. The IMD recorded 11

extremely heavy rainfall (more than 204.5 mm) events in the month, equalling the number reported last year.

The country saw 645 events of heavy rainfall (64.5 mm to 115.5 mm) and 168 events of very heavy rainfall (115.6 mm to 204.5 mm) in November, the highest in the last five years, according to the IMD's data. It was mainly

because of five low-pressure systems over the Andaman Sea in November compared to 2.4 on an average in November. The northeast monsoon was also in its active phase last month. To put things in perspective, the number of heavy rainfall events this November was more than the total such events in the last four years -- 247 in 2020; 116 in 2019; 135

in 2018 and 139 in 2017. The Met office also said peninsular India gauged 160 per cent more rainfall -- 232.7 mm against the average of 89.5 mm -- in November, the highest in the month since 1901.

The country as a whole received 56.5 mm of rainfall against the normal of 30.5 mm -- an excess of 85.4 per cent -- in November.

Covid-19 survivors could suffer health effects for years

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Patients who survive severe Covid-19 may not be lucky enough to survive for long, a study has said suggesting that they are more than twice as likely to succumb over the years than those who remain uninfected or experience milder virus symptoms.

As these deaths frequently occurred long after the initial infection had passed, they may never have been linked to Covid-19 by the patients' families or doctors, the study published in Frontiers in Medicine has found.

This is for the first time that any study has found that Covid can cause severe symptoms and death for vulnerable people, particularly those with underlying health conditions. So far, studies have been high-

lighting that some people may experience long Covid, signs and symptoms that last for a few weeks or months after infection. Symptoms such as fatigue and shortness of breath can linger for months after the infection has passed.

Indicating the importance of vaccination, the study said that coronavirus infections may significantly damage long-term health. The increased risk of dying was greater for patients under 65, and only 20% of the severe Covid-19 patients who died did so because of typical Covid complications, such as respiratory failure.

"We conducted a previous study that showed that patients with severe Covid-19 who recovered were at significantly greater risk of being hospitalised in the subsequent six months," said Prof Arch

Mainous of the University of Florida, the lead author of the study. "This new study extended that to investigate mortality risk over the next 12 months."

The researchers tracked the electronic health records of 13,638 patients who underwent a PCR test for Covid within the University of Florida health system, with 178 patients experiencing severe virus symptoms, 246 mild or moderate Covid-19 and the rest testing negative. All patients included in the study recovered from the disease, and the researchers tracked their outcomes.

The study found that patients who were very unwell with coronavirus had a greater chance of dying over the next year, a trend that was particularly notable among those aged under 65.



ADMK thwarts Sasikala’s entry bid

Bylaws effectively closes party door

PTI ■ CHENNAI

The main Opposition AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, which is facing challenge from eased out leader V.K. Sasikala, on Wednesday amended its bylaws to strengthen norms to retain the present leadership structure of top two positions held by O Panneerselvam and K Palaniswami.

The party also harped on 'unity,' and strengthening the 'hands of party's top leaders' and to work hard to win future elections.

The amendments to bylaws at the Executive Committee meeting of the AIADMK held in Chennai, effectively closes the door on Sasikala, who has claimed to be the party 'general secretary,' a post last held by the late Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa who died in December 2016.

The commencement of the year long golden jubilee celebrations of the AIADMK on October 17 witnessed a vigorous attempt by Sasikala, confidante of Jayalalithaa, to get back control of the party, when she declared herself as its general secretary, which was strongly resisted by the party leadership.

While amendments made in 2017 bestowed all the pow-



ers vested with the top position of general secretary to the then newly created positions of party coordinator (Panneerselvam) and joint coordinator (Palaniswami), the current tweaks further strengthen that top party structure.

The first amendment mandates a 'single vote' by 'primary members' to elect the top leadership, which is the two positions of coordinator and joint coordinator.

While the posts are two, there cannot be separate votes, as the twin positions together constitute the party top leadership.

According to the AIADMK, Sasiakala is not a member of the party, though she has claimed to be the general secretary.

Senior leader D Jayakumar told reporters that only those who have been primary members for five years or more are

eligible to vote to elect the party leadership.

The next amendment makes it clear that the fundamental rule that the party leadership can only be elected by the primary AIADMK members could neither be changed nor modified or revised.

The third amendment declares that 'exemption' or 'relaxation' cannot be made to the basic norm of members alone electing the AIADMK leadership.

The fresh amendments to bylaw takes immediate effect, a special resolution adopted for this purpose at the EC meet said adding approval would be sought for such decisions in the next party general council meeting.

The special resolution to make amendments were proposed by seven senior leaders including the two deputy coordinators KP Munusamy and R Vaithilingam besides veterans,

KA Sengottaiyan and C Ponnaian, both party organising secretaries. The resolution was adopted unanimously, being seconded by all the executive committee members.

The EC meet was presided by Panneerselvam and Palaniswami, both former chief ministers of the state. Munusamy, considered close to Panneerselvam and Vaithilingam, seen as a confidant of Palaniswami occupied top slots in the meeting held at party headquarters here, rechristened recently after its founder M G Ramachandran as 'Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Maaligai'.

On October 17, Sasikala had unfurled the AIADMK flag at the T Nagar memorial of the party founder and a plaque unveiled on the occasion addressed her as party 'general secretary' which was dismissed by the AIADMK leadership as a mere claim that had no binding effect on the party.

On that day, Panneerselvam and Palaniswami had presided over the inaugural of the jubilee fete at the party headquarters.

Subsequently, Palaniswami had rejected her claims and ruled out scope for her return. Later, Panneerselvam had said the party leadership would hold discussions and take a decision on re-admitting her. This was however opposed immediately by leaders like

Jayakumar and Munusamy.

Sasikala had returned to Tamil Nadu on February 8, 2021 after completing her four year sentence that commenced in February 2017 in a disproportionate assets case in a Bengaluru prison.

A case filed by her, challenging the 2017 AIADMK general council resolutions, including removing her from the post of interim general secretary, is pending in a Chennai court.

Though she had announced ahead of the April 6 Assembly election, that she would stay away from politics, in May she hinted at resumption of efforts to regain control of the AIADMK.

Audio clips of her interactions with her supporters and some AIADMK workers also surfaced following which AIADMK men faced disciplinary action. Sasikala's nephew and another former AIADMK leader, TTV Dhinakaran who backs her claim to AIADMK leadership, heads the outfit Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK).

In the AIADMK meet held on Wednesday, as many as 11 other resolutions were adopted including the one that harped on 'unity' mantra and another that appealed to the cadres to slog for victory in the urban civic polls, expected to be held soon.

UP TET PAPER LEAK

One held in Aligarh; STF searches for teacher accused of involvement

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

Gaurav, one of the accused in leaking UP TET paper was arrested by STF. A resident of Hajiyapur village of Tappal, he had been living separately from the family for a long time in the Melrose bypass area of Bannadevi area. No one knew much about what that business he was doing.

It has been told that to arrest Gaurav, the team of STF Meerut had camped here as soon as the input was received. The STF was searching for Gaurav overnight. He was seen in Tappal. But when inputs were received that he was in the Maelrose area of Bannadevi in the city, he was nabbed. Right now the police is also trying to know who else is in contact with him in Aligarh. How many people does his network have? The answer to these questions will come out only after interrogation. After this exam paper was leaked, it went viral on WhatsApp. It was learned from the accused arrested in Shamli and Mathura that they got this paper from Gaurav. After this the STF team caught Gaurav. Here, a team of STF is still camping in search of his close friends and network



people.

After the interrogation of Gaurav Malan, who was arrested by the STF in the TET paper leak case, the name of the teacher of the district has come to the fore, in search of which the STF raided Gonda with Gaurav. Till late Tuesday night, the team was looking for him in Aligarh and Mathura. It has come to the notice that two other youths were also taken into custody along with Gaurav, who are discussed to be released after interrogation. Input is being received that Gaurav's connections are also being traced from the absconding gangster Yogendra of Police Recruitment Solver Gang.

It is learned that Gaurav and two youths accompanying him were picked up from the Melrose bypass area. From here, the STF has gone to

Meerut, Baghpat, Shamli and Mathura with all three. It is learned that the team had come to Gonda on Monday night in search of a basic teacher named Nirdosh. On Tuesday night also, news of the team being in search of some other comrades of Gaurav in Aligarh district and surrounding area has been received. Officially, neither the STF has given any information nor the district police has any news.

The search for teacher is going on in Aligarh and Mathura. It has now been learned from the sources that Gaurav's connections are being traced to Yogendra of Khair Narayanpur, who is the kingpin of Police Bharti Solver Gang, as both belong to the same area. It is hoped that with the help of Gaurav, Yogendra and his associates can be nabbed.

UP ELECTIONS AND POLITICS

Furore over ‘Krishna Janmabhoomi next’ remark by Maurya

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Just a couple of weeks before the Election Commission of India is expected to announce the crucial Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's statement that Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi is next on the agenda of the Bharatiya Janata Party, stirred up a political furore.

In a tweet, Maurya posted in Hindi, "Ayodhya Kashi bhavya mandir nirman jari hai, Mathura ki taiyari hai (grand temples are being constructed in Ayodhya and Kashi, preparations are on for Mathura)."

Later Maurya has tagged it #Long live Rama, #jai_Shiv_Shambhu and #jai_Shri_Radhe_Krishna.

But when contacted, Maurya refused to speak on the issue.

The construction of Kashi Vishwanath Corridor is underway in Varanasi and it is likely to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the first week of December while the construction of Ram temple is going on at a frantic

pace in Ayodhya and is likely to open for pilgrims by December 2023.

Reacting to Maurya's statement, Samajwadi Party spokesman Rajendra Chaudhary said, "The statement is a clear indication of the mindset of BJP leaders. The party always tried to communalise the elections. Ram mandir is always on the election agenda of the party. Once the construction of Ram temple has started at the behest of the Supreme Court, the party feels it is orphaned and therefore has come up with Mathura."

"In the last assembly elections, the BJP had raised the issue of 'shamshaan and kabristan'. Through this politically loaded tweet, Maurya, who is also deputy chief minister in the government, is setting the communal agenda of the election," he further said.

Opposition leaders believe that Mathura and Kashi would now find prominent places in the election manifesto of the BJP.

Kashi, Mathura and Ayodhya have always been on the agenda of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

BJP regime spreading hatred, says Akhilesh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav hit out at the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Uttar Pradesh, charging that the present regime has only spread hatred, ruined the future of youths and pushed the State into backwardness.

Addressing a public meeting at GIC grounds to launch the fifth phase of his Samajwadi Vijay Rath Yatra in Banda on Wednesday, Akhilesh questioned the people whether they needed a Yogi Government or a 'yogya' (responsible) and development-oriented Government. He said that those who could not use laptops would never provide it to the youths.

"Now it is the right time for the people to show the door to the ruling BJP for making false promises. During its nearly five-year regime, the BJP government only renamed places and the projects conceived and launched during Samajwadi Party regime," alleged the SP chief, who is on a three-day tour of Bundelkhand region and will take out Samajwadi Vijay Rath Yatra from Banda to Mahoba.

Akhilesh was scheduled to address a rally near Mahoba Police Lines later in the day and on Thursday, he would go to



Lalitpur and address a public rally.

On Wednesday morning, the SP chief reached Banda and embarked on the fifth leg of 'Samajwadi Vijay Rath Yatra' with a focus on Bundelkhand region of the state. On the first day of the fifth leg of the Yatra, Akhilesh Yadav covered the distance from Banda to Mahoba and stopped randomly to meet and greet people.

On Thursday, Akhilesh will address a public meeting in Lalitpur and the Yatra will reach Jhansi district on Friday. Earlier in November, he had embarked on the fourth leg of Vijay Yatra from Ghazipur to Lucknow through Purvanchal Expressway, a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally inaugurated the highway on November 16.

The SP chief had shared the stage with allies Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party chief Om Prakash Rajbhar and Janwadi Party (Socialist) chief Sanjay Chauhan on the occasion.

The Rath Yatra is considered a lucky charm by the Samajwadi Party as in 2012, Akhilesh had taken out a Yatra and the party was voted to power.

Decorated with pictures of party patron and former chief minister of UP Mulayam Singh Yadav, party MP Mohammad Azam Khan, SP leader Ram Gopal Yadav, and state party president Naresh Uttam Patel and embossed with the slogan 'Bado Ka Haath, Yuva Ka Saath' (the older generation blesses the new) the bus is ferrying the SP chief across the state during the Rath Yatra.

Govt announces subsidised houses for LIG employees, advocates

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Government is likely to provide houses on subsidies to lakhs of employees and advocates with low incomes.

A nominal value of ₹ 1 for land will be charged from the buyers of these houses.

The discount will be given to the buyers on the condition that they will not be able to sell the house for the next 10 years.

Official sources said that a draft of the scheme was prepared during a meeting of high-ranked officials and now an approval from higher authorities was awaited after which the draft would be placed before the state cabinet for its approval.

Employees of Group C and D and advocates, who do not have much income, face difficulties in getting a house. So far, there has been no system of providing houses on discount to Group C and D employees. Taking note of this issue, discussions were held and this draft, seeking to provide these people houses on discount, was prepared. The process of providing the house was discussed during a preliminary round of talks and the eligibility criteria for this will be decided later.

NCRB does not maintain specific data on attacks on journalists: Govt



New Delhi: The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data with respect to attacks on journalists, the Government has informed the Rajya Sabha, underlining that it had issued an advisory to State Governments in 2017 to strictly enforce the law to ensure the safety and security of mediapersons.

Responding to a question, Minister of State for Rajya Sabha Nityanand Rai said 'police' and 'public order' are state subjects under the seventh schedule of the Constitution.

The state governments are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies, he said.

"The National Crime

Records Bureau does not maintain specific data with respect to attacks on journalists," he said.

He said the ministry of home affairs has issued advisories to states and Union Territories from time to time to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished promptly as per law. "An advisory specifically on safety of journalists was issued to the states/UTs on October 20, 2017 requesting them to strictly enforce the law to ensure the safety and security of mediapersons," he said.

He said the central government attaches highest importance to the safety and security of all residents of the country including journalists.

PTI

ELGAR PARISHAD-BHIMA KOREGAON CASE

Bombay HC grants default bail to lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday granted default bail to lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj, who is one of 16 accused in the Elgar Parishad-cum-Bhima-Koregaon riots case, after holding that "to deprive her indefeasible right on the premise that the application preferred on 26th November 2018 was premature would be taking a too technical and formalistic view of the matter".

However, the HC bench of Justices SS Shinde and NJ Jamadar rejected the default bail pleas of eight other accused on the ground that they had failed to apply for such a default bail prior to the filing of charge-sheet in the case.

The two-member HC bench directed Bharadwaj, who is lodged in Mumbai's Byculla women's prison, be produced before the Special NIA Court here on December 8 to decide on the conditions of her bail and date of her release.

The HC bench refused to entertain a request by NIA counsel, Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh, for a stay on its order.

Bharadwaj is the first



among 16 activists and academicians arrested in the case to have been granted default bail. While Jesuit priest Stan Swamy died in a private hospital on July 5 this year while waiting for medical bail, Poet-activist Varavara Rao is currently out on medical bail.

The eight accused whose default bail pleas were rejected were: Varavara Rao, Sudhir Dhawale, Vernon Gonsalves, Rhona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Shoma Sen, Mahesh Raut and Arun Ferreira.

Holding that the Pune Sessions Judge was not competent enough -- in terms of jurisdiction -- to extend time for investigation and detention under provisions of Section 43D(2) of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and Section 167(2) of the Cr.PC, the HC bench observed that the Sessions Judge had no judicial competence to extend the period of

detention under Section 43-D(2)(b) of UAPA and considered four other aspects -- the period of 90 days of her detention expired on January 25, 2019, no charge-sheet was filed, there was no lawful order of extension of period of detention and the Bhardwaj's bail plea awaiting adjudication.

Relying on a catena of decisions which held that the right of the accused to be released on default bail is indefeasible and is also associated with the fundamental right flowing from 'the procedure established by law' under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, the HC bench granted Bharadwaj default bail.

In their order, the two Judges noted: "On the touchstone of the guarantee of personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution, in our view, to deprive the applicant-Sudha Bharadwaj of the indefeasible right on the premise that the application preferred on 26th November 2018 was premature, would be taking a too technical and formalistic view of the matter. In our view, all the requisite conditions to release the applicant-Sudha Bharadwaj on default bail stood fully satisfied".

Didi, Modi in same boat as both want Cong-free India: Adhir

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Just as Mamata Banerjee called for an Opposition unity and met NCP leader Sharad Pawar Congress Lok Sabha Leader Adhir Chowdhury on Wednesday lashed out at the Bengal Chief Minister for actually helping the BJP and destroying the Opposition cause by engineering defection in the Congress Party.

"Here she is advocating opposition unity but doing just the opposite ...Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan is in favour of a Congress free India ... here Mamata Banerjee is also calling for a Congress free opposition ... you can easily understand it from the way she has been trying to engineer defection in the Congress and dividing the anti-BJP forces for her own interest," Chowdhury said, adding this smacked of an clandestine unholy alliance between the Trinamool Congress.

"If the Congress is weakened then how there can be an opposition unity ... she is trying to finish the Congress as can be seen from what shedid with the help of Prashant Kishore in Goa and Meghalaya

... though such minor blows in a few places will not harm the Congress much ... but she has to realize that the Congress is the biggest opposition party without which no anti-BJP forces can stand ... and you cannot say that asenior politician like her is doing all this without calculating the consequences ... She is for all practical purposes helping the cause of the BJP," the Bengal Pradesh Congress president said.

Earlier the Left Front too attacked the Chief Minister for furthering the BJP's agenda in the country.

"The Left has always been of the view that Mamata Banerjee is the biggest friend of the BJP ... Her Trinamool Congress was born in the lap of the BJP and they remained an ally for about 10 years ... even now the politics of Mamata Banerjee is helping the BJP in Bengal where they were a nonentity in Bengal," said Sujan Chankrabarty CPI(M) former MP and central committee member.

Describing how "Mamata Banerjee's minority communalism helped the cause of the BJP's majority communalism," another senior Left leadersaid.

‘Article 370 was in BJP’s manifesto but no logic for division, downgrading of J&K’

PTI ■ BHADERWAH/JAMMU

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said revocation of Article 370 was in BJP's manifesto but there is no logic behind withdrawal of statehood and division of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

He also accused the BJP of misleading the country by "false propaganda" to justify its action of August 5, 2019 and said the security situation has deteriorated to such an extent that "one cannot feel safe in any part of Kashmir owing to growing militancy which was evident from the selective killings including that of Kashmiri Pandits in the recent past".

The former chief minister and National Conference vice president was speaking at a public meeting in Bhaderwah town of Doda district on the penultimate day of his week-long tour of Chenab valley in Jammu division.

He urged the locals to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood to "frustrate conspiracies of those dividing the people on the basis of religion" to win elections.

"The National Conference lost the 2014 assembly elections and the BJP took advantage



and came to power through the back door and then pulled down the PDP-led government followed by what it was planning (to abrogate Article 370)," he said.

"I accept that the revocation of Article 370 was in the manifesto of the BJP but why was the erstwhile state downgraded and divided into two parts which was not in their manifesto. One fails to understand what the reason was for this. No one had any answer to it as well as what benefit it had to the people of J&K," Abdullah said.

He said the demand for Union Territory status was only from "Buddhists of Leh" district, while the Kargil population wanted to be with Jammu & Kashmir.

"The reality is that all the claims (of the BJP) have fallen

flat as there was no benefit of its decision on the ground. They talked about development, investment, jobs, peace and end to militancy and separatism but none of this happened over the past nearly two and a half years," he alleged.

Abdullah claimed that the situation in Kashmir valley is grim "not because of Pakistan or some other country but growing militancy due to joining of local disgruntled youth into the ranks of militants".

Referring to the removal of 40 security pickets from Srinagar with the improvement in security situation during his rule in 2009-2015, he said the community centres built by his government to facilitate marriage ceremonies in congested downtown Srinagar were converted into security camps.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Open approach

The need is to remove the fear of memory-based tests so that students start understanding concepts

There is a lot of churning on the higher education front. For one, Delhi University is checking for any discrepancies in the process of admissions to undergraduate and graduate courses. Secondly, Delhi University is conducting online Open Book Exams (OBE) for undergraduate and graduate students of four semesters. This is because the university is not yet offline and students are pressing for re-opening of classes after the tapering down of the coronavirus pandemic. Whatever the reasons that caused the university to re-evaluate its admission process and hold OBEs, the fact is both are progressive steps. One is in keeping with making admissions a fair and just exercise. The other is adapting to new technology even in adversity. The university, and for that matter all higher education institutions in the country, need not stop here but use the occasion to reform the education system. The focus is on revising the method of teaching. The OBE process leaves several hints at why the focus area is critical. In this mode, students take the exams remotely with no bar on consulting books and other resource materials. There are two issues. One is the presumption that the new system would make the students complacent and they would not study seriously, thinking they can copy from the open books. The second is another presumption that the teachers may not be adept at setting meaningful question papers and evaluating the answer sheets efficiently.



The OBE allows consultation of books, but is not a bookish examination. It is not an exam that encourages rote learning and superficial knowledge either. It is a method that challenges the students' mastery of the subject, analysis and critical thinking. It requires a higher order of thinking skills. Unfortunately, heuristic teaching is still not in vogue in higher learning institutions in India. The concept of rote learning is carried over from school days. There is spoon-feeding and over-dependence on guide books. The pattern of teaching is changing but only because of individual efforts of some teachers. This is where the University Grants Commission and the Ministry of Education should step in, using the OBE exams as the pretext to introduce new teaching that enables students to research and discover things for themselves. A university cannot expect teachers to overnight devise question papers that challenge the examinees' critical thinking abilities. Resorting to OBE as a quick fix solution can lead to avoidable issues about setting the question papers, in turn, affecting the performance of the students who may be lulled into a false sense of security that writing with open books is easy. Many countries in the west have shifted to OBE culture. In India there, discussions on the subject have not led anywhere. The greatest achievement of the education system would be to remove the fear of memory-based tests so that students start learning and understanding concepts with teachers acting more as mentors than advisors at exam time.

PICTALK



An aerial view of the flooded DLF residential locality at Semmancheri, in Chennai

PTI

Humour hurts

Criticising someone in a free democracy is fine until it starts taking an ugly turn

Who doesn't like to laugh? Most sane people do. But lately, jokes and comedians have stirred more controversies than politicians in the country. Apparently, their jokes and "poems" have hurt the sentiments of some sections of the society. So much so that they received serious backlash on social media while some have repeatedly received death threats, too. Does it have much to do with a sense of humour or is it intolerance and religion-sensitivity that is disturbing the audience. Interestingly enough, most of these "hurt" people aren't even part of the audience. The Freedom of Speech and Expression is much talked about. Politicians in India usually enjoy this right pretty well. Derogatory remarks against Opposition leaders come as prerequisites to woo the voters during election campaigns. But those are rarely accounted for. However, actor-comedian Vir Das's "Two Indias" monologue "maligins" the country's image. It was so "hurtful" that a BJP leader had filed a complaint against him at Tilak Marg police station alleging that he used 'derogatory' statements against the country on an international platform.



There may not be a definitive answer to whether his satirical monologue could actually hurt India's image but it might hurt his future comedy prospects, as has been seen lately. Another comedian, Munawar Faruqui, recently announced his decision to quit stand up comedy after 12 of his shows got cancelled in various cities due to 'pressure' created on event organisers and venue hosts. Faruqui spent a month in jail earlier this year on charges of "insulting Hindu gods and goddesses" in one of his shows. This is not a win for anybody but rather a defeat for the country that boasts of tolerance and secularism. If comedy can be a crime then what profession can't be? Of course, jokes and satire should be respectable. But what defines respectable? When you start putting out disclaimer on jokes, you reach the borderline of intolerance. The term 'boycott' has become the bread and butter of religious fanatics these days. A new boycott hashtag trends on social media everyday. It's high time we addressed the question that where are we heading as a tolerant nation? Because all that's happening is that we are finding religious loopholes in jokes, comments, statements, movies etc. We were not like this before, orange was just a color until it became a sign board and humour used to lighten us until it started shrinking our minds.

Who really murders democracy in India?



PRAFULL GORADIA

Only a democrat can face the public as the Indian Prime Minister does on *Mann ki Baat*. Anyone can ask anything and embarrass the respondent

There were repeated mentions of the 'murder of democracy' on the opening day of Parliament. The cause was the suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha members by the Vice President of India presiding over the house. The behavior of some of the MP's was extraordinary to put it politely. In my year in the Rajya Sabha, such a scheme was unthinkable; times obviously change. The repeal of the farm laws so soon was, to my mind, a new peak of democratic step. The Sanskrit saying *kshama virasya bhushanam* or forgiveness is the ornament of the valorous is to the effect. A variation of this wisdom would be 'a gifted retreat behoves the generous king'. A mere politician could have suspended the laws and gone on to separate the farmers from the middlemen who feel threatened; but, in fact, were permitted to do what they liked; sell their produce to anyone overseas, including resorting to middlemen in the event of an emergency. How this is a murder of democracy, I do not know.

If the Opposition has any doubt with the democratic nature of the repealing of laws, let us glimpse at the track record of Prime Minister Modi. The abolition of the Planning Commission on the following day of his coming to power in 2014 was the big beginning. It was the control of national wealth which could be distributed at the will of the Central Government.

Every statement came up with a Plan and its budget. The Chief Minister came to annual call on the vice chairman of the Commission with a bouquet of flowers. No one asked questions except as a formality if the Centre was happy with the particular State. The two VIPs had a photograph taken with grins on their faces and the CM returned to his State.

The grant was money for jam. The responsibility for the implementation of the projects was that of the State Government. For example, one of the proposals of the State was to build a bridge for ₹800 crore



and it was granted. The CM and his side-kicks would have the foundation stone laying photographed for record. After that whether the State built the bridge or not was to be seen by the State. No one at the Centre needed to bother about that. On the other hand, the State could year after year debit in its annual plan the depreciation of say ₹80 crore or ten per cent. In short, the Planning Commission amounted to a gifting body; what the State did with the gift was at its discretion as is a birthday present.

The Modi Government replaced the Planning distribution as well as the State sales tax with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) which the State independent of reliance on the Centre to distribute its annual doles. Every State was on its own and the Centre had no discretion. It is based on the merits of each State's economy, production, service and so on. The Centre cannot deny anything to an Opposition ruled State or give more to its favourite State. Is that not very democratic compared to the previous arrangement? This is related to the main finances



TO INTERRUPT PROCEEDINGS IS TO CUT ONE OF THE MAIN BRANCHES THAT THE PARLIAMENT MEMBERS OCCUPY. THE MEMBERS CAN DRAW PUBLIC ATTENTION BUT THEY SHOULD NOT LOSE FLOOR TIME WHICH IS TELEVISED TODAY

of a state.

I am alleging that everyone was corrupt but the scope at the State level was considerable. Take a Planning grant from the Centre and do not spend it. Equally, the scope for favourite was also substantial. Once in power at the Centre, a party could make a State the way it chose. I do not know whether Planning had any connection with the economic progress or its lack. But one thing is certain that no planned economy has reached the First World.

Only a democrat can face the public as the Prime Minister does on the *Mann ki Baat* programme. Anyone can ask anything and embarrass the respondent. The Opposition can have the mischief played; the respondent has to have a clan record and no skeletons in his cupboard. No previous Prime Minister has experimented with such an open public programme. The public, on the other hand, feels that the country's top leader is accessible to them. He does not keep away from the common folk. This means that the PM is not their indirect representative but a direct one. This is how the Greek city democracy

began and is the ultimate is freedom and people's rule. This is unusual for a leader who carries the highest security risk in the country and perhaps is the world. He mingles with people when he campaigns in the elections. He spares no punches.

The Parliament is essential to remain in the limelight. To interrupt its proceedings is to cut one of the main branches the Parliament members occupy. Rushing into the well, in that sense, is suicidal for the Opposition. I realised that it is very necessary for the Opposition to protest as obviously as possible, but not to provoke its adjournment. The members can draw public attention by, for example, wearing black, whether masks, clothes or anything else. They can also sit in the aisles instead of their seats, and so on. But they should not lose floor time, which in today's time, is televised. Another gain is avoiding the impression that MPs collect their pay but avoid work.

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

A DAY NOT FOR POLLUTION

Sir —The National Pollution Day is observed in India every year on December 2, to spread awareness among people towards the rapidly growing problem of pollution and in the memory of those who died in the Bhopal gas tragedy. As per data, about 2.5 million people succumb to pollution in India every year. India has ranked 155th out of 180 countries in the Environmental Performance Index. Many Indian cities, including the Capital, rank among the top most polluted cities globally.

There are several reasons that aggravate pollution; whether air, land, noise or water. While the Government should be blamed for not dealing with the issue proactively, the citizens, too, owe responsibility to protect the environment they live in. In the recent COP26 Summit that was held in Glasgow, countries pledged to reduce net-zero emissions and this is a welcome step. Only time can tell whether such summits are fruitful and till then, we need to do our bit. Simple measures like using public transport, using biodegradable bags, reducing forest fires and smoking, avoiding firecrackers and being aware that if we don't start acting early, we will face consequences.

Tarun Patidar | Ujjain

CARRYING FAITH ON GROWTH

Sir —The 8.4 per cent growth compares well with the 7.4 per cent fall that the GDP saw last year in the same quarter, the peak period of the pandemic-induced lockdown. The first quarter of this year, however, had seen a 20.1 per cent growth, which puts the number for the first half at 13.7 per cent. With this being the fourth consecutive quarter of growth, the indications are that the economy has found its feet after the pandemic-induced contraction. Employment-intensive sectors like hospitality and construction seeing an uptick is also positive news.

Economists, however, see several issues in this growth story. A key one is that it is Government investments that are the main drivers of growth rather than private consumption. Rising infla-

An era passes away



The sudden demise of the prolific Telugu film lyricist Sirivennela Seetharama Sastry is a great blow especially to the Telugu film industry which was already in pain after the demise of SPB Garu a year ago. The combination of SPB and Sirivennela was a beautiful one. The two made some wonderful songs together and their work is still loved by the listeners. The words of Sastry, coupled with the voice of SPB, captivated the audience. The speciality of this great lyricist is that his lyrics are simply beautiful and

thought provoking. He captured millions of hearts through his lyrics. Having written around 3000 movie songs, received the Padma Shri and the Nandi Awards more than 10 times are enough to prove his devotion towards creating a healthy lyrics culture in the Tollywood industry.

Sirivennela has penned poems that showered the light of knowledge, aroused mind-boggling thoughts and, at the same time, calmness, too. The accolades he has earned speak enough of his excellence, expertise and legacy. However, if one wants to know him truly then his songs and poems are the way. Sastry created magic with his vocabulary and command over the Telugu language. In his career, he wrote songs for some amazing movies, including Swayamkrushi, Gaayam, Alludu Garu and many more. Writers will come and go but Sirivennela's contribution as a lyricist and human will be remembered by generations.

Katuru Durga Prasad Rao | Hyderabad

tionary pressures as indicated by the difference between real and nominal GDP is also a matter of concern. Some of the economists are projecting only single digit growth for the year compared to the Government's double-digit expectations. These differing perspectives on India's current economic scenario is vital.

Mr Jayanthi | Mumbai

UNWARRANTED SUSPENSION OF THE MPS

Sir —What the wider implications of the suspension of 12 MPs from the Parliament are for our democracy is a broad topic on which opinion can well be divided depending on political leanings. The BJP supporters hold that it was needed to protect democracy, whereas others denounce it as an undemocratic decision. Be that as it may, the suspension of the MPs for something that happened in the previous monsoon session under provocation is amenable to be explained in terms of several considerations. It gave a clear indication that the Government was

not quite keen on winning the cooperation of the Opposition for the smooth functioning of Parliament. The Government may have gone for this high-handed action to divert attention from burning issues like farmers' protests, price rise and inflation.

The prospect of being placed in a clear majority in the Rajya Sabha may have been another consideration that motivated the decision. We would consider it a sad day for Indian democracy if the decision was taken in the mistaken belief that the Opposition should be subservient to the Government. When the BJP was in the Opposition, disruption of Parliament was a 'legitimate form of protest'. But when it is in power, it becomes nothing short of 'misconduct' and 'unruly behaviour' deserving suspension.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

This time, we have prepared 30,000 oxygen beds. Out of these, 10,000 are ICU beds.

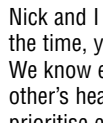


Delhi Chief Minister — Arvind Kejriwal



We're going to learn a lot more in the next couple of weeks about the lethality of the new variant.

US President — Joe Biden



Nick and I talk all the time, you know. We know each other's hearts and prioritise each other.

Actor — Priyanka Chopra



Virat Kohli has taken a pay cut for the larger interest of the RCB. We all know how good a player he is.

Former Indian batsman — Parthiv Patel

The Government is trying to silence the voices of the Opposition. No question arises to offer an apology.



Congress leader — Mallikarjun Kharge

FIRST COLUMN

FASHION DESIGN AND E-LEARNING

Aspiring designers can learn and show their creations in a web-friendly format



ARCHANA SURANA

While the world is struggling with a health pandemic, an economic depression, and a global social justice movement, Bill Cunningham's quote — "Fashion is the armour to survive the reality of everyday life" — became the inspiration to the fashion and design fraternity. From adjusting to the new normal to navigating through it and bringing creativity to reality, the fashion industry has set trends yet again. In the modern world, creativity has never been just about classroom learning. Now, with the 'anything anywhere' approach of the digital world, fashion design learning has stepped into a transformative revolution. When FHCM's couture week 2020 went digital, the fashion industry was in awe. FHCM stands for Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode that brings together fashion brands that foster creation and international development. However, with Gucci partnering with the art auction house Christie's on NFT video "ARIA", the industry realised that we had just scratched the surface of technology. Fashion design institutes have taken the pandemic as an opportunity to innovate old-fashioned teaching methods and adapt to the fast-moving digital world. Being a stu-



dent-centric process enables the learner to customise the procedures and processes based on her needs. With digital platforms for aspiring designers to learn and show their creations in a web-friendly format and accelerated personalisation in digital tools to customise one's virtual studio, it has never been a better time to flow along with creativity. The importance of exploring global perspectives through international fashion shows, exhibitions, webinars that reflect the global context in fashion education and industry cannot be emphasised enough. The design education colleges have been quick on the uptake and started organising virtual events and platform during the lockdown in 2020 where they allow the students to showcase their learnings and creations. These institutes also use social media platform like Facebook Live where students presented their work online.

The field of technology is growing every day and therefore, it is impacting education, teaching and learning processes with its innovative solutions and sustainable methods. Increasing use of technologies like AI, IoT and AOT is helping effectively in saving costs, time and energy in the education sector especially the creative fields. In 2020, due to the pandemic, all the education institutes introduced many innovative ways of teaching and learning in order to maintain the quality of education and content material. According to InTech report 2017, design learning needs digital or online learning to have a progressive future. There is a great need for active interaction between humans and technology through activities using creative intelligence for a bright future of designing field. Even if we were in a digital utopia with digital equity and no technical glitches, to imagine learning fashion design virtually is difficult. From the touch of the fabric to the aesthetics and design, physical interaction is as essential as the field itself. Paris Fashion Week's physical return to the runway, including industry heavy weights from Chanel and Hermes to Louis Vuitton and Yves Saint Laurent, proves that fashion cannot survive without it being inferred by the senses. Rethinking decades-old teaching models requires a more finely tuned equilibrium between physical and digital education to work successfully. Combining face-to-face lectures with technology may give rise to blended learning, increasing students' learning potential. Need of the hour is for institutes to become omnichannel and build an efficient e-learning model and for the fashion fraternity to come together as a community and use technology as a venue for Sustainable Fashion Culture.

(The writer is Founder and Director, ARCH College of Design & Business. The views expressed are personal.)

Village secretariats of AP: Doorstep welfare



AMAR DEVULAPALLI

Impressed by the idea of taking governance to doorsteps; Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan and some other States have evinced interest to adopt similar systems

A game-changer initiative in Andhra Pradesh Government's unique grass root administration and a brain child of young Chief Minister, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, the concept of Village/ward Secretariat - door-step services to ensure welfare programmes reach the beneficiary — is gaining the attention of international agencies, the Union Government and a number of states.

Aimed at revamping and improving the delivery of government services, the largest of its kind in India, the setup involved hiring 389,000 volunteers to ensure that government benefits-ration cards, pension accounts and other welfare schemes—are made available in the rural areas as also in the wards in towns.

The Village Secretariat and Ward Secretariat (VWS) Department was created to manage the operations. The volunteers who are key in the new set up are being paid a monthly remuneration of ₹5000 and they are always available in the area to provide government benefits that are listed under various schemes at the door step of the beneficiary.

On average, there is one volunteer for every 70-100 households, tasked with doorstep-delivery of government services and ensuring that beneficiaries are identified and mapped for proactive service delivery. To ensure that services improve, issues relating to the delivery of food, social and health security benefits are to be addressed within specified time frames, with a team of 200 call-centre executives to track and monitor service delivery requests and notify relevant secretariats about impending deadlines. It all started on October 2, 2019 when the Chief Minister launched the flagship programme of his government. As a preamble to the new concept, he recruited village secretaries who would head the village secretariats. The idea came to him during his "padayatra" before the 2019 general elections when villagers complained how they are going around offices and officials for benefits of welfare programmes and how they are denied them on account of lack of funds.

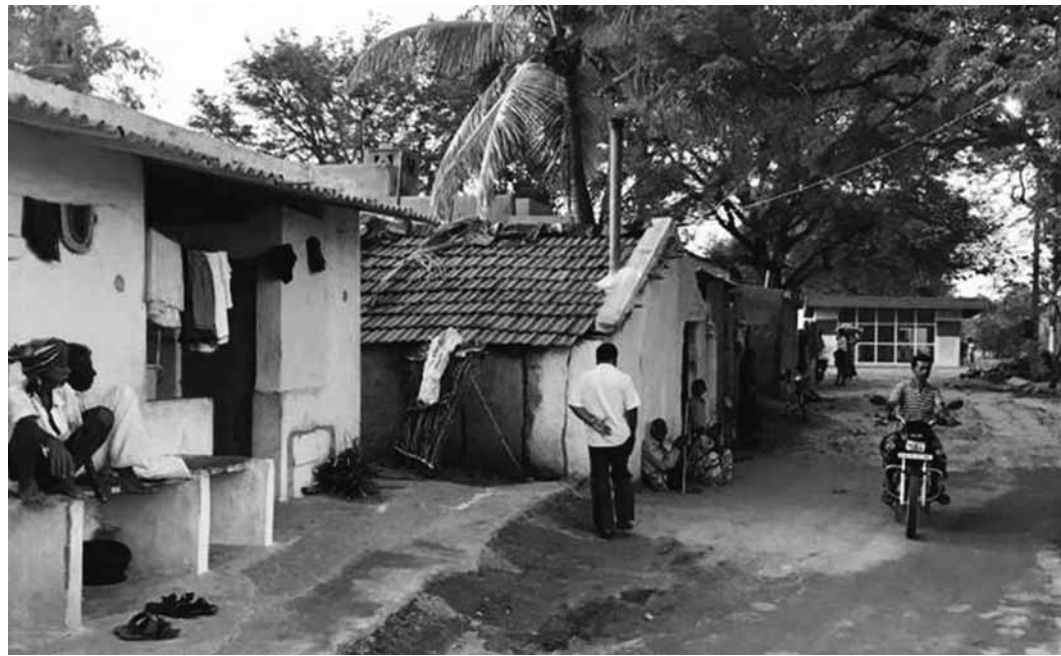
The Ministry of Jal Shakti Sanitation has acknowledged the services being offered to the people at their doorstep through the new system. National Jal Jeevan Mission under the Ministry which brings out a monthly e-book, Jal Jeevan Samvad, highlighted the village/ward secretariat system in AP and pointed out: "This is a unique experiment in itself and furthers the spirit of the 73rd Constitution Amendment, 1992 and in line with 'Sarkar Aapke Dwar'- administration at your doorstep. Now by setting up of village secretariat, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken a concrete step towards administrative transparency and accountability to provide better services to the people at their door step".

The special story in the magazine also



THE VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE KEY IN THE NEW SET-UP ARE BEING PAID A MONTHLY REMUNERATION OF ₹5000 AND ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE IN THE AREA TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT SERVICES THAT ARE LISTED UNDER VARIOUS SCHEMES AT THE DOORSTEP OF THE BENEFICIARY. ON AVERAGE, THERE IS ONE VOLUNTEER FOR EVERY 70-100 HOUSEHOLDS

(The writer is Advisor, National Media and Inter State Affairs, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)



mentioned that out of various services for the people, around 318 services have started reaching villagers through the village secretariat system. The beneficial effects of government schemes are clearly visible in the villages.

UNICEF, which has identified the potential strength of the village secretariat system, associated itself with the grass root network to continue its awareness campaign among children as mothers about nutrition food. A special cell with three representatives has been created by UNICEF attached to the State level Head office of village/ward secretariat. Besides, the Institution has also appointed district coordinators to take the task.

Impressed by the idea of taking governance to the people's doorsteps, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan and some other states have evinced interest to adopt similar systems. Ministerial and Official representatives from these states are planning to visit AP soon to have the first-hand experience of the functioning of the setup.

As a matter of fact, the then Chief Minister of united AP Chandrababu Naidu too launched the village secretariat concept in 2002. But there is no comparison between the two since the present setup is well thought over and target-oriented, supported by a digital road map to ensure doorstep deliveries of benefits.

While Naidu had to introduce the village secretariat in view of World Bank guidelines in the name of reforms, the current CM made it happen in real terms and

people are getting total benefits from the new system.

Between the first and third of every month, the present government disburses ₹1,420.5 crore worth of pensions to 6.1 million beneficiaries under the YSR Pension Kanuka. They are delivered to beneficiaries wherever they might be, even those displaced from their homes. For transparent, well-targeted delivery of benefits, the state relies on biometric identification. A call centre with toll-free number 1902 has been set up to enable the people to register their grievances and also obtain feedback on the welfare schemes.

In all, a strong contingent of 1,34,694 village ward secretariat staff along with dedicated gram volunteers numbering 2,47,344 extend 540 services under 35 departments. Fact sheets reveal that while 3,31,57,081 service requests were registered till the end of October last, 3,29,70,051 services have been delivered.

Specific time frames are fixed for delivery. While Pension card, rice cards are to be handed over within 21 days, eligible applicants should get Arogyasri cards in 20 days and the deadline for getting house site pattas is 90 days.

A study paper on the village administration in Andhra Pradesh published in The Indian Journal of Political Science in its quarterly publication in 2006 clearly mentioned the 'outcome' of the reforms in Panchayat Raj introduced by Chandrababu Naidu.

The paper originally submitted by its author D.Ravinder at an International conference on "State,

Civil Society and Citizens: Revisiting the Relationship" held in Osmania University in February, 2004, concluded that "it (the system) introduces babudom at the local level". The study paper highlighting the lacunae said with the onset of World Bank led reforms processed under the regime of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh, "good governance" has become a catchy word. It is in this name that a number of reform processes were introduced in the state. One such important reform process at the grass roots level has been the introduction of "Village Secretariat" system.

The paper said this system instead of bringing good governance has become a bone of contention between hitherto existing departments, panchayat raj and revenue, and also between the elected representatives and government officials, i.e., between Sarpanch and the newly created position of "Village Secretary". Thus, the process of good governance at the grass roots level unleashed new conflicts. The present paper makes an attempt to analyse the dynamics of these new reforms at the grass roots in Andhra Pradesh.

Quite contrary to the setup introduced during Chandrababu regime, the present village/ward secretariat system supported by village secretaries and a battery of village/ward volunteers day and night ensuring the targeted people get welfare programmes at their doorstep without spending a single pie and wasting time.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WHICH IS THE MAIN PARTY, THE CONGRESS OR THE TMC? THE SESSION WILL BE OVER BEFORE THEY COME TO ANY DECISION.

—BJP NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
DILIP GHOSH



IT IS INSIGNIFICANT TO MAKE ANY COMMENT ON DILIP GHOSH'S OBSERVATION. LET THEM THINK OVER THEIR DEFEAT IN THE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

—TMC LEADER
SOUGATA ROY

Role of universities in fostering entrepreneurship

Interdisciplinary approach and new teaching methodologies should be used to provide entrepreneurship experience to students in university settings

Entrepreneurship is extremely important for any economy, for its ability to make a significant impact on citizens and nations as a whole. Great entrepreneurs can change the way we live and work, by creating jobs and wealth, with changes varying between social impact to immense innovations. But can entrepreneurship be taught? The answer to this age-old debate is both yes and no. Since education is essential to enhance the thinking abilities and as entrepreneurship ecosystem is developed by the interplay of actors like universities, government and entrepreneurs themselves, universities become the hotbed of fostering the required entrepreneurial environment. An early introduction and expo-



HIMA BINDU KOTA

(The writer is Associate Professor at Amity University, Noida. The views expressed are personal.)

sure to entrepreneurship and innovation is more likely to sow the seeds of entrepreneurial careers for students at a future juncture. Cities which are ranked highly for their entrepreneurial activities also boast promoting entrepreneurial education and culture. To take an example, Silicon Valley is known for entrepreneurship and is also the home to more than 10 universities, including Stanford and UC Berkeley.

There are three ways in which universities can take advantage of their position to further entrepreneurship. As universities are places of higher education, attracting workforce who wants to lead a better life, they can transform themselves into breeding grounds for budding entrepre-



neurs. Recognizing the importance of entrepreneurship to the economic development and job creation, universities can impart entrepreneurial skills and knowledge by updating existing programs and developing new courses. Going forward, interdisciplinary approach and new teaching methodologies should be used to provide entrepreneurship experience to students in a controlled environment in the university setting. Creation of industry linkages to provide internships to students with

local companies will further enhance the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Secondly, universities can act as incubation centres to follow up and promote potential ideas by facilitating collaborations and incubation capacities not only to students from the area of business, innovation and entrepreneurship, but also from other areas like engineering, humanities, applied sciences and medicine. Provision of physical space to give wings to potential ideas and suitable support to raise funds at an early stage to transform these ideas into business models are their added advantages. of for the development of the business model. The faculty also play an important role in the incubators, as they are crucial resource for mentorship

and can channelize the energy of their students by providing proper guidance in research activities. However, not much can be achieved with research and publications of an idea, if it cannot be exploited for business opportunities.

Therefore, thirdly, the role of a university as a knowledge transferer and as a bridge between academia and industry is noteworthy. Universities involved in applied research have large number of patents, articles and registered intellectual property rights, converging the joint efforts, experience and creativity of students and faculty. However, such research has to be commercialized as well, and here comes the role of universities as a conduit to industry linkages. By establishing connections with industry,

universities develop entrepreneurial ecosystems and provide students entrepreneurs with advice on aspects like licenses, consulting, and spin-offs. Entrepreneurship education in universities inspires students to start their own ventures. Several surveys have shown that a majority of students enrolled in an entrepreneurship course aspire to set up their own businesses. Through their studies, it is also found that entrepreneurship courses at universities have a profound impact on the students. Thus, entrepreneurship courses have a positive impact the students' founding abilities.

Entrepreneurs are assets to any nation as they contribute towards innovation, job creation, and enhanced standard of living and the best way to

promote entrepreneurship is to make people aware of it by educating them.

Entrepreneurship education can provide students with technical skills and managerial skills, but most importantly should cultivate entrepreneurial intent among them, which ultimately increases their tendency to start their own enterprise. The Indian higher education system has to step up and distinguish a general business management course from an entrepreneurship course to motivate, train and support budding entrepreneurs. The demand is for education programs which can expand their horizons in entrepreneurship by their unique and hands-on content and teaching techniques. Are the universities listening?

African, W Pacific and European regions report increase in Covid cases: WHO

AP ■ GENEVA

The World Health Organisation says the rate of increase of coronavirus cases held steady over the last week, though its African, Western Pacific and European regions all reported gains.

At the same time, new deaths globally linked to Covid-19 fell 10 per cent.

The UN health agency, in its latest weekly epidemiological report on the pandemic, said case counts shot up 93% in Africa, though it cautioned about interpreting too much from that high figure because it was largely due to "batch reporting" of antigen tests by South Africa.

The report, for the first time, referred to the new omicron variant that was christened on Friday after being



People queue to be vaccinated against Covid-19 at the Lenasia South Hospital, near Johannesburg on Wednesday. South African doctors say the rapid increase in cases attributed to the new Omicron variant is resulting in mostly mild symptoms AP

detected in South Africa and Botswana. WHO said the variant has now been reported in a "limited number" of countries

— though it has spread widely, into four of the WHO's six regions.

As of Sunday, more than

280 million cases and more than 5.2 million deaths have been tallied due to the pandemic, WHO said.

Slovakia may give cash to some who get vaccine

Prague: Slovakia's government has proposed a plan to give people 60 and older a 500-euro (\$568) bonus if they get vaccinated against Covid-19, the finance minister said Wednesday.

The measure, announced by Finance Minister Igor Matovic, should boost inoculations in the European Union country with one of the bloc's lowest vaccination rates. So far, only 46.1% of the nation's 5.5 million people have been fully vaccinated.

The current four-party ruling coalition in Slovakia has been split over the issue. The pro-business Freedom and Solidarity opposed it, saying it was ready to support a 150-euro (\$170) bonus only. But the party didn't veto it, making the approval possible. AP

Student shoots, kills 3, wounds 8 at Michigan high school

AP ■ OXFORD TOWNSHIP

A 15-year-old sophomore opened fire at his Michigan high school, killing three students, including a 16-year-old boy who died in a deputy's patrol car on the way to a hospital, authorities said.

Eight other people were wounded, some critically, including a 14-year-old girl who was placed on a ventilator after surgery. Investigators were still trying to determine a

motive for the shooting Tuesday at Oxford High School, located in a community of about 22,000 people roughly 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of Detroit, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard said.

"The person that's got the most insight and the motive is not talking," he said at a news conference late Tuesday.

Deputies rushed to the school around lunch time as more than 100 calls flooded

911 dispatchers with reports of a shooter. They arrested the student in a hallway within minutes of their arrival. He put his hands in the air as deputies approached, Bouchard said.

The boy's father on Friday bought the 9 mm Sig Sauer used in the shooting, Bouchard said. He didn't know why the man bought the semi-automatic handgun, which his son had been posting pictures of and practicing shooting, Bouchard said.

Russia warns US diplomats will have to leave by Jan 31

Moscow: Russia warned on Wednesday that a number of US diplomats will have to leave Russia before the end of next month, the latest salvo in a diplomatic tug-of-war between Moscow and Washington.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said those US Embassy personnel who would have spent more than three years in Russia would have to leave Russia by Jan 31.

She said the Russian demand mirrors US actions that would make 55 Russian diplomats to leave. "We see the American demand as an expulsion and will respond in kind," Zakharova said. AP

Taliban urges US to release frozen funds in Doha talks

AFP ■ DOHA, QATAR

The Taliban renewed its call for the United States to release billions of dollars in frozen funds after two days of talks in Doha as aid-dependent Afghanistan grapples with economic crisis.

The Afghans also called for an end to blacklists and sanctions in meetings led by Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi and Tom West, the US special representative for Afghanistan.

It was the second round of talks between the two sides in Qatar since the US ended its 20-year occupation of

Afghanistan and the headline Islamists rapidly returned to power.

"The two delegations discussed political, economic, human, health, education and security issues as well as providing necessary banking and cash facilities," tweeted Afghan foreign ministry spokesman Abdul Qahar Balkhi.

"The Afghan delegation assured the US side of security and urged that Afghanistan's frozen money should be released unconditionally, blacklists and sanctions must end and human issues be separated from political ones."

Polish Prime Minister urges vaccinations as deaths rise

Warsaw: Poland's prime minister got a booster shot against the coronavirus and made an emotional appeal to citizens to get vaccinated as 570 new deaths in one day were reported from Covid-19.

Mateusz Morawiecki's appeal on

Wednesday was made to a nation with a vaccination rate of just 54%. The numbers those fully vaccinated have risen very slowly in recent weeks, though fears of the new omicron variant have appeared to spur some to finally get vaccinated. AP

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE
DIVISION No: 1st SULIMAN COMPLEX DALGATE SRINAGAR
(e-mail ID: xen_sewerageueed@yahoo.com)

Notice Inviting e-Tendering
GIST OF e-NIT No: 27 of 2021-22

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Indian Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer S&D Division 1st UEED Srinagar invites online e-bids in 2 cover system from Registered Electro-Mechanical Contractors or SSI Unit Holders for the following work.
S.No 1. Name of work :- Providing, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Electro Mechanical Equipments at IPS # 05 Jogi Lanker under Sewerage Scheme "Sewerage Network of Sore Spots in Khanyar"
Cost of work (Rs. In lacs) :- 25.46, **Cost of T/dcc. (In rupees) :-** 1500/= **Time of operation & maintenance :-** 1 Month, **Class of Contract :-** Registered Firms / Agencies
IMPORTANT DATES
1.Date of publishing :- 30.11.2021
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents :- 30-11-2021 to 21-12-2021 up-to 5:00 PM
3. Bid submission Start Date :- 30-11-2021 from 5:00 PM
4. Bid submission End Date :- 21-12-2021 up-to 4:00 PM
5. Date & time of opening of bids (online) :- 22-12-2021 at 11:00 AM or any other convenient date.
Tender Receiving Authority:- Executive Engineer S&D Division 1st Sulaiman Complex Dalgate Srinagar
Sd/- Executive Engineer, S&D Division 1st Srinagar

No. DIPPK-14006/21 Dated: 01-12-2021

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Yudhveer Singh/ Gurpreet Kaur/ LBNOD00002312278	Flat No. 2204, Tower A1, 22nd Floor, Rudra Palace Heights Noida Extension Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh/ November 29, 2021	March 19, 2021 / Rs.20,39,314/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Somashri Shahi/ Alok Kumar/ LBGUR00002436557	Flat No B 106, FF Plot No 6/GH-4 Sec 6,aditya Garden City Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh/ November 29, 2021	March 24, 2021 / Rs.16,38,043/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : December 02, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DURG CIRCLE DURG (C.G.)

Durg, Dated: 22.11.2021

e- Procurement Tender Notice
1st Call

Online tenders in form "A" percentage rate basis are invited on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh dated 13-12-2021

Tender System & NIT No.	Name of work	P.A.C. (Rs. In lacs.)
289/87558	B.T. Renewal of Kodiya Sagni Road & 03 Other Roads Length 8.50 Km. Under Sub Div. No 02 Durg	150.02
290/87559	B.T. Renewal of Madiyapur-Purda Road & 02 Other Roads Length 9.20 Km. Under Sub Div. No 02 Durg	162.36
291/87565	B.T. Renewal of Aouri-Dhamna-Basin Road & 04 Other Roads Length 9.70 Km. Under Sub Div. Patan	178.58
292/87566	B.T. Renewal of Purai Umarpoti Road & 02 Other Roads Length 4.80 Km. Under Sub Div. No. 01 Durg	148.55
293/87567	B.T. Renewal of Siloda-Khapri Road & 01 Other Roads Length 6.30 Km. Under Sub Div. No. 01 Durg	119.13
294/87568	B.T. Renewal of Nandghat Malda Mau Bifkuli Road Length Km. 1 to 4, 5,11,12,13, 14,15 = 10.00 Km. Under Division Bemetara	184.10
295/87569	B.T. Renewal of Kusmi Khudmudi Siltara Road Length Km. 7,9,10,12 = 4.00 Km. Under Division Bemetara	136.08
296/87570	B.T. Renewal of Kusmi Khudmudi Siltara Road Length Km. 13,14,18,19 = 4.00 Km. Under Division Bemetara	136.08
297/87571	B.T. Renewal On Murhia To Sahaspur Road Length-2.85 Km Under Sub Division Dongargarh	49.99
298/87572	B.T. Renewal Work In Various K.M. On (1) Gandai to Pandariya Road 1.60 K.M. (2) Suradabari to Mainhar Road 2.80 K.M. (3) Mudiya Approach Road length 1.90 km & (4) Khairagarh Town Approach Road length 3.00 km Under Sub Division Chhuikhadan & Khairagarh Sub Division	155.56
299/87573	B.T. Renewal Work Gabdi-Khurdul Road & other 3 Roads Total Length = 7.90 km. Under Gunderdehi	129.41
300/87574	B.T. RENEWAL OF SIKOSA-DANIYA ROAD (VR) IN = 2.80 Km (Actual Length 2.85 km), PHUNDA-CHARBHATA (VR) IN KM 4.90 (TOTAL LENGTH 7.70KM)	127.97

Note-
1- NIT No. 289,290,291,292 & 293 are under Public Works Department Durg Division Durg, NIT No. 294,295 & 295 are under Public Works Department Bemetara Division Bemetara, NIT No. 296 & 297 are under Public Works Department Khairagarh Division Khairagarh NIT No. 298 & 300 are under Public Works Department Balod Division Balod.
2- General Conditions, detailed NIT, Tender documents & other information of the above construction work downloaded from the Eprocurement web portal or departmental website <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>.
3- NIT No. & Name of the Work should be essentially mentioned on the envelope through the Registered Post/Speed Post in this office.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
P.W.D., Durg Circle Durg (C.G.)
Tel. 0788-2210876

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/24/2021-22/W-3 Dated :- 01.12.2021
The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1) Name of work	Repair and maintenance of Bridges in the section of SSEW/UDLI under ADEN/DLI
2) Approx cost of work	Rs.49,37,136.94 (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred Thirty Six and Ninety Four Paise Only)
3) Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 0/-
4) Cost of tender document	Rs. 0.00/-
5) Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	24.12.2021 at 15:00 Hrs.
6) Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

• The tenderers must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. 2811/21

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli

On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Chemist & Metallurgist, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open e-tender(Tender Notice No.- MCF-MTL-WC-X-RAY Date:- 29/11/2021) based on single packet system online through Indian railway portal www.ireps.gov.in for following work:- Description of work. Design, layout & construction of X-ray chamber, the mandatory training of operator and approval of radiography facility from AERB in a turnkey project. Approx. Value (₹) 49,30,000.00 EMD (₹) nil- Cost of Tender document - (₹) 2,000.00, Quantity of work- 1 Work (As per e-tender document) Work completion period:- 150 Working Days • E-Tender submitted through online up to 15:15 hrs. on 22/12/2021. Manual offer will not be considered. • E-Tender shall be opened on 22/12/2021 at 15:30 hrs. through online on <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. • Detailed Tender E-Notice and Terms & Conditions are available at Indian Railway IREPS website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

Corrigendum CORRIGENDUM NO. 04 Dated- 29.11.2021

01	48/ET/2021-22 Dated: 20.11.2021	Tender No. 04211373	Existing Value 3157	Modified Value 2657	Due date may be read as 06.12.2021 instead of 29.11.2021
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Website Address: www.ireps.gov.in & www.mcf.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UJVN Limited
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Mahatari Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No.-0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Short Term Tender Notice Dt. 01-12-2021
Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G), Sharda Power House, Lohiahead, Khatima invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :-
Tender No. : 11/SPH/2021-22
Name of work : Construction of Community Centre near Purnagiri Temple at Chaurapani, Lohiahead, Khatima, Dist. U.S.Nagar.
Estimated cost : Rs. 9.56,868/- GST extra.
Date of availability of bid document on website : From 17:00 Hrs. of 01.12.2021
Last date for submission of tender : Upto 17:00 Hrs. of 16.12.2021.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"
"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity" Executive Engineer(M&G)

Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun

Ref. No.: 2312/11-02(xix)/ITCO/URRDA/21 Dated: 01.12.2021

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
e-Procurement Notice-18/2021-22

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Chamoli & Tehri for 07 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs.16.03 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent*.
Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 02.12.2021.
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmsgsyndertendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.
The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works), either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.
Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 09.12.2021 01:00 PM.
For further details please log on to www.pmsgsyndertendersuk.gov.in
Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.

*Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.
Note: For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

M.P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
(Govt. of M.P. Undertaking)
NISHTHA PARISAR, BIJALEE NAGAR, GOVINDPURA, BHOPAL-23
Phone No. : 0755-2602033-36, Fax : 2589821, 2586636
Ref. : MD/MK/04/NIT/2186 Date : 01.12.2021

TENDER NOTICE

MPMKVVCCL, Bhopal, invites following bids from manufacturers through e-tendering.

Tender Specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Tender Fee including GST (in Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of Opening of Tender
MD/MK/04/733	Rate Contract for 200 Kg 9 Meter Long FCC Pole.	172.40	5900	13.12.2021 03.00 PM	22.12.2021 03.00 PM

Other details and full Tender documents would be available on Company website <https://portal.mpcz.in> & Govt. Website <https://mptenders.gov.in> shortly.

SAVE ELECTRICITY

M.P. Madhyam/102838/2021 CGM (Proc.)

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Bid No. E-44/2021-22 E-Tenders Date : 29.11.2021

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence :- S. No., Tender No., Due Date, Description and Quantity.
S. No. 1. 10211308A (22.12.2021), Spring Part No. 16160113, 8600 Nos. **S. No. 2.** 10211376 (23.12.2021), PIN (Clutch Drive Asm) Part No. 16210580, 9164 Nos. **S. No. 3.** 10211281 (23.12.2021), Pump and Motors Assembly Part No. 16241526, 10 Nos. **S. No. 4.** 10211291 (23.12.2021), Wave Spring Part No. 16160174, 319 Nos. **S. No. 5.** 03211016 (24.12.2021), Component of General Argp, P L No. 29470092, 60 set. **S. No. 6.** 09191057A (24.12.2021), RELAY (GGT), to PL No. 1818004, 56 Nos. **S. No. 7.** 06211195 (21.12.2021), MAIN CIRCUIT BREAKER (VCB) WITH ITS CONNECTOR and 05% extra flexible reinforced rubber 27' long air hose pipe I/D 5/16" with 3/8" BSP. Female coupling fitting at both end as manufacturing spares. specn: CLW/ES/C-47/I to PL No. 2971106 Qty. 335 Sets. The details of above Tenders are available on www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in.
Corrigendum - S. No. 8. Bid No. E-41 Tender No. : 02211542 Misc. Hardware kit for LAS Part No. 29408489 due on 16.12.2021 Revision 1: Details of Correction: Existing Quantity : 99 Set. Revised Quantity : 152 Set. S. No. 9. Bid No. 41 Tender No. : 07210069A Due Date : 06.12.2021 PL No. : 29170217 Description : Impregnated Compressed Laminates Corrigendum for Quantity : 313 Set. Corrigendum Notice - S. No. 10. Tender No. : 05215137B Bid No. 42 Existing due date : 10.12.2021 Revised due date : 06.12.2021. S. No. 11. Tender No. : 06211077 Bid No. E-41/2021-22 Rev. : 01 Existing Quantity : 297 Set. Revised Quantity : 363 Set Existing due Date : 29.11.2021 Revise due Date : 08.12.2021. S. No. 12. Tender No. : 06211078 Bid No. E-41/2021-22 Rev. : 01 Existing Quantity : 246 Set Revised Quantity : 317 Set Existing due Date : 29.11.2021 Revise due Date : 08.12.2021. S. No. 13. Tender No. : 06211760 Bid No. E-41/2021-22 Rev. : 01 Existing Quantity : 319 Set Revised Quantity : 377 Set Existing due Date : 30.11.2021 Revise due Date : 09.12.2021. S. No. 14. Bid Inv. No. E-43 Tender No. : 08210102 PL No. : 1. 29070041 Existing Qty. : 152 Sets Revised Qty. : 166 Sets. PL No. : 2. 29230378 Existing Qty. : 137 Sets Revised Qty. : 170 Sets. S. No. 15. Tender No. : 06211749 Bid No. E-41/2021-22 Rev. : 01 Existing Quantity : 258 Set Revised Quantity : 316 Set Existing due Date : 26.11.2021 Revise due Date : 07.12.2021. S. No. 16. Tender No. : 06211748 Bid No. E-41/2021-22 Rev. : 01 Existing Quantity : 293 Set Revised Quantity : 351 Set Existing due Date : 26.11.2021 Revise due Date : 07.12.2021. All other terms & condition shall remain unchanged. SMM/Imp-I PRO/BLW/S-49

f b t w /blwvaranasi Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE SRINAGAR KASHMIR
Tel-0194-2474234 Fax - 2482032 – email : kashflori@rediffmail.com

Gist of e- Tender Notice No. 34 of 2021
Dated: - 26/11/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of J&K, e-tender is invited from various Govt. Approved Registered Dealing Agencies/Suppliers for supply of **Neem Based Vermi Compost Manure with Trichoderma** as per the details given in the BOQ:-
The NIT consisting of complete information, eligibility, criteria, specification Book of quantities (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from J&K State e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in/ www.dirflorikmr.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1. Period of downloading of bidding documents	30.11.2021 from 01:00 PM to 20.12.2021 up to 02:00 PM
2. Bid submission Start Date	30.11.2021 from 02:00 PM
3. Bid submission End Date	20.12.2021 up to 02:00 PM
4. Date and time of Opening of Tenders	22.12.2021 at 02:00 PM

In case of any eventuality, the tender opening date will be considered the next working date.
No. DIPPK-13937/21 Dated: - 01-12-2021
Sd/- Accounts Officer (Member secretary)

GLOBE TROTTER

BLAST OF WWII BOMB IN MUNICH INJURES 4
Berlin: A World War II bomb exploded at a construction site next to a busy railway line in Munich on Wednesday, injuring four people, one of them seriously, German authorities said.

TEL AVIV NAMED AS MOST EXPENSIVE CITY TO LIVE IN

London: Tel Aviv is the world's most expensive city to live in as soaring inflation has pushed up living costs globally, according to a survey published on Wednesday. The Israeli city climbed five rungs to score top place for the first time in the authoritative ranking compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). The Worldwide Cost of Living Index is compiled by comparing prices in US dollars for goods and services in 173 cities. Tel Aviv climbed the rankings partly due to the strength of the national currency, the shekel, against the dollar, as well increases in prices for transport and groceries.

PAK ELECTED CHAIR OF GROUP OF 77 IN 2022

Islamabad: Pakistan has been elected as the next Chair of the Group of 77 for the year 2022 with Islamabad promising a development agenda focusing on debt restructuring, concessional financing, climate finance and ending illicit financial flows. The 45th Ministerial meeting of "Group of 77 and China" was held virtually on Tuesday, the Pakistan Foreign Office (FO) said here in a statement.

85% OF CITIZENS WILL USE MANDARIN BY 2025: CHINA

Beijing: China is launching an aggressive campaign to promote Mandarin, saying 85% of its citizens will use the national language by 2025. The move appears to put threatened Chinese regional dialects such as Cantonese and Hokkien under even greater pressure.

Nov GST mop up at ₹1.31 lakh crore

SECOND HIGHEST SINCE ROLL OUT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in November grew 25 per cent to ₹1.31 lakh crore - second highest since its implementation - indicating economic recovery with normalisation of business activity and increased compliance, a Finance Ministry statement said on Wednesday.

This is the fifth month in a row that the revenues from goods sold and services rendered was over ₹1 lakh crore.

“The gross GST revenue collected in the month of November 2021 is ₹1,31,526 crore of which CGST is ₹23,978 crore, SGST is ₹31,127 crore, IGST is ₹66,815 crore (including ₹32,165 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is ₹9,606 crore (including ₹653 crore collected on import of goods),” the statement said.

CGST refers to Central

Goods and Services Tax, SGST (State Goods and Services Tax) and IGST (Integrated Goods and Services Tax).

The revenues for the month of November 2021, are 25 per cent higher than close to ₹1.05 lakh crore Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue in November 2020, and 27 per cent higher over November 2019 revenues.

“The GST revenues for November 2021 have been the second highest ever since introduction of GST, second only to that in April 2021, which related to year-end revenues and higher than last month’s collection, which also included the impact of returns required to be filed quarterly. This is very much in line with the trend in economic recovery,” the ministry said.

In October 2021, the revenues were at ₹1,30,127 crore, while in April 2021 it was the highest at ₹1,39,708 crore.

The recent trend of high GST revenues has been a result of various policy and adminis-

trative measures that have been taken in the past to improve compliance. GST, which subsumed a host of indirect taxes like excise duty, service tax, VAT, was rolled out on July 1, 2017.

A large number of initiatives undertaken in the last one year like, enhancement of system capacity, nudging non-filers after last date of filing of returns, auto-population of returns, blocking of e-way bills and passing of input tax credit for non-filers has led to consistent improvement in the filing of returns over the last few months, the ministry added.

ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said collections may dip in December 2021, as suggested by the deceleration in the daily average e-way bill generation in the first three weeks of November 2021.

“We expect Central GST collections to rise to ₹5.8 trillion in FY2022, exceeding the FY2022 BE by ₹50,000 crore,” Nayar added.

5,554 cr digital transactions logged in FY2020-21: Minister Chandrasekhar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Digital payment transactions have witnessed a multifold increase in the last few years, growing to 5,554 crore in FY2020-21 from 1,004 crore in FY2016-17, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

The number of digital transactions stood at 4,683 crore in the ongoing fiscal till mid-November, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

“Digital Payments transactions have been steadily increasing since last few years. Over the past four years, digital payment transactions have grown multifold from 1,004 crore in FY2016-17 to 5,554 crore in FY2020-21. State/UT-wise transaction details are not maintained,” he added.

The Minister said number of digital transactions stood at 3,134 crore (FY19), 4,572 crore (FY20), 5,554 (FY21) crore and 4,683 crore (FY22 till mid November).

Citing a report by the

Reserve Bank of India, Chandrasekhar said India has a strong regulatory system and robust large value and retail payment systems that have contributed to the rapid growth in the volume of transactions in these payment systems.

There has been a substantial growth in e-payments by Government and also in digital infrastructure in terms of mobile networks, the report said.

The report emphasises the need to undertake further efforts to bring down the volume of paper clearing and increase acceptance infrastructure to enhance digital payments in India, it added.

In response to a separate question, Chandrasekhar said the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) had rolled out Digital Village project on pilot basis in 700 villages (with atleast one Gram Panchayat or Village per district per State/UT) in October, 2018 for delivery of various citizen centric services viz education and health, skill and financial inclusion, and solar lights.

IPO rush continues; 10 cos line up public issues worth ₹10,000 cr in Dec

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The IPO lane will continue to be busy in December as 10 companies have lined up initial share-sale plans worth more than ₹10,000 crore, merchant banking sources said on Wednesday.

Moreover, the initial public offerings of Star Health and Allied Insurance and Tega Industries are currently open for public subscription.

This comes after 10 firms successfully concluded their initial public offerings (IPOs) in November.

Among the companies that scheduled their IPOs in this month include Rate Gain Travel Technologies, travel and hospitality technology services provider, and Anand Rath Wealth Ltd, part of Mumbai-based financial services group Anand Rath. RateGain’s ₹1,335-crore initial share-sale will open for public subscription during December 7-9, and the ₹660-crore IPO of Anand Rath Wealth will open on December 2.

India-China trade deficit stands at USD 30 bn during Q1

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Trade deficit between India and China stood at USD 30.07 billion during April-September 2021, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

India’s exports to China during the April-September 2021 period was USD 12.26 billion, while imports were aggregated at USD 42.33 billion, according to data given by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

She said the imports from China have increased from USD 60.41 billion in 2014-15 to

USD 65.21 billion in 2020-21, exhibiting an increase of 7.94 per cent over six years.

However, the imports were static between 2019-20 and 2020-21, she said.

“The Government has made sustained efforts to achieve a more balanced trade with China, including bilateral engagements to address the non-tariff barriers on Indian exports to China,” Patel said.

Schemes like the production-linked incentive scheme will help promote domestic manufacturing capacities and attract investment and reduce dependency on imports from China, the Minister said.



Commercial LPG cylinders hiked by ₹100

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders for commercial usage was hiked by ₹100 per cylinder by the Oil marketing companies. This is a second hike after the price was increased on November 1. Following the hike, the price of the 19-kg commercial cylinder will now cost ₹2101 per cylinder in Delhi; ₹2051 in Mumbai; ₹2174.50 in Kolkata and ₹2234 in Chennai. However,

there is no increase in prices of other domestic cylinders weighing 14.2kg, 5 kg, 10kg composite or 5kg composite cylinders.

Presently, a 14.2kg Domestic cylinder in the national capital cost ₹899.50 and the 19kg cylinder commercial cylinder is costing ₹2,101. LPG Cylinder Rate is revised monthly for all over the States and Union Territories in

India.

Earlier on November 1, prices of 19kg Commercial cylinder has seen a steep rise of ₹266, increasing the prices to ₹2,000.50. On October 1, prices of 19kg commercial cylinders were increased by ₹43 and decreased by ₹2.50 on October 6.

On September 1, the prices of these cylinders were increased by ₹75.

King George's Medical University U.P., Lucknow Custom Bid Inviting Notice

Notice No.: 008/GeM/PS/FO/21-22 Dated : 01-12-2021
Custom bid on GeM Portal are invited under 02 e-bid systems (technical & financial) for the Purchase of Equipment for Diff. Departments & PICU (Covid) from the OEM and their or their authorized Indian agents for diff. departments items and OEM for PICU item on the terms and conditions as per custom bid document. Short details can be viewed at kgmu.org & detailed will be available on GeM portal. (Finance Officer)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that HARGOBIND GARG who is in the process to avail the loan against the property bearing Nagar Palika Property LT No. 05157568/701, Area Measuring 1 Kanal, Part of Mtu. No. 107, Kila No. 33/1, Situated at Village Taudu, Distt. Nooh owned by him vide Sale Deed dated 14.10.2021 (Doc No. 1764 read with Initial No. 18850)

Whereas he has lost one of the original previous title deed i.e. Sale Deed dated 27/7/90 in favour of Saraswati Devi in lieu of that she has also lodged an FIR on dated 29/11/2021. All persons having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, 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 be waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan for purchase of the said Property and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect thereof.

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)
Shop No. 5 & 6, Pk-E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-I, Delhi-91, Mob. 9810063351

RAIL DISPLAY NETWORK CONTRACT AT RANGIYA

Tender Notice No.: C/78/RNY/RD/2019, Date: 29-11-2021. E -Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works. **Name of Work:** Rail Display Network Contract (Rudain) through Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Video Wall of size 6'x4', Digital screen of size 65", True Color Video Wall of size 18.90'x12.60', LED TV screen of size 49" & 55" at 19 stations namely New Bongaigaon, Rangiya, Barpeta Road, Bijn, Bongaigaon, Dhemraj, Goalpara Town, Gogamukh, Hamtui, Mukongselek, Naharlagun, North Lakhimpur, Nalbari, Pathasala, Rangapara North, Silapathar, Tihu, Tangle & Udalguri Station with scope of display of advertisements along with railway messages in 50:50 Time Slot/Space sharing for 05 (five) years contractual period. **Advised Value :** ₹ 19,72,559/-; **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2,09,500/-; **Tender Document Cost :** ₹ 5,600/-; **Date and Time of Closing of tender :** 15:00 hrs. on 30-12-2021. For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. DCM, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

ELECTRICAL WORKS

E-Tender Notice No.: DY.CEE/CON/MLG/13/2021; Dated: 26-11-2021. Open tender through e-Tendering system is invited from experienced and reputed Contractor (s)/firm(s) having valid electrical contractor and supervisor license for the following work:- **SN-1. Tender No. ELC-MLG-06-21-22-DK-RT. Name of work:** Clearing of electrical infringement by shifting, diversion & modification of over head power line and over head track crossing by under ground cable of 33 KV, 11 KV & LT over head power line in between Dhansiri-Zubza section in connection with New BG line project of Dimapur- Kohima new BG line project. **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,95,88,328/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,95,000/-; **Completion period:** 180 days. **SN-2. Tender No. ELC-MLG-06-20-21-D-K. Name of work:** Electrification on new Camp Office cum rest house building, circulating area & sub-ordinate rest house at Kohima in connection with Dimapur-Kohima new line Project. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,55,10,082/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,27,600/-; **Completion period:** 180 days. E-tender will be closed at 14:30 hrs. on 22-12-2021 and opened at 15:00 hrs. on 22-12-2021. For Details Please visit www.ireps.gov.in.

DY. Chief Electrical Engineer/CON Maligaon
Northeast Frontier Railway
(Construction Organisation)
"Serving Customers with a smile"

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. Sangeeta Makkar, Mr. Pulkit Makkar and Mr. Prateek Makkar had entered into Agreement for purchase of House No. 951-P, measuring 173.33 Sq.Yards, Sector-7C, Faridabad, Haryana from Mr. Gurpreet Singh Sodhi S/o Sh. Mohan Singh Sodhi and Original General Power of Attorney dated 23.03.1972 in favour of Mr. Ramesh Chand Mahajan, Smt. Asha Mahajan and Smt. Ravi Rekhi and Original Sale Deed dated 11.08.1972 in favour of Smt. Sudesh Aggarwal and Original Sale Deed dated 05.05.1981 in favour of Shri Gurendra Singh and Original Re-Allotment Letter dated 26.11.1996 in favour of Shri Preet Kumar Singh Sabharwal have been lost/misplaced and my client is mortgaging the said property with LIC Housing Finance Ltd. If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right, interest whatsoever in the said property shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, than our client shall procure that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear.

Karnail Singh, Advocate, K-8, Basement, Jungpura Extension New Delhi Contact No. 9811163363 & 9953683363.

PUBLIC NOTICE

"MUTUATION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY BEARING PLOT NUMBER B-21, SECTOR-14, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH. PROBATE CERTIFICATE DATED 25.10.2021 GRANTED BY THE COURT OF HONOURABLE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE(1), GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR IN PROBATE PETITION 28 OF 2012, IS BEING APPLIED BY THE EXECUTORS / KRISHAN KUMAR KASHYAP AND BINDU JAIRAJ SINGH .ANY PERSON HAVING OBJECTION MAY SUBMIT OBJECTIONS WITHIN 30 DAYS OF PUBLIC NOTICE WITH RESIDENTIAL PLOT DEPARTMENT, NOIDA AUTHORITY".

GAURAV KUMAR SINGH (Advocate, Tr.5654/98 Regn. No. UP-4385/99) 59-D, Pocket-03, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091 Ph.: 981284899

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone:- 0135-2763808, Fax:- 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

RO No. 916 e-Tender Notice Date: 30.11.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M), Maneri Dam, Maneri, Uttarkashi invited online bid from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

(1) Tender No. :10/EE(E&M)/Maneri Dam/2021-22
(2) Tender No. :11/EE(E&M)/Maneri Dam/2021-22

(1) Name of work : Annual Routine Maintenance (ARM) of Hydro-Mechanical and Electro-Mechanical equipment of Maneri Dam, Maneri Uttarkashi
(2) Name of work: Annual operation and routine maintenance contract of Sirror Irrigation lift scheme at Heena, Uttarkashi
Estimated cost : (1) ₹26,87,434.00 (excluding taxes) (2) ₹9,44,340.00 (excluding taxes)
Date of availability of bid document on website: 01.12.2021 at 10:00 hrs. Last date of submission of bid on website: 21.12.2021 at 17:00 hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>.

Executive Engineer (E&M)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Ajmuddin @ Chinju** S/o Ikram R/o Jhuggi No. 42, Shyam Nagar, Near Pacific Mall, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 1003/2020 u/s 380/457/411/34 IPC P.S. Rajouri Garden, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Ajmuddin @ Chinju** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ajmuddin @ Chinju** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Ajmuddin @ Chinju** accused of FIR No. 1003/2020 u/s 380/457/411/34 IPC P.S. Rajouri Garden, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **10.01.2022.**

By Order : **Sh. Vinik Jain, Metropolitan Magistrate (West), Room No. 356, 3rd Floor, Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi**

DP/648/WD/21

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Nitin

General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) namely: **Nitin S/o Shyamveer R/o C-74 JJ Colony Raghunagar, Delhi** has been missing since **16.11.2021 at about 5:00 PM**. In this regard DD No. **105A** Dated **17.11.2021** has been lodged at **PS Khyala, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 19 years, **Height:** 5'9" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Red & White colour Tracksuit and Plastic chappal in feet.

Any person having information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following:-

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> **SHO**
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in **P.S. Khyala, Delhi**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob:** 9599730246, 8750871132
Fax No.: 011-24368639 **DP/645/WD/2021**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one male namely unknown S/o unknown R/o unknown. Age about 40-45 yrs., Height 5'4", Fair Complexion, Face long, Thin built wearing brown colour sweater and blue jeans was found dead on footpath Asaf Ali Road, Dayanand Bhawan Darya Ganj, Delhi on 21.11.2021.

In this regard a DD No. 42-A Dt. 21.11.2021 has been lodged at PS Darya Ganj, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved at MAMC Hospital Mortuary for 72 hrs.

Any person having any information or clue about this deceased male may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or telephone nos. given below.

S.H.O.,

PS Darya Ganj, Delhi

Ph.: 011-23274683, 23279331

DP/1111/CD/2021

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड बैकुण्ठपुर जिला कोरिया (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकदेवर्ती द्वारा जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु आनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

निविदा सूचना क्रमांक / दिनांक	टेन्डर सिस्टम नम्बर	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)
27 / 25.11.2021	87590	जल जीवन मिशन हर घर नल से जल अंतर्गत सोट्रोसेफिटिंग योजना का कार्य विकासखण्ड - खड़गवा ग्राम सौंस एवं खड़गवा।	रु. 381.47 लाख
28 / 25.11.2021	87591	जल जीवन मिशन हर घर नल से जल अंतर्गत सोट्रोसेफिटिंग योजना का कार्य विकासखण्ड - खड़गवा ग्राम कटकोना।	रु. 146.12 लाख

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यो की निविदा दिनांक - 13.12.2021 तक ऑनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा की सामान्य शर्तों, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज एवं अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है।

हस्ता /—


कार्यापालन अभियंता

R.O No.:- 65491/11

R.O Date:- 30/11/2021

लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड

बैकुण्ठपुर



**MADHYA PRADESH HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER 2nd CALL

Online Percentage Rate bids for the following works are invited from registered Contractors/ firms of repute fulfilling registration criteria.

S. No.	System E-Tender No.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract & EMD & Cost of Tender Form	Completion Period	Date of Purchase & Submission of Bids	Date of Opening of Tenders Envelop A
1.	2021_MPHID_170733	Construction of New Work, Renovation Work, Barrier Free and Development Work at Govt. Srimant Madhavrao Scindiya College Gwalior (M.P.)	Rs. 779.96 Lacs & Rs. 780000/- & Rs. 23600/- (l/c Gst)	15 Months I/c Rainy Season.	Dt. 08.12.2021 10:30 AM & Dt. 29.12.21 upto 17:00 PM	Dt. 30.12.2021/ 17:15 PM Envelop A

Full Details of above Tenders can be seen on www.mptenders.gov.in. Amendments in NIT, if any Shall be published on Website only.

/mphidb /mphidb

(S.K. SHARMA)
E.E., Div. 02, Gwalior
Mob. : 7898894711

M.P. Madhyam/102837/2021

GOVT. OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CUM CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
JORHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, JORHAT
(Under Society for Medical Education Jorhat)

No. SMFJ/JMCH/2552/2021/ 14 572

Short Tender Notice
(Inviting e-tender)

Sealed bid (two bid systems) affixing cost fee stamp of Rs. 8.25/- (rupees eight and paise twenty five) only or IPO of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten) only (in case of bidders from outside of the State of Assam) arc invites from the experienced **Authorised Dealer/Distributor/Manufacturer for Supply of Radio Diagnostics and Interventional Items** on rate contract basis to Jorhat Medical College & Hospital, Jorhat-Assam through the online e-procurement system i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in as per following schedule:

Date and Time of Publishing of e-Bid Document	Date and Time of Pre Bid Meeting	Date and Time of Start of Bid submission	Date and Time of End of Bid submission	Date and Time of Opening of e-Technical Bid	Tentative Date and Time of Opening of e-Price Bid
3.00 P.M only of 03-12-2021	1.00 P.M of 09-12-2021	2.00 P.M of 10-12-2021	12.00 P.M of 24-12-2021	1.00 P.M of 24-12-2021	Shall be communicated to the technically qualified bidders subsequently

1. The complete e-tender document may be obtained from the e-tender portal: <https://assamtenders.gov.in/> & our official website: <http://jorhatmedicalcollegc.in>.
2. The participating bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in/>.
3. The Tender shall be submitted online only through the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in/>. The bidders must be submit a hardcopy of their tender document to the o/o, the Principal cum Chief Superintendent, JMC&H, Jorhat after successful submission of their tender through online on or before 26-12-2021 at 12.00 P.M.
4. The institute reserves the right to reject any/all applications without assigning any reason what so ever.

sd/-
Principal cum Chief Superintendent,
Jorhat Medical College & Hospital, Jorbat

Janasanyog/C/8391/21

**ICICI Bank**

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

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

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

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

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Sangeeta De (Borrower), Sagorika De, Suranjana De (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002417814, LBFDB00002417371	Fiat No. T2/1601, 16th Floor, Sunword Arista, GH-01/C, Sector 168, Noida, UP 201301 Area 3500 Sq.Ft.	Rs. 2,31,39,445.8 (as on November 23, 2021)	Rs. 1,32,00,000/- (Rs. 13,20,000/-)	December 10, 2021 From 11:00AM to 1:00 PM	December 24, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website ([URL Link-https://disposalhub.com](https://disposalhub.com)) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited . The Mortgagors/ noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **December 23, 2021 before 05:00 PM** else this secured asset will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No 23, Shal Tower 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005**, and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **December 23, 2021 before 05:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable



While cinema binds all of us, the enthusiasts, together closely and the power has not hindered by the pandemic, in the sense that theatres are back. And with a bang! It is film festivals that ensure good quality content is consumed and promoted throughout.

Providing a 'Window To Europe', the 26th edition of the European Union Film Festival was held throughout the month November, featuring award-winning European cinema. They brought forth inspiring stories, all from the comfort and safety of our homes, thus celebrating the diversity and depth of European cinema and culture.

One of the 60 feature films was *Gold* — set in Netherlands, the 90-minute drama film is directed by the award-winning commercial director Rogier Hesp. The story focusses on a promising young gymnast, Timo, and his disabled father, Ward, who share a dream of winning gold at Olympics. But as Timo meets his physiotherapist, Irene, new and intense feelings come in the way and contradict with his dedication to his father and their 'mission'.

A graduate from Netherlands Film Academy, Hesp's graduation film called *Sight* received the Nassenstein Startprijs for Best Fiction project from the academy.

Some of his notable works are *Rosalinda* and *Ketamine*. He has also



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

ROGIER HESP aims to show the other side of success through his film *Gold*, featuring at the European Union Film Festival. By KHUSHBU KIRTI



won gold and silver twice at the Cannes Lions Festival in 2010 with his commercial *Dramaqueen*.

Read on for excerpts from an interview with Hesp about his debutant.

◆**Congratulations on your film, *Gold*, entering the European Union Film Festival.**

Please tell us everything about it!
Gold is my feature debut and an intimate story about a professional sport. It is a film in which we follow a young gymnast closely, who experiences the pressure of being the top athlete. The narrative is explored through his eyes.

The story revolves around the suffocating relationship between him and his disabled father and their dream of winning the Olympic gold.

◆**Is *Gold* inspired by true events?**
Gold is inspired by many stories in professional sports in which athletes' thought-process clashes with that of their parents. In many cases, that relationship breaks down.

In my youth I saw how top-class sport gave one of my friends a status.

It gave him an identity and security. Back then, I only saw the success. Later on, I understood the possible pressure that comes with it. Doesn't our society look too much at what you are, and not at who you are? Does success work as an adhesive poison? And what role do parents play in this?

It is a dangerous thing, you see — parents seeing their children as an extension of their own ego. Sometimes, they have to live up to their missed dreams or opportunities. This was the starting point for our vision of *Gold*.

◆**So, the film is about the distorted relationship and the war of ego between the father and the son?**

Every parent hopefully wants the best for its child. They give them directions, so their children can sail the right course.

I became a father myself and I got to know feelings of proudness when my

son learns something new. How will I react when I notice that he has a special talent? Indicating a course can quickly change in determine direction. The pride creates a monster. There is a danger that parents will over-identify with their children. This way you can get a reversed dependency. Children have to perform for the egos of their parents. It is in the sports world mostly, where you come across these kinds of stories.

This film shows in a penetrating way the dilemma of so many teenagers. The inner struggle between your identity and the love of a parent.

◆**What is the significance of the title?**

Every top athlete has one goal — winning gold. However, with this film, we wanted to show the other side of the medal. A real story about the hellish journey towards that dream.

◆**What do you think of the difference between films that are making a mark at the festivals and which are commercially successful. Why do you feel that is?**

The reason, according to me, is because there is obviously more freedom, and less thinking within the box, along with sharper subjects.

◆**What, according to you, is the USP of the film? Why should more people watch it?**

For the first time, it shows a sports film that does not romanticise the image. This is a sincere portrait of the life of a young athlete. And to make it as authentic as possible, the main role is played by a real gymnast. So David has transformed himself from a gymnast into an actor.

◆**EUFF is an event that celebrates the diversity and creativity of European theatre, heritage and culture.**

What opinion do you have for platforms of this sort that give recognition to the local films?

A film is a way to reflect emotions. It is beautiful to see that emotion is universal and these festivals enable that. Stories from every corner of the world reach a wider audience and touch more lives. It is wonderful!



Discovering hidden gems

CYRUS SAHUKAR is back to unfold unexplored cultures of India with Discovery's *Lost Essence S2*

After the success of *Lost Essence Season 1*, Discovery Channel is back with its season two and is all geared up to showcase the unexplored gems of India that are tucked away in the remotest corners of the country. The new season that premiered on November 30 inspired conversations, captured imagination, and created awareness about these unexplored locations of India like the rugged valleys and mountains of Ladakh and Turtuk covering North and roaring beauty of Shillong, Meghalaya and Manipur covering Northeast regions of India, whilst taking one through a journey like never before.

Hosted by a man of numerous talents, who is also a travel enthusiast, Cyrus Sahukar will be unfolding hidden facts about unexplored cultures and locations to bring the country's lost essence to life. With roads that are not well-trodden, the anchor also encountered unmatched thrill and adventure, as he experienced the authentic mouth-watering North East cuisines,

learnt of old and rich culture of these places and met some interesting people as he made his way to the destination.

Sharing his experience on the show, Sahukar said, "This show has given me an experience of a lifetime. While the picturesque terrains, culture and food etched a place in my heart, this journey has thoroughly satisfied my inner travel enthusiast. I am thrilled by the fact that will now know more about these magical hidden gems that are travel friendly and were tucked away in the remote parts of the country. These places are sure to top the viewers' travel list as the show uncovers the best kept secrets of India."

Shaun Nanjappa, head of advertising sales, South Asia, Discovery Inc, shared, "India is one of the world's largest, oldest and richest civilizations and is known for its abundant heritage. It is home to so much more than one has explored or aims to explore. This show is sure to inspire conversations on so many levels whilst the viewers discover the undiscovered."

Start-ups are dynamic organisations. Being a new business in the market, they always thrive for new ideas to gain traction. To ensure success, start-ups need to have the right talent at the right time that can contribute to their flourishing growth. However, amid the competitive business scenario, hiring has become one of the toughest challenges for every organisation. It becomes even difficult if a start-up relies on skilled or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) employees. Landing at the right talent can give a tough time to the organisation.

On the other hand, larger companies have deeper pockets than start-ups. They focus on hiring new-age tech talents including software developers, data scientists, AI or IoT experts and many others to stay ahead in the technology-driven world. Start-ups need to attract the right talent and retain them for long.

Focusing on the potential of culture

The key to having a competent team is culture fit. It is one of the most crucial parts of the hiring strategy. Culture is something that evolves over time and shapes the personality of the brand. To attract the right talent, start-ups need to cultivate an atmosphere to make the employees feel welcomed, required and happy to work that in turn impacts business performance. As per the estimates of a study — around 94 per cent of executives and 88 per cent of employees believe a distinct workplace culture is important to business success. Any organisation can start from the first day to create a fun and engaging work environment. They can build an atmosphere where employees feel comfortable while increasing the chances of growth in the organisation.

Utilising the capabilities of technology

Technology has become an indispensable part of our life and start-up ecosystem. Similarly, it has become an important part of business and when organisations look for a competent workforce, they should adopt the technology. This increases employees' productivity and automates their tasks for better efficiency at work. From improving the way employees work to freeing them from the burden of tedious

THE RIGHT FIT

Start-ups need to find and retain employees that fit into their work culture, suggests YOGITA TULSIANI



Give people reason to join you

The advent of start-up culture has redefined the way industries function. Traditionally, the corporate industry revolved around money. However, start-ups have recreated the culture to join a company for reasons other than money. Some people find start-up organisations more flexible while others get space to innovate and think creatively. Start-ups must focus on building positive company culture with great team spirit. It helps employees recognise the company's people-centric culture that will help them grow. For instance, startups can create purpose-driven non-financial incentive programs to promote learning and rewarding employees.

Showcasing business impact

It is imperative to understand that not all employees work only for money. They have become mission-driven and passionate about accomplishing their professional goals. This category of employees makes a greater contribution to the company's overall business performance. Furthermore, start-up teams are usually small, thus, the company can take due advantage of recognising and appreciating their employees to boost their motivation. It becomes vital in aligning them with business goals and make them a part of the development process to impact the consumers' life make a robust strategy to innovate the talent development process.

Summing up

Start-ups have a higher degree of accountability than larger organisations. It is considered a learning ground for beginners and a battlefield for experienced employees. However, retention and attribution need to be viewed differently and a precise focus must be kept on innovating the talent development process.

(The author is the MD and co-founder of iXceed Solutions, a global tech-recruiter provider.)

Skincare has always had a special place in everybody's life. Some people can get away by only using moisturiser and sunscreen daily while others follow a full-fledged regimen. Skincare becomes a requisite thing when some special days are just about to next door. These can be your first date day, your anniversary night or the most special wedding day. It can be anything.

Then just using a moisturiser, cream or even only sunscreen can't serve the purpose. You need to follow a proper am to pm skincare routine that could give you a glowing, brighter, flawless and spotless face.

So, what are you waiting for? Here is the full bloom skincare routine for your special days. It takes just a few minutes for you to look through this important skincare timetable that you can also do on normal days:

AM SKINCARE ROUTINE

◆**Start your day with a glass of water**

Your AM skincare routine starts in the early morning and it is not about cleansing your face. The first thing you need to do in your morning skincare regimen is to drink warm/lukewarm water on an empty stomach, about one hour before eating anything. You can add some lemon drops or honey to it.

This ritual will help to detox your blood and eventually your skin. This provides your skin with a natural glow and radiance from within. You can't get results in one day or a week. Start doing this routine at least before a month of your wedding.

◆**Use a mild cleanser to clean the face**

Don't go for harsh soaps or sulphate or chemical-based cleansers before your wedding. Such products can harm your skin, lead to dryness or some kind of sensitivity. Opt for a mild cleansing lotion.

◆**Give your skin the dose of hydrating serum**

Serums are very good for

Get that glow

Follow the routine, by RAJESH GROVER, to shine on your special day



your skin. It goes deeply into the skin and nurtures the skin from within.

A hyaluronic acid serum is best to include in your skincare routine before your wedding special day. It will help to maintain the overall skin integrity, skin barrier function and long-lasting skin hydration. Your skin will look healthy, refreshing and illuminating.

◆**Must add moisturiser into your daily routine**

Many of us think that only applying sunscreen or serum is enough and our skin needs no moisturiser. But this is not the case, even when your skin type is oily.

A moisturiser acts to cover your skin and prevent transepidermal water loss. For people with oily skin, a mattifying moisturiser helps to keep skin oil-free and mattify along with keeping skin hydrated. So, don't skip this step, although do some search and find a proper moisturiser as per your skin type.

◆**Safeguard the skin with a broad-spectrum sunscreen**

It is the must have step of skincare. Your skin needs protection against harmful sun rays, urban pollution and heat (IR) rays. A broad-spectrum sunscreen with potent antioxidant formula and PA factor can give whole protection from all these environmental aggressors.

You can choose gel-based, mineral or any other base for your skin type as per your skin type. Apply sunscreen every single day.

◆**Some greens, a fruit and green tea every day**

Along with the above mentioned skincare, also give inner nutrition to your skin. Some greens like broccoli, spinach; fruits like oranges, strawberries, kiwi, apples and a cup of green tea every day will help to detox your body, clean skin from within and provide radiance from within.

PM SKINCARE ROUTINE

Night skincare is as important as morning skincare. Grime, dirt and pollution make your face dirty and full of free radicals. Your skin needs rejuvenation therapy after the whole day.

◆**Remove makeup and cleanse the face**

The very first thing is to use a cleansing lotion and remove makeup. Cleanse your face. It will help to clean your skin and help to breathe them.

◆**Apply face toner and repair face serum**

Face toner is a skincare essential that helps to tone and balance your skin pH. A vitamin C based or witch hazel based serum is amazing to give skin the needed rejuvenation. After applying the toner, give your skin a break of one to two minutes and then go for vitamin C serum. Vitamin C is an amazing antioxidant that neutralises the free radicals, de tan the skin and makes skin even-toned and healthy. At night this serum will help to repair your damaged skin.

◆**Go for under eye cream gel**

Afterwards, apply an under-eye cream gel to give your eyes some beauty treatment. A good under eye cream-gel will not only help to tackle dark circles but also provides your under-eye skin with the needed relaxation and a renewed life.

◆**Pamper your skin on alternate days**

Now take any natural face mask made of fuller's earth, gram flour or oatmeal. Apply this on every alternative day before sleeping. It will bring a different kind of sun-kissed glow to your face.

◆**Give your skin the much-needed treatment**

Now decide what your skin needs the most. Are the dark spots your concern or ageing signs? Else, you only need to give a hydrating touch to your face. Accordingly end your pm skincare routine with brightening cream, anti-ageing cream or just a good hydrating moisturiser.

Apply these simple am and pm skincare rituals into your daily life and gift yourself the natural illuminating skin.

(The author is co-founder of Derma Essentia.)



MANOJ BAYPAYEE PRAISES IFFI

Stating that he believed the International Film Festival of India was a great vehicle to encourage India's next generation of filmmakers, actor **MANOJ BAJPAYEE** said that he believed the country could be a great force in entertainment.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the 52nd edition of IFFI here, Bajpayee said, "I personally believe that the IFFI, organised by the government of India is a great vehicle to instigate and encourage new filmmakers and the coming generation of filmmakers. A country of such a huge population can be a great force in entertainment."

fairtalk

PIYUSH MISHRA



'You know I did my first play in school. My first professional theatre was in 1979 (*Dilli Teri Baat Miral*). I have a sense of belonging and have a relationship with stage. I never knew what stage-fear is...never felt it. When I write, act in theatre, direct plays or other creative outlet that I have been exploring, I think I am meant for it. But I am not talented as an artiste, I am gifted.'

dailytalk

SHAM MASHALKAR



'In films, the scene which we are going to do is already pre-decided like in the film *Bachna Ae Haseeno*, one or one and a half months before, I got a welcome letter from YRF along with the script, chocolates and a bouquet. In TV, such things do not happen as the scenes change immediately. They tell us to mug everything up.'

CLOONEY ON HIS 2018 ACCIDENT

Actor **GEORGE CLOONEY** thought he would die in his 2018 motorbike crash. He was frustrated that people stopped to film him on the ground instead of helping.

Clooney shared, "If you're in the public eye, what you realise when you feel it's the last minute of your life is that, for some people, it's just going to be entertainment for their Facebook page."

"I'm a pretty positive guy, but that told me — clearly — that you really are here just for their entertainment," he added.



Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) records production of 42 locomotives in the month of November of FY 21-22. This is the best production figure in any FY. The noteworthy feat was achieved under the leadership Satish Kumar Kashyup, general manager, with his continuous motivation and encouragement to the CLW workforce.

PTI ■ HUELVA (SPAIN)

Defending champion PV Sindhu has got a first round bye and faces the prospect of coming up against Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Tai Tzu Ying and former world number one Carolina Marin in the quarterfinals and semifinals respectively of the World Badminton Championships here. Sindhu, who won a bronze in the Tokyo Olympics, has been seeded sixth in the December 12-19 showpiece event. The world number seven Indian has seen a resurgence in form as she had reached semifinals in the last three tournaments she had played. Sindhu faces the winner of Martina Repiska of Slovenia and Russell Hartawan of Indonesia in the second round. If she clears the third round, Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu, who had beaten her in the Tokyo Olympics semifinals, will be awaiting her in the quarterfinals.

If she Sindhu gets past Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu, she could be up against Marin who had beaten her in the 2016 Rio



Olympics summit clash.

Marin returns from injury straight into the World Championships and she will be

playing in an arena named after her. Tai Tzu has also taken sufficient rest as she hasn't played since winning silver at Tokyo 2020.

The other half of the women's singles has two players -- Akane Yamaguchi of Japan and An Seyoung of Korea -- who have

swept the prominent World Tour titles since the Olympics. Nozomi Okuhara of Japan whom Sindhu had beaten in the

2019 final is also in the other half of the draw.

Tokyo Olympics champion Chen Yu Fei of China is not taking part like many other players from her country.

In men's singles, Kidambi Srikanth, seeded 12th, will open his campaign against local player Pablo Abian and has the prospect of facing compatriot B Sai Praneeth (seeded 14th) in the quarterfinals, if both are able to reach that stage.

Defending champion and top seed Kento Momota of Japan could be the man waiting for the Indians in the semifinals.

Young Lakshya Sen has also been drawn in the same half as his two senior compatriots and faces Max Weisskirchen of Germany in the opening round. He can be up against Momota in the quarterfinals if the Indian reaches there.

In the men's

doubles, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have been seeded eighth and handed a first round bye. Three other Indian pairs -- Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy, MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila, and Arun George and Sanyam Shukla are also in the fray.

In women's doubles, the pair of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy will face the French duo of Delphine Delrue and Lea Palermo in the first round.

Two other Indian pairs -- Pooja Dandu and Sanjana Santosh, and Maneesha K and Rutaparna Panda -- are also in the fray.

In mixed doubles, three Indian pairs -- Saurabh Sharma and Anoushka Parikh, MR Arjun and Maneesha K and Utkarsh Arora and K a r i s h m a Wadkar -- are in the fray.



We are getting best possible preparation for World Cup: Mithali

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India are scheduled to play only one series before the Women's World Cup early next year but ODI skipper Mithali Raj feels the team is getting the best preparation possible ahead of the mega event.

In the last nine months, India hosted South Africa before playing a three-match series in England and Australia. They lost all three series but made the mighty Australia work really hard for it and also ended their 26-match winning streak in the third ODI Down Under.

India will play World Cup hosts New Zealand before the ICC event in March-April.

"We have played three best teams since March and it has



given us good preparation. Players have played domestic cricket and also in the Women's Big Bash so they are getting game time which is the most

important thing.

"We are getting to play in New Zealand before World Cup which is also good," said Mithali after a partnership

between KFC and Indian Deaf Cricket Association was announced here on Wednesday. India, who were unable to post 250 plus scores, did that twice in the Australia series and chased down 265 in the final ODI.

"When you play against a strong team in its backyard you try to give your best. Though we lost the series, the matches were very close. We scored 270 and chased 270 odd, if we can do that consistently we will be among the best sides in world cricket," said Mithali.

Middle-order batting needs improvement but Mithali said all departments must fire as a unit if they are to win the World Cup.

"We bat as a unit so you can't pinpoint one area. There

are times when top order failed and the others performed. As a unit if we look to post a good total then it will help. If we focus on one area like middle order then it becomes too much of a burden for that particular slot."

India finished runners-up in 2017 when not many expected them to but expectations will be high this time.

"There were not enough expectations back then. Now in 2021 players have got experience and got a lot of exposure with the T20 leagues. Overall we have young players but they have got enough exposure. It is just of matter of gelling well as a team.

"Every match will be different there. The quicker we read our opponents the better it will be for us," she added.

Andy Flower steps down from coaching role at Punjab Kings



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Assistant coach Andy Flower has parted ways with Punjab Kings and is expected to land a role in one of the new teams ahead of IPL 2022.

Former Zimbabwe captain Flower, who worked as a coach in England for more than a decade and guided the national team there, was hired for his maiden IPL stint ahead of the 2020

season. "He sent his resignation to the team recently. It has been accepted.

There is a good chance that he goes to one of the new teams (Lucknow or Ahmedabad)," a BCCI official told PTI.

There is a good possibility that the 53-year-old is given a bigger role in his next IPL assignment.

Flower worked alongside head coach Anil Kumble for the past two seasons. The development comes at a time when K L Rahul, Punjab Kings skipper for the past two seasons, is expected to move to the Lucknow franchise.

Punjab wanted to retain Rahul but he did not want to stay.

It remains to be seen if Flower stays as head coach of CPL franchise Saint Lucia Kings, which is owned by same consortium that owns Punjab Kings. Saint Lucia finished runners-up in 2020 and 2021 season.

Germany beats Britain in Davis Cup for 1st semi since 2007

AP ■ INNSBRUCK

Germany came from behind to upset Britain in the Davis Cup quarterfinals after Kevin Krawietz and Tim Pütz won the decisive doubles match.

The German pair defeated British teammates Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski 7-6 (10), 7-6 (5) after the best-of-three tie was level following the two singles.

Krawietz and Pütz saved four set points in the tiebreaker before taking the opening set and won the second tiebreaker after winning seven straight points from 5-0



down.

"This is an incredible team achievement," Krawietz said. "We have a great atmosphere in the team from day

one." Daniel Evans had given Britain the lead by beating Peter Gojowczyk 6-2, 6-1, but Jan-Lennard Struff pulled Germany even with the 10-

time champion by beating Cameron Norrie 7-6 (6), 3-6, 6-2. Germany has won the Davis Cup three times but not since 1993. In its first semifinal since 2007, Germany will meet either Sweden or the team from Russia on Saturday. Croatia will face either Serbia or Kazakhstan in the other semifinal.

"We have done everything to win," Struff said. "We hope our journey goes on and the next goal is to win the semifinal."

Britain was seeking its fourth semifinal berth in the last six editions of the tournament. It last won the event in 2015, and it had beaten

Germany 2-0 when the teams also met in the quarterfinal two years ago.

"Everyone is gutted, this is a tough day to swallow," Britain team captain Leon Smith said. "It could have gone either way, but it wasn't to be today. They gave their best effort but sometimes that is not enough, and Germany deserves to go through."

Struff said his win over Norrie was "one of the most important victories of my career. Cam Norrie is a real fighter. I started very well, went 4-1 up, but when you take so many risks, you can expect that more mistakes

will come."The 12th-ranked Norrie failed to serve out the opening set against Struff when leading 6-5, and the Briton missed two set points in the tiebreaker.

Six-time champions Germany, Argentina, France enter Junior Hockey WC semifinals

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Six-time champions Germany and Argentina earned hard-fought wins over Spain and Netherlands respectively, while France cruised past Malaysia to enter the semifinals of the FIH Junior Men's Hockey World Cup here on Wednesday.

In the first quarterfinal of the day, Germany eked out a narrow 3-1 win over Spain in shoot-out after both the teams were locked at 2-2 in regulation time, before Argentina beat Netherlands 2-1.

In the third quarterfinal, the tournament's surprise package France beat Malaysia 4-0.

Germany took the lead from a penalty stroke through Christopher Kutter in the fifth minute but the lead was short-

lived as Ignacio Abajo equalised for Spain from a penalty corner six minutes later.

After two barren quarters, it was Spain who shocked the Germans in the 59th minute when Eduard de Ignacio-Simo scored a fine field goal to give his side the lead.

There was more drama in store as just at the stroke of the hooter, Germany secured a penalty corner and Masi Pfandt stepped up to take the match into shoot-out. In the shoot-out, Paul Smith, Michel Struthoff and Hannes Muller found the back of the net, while Matteo Poljaric missed.

Spain were awful from the one-on-one situation as Abajo, Guillermo Fortunato and de Ignacio-Simo missed while only Gerard Clapes scored.

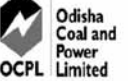
'Golden Boy' Neeraj Chopra to launch PM's mission

New Delhi: Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Neeraj Chopra will visit Sanskardham School in Ahmedabad on December 4 and launch Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mission to spread awareness about balanced diet, fitness and sports.

During his meeting with Tokyo Olympians at his residence on August 16, Modi had urged India's Olympians and Paralympians to visit 75 schools each by the 2023 Independence Day and spread awareness against malnutrition and also play a sport with schoolchild-

ren. On Wednesday, Sports Minister Anurag Thakur tweeted to say that javelin thrower Chopra will set in motion the PM's mission.

"PM Sh @narendramodiji gave a clarion call to our Olympians & Paralympians to visit schools and interact with students on the importance of 'santulit aahaar', fitness, sports & more. Starting Dec 4 @Neeraj_chopra1 will be at Sanskardham School in Ahmedabad to launch this mission," Thakur wrote on his Twitter handle. PTI




Odisha Coal and Power Limited
(A GOVT. OF ODISHA COMPANY)
Zone-A, Ground Floor, Fortune Towers, Chandrasekharpur Bhubaneswar - 751023, Odisha
Ph. No: 0674-2300654 / 0674-2300664

TENDER NOTICE
NIT No: OCPL/SITE-SER/38/2021 Dt.02/12/2021
Sealed bids in prescribed format are invited from reputed Civil Companies/ Firms/Agencies for execution of the following work:

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Cost of Tender Paper	Last date of Sale/download of Tender document	Date of submission/ Opening
1	Miscellaneous Work at R&R Colony (Phase-II) Hemgiri, Sundargarh	Rs.5,900/- (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred Only) including GST @ 18%	17/12/2021	03:00 PM / 03:30 PM on 22/12/2021

Any further clarifications may please be addressed to the undersigned at the above address or by email to: sudhakar.sinha@ocpl.org.in

s/d
Sr. Manager (Commercial & Contracts)



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER KHARIAR (R&B) DIVISION, KHARIAR
E-mail ID: eeroads.khr@rediffmail.com

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Bid Identification No.: 01/2021-22
No.: 4999... Dtd. 29.11.2021

1. Superintending Engineer, Khariar (R&B) Division, Khariar, Odisha on behalf of Government of Odisha now invites sealed RFP in double cover system from eligible bidder / consortium under the selection process for preparation of Architectural drawing & DPR to be received in Offline mode for package detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Concerned E.E. with Headquarters	Bid Security in Rs.	Bid Processing fee in Rs
1	Architectural Consultancy and Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Work:- CONSTRUCTION OF TRAUMA CARE FACILITY AT NUAPADA Tentative Work Proper: Rs.75.70Cr approx.	Superintending Engineer, (R&B) DIVISION, Khariar	Bid security declaration	6,000/-

2. The RFP document must be accompanied with Bid Security declaration in lieu of Bid Security with stipulation that if the bidder withdraw or modify their bids during period of validity etc., the bidder will be suspended for the time specified in the tender documents. (As per Finance Deptt. O.M No.8943 dtd.18.03.2021).

3. R.F.P. will be available in :- www.odisha.gov.in from 11.30 A.M of Dt. 03.12.2021 up to 5.30 P.M. of 17.12.2021

4. The last date of submission of RFP is Dt 17.12.2021 up to 5.30 P.M. through Speed Post / Registered Post / Courier only. Submission of proposal through any other mode is not allowed.


5. Date of Opening of Technical bid is Dt 18.12.2021 at 11.00 A.M.

6. For further details, the RFP document is to be referred.

7. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Address of Submission of R.F.P.
O/o the Superintending Engineer, (R&B) Division, Khariar, Odisha, OIPR-34062/11/0007/2122

Superintending Engineer Khariar (R&B) Division, Khariar



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, KESINGA
E-mail: eerwksinga@yahoo.com

BID IDENTIFICATION No. SERWKSNG-online-07/2021-22

1. Name of works	: 4 Nos Buildings, 1 No Road, 7 Nos Bridge repair (As per annexure)
2. Total No. of work	: 12 Nos
3. Estimated Cost	: Please refer DTCN
4. E.M.D	: Please refer DTCN
5. Cost of Tender document	: Please refer DTCN
6. Class of Contractor	: Please refer DTCN
7. Period of completion	: As per DTCN
8. Other details	: As per DTCN

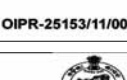
Procurement officer: Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Kesinga

Bid Identification No.: SERWKSNG-online-07/2021-22

From	To	Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender
03.12.2021 at 11.00 A.M	13.12.2021 upto 5.00 P.M.	10.12.2021 upto 11.00 A.M	14.12.2021 at 11.00 A.M

Further details can be seen from the Website i.e www.tenderodisha.gov.in.

Superintending Engineer Rural Works Division Kesinga



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, DEOGARH.
Email:- eerw_deogarh@yahoo.co.in

BID IDENTIFICATION No. EEDGH-online-12/2021-22

No. 2735 // Date: 25.11.2021 //

1. Name of the work	: Construction of Road works under AMP of Rural Roads Non-Plan
2. Total no. of work	: 02 (Two) Nos.
3. Estimated Cost	: As per Annexure.
4. Class of Contractor	: As per Annexure.
5. Period of Completion	: As per Annexure.
6. Other details	: As per Annexure.


Procurement Officer: Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Deogarh

Bid Identification No.: EEDGH-online-12/2021-22

From	To	Last Date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O E.E.R.W.Division,Deogarh
Dt.04.12.21 at 11.00 A.M	Dt.18.12.21 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.17.12.21 at 11.00 A.M	Dt.20.12.21 at 11.00 A.M

Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersorissa.gov.in

Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Deogarh.



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TEL IRRIGATION DIVISION, SONEPUR
E-mail: eotelirdivn@gmail.com

"e- Procurement Notice"
BID Identification No: EE,TID,SNP- 13/2021-22

1. Name/ Nature of Work	: Construction of Canal Structure Works
2. No of Works	: 02 Nos
3. Estimated Cost	: From Rs 51.71 lakhs to Rs. 77.80 Lakhs
4. Bid document Cost	: Rs.10,000/-
5. EMD	: "Bid Security Declaration" to be furnished
6. Class of Contractor	: 'B' & 'A' Class (Odisha PWD or relevant class of other licensing Authc
7. Period of Completion	: As mentioned in Col. 7 of NIT
8. Other details	: As follows.

Procurement Officer: Executive Engineer, Tel Irrigation Division, Sonepur

Bid Identification No.: EE,TID,SNP-13/2021-22

From	To	Date of Seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender
Dt.03.12.2021 at 10.00 hours	Dt.17.12.2021 up to 17.30 hours	--	Dt.18.12.2021 at 11.00 Hours

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in>"

Executive Engineer Tel Irrigation Division, Sonepur